



FLIGHT LINES

The Monthly Newsletter of The Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club, Inc.

SPIRITS' FUN-FLY COMING JULY 12 MAY FUN-FLY RAIN DATE JUNE 28

May 17 Fun-Fly Re-scheduled, Again:

By Pat Keebey

We weren't able to even start the May 31 Fun-Fly due to 25 MPH winds. The new Fun-Fly date is June 28. We have changed the time of events as follows: **Please note: Registration will start at 9:00 A.M. Pilots' meeting will be from 9:40 to 10:00 A.M. for any required clarification of the activities. Flying will begin promptly at 10:00 A.M.**

I would like to encourage all members of the club to participate in this Fun-Fly. The events were designed for all skill levels. If you can take-off, land and control the direction of your aircraft, you can participate in this contest. Come out and enjoy a day of flying and be a "winner"!

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

By Steve Cross

This hobby/sport of ours is a constant source of enjoyment and new things to see. Almost every week someone is bringing a new plane to the field. This past Saturday, Vic Bunze brought out his new Great Planes U-Can-Do and with his excellent piloting skills coupled with this plane that can do just about anything, it was sheer pleasure to watch. On Sunday, George Cooper made the maiden flight with his new Ultimate. George reports that the Ultimate is a beautiful, responsive airplane, but only if you make sure that all the covering is secured!

(Continued on the next page)

June 14 Four-Star 40 Racers

(Lee Volmert was not available for the picture)



More pictures on page five

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Seems he forgot to remove the backing from a piece of covering on the top wing, and the covering departed the plane mid-flight, almost causing an untimely meeting with the ground. But all is well, and the plane is still in one piece (at least as of this writing!). And Kevin Olsen thrilled the crowd when he landed his Four-Star 40 upside down! Of course, it wasn't exactly planned that way, but his inverted passes down the runway give new meaning to the words "how low can you go?"

And, let's not forget our second Four-Star 40 race this past Saturday. We had great weather, nine pilots and eleven helpers! We all had a great day and just about everyone went home with some sort of prize. See my full report later in this newsletter.

Now that Pat Keebey has seen that talking nice to Mother Nature will yield beautiful weather for our events, he has promised that we will have perfect weather for the Fun-Fly, now rescheduled for June 28. Charge up your favorite plane and come on out for a day of fun and relaxed flying.

Check out the photo gallery on our website. The pictures just keep getting better and better, thanks to Walt Wilson. Because of the efforts of Walt and Paul Geders, we have one awesome website!

See you at the field!

Steve Cross



Frank Hunleth showed his new Studacher 300, built from a Fun Aero kit. It's covered with silkspun material and finished with Nelson/System 3 water soluble polyurethane paint. It'll be .60 powered. He feels the kit is over-priced for the small amount of prefabrication included.

WALT WILSON PHOTOS



George Cooper brought his "Airplane of the Month", a Goldberg 10-300 Ultimate Bipe. He made some modifications to the design and hardware and covered it with Balsa U.S.A. Solartex. It's powered by an O.S. .91 FX and weighs 8.5 pounds.



George covered the bottom of the wing with yellow Solartex. He then laid out and cut all of the blue checkers, one at a time with a razor blade! He ran out of steam by the time he got to the fuselage!

MEETING MINUTES: June 11, 2003

By Walt Wilson,

The Meeting was called to order by Vice President Steve Ramonczuk at 7:00 P.M. The President was on vacation in Florida.

Members signed in: 25 members and one new member applicant were present. *(Continued on the next page)*

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Secretary's Report: Minutes were accepted as published in last month's Flight Lines.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Field Report: George Cooper read his Field Report as presented on page three



Vic Bunze discussed his new Great Planes "You Can Do 3-D" ARF. He uses lots of throw on all control surfaces and a Saito .72 to get it to hover. In answer to questions, he discussed the theory and techniques used in 3-D flying.

Safety Report: Ralph Amelung distributed the new Training Manual to Instructors present and other interested members. Steve Ramonczuk discussed a throttle linkage failure that caused the loss of a plane recently. When using threaded ends, be sure they don't bind on the plastic guide tube. It can lock up the linkage, sometimes with disastrous results!

He also reminded flyers to stand in the Pilots' Box, not on the Taxiway, when flying. The Taxiways must be kept clear as a courtesy to other flyers.

