

Radio Signal Modelers Flying Club



December 2011 Newsletter

The November 2011 meeting was called to order at the Shiller Park Community Center, by President Les Schier at 6:30 p.m. on December 19th. The normally scheduled meeting for the second Monday of each month was delayed one week due to unavailability of our meeting place.

The minutes of the November meeting were read by Secretary Ted Noncek. One correction to the November newsletter was noted, that the Holiday Party had been decided to be a pizza party at Dinos without the need for additional decision by the club. As amended, the minutes of the November meeting were approved by the club. There were 26 members in attendance. At the start of the meeting President Les welcomed new member Kent Collier to the club.



Scott Bianchi watches as Mike Reinhart guides his Ultimate through its paces at the 7th Annual Chili Fun Fly. Don Zeller is in the background keeping a close eye on his Mustang.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Terry Gombert presented the Treasurer's report. The club began November 2011 with a cash balance of \$572 including \$241 in PayPal. During November the club collected dues of \$50 and paid out \$11 in field maintenance expenses, and expended \$24 on a net basis for the club's purchase of the additional hats reserved for new

members as agreed at the last meeting. As a result, the club's ending cash balance, including \$240 in PayPal, was \$572. The Treasurer's report was approved by the club.



The 2012 RSM Officers, from left Secretary Ted Noncek, Vice President Tim Gombert, President Les Schier and Treasurer Terry Gombert.

Committee Reports

Field Maintenance: Chairman Mike Reinhart presented the Field Maintenance Committee report. Mike indicated that there was not much to report this month, but that he had been to the field recently and noticed that where the Forest Preserve District had filled in gravel near the new plastic sign posts, water was being prevented from draining which was resulting in a big puddle at the entrance to the field.



Jamie Solis sets up for a perfect landing with his Corsair at the 7th Annual Chili Fun Fly.

As a result Mike asked that a club member volunteer to dig a small trench with a pick ax to relieve the water puddle. Anyone willing to help out should contact Mike.



Terry and Sally Gombert sport the latest cold weather gear braving the 28 degree morning at the Chili Fun Fly.

Field Safety Committee: The Safety Committee report was presented by Mike Reinhart. Mike reported that no safety issues had been brought to



Scott Bianchi carries his Corsair back from a flight with some help from Joe Stanko at the Chili Fun Fly.



Jamie Solis offers some moral support to Roger Mankowski with his new P-47. Roger's aircraft did not make its maiden at the Chili Fun Fly due to a problem with the wing hardware.

the club's attention given that the season was over except for the rugged winter fliers.



Don Zeller and Ted Noncek just before launching Ted's homebuilt electric camera platform wing for a video run over the field at the Chili Fun Fly.

Flight Training Committee: Chairman Don Zeller presented the Flight Training Committee report. Don discussed whether the club should again update the AMA Introductory Pilot program instructors for 2012. Ted Noncek noted that the application for this was made on behalf of the club, rather than individual members as they renew their AMA memberships. Ted volunteered to do the paperwork again for 2012 and would do it in the spring once the club gets a current list of members wishing to act as flight instructors in 2012.

Planning Committee: Chairman Tim Gombert presented the Planning Committee report. Tim discussed the sheet of topics for 2012 meetings started at last month's meeting, and noted that many members had volunteered to present a topic. Tim asked the volunteer presenters to select a month to present an RC topics including selecting an appropriate electric motor, rebuilding a crashed airframe and covering with Ultracote.



The two Tom's: Tom Jacobs and Tom Phelps keep warm at the Chili Fun Fly.

Report on Chili Fun Fly

Ted Noncek and Mike Reinhart reported on the 7th Annual Chili Fun Fly held on December 10th. This was the first time in seven years that the club did not have a snow covered flying field for the



Wojciech Rafcz, Mike Zawadzki and Peter Rafcz brave the cold at the Chili Fun Fly.



Wojciech and Peter Rafcz ready their new Stryker for another flight at the Chili Fun Fly.

event, so no one was able to use skies this year. The temperature topped out at 28 degrees, but the club was blessed with light to moderate winds and a bright sun. And we were all warmed from the great chili that so many members brought. Thanks to everyone who shared their special chili and braved the outdoors for this final 2011 fun fly event. Of course the field is open all year, so as soon as that snow does come, dress warm and get out there to test your skills taking off and landing on snow using your skies. It really is a challenge.



Mike Reinhart with some help from Scott Bianchi checks out the elevator on his Ultimate before its first flight at the Chili Fun Fly. Mike had to make a quick repair after an unfortunate mishap loading the Ultimate into his van.

Update on Forest Preserve Issues

President Les updated the club on his recent meeting with two high ranking members of the Forest Preserve District. Les met on November 22nd with the Forest Preserve General Superintendent Arnold Randall and Director of Planning and Development Chris Slattery. Les

went over the club's wish list of development items at the Shiller Woods Flying Field including:

- 400 x 50 foot paved runway
- Reduce tree line on Northeast landing approach area
- Replace or improve field signs

Les reported that he was very appreciative that they agreed to meet with him and gave him fifty minutes to discuss the club and its plans for improving the flying field. Les reported that they have even scheduled a follow up meeting at the field so that they can fully understand the issues.



Don Zeller runs up his Mustang at the Chili Fun Fly.

Les noted that the follow up meeting was to be on December 19th, but it was rescheduled until January. The club thanked Les for taking the effort to arrange this meeting that will hopefully help improve our flying field. Of course Les noted that with budget constraints facing Cook County and the Forest Preserve District, nothing is for sure.

