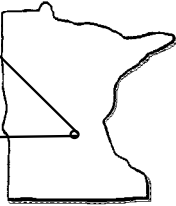


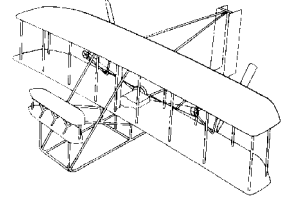


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The Wright Flyer

Website: www.joeld.net/wfrc



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NEWSLETTER OF THE WRIGHT FLYERS R/C CLUB

Meeting Highlights

On Tuesday, April 10th, the Wright Flyers held the monthly membership meeting at the Monticello Middle School. This was the seventh and last monthly indoor meeting of the winter season.

The business meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM by President Scott Leiferman. There were 11 members present including five club officers. The secretary presented the minutes of the March meeting and they were accepted as read. The treasurer reported that another \$235 of dues have been collected since last meetings report and the treasury stands at \$4828.95.

Scott Leiferman announced that club stickers were now available from Garth Landefeld as well as those who were previously given a supply to distribute (Leiferman, Davids, VanDenBoom, Dirnberger and Johnson).

Discussion was opened about the effects of the weather on the upcoming field cleanup. If it will be cold and wet, the staining of the shelter and benches may need to be postponed. It was decided to at least keep the designated April 14th date for the landscaping work as Buzz Plante and his tractor will not be available for the next weekend.

Wayne VanDenBoom and Scott Leiferman checked on stain prices at Home Depot. A 5-gallon container of Behr brand was about \$115 plus tax. Scott was going to check at Menards but if it is a question of quality versus economy it was decided to go with the more durable brand.

The club received an invitation to participate in the Monticello Walk & Roll again this year. The event is scheduled to be held on Saturday, May 26th which is the Memorial holiday weekend. Also, the event was being relocated to the river

The next meeting is scheduled for **7:00 PM** on Tuesday, May 8th, 2007. It will be held at the **Montissippi Flying Field.**

area in town around the Ellison park, River Street and the hospital. The club had to respond to the invitation by April 12th. None of those attending the meeting felt they could commit to staffing a booth for that weekend.

Garth Landefeld reported that one of the warning signs at the flying field has been taken and should be replaced. Rich Johnson was not at the meeting but he will be contacted to procure another sign to replace the one that was stolen.

Garth reported that the internet retailer Hobby Zone is located near his place of business in Plymouth. They intend to open a store in that location sometime this summer. Garth said they would give our club members a discount if we put a link to the Hobby Zone website on our club website.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Show and Tell

Buzz Plante presented a E-Flite Mini Funtana X that he won in the raffle at the TCRC Auction in February. This plane is from the Horizon Hobby line of ARF electric 3D aircraft. It is constructed

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

of balsa and plywood and covered with the Ultracote plastic covering. Buzz had to invest a tidy sum in 4 servos, receiver, Li-Poly battery, brushless outrunner electric motor and speed control to eliminate the "Almost" term from ARF. Buzz had been flying the Funtana prior to this presentation and he was pleased that this was his first electric that didn't seem at all under-powered.

Leo Davids brought in his latest electric flight accessory, the AstroFlight Blinky Li-Poly battery balancer. This device is a small circuit card that plugs into a balance connector which most recent multi-cell Li-Poly batteries come equipped with. Leo demonstrated how the Blinky functions to read the individual cell voltages and discharge the highest cell at about 150 ma until all the cells are within less than one-hundredth of a volt of each other. Using it while charging a pack will help ensure that the charger doesn't push an individual cell beyond 4.2 volts which can damage or puff a cell. The Blinky, apparently named from the light show it puts on while balancing the cell voltages, can be purchased at many hobby stores and internet hobby outlets for about \$25. Information and instruction sheet can be found at the manufacturer's web site, www.astroflight.com.



