



OMAHA NEBRASKA
AMA 857

TAILSPIN NEWSLETTER

January 2020

President: Rick Miller
Phone: 402-624-2530 email: millerick7@gmail.com

Vice President: Rick Haneline
Phone: 402-321-7577 email: rickh55@msn.com

Field Maintenance: Loren Blinde
Phone: 402-416-0855 email: lblinde@neb.rr.com

Treasurer: Dean Copeland email: dcopeland937@centurylink.net
Address: 15668 Fountain Drive, Omaha 68118 Phone: 402-334-2787

Secretary: Tim Ryan
Phone: 402-943-6731 email: old43school@outlook.com

Tailspin Editor: Nelson Carpenter
Phone: 402-709-3651 email: j3flyah@gmail.com

A Word from the President



Happy Holidays everyone! Hope you and your families had a good *Christmas* and *Hanukkah*. Also, I wish you all a *Happy New Year 2020* with plenty of good flying and no wrecks.

We have a meeting scheduled for January 14th. I hope all of you can make it there. Our 2020 officer candidates were confirmed in the last meeting in early December. See meeting minutes.

I went through back surgery again in mid-December. Lost count on how many that has been. But this time it went well and I'm feeling really good. Not the pain killers.... Really.

With winter here, the flying season has reached a slowdown, but we can still get out there on a few good days that may show up. Hope to see all of you at the January 14th meeting. We only have one more scheduled this winter which will be February 4th.

Let's go fly! ~ Rick Miller



Meeting 7:00 PM Tuesday Jan 14, 2020

Location: NRC, Natural Resources Center, Chalco Hills, 8901 S. 154th St.



Vice-President's Corner



Looks like winter is here. Snow is falling today good thing I got to fly this last weekend. I hope everybody has a winter project that they've started or will start. I've got a few things I need to get done this winter hopefully some of it will be with my airplanes. I have to get the woodworking tools working so I can build a couple things. I'll be laid up for a while this winter with my knee replacement but hopefully all goes well and it won't take me long to recover. Fly if you get a good day once in a while this winter. Everybody is going to be looking forward to spring.

Go out and fly! ~ Rick Haneline

December 2019 Meeting Notes



A Western R/C Flyers meeting was held Monday, December 9th at the Papio NRD offices in Chalco Hills, with 7 members in attendance. President, **Rick Miller** called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm.

Old Business:

Rick Miller asked if there were any nominees for club officer positions, and there were none. A motion to confirm the current officers for the 2020 season was presented and the motion carried.

Current, and 2020 WRCF officers are:

- President: **Rick Miller**
- Vice President: **Rick Haneline**
- Treasurer: **Dean Copeland**
- Secretary: **Tim Ryan**
- Safety Officer: **Mike Lawver**
- Field Marshall: **Loren Blinde**
- Newsletter Editor: **Nelson Carpenter**

Mike Lawver reported that the mower bearings and spindles were in good shape during a recent inspection, and that he found a good price online for replacement blades. A motion to order the new blades was presented and it carried. Mike also mentioned that he would tend to the mower battery winter upkeep.

Rick Miller will contact **Nelson Carpenter** regarding the purchase of a meat & cheese tray for the personnel working at the UNL agriculture and development center which hosts our club field.

I confirmed that the 400' limit applies to uncontrolled airspace which includes the Mead field. All agreed that our main source of concern is when aerial spraying operations are taking place in the vicinity.

Items shelved until the spring are:

- Look to add fill dirt to the ditch across the south end of the runway.
- Look into the possibility of having *Todd Valley Farms* roll the field, or sell us a used roller.
- Widen two more openings in the safety netting to accommodate larger airplanes.

Dates for three WRCF events have been set for next year:

1. WWI and Golden Age Fun Fly – **May 16th** (*Rain date May 17th*)
2. *Spring Fun Fly* – **June 20th**
3. *Bud Hall Giant Scale Event* – **August 22nd**

New Business:

Loren Blinde would like a list of members and their contact information available to all members.

At 7:35 pm the meeting was opened for members to share their current projects.

That's it!

~ *Tim Ryan*

PROPOSED FAA RULES - BREAKDOWN

<https://youtu.be/Jc4vHj7mPxk>



Treasurer's Report



Now that the new year is up on us the dues renewals are starting to come in. Just received the new 2020 membership cards and will proceed to send them out to all that have already paid their 2020 dues.

