



Hawk Talk

THE EDITORIAL VOICE OF THE OMAHAWKS R/C INC.

VOL. 57 NO. 4

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Mike Berger (712-625-3581)

Treasurer... Kevin Hyde (614-4192)

**** AGENDA ****

GENERAL MEETING: Friday, April 27, 2007 * 7:00 P.M. * Make-A-Wish Foundation * 11926 Arbor St.

PROGRAM: Steve Culver Waxes Poetic on the Joys of Planning Meeting Programs

BUSINESS MEETING: Wednesday, MAY 2, 2007 * 7:00 P.M. * Make-A-Wish Foundation * 11926 Arbor St.

ALL CLUB MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE BUSINESS MEETINGS

KEVIN SAYS: I'LL BE BACK!

Longtime Club Treasurer Accepts Temporary Posting to Atlanta

April Meeting at Make-A-Wish Foundation
Friday, April 27

Friday's Program:
Big Ed's Video Show

RAFFLE

Hobbico Twinstar ARF



As many of you know, I have been the Treasurer for Omahawks R/C Inc since 1992. My predecessor was required to move due to work related demands and I was asked to run for the position. Little did I know what satisfaction I would derive from the experience. I've seen boards led by Roger Brodd, Skip Brown, Larry Brown, Steve Culver, Rusty Dose, Tom Egbert, John Feneck, Mike Kempf, Ward Neesen, Steve Peck, Brad Shaink, Dan Walz, Claude Weimer, and Ron Williams (Can you put them in order by year, or name their vice presidents?)

I've been through the endless discussions over the yellow post in the taxiway, the replacement of the radio impound, addition of the wind sock (who was the first to hit it?) brush removal and countless field clean-up campaigns and who's turn is it to mow.

I've seen Make-A-Wish donations totaling over \$31,000 and auction sales of \$330,000, winterfest queens; pretty ones and, well Frederica was in a class of "her" own. I've helped to address statements like, "we're over budget," "under budget," and "where's the budget?" "Safety First!" "We're all accountable!" "The Boards accountable," "No! we're all accountable to each other, or to the board or to the City."

Membership years as high as 250 in 1997 to 164 last year. Why is that? Loss of new members? Lack of young members? The Economy? Who knows? Maybe the ARF and electrics will revive the hobby. Are you an active participant

or do you just want to fly? What can you do the help revive the membership?

Well, enough of the nostalgia; the fact of the matter is I have been offered a temporary position lasting 18 months in Atlanta GA. This new position will start in May. My family will stay in Omaha so I will be back for the weekend every 2 to 3 weeks. As a result I will be resigning my position as Treasurer.

I have enjoyed the years and I'd love to continue to "handle your money" (as Ralph would say) when I come back in 2009. The Board of Directors will be looking for someone to take over the position in the next month or so. Please consider if you have the time, skills or desire to help the club through this transition. I would like to spend some time transferring computer files and discussing the procedures associated with membership records so don't take too long.

- Kevin Hyde

New Training Program
Hotline
Details Pg. 7

HAWK TALK

THE MINUTES

Nathan King, Secretary

Business Meeting.....3/7/2007

Treasurers Report - Kevin Hyde: Kevin has conducted AMA membership checks and sent emails to members without a current AMA membership.

Hawk Field:

- The Omahawks is currently accepting lawn care bids for consideration.
- Funding for two new grills was discussed, the two grills at the field were stolen.
- The following items were approved capital improvement items: security light, corner poles for storage shed, porta-potty, and Weed & Feed.
- The following items were approved maintenance items: Strip and re-paint radio impound, cap steps leading from north parking lot, replace red wood table top, paint shelter, paint front gate and add reflective tape, repair/treat shelter floor, re-stripe yellow marker lines in pit area and on runway.

Possible cost effective ways to advertise Hawk Field were discussed.

The board is having a monthly fun fly on the second Wednesday of every month, all Omahawks members are welcome!

The Boy Scout Jubilee is on October 19-21. The board discussed having a membership table at the Jubilee along with R/C aircraft.

A storage solution for the Omahawks sound equipment was discussed. Eric Morgan will store the equipment at his place of residence.



General Meeting.....3/30/2007

Meeting called to order at 7:08 with approximately 41 members present.

Membership Report - Ralph Brown: Ed Paache has become the Assistant Membership Chairman. Congratulations!

Newsletter Report – Mike Berger: Send any articles or pictures you would like in the news-

letter to Mike as early as possible.

