

**Radio Signal Modelers Flying Club**  
**May 2009 Newsletter**  
**May 4, 2009**



The May 2009 meeting was called to order by President Mike Meitus at the Strictly RC meeting place at 7 pm. Secretary Ted Noncek read the minutes of the April 2009 meeting which were approved by the club.

**Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Terry Gombert and approved by the club. The club began the month with \$2,667 which included \$1,025 in the mower fund. After taking in cash for the fuel purchase, dues and auction proceeds totaling \$1,054, and after making expenditures totaling \$71 for fuel and auction items, the club's ending cash balance totaled \$3,647 including \$1,025 in the mower fund.

**Field Maintenance Issues**

**Field Rolling:** President Mike indicated that like last year, once it is determined that the field is dry enough for rolling, the date would be set and members available for helping would be called. Last year the rolling took place on a weekday and members that were available pitched in to drive the roller. It is anticipated that the roller will cost approximately \$400 to rent. Mike will contact members sometime during May when the day seems right.

**Flight Stands:** The club discussed the flight stands and the need for George to use treated wood. For the stands that he has already cut out, the club approved that George buy water sealer to treat the wood. For new stands not yet cut out, the club approved George to purchase wolmanized lumber for the project. The club will reimburse George for the cost of the sealer and the wood. The club discussed that most of the benches at the field are in good shape but the ones that are in severe disrepair will be scrapped when the new benches arrive. We expect to have about four new benches.

**Saturday Work Party:** Work parties have been set for **Saturday, May 9th at 7am** for putting up the new flight station fencing and other general maintenance items, and for **Saturday May 16th at 8am** for spreading fertilizer. Please bring any tools and yard implements to help with the work. Members who help will be allowed to fly before the field is opened for 1 hour.

**Field Safety Issues**

No reports on field safety.

**Mower Replacement**

The club discussed the mower replacement. The club currently has \$1,025 in the mower fund and is intending to use other club money to purchase the appropriate mower. Member Les Shier and VP Mike Reinhart have checked Consumer Reports and have shopped for mowers and found a Craftsman model recommended by Consumer Reports. The tractor is approximately \$2,000 and would be a good upgrade from the class of machine we currently have because the mower does not depend on fan belts and therefore would be less prone to the problems we have had with the existing mower and fan belts. The problem with this mower however, is that it is 4 inches too long in the engine cowl to fit into the shed.

After discussion regarding the feasibility of altering the shed to accommodate this mower, the club decided that Terry Gombert would examine the shed to determine whether a hole could be cut into the north wall and a small extension made in order to fit this tractor. If a plan to extend the shed is feasible, then the club will move ahead with the purchase of this tractor and the sale of the current machine, or decide on another alternative mower.

In order to ensure that the club is exhausting all alternative tractors in our search, Member Vince Montana has agreed to serve on the search committee and will come to the next meeting with his findings on other brands of tractors.

### **Mower Donations**

**All members are asked to step up and make a donation to the mower fund.** Currently we have \$1,025 and expect to be cutting it pretty close with the purchase. After paying for rolling of the field, the treasury will be depleted pending the sale of the existing tractor. Please send your donations to Terry, give them to one of the other officers, or use the convenient Pay Pal link to donate at the club web site.

Also, all members are asked to solicit your fellow fliers at Shiller for a donation. Everyone who uses the field will benefit from this new machine to keep our field in shape. Please donate what you can.

### **Father's Day Fun Fly Set—June 20<sup>th</sup>**

The club has set as its first fun fly date of Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, the day before Father's Day. It is expected that we will have our usual trainer Olympics competition and plenty of prizes and food. Please mark your calendar for this event and practice your trainer flying tricks.

### **May Program – Introduction to Gas Engines**

President Mike put on a very informative talk on getting into gasoline engines. Mike covered a wide range of information on the subject. Specifically, he covered the differences between electronic ignition and magneto engines, throttle management with gas versus glow, the safety factors that need to be considered, and setting up the prop for proper flipping. Mike also covered using a prop jig to drill holes in the propeller and how the placement of the prop will depend on how you flip the prop. Mike indicated that at the July meeting he would cover how to start a gas engine. Anyone interested in getting into gas engines is welcome to ask Mike for help in setting up and getting started. Great presentation Mike.

### **Next Meeting—Monday, June 1st 6:30pm at Flying Field**

The next meeting will take place at the Shiller Woods Flying Field and will begin at 6:30pm (instead of the usual time). We start early to give more time to flying. Please bring a plane to the meeting to get in some flights.

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