



OMAHA NEBRASKA
AMA 857

TAILSPIN NEWSLETTER

December 2015 Issue

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A Word from the President



This year has been very busy for me and my family. It looks like it may be slacking off a little for the rest of the year and next year, I hope. See you all at the field.

Also, the club is close to starting a new year. Hope you all continue to be a viable part of the club and join us at the field next flying season.

Thanks!

~ Rick Miller

Next Meeting:

7:00PM Tuesday January 5, 2016

Papio-Missouri River NRD Building



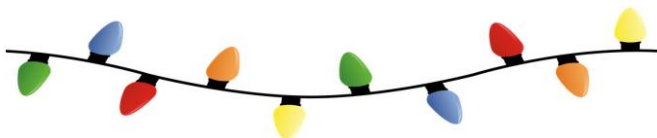
Vice-President's Corner



As you are aware we cancelled December's meeting due to officers who were of town, road construction on Giles Road and the inclement weather. As of this time we are still short one officer, so until we get everyone back we will keep the meeting under suspension. If we are unable to put a meeting together we will have no choice but to try again in January.

The V.P. position is open and we are looking for a replacement for Rich Jonas so when we are able to have our meeting please come out and let's get our election done so we can move on to new things next year. Speaking of next year we are looking for ideas for events this coming year, we need your input to make 2016 the best year yet!

**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**



Process on the 33% WACO continues slowly but that is due to my making changes in the way the kit was designed. For example the hinges on the ailerons will be piano hinge like the prototype rather than the suggested hinge points. Likewise I am trying to replicate the scale hinge scheme on the elevator. I have elected not to do a build thread due to the state of completeness on the airframe when I received it. If I come up with some interesting photos I will send them to the newsletter for posting.

See you on the Field! *- Jim Henley*



Bob Burt

1936 - 2015

December Treasurer's Notes



We have had very little activity in the treasurer's department, but I am expecting more activity with the new year just around the corner. And what I am saying is that I will be looking for membership renewals to start rolling in.

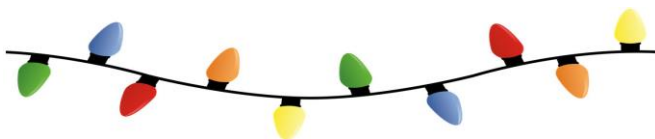
There have been some minor expenses and no income for the last few months. I am as ready as I can be since the new 2016 membership cards just arrived.

Your Treasurer *- Dean Copeland*

Website: <http://www.weflyrc.org/>

REWARDS PROGRAM

Remember [Hobbytown's Reward Program](#). With every purchase by a WF member, the club receives a credit for an amount equal to 1 percent of your purchase. Be sure to mention your [Western Flyers affiliation](#) when making a purchase at either Hobbytown location.



Tribute to Bob

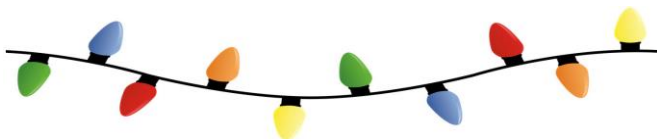
I think he may have done his last flying with us at the September old-timer event.

I've long considered Bob and guys like him to be the heart of the Western Flyers. We used to not wonder who would be cooking at the old-timer events. Bob did it. Or needing to set up a field mowing schedule. Bob did it, riding in tandem with Bob Z. on twin mowers. He was the go-to guy with the University and the organizer of so many events.

I remember the first time I met him. A glider cross country event at the field back in the 80's. We were about to depart the field and chase a thermal, someone driving with me flying from the back of a pickup. And Bob looking quite interested in the proceedings. So I invited him to jump in and ride along as our spotter. He had a great time and we've been friends ever since.

Gonna' miss him

Loren Blinde



RC NEWS from LAS VEGAS

(Rantings from the Hobby Shop)



Wishing everyone a great *Holiday Season*, enjoy your families and friends. This is the last of my regular articles for the Club's Newsletter. I hope to send in an article now and then, but no longer will I contribute monthly.

The year 2016 will be a big year of change for me, I am winding down my model engine "business" as the market for glow engines is shrinking every month. The collectable engines have gone the way of the *Doo-Doo Bird*, the few remaining collectors are enjoying great prices as there is not much demand or competition. The wisest amongst them are not buying, for whom will they sell the engines to when the time comes?



