



# FLIGHT LINES

*The Monthly Newsmagazine of the Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club*

## FALL IS COMING...KEEP FLYING!

### **Spirits of St. Louis RC Flying Club**

*Monthly Meeting Minutes for October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 by*

*Paul Geders, Secretary*

**President Ralph Grant:** Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m. by the acting Vice-President and Treasurer Greg Bowles as Ralph Grant was on a business trip.

#### **Attendance:**

13 members were in attendance.

#### **New Member(s):**

1 new member present, Ron Gore.

#### **Secretary's Report:**

*Paul Geders, Secretary*

- 1) A motion was made, seconded and voted to accept the September meeting minutes as e-mailed out and published on the Spirits website under the 2019 September Flightlines Newsletter link. Current Newsletter link is now on the upper right of the home page of the website.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

*Greg Bowles, Treasurer*

- 1) Income this month \$450.00, expenses were \$837.00. Motion made, seconded, and voted to accept the treasurer's report.
- 2) Motion made and seconded to accept the treasurers report.

#### **Field Committee Chairman's Report:**

*Dave Brown, Field Committee Chairman*

We lost two more chairs at the field, probably to vandalism, so that lowers the count to five. They were destroyed just like the others, and in the same place, it had to happen late Saturday night because I was at the field till just before dark flying my night plane, WHEN THEY ARE ALL GONE, we won't be buying anymore! Which means bring your own chair to the field!

#### **Safety Committee Chairman's**

*Sid Kinzel, Safety Chairman*

- 1) DO NOT throw trash in our new grill/fire pit.
- 2) CLOSE the entrance gate if you are the last one to leave.
- 3) REMEMBER to post your MEMBERSHIP ID ON the FREQUENCY BOARD when FLYING.
- 4) Do NOT taxi past the concrete culvert as marked on the taxiway.

#### **BE SMART, BE SAFE!**

#### **Membership Chairman's Report:**

*Ralph Doyle, Membership Chairman*

- 1) Current 2019 membership is 114. This time last year we had 128 members!
- 2) December 31<sup>st</sup> is the last day to renew your membership!

# ***FLIGHT LINES***

## **Old Business:**

1) Election results are;

President – Ralph Grant  
Vice-President – Dave Harrington  
Secretary – Ralph Doyle  
Treasurer – Steve Cross

## **Monthly Meeting Topics continue...**

November – New Officers in Office

December – Christmas/Holiday gift ideas

## **New Business:**

1. No New Business.

### **September 28<sup>th</sup> Pylon Races**

*Report by Steve Cross*

What a great day for the last pylon races of the year for the Spirits' Club! Although it rained early in the morning before everyone arrived and sprinkled a couple of times later in the morning, most of the day was sunny, warm and had just enough of a breeze to make things interesting.

A total of nine racers signed up for this event, with six of them participating in the Four Star races and eight participating in the Electric Warbirds races. We ran three heats of races for each event and, as usual, the racing was fast, furious and exciting! We only had one mid-air collision, and that occurred during the warbirds event when Steve Ramonczuk rounded the west pylon and ran smack dab into the slower flying plane of Dave Harrington. Both planes appeared to be a total loss, but the pilots were able to walk away from the crash. However, the NTSB will be investigating this mishap and looking into Steve's excessive speed!

Here are the results of the races.....in Four Star 40, Ralph Doyle took first, Steve Cross second and Paul Geders third. In Electric Warbirds, Paul Geders took first, Ralph Grant second and Ralph Doyle third. Congratulations to everyone!

Even with running three heats for each event, stopping a couple of times to let the rain showers pass, and enjoying a fantastic lunch of grilled burgers and all the trimmings courtesy of Ralph Grant, we still managed to be completed by around 1:30 pm or so and opened the field to general flying.

A huge thank you goes to all the pilots who participated in this event and provided some exciting racing for all of us. Thank you also goes to Dan Morrison, Greg Tesson, Curt McIntyre, Peter Liu and Steve Ramonczuk for serving as lap counters, cut judges and interim CD.....we could not have held the event without your help. And finally, thank you to Greg Bowles for the donuts, coffee, and the great awards certificates, Ralph Grant for lunch, Dave Brown for helping me get set up for the races and to George Cooper and Steve Ramonczuk for helping put up and take down the pylons. Everyone pitched in and did a great job to help make this event a success!