Have not got much flying in this fall but there have been some good days and hope that some of you were able to take advantage of them. I was not able to make the last board meeting and assume that I am still Treasurer unless someone else feels that they would like to take over. I can have every thing ready to transfer in less than 20 minutes, just let me know. Don't forget to send in your dues for 2020 season. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Your Treasurer

- Dean Copeland

Wahoo Municipal Airport, Nebraska Aviation Weather Report and Forecast

<http://www.usairnet.com/cgi-bin/launch/code.cgi?Submit=Go&sta=KAHQ&state=NE>

ZIP TIES



Mead Field Weather Station



Weather conditions at our field can be viewed from your computer or phone. It is available through *Weather Underground* from a weather station that the university's *ARDC Farm/Facility Shop* has installed.

<https://www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=KNEMEAD2>



FLYERS AT SPRING 2019 FUN FLY MEAD FIELD

HAPPY ★ NEW ★ YEAR

Dues for 2020 can be sent in any time now through April 1st. Dean will return to you this year's membership card. Thanks!

- Things Going On -

by Nelson Carpenter



Hope many of you are thinking about the *WWI* and *Golden Age Fun Fly* we have going on May 16th. That was a fun gathering last time. For this, my winter project has been started and it's another WWI fighter. A *BUSA 1/4 Scale SPAD XIII* which I will mount a *DLE 35cc* gasser.

We don't really need to say again how good of shape our field was in 2019. But in the future do take care that you don't drive your vehicles out onto the runway at either end. Do your best to stay clear, especially at the south end where we use our runway right up to the east-west access road. Anytime of the year, ruts can happen. Thanks.

First week of January I will get in touch with our *ARDC* contact at Mead to see when it would be good time to deliver four boxes of meat/cheese/spreads with crackers for their staff. Loren had informed me of a *Hickory Farms* after-Christmas 75% off sale. Second week of January we will take it to the main building when they are all back from the holidays.



This will show the club's appreciation for our continued use of their ground which has been on-going since the mid-80s.

A positive note; the gauge at Mead recorded 2.5" of rainfall on Sunday December 29th. Good for our runway going into winter. That and Loren Blinde was able to purchase new blades for the *Green Monster* which will definitely provide a better cut of the runway this year.

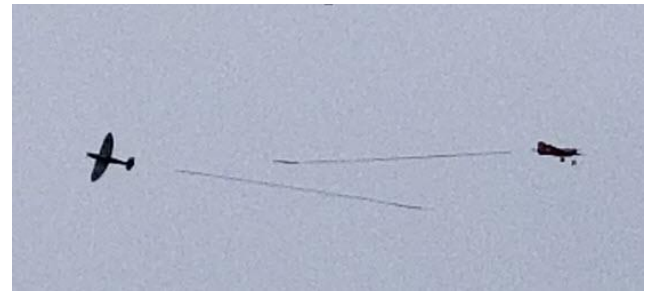
Coming up soon is the *Grand Island Modelers Club* auction on January 18th. I've attached their flyer below.

Big thanks to everyone who submitted articles for the *Tailspin* this past year! Much appreciated and makes my effort easier at putting out the newsletter each month.



BACK ISSUES OF TAILSPIN:

http://www.metrorcflying.com/metro_newsletters.htm



Cheap Combat

Submitted by Loren Blinde



Many years ago *RC Combat* was thriving in the region; both at our *Mead Field* and at the *Lincoln SkyKnights*. Some of the locals who will remember that are **Tom Wild**, **Rick Miller** and me. This was .25 glow powered combat specific as well as scale planes. Imagine the sound and fury of 10 such planes chasing each other in a single heat. Pure adrenaline. Just bring plenty of planes.

There is a glimmer of recreating that thrill, thanks to *Flitetest (FT)* planes. I won't delve too deeply into the technology, just pick up one of those shrink wrapped kits made of brown foam board from your hobby shop or order from <https://www.flitetest.com>, grab a hot glue gun, watch a video of some young hipster building one, and go for it. After the first one, you will realize you can download free plans and build from \$1 per sheet foam board from *Dollar Tree*.

The flying is exhilarating. Younger fliers may have the depth perception and reflexes to actually aim at something, while us "seasoned chaps" pretty much fly in two dimensions and trust to luck for the rest.

Tom Wild, **Jack Barry** and I have been flying a bit of this. I will tell you that foamboard planes spew pieces like a stewed chicken going through a lawn mower when they hit the ground really hard. **Tim "the Iceman" Peters** had me so intimidated with his *Spitfire* that I did that very thing!

