

**Radio Signal Modelers Flying Club
February and March 2007
Newsletter
February 5th and March 5th Meetings**



Editor's Note: Sorry folks I have been pretty busy at work the last two months and could not attend the last two monthly meetings. Fortunately Mike Meitus took notes for me for the February meeting, and Mike Reinhart took notes for the March meeting. I have created the combined newsletter below from these notes.

The February 2007 meeting and March 2007 meetings were called to order by President Mike Meitus at the Elmwood Park Fieldhouse. The minutes of the January meeting were presented and were approved by the club as read.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Terry Gombert presented the Treasurer's report for February and March 2006. The club cash balances were reported as \$709.09 at January month-end and \$749.34 at February month end. The Treasurer's reports were approved by the club as presented.

Field Maintenance

The club plans again to have the field rolled for the new season upon us. A club member has offered to provide a 6-ton trailer and could do the pick up and drop off of the heavy roller to be rented. This would save us the delivery charge and also allow us more time to keep the roller. President Mike and Joe Kaskey will have to check to see that it will fit. Date for field rolling not yet determined.

The mower is still at Joe Kaskey's work place for storage. It is planned that the blades will be removed and sharpened.

Spring Cleaning Day Set—March 31st

The annual spring cleaning day is set for Saturday, March 31st to begin at 10am and extend until sunset. The club decided to create a high quality grass east/west runway strip approx. 300' long. The way we are going to do this is to rent a soil aerator for the runway surface, fertilize the soil and get the weeds out. This should make for a nice runway surface after we roll it later in April. Also this fortified landing strip will then turn a different color from the surrounding area and look very nice and visible. We will need all the manpower we can get to run the machine so please earmark this date for volunteering. We will need someone with a truck/van to help pickup and drop off the machine (about the size of a large lawn mower and very, very heavy). Also if anyone has a garden lawn spreader, please bring it. **Please pitch in and help improve our field on cleanup day!**

At the club meeting, Mike Reinhart presented some research on alternative potential modifications to create improved landing strips at the field. Here is the results of his findings:

Concrete ~ \$2.00 sq/ft

Asphalt ~ \$1.35 sq/ft

Crushed Rock ~ \$0.75 sq/ft

Petramat (Amoco product #2006 or #2019)

12' x 300' ~ \$400/roll

15' x 300' ~ \$645/roll

The trouble with Petramat is that it's a lightweight woven fabric product, similar to the weed barrier mat you would use under garden rock to prevent weeds. Its installation cannot be done just over the existing grass field as it would need a quality foundation such as crushed rock. Since it's a fabric, it will also then need to be stacked down every 6" or so.

After discussion of the above findings, the club decided to build the improved grass runway and noted above.

Web Site Update—New Club Forum and Paypal Dues Collections

Our club now has a new forum hosted on RC Groups.com in their Clubs section. A link has been placed on our web site to get there. We were having too many Viagra and spam people posting in our old forum (4-6 per day) so it was shut down. The new forum requires registration so this will eliminate any of those problems. Please feel free to use this forum for any club related topic you like.

We now have a confirmed account with PayPal, so paying for your club dues and other things can be done easily on our club's web site using Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover cards. You can also pay by regular check via the eCheck option. Note: You do not need a PayPal account to use the system, but you might want to save your information when asked at the end of your transaction for next time. Personal accounts are free if you do. Our PayPal address to send payments to is pay@radiosignalmodelers.com.

Membership

Dues

It's time again to pay your dues! RSM dues are still a bargain at \$35 per year, or \$5 for added family members. Remember you must be a member of AMA to be a full member and fly at the field, so be sure to update your AMA membership dues before you fly at the field. The club discussed the potential of a reduced cost youth membership, but the question was raised as to if we can allow them to join due to AMA restrictions. Research will be done on subject for next meeting. Send your dues to Terry Gombert, or bring them to the next meeting, or use the new PayPal account on our club website.

Ideas for Open House to Promote Club

A discussion was had at the meeting of the possibility of having members bring/display their planes at a local library or shopping mall and set up a "newbie get acquainted day" to bring in new members and introduce the club to people. Perhaps to have a local hobby shop join us. Think of ideas and anyone that would be interested in leading this, bring ideas to next meeting.

Show and Tell

I hear that Don Rauch brought another of his projects to show the club, a Delta Vortex kit project he has been working on. Can't wait to see this at the field.

Mike Meitus showed the club his new engines that he is testing. Being a giant scale pilot like Mike has brought him through his web contacts the tough job of testing a Chinese-made DA-50 copy. Mike showed the club his engine. He has reported from the field lately that the motor works fine after replacing the carb with a DA-50 version.

Next Meeting To Be at Held Elmwood Park Fieldhouse – Monday April 2nd

The April meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 2nd at 7pm at the Elmwood Park Fieldhouse location. Please be sure to bring something for show and tell.

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