Field Update:

- Hawk Field Spring Clean-Up Day, Saturday April 14 at 10:00 a.m. Please help the club by showing up and bringing any useful items such as bags, tools, rakes, blowers, etc.
- Mowing bids have been received and will be discussed at the next board meeting.
- Safety light bids still have not been received as of April 2nd.

General Announcements:

- Funding of \$175 requested by Mike Berger for two fun flies was approved.
- Funding of \$50 was approved for Mike Lollis's June 9 multi engine fun fly.
- Funds totaling \$75 were approved for a multi-wing fun fly.
- Rodger requested funding of \$150 for a scale competition approved.
- Three hundred dollars in funds for a pattern contest sponsored by Claude was approved.
- Fred Wilke requested \$75 for an old timers fly on June 30 at 10:00 a.m. was also approved.
- The Boy Scout Jubilee at Mahoney State Park will be held on October 19-21.
- The club is currently working on developing an R/C Venturing Crew curriculum. Contact Steve Culver if you are interested in working with 14-20 year olds.
- The Omahawks R/C Club will be sponsoring the AMA District IX fun fly. Mark Smith will provide \$300 in funding for the event.
- Mark Smith is working with the AMA to see if the five year requirement for the AMA Gold Club can be waived for our club to apply.
- Flight Training begins Thursday, April 5



Ralph's new assistant!

Business Meeting.....4/4/2007

Eight Board Members were present along with Claude, Doc, and Mike Berger

Treasurers Report – Kevin Hyde

Kevin Hyde has resigned as treasurer.

Membership Report – Ralph Brown

The Omahawks have several new members: Mark Hawk, Doug Decker, and Robert Potter.

Newsletter Report – Mike Berger

Any articles or pictures to be published in the Hawk Talk Newsletter should be submitted to Mike Berger as soon as possible.

Hawk Field

Three lawn care bids were received, and a bid from Integrated Landscape Management Inc. for weekly mowing and bi-weekly trimming has been accepted at a cost of 80 dollars per week.

New Business

The annual meeting with the City of Omaha was a success. The issue of flyers at Tranquility was discussed, and the city decided to prohibit the use of R/C aircraft at this location.

If any club events are to be sanctioned by the AMA, the event coordinator should contact a board member.

A CD is needed for the Labor Day Air Show. Since the show is AMA sanctioned the CD must be certified by the AMA.

The board decided landing fees for Hawk Field events are to be kept at \$5.

The board approved the purchase of a 120GB external hard drive for storage of financial documents.

Upcoming Dates/Events:

Next Board Meeting – Wed, May 2
Pancake Breakfast – Tuesday, May 8
Presidents Day Egg Burn – Monday, May 28



A Four ticket special!



Galen's latest

SHOW AND TELL

ITS TIME TO BURN SOME EGGS!

As I write this it is in the 20's outside and doesn't feel much like spring! I'm sure by May 28, Memorial Day it will be much warmer out and we can all enjoy the official beginning of the summer season. As in many years past, the Omahawks Board of Directors would like to invite all members, spouses, children and guests, regardless of club affiliation, to have breakfast at Hawk Field at our annual President's Egg Burn.

Bring your appetite! Last year I believe we cooked about 28 lbs. of bacon and over 250 eggs. There was plenty for everyone. *All you have to do is bring some of your favorite bacon, some eggs, whatever else you would like to eat, something to eat with and something to eat from.* The Omahawks Board members, and anyone else willing to help, will handle the cooking and provide the juice and coffee. We start burning the eggs and bacon at 9:00 a.m. and we stop when everyone is full or we run out food!

Most importantly, please come to enjoy the company of your fellow Omahawks as we take a moment to pay tribute to those who have served our Nation protecting our freedoms and kick off a fun filled summer of flying at Hawk Field. So bring a kite or two for the kids, and a plane or two for yourself as well as a couple fold out lawn chairs to watch the flying.

On behalf of the Board of Directors,
**WE HOPE TO SEE ALL OF YOU
THERE!**

Steve Culver, President



Robert's latest pattern plane



Bob likes his planes BIG!



