

SANGAMON VALLEY RC FLYERS

June, 2006 Newsletter

web site: sangamonvalleyrc.org

Next meeting: 7:00 p.m. June 14, 2006 at the flying field. All the summer meetings will be held at the airport until October.

Minutes of the May Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Sangamon Valley RC Flyers was held on May 10, 2006, at the Holmes Airport. The meeting was held at Dave Holmes new building which also houses the helicopter hanger. The meeting was called to order by President Bob Putrich at 7:00 p.m. with 17 members present.

Copies of the April newsletter were handed out. The president read the minutes. The president asked for any discussion or corrections on the minutes, one correction was noted, Sherwin Kroll indicated that a check to Dave Holmes for 25 new members had not been sent out in April. The check was sent in May.

The minutes were then approved as read by the membership present.

Maintenance:

Ross reported that a new starter and solenoid were replaced on the large mower. It is running and in good shape. The small mower still needs work. Some members will try to determine what is needed to repair the mower.

Hensen Robinson Zoo/Park District Event May 20, 2006 Centennial Park (west of Springfield)

Talon Thornton from Henson Robinson Zoo talked to Mike Behl about having some of our members fly or have a static display of some of the club owned model aircraft. Some of the animals from the zoo will be brought to the event. Talon has not met with Mike to go over the details as of this date. This is a new event. Mike has checked with the city park district to insure that there is no problem with flying in the airport control zone. He was assured that there is no

problem. Jim Allan said he would try to bring out a jet for the static display.

Open House - -Fly In - -Swap Meet June 25, 2006 (Holmes Airport)

Mike Behl reported that that the information on our open house is posted on the AMA web site. The event is sanctioned. Club members handing out flyers on Saturday at the Springfield Air Rendezvous will help increase our attendance at the open house on Sunday, June 25.

AMA- IMAC event Sept 16 and 17, 2006 (Holmes Airport)

Bruce Kern will have more on this event as the date approaches.

Publicity Activity Report.

Bill Busch had nothing to report at this time.

Bill Gabriel Memorial

The president reported at a previous meeting that Bill Gabriel passed away. Bill's wife approached him and asked if the club could suggest a memorial that could live on to reflect his interest in flying.

The president suggested to Bill's wife, Sandy, a canopy. It could be set up at our air events with Bill's name on it. The sign with his name could be embroidered or on a vinyl sign located on the front of the canopy. She thought this was a good idea. Bob purchased the canopy and will work with club members to obtain the sign.

Dave Taylor (Hammers Hobby Shop)

As reported in a previous newsletter, Dave Taylor has recently discovered that he has cancer in his leg and hip. Dave had two options, he made a decision to have a section of his hip and all of his leg removed to contain the spread of the cancer and reduce any possible chance of it returning. Sherwin reported that the surgery was successful, however, he has had to go back 3 times to clear up an infection after the surgery.

The club donated \$200 to Dave to help with recovery. Any additional donation can be sent to the Treasury, Sherwin Kroll at 15 Shetland Dr. Springfield, IL 62702. Please make checks out to “Sangamon Valley RC Flyers” with a notation on the check to Dave Taylor Donation.

Helicopter landing site

Dave Holmes expressed a feeling that the people that operate the helicopter service are concerned that the helicopter pilots cannot see the small RC planes when they make their approach to the landing site. One idea was suggested that we monitor a scanner set at 122.9 to be aware that they were approaching or taking off. The present club policy is to shut down (land our planes) when the helicopter is approaching or taking off.

E-Club

Mike Behl talked about E flight membership requirements. Insurance could be less for electric planes under 2 pounds. Talked about different frequencies.

Trainer Aircraft

Bob Bradford asked if anyone had a training aircraft that they no longer wanted. He would like use it to help someone that he knows get started.

Safety Issues Discussed

Important to fly safe. Remember, planes cannot fly over the pit area.

AMA Insurance Coverage

Art Fleming asked if a guest (potential new member) can fly at our field 1 or 2 times prior to joining the club and be covered by the AMA insurance coverage?

New Potential Members

Gary Waverly - He is applying for his AMA card and will become a new member.

Tim Sharp- Would like to become a new member.

Motion to adjourn by John Sams, seconded by Jim Allan. President accepted the motion to adjourn.

