

The Wright Flyer



Volume 24 Issue 1

AMA #4143

January 2010

Newsletter of the WRIGHT FLYERS R/C Club

Website: www.joeld.net/wfrc

Meeting Highlights

by Leo Davids, WFRC Secretary

On Tuesday, December 8th, though it was hardly a fit night out for man nor beast, the Wright Flyers held the monthly membership meeting at the Monticello Middle School, room 29. This was the third in the series of seven indoor meetings for the winter season.

The meeting was called to order by vice-president Wayne VanDenBoom at 7:34 PM. There were seven members present including four club officers.

Leo Davids reviewed the minutes of the November meeting as published in the December club newsletter. The minutes were approved as published.

Perry Dziuk gave a treasurer report. The final bill of \$163.24 was paid to the EZ Flush portable toilet vendor, \$76.95 for the past 3 months newsletter expenses and \$100 in 2010 dues have been received. The current balance in treasury is \$3279.05. Five more 2010 dues renewals were submitted at the meeting but not added to the balance. Perry will have a 2009 club financial summary prepared for the January meeting.

Discussion was started on field mowing plans for the 2010 flying season. It was decided to get some quotes from local mowing services to discuss at future meetings. Garth Landefeld said he would join in a group of club members to take turns mowing the field if another 2 or 3 members would volunteer with their equipment as well. Any members participating in such an effort should be compensated accordingly. With the equipment Garth has (80+ inch cutting swath), on average he was able to mow the entire field in about 2 hours. Based on that, a single swath lawn tractor would likely take about 3-4 hours. Tom Springer

The next meeting is scheduled for
7:00 PM on Tuesday, **January 12th**,
2010. It will be held in **Room 29** of the
Monticello Middle School.

proposed that if we did not always mow the entire field, a 40+ inch mower could (as he found last summer) do a decent landing strip in about 2-3 hours. Concerns about gopher and weed encroachment does not make this alternative an appealing strategy to cut down the mowing effort. It would also leave the Wright County Park Department the impression that we keep an unkempt field.

Tom Springer had more information concerning getting weather condition reporting from the field. He has an acquaintance who is a ham radio operator. This operator is familiar with configuring a remote weather station running on a gel cell battery with solar recharging to broadcast the weather data on a ham radio frequency. This broadcast can then be routed to a web page on the internet accessible to all who would be interested. Only requirement is there has to be a licensed ham operator in charge of the weather station. Tom's acquaintance is willing to be the operator. Tom had a ballpark estimate of about \$600 worth of equipment that would be needed to install a station on the shelter at the field. Tom is willing to do the installation and underwrite the cost if the club is interested. From the response at the meeting, Tom was encouraged to pursue this concept and will report back as he is able to put together a detailed project.

The slate of club officers for 2010 terms was reviewed. Leo Davids, Garth Landefeld, and Perry Dziuk all said they would stand as officers for the positions that they currently hold. Wayne VanDenBoom said he would take the presidency being vacated by Scott Leiferman. Tom Springer was nominated and accepted for position of vice-president. All candidates were voice voted at the meeting to serve 2010 terms of office.

Tom Springer had another proposal for promoting the membership in the club. If we had a video that the club produced to introduce the club and the sport which people could either be given as a DVD or find on the internet. Being that video is a popular promotional tool and able to be shot and edited by the non-professional, we might have a nice tool in addition to a basic brochure. It might make a fun project for a group from the club to story-board, shoot, edit and produce such a video for both the information and entertainment it would provide.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Show & Tell

by Leo Davids, WFRC Secretary

Garth Landefeld brought along his P-38 Lightning (model M, Night Fighter version) to show its current state after having worked on it for over a year. This P-38 model got its start from a Wings kit which consisted of full size plans, foam wing cores, molded plastic parts for cowls, scoops, turbochargers and canopy. All the rest of the material and the night fighter canopy is from Garth's supplies. He is planning to power the plane with a pair of 40-50 sized 2-cycle glow engines. The landing gear are Robart pneumatic retracts. Joel Dirnberger has contributed help with the

canopy, and Leo Davids with cockpit interior and trim decals. Currently, Garth is in the laborious process of filling and priming the fiberglass finish he laid over the balsa. Then he will add panel line detail before proceeding to final finish paint. The scheme will be all black with some nose art and stars/bars military markings. This scheme will serve as a testament to Garth's superior eyesight but he still might be wise to consider some kind of high intensity LED lighting system.



