

The Wright Flyer



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Newsletter of the WRIGHT FLYERS R/C Club

Website: www.joeld.net/wfrc

Meeting Highlights

by Leo Davids, WFRC Secretary

On Tuesday April 13th, the Wright Flyers held the monthly membership meeting at the Monticello Middle School, room 30. This was the last indoor meeting for the winter season.

The meeting was called to order by President Wayne VanDenBoom at 7:13 PM. There were 11 members present including four out of five club officers.

Leo Davids reviewed the minutes of the March meeting as published in the April issue of the club newsletter. The minutes were approved with a correction to the balance in the club treasury to \$3929.05.

Perry Dziuk gave the treasurer's report. There was a deposit of \$200 of collected dues and another \$50 in dues collected at the meeting. Expenses for the newsletter of \$52.40 were paid. The current balance is \$4126.65

Tom Springer reported on the progress of using the Big Lake City Park for the club float fly on May 1st. We have the park from 10 AM to 3 PM. Tom will get ten parking passes so that at least most of those attending will not have to pay the \$5 entrance fee. The bathrooms will be open. We need to ensure we do not interfere with boats using the park's launch ramp.

Wayne VanDenBoom finalized the order for shirts taking some orders at the meeting to include with those he got previously by phone and email. He will place the entire order with the supplier no later than Thursday in hopes the shirts will be available for pickup at the next club meeting in May.

Flyers who used the Montissippi field this past

The next meeting is scheduled for
7:00 PM on Tuesday, **May 11th**, 2010.
It will be held at the Montissippi Flying Field.
This is the first of our summer meetings to be
held at the field.

weekend reported a number of stripe gopher holes that should be filled during the field cleanup next Saturday.

Nate Ewing offered the services of his family's field spraying equipment to do the weed spraying at the field. He will see if they can get the field sprayed this coming Saturday evening after the field cleanup. The club will be charged for the cost of the chemicals only.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Show & Tell

by Leo Davids, WFRC Secretary

Nate Ewing - Nate came to the meeting directly from the flying field where he crashed his Phoenix 40. So he provided a crash-and-tell account of the accident along with the aft half of the fuselage. He said the plane had been a great flyer until the fuselage just snapped in half in



the air. It was close enough to the ground that no other damage was sustained. Once Nate grafts the fuselage back together it should be good to go.

Mike Ferretti brought in a set on Hanger 9 floats for 40-sized Cub that he is reworking based on a set he had last year. The floats come covered with Ultra-cote but Mike says the covering on the set he flew last year bubbled so badly that he decided to strip this new set and has covered the balsa structure with 3/4 oz. fiberglass and resin. From there he is going to prime the glass enough to fill the weave and then paint a finish coat.



Upcoming Events

Monticello Community Center Senior Hobby Day

- Retired members of the WFRC Club are invited to participate in an exhibit of the RC hobby to the Pinewood Elementary School students at the Monticello Community Center on Friday, May 7th, from 9:30 AM until 2:00 PM. Anyone, even not retired, that can donate some of their old model airplane magazines for student handouts should contact Leo Davids.

WFRC Float Fly - The event has been rescheduled to May 8th at Lakeside Park on Big Lake in the city of the same name. The float fly is open to members with 2010 AMA. It will start at about 10 AM and run until 3 PM or until everyone is soaking wet. There will be food provided by the club. The Lakeside Park is on the corner of US Highway 10 and Lakeshore Drive which is a street heading north off Highway 10. The street is about 6/10 of a mile west on Highway 10 after the intersection Minn 25 in "downtown" Big Lake. You cannot park along Lakeshore Drive, nor in the abandoned drive-in or on Sherburne Ave. across from the park. Parking in the park's lot requires a parking

permit. Tom Springer will have some "complimentary" permits at no charge, otherwise you need to get a permit envelope at the entrance and pay \$5 to ensure you don't get ticketed by the police. We will be pitting and flying from the north end of the swimming beach which is roughly a 400 ft. walk from the parking spaces. Retrieval boats are being provided by one or two club members.

TCRC Spring Float Fly - May 8th, Bush Lake Park in Bloomington.

Grassfield Electric Funfly - On Saturday, May 15th, the Grassfield club will hold an electric aircraft fun fly from 8 AM to 3 PM at their field on Hi-way 169 and 101st St North. There is no fee to fly but must have current AMA card. There will be a drawing for an F-15 ARF for everyone who puts in a flight. Contact Don Granlund for more information at 763-561-5282

Big Sky Hobby Annual Spring Swap Meet - Sunday, May 23rd, from 8 AM to noon at their store in Eagan. Free brunch, door prizes and in-store specials.

Hobby Warehouse Swap Meet - Sunday, May 23rd, from 8 AM to noon at their store on Chicago Ave. in Richfield.