Meeting ended 7:42 pm

Editorial – field safety

At the May meeting we discussed Dave Holmes report that the Air Evac Lifeteam helicopter pilots that use the new heliport are concerned with our RC planes when they land and depart from the area. They reportedly cannot see our small craft as they approach and depart the airport area (this should be because we have landed!!). On May 19 as I was leaving the field I saw Air Evac Lifeteam personnel at their hanger and stopped and talked to one of the pilots. I told him that we were concerned about being a good neighbor and all our members would work to prevent any conflict between full sized aircraft and our model planes. I said that we always landed when we saw any helicopter or other full sized aircraft in the vicinity of the airport. We know that **full scale aircraft always have the right of way**. I told him that we were considering some means of signaling the helicopter pilots and other full-sized aircraft that we were aware of their approach, our planes were down and the area was clear for their landing. One thing that might work is a battery - powered strobe light with a green lens at our pit area. This could be turned on to signal “all clear” to full-sized craft pilots that all of our RC planes had landed. The pilot also said that we could monitor 122.9 MHZ to tell when a helicopter was inbound. I said we landed any time we saw any helicopter, even when it was not one that was coming into the heliport as we cannot always see the markings on the craft to identify the Air Evac Lifeteam markings. He said that they always approach from the north or south west and never get over our end of the field. However on Thursday, May 26 when I was out at the flying field a Air Evac Lifeteam helicopter approached out of the west-northwest and flew from west to east parallel to the runway about 50 yards out from the north edge of the field past our landing area and landed at the heliport. I said that we never fly east of past the trees at the north end of the pond except for special events when we set up at the center of the runway. **All members must watch for helicopters or other full sized planes landing or departing the area and must land immediately to avoid any possible conflict.** This should become a club rule and a sign should be posted at the field noting this requirement.

More field safety issues

There have been some cases of violations of AMA rules and sound safety practices at the field this spring. In a couple of these instances, there were near misses of other flyers at the field. All members are responsible to be familiar with all AMA rules and to follow them!! If you haven't read the rules for a while, do so and correct your practices accordingly. Perhaps we should read the rules at one of our meetings.

Letters from readers welcome

Some members may disagree with my editorials. Your comments are welcome and will be published in future issues. Please email your letters (short please) to w.busch@insightbb.com

SVRCF Members participate in program at Centennial Park

Several of our club members participated in the event held at Centennial park on May 20, 2006. There was static display of models as well as flying demonstrations. Some of our members report that the day went well.

Trash disposal

The trash barrels are full at the field. We should probably get a burning barrel if Dave Holmes approves. If Dave would rather not have us burning, every member can bring a garbage bag and take home their share of trash for disposal. It is not fair for Dave to have to deal with the trash disposal problem.

Big electric power!!!!

Electric motors are now exceed the power of 140 to 180 four-cycle nitro engines. There is even one that delivers more power than a 50 cc gasoline engine. Hacker has two in this range and AstroFlight has just come out with a 3.5 horsepower brushless that exceeds the power of

large four-cycle nitro engines. Maxx Products has a new line of brushless electrics with contra-rotating propellers up to a 5 horsepower unit that come with props and spinner for under \$500.00 Better get a second mortgage to buy the batteries for these monsters. The power requirements are in the range of 2000 to 3000 watts.

Also did you know that you can now build yourself an electric brushless out runner motor for around \$30.00. See the June issue of "Model Aviation." I will be building one and will report/demonstrate at a future meeting.

Fly – in public notice

Attached as page 4 of this newsletter are two public notices that you can print out and distribute to bulletin boards in your neighborhood. Print as many copies as you need and put them at the local grocery store, library or church bulletin boards. Pass them out at Air Rendezvous if you are attending or hand them out to friends. I will have a few extras at the meeting.

Come join us on Sunday, June 25, 2006

Radio controlled model airplane fly-in and show

Sponsored by the Sangamon Valley Radio Control Flyers Club

See details and map on website: www.sangamonvalleyrc.org

Public is welcome - free admission, gate open at 9:00 a.m.

See radio controlled planes fly and check out the RC equipment at tailgate sales

Food and drinks will be available

Location – Holmes airport on the Pawnee Road about 2 miles south of Lincoln Memorial Gardens on E. Lakeshore drive.

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