

The Transmitter

March 2015

Meeting Minutes, 10 March, 2015

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Fannin at 7 PM at Eckert's Restaurant. A motion was made, seconded and passed by attending members, to accept the minutes of the February 10th meeting as published in the February newsletter. There were 21 members and 3 guests in attendance.

TREASURER'S REPORT : Presented by Treasurer Dan Arens. The Club currently consists of 40 active members. The attending members passed the Treasurer's report as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE: Treasurer Arens stated that he has received a copy of our 2015 Club Charter from the AMA.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FIELD: Flying field manager George Hoff led a discussion on what is needed to put our field into good shape for this year's flying season. He intends to put down a pre-emergent in the first week of April followed by other chemicals and fertilizers to promote a layer of good grass. He will also continue his efforts to stop the mole invasion of the field. Jeffrey Wehrle will continue his mowing operations for the field and will work closely with George in overall field management. Mowing of the field will be reduced to a minimum this year due to the level of Club funds. The breakeven point for required funds based on dues is 60 members and we currently stand at 40 members. We are hoping that we can get by with a once-a-week mowing if possible. Club member Gary Luttrell made a motion to authorize the necessary funds for purchase of chemicals and fertilizer by Field Manager Hoff. The motion was seconded and passed by the attending members. There will be a field day set up later in the spring.

SAFETY: Safety Officer Marcus Robinson reported on the necessity of using the Field's frequency board when flying one's aircraft at the flight field. It is the only way for other fliers to know what frequencies are in operation so as to not interfere with another fliers operating frequency. Club member Dan Arens stated that even though many are now flying with transmitters in 2.4 GHz, the frequency board also allows club members to know who is operating on the field because of the requirement to place one's Club and AMA card in a slot on the frequency board before activating one's aircraft. There have been incidents where competing frequencies have caused aircraft crashes which are a real safety concern.

TRAINING: Weather has interfered with all current training operations.

WEB SITE: No report.

OLD BUSINESS: The Club's Annual Swap Meet. For the second year in a row, ice and snow caused low guest participation for our event. Club members should be proud of their efforts in putting the event together and the Eagle Lodge did their part. The weather "guessers" over hyped the effect of the storm on local area operations which in turn caused people to remain home and not venture out. Even though buyer participation was low, the Club after paying all of its required expenditures, ended up with a small profit. In the past, money acquired from the swap meet went into a fund to support efforts in finding a new operating space should the Club lose their flying field. But, for the last couple of years it has been necessary to use swap meet money to finance our mowing operation. For this reason, President Fannin proposed that we have a second swap meet to be held in the middle of August so as to recoup some of the money lost in February's event. He will research the data necessary to host an August swap meet event and report back to the Club at the next monthly meeting.

Swap Meet 2015 Photos



NEW BUSINESS: Proposed FAA rule on sUAS (RC aircraft) use in the NAS (National Air Space). Club member Ralph Miller led a discussion on FAA's latest ruling which is now posted on the Federal Register. Individuals and organizations that oppose or want to make changes to the FAA's proposals, now have until 11:59 pm on April 24th, 2015 to do so. After this period, the proposed ruling or modified ruling will be sent to the Congress who will put it into law. The document is 40 pages long and very convoluted in its language. Section 6 of the document pertains to model aircraft. A brief outline here...highlights the 6 major rules that affect RC model operations: 1. Models must be flown within visual line of sight; 2. Must be flown only for hobby or recreation purposes; 3. Must weigh less than 55 pounds; 4. Must be operated within a community set of guided safety regulations (e.g. AMA); 5. Must give way to manned aircraft; and 6. Must contact authorities before operating within 5 miles of an active airport. The majority of the document is aimed at commercial use of sUAS in the NAS which levies many more rules such as testing of an individual's flight proficiency; requiring observers; certification, registration and marking of flying vehicles; age restrictions... just to mention a few. Unfortunately, the FAA can levy any number of these rules on the RC Model community in addition to the current restrictions. AMA wants its members to respond to the FAA ruling much as it did during the 2012 effort. At this point we must get a reading from AMA as to exactly how they want us to respond. Our Club officers will be contacting Club members as soon as the AMA responds to their queries. For those interested in reading the FAA proposed ruling go to the internet and trigger this link:

<http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=FAA-2015-0150-0017>

Commercial and military use of the Quad Copter



For interesting videos on commercial and military use of sUAS, check out these links:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/01/12/chicago-drone-video-winter-frozen_n_6458050.html

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SNPJMk2fgJU&t=242>

NEW MEMBERS: The attending members voted-in our newest member, David Knox. Welcome to the Club David we look forward to seeing you at our meetings and out at the flight field.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Dan Arens is in possession of a P-47 fuselage that he wants to give away. The fuselage is 57.6 inches long and fits a model with a 73.2 inch wing. Dan will hold this fuselage until Saturday, the 21st of March. If there are no takers, he plans to dispose of the fuselage. You can contact him at 618-444-8063.

ATTENDANCE PRIZE: The 50/50 was won by Club member George Hoff...thank you George you sweet talkin' devil for turning over your winnings to the club...we need the help and we thank you for that.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held at Eckert's restaurant on Tuesday, 14 April at 7 pm.

May's Club meeting will be held at the flight field...7 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

THE TRANSMITTER is the monthly newsletter of the Belleville RC Flyers. It is published to keep the club members informed of club activities. Club meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month. In Summer, May through September, the meetings are held at the flying field. From October through April the meetings are held at a local restaurant. The standard meeting time is 7 pm. The flying field is located on Rentchler road 1/2 mile South of Rte's 177 and 158, half way between Belleville and Mascoutah. Visitors and spectators are always welcome and Club membership is open to all. Yearly dues are \$50.00 and there is an initiation fee of \$15.00. Academy of Model Aeronautics membership is also required. For info or submissions to the Newsletter, contact the Newsletter Editor through the Club's Web Page at bellevillercflyers.com