



AMA #1256

2010 Club Officers

President: Chet Thayer

VP: John Gardiner

Treasurer: Elliott Smith

Secretary: Mike Hunter

Editor: Tim Mihalski

District IV AVP: John Kirchstein

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Official Newsletter of the

FIRST STATE R/C CLUB

Established 1973 – An AMA Gold Leader Club

<http://www.firststaterc.org>



FEBRUARY 2010

UNOFFICIAL JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

Members In Attendance: Frank Donnelly, Joe Berry, Ron Becker, John Gardiner, Elliot Smith, Charlie Hruska, Randy Weaver, Bob Cyr, George Shertenlieb, Mike Hunter, Tim Mihalski, Larry Nolan, Bill Mull

Minutes:

Show & Tell:

Bob Cyr brought in the center wing section of his Top Flight Corsair to ask for some advice regarding the retracts that he installed. Bob hopes to have it ready to fly sometime this summer. He has most of the fuselage completed.

Call to Order:

- Vice-President John Gardiner called the meeting to order at 7:33 P.M.
- John requested that the assembly of members have a moment of silence in memory of Frank DeCoglin who died last Thursday. When the silence ended a motion was made the club donate \$100 in memory of Frank to Stahl Post which was one of the charities mentioned in Frank's obituary. This motion was seconded and passed unanimously. John also provided a sympathy card for members present to sign and accompany our donation.

Reading of the Minutes:

- Reading of the November meeting minutes was waived by unanimous vote of the members present. There were no minutes from the December meeting because it was cancelled due to inclement weather.

COMMITTEE Reports:

- **Treasury Report:** Elliot Smith reported the club has \$xxxx in our accounts. All members from last year have paid except for two. We have 15 regular and 12 senior members in the club. *Editor's Note: See Club Treasurer for details on Club budget.*

We also project that we will add four new members to join the club in 2010.

- **Safety Report:** There was no safety report. However, since John Gardiner is now Vice-President of the club anyone wishing to serve as Safety Officer for the club should contact Chet Thayer or one of the other club officers.

Field Report: Ron Becker volunteered to be the Field Maintenance Officer for the club this year. If you recall this position was vacant last year, but Ron performed most of the duties.

MINUTES CONTINUED...

OLD Business

- **Trainers:** Joe Berry provided a brief update of the trainer situation. At the current time we have two functioning trainers: The club Telemaster and Joe Berry's LT-40. The Explorer 40 that Craig Reynolds donated to the club was destroyed in a flying accident. The club has since purchased an Avistar 40 ARF. Anyone wishing to build this ARF for the Club please contact Joe Berry. \$200 was placed in this year's budget to maintain our fleet of trainers. Joe Berry, Ron Becker and Chet Thayer are our certified club instructors. Each has additional insurance through the club/AMA to conduct training.
- **Rolling Field and Leveling:** Joe Berry brought up the subject of having the field rolled and leveled in spots this year. The idea would be to have a contractor use a railroad rail and drag it over the field. This technique would be expected to level the field in places where it has become bumpy. Cost for this would be about \$250 in labor costs and any cost for top soil that is spread over the field. Our 2010 budget for field Maintenance is \$400.00. No decision was made at this time. However, this effort should be done as soon as the frost season is over and initial spring growth begins.

New Business

- **2010 Schedule of Events:** The initial Schedule of Events for 2010 was presented at the meeting. Final approval will be made at the February meeting. Please review the following proposed schedule and let a club officer know of any conflicts:

Editor's Note: 2010 Schedule of Events appears elsewhere in this newsletter for your review and comments...

Solar Charging Station: A motion was made that we explore building a Solar Charging Station. Initial estimates were that such a system would cost around \$500. However, given we do not know our exact needs this estimate would not be that accurate. The system would consist of some number of solar panels that would charge some number of batteries that would then be connected to a charging station where batteries of all type could be charged. This would be beneficial to the trainers and possibly anyone that needs to charge a battery at the field. This system would be especially

MINUTES CONTINUED...

appealing to those people flying electric models. However, the exact nature and capacity of such a system would depend on what uses it would be expected to support. Anyone interested in designing and making a formal proposal for such a system should bring this matter up at a future meeting for further discussion.