In the *Flitetest* lineup, the "*Bloody Baron*" is a very simple plane to build and fly. While some of the "real" planes like the *Spitfire* look passably scale. The recommended *FT* electric packs are well matched to the planes.

So you bring the plane, I have streamers.



FAA wants YOU to read and comment on the Remote ID Proposal 12/26/19

Get ready for the next exciting step in safe [drone integration](#)! The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has issued the [proposed rule](#) for [remote identification of drones](#).

With nearly 1.5 million drones and 155,000 remote pilots registered with the FAA, the ability to provide identification and location is essential to keeping drones safely separated from other aircraft operating in our airspace.

We encourage drone enthusiasts, and anyone interested in aviation safety, to read our [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) now in the *Federal Register*. In the next few days, a 60-day comment period will open to receive your feedback which can help us develop a final rule that enhances safety and security in our nation's skies.

"Drones are the fastest growing segment of transportation in our nation and it is vitally important that they are safely integrated into the national airspace," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao.

"As a pilot, my eye is always on safety first," said FAA Administrator Steve Dickson. "Safety is a joint responsibility between government, pilots, the drone community, the general public and many others who make our nation so creative and innovative."

Equipping drones with remote identification technologies would build on previous steps taken by the FAA and the UAS industry to safely integrate operations, including the [small UAS rule](#), which covers drones weighing less than 55 pounds other than model aircraft, and the [Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability \(LAANC\)](#), which automates the application and approval process for drone operators to obtain airspace authorizations.

These efforts are the foundation for more complex operations, such as beyond visual line of sight at low altitudes, as we move toward a traffic management ecosystem for drone flights separate from, but complementary to, our air traffic management system.

The proposed Remote I.D. rule would apply to all drones that are [required to register with the FAA](#) (recreational drones weighing under 0.55 pounds are not required to register), as well as to people who operate foreign civil drone in the United States.

Pearl Harbor Day Anniversary

On December 7th, the day of the sneak attack on *Pearl Harbor*, a tradition is upheld. One started by **Larry Inness** with other club members **Ron Pacana** and **Bernie Baker** participating. They flew their WWII fighter aircraft at *Mead Field* in tribute and recognition of that infamous day. Bernie and Ron are shown in the photos along with Larry's shadow.



Western R/C
Flyers

Where's my X-Acto Knife

Submitted by Tim Peters

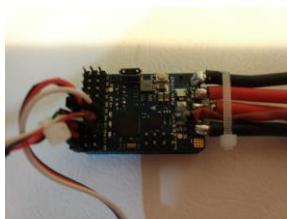


It's January so let's review my 'How did Tim do with the resolutions he set for 2019'

Resolution #1: Continue to reduce the R/C aircraft inventory. Crashed 1 (*Twin-boom foamy Skyhunter*), but can't count that as an inventory reduction as the damage wasn't all that bad and has been repaired. On the other hand, picked up (3) aircraft: *Big Sagitta* sailplane, *UMX Timber* indoor/outdoor plane, and yet-to-be built *Mark's Models Windward* sailplane kit. Resurrected and re-fit (2) of Dad's planes from my shed. So much for Goal #1. ☹️

Resolution #2: Keep *Tailspin* articles shorter. Got a lot to talk about this month, so this goal is probably shot as well.

Back in November I attempted autonomous flight at *Mead* using the 2-meter *Skyhunter*, which uses a *Pixhawk* autopilot. Some issue with the electronics caused it to lose control and crashed in the tall weeds east of the runway. I was ready to give up on the whole autonomous flight thing. The damage looked worse than it really was and I was able to



repair it. A few weeks back I had talked with **Paul Edmunds** about his similar project; he is using a *Matek* stabilizer flight board. *Matek* is a new (*to me*) product; I thought they were limited to quadcopters, but they have several products that are targeted to fixed-wing aircraft.

He had a '*Matek 411 Wing*' that I helped assemble. I liked a lot of its features so bought one (\$40) for myself. Had to wait (6) weeks for shipment, but now I have completed the assembly and installed it in the now-repaired *Skyhunter*. This board has a number of features I like:

1. The connectors for attaching external devices (*gps, camera, and receiver*) are standard servo-style pins which are sturdy and make reliable connections.
2. The board has its own filtered power supply and video on-screen display.