Activities Report:

May 17/31 Fun-Fly: Once again the rescheduled Fun-Fly had to be postponed due to weather. Winds of 25 MPH and up prevented all but one brave soul from flying. The new, and hopefully final, date is June 28!

June 14 Warbirds/Four-Star 40 Races: Paul Geders reminded all that registration will be at 9:00 A.M. and racing will start at 10:00 A.M. Workers will be needed. Rain

is currently predicted!

OLD BUSINESS:

None was presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

None was presented.

New Member Applicants:

Name	Phone Number
David Rodecap	636-447-0177

He was unanimously accepted by the members present.

Meeting Activity: Three members brought their latest creations. See the photos for details. Vic Bunze explained the techniques and control setups required for 3-D flying.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

JUNE 2003 FIELD REPORT

By George Cooper

With the periodic rains we have had this spring the grass is really growing. It makes it a little hard to cut, but sure looks nice every Saturday after it is mowed. Missing a week of mowing would make a really tough job for the next team so be sure to make your scheduled mowing dates. I fertilized the pit area again last week and it is beginning to look like a lawn. If we can get a little rain during the summer, maybe it will survive this year. I have some weed killer, obtained through Ozzie Barron at a good price, and will be spraying the parking lot weeds soon to clean up that area.

People have been running-in engines in the pit area instead of going down to the run-in area. If the run-in area is not going to be used I am going to remove the post and eliminate the mowing obstacle.

*George Cooper, Field Chairman
Pat Keebey, Assistant*

Field Safety Report:

Ralph Amelung

The Board of Directors has drafted a guide to be used in training new enthusiasts. Everyone is encouraged to download their own copy at the website. A copy will also be posted at the field. This is a great tool aimed at increasing our efficiency and effectiveness in the training process. All members are encouraged to review the guide. I am hopeful that Instructors and Students using the guide will find it worthwhile. The guide will provide for continuity and consistency in the training process and give students the information they need to assess their performance. Feedback is always welcome. ***Until next time, let's be careful out there.***

At The Field.....



WALT WILSON PHOTO

Kevin Olsen prepares his Four-Star 40 for flight. It's powered by an O.S. .46 LA and flies beautifully.



MIKE REIGLE PHOTO

Mike Reigle bought this World Models P-51 ARF from Ralph Amelung. He put an Irvine .72 in it, did some paint work and installed a Futaba radio. He's looking forward to flying it next time he's in town. Mike is an over-the-road trucker.

Wright Flyers' Float-Fly

By George Cooper

The Float Fly day, May 24, sponsored by Wright Flyers and held at Innsbrook, was a pretty good flying day, a slight

breeze and cool, but at least no rain. In attendance from the Spirits with planes were George Cooper, Four-Star 60 on floats; Ralph Amelung, Seamaster seaplane; Bill Hancock, Supermarine Seaplane and a Falcon 56 on floats; Russ Watts, a Stik with floats; Vic Bunze, J3 Cub on floats; and John Smith, with a Lanier Seaplane. Spectators were Ozzie Barron, Ed Turner, John DeShields, Mike Lindsey, and Claude Wade.

Everyone got some flights in with a variety of incidents. Bill Hancock's new Supermarine rolled over on initial take-off and thought it was a turtle, ending it's day's flying, but he flew his old standby Falcon 56 successfully. Vic Bunze had his Cub on floats for the first time. It went nose down into the water on takeoff, but was retrieved, dried out and finished with some successful flights. Ralph had some good Seamaster flights after one wild takeoff resulting in lost, but recovered wing floats.

My Four-Star 60 was sluggish on the first flight and in readjusting the needle valve on the water's edge I got too close to the prop tip and chewed the skin off the back of a finger. Not too serious, but it sure takes a long time to grow new skin. Safety note: Anytime you do anything out of your customary way of doing it, BE EXTRA CAREFUL, those props will reach out and get you! My subsequent flights were better even with a bandaged finger, and it did not end up nose down in the water like last year. Russ Watts made some successful flights and brought home a working airplane. John Smith had a good flight going, but flew out of his visual range. With coaching by Mike Lindsey, they attempted a recovery, but it ended up in the lake way out there and retrieved by the duty recovery boat.

Spirits members made up a good percentage of the flyers and a good time was had by all, in spite of all the "incidents" which just make an event interesting. Get some floats on that favorite plane and join us next year. Flying off water is different to say the least.

