

Radio Signal Modelers Flying Club
December 2006 Newsletter
December 5, 2006



The December 2006 meeting was called to order by President Mike Meitus at the Elmwood Park Fieldhouse. Approximately 14 members were in attendance. The minutes of the November meeting were presented by Secretary Ted Noncek, and were approved by the club as read.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Terry Gombert presented the Treasurer's report for October 2006. The club cash balance started the month at \$606.96. The club did not have any outflows of cash during the month, but received one membership dues payments totaling \$35.00, leaving a ending balance of \$641.96. The Treasurer's report was approved by the club as presented.

Club Hats and Shirts Purchase In – Pick Up at Strictly RC

The club hat and shirt order is in, but could not make it to the club meeting for distribution. However, we have arranged with Jim of Strictly RC to use his store as a pick up point. Starting on Thursday December 7th, after 2pm the hats and shirts can be picked up at Strictly RC. Please come to pick them up within the next two weeks. We will continue to check with Jim as to whether any of the items are not picked up, and will keep them available until the club member can pick up at a future date. The hats and shirts turned out very nice, and appear to be of a good quality. The logo was very professionally transferred to the hats. Special thanks go out to Ron Rothstein who found the vendor this project, and acted as go-between for the club. And to Strictly RC for helping out the club in distributing the items. But of course, we need to give a big thanks to Vince Montana who through his gracious donation underwrote the set up charges and a little more allowing us to lower the price of the hats by \$5.

If you did not participate in this order, don't worry. The club plans on waiting until spring and opening up a new order period.

Field Maintenance

President Mike presented the field maintenance report. As reported at last meeting, Joe Kaskey has offered to ship and store the mower at his business garage for the winter and perform annual maintenance work. Mike and Joe intend to move the mower this weekend.

Currently the flying field parking lot has been left unplowed and locked by the Forest Preserve District. Mike has contacted the Forest Preserve office and requested that the lot be plowed in time for this weekend's Chili Fun Fly (see below). Last year the same request was made, but not fulfilled in time for the event. In the event that the same occurs this year, we still plan on having the event. Participants may pull up along the gate, unload, and then move the car across the street to the parking area which is maintained throughout the season. Let's keep our fingers crossed that the District office comes through this time.

Chili Fun Fly Event Planned December 10th

Sunday, December 10th, this weekend is the date of our second annual RSM Chili Fun Fly event, starting at noon. Regardless of the weather (if it snows, gear up with skies!), we plan on holding the event and getting in some rugged early winter flying. Participants are asked to make some

Chili, that will be combined and heated at the field into a single pot. Last year's event was a lot of fun, and we even managed to get the photos of the event in the AMA magazine. Please plan on keeping a plane ready for this event. Dress warm and bring a pot of Chili (or just show up, there was way more Chili last year than we could eat!). If you can't find skies (last year they sold out pretty fast in local shops once it snowed), try bringing a hand launch model which still works well. Although, as of Wednesday, this reporter saw that Strictly RC and Al's still had a good supply of skies on hand—no excuses! Come out find out how much better lift your craft has in the cold weather! See you all on Sunday.

Election of Officers

Every year the club is required by its bylaws to select and elect its slate of officers for the coming year. December is the official month to vote, but since we had not fully prepared, we talked about it at the meeting and plan on voting next time to affirm the 2007 officers. President Mike offered to stay on as president, but honestly would step aside if any other members would be willing to take on this role. The club greatly appreciates the work Mike had done on behalf of the club and its members, and accepts Mike's willingness to serve and looks forward to another year with Mike. That being said, if any member is willing to step up to this important leadership role, please make any of the club officers aware of your desire and the club will vote on this next meeting.

Since our Vice-President Pedro Nieves has been taking a break from his long career in model RC aircraft, the club needs to select a new VP candidate for 2007. President Mike suggested that one of our newest members has shown, in a very short time, a great willingness to contribute his talents to the club. Mike nominated for VP Mike Reinhart, who has single handedly managed to move the RSM web site to a new site, and created a very professional web site with many new features to further the work of the club in promoting our club. Mike has also showed up to assist in the club's field maintenance weekends, and is generally a very great addition to our club. The nomination was seconded by the club membership, and we will affirm this addition to the officer slate for 2007 at the January meeting.

Finally, the club's current Treasurer, Terry Gombert, and current Secretary, Ted Noncek, have agreed to remain in those rolls for 2007. These two posts will additionally be affirmed by club member vote in the January meeting.

Christmas Party

The club affirmed its decision of holding a Christmas party in the third week in January. While the restaurant has not been contacted yet, our planning date is Saturday, January 20th with cocktails at 6pm and dinner at 7pm. In addition to cashing in our annual club rebate of 3% of member purchases at Al's, we hope to get additional donations of prizes from other area hobby stores including Strictly RC and Venture Hobbies. Mike will follow up with these others. Keep the date open.

New Hobby Store Opened

Speaking of other hobby shops, the club received a flyer from a new hobby shop in Tinley Park, Mike's Hobby Shop on Oakpark Ave. The flyer indicated that they were into RC aircraft and willing to sell aircraft on consignment for 10%. Sort of far out of our territory for most of our members, but for those who get to Tinley Park something to check out.

Big Dome Flying Event

Several of the club's members participated in last weekend's indoor flying event at the Bensenville golf dome. President Mike showed the club a video that was taken on the night of

combat flying and lights-out flying. It looked like a lot of fun, and several members regularly attend the Friday and Saturday open flying at the dome each week throughout the winter season. Most of us who attend have really noticed the improved outdoor skills acquired from the continued practice throughout the off-season that the dome affords us. With a little sleep planning in advance, the 11pm to 1am hours are not too bad. Get together a foamy and give it a try—it is addictive and some of the most enjoyable flying you can imagine. The nightly fee is \$10 per flyer.

Show and Tell

Continuing from Mike's presentation last month of the \$10 foam plane based on a Hobby Lobby design, Mike brought two sets of already cut out planes to give to his dome flying buddies—Terry and Ted. Thanks Mike for this fine new plane to try out at the dome. Mike explained that the foam was a coated Depron foam made by the Elmer's glue company called Elmer Board. The board is 5mm thick and is sold in 20x30 inch sheets. Some members thought it was available at Walmart, but probably is found in any large stationary/office supply store. Mike has graciously offered to cut out the pieces and supply the instructions to any club member who brings to him the board needed.

Don Rauch again showed off his continuing model-building skills with his new 40-size Long Easy ARF by Nitro Models. The Long Easy is a Burt Rutan design plane that is a design sporting a canard in the front section. Mike pointed out that this design was the same plane that singer John Denver crashed several years ago, due to a mistake he made in failing to properly open a reserve fuel tank knob located above and behind the pilots head. Don has fitted his new craft with an OS 46LA engine, and is still in the process of adding all the radio components to finish the plane for its maiden flight in the spring. Nice plane Don. Keep on building!

Please try to bring your winter project into the next meeting to show off. With all this snow so early, we know those projects are out there. We love to see planes or part of them in any stage in the building process. Keep those projects coming in!

Next Meeting To Be at Held Elmwood Park Fieldhouse – Monday January 8th

The January meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 8th at 7pm at the Elmwood Park Fieldhouse location. Note that this is the second Monday of the month due to the New Years holiday falling on the first Monday. Please be sure to bring something for show and tell.

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