



Issue # 3

**Belleville RC Flyer's Newsletter**

March 2014

## ***March Meeting Minutes***

The meeting was called to order by Club President Dave Fannin at Eckert's Restaurant on Tuesday, March 11th, 2014 at 7:01 pm. There were 13 members present. The President called for a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as outlined in the February Newsletter. The motion was seconded and passed by the membership

### **Club Officers**

President Dave Fannin  
Vice President Jerry Nevenner  
Secretary Ralph Miller  
Treasurer Dan Arens  
Safety Marcus Robinson

## ***Club Operation Reports***

**TREASURER:** Club Treasurer Dan Arens reported on the Club's financial status. Currently, we have 54 active dues paying members. Dan also reported on the status of money received and the expenditures for our recent swap meet. Considering the fact that the swap meet was held in a new location and it was competing against a major AMA event being held in nearby Champaign, Illinois plus an ice storm that made the roads treacherous...the Club did very well on attendance and sales. We are looking forward to next year's event. The attending members passed the Treasurer's Report as read.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Dan Arens is the Club's point of contact for the AMA and has received from them the new AMA Rules for the Flight Field. Dan will post them out at the flight field. Everyone should familiarize themselves with these rules since there have been some significant changes. The rules are designed to keep our sport safe and to help us avoid liability and litigation issues.

**FIELD MAINTENANCE:** Our new Field Manager George Hoff was unable to attend the meeting so his spokesman Jeff Paul presented George's thoughts on refurbishing the field. In addition to his war on the invading moles, George plans to kill rogue grass, reseed in needed areas and fertilize. He has also located a roller and trailer from a rental at \$200 per day. Club members will have to assist him in moving it to the field. Club members requested that George set up a work day and Club member Darwin Evelsizer made a motion that we designate \$500 of Club funds for this project. The motion was passed by the attending membership.

**SAFETY:** Club President Dave Fannin discussed a safety event that happened to him and a fellow Club member when they were checking out one of their helicopters while it was in a hovering attitude. Even though they were at a safe distance from the helicopter, Dave felt something hit him on his chin which immediately began to bleed. They landed the helicopter without incident and after attending to his wound, they gave the machine a complete maintenance check. What they found was a metal geared servo that had lost its plastic arm and they surmised that the machine threaded screw had backed out of the servo arm, dropped down into the helicopters mechanism and was then thrown out by the rotating blades at a high velocity. It was this vagrant screw that hit Dave on the chin. This scenario was confirmed when they found a chip out of one of the blades. Dave's final comment is to be sure and use Locktite on the machine screws that hold the servo arm especially on the metal geared servos because any vibration can make a loose screw back out of that type of servo.

**TRAINING:** Last weekend, Mark Goedel joined Dan on the buddybox for his first RC flight. Mark has been doing a lot of flying on the RC simulator and it showed in his first performance...he flew very well. The day was almost out of limits for high wind so no landings were attempted by Mark. The following Monday, the winds were even higher in velocity making precision flight and landing patterns very difficult. Dan brought out his latest creation, an LT-40...a sister to the Club's "C.A.P." trainer, which featured a new device he had installed. It is an FMA CPD4 "Co-Pilot" that keeps the model in level flight unless over-ridden by the flight controls on the transmitter. It is a marvelous device and especially good for the training role. Dan demonstrated its capability from inverted flight and steep turns and then with the day's heavy wind condition, he flew nearly "hands off" landings using throttle only. Dan offered fellow Club members an opportunity to experience flight on this aircraft and I for one can attest to the joy it brings to this sometimes difficult hobby. If you are interested in learning more about the "Co-Pilot" you can contact Dan or check-out this internet link which will tell you everything you need to know to enjoy this unique device:

[http://www.usastore.revolectrix.com/Products\\_2/Co-Pilot-CPD4\\_3/Co-Pilot-CPD4-2-Channel-Flight-Stabilization-System](http://www.usastore.revolectrix.com/Products_2/Co-Pilot-CPD4_3/Co-Pilot-CPD4-2-Channel-Flight-Stabilization-System)

**WEB PAGE:** No report.

**OLD BUSINESS:** **BRCF 10TH ANNUAL SWAP MEET**  
**15 FEBRUARY 2014**





Many thanks to our set-up crew who ventured forth on slick icy roads: Dan, Mary, Burford, Darwin, Jerry, Cindy, John, Sarah, Jeff, Larry, Mark, Jo and Victor. To Gary for engineering the door prize and to all of our Club members who came out to join us for our big money making event of the year. Also, a special thanks to Jeff and George for introducing us to Bill Behnen and his Eagle Lodge crew, and helping us move to a new location for our annual swap meet. It went well and next year better.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The new business that faces us at this point is the preservation of our airfield. Our new Field Manager George Hoff is in the process of setting up a field work day where we can begin to restore our field for the forthcoming flying season. The next planned event is the Cub Fun Fly on the 24th of May which will include Piper Cub type aircraft...basically high wing light aircraft of similar kind and for Club members, even extends to high wing trainer aircraft...sadly, not helicopters or low wing marauders. So, there's lots of time to prepare...get out there and build or buy.

**NEW MEMBERS:** Our latest member is Van Anderson who had been a previous member of the Club. The attending members unanimously voted Van into the Club. Van, welcome back...hope to see you out at the flight field.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Darwin Evelsizer who also holds membership in the Midwest Air Wing asked that we consider participating in the MAW's swap meet which will be held on the 29th of March at the Granite City Township Hall, located at 2060 Delmar Ave. Entry is at 9 am and the fee is \$5. The MAW folks have always been good supporters of our Club, it's time to return the favor.

**ATTENDANCE PRIZE:** Our wily Safety Officer Marcus Robinson won the pot and like a good friend, returned a portion of his winnings to the Club's coffers. Thanks Marcus.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held at Eckert's Family Restaurant and it will be the last meeting at Eckerts for the season. The meeting will be held at 7 pm on 8 April, 2014.

**MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:40 pm.**



The development of FPV, or First-Person View, during the past few years has drawn many new people into model aeronautics. This surge of interest and enthusiasm has brought a new vitality to the hobby—new ideas and a new sense of mission that will ultimately transform RC flying and society. Of course, enthusiasm is no substitute for technical skill and many newcomers don't know the difference between an ESC and an EC-5 connector.

In order to lawfully utilize the radio frequencies that are required for FPV flying, you will need to be a licensed ham radio operator. This sounds like a daunting first step, but it isn't the ordeal that it used to be.

In 2007, the FCC eliminated the requirement to know Morse code to become a ham operator. Today, all you have to do is pass a 35-question, multiple-choice test in order to qualify for a Technician license—the first of three levels of licenses available from the FCC and probably the only one you will ever need as an FPV pilot.

For those of you interested in, contemplating becoming involved in or have actually become involved with quad-copters and FPV technology...this article is for you. "FPV for Beginners," written by Patrick Sherman details eight significant steps to be accomplished to become an FPV pilot. Check it out in the April 2014 issue of AMA's "Model Aviation" magazine or go to the internet link listed below...

<http://www.modelaviation.com/FPVforBeginners>