More About the Wright Flyers' Float-Fly

By Dice Cowger

On Saturday, May 24, we had a successful Float-Fly. Four clubs were represented: Phantom Flyers, Spirits, Prop Nuts and Wright Flyers. We had some excellent planes and pilots. Two items were left at the site; One was a gallon plastic fuel can with pump and the other was a small cooler, about six pack size. I have them and will keep for the owners. My phone number is 636-745-3736. You can e-mail me at: dice6946@earthlink.net

Dice Cowger, Wright Flyers' Newsletter Editor

More June 14 Four-Star 40 Racers



Results and more pictures on the next page.

More June 14 Race Pictures



June 14 Four-Star-40 Race Results

By Steve Cross

Well, another Spirits Four-Star 40 race is in the history books. Combine fantastic weather, nine enthusiastic and very capable flyers, and eleven great volunteer workers, and you have the recipe for another successful Spirits' event. The flyers were Vic Bunze, Steve Ramonczuk, Gene Jones, Lee Volmert, Paul Geders, Ralph Amelung, Ralph Doyle, Pat Keebey and Steve Cross. And the great bunch of volunteer workers were Ozzie Barron, Jim Rawlings, George Cooper, Russ Watts, Bill Hancock, Kevin Olson, Ken Brock, Earl Acker, Les Richman, Walt Wilson and Bob Gizzie.

We were not able to have the warbirds pylon race because we only had 3 pilots who brought warbirds, and two of those pilots were on the same frequency. But we did have five rounds of Four-Star 40 races, and the pilots finished in the following order:

Paul Geders	25 points
Steve Ramonczuk	21 points
Ralph Doyle	21 points
Vic Bunze	21 points
Steve Cross	18 points
Ralph Amelung	16 points
Pat Keebey	14 points
Lee Volmert	10 points
Gene Jones	7 points

As you can see, the scores were very close, and the racing was even closer. A missed landing point, or a cut, made a big difference in the standings. Steve Ramonczuk, Ralph Doyle and Vic Bunze all tied with 21 points, and a fly-off was needed to determine who ended up in 2nd, 3rd and 4th place. The race was extremely close, and Steve was actually in 3rd place for most of the race, but he remained patient, flew his own race, and cruised home with 2nd place when both Vic and Ralph ended up cutting a pylon.

Everyone had a great time, all the planes went home in one



WALT WILSON PHOTOS

piece, and the prizes just added icing on the cake. All nine pilots received prizes for their efforts, and we were able to give gift certificates to four of the volunteers. So, I would say, we had a successful day.

As always, these events are only successful because of the combined efforts of a lot of Spirits' members. A heartfelt thanks goes first to Kevin Olson, Jeff Muhs, Bob Fiely and Willie Blanchard, the grass cutting team that had the field ready to go by 9 A.M.. Second, thanks to all the volunteers, without whom we wouldn't have a race, because these are the folks that serve as pylon cut judges, lap counters, and ground crew and lap callers for the pilots. And finally, thanks to all the pilots for their sportsmanship, cooperation and superb flying skills, all of which combined to give everyone a really spectacular day of racing.

A big "Thank You" goes to Paul Geders for working with me to run this event as I work to earn my Contest Directors (CD) designation. I now know just how difficult it is to run one of these events, and then have to complete and file a bunch of paperwork with the AMA.

Our next race is September 6. Come on out and either fly or volunteer to help. I promise you will have a great time, and chances are you'll go home with a nice prize for your efforts!

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More Top Gun Pictures

By Tony Pozarich, (Text by Walt Wilson)

Tony Pozarich also went to the Top Gun Scale Contest at Lakeland, Florida. Here are some pictures he gave me recently that I think are worth a look.



TONY POZARICH PHOTOS

Thanks Tony, for these pictures of great scale models. There are too few being built today, in the age of the ARF.

"Low Key" Fun-Fly

July 12, 2003

Spirits of St Louis R/C Flying Field, on Amrein Road,
South of Greens Bottom Road

Registration: 9:00 to 10:00

Events: 10:00 to 2:00 with 1 hr lunch break

Free Entry/Great Prizes

Events:

1. Take-off, taxi, land, show-off the manuevers that made you world famous.
2. Balloon bust - attack a helium filled balloon and become the gum ball ace at 12 o'clock high. Your kill will be rewarded with a gum ball.
3. Tennis ball drop - hit the target with a tennis ball dropped from your pretend "Flying Fortress" and become the ultimate gum ball bomber.

