



# Hawk Talk

THE EDITORIAL VOICE OF THE OMAHAWKS R/C INC.

VOL. 59 NO. 7

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\*\*\*\* AGENDA \*\*\*\*

**GENERAL MEETING:** Friday, July 31, 2009 \* 7:00 P.M. \* Hawk Field \* 138th & Fort Street

**PROGRAM:** Fun, Flying and other important activities.

**BUSINESS MEETING:** Wednesday, August 5, 2009 \* 7:00 P.M. \* Make-A-Wish Foundation \* 11926 Arbor St.

ALL CLUB MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE BUSINESS MEETINGS

## DISASTER STRIKES AT HAWK FIELD

Some time during the night of July 14th, the Omahawks suffered a huge catastrophe when the shelter at Hawk Filed caught fire. The cause of the fire is still unknown. What is known is that this represents a huge and costly setback for the club. And it happens at the worst time imaginable, right before our showcase event, the Labor Day Air Show. There will need to be a huge effort on the part of the club to get the damage repaired before the show.

The fire appears to have

started at the center of the back of the shelter. The deck and the railing around the shelter were completely destroyed. The eight heavy posts that support the roof were also badly burned.

The roof of the structure sustained the least damage and is still largely intact, although the plywood ceiling was badly scorched and was pulled down by the fire department in order to make sure that the fire was out.

The plan for repairing the shelter is to support the roof and rebuild the deck and supports underneath it. The expense of the rebuilding will be borne by the Omahawks because of a good news/bad news situation with the city parks department. The good news is that the city has insurance, the bad news is that their deductible is \$100,000, much higher than the cost of the shelter.

Much more information will be available at the meeting on Friday. Be sure to come out to the field and see for yourself what ahs happened and what you can do to help the club recover from this disaster.

- editor



### JULY MEETING AT HAWK FIELD

FRIDAY, JULY 31

7:00 p.m.

138TH & FORT ST

A Raffle will be held to raise money for the Labor Day Air Show Raffle - Prizes are a selection of tools from Sears

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ★ July 31 – General Meeting
- ★ August 5 – Business Meeting
- ★ August 12 - Float Fly
- ★ Aug 8 - 9 - Pattern Contest
- ★ Every Thursday Night is training night at Hawk Field

## THE MINUTES

Larry McChesney, Secretary

### **General Meeting.....6/26/2009**

President E.J. Murphy opened the meeting. No guests nor new members were present to recognize. Hot dogs were served and enjoyed by all present. Thank you president E.J. for the fine job.

**Membership Report** The membership report was short. It was announced that the current tally is one hundred forty five to date.

**Newsletter Report** Mike Berger was present and complimented the club on providing him with material, articles, photo's, etc., and to "keep up the good work."

#### **General Member Announcements**

E.J. mentioned that we had one soloed pilot but he was not present for the meeting.

#### **Field Update**

We are waiting for the weather patterns change to the "dry season." Once we see a week of dry weather the field chairman and club members will pursue the runway repairs. Please keep this in mind as the decision was made that to save "big bucks" we would provide the labor. Notice may be short so keep this task in mind. Your support is important. Many will benefit from the repairs so many should make themselves available to participate in the repairs. The following describes the procedure the board has elected for the runway work.

The process is not complicated and not overly time consuming if we get a fair number of members to come out and participate in the repair effort. A machine will be rented to heat the filler and will be "hot poured in to the cracks." For under one thousand dollars ( \$1,000.00 ) the runway will be very serviceable at much less than the cost previously discussed. More to come in the next few months.

#### **Event Reports**

Pattern Event for the Sport Pilot Championships was fun and well attended. Ed continues to do a great job organizing ( and Helen, et.al.) this segment of the "Olson trophy run." Stay tuned for the combat section next month.

A half dozen members went to the Ambassador's Worship Center Tuesday evening to put on a static display with some electric flying dazzling the sixty some youngsters attending a Bible School session. The group included Ralph, E.J., Skip, Larry and Ed.

Dick held another float fly on the 23rd of June. Very successful also I heard.

**Old Business** None for this meeting.

**New Business** A discussion for the planning for the Labor Day Air Show was lead by Steve Peck. This is an important, exciting and fun annual event. Those who have already volunteered to fill a leadership position include Ed Paasch, Nathan King, Roger Brodd, Mike Berger, Ralph Brown, and Ron Pancana. There will be many ways to help. If you are not filling a leadership position please step up to support this great effort.