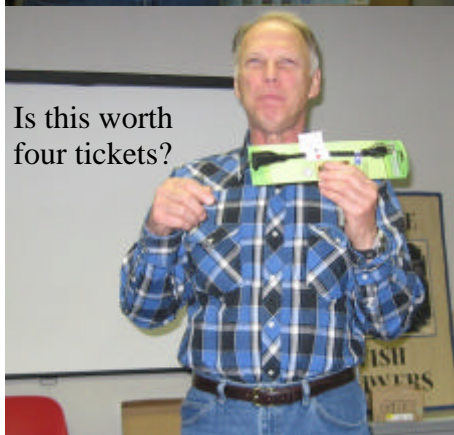
Bob's F4U Corsair



Big Ed's Shrike



Is this worth four tickets?



How about now?



Shouldn't I get twelve tickets?



Benson High School

Once again, the Omahawks kicked off the new season at the Benson High School Competition Day activities. It is a day when Omaha area junior high and high school kids get together to test their skills in a variety of different engineering competitions. These competitions include building towers with toothpicks and marshmallows, racing CO2 powered cars, building foamy hovercraft or cars powered by mousetraps, flying stick and tissue rubber-powered airplanes and building catapults. They build their projects in class and come to Benson to try them out. There are also other events like welding and woodworking.

Several of the events are sponsored by local clubs and schools. The Cornhusker Corvette Club sponsors the CO2 racers, and Iowa Western Community College backs the toothpick towers. Southeast Community College covered the tossing events. Of course, the Omahawks sponsor the two flying competitions and awards prizes to the winners of each.

This year's flying event was run by Bob Grabowski from Wilson Middle School. His two events were for distance and duration. Through these contests the kids get a practical example of the mystery and joy of flight.

This year's first place winners both came from Buffet Middle School and a good time was had by all.

-editor



The Distance Winners: 3rd place - Grant Randall, 2nd place - Ruch Tyler (not shown), 1st place - Brett Newkirk



A note from the editor: Please forgive the poor quality of the photos in this layout. For some reason, my camera made every picture I took a little out of focus and this is all I have to work with. Sorry.

Competition Day



The Duration Winners: 3rd place - Brian Ermel, 2nd place - Brett Newkirk, 1st place - Tim Gruber



Galen answered a LOT of questions!



HAWK TALK

TRAINING PROGRAM STARTS STRONG

The Training program is in full swing again and 2007 is shaping up to be the biggest year in the history of the Omahawks. We have a huge crew of instructors and ground crew on board. The Instructors are: Ralph Brown, Jacob Brown, Skip Brown, Bob Wheeler, Mike Lollis, Robert Green, Chuck Inserra, Ron Pacana, Ed Pugsley, Kevin Hyde, Claude Weimer, Fred Wilke, Ron Williams, Matt Myers, Dan Walz, and Larry Quigley. E.J. Murphy and Doc Greenberg have pledged their support to serve on the ground crew.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the volunteers and invite everyone to come out and see just how exciting R/C flying can be. If you have never tried R/C before you will be amazed by the sights and sounds. If you are a seasoned

R/C pilot it will bring back memories of your first flight. Everyone who comes out to Hawk Field on Thursday night gets something out of the experience so come on out to 138th and Fort at 6:00 P.M. and fly with us.

- Eric Morgan
Training Coordinator



MORE SHOW & TELL



Saturday Morning **FLOAT FLY** May 26 (Makeup Date June 5) 9 am to noon **Standing Bear Lake Chase Boat**

Coffee & Krispy Kremes
at 830 am

Pizza & Pop
at 1130 am
\$5 fee for pilots without
Hawkfield Permits

**Sponsored by
Omahawks**

Info:

Bob Zitzlsperger 493-1610
Bob Burt 339-7482
Ed Splittgerber 896-1787
Dick Behrens 451-6397

Western Front Dawn Patrol 2007

May 19-20, 2007



**"The R/C Celebration of
Early Aviation"**

Hosted by Cobras R/C Club
AMA Charter 744

At Cobras Field, 9 miles South
of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Open to any Scale R/C Models
of Pioneer Era, WWI, &
Golden Era Aircraft 1903-33
WWI planes will do "Dawn
Patrol" each morning from
Dawn until 9 AM.

Each era of aircraft will be sched-
uled in rotation to fly with their
respective types. (Don't miss the
"1/3 scale Review"!)

We are flexible, and will adjust
things to fit the airplane types
present so everyone will get
plenty of flying time.

\$5 Landing Fee.

AMA required.

IMAA welcomed.

Free Admission to spectators.