3. The software is the free 'INAV' product and loads into the board via a vertically-mounted mini USB connector. This is nice as often there isn't a lot of room for attaching a USB cable to a side-mounted USB once the board is installed in an aircraft.

The *Matek* board has a number of flight modes including waypoint missions (autonomous flight) and '*Return to Home*'.

On *Christmas Day* we went out to the field for another test of the *Skyhunter*. This one turned out good ('good' means '*no crash*') along a limited test of the autopilot. Still needs some minor tuning. So as not to bore you with the details (*see New Years' resolution #2*), if anyone has questions about this, feel free to email at:

tpetersrc@gmail.com.

Also, if you're interested, I posted a video of my *Skyhunter* plane using the *Matek F-411 Wing* flight controller. There are some minor issues you may notice. The compass setting is all messed up and the home setting is wrong. Things to fix... as always! One of the clips within this *YouTube* video was recorded in January 2015. So you will see farm equipment sitting alongside our runway when the last *ARDC* auction was held.

<https://youtu.be/tJKoSYzAGU>

Spent some time modifying the 15' wingspan *Sagitta* sailplane. The latest motor (*Turnigy Aerodrive SK3 5055*



outrunner, motor #3 so far) has yet to be fully tested. I moved the motor to the inside of the fuselage, along with an 80 amp ESC and 6s 4000 mAh lipo. The good news is that the outrunner case does not rub against the inside of the fuselage.

Completing the setup is a 14" folding prop and spinner. I am still leery of hand-launching this 9-pound glider. WRCF member **Jud Bock** is letting me '*borrow*' (*good luck getting it back, Jud!*) the trolley he has used for some of his models. I will make some adjustments to fit the glider to the trolley and try it out soon.



More stuff to talk about next month, unless the FAA (*Feds Against Airplanes*) read my harsh criticism from last month's *WRCF Tailspin* and hauls me off. Looking at the latest *Model Aviation* magazine, I see that more regs are in the works....stay tuned to see if I can put my personal spin on those....



< Dictionary **fix**

fix | fiks |
 verb [with obj.]

1 [with obj.] fasten (something) securely in a particular place or position: *fix the clamp on a rail | the upper jaw of an amphibian is firmly fixed to the skull.*

Submitted by Dave Kelly

PART 2



As hobbyists we fix our stuff. If you are like me, it is often "fly em and fix em". A constant in my endeavors. But as you can see, fix can be used as a noun.

"How did I get in such a fix"

I've been fighting a kidney disease all year, and had just come off of three months chemo drugs, steroids and-antibiotics before heading to *Andersonville, Georgia*. Just the day prior to leaving for *Andersonville*, in the late eve, I felt an occasional shortness of breath and mild edema in face, hands, and legs. Likewise during the event, those same symptoms would occasionally arise, and edema getting worse. I was a little worried when short of breath, but wrote it off as side effects of all the drugs.

After *Andersonville Renae* had planned on meeting me in *Ozark's* for a few days fun on my trip home, but cold weather and rain was the forecast. So I said I would get our camp ready for winter on my own, then head home. Once I arrived I only had enough energy to get something to eat and go to bed. The next morning I had no energy left. Finally around ten I forced myself to pack up a few things and closed up camp for the winter. I expressed my concerns to *Renae* and we agreed once I got home we would go to ER and have things checked out. She didn't want me to drive but I insisted.....



Well..... once home and to the ER, I was diagnosed to be in A-Fib and also had a racing heartbeat. First order was meds to slow my heart, and rest overnight. The next morning a battery of tests were performed. Several hours later, a cardio team came in to review test results. The medication to slow my heart was doing its job, but my heart was still in A Fib, and working at about 35-40 percent efficiency. It was decided to wait one more day to see if rest and medications would allow normal sinus rhythm of the heart to return. The delay also gave time for the blood thinner to act and minimize possible blood clot issues. I lost 16 lbs in less than 24 hours, due to IV diuretics. That's allot of water!!

On day three they decided to put me under, get a closer look at the heart to check for clots, then use shock paddles to restore the rhythm. They had not shocked prior because they did not want to cause a clot to leave the heart chambers if there was one or more present. I had never had issues in years past. My my my, life after 60 can change in a heartbeat!

One item the docs ordered was a sleep study. I have completed that and am waiting to hear what was learned. Now, add to everything else going on in my life, SHINGLES!! Four days after the shot to protect me from shingles I get them. Good grief. Just my luck. My doc says it's a very low number of people that have an outbreak afterward. I'm the first patient he has ever had to get them after the vaccine. Now some more horse pills has been added to my pill box, but they seem to be working.

