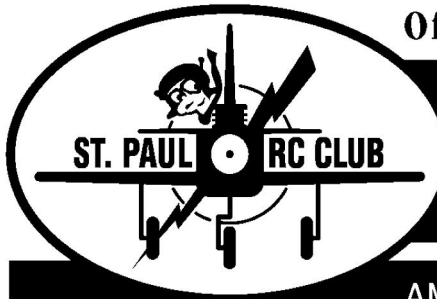


THE MEETING WILL BE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, AT THE EAA!!!

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



PULSE

AMA Charter 382 - An AMA Gold Leader Club

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Perhaps it's just me but the summers definitely feel MUCH shorter than our winters. Already we've seen overnight temps dip down to nearly 40°F - and it was still AUGUST! Sheesh...

I'll have to admit, for me it was a pretty successful flying season. I migrated from my trusty LT-40 (now seeing service training new members) to my Ultra Stick 40. Normally I get 10-20 flights each year. Pretty minuscule I know, but this year I think I hit 50-something and burned through nearly 2 gallons. The fact that my Saito .62 can run for 20 minutes on 4-6 ounces of fuel is even more remarkable. The Ultra Stick series is a pretty amazing sport model. I found it a bit more difficult to get trimmed out since it lacks the inherent stability of a dedicated trainer but, once you do get it trimmed, it simply goes where you point it. I really had to horse the LT-40 into inverted mode and it was clear it simply wasn't happy being topsy-turvy. Not so with the Ultra Stick - it flies as well looking up at the ground as it did looking up at the sky. And it slows down to land as easy as the LT-40.

A couple of things have happened to allow my confidence to improve as much as it did this season. One was the superb effort by Mike Erickson in getting the runway repaired. We had a great turnout and the project went much easier than originally anticipated. The difference is dramatic. Another factor was our field gets a bit more confined when the stalks get up to height - it really helps spotting your landings vs. a long and rather sloppy approach.

Our events were simply fantastic - many thanks to Ellie and her co-chair hubby, Doug in running these.

The field has looked amazing! Chuck Nelson gets a hats off nod as well as Bob LaBrash who also did his share of grooming the grass and picking' up the trash. Stan Zdon has dutifully carried out the publishing of the newsletters well past the interim period he originally volunteered for. Dan McArdell has done a great job recording the minutes every meeting and Curt Olson keeps our web site current. Dave Kreiner has been busy training new members. Thanks again to all who also supported the club (i.e., Jeff Hedberg and the great raffle prizes as well as Steve Roman keeping the financial orders in order). Most of all, a hearty thanks to the membership who turned out and supported the events and made this year a success.

The September meeting will find us back at the EAA building. I look forward to lots of great shown 'n tell projects! September will be nominations for SPMRC Board positions. Everyone should seriously consider serving a year or two in an official position. The club needs your leadership and you can't beat the pay!

See everyone at the meeting.

Steve Scott



FROM THE V.P.

I guess the nominations for the SPRC board will be an item for September's meeting. If you have actually seen anyone out at the field this season, either one of you could be a candidate! There have been some very nice flying days this season but nearly no one shows up. Perhaps it is the dreaded "Fear of the Corn" syndrome that has been causing our members to shy away from the field. The word is that the corn can be planted up to 5 years in a row in the same area. Only a couple of years more to go!

The grass looks pretty good this year but it really needs smoothing out with a roller as it is getting pretty rough all over. Perhaps we could find a 6-foot long roller that could be pulled behind the mower whenever the field is mowed. At the time of the last mowing, there were absolutely no gopher mounds anywhere. Great job on the critters, Mike!

A while ago, I suggested using a laser light to determine if the main wheels on an aircraft were parallel to one another or if some degree(s) of toe-in or toe-out existed. That method worked okay but compared to simply removing the wheels and lining up one wheel axle to the opposite wheel axle, it was really stupid. Besides, lining up the axles assures that the wheels are tracking square to the wing preventing the plane from crabbing down the runway.

I spent last week out in Maine and found a local grass strip breakfast fly-in to go to. There were a number of Bush Planes there and the pilots of these planes were each trying to out-Wow the other pilots by doing some pretty hazardous flying procedures. Very entertaining, to say the least! I especially liked the Sideslip pass for the full length of the strip, nearly dragging one wheel and a wing tip in the grass.

