

# SANGAMON VALLEY RC FLYERS

May, 2006 Newsletter

web site: sangamonvalleyrc.org

**Next meeting:** 7:00 p.m. May 10, 2006 at the flying field.

## Minutes of April meeting

Minutes of the last meeting were not received prior to publication and mailing dead line for this newsletter. Hopefully minutes will be available for distribution at the meeting.

## Special note

At the April meeting we voted to make a donation from the club treasury to Dave Taylor to provide some financial assistance during his recuperation from his recent surgery. Members may wish to make additional personal contributions to this fund as a gift from the club. Checks and cash should be sent to:

Sherwin Kroll  
15 Shetland Drive  
Springfield, 62702.

Contributions should only be made through the club so Dave will not have to pay income tax on the gift. Members should make checks payable to the Club. If you wish to remain anonymous you can give Sherwin cash in a sealed envelope marked Dave Taylor fund.

## Safety caution

During last year's flying season there were at least two instances of calling up the wrong plane from computerized transmitter memory. These situations can create a very dangerous situation. Always double check by moving the control sticks and verifying that all control surfaces move in the correct direction. A serious problem arises when engines are completely enclosed by a cowl and you cannot see the movement of the throttle arm. In the case I was involved in, I checked all control surfaces as I always do before starting the engine. All checked out, but when I started the engine, it ran wide open and an injury resulted. In the other

case I observed the engine also started and ran wide open. When you have an engine cowed in triple check that you have called up the correct model before attempting to start the engine.

Editor

## **glow driver left at field**

I forgot my glow driver at the field during the week of April 24. One of my friends put it in the frequency flag cabinet after I left. Later someone took it. I would like it back. I can easily identify.

Bill Busch

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from the Central Arizona Modelers, Sedona AR

## **Welcoming New Members**

by Cliff Hamilton, president

When it comes to introducing model aviation to newcomers, the biggest question is, "how do you truly welcome them into a club and make it easy for them to get into the hobby?"

In my first year as club president, we implemented a workable answer to this question at Central Arizona Modelers (CAM). We call it the Fledgling Flier Program (FFP). FFP is our way of welcoming prospective RC pilots to the club.

How FFP works: We tell anyone interested in the sport about AMA's \$19.95 introductory 90-day membership offer. We waive club dues for 90 days or until the person solos—whichever comes first. We provide a club instructor for him/her and use of a club airplane free for the first 90 days or until he/she buys his/her own model or solo—again whichever comes first.

That means someone can learn to fly RC for just \$19.95 (cost of AMA introductory membership). It's pretty hard to find a recreational bargain like that any where else!

Funding the Program: At our annual banquet, we raised funds to buy most of our initial FFP

equipment by auctioning off member-donated equipment. Members regularly offer to donate many more items such as trainer airplanes than the program needs. We also give one member a free membership to CAM in exchange for agreeing to repair any FFP models damaged in the training process.

Interested in The Fledgling Flyers Program?  
Visit the Cam Web site at  
<http://www.camodelers.com/>.