Contact: Dean Dingman, Event
Director

PfalzPflyer@netscape.net

**Disclaimer: Enter and partici-
pate at your own risk. Promot-
ers, sponsors, event personnel,**

Don't Miss the Omahawks Pancake Breakfast

Tuesday, May 8th
At Hawk Field
Cooking Starts at 9:00

Landing Fee Required for non-
permit holder

For more info contact:
Doc Greenberg, Bud Mitchell
or Bob Burt

Tuesday Morning FLOAT FLY

May 1st

8:30 am – 11:30 am

Standing Bear Lake

Chase Boat

Coffee and Krispy Kreme
at 0830 am

\$5 Fee for pilots without
Hawkfield Permits

Sponsored by Omahawks

Info:

Bob Zitzsperger 493-1610

Bob Burt 339-7482

Ed Splittgerber 896-1787

Dick Behrens 451-6397

Safety Corner with Eric Morgan

Well, we finally made it! It's flying season. I know that you are used to a light-hearted column but the simple fact is that safety is no laughing matter. This month I will switch from building safety to field safety. We have finally had some good flying weather. So, now is an appropriate time for field related subjects.

After a long winter, we are all anxious to get back in the air. Here are a couple of checklists to help ensure that you have a safe and enjoyable flight:

Assembly Checklist

1. Verify that transmitter and flight pack batteries are fully charged.
2. Inspect model for any external damage (covering damage may indicate internal damage)
3. Verify battery, receiver and servos are securely mounted
4. Verify all linkages are tight and secure.
5. Verify engine and muffler are tight and secure.
6. Verify propeller is not nicked or damaged
7. Verify aileron and flap connections are made and secure.

8. Verify wing is properly attached (bolts tight, sufficient rubber bands).

9. Perform range check of radio system (after putting your permit up)

10. Verify correct direction of ALL controls Do this from behind the plane.

Preflight Checklist

1. Verify that model is restrained and area is clear for starting.
 2. Verify that transmitter antenna is full extended.
 3. Verify again the correct direction of ALL controls during taxi.
 4. Verify all trim controls, rate switches, etc. are in correct position and that the correct model is selected.
 5. Check the other models in the air to make sure they are not in the landing pattern or on the runway.
 6. Announce intentions prior to entering the runway area for take-off.
- These simple steps will help to ensure that your flight is as safe and enjoyable as possible.

- Eric Morgan,

Omahawks Safety Coordinator

NEW HOTLINE FOR TRAINING PROGRAM

Because the weather hereabouts can be a bit "variable," especially at this time of year, training coordinator Eric Morgan has set up a new hotline for announcements about whether or not the Thursday night training session will take place.

If the weather is questionable, you can now call (402) 498-0529 for a recorded message announcing if the training session will

take place. The message will be available by 5:00 p.m. each Thursday.



Ralph sez
the plane
doesn't
know it's
windy!

"Hawk Talk"

Voice of the Omahawks

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A Heart-Rending Tragedy

Dearly beloved, we are gathered here today to mourn the passing of a dear friend and dedicated servant. The endless hours of fun and adventure have come to an end and I weep at the thought of what might have been. Yes, dear friends, my beloved Avistar has finally gone to the great hangar in the sky. The plane I trained and soloed on, that flew in so many events and shows for over four years is finally done for.

"Hah!" I hear you cry, "My Avistar only lasted about twenty minutes after I soloed!" And mine might have been the same in other circumstances. I did crash mine very soon after my solo flight. But luckily, that came at the end of my first season of flying so rebuilding it became my winter project.

And this wasn't just any Avistar. Something was different about this one. This plane was tough as nails. I had crashed and repaired this plane no fewer than twelve times! I crashed into no less than three trees, pancaked it on the runway and broke the wing in half. I cartwheeled it on landing in front of an appreciative crowd and even flew it into a telephone pole last July 4th. Its tail had been completely replaced. The fuselage had been recovered once, the wing twice, with countless patches in between. It had a new firewall, motor mount, and front gear plus at least an extra pound of CA and epoxy in it.

But number 13 was unlucky for this plane. I crashed in a field behind my own house. And I can't blame anybody or anything for the crash. There was no radio hit, no dead battery, no wind or distraction. I simply hemmed when I should have hawed. Swooped when I should have whirled. I got out far enough that I couldn't tell which side of the plane was which, pulled up on the stick, and found out I was really inverted! Oh, no!! Thump!!

And so I weep, deep in mourning. But, you know... I have an RV4 that needs a radio. And the Fun Fly .40 I'm working on now needs a motor. And the wheels might come in handy... Hmm...

Oh, well. Mourning period over. I've got work to do.

See you at the field!

- editor

