

Radio Signal Modelers Flying Club
September Newsletter
September 10, 2007



The September 2007 meeting was called to order by President Mike Meitus at the Elmwood Park Fieldhouse. Only seven members were in attendance at the meeting. The minutes of the August 2007 meeting were read by President Mike and approved by the club.

Treasurer's Report

The club's beginning cash balance at July 31, 2007 was \$1,171.57. During the month of August new membership dues and renewals totaled \$216.04, and total expenditures for field maintenance and event incidentals were \$72.44. As a result, the club's ending cash balance was \$1,315.17 as of August 31, 2007.

Club Web Site

Vice-President and Web Site Captain Mike Reinhart indicated that he had renewed the club's web site address for another year at a cost of \$9.00. President Mike indicated that our other address "RSMRC" would also need renewal and that he would take care of it. VP Mike suggested that he only send the fee for one year as the price of securing these addresses continues to fall each year.

Field Maintenance

It was discussed that the club shed lock needed repair this last month due to the break off of a key in the lock. VP Mike was able to remove the key and make needed repairs to preserve the lock and purchase a new key to replace the broken key. The shed has settled a bit into the ground and that had caused the latch to shift out of line. VP Mike has been able to reinstall the latch so that it lines up properly with the lock.

VP Mike also reported that a flyer needed minor first aid last week at the field and the first aid box was found to have been water logged. As a result, Mike took the initiative to go out and purchase two first aid boxes and supplies at the local dollar store. One with band aids, alcohol, antiseptic cream and gauze will be kept in the usual spot in the slot created above the impound stand on the east side of the shed. The other will be kept in the shed which contains refills of band aids and more gauze.

End of Season Maintenance Party – Saturday October 6th

President Mike proposed that we perform some end of season lawn maintenance in October and proposed October 6th as a maintenance crew party. We will plan to add lawn nutrients to the field and will need several members to bring broadcast lawn spreaders to help out. We will also add more grass seed to the field in the hopes of growing better grass for next season. It was discussed that this year's lawn maintenance performed in late spring has done wonders to the field. With help from mother nature in the form of rain this season, and the club's hard work earlier in the year, we have managed to maintain a very nice runway and hope to keep this into next year with a little early maintenance. We will remind everyone closer to the date of this important maintenance event.

Early Planning of Chili Fun Fly – Scheduled for Sunday December 9th

The club discussed that its next flying event is the third annual Chili Fun Fly on December 9th. We have been lucky in the last two years of having sufficient snow for use of skis and hope to be

able to repeat this in December. If the snow does not come on time, we will reschedule to a new date later in December or in January.

New Members Welcomed

The club has been successful in getting new members this last month with six new members joining. Present at the September meeting was Steve Schultz who just joined and is looking forward to brushing up on his flying skills after a 20 year hiatus. Steve indicated that he previously had experience with sail planes and said he built several at a time so that he could plan for the next crash back then. Steve recently purchased a Hobbico Superstar ARF already assembled by a beginner that needs some re-assembly before it is flight worthy. Steve indicated to the club that he is an architect and has equipment that can enlarge plans and offered to help out club members needing to enlarge their project plans. Welcome to the club Steve and thanks for your offer. We look forward to helping you with your trainer and your first few flights back in the hobby.

President Mike also discussed that new member Pavel "Paul" Svehota who joined our club last month has graciously donated a JR transmitter that can be used as a buddy box for new members with JR equipment. He also donated a JR receiver and a Futaba-to-JR buddy box cord as well. Thanks for your generosity Paul and welcome to the club.

Show and Tell

VP Mike showed the club the consequence of a small cut in a Li-Po battery. Mike recounted how he charged a battery that had a small cut in the bottom. It charged fully but when he pushed on the cut all of a sudden the battery began to heat and Mike was able to quickly get it outside before it started sparking and flaming. Mike opened up the battery and showed the club how the single cut on the outside had managed to pierce the several layers of the battery and cause the short. As we have noted before, be sure to treat your Li-Po batteries with care, and never charge them unattended.

Tales from the Field

It has been some time since we have offered up a "tales from the field" section of our newsletter but this month we have a very special tale from our President, Mike Mietus. As many of you may be aware, last month Mike decided that bigger is better and purchased a 1/3rd scale, 140 inch wing span Super Cub and attached a 80cc gas engine to it. After a week of so of assembly, Mike brought his new toy out for its initial run up and maiden. Many of us were lucky enough to see this beautiful monster Cub perform in the sky last week. Unfortunately, the fun lasted for only a few days. The monster Cub became the last of many victims of the trees on the northeastern edge of the field. Upon final approach after a marathon flight of approximately 20 minutes, Mike misjudged the distance and slammed his Cub into the trees. At the meeting Mike recounted that it took about ten seconds for the bird to fall through the trees and crash to the ground. We are all sorry Mike for your loss. This certainly is a reminder to all of us how every plane we fly has a number...and when that number is up...it is up! The only way to increase your plane's number is to get out there and fly it while it lasts!

Next Meeting at Elmwood Park Field House – October 1st

The October meeting will be held at the Elmwood Park Field House location on Monday, October 1st at 7pm.

By Ted Noncek, Secretary (tnoncek@sbcglobal.net)