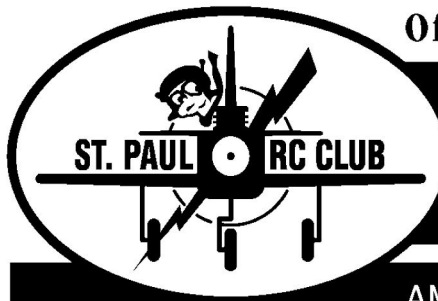


THE MEETING WILL BE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, AT THE FIELD!!!

Official Newsletter of St. Paul Model Radio Controllers, Inc.



PULSE

AMA Charter 382 - An AMA Gold Leader Club

FROM THE PRESIDENT

August is here and that means our days are once again becoming noticeably shorter with the consequent reduced hours at the flying field. We need to be off the field and out of the gate by 8:15pm - some 45 minutes earlier than our June/July curfews. The upside is this time of year we usually see some of our best flying weather. Attendance at our scheduled events has been SUPER so far so let's continue to support our activities. Check the calendar on our website for upcoming August and September events.

Being involved in this hobby off and on for over 40 years, I'm amazed at how rapidly the technology continues to advance compared to what we had 20, 10 and even 5 years ago. I just saw the preview for E-flite's new mSR micro heli. We thought the mCX was pretty amazing a couple of years ago but this new one really blows it out of the water. Likewise, the product line of ARFs keeps expanding, the electronics are pretty much glitch-free, and better manufacturing and metallurgy gives us powerful engines which need little in the way of the painstaking break-in procedures of yesteryear.

Yet, with all of this "instant gratification" available, I still yearn for those days long gone where we actually had to study plans (sometimes even draw them), cut, trim, sand and trial fit all of those balsa parts. Covering and finishing a model airplane took weeks instead of hours and we could impress our peers with our craftsmanship as well as our piloting skills. Today, all you really need is a credit card.

Time does march on, doesn't it?

Speaking about time marching on, I'll close with a nod to the recent 40th anniversary of the first manned moon landings of the Apollo space program. I grew up as a kid watching every single Mercury, Gemini and Apollo flights. The date of July 20, 1969 will live with me as perhaps the most historic moment I had ever and likely will ever witness. The 1960s decade was a difficult time with many social and political ills dominating the news. For a few brief hours, all of the world's problems seemed to take a back seat to watch and feel a part of... "Man's Greatest Achievement".

See you at the meeting.

Steve Scott

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

September is almost here and the summer is almost over. An important event that will take place next month at the September meeting is the nominating of members to run for the board of directors of SPMRC. Four members are finishing their two-year term in December: Steve Scott, Mike Erickson, Dan McArdeil and Steve Roman. It is time start thinking about who you would like to nominate for the board. The election is in October and the new board transitions in November and December.

The next meeting will be at the field on August 12 at 7:00 PM. This will be the last meeting at the field for 2009. Starting in September the meetings will be at the EAA building.

Stan Zdon



FROM THE V.P.

The Wiener Day festivities turned out pretty good. A bit of crosswind but there were a lot of guys flying. Our thanks to Ellie for again taking care of the arrangements and the cooking chores.

Al Schwartz emailed the members that a trainer-type plane had been found in the woods north of the field and had been put into the shed until the owner claimed it. I guess that would indicate that the owner had not put his name and address inside the plane as required by the AMA. I didn't see the plane inside the shed last week so I guess someone claimed it, or the mice ate it.

Well, I'm about out of building hints except one that helps prevent paint or dope from filling the rim of the can when tipped for pouring. I've found that a short length (about 2 inches) of silicone fuel tubing of the proper diameter can be pressed into the groove on the rim of the can to keep most of the dope from filling it. Wetting the tubing with solvent makes it easier to insert into the groove. The tubing can be removed and cleaned with solvent for the next usage. *(Editor's Note - If 4 or 5 holes are punched in the groove the paint will drip through. When you put the cover back on the paint will be forced through the holes and will not spray all over the shop.)*

Okay, maybe another one: If one is in need of a scraper to smooth the surface of a coating of epoxy or paint or just wood itself, you can roll the cutting edge of a single-edge razor blade by drawing it across the shank of a drill bit, leaning it back at an shallow angle. This will put a burr on the edge and this burr is what does the scraping. My grand-pappy showed me that one for working on a gunstock a really long time ago but I think that HobbyPoxy also suggested it several decades back.

Wait, there's more! To clean the bug splatter off of the prop or leading edge of the wing, use full strength household ammonia cleaner. It really goes after the bug juice. Just wet a rag or towel

with the liquid and wipe the surfaces to be cleaned. The vapors emitted sort of clears out the nostrils too.

Bob LaBrash

MEETING MINUTES

1 Visitor - Erik from Lakeville, an experienced flyer and current AMA member but not affiliated with any club. He flew his gasser (very well). Because of his residence, he may look at joining TCRC. He found us via postings on RC Universe and will likely attend future meetings/events.