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

American Barnstormers Tour - July 3-5 at Chandler Field in Alexandria. Twenty meticulously restored vintage aircraft from the 1920's and 1930's will stop here as part of a seven-city nineteen-day tour through the northern Great Plains states. Admission is free. The program includes a professionally narrated Barnstormers Parade of Flight. Air rides can be purchased and these vintage biplanes will be on the ramp for display. Check for details on www.americanbarnstormertour.com.

Field Cleanup Day

by Leo Davids, WFRC Secretary

Saturday, April 17th, was the field cleanup for the official start of the 2010 flying season at Montissippi Park. Approximately 9-10 members participated in what turned out to be a fairly light work effort to get the field ready for the season. Filling of the gopher holes scattered around the field turned out to be the main effort other than rolling the field. A couple more warning signs were placed along the perimeter of the field to advise people to stay clear when aircraft were

operating.

Weather was more suited to the cleanup than flying with morning temperatures in the 50's but reaching the 60's by afternoon. The skies were clear but the wind from the northwest began reaching 20 mph by afternoon. The wind did not completely dampen flying as there were about 3-4 planes flown after the field rolling was completed just before noon. In particular, Scott Leiferman got his maiden flights on the electric powered 4-Star 60 he had at last meeting's show-&-tell.

Wayne VanDenBoom had the complementary lunch set up and grilled hot dogs served with salad for everyone in attendance. The meal alone was sufficient reward for all the members who participated in the cleanup. Nevertheless, every club member benefits from the effort of these volunteers who ensure the field is kept in great condition for the entire club.

In a related matter, Nate Ewing had volunteered his family's farm resources to spray the field for weeds. This was accomplished subsequent to the cleanup on

Thursday, April 22nd, fitting since it was Earth Day. Within a few hours of spraying, the disappearance of the dandelion bloom was encouraging compared to our efforts of past years when we sprayed with what could be obtained by the "amateur" at the neighborhood home garden supply. Hopefully this illustrates the difference between the expression "stun" and "eradicate".



Picking Thermals

*From Thermalier, newsletter of the Pensacola Free Flight Team
An article by Peter Brocks, which is stolen here from the November 2001 Ontario-based Sam 86 Speaks, who in turn stole it from the August 2001 Bat Sheet.*

Picking thermals has to do with feeling the subtle changes in the environments, which, to the untrained, are not apparent. Therefore there is no simple recipe.

Tools: Mylar streamers, fast sampling thermistor devices, fluffies, bubble machines, piggybacking (on) birds, and other models.

Early morning: The air is buoyant neutral, small rises in temperature possible (as little as 2° F).

Midday: Strong thermals (boomers) develop that exceed the sink rate of models, rise in temperature can be a few degrees with wind calming, wait until a cooler breeze (fill) is felt and the temperature clearly drops. Do not launch right away, especially with fast, higher climbing models. Wait 10 to 20 seconds, depending on wind velocity.

Late Afternoon: Thermals stay closer to the ground, tend to be larger size. Smaller rises in temperature (1°+ F). Be patient; fly over dark areas.

Strong wind: Wait for a three- or four-second lull of lower wind velocity; launch immediately at an angle to



In This Issue

- ✓ Meeting Highlights
 - ✓ Show & Tell
 - ✓ Upcoming Events
 - ✓ Field Cleanup Day
 - ✓ Picking Thermals
 - ✓ Tips & Tricks
-

the wind.

No wind: Watch streamers to see center of building hot air column. The rising air circles counterclockwise. Wait for light air movement indicating fill. Be patient as the air rises very slowly. When launching, place the model in the center of the rising air.

Cold front: Rising air precedes the rain and the breeze. Good air is still present even when rain starts.

Flapping: If wind is moderate and ground surface is warm, then flapping a shirt or running or driving under the model will release rising air.

General Rules: Do not launch if there is a chance that the sun might soon come out of the clouds. Do not fly if other models are launched when a conscientious decision to launch has not been made; rather watch other models behavior. Most of the time flying a little later will give better results. Concentrate and take in your environment.

2010 Club Officers

Pres	Wayne Van Den Boom	763-443-4440
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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

Café Express

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

Tips & Tricks

From Flightplan, Flight Masters Model Airplane Club, Fort Smith Arkansas (one of three listed in

The first tip is from Bill Womble who is repairing his Hangar-9 P-51D: Bill needed to repair a few cracks in the balsa skins of his airplane's wing near the root rib. He removed the flap servo, and realigned the pieces of balsa. Bill then reinforced the area by laying a piece of fiberglass drywall tape, adhesive side to the balsa, over the cracked area and drizzled CA onto the balsa and tape. This made a quick, effective repair.

The second tip is from an anonymous source: If you need an air scoop, use a portion of a plastic spoon. Glue it to the wing or fuselage, fair it in, and paint it to match the structure. Looks great!