

**Radio Signal Modelers Flying Club**  
**November Newsletter**  
**November 5, 2007**



The November 2007 meeting was called to order by President Mike Meitus at the Elmwood Park Fieldhouse. The minutes of the October 2007 meeting were read by Secretary Ted Noncek and approved by the club.

**Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Terry Gompert. The club's beginning cash balance at September 30, 2007 was \$1,334.16. During the month of October one new member paid dues, and no expenses were paid. As a result, the club's ending cash balance as of October 31, 2007 was \$1,367.84. The treasurer's report was approved as read.

**Field Maintenance Report**

The fertilizer was laid down on October 20<sup>th</sup> by a team of several helpful members using seven spreaders. Member Ed Bywalec has donated to the club a spreader to keep at the field. Schultz Hardware helped out by providing the fertilizer at a discount for the club. Thanks to everyone who pitched in to the effort in providing a better field for us in 2008!

The mysterious disappearance of the yellow umbrella reported at last meeting has been solved. It turns out that the umbrella was left out at the conclusion of a very windy day and a member brought it home for safe keeping. The umbrella is now safely back at the field. The club discussed that we now have quite a few umbrellas and would like for someone to volunteer their garage for winter storage so that we can clean them out of the shed for winter flying season. Any one that has some extra space please let President Mike or VP Mike know and they will arrange the storage.

It was reported that the mower again popped a pulley and was able to be repaired at the field by President Mike and VP Mike. Thanks guys for your ingenuity. In other mower related news, it was discussed that the last mowing of the season had taken place last week and that the mower is to be stored at Joe Kasky's place of business again. We will then be able to use the shed as a warming shelter for winter flying. Thanks Joe and to your employer for allowing us to store the mower.

**Students Pilots at the Field**

Member Haim Naiditch has started an introductory RC flying program with several of the young men from his son Ari's school. Mike Meitus, Mike Reinhart and Joe Kasky have been assisting Haim in this great outreach program. Thanks Haim for making this happen and to all those that have helped out. President Mike indicated that these student pilots are getting pretty good already. It was noted that one of our new members recently donated a surplus flight box and equipment to help in this program (sorry I did not get the identity of this new member)—thanks!

**Club Meeting Attendance**

The club again took up the issue of club member attendance at our monthly meetings. Lately the attendance has continued to decline although we discussed and considered that our membership is approximately constant with other years (we currently have around 50 members). Member Ed Bywalec presented ideas regarding improving membership attendance at meetings based on efforts that have worked in his other RC club experience. Ed suggested the implementation of an

incentive program to reward members that attend the monthly meeting. Each month a member who attends is given a two-part ticket that is torn apart and one numbered ticket placed in a coffee can, the other retained by the member. At the conclusion of the year at the December meeting, a drawing is held to award the winner a free membership fee for the new year. The winner must be present and must present the numbered ticket in order to win. Ed pointed out that this system has worked in the past for the Chicagoland club and can be expanded to include other awards/prizes.

Upon discussion, the club decided to adopt Ed's suggestion. At the next monthly meeting (December meeting) we will have a small raffle with some prizes donated for this meeting. After that, starting in January the club will follow the ticket system Ed has suggested. VP Mike has volunteered to provide the two part tickets.

It was also discussed that low meeting attendance may be the result of the informal format and content of our current club meetings. Our meetings have evolved into 90% administrative discussions and only about 10% related to the hobby. That has likely turned off new members that have attended and concluded that the meetings lack educational/hobby content. It was discussed that it is important to have some technical presentation about the hobby at each meeting to share knowledge and improve the content of our monthly meeting. VP Mike has been put in charge of determining the educational part of our meeting and will be approaching members on what they can offer in terms of showing something of interest to the club. Ed Bywalec noted that the Chicagoland club typically has a 15-20 minute presentation/demonstration by either a club member or someone outside of the club that is approached to present to the club. If you have any good ideas for Mike please let him know as soon as possible. Regardless of how long we have each been in the hobby, there is always something new to learn! Thanks Mike for taking on this important duty for each meeting. Once we secure a topic for the upcoming meeting, we will email the club with a notice of what is going to be presented or demonstrated.

#### **Reminder of Chili Fun Fly – Scheduled for Sunday December 9<sup>th</sup>**

Just a reminder from last month's newsletter that the next flying event is the third annual Chili Fun Fly on December 9<sup>th</sup>. 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.**

#### **Indoor Flying at White Pines Golf Dome Has Started**

As many of our members enjoyed last year, the White Pines Gold Dome is again opening for indoor electric RC fun. The dome is open from 11pm to 1am on each Friday and Saturday night from through April 26<sup>th</sup>. The pilot fee is \$10 per night, or a season pass can be purchased for \$175. The Golf Dome is also offering a special on golf for any members wishing to mix interests with a \$2 discount for driving range privileges from 10 pm to 11 pm on flying nights. Anyone needing further information can email Mert Mischnick at [mert914@comcast.net](mailto:mert914@comcast.net). Get your foamies ready for the season and we hope to see you there. Also, I just received word that the big all night event is scheduled for December 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Mini Swap Meet Held at November Meeting**

Several members that attended the November meeting brought RC gear to sell/swap at our mini swap meet. Unfortunately, there seemed to be too many sellers and not enough buyers! Better luck next time or on RC Universe!

#### **Next Meeting at Elmwood Park Field House –December 3<sup>rd</sup>**

(update: this meeting will NOT BE HELD AT Elmwood, but will be held at Strickly RC, same time 7pm)

By Ted Noncek, Secretary ([tnoncek@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tnoncek@sbcglobal.net))