Buzz Plante's Funtana

Club Field Ready for the Season

The WFRC annual field cleanup day was held Saturday, April 14th. Early weather forecasts had nearly caused the cleanup to be postponed during the monthly meeting the Tuesday before. But on this sunny Saturday, as the 9 AM start time ar-

rived, there were already members gathering at the field with shovels and rakes in hand. Fortunately, no vehicles had cut any donuts in the field over the fall and winter. There were just a few ruts in the pit area where vehicles accidentally treaded on soft ground. There were an unusual number of golf club divots in a large swath up the center of the field. Also, the pocket gopher mounds, mostly from last fall, were prevalent on the east and west ends of the field. With a crew that, at its peak, numbered eleven club members, the raking and leveling went quickly so the field rolling commenced before 10 AM.

Meanwhile, Dave Martin, with chain saw and a couple helpers with hammers and bars, made quick work of dismantling the old bleachers to be loaded up and hauled away. The portable toilet was securely lag screwed to the anchor stakes and Buzz Plante put his tractor to work dragging the parking lot to level out the ruts from the juvenile joy riders who tool through the park up to no-good. We were fortunate not to need any dirt mined from the bank along the parking lot's south side for frost was still solidly into this shaded area.

Lots of people, savoring the fine spring weather, brought planes along to satisfy the flying urges and shortly after 11 AM the roller made its last pass across the field and was parked in the trees along the north side. For the next 4 to 5 hours, there were planes in the air almost constantly. And another thanks to Dave Martin for bringing a better brand of donuts (filled & glazed) than we normally have to deal with at field cleanups.

Field Work - Act II

The condition of the finish on the shelter and picnic tables at the field was discussed at our winter meetings with the intent of including a staining activity along with field cleanup. As sometimes happens, the fear of weather and some further price shopping for the stain delayed this activity. But in the end, our crafty VP Wayne VanDenBoom took the initiative and purchased a sufficient quantity and quality of color matched stain. He arranged for some members to help him on Saturday, April 21st. But as the day dawned, it was

(Continued on page 3)

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raining quite heavily and so it looked like it would have to be postponed again.

However, by early afternoon, the skies cleared and Wayne rounded up a crew that was quite resourcefully populated. Current members Garth Landefeld, and Tom Springer responded to Wayne's last minute call and a prospective member and a friend of Tom's joined in as well. Together they all got 3 gallons of stain down on the shelter and tables in a mere three hours time. Tom Springer provided some much needed scaffolding to make the job go easier. Garth promptly filed a report and photos with the newsletter editor.

Buzz Plante



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John Kossieck getting ready to fly after field cleanup

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Scott Leiferman



Garth Landefeld



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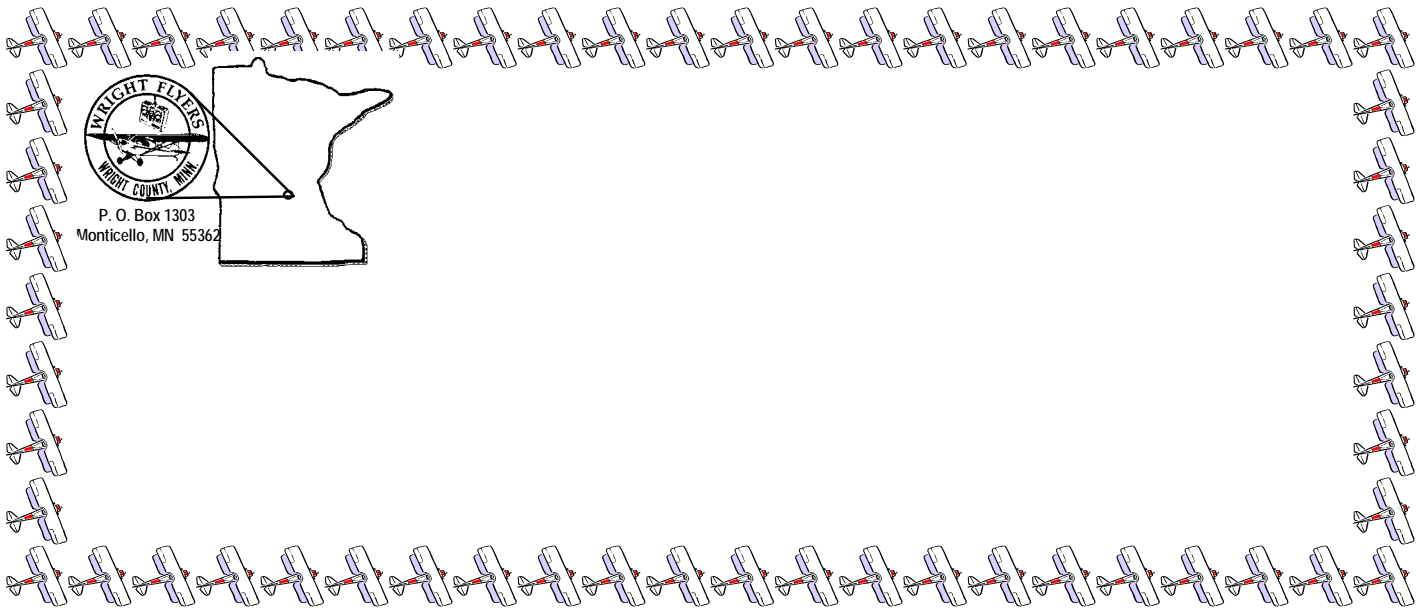
Dustin, Dave, Wayne & Tom (Garth taking the photo and helping with staining)