I began selling engines in 1980, with the help and guidance of several people who knew a lot more than I ever would about motors. **Bob Hess** was the biggest help locally, always willing to identify engines that had me stumped and he knew his stuff. **Robert Eireman** in CA. was one of the biggest purveyors back in the day but was willing to offer guidance and I appreciated it. **Ed Carlson** in Arizona was a great help, nice guy and a friend. So buying and selling engines was as much about the people I met as the deed itself. I hope to find someone to take over but most; likely I will sell it off in batches on *EBay* until everything is liquidated. The plan is to start that in the fall.

I was sad to hear of the passing of **Bob Burt**, he was always a "club leader" he helped at every function, especially back when we had auctions. I enjoyed going for coffee with him and others after a club meeting. He will be missed.

So to all you in the *Western Flyers*, I wish health, happiness and continued success in the hobby. Enjoy every day the best you can, take some time for yourself as often as you can, be as kind to others as you can.

God Bless and be Well

~ Bob Boumstein



Building Up-North Country

Report by Jim Drickey



What's happening in my world.....doing final filet shape to wing and wing front filet to wing. There's much shaping and sanding. I put engine back on the Zero for cowl cuts to fit around exhaust pipes. Check out those deluxe handmade gear struts complements from Dean Copeland. He had these from the same build he did years ago. I remember seeing his "Zero" yearly in the 70s at the old Omahawks field (*Sunset Speedway*). I was thinking at that time WOW! This guy is the *Real ****!* I want to be just like him some day! I still have that same feeling today! Thanks "*Obe-Waan*" for the inspiration thru the years!!



Weather up here in northern Minnesota has been above average temps so far in late fall. I bought a used 2-stage snow thrower the other day. That will guarantee no or lite snow from here on in. Maybe best money spentHuh!



FPV and Quadcopter Project

Report by Tim Peters



As 2015 comes to a close, here's hoping you enjoyed the flying season and things are well with you and yours. Here are some updates on my FPV and Quadcopter projects from 2015. The projects were described in the May and October 2015 editions of the *WRCF Tailspin*. You can find the articles as well as entire *Tailspin* catalog at <http://www.weflyrc.org/tailspin.htm>.

FPV - I've been enjoying doing fpv with two aircraft: *HobbyKing Bixler* and a 'Buds Yard Sale' *Sig Sealane* amphibian plane. The *Bixler* is a foam electric plane with flaps; a hand-launch model with a pusher configuration that keeps the prop out of the camera. It has been flying successfully using a 4000 mAH 3s lipo battery. The flaps are very effective at slowing the plane. The *Sealane* is nitro powered with a wing-mounted engine pod. This is a tractor configuration using an OS 40 motor; the camera is mounted on top of the fuselage keeping the prop out of the camera view. I intended to use the *Sealane* for longer flights; it also has landing gear that the *Bixler* lacks. Although the May *Tailspin* article describes my enthusiasm for fpv goggles, I discovered quickly that I am not ready to use them. Instead I have had good success with a television monitor mounted on a camera tripod. The monitor is a self-contained unit consisting of a 7" LCD display, integrated 32-channel 5.8GHz receiver and lipo battery. It has dual-diversity antennas that allow the receiver to select the antenna that has the stronger signal. A hood surrounds the top and sides of the monitor; that reduces glare from the sun. I like using the monitor as it allows me to quickly and easily transition between viewing/flying the plane and the FPV experience through the monitor. It has the added benefit of allowing other spectators to enjoy the FPV. The price of the monitor was very reasonable; the only feature that it needs is a built-in DVR to record the flights.



Both aircraft use inexpensive CMOS 'board cameras'. The setups that I have purchased include the camera, a 200 mW 5.8 GHz 32-channel video transmitter, and the harness to connect the camera, harness and battery. One feature that I really like is that the camera and transmitter use the same battery as the *Bixler*; it attaches through the lipo balancing connector. There's no need for a separate FPV battery. (*The Sealane* is nitro-powered, it uses a 1200 mAh lipo for the FPV electronics that is separate from the flight pack battery.) The range of the

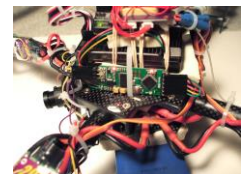


FPV video has not really been tested as I rarely let the airplanes get far away. The 200 mW transmitter does require a FCC (HAM) radio license—there are low-powered units (20 mW) available that do not require a license. Picture quality is good but does tend to 'wash out' when the sun comes into or away from view. I have read that CCD cameras are better than CMOS at reducing this; the next camera I purchase will be a CCD.