See you at the next race event in the spring!

*Great race photos below by Greg Bowles!*

**Note: You can increase the size of the pages by holding down the Ctrl key and scrolling your mouse wheel up or down to get larger/smaller view of the photos! Try it you might like it!**

## ***FLIGHT LINES***



*Not all of the participants...or airplanes!*



*Steve Cross's Four-Star 40 ready to go!*



*Ron Hesskamp retrieves his Four-Star 40.*



*Dave Brown returns with his Sea Fury Warbird.*



*Dave Harrington returns with damaged P-51 after a mid-air with Steve Ramonczuk's little Bearcat!*



*Tony Pozarich retrieves Ralph Doyle's FW-190.*



*Paul Geders returns to pits with his winning Voodoo.*

## ***FLIGHT LINES***



*One of the Warbirds heats had a feathered bird observing up close. There were 8 entrants in Warbirds!*



*Where's that darn prop-nut that just back-fired off my engine?*



*Ralph Grant's fast Grumman Bearcat!*



*Dan Morrison handled the west pylon with ease!*



*Dave Harrington's Four-Star 40 54 ready for his first time racing!*



*A heat of Four-Star 40 racing is under way.*

## ***FLIGHT LINES***



*Tony brings Ralph's winning Four-Star 40 back to pits.*



*Some of the Four-Star 40's in the pits. There were 6 total!*



*Dave Brown's Sea Fury makes a smooth landing!*



*LUNCH!*

### **Meeting Technical Presentations:**

Dave Harrington presented his Phoenix Models "Genesis" 1/8 sport scale Reno racer powered by an OS .55. Cost from Towers Hobbies is \$214.99. It is a sport scale rendition of Jon Sharp's NXT Nemesis "Relentless"!



*Mechanical retracts...*

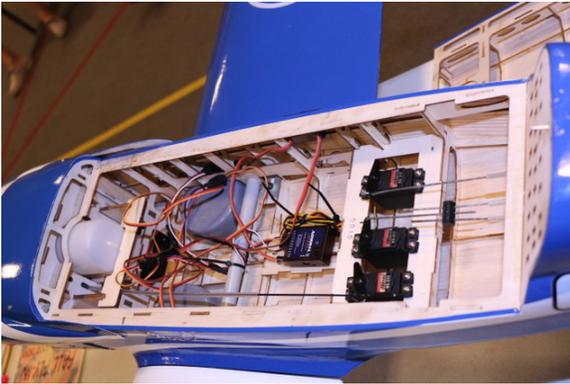


*Looking FAST sitting still!*

## FLIGHT LINES



*A great looking racer and priced right!*



*Roomy interior!*

Steve Ramonczuk presented his Freewing F-5 Tiger II Aggressor Squadron version model with an 80mm ducted fan. Available from MotionRC for \$289.00



*Steve discussed having to pull the motor out to be able to hook up the rudder servo while installing the vertical fin.*



*Great looking airplane in the "Aggressor Squadron" markings!*

Dan Morrison discussed at great length the innumerable features of the \$159.99 Jumper T16 Pro Hall Sensor Gimbals 2.4G 16CH Open Source Multi-Protocol Radio Transmitter shown below.



Walt Wilson and Paul Geders provided a tag-teamed presentation on the hobby of tether car racing. Walt set an absolute world record 65 years ago with a McCoy .60 and, after years of other types of racing, is at it again! Tether cars

## ***FLIGHT LINES***

are run on a 70 foot diameter track using a steel cable attached to a center pole. In the 1940's and 50's there were more than a hundred tether car tracks throughout the United States. The cars compete in a number of classifications based upon car configuration and engine displacement, the largest being .61's. After WW II, manufactured cars and competitive engines were available at nominal prices in most hobby shops and thousands were in use. Soon, home builders, mostly machinists, were building custom cars that far outclassed the manufactured ones. With the coming of R/C cars, interest in tether cars declined. Today, there are only three active full-size tracks, one each in Seaford, New York, Anderson, Indiana, and Whittier Narrows, California. There is a half-size "Mite" track for small displacement cars in Algona, Iowa.

