



FLIGHT LINES

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

Boy Scout Day, Saturday, June 9

Helicopter Fun-Fly, Saturday, June 23

Stuff:

By Gary Pyles

The Flying season is officially here! Our changeable St. Charles weather has provided some fantastic flying days already. More and more pilots are showing up at the field during the week to take advantage of these temperate days and light winds. If you have not been out to the field lately, stop by while the temperature is cool and enjoy your own private park.

At the last membership meeting, business was taken care of quickly and we fit four technical presentations into an hour long meeting. The technical presentations continue to be unique and interesting, showcasing the infinite range of knowledge, ability, and skill, our membership possesses. If you have not been to a meeting lately, stop by, bring your latest project and share with the club. You could be the next winner of \$20 in Mark Twain Hobby Center gift cards.

I have noticed that our technical presentations have more and more electric powered aircraft and helicopters. As a matter of fact we are seeing a lot of nitro planes being converted to electric. For those members that don't wish to deal with nitro engine tuning and fuel, electric power is a great alternative. We are fortunate to have several members with specific knowledge regarding electric powered aircraft. If you are thinking about electric power, talk to some of the members who are flying electric and get some insight before purchasing any equipment.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention Safety with regard to electric power. Safety is especially critical with electric powered airplanes. Nitro engines are always making noise and spinning the prop when they are running and the throttle is active, with an electric motor the throttle may be active and the prop not moving. An accidental bump of the throttle stick with a hand, arm, or finger in the prop arc could mean disaster and a great deal of pain. I have several electric powered models and follow a few simple safety rules to keep all ten of my digits intact.

•**Throttle HOLD:** Activation of this switch on your transmitter reduces, or eliminates, power to the electric motor regardless of the throttle stick position. If you have a programmable radio, you probably can program a throttle hold switch for your airplane. In helicopter mode, most radios have this as a standard feature. When I set up my radio for an electric plane, or helicopter, I set up a throttle hold switch even before I bind the transmitter to the receiver.

•**Remove the prop:** When building a model, and connecting the ESC, motor, and battery for the first time, it is a good idea to leave the prop off. Typically, the first step after installation of these components is to program the ESC using throttle-stick-positioning. Just in case you don't do it right the first time, you will appreciate not having the prop on if the motor inadvertently spins up.

•**Treat the prop like it is always spinning** anytime a battery is plugged in. This is just a good habit to get into. It may prevent some discomfort from an unfortunate propeller-human interface.

•**Use a battery disconnect:** A battery disconnect breaks the link between battery and ESC, preventing any energy from reaching the motor. These systems allow you to replace the battery and take your plane to the runway, without any fear of the motor starting. Once there, plug in the disconnect and the plane comes alive just prior to flight.

Enjoy the spring weather and I will see you at the field.

Gary

NOTICE

**NEXT MONTH'S MEETING WILL BE
ON THURSDAY, JUNE 14**

**The rest of this year's meetings will also
be on the second Thursday
of each month!**

MEETING MINUTES: MAY 9, 2012

by Paul Geders (Thanks Paul! WW)

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by President Gary Pyles. Eighteen members and no guests were present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Brochures: New membership applications and tri-fold brochures are in place at the field, Mark Twain Hobby, and on our web-site.

Civility between members: The president discussed that there have been some issues at the field involving individuals.

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If anyone has an issue about anything, please confront the individual(s) in a nice way, and express your concern. If it can't be resolved, please bring it to the attention of the Board of Directors.



Gene Jones showed a House of Balsa P-51 Mustang for a .15 size engine that he will sell for \$225.00 and will include an O.S. 1.20 Surpass III Pumper four cycle engine that has been totally rebuilt by Hobby Services including new piston, rings, etc. All replaced parts are in the box.



Bob Gizzie brought an Aero Max Four-Star ARF from Value Hobby out of Bensenville Illinois, that sold for \$70.00. However they are no longer available. It looks similar to a SIG Four-Star 40.

see <http://www.valuehobby.com> for other items.

Solo Certificate: Al Russell soloed this past Saturday and Gary was going to present a Solo Certificate to Al who was not in attendance. Congratulations Al!

Monthly Meeting Dates: Starting next month our meetings will move to the **second Thursday of the month**. See you on Thursday, June 14th, same time, and same place.

New Members: The following new member introduced himself.

