

# Washington R/C Flyers Newsletter March 2011

[www.washingtonrcflyers.com](http://www.washingtonrcflyers.com)



President	Paul Cobb
Vice President	Marshall Logue
Sec./Treasurer	Harold Hoskins
Newsletter Editor	John Bremenkamp
Safety & Rules Committee	Mark Reeves
Maint. & Grounds Committee	John Bremenkamp
Events Committee	Marshall Logue
Social & Education Committee	Kayton Heavrin
Site Committee	Paul Cobb

## Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be in the evening of March 8<sup>th</sup> at the Washington Park District on Spruce street. A brief show and tell kicks off at 6:30 and the meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.

**Reminder! Club dues are due no later than March 15. Please bring your check to the meeting or mail it to Harold Hoskins at 717 Santa Fe Trail, Metamora, IL 61548. It is important that we get everything in by that date so that we can file our roster list with the AMA. A late charge of \$25 is applied for delaying.**

## FEBRUARY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Marshall. The January minutes were read from it's newsletter. There were two first time visitors, Jerry Jarboe and his son Kevin. The Secretary /

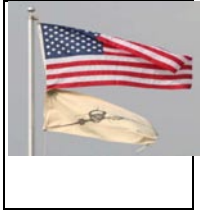
Treasurer, Harold Hoskins, took roll with eighteen members present. He reported that twenty members have paid their dues to date. There is \$1756 in the checking account and \$600 in savings. The mower fund has \$3450.

Marshall stated that the indoor flying has been a great success at the Washington Park District. The safety officer, Mark Reeves reminded everyone about battery upkeep and the knowledge needed for using Li-Po type batteries. He also commented on the fact that many of our planes have their flight battery packs installed rather deeply within the airframe, often out of sight and inaccessible. Consequently, with multiple airplanes to manage, a hobbyist can loose track of what aircraft has what batteries or types: NiCad, NMhid, Li-Po, etc. and what rating is involved. He suggested keeping a notebook registry of each airplane and its contents.

Marshall mentioned the upcoming construction of six pilot station barriers in March or April. Harold Hoskins volunteered his pole barn site for construction.

Wally Walwer met with Ken McGowan's widow about his RC inventory and informed her as to their true value.

Under New Business, because of a February 3<sup>rd</sup> gigantic snow storm, a snow clearing event was scheduled for a high drift near the entrance gate to allow especially the EveryMonthFlyer participants to have a chance to get their flying time in. With a decent number of members having a lot of dollars invested in indoor flying airplanes, helicopters, and 2.4 Gig transmitters, and not to mention the fun and enjoyment that is beyond description, it will be a year long activity for all four seasons at the Washington Park District. In this regard, club officers talked to park district administrators about availability.



# Washington R/C Flyers Newsletter March 2011

[www.washingtonrcflyers.com](http://www.washingtonrcflyers.com)



Many organizations have advanced reservations for evenings well into the Spring. We will have a hard time trying to get into an evening time slot for the next few months, but can readdress this scheduling later.

## BEHIND THE SCENES

I hear the banquet was a success and congratulations to the award winners and special thanks to Marshall for filling in during my absence. I understand that the facilities and food were a good match for our club. Steve Grob sent me a picture of our snow covered field—looks like it will be a while before there are any flights there, unless it really warms up.

One thing that is not obvious to membership is the “work behind the scenes” that club officers are involved in. This is not visible to most members, but it is critical to the club’s ongoing success. One area that we tend to gloss over as members is what it takes to make sure the club meets all its legal requirements. Special thanks to Steve Grob for researching these issues during his tenure as president. Maintaining our corporate and nonprofit status protects the club officers from liability suits and insures that the club is properly registered with the IRS and the state of Illinois. Although we were incorporated in 2001, we just happen to find that we forgot to file the appropriate

paper work in 2009 and our corporate registration was withdrawn. Steve spent many hours to get this straightened out and to make sure we are again properly registered and the appropriate tax forms are filed on time. We have worked together to develop a check list for current and future officers to make sure these legal issues are addressed in a timely manner. Even though we are nonprofit we must still file tax reports with the federal and state governments.

