

Springfield Radio Control Flying Club



AIRMAIL



www.springfieldrcclub.com

AMA CHARTER CLUB 394

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The Presidents Corner

It was inevitable to happen again: a serious injury at the field requiring a trip to the emergency room for stitches. This emphasizes something brought up at the last meeting: it is best not to fly alone. In this particular case, it is believed to be a lack of focus due to a recent illness, since this pilot is usually a model of caution and safety. If this pilot had been at the field by himself, he would have had a very difficult time trying to drive himself to the hospital. His only option would have been to call 911 and wait.

This stresses what we've said here before: any level of anxiety, stress, or illness reduces our ability to react and focus properly, especially the reaction time and mental focus necessary to operate model aircraft. Please, please, please, if you've had an argument with your significant

other, child, boss, coworker, or anything whatever causing anxiety or stress, didn't get enough sleep last night, or any other condition that renders you less than 100% able to focus, don't try to fly. To do so makes you a danger to yourself and all other pilots around.

In case some of you don't know were the nearest emergency room is, it is at Doctor's Hospital at National and I-44. Taking KK

west to H south, then a right at the Praise Assembly Church (stop light at E Valley Water Mill) leads directly to the hospital. It's about 9.5 miles.

If you didn't attend the August meeting, it is important to know the revised Constitution and Bylaws passed easily at that meeting. A copy can be found on the website.

Barry



Mark Copeland with the F-22

2007 Events

Sept 8-9
Oct 20
Dec 7

Pattern Contest*
Swap Meet
Christmas Party

*AMA Sanctioned Event

NEXT MEETING

SEPTEMBER 6TH

LIBRARY CENTER

4653 S CAMPBELL

**19th Annual Doc Wessels
Float Fly, August 11-12,
2007**

When Doc Wessels first proposed the August float fly everyone held their breath. Do planes really fly on floats? Ground yes, water, well questionable. The earliest passenger planes were water based and for the far north float and sky planes are the required combination. But here in Springfield?!

Well, it turned out to be a really neat event. Many companies supplied gifts for the raffle, and the club pitched in to sponsor the sanctioned event. Such has been the case for the past 19 years. Also note that the month August has been the month of choice. This year was no different. August, as for the past 19 years brought plenty of heat and calm winds. Lake Springfield provided a calm water runway, few obstacles, and sufficient space to fly many different planes, such as some that are pictured in this newsletter. One, in particular flown by Jim Lanzendorf, from Cedar Hill, Missouri, was a 1/3 scale Piper Cub on floats. He zoomed that baby on edge 30 ft from the take off point and the plane dared the trees to grab it. None did, unlike the Whoomping Willow tree at Hogwarts. Well the tree did grab one Taylorcraft by clutching onto the floats, dooming the plane.

Other planes that really flew well included a Grumman Albatross,

Piper Cub (1/5 scale), a foamy electric, a DeHaviland Beaver flown by Robert Stanton, a Sea Wind flown by Sparky Wessels, a SeaMaster flown by Justin Heath, Sea Dancer and Miss Grandon both flown by Bob Schwandt and several more. Darrell Watts flew a very neat Eindecker really well and a sporty 3D plane. Both planes performed flawlessly. There were 13 registrants including 4 club members, 3 from out of state, 1 from Shawnee, KS, 1 from St. Louis, and 1 from Springdale, AR. Robert Stanton from Gainesville, MO brought his grandson and a golf cart which came in really handy transporting persons and equipment from the parking area to the tents.

Early Saturday morning saw Justin, and the gang put up the big tents giving some much needed shade for a variety of

activities. Janelle Heath and Sparky Wessels started registering participants on Saturday morning. Mark Copeland, of our club provided a Gator, not the chomping kind, and long trailer for the critical Saturday when most of the participants came and needed help moving their tents, planes, and coolers. Robert Stanton from Gainesville, MO also provided a golf cart for transportation. Flying got started around 10, the temperature kept rising, and the cook, Jerry Kutz, whipped up hamburgers, hotdogs, and Janelle helped serve everyone. Mrs. Ruth Schwandt (Bob Schwandt) provided a delicious potato salad dish. Barry Harper and Justin Heath assisted in boat retrieval and plane launching and recovery. Ralph Todd and Bert Turner pitched in where needed. Bob Saddler helped Sparky in a variety of

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Doc Wessels Float Fly



Doc Wessels Float Fly



Storing Models

During these hot days of summer, many of us are not flying. Our models are just sitting. There are some things to be aware of in storing a model: 1) run all the fuel out of the engine and use some after run oil 2) cover the carburetor opening to keep dust out 3) do not store the model sitting on it's wheels; the wheels will develop flat spots and over a long period may split

4) make sure the control surfaces (including horizontal and vertical stabilizers) are not touching anything; over long periods of time, surfaces can shift alignment and/or warp. Most of us probably store models in a garage, however, a more controlled environment with minimum changes in temperature and humidity is best. Large swings in temperature and humidity can wrinkle covering and weaken glue joints.

There is another hazard to storing models in a garage. If the garage door is open for any length of time, rodents can invade. Recently, I found 14 small pecans stored in the wing of one of my models. Another model had the wheels gnawed almost to the hubs. Squirrels? Chipmunks? Field mice? Doesn't matter, the damage is done.

Berry



Doc Wessels Float Fly



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 tasks. The raffle provided a number of prizes, some contributed by Dave Sleeth of Sleeth Hobbies. Several club members came by to see the event including OD Fine and Bobby Vaught. Tim Hankins of our club had a plane but was not able to fly it. By late afternoon, everyone was ready for a break.

Sunday saw another scorcher, and some good flying, cooking, and more raffle time. To wrap things up, Nancy and Ron Schanda helped Jerry Kutz with the food and greatly assisted in the clean up. By this time the tent poles were almost hot and so tear down was with a few “@#\$\$” words. By 2:30 PM

everything was put away, the guests and participants had packed up and left and it was time for another shower and a cool one. The 19th Annual Doc Wessels Float Fly is now history.

Sparky appreciated everyone's help and special mention goes to Janelle and Justin Heath. There are others who should be mentioned, I'm sure. Submitted by Russ Rhodes



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