Doc Greenberg donated a post hole driver.

Thanks Doc.

**Raffle** Mike Berger was generous to donate a field box for the raffle. Thank you Mike.

- Minutes presented by Larry McChesney

### **Business Meeting.....7/1/2009**

Officers in attendance: E.J. Murphy, Bob Wheeler, Kevin Hyde.

Board Members in attendance: Ralph Brown, Doc Greenberg, Claude Weimer. E.J. brought the meeting to order at 7PM

**Treasurers Report** – Presented by Kevin Hyde.

**Membership Chairman Report** – Ralph Brown reported, we currently, show 140 members for 2009.

#### **Events –**

? E.J. Reported on the Dennis Meyers Memorial, held at Hawk Field on Sunday, June 28.

? Ralph reported on the North Omaha Air Show. The Omahawks were again invited to fly at the North Omaha Airport. There were many different airplanes there, including Matt Meyers' Falcon jet. Also, the Omaha PD did a fly-in with their helicopter.

#### **Hawk Field -**

? Still waiting on the weather to get runway repairs underway. Be ready when the time is right, we will be looking for help. The more we can get there to help, the quicker we can get the job completed, and less work per person.

? We are still looking for someone willing to take up the task of maintaining the flower beds.

? Labor Day Air Show plans are under way. Steve Peck has a number of volunteers signed up. Also, if you want to help in any way, contact Steve.

? Kevin Hyde made a motion to cancel the telephone. Bob Wheeler seconded, and the motion passed.

Raffle prizes for the club meetings at Hawk Field, are used to help raise funds for the raffle at the Labor Day Air Show. We also accept contributions and Program suggestions.

- Minutes presented by E.J. Murphy





## YOUTH FUN FLY

June 27th was a great day for the Youth Fun Fly event. The weather was very unpredictable with a 40% chance of thunderstorms, humidity and gusting winds. However the kids were enthusiastic with little concern for the elements. But the weather was good with only a few showers. At one point all planes and equipment was brought into the shelter. That worked out o.k. since it was time to enjoy hot dogs, juice and chips. Lunch was enjoyed by all. I mean how can you beat a grilled hot dog?



Attendance was great considering the prospect of foul weather. There were fourteen kids ages eight ( well my grandson Jason was five but did not fly ) to twelve and nine boys ages twelve



to fifteen. A group of four dads came from a camp out with their Boy Scouts to complete their day. Skip Brown came with a couple nephews.

Generally the day involved getting all the kids to fly. Fred Wilke brought his Eagle which the kids, one of my grandsons included, enjoyed getting their hands on. Others who supported training flights included Ron Pacana, Ken Heimbuch and myself. This was the primary activity of the day. And, I must say, it went well without any major mishaps. There were several raffle prizes shared with the youngsters. And the simple balsa gliders for the rest which were a hit. Fred did a great job with the prizes and flying. Carol McChesney did the shopping for lunch. Thanks to them both as well as those who helped through the day.

- Larry McChesney



## FLOAT FLY NEWS

This morning, the wind was light and variable, around 3-5 mph, ideal for a float fly. But the humidity was very high and temperature was 84 degrees at 9am. Leroy Henderson used his boat for retrievals. He was helped by his grandson, Bradley Henderson. They made about twenty five retrievals. Bob Zitzlsperger brought the coffee. Attendance for this float fly was above average.

Twenty five signed in and brought planes or flew. They were: Ralph Brown, Bob Zitz, Dave Haggart, Bob Burt, Glenn Gill, Dave Olson, Frank Wisniski, Joe Cole, Gary Vohnout, Fred Wilke, Ron Pacana, Frank Vanecek, Bob Roegge, Bob Anderson, Dean Copeland, Skip Brown, Tim Peters, Ed Splittergerber, Brad Perkons, Chuck Buscher, Larry Austin, Bud Mitchell, Casey Vohnout, Jud Bock and Dick Behrens.