Greg Bowles 636-939-4437

Secretary's Report: Walt Wilson, Secretary was unable to attend the meeting. Paul Geders filled in for Walt. Minutes were approved as published in Flight Lines.



Bob also showed another ARF from Value Hobby called the Stylus Sport 60. It is a clone of the SIG Four-Star 60. It cost \$85 plus \$26 shipping. Very nice looking and well-made.



Harold Mantz brought a 70's era .40 sized Gimlet that he got from former member Art Frost. He said it weighed 5 pounds originally before he converted it to electric, and it now weighs 4.5 pounds. It uses an 850KV ERC motor from Hobby Lobby, a 65 Amp ESC, and a 3200 mAh bat-

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PAUL GEDERS PHOTO (LEFT)

Greg Bowles is a new member and he proudly displayed an Avistar .40 that he picked up at our SWAP Meet. He stated that it was sitting in a guy's basement for 3 years. It has an O.S. 40LA engine that he had to free up with WD-40. Included in his purchase was an out-of-date radio system, a complete flight box with starter, glow drivers, etc. He has replaced the radio with another 2.4 GHz Tactic radio and receiver he had and all works well, all for \$110. Such a deal!

Treasurer's Report: *Bill Lindewirth, Treasurer.* The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Field Report: *Gary Graul, Field Committee Chairman.* Gary was not present. There was a question as to what time they mow. Response was that they normally mow on Thursday between approximately 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. depending on the weather. Bob Gizzie pointed out that the mowing crew is very accommodating and we should not try to change the times. It was set up for afternoon mowing to eliminate the clumping that can occur in the morning because of dew. All agreed that the field looks great.

Safety Report: *Safety Committee Chairman, Duane Youngman,* was not present. No safety issues were reported.

Membership Report: *Ralph Doyle, Membership Chairman.* Ralph reported that we have 164 members, of which 112 were renewing and 52 were new members. We gained seven more members since last meeting.

Activity Report: *Tom Foster, Contest/Event Committee Chairman* was not present. Next event is the Scale Fly-In on May 19th and the field is also open for general flying. A question about how scale is determined was raised.

Response was; if you can recognize it as some scale airplane at 100' then bring it out and fly it. It was suggested that we have an over-size copy of our contest/event schedule posted at the field in the pavilion. Gary Pyles will look into this.

Flight Training: *Gary Pyles, Chief Flight Instructor.* Gary reported that the Flight Instruction Program is up and running. All related data is on the web-site under the Flight Instruction Program link on the first page. Gary has worked with Mark Twain Hobby Center to put together six complete trainer packages for beginners. A 10% discount for new Spirits members is available on each package. Bob Gizzie reported that new member Devlyn Hogue purchased a J-3 Cub from Banana Hobbies, and made his, and the airplanes, maiden flight on Tuesday night.

Boy Scout Day will be our first organization test. Gary was contacted by Steve Cross to provide support for this event with an estimated 15 to 30 participants.

Meeting Activities/Technical Presentations: We had four presenters. See pictures on this, and previous pages for details.

Best Presentation: The Mark Twain Hobby Center gift cards worth a total of \$20.00 was awarded to Greg Bowles.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 P.M.

Tailgate Swap Meet:

By Steve O'Connor

Fun was had by all on this beautiful spring day. We had gorgeous weather, and a terrific turn out. Fifty-six cars came to join in the fun and all of the concessions were sold out. I saw lots of great deals, a few of which I snapped up myself. I would like to thank Bill Lindewirth for getting all the concessions together, and cooking, along with Steve Ramoncuk. We were a little light on volunteers this time around so Tom Foster manned the gate for two hours, as did I. I would also like to thank our concession stand volunteers including my wife. Thanks to everyone who came out to partake in the fun!



WALT WILSON PHOTO

More Swap Meet photos On the next page.

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Spirits' Tailgate Swap Meet, May 5:



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Scale Fly-In May 19:

By Bob Gizzie

The Spirits' Annual Scale Fly-In was held today. There was a fairly good turnout, with static displays and flying going on! Curt Milster, the Event Director, had to leave because of medical reasons. He asked me if I could take over for him as the Event Director. The results of the judging are as follows:

- Jeff Becker, First Place Warbird Show, with a Tucano Warbird
- Jeff Becker, First Place Flight, with a Spad
- Gene Jones, Second Place Civilian Flight, with a Citabria Decathlon
- Steve Ramonczuk, Second Place Warbird, with an F-18
- Mike Becker, Second Place Civilian Flight
- Paul Geders, First Place Static Civilian display, with a J3 Cub
- Les Richman, Honorable Mention, with his Static Civilian Citabria display!