1 New member - Peter Rush. Has flown before many years ago so starting over. Dave Kreiner flew with him a couple of times on the buddy box.

President's report - keep your hands out of the prop!!! (re: last month's newsletter article)
Seconded by Chuck Nelson

VP report - none

Safety - see above

Treasurer Steve Roman reported he cashed in 1 CD prior to full maturity but waited until the quarter had passed and resulted in a minimal interest penalty.

Events - Ellie reported on the upcoming July 11 Frankfurter Fly, August 12 Electric Fly, September 12 Septemberfest and October 10 Chili Fly. Our events have enjoyed outstanding attendance this year! Food donations are covering the costs.

Old business - none

New business - it was reported the Air Wings Museum at the northern end of Janes Field in Anoka had lost their lease and was forced to move elsewhere.

Show 'n Tell - none

Raffle - none

Great night for flying after the meeting.

Steve Scott



SPMRC EVENTS

The next club meeting will be held Wednesday, August 12th at the club field.

There was a spectacular turn out for the 2009 Frankfurter Fly! I lost count but we had close to forty people who attended the event. We sure had some great weather that day, clear blue sky, a little breezy but not bad enough to keep aircraft out of the air. Flyers and guests were treated to hot dogs, chips, cookies and water. And once again, thanks to the wonderful generosity of folks the donations covered the cost of the food for the event. A big thank you to all who donated to the event! I will give pictures of the event to our web master to post so you will have to check out the SPRC website later on.

The next club event will be the Dog Days Fun Fly on Saturday, August 8th. The event will start at 10:00 am and run until 5:00 pm. This is an open event so all so grab something to fly and come out

to the field for a great day. Lunch will be provided. Dan McArdell is graciously hosting the 2009 SPRC E-Fly on Saturday, August 15th. This event is open to only electric aircraft and runs from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm. Lunch will be provided. Hope to see lots of flyers out at both of these events!

The famous Northern Alliance Military Fly-in will be held August 7th and 8th at the SMMAC field in Owatonna, MN. The annual Helicopter Rotary Ring out will be the 21st through the 23rd at the ORCM field in Owatonna, MN. Grassfield and the ACRC are each holding an event on August 22nd. Grassfield is having their E-Fly which was reschedule from May and the ACRC is having a Fun Fly.

Ellie Pflager



AUGUST-SEPTEMBER EVENT CALENDAR

August 1	Minnesota Scale Classic @ SMMAC Field, Owatonna, MN (rain date 8/2)
August 7-9	Northern Alliances Military Fly-in @ SMMAC Field, Owatonna, MN
August 8	SPRC Dog Days Fun Fly - 10 am
August 12	SPRC Club Meeting @ Club Field
August 13-16	Rushford Jet Fly @ Rushford Airport
August 15	SPRC E-Fly - 10 am
August 21-23	Rotary Ring Out Heli Fly @ ORCM field, Owatonna, MN
August 22	Grassfield E-Fly - 10 am to 3 pm (rescheduled from 5/16)
August 22	ACRC Fun Fly - 10 am
September 5	ACRC E-Fly - 10 am
September 5-6	Bismarck Aircraft Modelers Open Fun Fly
September 9	SPRC Club Meeting @ EAA Building, Janes Field, Blaine, MN
September 12	Tri Valley- Big Warbird Fly
September 12	Sodbusters John Baligrodzki Fun Fly - 10 am
September 11-13	North Country Model Controllers Fall Fun Fly Weekend
September 12	SPRC Septemberfest -10 am
September 12	Tri Valley- Big Bird Fall Classic
September 19	TCRC Fall Float Fly on Bush Lake
September 19	Grassfield Big Bird Fly - 9 am
September 19	ACRC Fun Fly - 10 am
September 20	Big Sky Hobby Fall Swap Meet - 8 am to 12 pm

ON THE SAFE SIDE

From the AMA National News Letter

101 Ways Part Deux

by Don Nix, Insider Safety Column Editor

When I agreed to write this bi-monthly column, I didn't realize some of you readers would practically write it for me. The column in the last issue, "101 Ways to Stop a Spinning Propeller," generated more e-mail than any other to date, nearly all contributing brain lapses of their own, which they gave permission to pass on to readers.

Before I do that, though, I must apologize for the way I described an incident I had witnessed nearly 20 years ago involving John Brodbeck, the "B" of K&B engines. I told of flying in the pit next to John when he reached to tune the needle from the front and ended up with a nasty gash requiring stitches.

An acquaintance of mine and a friend of John's for decades felt I might have done John a disservice by the way the example was written. Since John died some years ago and was also a friend of mine, I must assure everyone no such negative connotation was intended. My purpose was simply to point out how a momentary lapse in safe practices could reach out and grab a person who had probably been flying since he got out of diapers, but made his living in the industry as well.

My sincere apologies to any who saw my intent in a different light.

Now for a few of the incidents sent in by readers, who gave permission to use their names. Member D. Mock writes:

"Accidentally reversed the throttle servo on a 52cc Brison. Started with a heavily gloved hand. Realized the transmitter is directly below the now roaring engine. Notice the tail restraint is giving up under the intense pressure. Freak out and grab the prop with the gloved hand.