See you at the meeting!

Bob LaBrash



FIELD MAINTENANCE

August has flown by quickly and a certain amount of rain has greened up the field. My thanks to Bob LaBrash, our club V.P., for doing the mowing and keeping the field looking good.

The runway now has good run off so I haven't seen any signs of the problems we had in previous years with the south end of the runway.

Earlier this year I did maintenance on the safety fence and replaced about 20 feet of deteriorated mesh. I know we have had several aircraft strikes on it but it appears to be doing the job it is designed for.

The corn has reached its zenith of growth and we should see it changing soon. I hear reports of airplanes and helis going down in the rough and some people wandering and trashing around in the corn for more than an hour to retrieve their models.

I haven't seen any signs of gophers this year (word on the street is that I have a "Gopher Getter and am not shy about using it). If you do see the start of activity, call me right away so I can eliminate them before they do damage. My number 651-500-5283.

Mike Erickson

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

September is here and the summer is almost over. An important event that takes place 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. Come to the meeting prepared to nominate someone you feel will make a good board member. The election is in October and the new board transitions in November and December.

The next meeting will be at the **EAA BUILDING** on September 9 at 7:00 PM.

Stan Zdon

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was held at the field and called to order at 7:00.m.

Members Present: 25

New Members: 1, Visitors: 0

Board Reports

President:

Vice President:

Safety: Please do not taxi your airplane from the pits to the runway.

Treasurer: No new updates.

Field Maintenance: The field is looking good and is gopher free.

Events: The SPMRC E-fly is next weekend. The frankfurter fly was cancelled due to bad weather. The Septemberfest event will be on September 12.

Membership: We have 93 members.

Old Business: No old business

New Business:

Stan Zdon heard back from the AMA regarding U of M students using our field for UAV testing. Anyone that will be flying the UAV needs to be an AMA member.

There was a discussion regarding the UAV flying with many questions and several suggestions as to what we should do. In summary, we need to get more information from the U of M before we can make any decisions.

A motion was made that the board use their best judgment in handling the details of the students using our field UAV testing. The motion was seconded and approved after a vote.

Al Schwartz brought some photos and information regarding some models for sale by the widow of a modeler who had died. She is selling his model airplanes and helicopters.

Ellie Pflager has some photos she would like to have posted on the website and the suggestion was made that she contact Curt Olson, the webmaster. Robbie Provance also said he could help out with the web site.

Show and Tell:

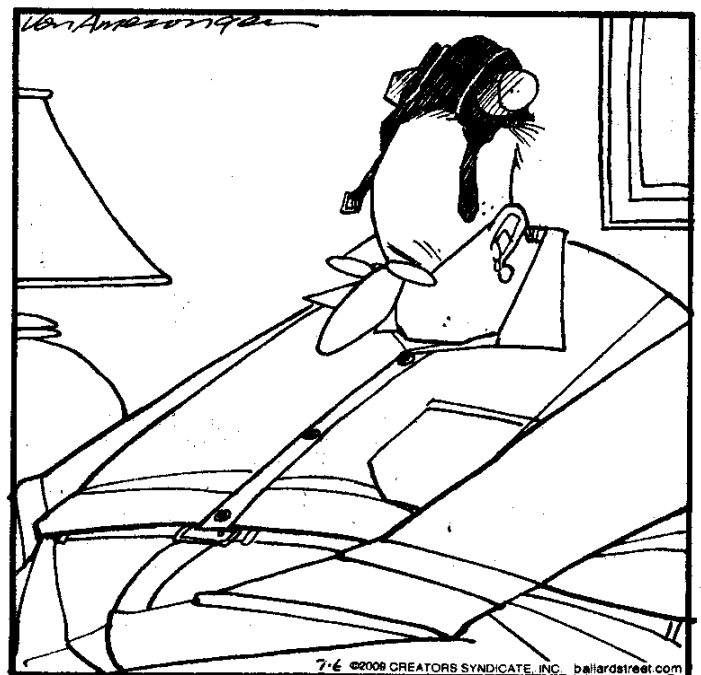
Dan McArdell: Showed his Multiplex Funjet. The Funjet is made out of a type of foam called Elapor. Elapor foam can be glued with regular CA. The Funjet uses elevons for control and uses a pusher prop. The motor is an Astro 020 brushless motor and the battery used is a 3-cell 2100 mAh LiPo battery.