- Dick Behrens





# SPC COMBAT EVENT



July 12, 2009 - Spectators were delighted to witness carnage and mayhem during the Omahawks Sport Pilot Championship series Combat Event. The event started out in spectacular fashion when pilots Larry Pleiss and Bob English smashed into one another during the very first round of the five round contest. A shower of balsa and Monokote confetti sprinkled down on the trees far to the east of the runway as both planes plunged to Earth.

The Sunday afternoon event drew 14 participants all towing 30' crepe paper streamers behind their .40-size sport planes. The fast-moving dog fighting action rivited the attention of a large crowd of spectators, who were audibly "ooing" and "ahhing" every close pass as contests attempted to score points by cutting the streamers of the other pilots while protecting their own.

As the heat of battle raged on, more and more casualties accumulated. Later in the first round of combat, Casey Vohnout landed his plane on the east edge of the runway only to have pilot Rich Tiller roll up right behind him and over him, breaking up Casey's tail section. Always a terrific sport, Casey graciously shook Rich's hand and accepted his apology for the mishap. Pilot Ed Paasch went on to ground his own plane during the second round, breaking his fuselage in two while landing in the grass.

Rich Tiller may have been the victim of karma, however, as he himself was later knocked out of the fifth round of combat. Rich collided with pilot Fred Tuckerman as the two attempted to cut each other's streamers. Rich punched a large hole in Fred's wing and actually knocked the main



# IS A SMASH HIT!



wing spar loose, while Fred managed to break off a large section of Rich's tail. Fred's plane survived to land safely but Rich wasn't so lucky. Rich's plane went streaking to Earth in spectacular fashion and crashed.

The fierce competition was terrific fun for pilots and spectators alike. Fred Tuckerman went on to dominate the overall combat competition and take 1st place. Matt Meyers, already the front-runner to win the overall Sport Pilot Championship, had a strong second place finish for the day. Roland Lyons sneaked out from the middle of the pack during the fifth and final round to score an amazing 396 points during his final flight of the day; it was a strong enough finish to pass Skip Brown and allow Roland to claim third place.

Pilots Fred Tuckerman, Matt Meyers, Roland Lyons, Colby Johnson, Rich Tiller, Ed Paasch, Bob English, Larry Pleiss, Ron Pacana, Larry McChesney, Skip Brown, Dave Olson, Casey Vohnout, and Bob Wheeler all competed bravely. Club members Gary Vohnout, Gerry Stenho, A.J. Bender, Nathan King, Mike Furrow, and E.J. Murphy weren't dumb enough to compete themselves, but were gracious enough to help with running and scoring the event. Helen Paasch was once again invaluable with regard to organizing, setting up, and photographing the event while being assisted by friends Jim Burnette (grill) and Pam Felthausen (scoring).

The great pilots, great ground crew, and great crowd of spectators all combined to make the SPC Combat event great big fun!

*--Ed Paasch*



## Ambassadors Worship Center R/C Presentation

On Monday, June 22, several Omahawks joined the staff of the Ambassadors Worship Center, to present the children with an introduction to flying. The Omahawks provided the R/C portion of the display. E.J. Murphy Omahawks President, Larry McChesney Vice-President, Ed Paasch, Skip Brown and Ralph Brown, all participated in the presentation. E.J. spoke to the children, and explained the operation and similarities of airplane controls, for full scale and R/C scale model aircraft. The Worship Center had approximately 50 children in attendance, along with the staff, (some in costume). We were able to start a glow powered plane, Ed Paasch's Enya powered Protégé, the one with the Wonder Bread wrapper looking wing. And, then Ed took to the air with his electric powered Slow Stick. The kids got a big kick out of the loops. They think Ed skimmed the grass on purpose. Yeah, right!

Some of the other planes on display included an F22 Raptor, Seawind EP, TwinStar, Avistar on floats, and a Blade CX2 with the Jet Ranger body.

Thanks to the Ambassadors Worship Center for inviting the Omahawks to join their program. It's always a pleasure to introduce our hobby to the youngsters.



### Dennis Meyers Memorial Service

I wanted to send a special thank you, and at the same time apologize for some misinformation to the club. I failed to make a formal announcement at the last General Meeting about the memorial service for Dennis Meyer at the field, and for that, I apologize. This resulted in a few club members arriving at the field, expecting to be able to fly.

My thank you goes to those members that were understanding and didn't raise a fuss. I had been working with the Meyers family, trying to provide a date for this memorial service for nearly 2 weeks. And that was the soonest date we could accommodate them.

## THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN

BY WARD NEESEN

### The Problem . . .

About two months ago the cold water service quit working in my refrigerator. I didn't think much of it because I still had ice and the tap water. About 3 weeks ago the ice-maker quit working as well. Dire straits in the Neesen household.

### My Solution . . .

I pulled the refrigerator out, checked line pressures and made a mess . . . did not work

I got meters out, checked to make sure that the solenoid valves were opening . . . everything was fine but still no water or ice.

I searched the Internet, asked my plumber friends, brought in more tools, all to no avail . . . no ice and water service.

I resolved myself to believing that my life, as I know it, was going to have to change. There would be no more ice and water at our house.

### My Wife's Solution . . .

She emptied the whole unit, defrosted it, cleaned the jammed fan, and then put everything back together.

Everything is working PERFECT again . . . Oh Happy Day!!

### Conclusion . . .

I should stick to crayons, not pens and pencils . . . and NO sharp objects.

Dennis Meyers was a former club member and introduced his son Matt to the hobby of R/C flying. Also, with the Army Corps of Engineers, Dennis worked on the Standing Bear Lake Recreation Area Project. Which, eventually, became the home for Hawk Field.

- EJ Feldman



## 2009 OMAHA PATTERN CHAMPIONSHIP

The Omahawks are excited to once again be hosting the Omaha Pattern Championship event this August 8th and 9th, 2009. The event has traditionally drawn some of the top aerobatic pilots from across the Midwest.

Pilots compete while performing precise aerobatics routines while divided into five different categories of difficulty: Sportsman, Intermediate, Advanced, Masters, and FAI. The entry level class of Sportsman is a good starting place for new pilots wishing to learn the graceful art of pattern aerobatics.

Long-time Omahawks pilots Claude Weimer and Skip "Mr. Pattern 2009" Brown have both flown Novice or Sportsman pattern routines very successfully in the past while piloting their Avis-tar trainers. Expensive airframes, engines, or radio equipment aren't a requirement to enjoy pattern flying. We expect to see a healthy turnout of first-time participants this August, both from the Sport Pilot Championship participants who flew in the club Sportsman event in June and from any solo pilot who wants to have fun and learn aerobatics.

Claude Weimer, who has served as Contest Director for many previous Omaha Pattern Championship events, will be attending this year as a contestant. Omahawks Vice President Bob Wheeler has volunteered to serve as Contest Director so Claude can relax, visit with friends, and enjoy flying in the event instead of worrying about running it.

As always, volunteers will be greatly appreciated. Omahawks pilots, whether competing or not,

will be needed to help with grilling lunch, registering contestants, helping with scoring duties, and all of the other minor details that add up to make for a great event.

I hope to see you out there this year. Anybody wishing to help out with the event, or anybody who wants a little coaching while practicing the Sportsman routine, is encouraged to contact Bob Wheeler at babokat@aol.com or Nathan King at nathanking@cox.net. We're looking forward to hearing from you!

--Nathan King



# Tuesday Morning

## FLOAT FLY

### Standing Bear Lake With Chase Boat

### Wednesday August 12th 830 am to 1130 am

### Come meet and fly with Mark Smith, AMA Exec VP

**Flyers from all fields welcome**  
**\$5 fee for pilots without Hawk field permits**  
**No fee for Omahawks**  
**Sponsored by Omahawks**

Info: Dick Behrens 451-6397 rfbahrens@yahoo.com

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## "Hawk Talk"

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# THIS TIME FRED HAS GONE TOO FAR!

All Omahawks are familiar with our good friend Fred Wilke. He is a dedicated member of the Omahawks and can be found at just about any event that the club has. From January's First Flight to the Christmas Party in December, if the Omahawks are there, Fred will be there, helping out, taking part and having fun with everybody else. Any event or activity seems incomplete if Fred isn't there to take part.

But this time, Fred may have gone too far. He has somehow managed to transform himself into plastic in order to get a spot as a member of the crew for Dan Walz's new giant scale B-17 Flying Fortress model. We don't know how he did it. But we hope that his lust for involvement doesn't leave him trapped in plastic forever. Perhaps we can get him to return to us in the real world, at least in time for the Labor Day Air Show!

- editor