But based on advice from another club in the District, it is a long process of proposing and re-proposing that eventually gets projects on the budget agenda.



Don Zeller's Mustang pulls out on take off at the Chili Fun Fly. Don had trouble adjusting the Mustang's engine to the cold and suffered a few dead stick landings.

Annual Free Membership Drawing

At the December meeting the club held its drawing to award a free membership to reward attendance and participation at club meetings. For each meeting attended, a member receives a ticket, and for each show and tell item or presentation, another ticket is awarded. The member is required to hold onto the tickets and must be present at the December meeting during the drawing. A ticket is drawn until a member can present the matching ticket. This year the lucky winner was called when the first ticket was drawn. Peter Rafcz, son of Wojciech Rafcz, was the lucky winner for a free 2012 club membership. Congratulations to Peter!



Oh the lonely walk after a dead stick! Don Zeller takes that walk after his Mustang quit due to the cold temperatures at the Chili Fun Fly.

It was noted that Peter is a family membership member, and that it was well understood that the annual drawing was for a full membership prize valued at \$50. As a result, the club voted to clarify the rules on the contest confirming that the prize was a full membership fee waiver. Consequently, the club awarded the full membership fee of Peter's father as the prize, requiring the family memberships to be additionally purchased.



The chili was good and help warmed everyone from the cold at the Chili Fun Fly. Former member Vince Montana (left) watches as Mike Reinhart adjusts his stove to heat another batch of that great chili.

Holiday Party

Sally Gombert discussed plans for the club Holiday Party on Saturday, January 21st at Dino's Pizza, 7004 West Higgins in Chicago. The club was offered a choice of an unlimited pizza dinner with soft drinks for approximately \$12 with gratuity, or to add beer and wine for \$21. A vote was taken and the club decided to go with the \$12 pizza with soft drinks option. Sally will send out an invite



The most important ingredient to a hot Chili Fun Fly--the warming tent pictured behind Jamie's Corsair.

nearer the event and will ask for RSVPs at that time. The club decided to discuss the budget for purchasing prizes for the event at the January meeting.

Election of 2012 Club Officers

The club held its election of officers in accordance with the club constitution at the December meeting. The slate of officer candidates for 2012 as nominated at the November meeting was as follows:

President	Les Schier
Vice President	Tim Gombert
	Mike Reinhart
Treasurer	Terry Gombert
Secretary	Ted Noncek

As the Vice President office was the only contested election for the year, a paper ballot was distributed and collected from the membership present for the election of Vice President. The results of the election was as follows:

Tim Gombert	15
Mike Reinhart	8

The club congratulated Tim Gombert on his election as Vice President for 2012. The club then thanked Mike Reinhart for his years of service as Vice President.



Mike Reinhart moves his special chili to heat up as Jamie waits to add his pot to the camp stove. Both Mike and Jamie brought great chili to sample. Jamie makes a special green chili with chicken served with tortilla chips and sour cream--a great change from the several traditional red chili recipes at the Chili Fun Fly.

RSM Logo Hat Order

Terry Gombert discussed the hat order. As a result of ordering 40 hats for members that had paid for the initial order, the club purchased a total of 8 extra hats to hit the next quantity discount level order point. As a result, the hat cost to the club was reduced to \$12.35 per hat. Members purchased the initial hat order for \$14 at last month's meeting, leaving a profit of \$1.65 per hat which was used to offset the club's purchase of the inventory of eight hats for future members. This resulted in the club only having to pay \$24 for the inventory of eight hats which the club decided at last month's meeting to be priced at \$17 to members wishing to purchase them.

Show and Tell

As expected, Terry Gombert was back to show off his completed 1960's-era Taurus model fully rebuilt and covered. Terry acquired the model from an estate sale that was selling off several older RC airplanes. The Taurus had silk and dope covering, which Terry replaced with Ultracote. Terry first showed the club at the October meeting the "before" state of the wing, with a large section missing from the leading edge. Next Terry showed up at the November meeting with the wing repaired and covered to perfection with four colors of Ultracote. Terry brought the fully re-covered and repaired fuselage to the December meeting.



Terry and his refurbished Taurus, and a copy of the ad for the Taurus: \$29.95, the 1962 Multi-R/C Champion!

Terry discussed how he had researched the expected weight of the aircraft and found someone



Here is where the club first saw Terry's Taurus project back at our October meeting. Terry had just stripped the wing exposing its big gash in the leading edge.

in Europe who had a Taurus that weighed in at 8 lbs, 13 oz. Terry expects his will weigh in just below 5.75 lbs with a .46 engine, which is under the expected flying weight of the model per its specifications. Terry discussed the brakes on the main gear that are attached to the elevator servo using a cable system. Great job Terry and thanks for letting us see the progress in steps. Let us all know when you are going to bring it out for its second maiden (since the 1960's!).



At the November meeting we saw the results of a month of work on the Taurus with the leading edge damage repaired and a four-color Ultracote covering applied.

Special thanks to Don Lamonica who provided several of the Chili Fun Fly photos in this month's newsletter. Please feel free to send photos to tnoncek@comcast.net that you would like to see in the newsletter.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 9th at 6:30 p.m. at the Shiller Park Community Center, 4501 N. 25th Avenue, Shiller Park.

By Ted Noncek, Secretary (tnoncek@comcast.net)