Scoring: A gum ball will be drawn after a take-off, a balloon bust, a direct hit or a good effort. All ties settled by a bubble blowing contest with 3 gum balls at 20 paces.

For more information,
call: Robert Fiely @ (314) 434 - 0206

FLIGHT LINES is the Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club newsletter and is published on a monthly basis. Club members may submit personal classified ads for inclusion in the newsletter free of charge. Businesses wishing to advertise in the newsletter should contact the editor or an officer of the club for details.

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Newsletter submissions must be in by the Monday following the club meeting in order to make publishing deadlines. The preferred format for article submission is via e-mail. I have Macintosh and PC computers and use QuarkXpress and Microsoft Word, so send the copy as the e-mail message (not an enclosure) to avoid cross-platform or incompatible software problems if you don't have the same equipment and software. Typed or clearly written copy on paper, or a Word or Word for Windows file on a 3.5 inch 1.44MB floppy disk are acceptable if you don't have access to the internet. Photos are welcome and may be in the form of glossy prints, or if scanned or digital, in jpeg, gif or tif format. Photo credits will be given.

General Membership meetings are the second Wednesday of each month at the Bridgeton Trails County Library Branch, 3455 McKelvey Rd. (1/4 mi. south of St. Charles Rock Road) at 7:00 P.M.

Membership information can be obtained from:

Bill Lindewirth
1046 Pinecone Trail Drive
Florissant, MO 63031
Phone number (314) 839-0282
e-mail: MrBillSTL@aol.com

Flying Field: Our field is located on Amrein Road, off Greens Bottom Road in St. Charles County. It's open for flying daily from 9:00 A.M. to dusk. Flight Training may be arranged by appointment. Call Ralph Amelung at: **636-939-3331** or see our web site at **http://www.spiritofstl.com** for a list of instructors and times when they may be available.

Flight Recorder

By Bill Parry

We, at Eagle Tree Systems, are proud to announce the release of our flagship product, the USB R/C Flight Data Recorder. The Recorder is easy to install and operate, and records altitude, airspeed, battery voltage, and positions of ailerons, rudder, elevator and throttle, several times a second during flight.

After flying, simply connect the unit to your Windows PC using the included USB cable and download your flight data into the included Windows application for real-time flight playback.

We believe the reasonably priced Recorder System will be very useful for diagnosing problems during flight, for examining flight performance, for saving great flights for later viewing, and for sharing flights with friends.

If you are interested in learning more about the Recorder, please visit our site at **http://www.eagletreesystems.com**. Also feel free to email me with additional questions or feedback. If you are interested in bringing the Recorder to the attention of your fellow club members, we'll be glad to send you flyers describing the Recorder in more detail – just tell us how many.

Bill Parry

Eagle Tree Systems, LLC

The Last Word

By Walt Wilson

We recently received a letter from Joyce Hager of AMA thanking us for the \$100.00 donation to purchase a brick in the "Walk of Fame". These donations are used to develop the facilities at AMA Headquarters in Muncie, Indiana. If you ever have the chance, you should drop by there and look around. They have a museum of historical and unusual model airplanes and engines that'll dazzle you. We visited there in 1997 and saw planes I had read about in the magazines since I was a young kid. That's a long time ago! Some of the most famous names in model airplane design, competition and manufacturing are represented. Take a trip to the Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio, and drop by Muncie on the way. The side trip will be worth your while! Don't forget your camera, either. If you go there and to Dayton, you'll come home wanting to build a scale model of something exotic.

A side trip to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum is well worth your while, too. If you time it right, you can drop by the Tether Car track in Anderson, Indiana, a few miles northeast of Indianapolis, and see model race cars that run close to 200 MPH. There are a lot of things of interest for people who enjoy things that make noise and go fast to see in Indiana.

Gotta go build

Spirits' 2003 Activities Schedule

Date	Contest or Event	Contest or Event Director	Notes
July 12	Fun-Fly	Bob Fiely	If you can fly, you can compete.
September 6	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Paul Geders	AMA Sanctioned Races
September 27	Third Annual Open House	Steve Cross	Biggest flying event of the year.
October 11	Build 'N' Fly	Vic Bunze	First team to build and fly one lap wins
November 12	Meeting		Participant Awards



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**Meeting is on
 Wednesday,
 July 9th
 at 7:00 P.M.**