Raffle Prizes:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Eric Wahl | Zagi |
| 2. Dan McArdell | Simple 400 model kit |
| 3. Ed Ryan | Fuel |
| 4. Ted Sander | 12 volt battery |
| 5. Dave Kreiner | Forceps |
| 6. Eric Wahl | Prop |
| 7. Mike Erickson | Forceps |
| 8. Steve Scott | Hinge points |

Dan McArdell

BALLARD STREET JERRY VAN AMERONGEN



It's hard pretending to be a bomber pilot with such a little bomber helmet.

SPMRC EVENTS

The next club meeting will be held Wednesday, September 9th at the EAA building at the Anoka County Airport (Janes Field, Blaine, MN).

We had our first rain out for an event this year and hopefully the only one. The Dog Days Fun Fly was cancelled due to morning storms and pending bad weather for the rest of the day. Unfortunately once the event was cancelled the clouds cleared over lunchtime for a few hours but then returned later on. Chalk this event up to "one of those days the weather couldn't figure out what to be like." There was a really good turnout for this year's Electric Fun Fly. There were close to twenty people that attended and flew. Dan McArdeLL hosted the event and cooked plenty of hot dogs for lunch along with chips, cookies and water. There were some really great looking electric planes the event and a few electric helis too. Dan and I both took pictures at this event and will get them added to the website. Great big thanks go to Dan for running this event!

The next club event will be the Septemberfest Fun Fly on Saturday, September 12th. The event will start at 10:00 am and run until 5:00 pm. This is an open event so grab something to fly and come out to the field for a great day. Lunch will be provided. We have been having such cool weather lately that we might need to bring parkas along with our planes and helis. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the event!

The flying season is starting to wind down around the area but September is still filled with lots of events to choose from. ACRC is hosting an E-Fly on September 5th with Tri-Valley having their Big Bird Classic on September 12th and Grassfield's follow-up with their Big Bird Fly on September 19th. Hobby Warehouse is having a Fall Swap Meet on September 13 and Big Sky Hobby in Eagan is having a Fall Swap Meet at the store on September 20.

Ellie Pflager
2009 SPRC Events Coordinator



SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER EVENT CALENDAR

- September 9 SPRC Club Meeting @ EAA Building, Janes Field, Blaine, MN**
- September 11 North Country Model Controllers Fall Fun Fly Weekend
- September 12 SPRC Septemberfest - 10 am**
- September 12 Sodbusters John Baligrodzki Fun Fly - 10 am
- September 12 Tri Valley- Big Bird Fall Classic
- September 13 Hobby Warehouse Swap Meet - 8 am to 12 pm
- September 19 Sodbusters Combat Fly - 10 am
- 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
- September 26 Sodbusters Combat Fly - 10 am
- September 26 TCRC Pattern Flying Practice Day
- October 3 ACRC Fall Fly Out - 10 am
- October 10 SPRC Chili Fly - 10 am**
- October 14 SPRC Club Meeting @ EAA Building, Janes Field, Blaine, MN**
- October 17 ACRC Fun Fly - 10 am

SAFETY INCIDENT REPORTING

From the National News Letter

By Chuck Waller, AMA District VIII

What is a model airplane pilot's worst nightmare? To me, it is the sight of a model aircraft out of control, or with no radio response, heading for a parking lot or spectator area filled with people. As this unfortunate incident occurs, everyone who sees it starts yelling, "Heads up!" to get the attention of every one at the field and, hopefully, in the parking lot or wherever the airplane is heading. All non-flying pilots are focused on the airplane and do their best to help people get out of the way. The pilot never stops fighting. He keeps the throttle all the way back in case he gets one more command in before the inevitable.

I have personally witnessed this event at least four times and had it happen to me once. Fortunately, no people were injured in any of these events. So what would happen if we were not so lucky? What happens next when an incident, with or without personal injury, occurs?