February brings the Desert Storm Jet Fly-in to Phoenix. Speedworldrcf.com sponsors this event and it is one of the largest Jet events in the US. It opens for three days and pilots will frequently fly 10-15 times each day. The average cost of these models runs \$20-\$30 thousand dollars with some models much higher. After seeing the 200 mph planes in low passes over the field, and some really high passes, the noon time demo is a change in pace with a national champion flying a slow, low hover over the runway in a big Yak gasser. Jets are interesting, but the big, slow gassers are still very impressive and show off a pilot’s true understanding of flight control. Pictures in next news letter.

Be sure to pay your dues by March 15<sup>th</sup> and also make sure you are up to date with AMA registration. You can also send the \$110 dues check to Harold

Hoskins at 717 Santa Fe Trail, Metamora, IL 61548.

The plane pictured in the news letter supplement last month was the large r/c model x-48B. Steve Grob and Jim Degenhart named the plane. The next one will be tougher to guess.

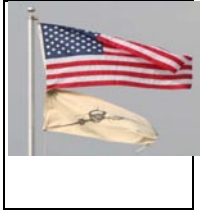
See you all in April,

**Paul Cobb**

## INDOOR FLYING

Indoor flying at Lostant continues but not as frequently as before. We, (a few delegates from our club) have established a rapport with the Hobby Shop in Leonore as well as some of the Decatur RC club members. We would not want to diminish this by ceasing our contact all together since we now can fly indoors here in Washington. It takes a little more effort now to organize a trip as well as the increase in travel expenses, but the three, four, or five of us that were going on a regular basis will keep the energy up for this. After all, we have been talking about expanding our affiliation with other clubs for this upcoming year not only to include the adjacent clubs in the area but even Streator, Bloomington, and even the Galesburg area.

We cannot keep our joy and enthusiasm contained over the gifted indoor site that the Washington Park District has rented to us



# Washington R/C Flyers Newsletter March 2011

[www.washingtonrcflyers.com](http://www.washingtonrcflyers.com)



for half price. Our only regret is that the facilities are so heavily used by the community at large, especially in the evenings and afternoons, that we are left with the leftovers, which is to be sandwiched between child events in the mornings. We arrive a few minutes early only to wait for the gym to be vacated and then more often than not we get started late. Then there are others scheduled immediately after our time expires. But we do get two and a half hours each time. Once there and flying commences, it could not be better. We have started periods of flying just slow flying airplanes such as the VAPOR and EMBER, then the helicopters, then the larger 3D. With co-axial helicopters so reasonably priced and being so stable in flight, they have become very popular for us (and everywhere if you keep up with the RC news across the land). Even the fixed pitch choices are easily flown by anyone having started with the co-axial first. Almost all of us have a helicopter along with our airplanes to enjoy.

## CANCELED TRIP

With our interest in having a great open house this year, maybe combining it with a swap event, where individuals would be responsible for their own

tables under their own tents, Howard, the chairman, was looking to conducting it according to standard protocol. In this vein, he plans to visit some area swap meets, and invites anyone interested to come along. The annual FOX VALLEY meet in St. Charles was going to be his destination last weekend but it did not materialize

## CO-PRESIDENT COMMENTS

Well I see by the clock on the wall that tomorrow is March 1st already.

Seems like a lot of history is made every month and March is no exception. For example, will you be part of the AMA, and WRCF this year? If you have not decided please be aware of our March 15<sup>th</sup> cutoff date to avoid a \$25 additional administrative charge to dues. The club secretary must send a report to the AMA that includes a membership roster. WILL YOU BE ON IT?

We have the so-called Google membership roster working on the club site where we have shaded in orange those who according to our records have not re-upped yet. And you might want to go there and see your status.