Thank you, Carolyn, for taking pictures. Thank you folks for all showing up. I hope you had a good time.





CAROLYN SCHLUETER PHOTO

Ralph Doyle does a fly-by at the Spirits' Annual Scale Fly-In on May 19.



**ESRC Hosts the Annual
FLOAT FLY AT HORSESHOE LAKE JUNE 30th**
Flying from 10am to 2 pm (Rain date July 1st)

This event is open to all current AMA members

ESRC provides second site insurance from the AMA and a support Boat for retrieval and assistance
Landing fee donations will be accepted

Location: 3321 Highway 111, Granite City, IL 62040 (111 & horseshoe lake Rd.)

Check our website for more info- www.eastsiderc.com
Or Email president@eastsiderc.com for more info



Trailer For Sale: It was built to take up as little space as possible in my garage. The dimensions are: length 84" (7 ft), width at front-28", width at rear-38". I had the frame, axles and suspension built at Midwest Trailer in St Peters. I built the plywood box. Used both Torflex and shocks to smooth out the ride as the trailer weighs only 360 pounds. Carries a two meter (78") pattern plane or smaller. Three-quarter-inch marine plywood box easily modified for larger cargo. Frame is 2" x 2". 11 gauge steel tubing. 12" wheels. Suspension is Torflex axles and lightweight shocks. Pulled on long trips. Very stable. \$800. Call John DeLuca at: 636-256-0234.



JOHN DELUCA PHOTO

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

HELICOPTER FUN FLY

Saturday June 23, 2012

Open Flying Starts at 9:00 a.m. till Dark
AMA Sanctioned - AMA Card REQUIRED

See <http://spiritsofstl.com> for Maps to
 Flying Field, Flying Site pictures, etc.

Electric outlets along pit area
 and in the pavilion

Concessions Available

**Landing Fee \$10.00
 with Lunch Provided**

Pilots Raffle Prizes

Contacts:

Tom Foster 636-244-2655,



Spirits' 2012 Activities Schedule

Date	Contest/Event	Contest/Event Director	Notes
June 9	Boy Scout Day	Les Richman/ Steve Cross	Field is Open for General Flying
June 23	Helicopter Fun Fly	Tom Foster	All Day Event
July 21	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Ralph Doyle	Field Open for General Flying Until 10:00 or 10:30 A.M.
Aug 4	Electric Fly-In	Bohrer Bros./Jeff Becker	Field Open for General Flying After 2:00 P.M.
September 8	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Steve Cross	Field Open for General Flying Until 10:00 or 10:30 A.M.
September 12	Meeting at Field	Bill Lindewirth	Member Appreciation Dinner
September 22	Helicopter Fun Fly	Tom Foster	All Day Event
September 29	Open House	Committee	

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



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

Scouts Day!

Saturday June 9, 2012 starting at 9:00 a.m.

Introductory Flights

Learn the Basics of Flight

Flight Demonstrations

Open Flying for AMA/Spirits' members



Down Memory Lane:



Bruce Omans, shown here after winning first place in "B" Pattern at a 1974 contest at Buder Park, has recently re-joined the Spirits. Time changes everything, including popularity of activities and the people who participate in them..

The Last Word

By Walt Wilson, rallyo@charter.net

For years, some number of members have received their newsletters in a torn-up state or not at all, due to damage caused by Post Office sorting equipment. This month, I've mailed them in envelopes. Let me know what you think.

Gary Pyles has published an Instructors' manual and distributed colorful publications to aid the instructors and students in doing their thing. In cooperation with Darren, at Mark Twain Hobby Center, he has prepared a list of recommended planes, radios, engines, and support hardware for the beginner. It covers a wide price range and features both glow and electric power. He's also prepared posters and an updated flyer publicizing our club as well as flyers for individual events.

People sometimes think these things just happen...yeah, right! Someone has to spend the time and exercise their expertise to develop the material, then layout and prepare reproducible copy to print directly or scan into a copy machine. Color copies are expensive and Gary is printing hundreds of pages of advertising, training and informative materials on his office copier.

Gary is to be commended for his extensive efforts in putting it all together and printing it at his personal expense. Great job Gary!

Don't forget, our next meeting is on Thursday, June 14

Gotta go build (and fly)!