- **Grass Cutting:** Since Ron Becker volunteered to be the Field Maintenance Officer for 2010 he will put the schedule together for this year.
- **Geo Textile Runway:** Club officers were alerted to a RC Runway product made of Geo Textile. Essentially this product is laid out on the ground (with some prep work required) and acts like a smooth landing and take-off surface for models. This product would be especially advantageous for light electric RC models that now have to be hand launched. Anyone wanting more information can look at the web site: <http://www.usfabricsinc.com>. Ron Becker report that he believes that he could get a material like this for free from a contact he knows. As with the Solar Charging Station project this would require more thought, cost analysis and discussion. Anyone wishing to advance this idea should present it at a future meeting.
- **Painting:** A motion was made that we paint the shed. However, it is unclear what benefit this would give us. However, we will try to paint some of the benches this year as part of the work week-end. Ron Becker reported that we have the paint and attempted to paint them last year but removing the old paint from the benches is more of a problem than doing the painting.
- **2010 Fuel Order:** Anyone interested in putting in a fuel order for 2010 should be ready to present their fuel needs at February's meeting so that we can get an estimate of the size of such an order. In the past we have had negotiation success given the size of our order.
- **Helicopter Donation:** Tim Mihalski turned over a helicopter and some helicopter engines that he got from Bob McDonald's daughter. They were donated to the club.
- **Greggo-Ferraro Follow-up:** A motion was made that we should contact Greggo-Ferraro to see what their plans are. However, after some discussion it was decided that rather than be proactive on this topic we should wait and see. Ron Becker reported that he left several requests to discuss this topic with them last summer but got no return call. It was generally agreed that we should let this sleeping dog lie even though sleeping dogs can certainly bite you when they wake up.

Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.



First State R/C Club Freeze Fly
January 1, 2010

On New Year's Eve there was a threat of precipitation, frozen or otherwise for the following day. Not wanting to prevent good fellowship, John Gardiner and I decided to ask everyone to meet for breakfast at Arner's at 8:00 a.m. on January 1. The idea was that we would then proceed to the field if conditions permitted flying. Tim Mihalski sent out an announcement about

Freeze Fly continued...

breakfast via email. He also called several members that he knew did not get email.

At 8:00 on January 1, there were only four club members at Arner's: Joe Berry, Ron Ozer, Zach Rossi, and me. There actually was no precipitation. But the ground was covered with snow making ground take-offs difficult or impossible without skis. We had a hearty breakfast (on Ron - sorry Chuck missed it!) and headed for the field about 9:00 a.m. When we arrived the gate was closed and there were no tracks in the snow . . . we were the first (fools!) to arrive. We cleared off one of the benches and set up my electric. Ron hand launched it and he and I took turns until the battery ran down. I landed into the wind and touched down in the snow. We were all getting cold, so we called it a day.

The weather actually improved through the day. We got a message that Mike Sobieski came out later and found no one at the field. Perhaps enough of the snow melted that he could fly or maybe he has skis for one of his planes. He will have to give a more detailed report at the club meeting.

In years past, we have all braved the cold weather and wind to start the year off right by flying. However, I think the threat of precipitation and the layer of snow on the ground put a damper on the festivities.

Now, we can all settle into building something new to have ready for the warmer weather that will eventually get here by spring.

Hope to see everyone at the club meeting 1/18/10 at 7:30 (new time).

Respectfully Submitted,

Chet Thayer, President, First State R/C Club



February 3rd Larry Nowland

February 11th Mike Poore

February 16th Tim Mihalski



"Brown Out" in Spread Spectrum Receivers

Many of you know that last October I crashed my Super Sportster with a Spektrum radio installed because I lost radio control of the model. I sent the receiver to Horizon service center for a repair. The receiver was promptly returned to me, no charge, with a report that the receiver was fully functional. While the receiver was being evaluated all the latest firmware was installed, including "brown out" alert, quick connect, and flight log capabilities.

I was using the flight log feature before the crash. As recommended by Frank Donnelly, I purchased the data log device and used it to read data from the receiver. I never got any readings on the read-out except for voltage. So, possibly that feature was not functional before the trip to Horizon.

The receiver is designed to operate at voltages between 3.5v and 9v. If the voltage drops momentarily below 3.5 v, this is termed a "brown out." The problem is that control of the model is lost during the "brown out." The "brown out" alert is

JANUARY'S MYSTERY AIRCRAFT

sensing data in support of coastal mapping and remote sensing research. Imagery acquired onboard the Citation is used for updating the shoreline and shore features on NOAA's nautical charts. The Citation also serves as an emergency responder during hurricane season by collecting digital photography of damaged areas caused by hurricane landfall.

STANDARD AIRCRAFT SPECIFICATIONS

Type: Jet Citation II/ Model C550

Crew: 2 Pilots and 2-3 Scientists

Ceiling: 43,000 feet (without supplemental cabin oxygen)

Rate of Climb: 2500 ft/min at sea level (20 minutes to climb to 30,000 ft)

Cruise Airspeed: 350 knots (true)

Scientific Power: 3x15 amps @ 115 volts (3 power strips)

3x30 amps @ 28 volts DC (3 power strips) plus single 100 amp option

Aircraft Modifications: Dual Sensor Camera Ports with electrically operated doors

Drift sight port

Max. Gross Weight: 14,500 lbs

Empty Weight: 8,000 lbs

Useful Load: 6,800 lbs (fuel, personnel, cargo)