Walt and Paul discussed the intricacies of the hobby that most competitors have found to be the most difficult they have encountered. It's necessary to get everything working just right on the workbench to achieve the best speeds. For example .60 size engines that can turn more than 30,000 RPM (where the piston goes up and down 500 times a second!) are used in the fastest classes and turn laps well under a second. Tether car engines are on the verge of self-destruction when run at peak performance. The sport is very popular in Australia and Europe with tracks in almost all countries, some state-sponsored. The present world record for nitro powered world class cars is 214 MPH. The current absolute fastest speed recorded is held by an electric-powered car at 224 MPH! There are fewer than a dozen electric tether cars in a variety of types being developed

and run today and competition rules are in a state of flux.

For more information on tether cars, photos, race results, and technical information, see the American Miniature Racing Car Association web site at: <http://AMRCA.com>



*Four of Walt's cars were shown at the meeting.*

## ***FLIGHT LINES***



*Walt's custom built Kuebler/Ellis car, "Blackie" is powered by a now rare Ellis Eagle .60 engine one of only 118 built.*



*"Blackie" is the latest state of the art in its class!*



*Paul and Walt with his Kuebler/Ellis car "Blackie" discussed the details of the car. The world record for this class of car is 176 mph. This car has exceeded 170 mph.*

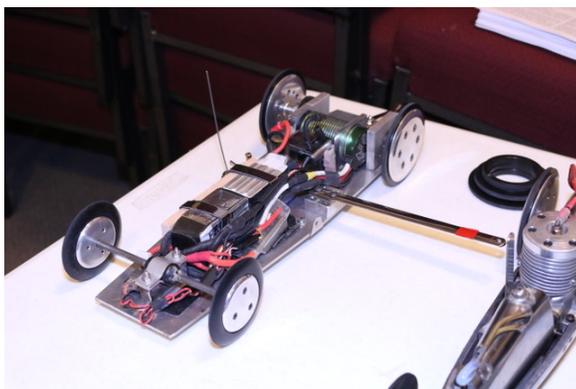


*Walt recently bought the "Sedla Chick" which was the personal car of the late John Ellis, who designed and built custom cars and the 118 Eagle engines.*



*Walt designed and built this "KISS Special" electric car using mostly readily available R/C car components and commercially available materials.*

## FLIGHT LINES



On the left is “under the body” of Walt’s “KISS Special”.

Below is what a typical 10cc World Class car looks like.



Paul Otto Strobel's  
winning Carbon Fiber  
10cc WMCR car

Many new technologies are incorporated in the car!



Paul Otto Strobel's Carbon Car

They consistently run over 200MPH!

### Coming Events:

**Fall Fly-In and Hot Dogs...with Chili...  
Saturday October 19<sup>th</sup>...9:00 – 2:00!**

### Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club



Chili, Chips, Soda & Marshmallows provided. Come and enjoy some flying before Winter and burn some aircraft. Bring canned goods, non-perishable food or cash to be donated to a local Charity/Food Bank.

For more information, contact [admin@spiritsofstl.com](mailto:admin@spiritsofstl.com)

73 Amrein Road, St. Charles. MO 63304

See Contest/Events Calendar at end of this newsletter.

### Learn to Fly!

**Note;** this was written by Ralph Grant and is directed at both our club members and potential new members.

The purpose of any model aircraft club is to assist and offer direction to new pilots while they safely learn the hobby. The Spirit's pride ourselves on the ability to help newcomers experience the RC aviation hobby. All you have to have is a desire to learn and have fun!

It is imperative that when we introduce prospective members to model aviation that their first impression is a positive one. We hope to increase the prospective member's interest in the hobby and our club through the condition of our field, and positive communication.

## ***FLIGHT LINES***

We welcome spectators with open arms. Our field is like having your own private park with an airshow happening in the middle. There is never any charge for spectators to visit. Bring a lawn chair and stay for the day, with mature shade trees and a pavilion with ceiling fans you can beat the summer heat. Concessions are usually available during events, and restroom facilities are available on site.

If you just want to check out some of the aircraft, ask any of our pilot members they will be happy to talk with you, and show you their aircraft. We are here to answer your questions and introduce you to our hobby. Please respect the posted signs. They are there to ensure your safety.

One of the best ways to get someone interested in model aviation is to give newcomers the opportunity to fly a model plane. The Spirits have an Annual Open House, where we introduce many prospective new pilots and new members to the hobby where we allow newcomers to experience model aviation by controlling a model aircraft themselves.