Obviously, the first thing is to take care of any injured persons, if there are any. Your club should have a first aid kit available if the injury is minor. For major injuries you should immediately

call for emergency services (911) and give them directions to your field. (These directions should also be posted at your flying field.)

Now what do you do next? It is very important at this point to gather as many facts regarding the incident as you can. You should immediately appoint one person as the "investigating" official. This may be the club safety officer or another club officer. It is actually better if the investigating official did not actually witness the incident. This way, his report will not be "clouded" by his own recollections.

Immediately talk to any one who witnessed the event. Make sure to get their name, address, and phone number for future interviews. Take down a statement of events and facts from each witness. Try to do this before the witnesses talk to each other if at all possible. You may want to assign several people to assist in getting statements at this time. It is very important to take pictures of any damage that was caused to any personal property including autos, buildings, trailers, other models, etc. Do not spare the film! You can always throw out or delete repetitive or nonessential pictures.

As soon as possible, you should contact AMA to report the incident and to request a claim form. Even if the incident results in no personal injury or property damage, all incidents (close calls) should be reported so they can be evaluated for any possible corrective actions. From the AMA membership manual: During regular business hours (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST) please call (765) 287-1256. To report an incident involving serious injuries after hours or on weekends please call (765) 749-9210 or (765) 212-0793.

I sincerely hope you never have this type of incident happen at your flying site, but if it does, keep cool and follow these steps as closely as possible.

Fly safely, and remember to have fun!



EDITOR'S NEXT PROJECT
WHAT IS IT?



2009 SPMRC ELECTRIC FLY

PICTURES BY ELLIE PFLAGER



SPMRC OFFICERS

President: Steve Scott
slsecom@comcast.net (651) 604-0919

Vice President: Bob LaBrash
rndlabrash@aol.com (651) 484-6226

Treasurer: Steve Roman
SREsteve@aol.com (651) 786-1774

Secretary: Dan McArdell
dan@mcardell.org (612) 770-9265

Contests/Events: Ellie Pflager
horsepower440@comcast.net (763) 767-4743

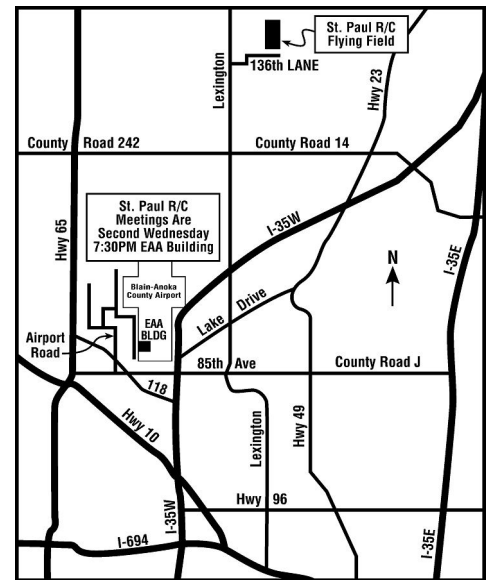
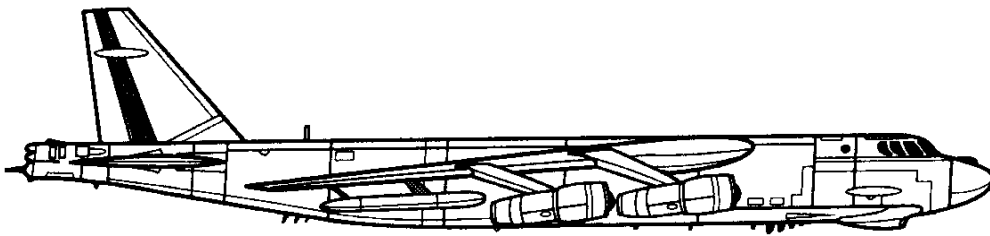
Web Master: Curtis Olson
curtolson@gmail.com (763) 780-5287

Safety Officer: Chuck Nelson
nelson5376@msn.com (763) 755-5376

Field Maintenance: Mike Erickson
oreomg@msn.com (651) 500-5283

Flight Instruction: Dave Kreiner
kwazydave@hotmail.com (612) 817-0018

Membership: Stan Zdon
szdon@yahoo.com (763) 784-3121



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

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

SPMRC Editor
902 - 88th Lane NW
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