



Radio Signal Modelers Flying Club

AMA Charter 1289 - Schiller Woods Flying Field

Monthly Newsletter

July 2015

The July 2015 meeting of the Radio Signal Modelers Flying Club was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, July 13th by President Les Schier at the Schiller Park Flying Field. There were approximately 28 members in attendance. The minutes of the June meeting were presented by Secretary Ted Noncek and were approved by the members as read.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Terry Gombert presented the Treasurer's Report for June 2015. The club finished the month with \$1,476 after receipts of \$273 from membership, and had disbursements of \$792 related primarily to the runway opening. It was noted that the club is due a security deposit from the Forest Preserve related to the event permit of \$250.



The War Bird Fly-In Event group photo. Jaime Solis won bragging rights with his B-25 winning the favorite award.

Terry reported that membership is currently 75. All members are paid up since any unpaid members from last year have been deleted as of June 30th from the member roster. The Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

Field Maintenance Committee

Don Zeller reported that the grass has been cut regularly by the club, and that we have not seen the Forest Preserve in the last several weeks cutting the field.

There was a discussion on the need to create a smooth transition between the asphalt and the grass on the new runway. Several members noted that smaller planes have trouble moving onto the runway. It was discussed that it would take many bags of soil to provide the transition around the entire runway. After discussion, it was decided that it would be best to delay this project until the fall season as the club did want additional construction mess at the field during the main summer flying season.

The club also discussed recent incidents of fliers setting up gasoline generators near the pit area in order to power field chargers. This provides too much noise and is likely against Forest Preserve rules. Please do not set up generators near the flying field as this is distracting to other users of the field.

In the same discussion, it came up that fliers sometimes decide to break-in new engines right on the flight line, especially at the handicapped stand. This too is very distracting to fliers on the flight line. If one



Plenty of warbirds were on hand for the Warbird Fly-In.



Sally Gombert releases the balloons during the new Runway Grand Opening event on June 13th.

needs to break-in an engine, feel free to move one of the flight stands to a deserted area of the pits, and do it safely away from other fliers.

Field Safety Committee

Club Safety Officer Scott Thompson presented the safety report. Scott told a story from his own recent experience why it is important to do a thorough preflight inspection, especially on older planes purchased used from another pilot. Scott learned the hard way with his new 50cc gas powered aircraft he purchased used. The firewall glue failed on when Scott started up the engine, and the 50cc engine flew off the model. Thankfully no one was hurt, but we all know that was luck. A good hard tug on the propeller before starting with a view toward looking for any unusual play in the firewall would possibly have prevented Scott from starting the model. Always inspect

a model completely and never spend more time than absolutely necessary directly in front of an aircraft once started. Additionally, do not stand directly to the right or left of the propeller arc. Propellers have been known to break apart under stress, and anyone directly on the sides could be seriously injured. Always rev up your engines from behind the model, and remind all fellow pilots and spectators to stand back when you rev up an engine.

Another important safety tip is always warn anyone at the flight line in front of your flight stand that you are getting ready to start your engine. A flier at the flight line is particularly vulnerable since they are looking at their plane, and can't even run out of the way if something goes wrong.

It was discussed that the plastic chain on the



Dramatic shot of Jaime's B-25 making a landing at the Warbird Fly-In — missing the left main gear tire that came apart upon the first touch down just before this shot was taken.

main opening of the pit area is meant to discourage spectators from entering the pit area. If you unhook the chain, please reattach it so that it can do its job.

Flight Instruction Committee

Don Zeller indicated that several pilots were receiving instruction this summer and progressing well.

Planning Committee

Tim Gombert presented the planning committee report for the month. Tim commented on his and Terry's trip last month to the Forest Preserve RC club meeting. Tim noted that the Forest Preserve has put in charge Daniel

Betts and that all major issues need to go through him. Tim noted that the issue of clubs being able to cut grass came up, and that the Forest Preserve requires proof of insurance to allow clubs to cut their own grass. It is believed that we are covered by the AMA insurance for potential issues that could occur as members mow the runway area.

Event Committee

Ti Galfi discussed the several club events we have held this summer. First, Ti reported on the club grand opening event held on June 13th. This was a very long day for Ti as he recounted that he arrived at 6 a.m. and did not leave until 6 p.m. The event went smoothly



Ray Capitulo captured this shot showing Terry Gombert's warbird just after losing 2 of 3 blades on the left prop.

with 4 teams of club members in charge of setting up, food, take-down and the grand opening ribbon cutting. Special thanks to Ti Galfi for taking the lead on this important milestone event in the club's history. Ti thanked the many club members who worked hard before the day, and during the event to make the grand opening a success. The club welcomed Schiller Park Mayor Barbara Piltaver and Daniel Betts of the Cook County Forest Preserve District who helped club president Les Schier officially cut the ribbon on the new runway.

Ti next discussed the club's involvement at a Cub Scout camp event held late in June. The organizer of the Cub Scout camp contacted the club and indicated that one of the themes of the camp was aviation. Several club members came to the camp location (on Higgins between the two River Roads) to demonstrate RC flying and provide static displays for the club scouts to see. Ti thanked Les, Jake, Nisanth, Ray and Don for helping.

Finally, Ti discussed the War Bird Fly-In Event held in July 11th. This event was a great time and Jaime Solis won bragging rights by winning the favorite warbird award with his B-25. This was the result of a ballot by those attending. Congratulations to Jaime on his win and special thanks to all who helped with the event. The next event is Sub Night to be held Thursday, August 13th at 6:30 p.m. Sub night is a great time to fly in the evening with your fellow RSM members and enjoy a submarine sandwich dinner and beverages supplied by the club.



The club lined up all of the models on hand at the Runway Grand Opening event for a great static display on the new runway.



Club President Les Schier gets ready to cut the ribbon on the new runway. Les is joined by Daniel Betts of the FPD, and Schiller Park Mayor Barbara Piltaver, with Ti Galfi doing the announcing.

New Business

Terry Gombert alerted club members that the AMA fee for 2016 would increase to \$75. Members can avoid the increase next year by renewing their membership with the AMA before September 14th. Check the AMA website for information.

Terry additionally indicated that he will be ordering club hats. Anyone wishing to get in on the order should contact Terry, they will be \$20 each.

Show and Tell

No show and tell items were presented.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, August 10th at 6:30 pm, at the Schiller Flying Field. In the event of rain, the meeting will be moved to the Schiller Park Community Center location.

By Ted Noncek, Secretary



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Ti Galfi holds the pilots meeting at the Runway Grand Opening Event.