Fuel Load: 5,008 lbs

Standard Fuel Burn: Normal Cruise (98%): Range-1325 nm

Duration-4 hrs 15 min

Max. Cruise (104%): Range-1200 nm Duration-3 hrs 40min

Max. Endurance: Range-1610 nm Duration-5 hrs

Dimensions

Wing Span: 51 ft 8.4 in

Total Length: 47 ft 3 in

Fuselage Height: 4.8 ft

Tail Height: 14 ft 9.6 in

Cabin Doors: 39 in x 21.25 in

Baggage Doors (rear): 22 in x 27 in

Cabin Length: 20.9 ft

Cabin Width: 4.9 ft

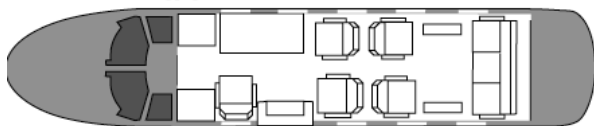
Useable Volume: 491 cu ft

Nose Baggage: 28 cu ft

Cabin Baggage: 947 cu ft

Cockpit: Color weather radar, radar altimeter, integrated flight director system, GPS Flight Management System, traffic alert
Cabin: Dual camera ports: Normal configuration includes Wild RC-30 on the Right Side and Applanix DSS Camera system on the left side. A POS/AV IMU system and other components are installed in a certified scientific rack.

Seating: 7 Passengers
Baggage Volume: 65 Cubic Feet



Width: 4 Feet 9 Inches
Height: 4 Feet 8 Inches



Source: http://www.aoc.noaa.gov/aircraft_cessna.htm

JANUARY'S MYSTERY AIRCRAFT



FEBRUARY'S RC MYSTERY AIRCRAFT



Until next month,

Tim Mihalski, Editor

My E-Mail Address:

MIHALSKI@COMCAST.NET



FIRST STATE R/C CLUB 2010 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Monday 07:30 P.M. 01/18/10 Club Meeting @ Stahl American Legion Post
01/31/10 Last Date for Club Membership Renewal**

02/01/10 Club Membership Late Fee Applies

Monday 07:30 P.M. 02/15/10 Club Meeting @ Stahl American Legion Post

Monday 07:30 P.M. 03/15/10 Club Meeting @ Stahl American Legion Post

Saturday 09:00 A.M. 04/10/10 Club Spring Field Cleanup Day

Saturday 09:00 A.M. 04/17/10 Club Spring Field Cleanup Day (Raindate)

Monday 07:30 P.M. 04/19/10 Club Meeting @ Stahl American Legion Post

Monday 07:30 P.M. 05/17/10 Club Meeting @ Stahl American Legion Post

Saturday 10:00 A.M. 05/22/10 Fuel/Electric Fun Fly at Field. Contact Frank Donnelly??

Saturday 10:00 A.M. 05/29/10 Fuel/Electric Fun Fly at Field. (Raindate) Contact Frank Donnelly??

Monday 07:30 P.M. 06/21/10 Club Meeting @ Stahl American Legion Post

No Club Meeting in July

No Club Meeting in August

Saturday 10:00 A.M. 09/18/10 Club Picnic Chair: Chet Thayer??

Monday 07:30 P.M. 09/20/10 Club Meeting @ Stahl American Legion Post

Saturday 10:00 A.M. 09/25/10 Club Picnic (Raindate) Chair: Chet Thayer??

Monday 07:30 P.M. 10/18/10 Club Meeting @ Stahl American Legion Post

Nominations of 2011 Club Officers

Monday 07:30 P.M. 11/15/10 Club Meeting @ Stahl American Legion Post

Election of 2011 Club Officers

11/30/10 Club 2011 Membership Dues Deadline

Monday 07:30 P.M. 12/20/10 Club Meeting @ Stahl American Legion Post

Induction of 2011 Club Officers

Thursday 10:00 A.M. 01/01/11 Freeze Fly 2011



Comments??

FEBRUARY'S RC MYSTERY AIRCRAFT



A mystery RC aircraft for you to ponder... you can read all about this mystery ship in March's issue of Contact...

IMPORTANT REMINDERS...

FEBRUARY CLUB MEETING

02/01/10 Club Membership Late Fee Applies

Monday 7:30 P.M. 02/15/10@Stahl American Legion Post

MARCH CLUB MEETING

Monday 7:30 P.M. 03/15/10@Stahl American Legion Post

APRIL EVENTS

Saturday 09:00 A.M. 04/10/10 Club Spring Field Cleanup Day

Saturday 09:00 A.M. 04/17/10 Club Spring Field Cleanup Day (Raindate)

Monday 07:30 P.M. 04/19/10 Club Meeting @ Stahl American Legion Post



Timothy I. Mihalski, Editor
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