Ron Bredeken brought in his latest find, the revered T-28 Trojan by Horizon Parkzone. He purchased it from the LHS, Hobby Zone, in Plymouth. It is the receiver-ready version which meant Ron just had to put in a receiver, supply a 3s LiPoly battery and go fly. Actually, some assembly was required, but within an hour or so the T-28 can be ready to fly. The plane has a 30 amp ESC driving a powerful outrunner brushless





motor. Ron has put 6 flights on it so far from the Montissippi Park club field. He has no trouble getting the T-28 off the grass surface with its fixed tricycle landing gear. It seems to do everything in Ron's repertoire of aerobatic maneuvers and so he is quite pleased with this latest acquisition.

Metrodome Flying Season... Finally

by Leo Davids, WFRC Secretary

Tuesday, December 22nd marked the final date Marcee had arranged for flying electric aircraft in the dome for 2009. The event was marked by a banner turnout of flyers numbering at least 27 pilots by mid-afternoon. Some of the highlights included the field configuration which had the goal posts down and the right outfield area of the baseball diamond opened up. The extra space this added was very welcome with the great turnout, often with 6 or 7 planes in the air at one time making for some congested airspace.

And there was an unusual concentration of one particular aircraft, namely the GWS Slow Stick. At one point, there was an organized mass fly which had 7 Slow Sticks in the air at the same time.



Some of the day's action was caught by one pilot's aerial photography plane and put out on the internet at Whispershots video posting site: http://whispershots.smugmug.com/Aerial-images/High-Definition-Aerial-Videos/8254126_gnHh7#748358559_8xXCM The video is appropriately titled "A Day at the Metrodome".

Another nice touch for the event was the food provided by Marcee for all that attended. There was a delicious selection of sandwiches, meat and veggie trays, cookies and soda which made for an all-you-could-eat day of flying.

2010 WFRC Club Dues

by Leo Davids, WFRC Secretary

Payment is due by the January monthly meeting to ensure no lapse of "benefits". A renewal form was included with December's newsletter. You can mail the payment to the club PO box or bring it to the monthly meeting. The standard single adult fee remains at \$50.

Upcoming Events

M.A.A.C. Swap Meet - The Minnesota Association of Aeromodeling Clubs is hosting the ninth annual Don Bentfield Memorial swap meet on



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Saturday, January 16th, at the B-Dale Club (2100 N. Dale St., Roseville). The event has a \$5 admission charge but no table fee. The starting time is 9:00 AM and expect to be done by 1:00 PM. Contact Tim Karash at 763-444-4617 for information.

MARCEE Swap Meet - The Minnesota Area Radio Control Electric Enthusiasts is hosting a second annual swap meet on Saturday January 23rd at the Immanuel Lutheran Church on 104 Snelling Ave. S. in St. Paul from 10 AM to 1 PM. There is no admission or table fee. Contact Steve Mundt at 651-646-2195 for more information.

TCRC Auction - The Twin Cities RC Club's 34th annual auction will be held on Saturday February 6th,

2010 Club Officers

Pres Wayne Van Den Boom 763-443-4440
VP..... Tom Springer 612-221-4087
Treasurer Perry Dzuik 763-477-6865
Secretary Leo Davids 763-263-3577
Safety Off ... Garth Landefeld 763-497-5828
News Ed Jean Davids 763-263-3577

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Want club logo apparel & other items? Shop here:
<http://www.cafepress.com/wrightflyersrc>.

If you have news or ideas for articles you would like to see, you can email me at jedweb@charter.net or call me at 763-263-3577. Jean Davids

2010 at the Cross Point Church in Bloomington. With the new venue they settled into last year, this auction should be the premiere event of the 2010 RC model season. Check on their website at www.tcrconline.com for auction flyer and how to pre-register your goods for the auction.

Great Minnesota Air Show - Mark your calendars for June 26th & 27th, 2010, when an airshow will be held at the St. Cloud Airport with the headlined act of the Navy Blue Angels. Check the event website for details as the show dates approach: <http://www.thegreatminnesotaairshow.com/>