As I write this, it's Thanksgiving Day. To say the least, I'm thankful for family and friends and to all those in the medical field that's helping me through this. I'll add to this article soon, as I get to see the cardiologist next week. Hopefully he will release me to return to my daily exercise. You know, walking out to shop and spending hours standing there and occasionally going way over to the other side of the work bench. I have a feeling my routine will need to change up a bit. Lol. More later!

Well, not the news I wished for. Sleep study shows very little apnea. But says I "wake often and don't sleep well." I told them that going in. No news there. Lol. Cardiologists diagnosed "*Acute Congestive Heart Failure*". I'll be busy with "*stuff*" next month or so. Definitely won't make much progress on B-26. My my my. How did I get in such a fix?

(At press time.....)

I have now completed two sleep studies. And..... I'm now using a PAP machine. I sleep better and longer. But still can nap most anytime of the day. Quality of rest has improved, and that's a plus for sure. That's the easy part. Just last week had the TEE and Cardio Version again. I'm not sure if the a-fib has returned or not. I've never been able to feel the difference. Next week I see a specialist in long term management for my situation. I think most of the visit will be regarding electrophysiology options. So.....

Cont. page 8

Fix Cont...

Otherwise, I have been able to spend time in my shop. Reviving a *Byron T-6* (pics included.) Once the holidays are behind me I'll get after more projects. I've even been rolling ideas in my head regarding the *B-26*. Stand-by for news!!!!

Take care everyone!



Western R/C
Flyers

2020 CLUB EVENTS CURRENTLY SCHEDULED

Western R/C Flyers AMA OMAHA NEBRASKA AMA 857

WWI and Golden Age Fun Fly

Saturday **May 16th 2020***
Mead Field
Landing Fee \$10 (includes lunch)

All Models this Era* Welcomed!




Lunch + 
Visitors/Guests \$5 for lunch.

*Inclusive WWI acft thru 1939 Civilian or Military

Contact: Nelson Carpenter J3flyah@gmail.com
AMA Required to Fly - Wide Open Space - Large Runway - Easy access Pits
*Rain Date: Sunday May 17th

Western R/C Flyers AMA OMAHA NEBRASKA AMA 857

~2020 EVENT~

32nd Annual Bud Hall

Large RC Airplane Fun Fly**

- Required Min. 80" Mono - 60" Multi-Wing - or true 1/4 Scale -
Mead Field* **Saturday Aug 22nd**
FLYER FEE \$10 Includes lunch & soda
Non-Flyer Lunch \$5 Rain date 23rd



AMA Required to Fly - Wide Open Space - Large Runway - Easy access Pits
* Located 3.7 miles S. of Mead from Sinclair station on Hwy 92. Watch for signs at field entrance. **Non-scale airplanes allowed.

Grand Island Modelers R/C Auction

Sunday, January 12th 2020

Registration 8am-11am
Auction starts at 11am
\$5.00 Buyer/Seller Fee
Food and Beverages will be available

Auction Rules:
Items sold in the order received
Minimum selling price may be established
Selling fees: 10% on Items sold



Aircraft-Kits-Radios-Engines & More!!
Tom Corwell, Auctioneer / cornwellauction.com

Where:
Grand Island NE - Fanner Park 4H Cafeteria
700 E. Stolley Park Rd. (South side of the Heartland Event Center)

CASH OR CHECK PAYMENT ONLY!

2020

HAPPY ★ NEW ★ YEAR

Western R/C Flyers



~ Western R/C Flyers 2020 Event Schedule ~

Schedule for club events to be set and posted within **Metro Area RC Flying** website calendar. Our dates will be provided to Keith who maintains that website.

http://www.metrorcflying.com/metro_schedule.htm



Western R/C Flyers Inc. Membership Application 2020

Please print clearly!

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Evening Phone: _____ Day Phone: _____

Email: _____

AMA Number: _____ Dues Paid: \$ _____

2020 Dues: \$35 (Renewals should be paid by **April 1**) New ___ Renewal ___ (Check One)

Sign Here: _____ Date _____

Membership application subject to approval. AMA membership is required.

Make Checks Payable to: Western R/C Flyers

Complete this form (new applicants only) and send with check to WRCF Treasurer:
Dean Copeland 15668 Fountain Hills Dr. Omaha, Nebraska 68118