"If it weren't for the glove, I wouldn't have a hand (like my friend in a neighboring club). It

shattered all my fingers. I wore a cast for five months and missed the whole season. Bummer. BTW, the hand is fine now. Thank God for great medicine."

From J. Low: "I really enjoyed your article about propeller accidents. I was safety officer for a large model club for several years. Every thing you mentioned did happen and will happen again and again.

"I'll bet you could take a safety article written many years ago and print it today and it would be just as current as it was when made up. As new people join our hobby and old ones forget what they have learned, there are the ingredients for the problems.

"Anyway, wanted to tell you I could relate to the article because been there, done that. Fly like you wish everyone else would: 'Safely.'"

Les from Florida sent a very detailed story (with a photo) of an incident that almost cost him a finger. Here's part of his note:

"I am a safety fanatic, and am to the point of being anal about safety stakes, not flying alone, and cringe when I see someone start any size plane without safety stakes, or a person holding the plane.

"That being who I am, I decided to run the fuel out of the engine, and pack it up for the day. I went to a low idle, glow starter on, flipped the prop (with Chicken Stick). As it leaned out because of running dry, the RPMs came up, and the plane started to move forward. Yes, I reached thru the prop to stop it. I had NOT put my safety stakes in!"

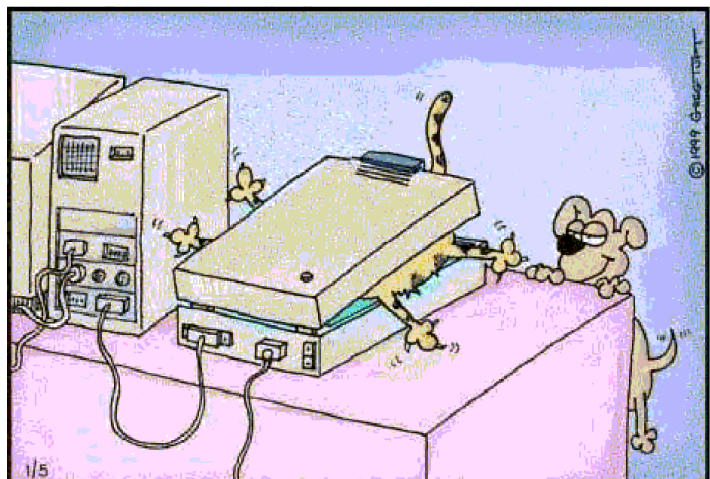
The preceding are a just a few examples of propeller injuries that probably happen dozens of times every week among our members. Read 'em and take heed.

My next column will be entitled "An Attitude of Gratitude," and relates courteous flying to safe flying. Ya'll come back, ya' hear?

flyerdon@aol.com.

2009 SPMRC FRANKFURTER FLY

PICTURES BY ELLIE PFLAGER



CAT SCAN

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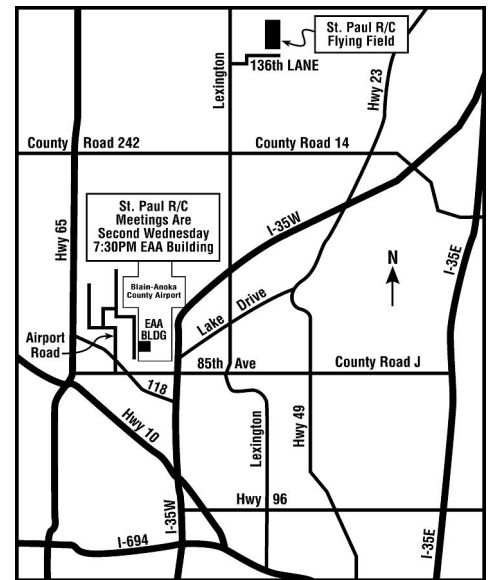
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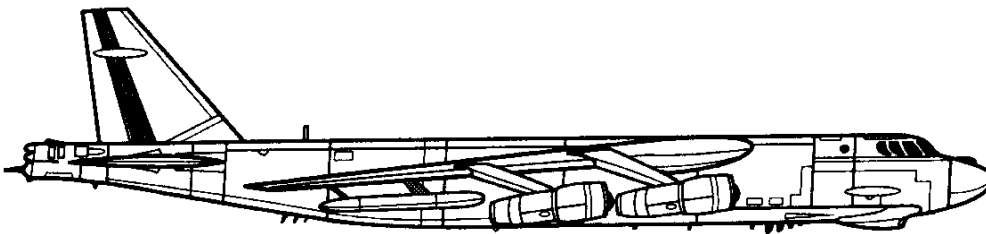
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SPMRC Club field is located 15 miles north of the Mpls/St. Paul area. From I-694 head north on I-35W, exit at Lexington. Follow Lexington north to 136th. Turn right on 136th and follow it east to the flying field.



PULSE

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