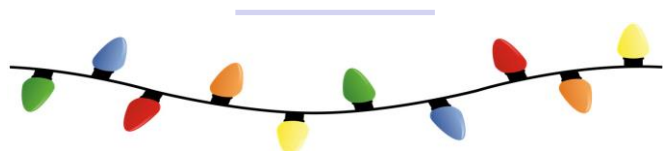
The October *Tailspin* contains a write-up on my quadcopter build. The quadcopter is flying well but would benefit from some kind of visual clues to help with orientation. The quadcopter controller is an APM unit which provides several transmitter-selectable flight modes. My Futaba transmitter has a three-position switch used for that purpose. The three options I have set up are 'stabilize', 'loiter' and 'return to launch'. The 'loiter' mode tries to maintain a fixed hover at whatever position/altitude it is at when the mode is selected. The 'return to launch' mode is pretty cool. It actually brings the quadcopter back to the launch site (*where the APM was armed*) and lands by itself. As you can imagine, it takes some fortitude to use this option; especially knowing that the quadcopter is not a commercial build! I admit that it has auto-landed successfully several times. (*I keep my finger on the switch just in case I need to bail out!*)



In November I decided to merge the projects by setting up the quadcopter for FPV. As you might suspect, I couldn't be satisfied with simply attaching the camera and video transmitter to the quadcopter. Lurking in my workshop was an unused OSD (*On Screen Display*) circuit board. OSD merges video from the FPV camera with data from the APM unit so that both share the screen. The result is that in addition to the camera video you also get flight information; altitude, heading, GPS coordinates, battery voltage, etc. It also provides a 'Heads-up Display' showing the pitch and tilt of the aircraft. The OSD board measures about 1" by 3" with a cable harness connecting one end to the APM board. On the other end are power and video in/out connections to the camera and transmitter. The OSD captures incoming video from the camera, interlaces it with selected APM data and sends the result out to the video transmitter. The OSD can be programmed to select what data is to be displayed as well as the location of the displayed information. That feature requires a special pc USB cable that connects the OSD to a computer.



The new setup has only been bench tested so far but seems to work ok. As you can see from the photo the maze of wires continues to grow! Stay tuned; I may have the whole setup for show-and-tell at the next *WRCF* meeting!



Western RC Flyers Field Operations Charter

- **Mission and Vision Statements**

*To provide for the enjoyment of diverse types of RC Aircraft operations, for members and guests of the WRCF club.
To promote and extend RC Flying and RC Modeling Hobby via comradery and activities to all.*

- **Field Rules**

1. Flyers are required to be current members of the AMA & the WRCF Club. Or escorted by a WRCF member, or a qualified guest (such as: active serving military personnel with AMA membership).
2. Compliance with FAA, FCC, AMA, Federal, State, Local, Landowner, & Club codes & rules, both posted and non-posted is required.
3. Flyers and all Flight activities will be conducted in a courteous, responsible and safe manner.
4. Flyers WILL accommodate each others flying, so all participants may utilize the club resources. Including, but not limited to, the specific issues listed below:
 - a. Extended blocking or interference of conventional flight path operations, via activities dwelling on or above the runway or other conventional flight path, is prohibited.
 - b. Maneuvers that dwell extensively & block specific lines, areas or paths, may possibly be accommodated away from conventional routine flight pattern operations.
 - c. Activities that excessively affect other flyers or bystanders that are not necessary or appropriate are prohibited. This applies to all areas including the pits and flight areas.
5. Rotary wing operations are limited to conventional aircraft type flight patterns.
i.e. No blocking of any specific flight area, accommodation for hovering / stunts may be at an unused area. Possibly off the very south end of the pits, if available.