You also don't have to wait for an event...If the weather is nice there is usually someone at the field. Feel free to drop in on us anytime. The field is open from 9 AM till dusk every day.

### **Next Spirits' Meeting:**

***Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 7-9pm***

***Dorsett Village Church***

***2240 Bennington Place***

***Maryland Heights, Missouri 63034***

See website <http://spiritsofstl.com> for directions.

# ***FLIGHT LINES***

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## **ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS**

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*The largest model aviation  
association in the world!*

We want to notify our clubs that the [Experimental Aircraft Association](#) (EAA), with the support of AMA, has launched a new program intended to introduce youth to hands-on building and flying Radio Control (RC) aircraft. The program, Young Eagles Build and Fly, offers clubs a great opportunity to help EAA chapters share the joys of model aviation, and possibly open the door to future club and AMA membership.

EAA has asked its chapters to seek AMA volunteer assistance for their RC expertise. You might hear from an EAA chapter soon!

"The path from RC modeling to full-scale aviation is a long-established and successful one," said Chad Budreau, AMA's executive director. "AMA clubs nationwide have the facilities and enthusiasm to welcome and engage a new generation of fliers. We eagerly join with EAA and our partners to make this program a widespread success."

To learn more about this program, visit:

# ***FLIGHT LINES***

[www.EAA.org/BuildandFly](http://www.EAA.org/BuildandFly)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Find an EAA Chapter](#)

For more information, contact Ilona Maine at [ilonam@modelaircraft.org](mailto:ilonam@modelaircraft.org)



[www.modelaircraft.org](http://www.modelaircraft.org)

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## ***FLIGHT LINES***

# 2019 Spirits' Contest/Event Schedule

October 8, 2019

EVENT DATE	RAIN DATE	EVENT TIME	EVENT NAME	EVENT COORDINATOR
Tues., Jan. 1		9:00am – 1:00pm	Frozen Thumbs Fly-In	Greg Bowles
Sat., Jan. 26		8:00am - 12:00am	Dave Brown's Indoor Fly-In @ Hope Lutheran Church	Dave Brown/Greg Bowles
Sat., Apr. 20		10:00am – 1:00pm	Historic Aircraft Restoration Museum @ Creve Coeur Airport	Greg Bowles
Sat., April 27	Sat., May 04	8:00am – 7pm	Spring Field Clean-Up	Spirits' BOD
Sat., May 11	Sat., May 18	9:00am – 2:00pm	Annual Tailgate/Swap Meet & Field Dedication (Field is Open)	Babe Raab
Sat., May 18		9:00am – 2:00pm	Pylon Races: Four-Star 40; Unlimited Electric Warbirds	Steve Cross
Sun., May 19		9:00am – 1:00pm	Warbirds (WWII Navy)	Ralph Grant
Sun., June 2		9:00am – 1:00pm	Warbirds (The Enemy)	Ralph Grant
Sat., June 8		9:00am – 2:00pm	Pylon Races: Four-Star 40; Unlimited Electric Warbirds	Steve Cross
Sun., June 16		9:00am – 1:00pm	Warbirds (Bombers)	Ralph Grant
Sun., June 30		9:00am – 1:00pm	Warbirds (Jets)	Ralph Grant
Sat., July 13		9:00am – 1:00pm	Electric Ducted Fan Time Trials (3 Laps)	Ralph Grant
Sat., July 20	CANCELLED	9:00am – 2:00pm	Pylon Races: Four-Star 40; Unlimited Electric Warbirds	Paul Geders
Mon., July 22		Field is Closed	Info AG Tour & Demonstration	Spirits' BOD
Sun., July 28		9:00am – 1:00pm	Warbirds (Multi-Engine)	Ralph Grant
Sat., Aug. 17		9:00am – 4:00pm	National Model Aviation Day, Membership Appreciation Dinner: Fly-In; Warbird Best of Show; Aerobatics; Gliders; Helicopters; FPV; Training & Intro Flights; Cookout/Lunch	Spirits' BOD
Sat., Sept. 28		9:00am – 2:00pm	Pylon Races: Four-Star 40; Unlimited Electric Warbirds	Steve Cross
Sat., Oct. 19		9:00am – 2:00pm	Fall Fly-In and Chili Cook, with Hot Dogs!	Ralph Grant