Club Membership Report

As of April 16th we have received our AMA club charter and insurance certificates for the flying field at Montissippi Park. So far we have three new members to add to the club charter, Tom Springer of Big Lake, Nigel Schuette of Monticello and Matt Smith of Rockford. That brings the 2007 paid membership to 27 however, there are still eleven members from last year that have not renewed for this year.

Garth's biplane - flies well even with ailerons reversed





In this Issue

- ✓ Meeting Highlights
- ✓ Show & Tell
- ✓ Club Field Ready for the Season
- ✓ Field Work—Act II
- ✓ Club Membership Report
- ✓ Coming Events

2007 Club Officers

Pres Scott Leiferman763-682-2707
 VP Wayne Van Den Boom ..763-428-2360
 Treasurer ... Perry Dzuik763-477-6865
 Secretary Leo Davids.....763-263-3577
 Safety Off.. Garth Landefeld.....763-497-5828
 News Ed. ... Jean Davids.....763-263-3577

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

Café Express

Want club logo apparel & other items? Shop here:
[http://www.cafepress.com/wrightflyersrc.](http://www.cafepress.com/wrightflyersrc)

Coming Events

Monticello Senior Hobby Day - The Senior Center at the Monticello Community Center is holding their annual hobby day event for the students of Pinewood Elementary School on Friday May 4th. The WFRC club is invited to present the R/C aircraft hobby at a booth that requires 2-3 retired club members, some aircraft to display and material to hand out to the children. The event runs the entire day from about 9 AM to 2:30 PM. If you are interested, retired or at least look old, contact Leo Davids if you would like to help. A free lunch has often been provided by the Senior Center.

Swap-A-Ganza - The "new" Sky Hobby is continuing their predecessor's (Hobby Warehouse) tradition of a parking lot swap meet on Sunday May 6th. It is being held at their store on 7144 Chicago Avenue South in Richfield starting at 8 AM. The phone number for in-

formation is 612-861-5587

TCRC Spring Float Fly - The Twin Cities RC Club is holding their annual spring float fly on Saturday May 12th at Bush Lake in Bloomington starting at 11 AM. No details have been published to date so check their web site at WWW.TCRCOnline.com if you have an interest.

WFRC Float Fly - Wayne VanDenBoom is hosting a float fly for club members Saturday May 19th at Twin Lakes County Park. The park is east of Elk River heading toward Nowthen. If Wayne determines the weather is too severe, the float fly will be postponed until the next day. The County Park parking lot is the marshalling point and flying will be off the beach just east of this parking lot. There will be a boat to retrieve planes from the water if needed.