Emergency contacts, 911 or SAUNDERS COUNTY DISPATCH 402-443-1000

Field Location-

South by Southeast of Mead, East side of UNL ARDC Maintenance Buildings, nearest Intersection Co Rd 9 & i st. **41.177° N, 96.468° W**
In case of emergency events also contact WRCF Club President .

Website: <http://www.weflyrc.org/>



~ 2015 Western R/C Flyers Event Schedule ~

January 2015

- Wednesday, Jan 7th - Club Meeting 7pm, NRC, Natural Resources Center, 8901 S. 154th St.
- Saturday, Jan 17th - Strategic Air & Space Museum's Indoor Air Show 2015

February 2015

- Tuesday, Feb 3rd - Club Meeting 7pm, NRC, Natural Resources Center, Chalco Hills Recreation Area, 8901 S. 154th St.

March 2015

- Wednesday, Mar 4th - Club Meeting 7pm, NRC, Natural Resources Center, 8901 S. 154th St.

April 2015

- Wednesday, Apr 8th - Club Meeting 7pm, NRC, Natural Resources Center, 8901 S. 154th St.
- Saturday, April 18th - Old Timers Fun Fly with Glider Fly - Starts at 9:00am with flying until 3:00pm.

May 2015

- Tuesday, May 5th - Club Meeting 7pm, at MEAD FIELD, bring a plane, open flying.
- Saturday, May 16th - Old Timers Fun Fly with Glider Fly - Starts at 9:00am with flying until 3:00pm.
- Saturday, May 30th - Scale Fun Fly and Swap Meet at Mead Field starting 9am.

June 2015

- Tuesday, Jun 2nd - Club Meeting 7pm, MEAD FIELD, bring a plane, open flying.
- Saturday, Jun 14th - Annual Spring Club Fun Fly at Mead Field starting at 10:00am. Open flying.
- Saturday, June 20th - Old Timers Fun Fly with Glider Fly - Starts at 9:00am with flying until 3:00pm.

July 2015

- Tuesday, Jul 7th - Club Meeting 7pm, MEAD FIELD bring a plane, open flying.
- Sunday Jul 12th - Western Flyers Open House Fun Fly. Starts at 9:00am with flying until dark.
- Saturday, Jul 18th - Old-Timers Fun Fly with Glider Fly - Starts at 9:00am with flying until 3:00pm.

August 2015

- Tuesday, Aug 4th - Club Meeting 7pm, MEAD FIELD a plane, open flying.
- Saturday, Aug 15th - Old Timers Fun Fly with Glider Fly - Starts at 9:00am with flying until 3:00pm.
- Saturday, Aug 22nd - Bud Hall Large Aircraft Fun Fly. Aircraft restricted to IMAA criteria. Landing fee \$10.00 provides lunch and flying. Rain date Aug 23rd.

September 2015

- Tuesday, Sep 1st - Club Meeting 7pm, MEAD FIELD - bring a plane, open flying.
- Saturday, Sep 19th - Old Timers Fun Fly with Glider Fly - Starts at 9:00am with flying until 3:00pm.

October 2015

- Tuesday, Oct 6th - Club Meeting 7pm, NRC, Natural Resources Center, Chalco Hills Recreation Area, 8901 S. 154th St.
- Saturday, Oct 17th - Old Timers Fun Fly with Glider Fly - Starts at 9:00am with flying until 3:00pm.

November 2015

- Wednesday, Nov 3rd - Club Meeting 7pm, NRC, Natural Resources Center, Chalco Hills Recreation Area, 8901 S. 154th St.
- Nominations taken for 2015 Officers

December 2015

- Thursday, Dec 1st - Club Meeting 7pm, NRC, Natural Resources Center, Chalco Hills Recreation Area, 8901 S. 154th St.
- 2015 Officer elections



Western R/C Flyers Inc. 2015 Membership Application

Please print clearly!

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Evening Phone: _____ Day Phone: _____

Email: _____

AMA Number: _____

Amount Paid: \$ _____

2015 Dues: \$35 (Renewals should be paid by **April 1**) New ___ Renewal ___ (Check One)

Sign Here: _____ Date _____

Membership subject to approval. AMA membership is required.

Make Checks Payable to: Western R/C Flyers

Complete this form and send with check to WR/CF Treasurer:
Dean Copeland 15668 Fountain Hills Dr. Omaha, Nebraska 68118