WRCF has already made history with their indoor flying program so far this year, and I am sure there is more fun

ahead.....join us!

**Marshall**

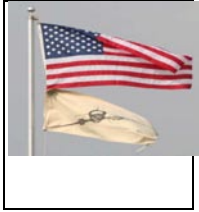
## Every Month Flyer

The EveryMonthFlyer program gave 6 awards last year to those who couldn't go a single month without being at their field. But this is yet another year and new history to be made. Now, speaking to those already qualified, glancing at the calendar, a new month, March, is here. If you endured the two hardest and coldest months of January and February (actually February was not quite so bad except for all the snow that limited access) you have them behind you, and now the most unpredictable month of the year is here to overcome. March can be a real challenge. Marshall is usually on duty if there is a calm day Saturday or Sunday during the weekends, but for March, don't count on it. But you never know.

## IN THE FIELD by Paul Cobb

*Neither rain, snow, cold or flood will keep this member from flying.*

*Steve sent me this picture of the field as he was conducting his February fly time to qualify for the all season flyers award. It was a nice day-52deg, light winds and cloudy. The pictures show a little more challenging environment than the weather report.*



# Washington R/C Flyers Newsletter March 2011

[www.washingtonrcflyers.com](http://www.washingtonrcflyers.com)



He had to cross two "rivers" and snow drifts to get to the shelter. Makes me feel good that I am in Arizona right now. Now that we are including indoor flying as a club event covered by AMA insurance, one might hope that indoor flying activity might qualify for the year round flying award in future years, but then, only real pilots fly outdoors. I think Steve got a little cold on this adventure. Only two more months till good flying weather arrives. Glad to see the facilities are still standing.



All this is still very far away (maybe two years) but the word is out that the FAA new regulations could affect the freedoms we currently have in RC flyers. No one knows what the new regulations are yet, since the FAA is still developing them and keeping them confidential.

But if you are interested this early in the process:

Go to [modelaircraft.org/gov](http://modelaircraft.org/gov) as soon as you can. There you'll find:

- Background on what FAA intends to impose on aeromodeling.
- Understand the difference between commercial and recreational sUAS.
- What you can do to help.
- Resources to help you contact your Representatives and Senators in Congress.
- How to contact AMA's Advocacy Team.

## INDOOR FLYING GUIDE

It's easy... But beware of your abilities up front. Buy a HORIZON slow and light flyer that has a wing span of less than 17 inches, something like an EMBER or VAPOR as seen below. These come as BNF (Spectrum 2.4 Gig technology but without a transmitter - use your own JR or Spectrum) They also are available as PNP with a small transmitter included. These are not compatible with Futaba 2.4 technology as sold by Hobbico.



Another HORIZON product is a small PNP (has a transmitter included) such as a T-28 or 4-Site, seen next column. These have ailerons and fly much faster and might be too

fast in small gym for your flying style.



Tower has Futaba PNP but not BNF (which is exclusive to JR and Spectrum). Small foamies from Tower come with or require you to have miniature Futaba 2.4 receivers.

## OTHER CLUB'S ACTIVITIES

  
**17th ANNUAL RC-SWAP MEET**  
**Micro-Electric FunFly**  
 Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Church  
 510 East First St. Ankeny, Ia.  
**SATURDAY March 19, 2011 9AM - Noon**  
 Electric FunFly after Swap Meet Noon - ???  
**Food Available On Site**  
**\$7 FOR A 4' ROUND TABLE (Admission included)**  
**\$3 DOLLARS ADMISSION 12 AND OVER**  
**\$6 ADMISSION FOR A FAMILY**  
**TABLE RENTERS ENTER FREE**  
 Mail Table Reservations To: Jim Lewis  
 1479 NW 71st PL.  
 Ankeny Ia. 50023  
 For information, contact Jim @ (515) 314-7904  
 or @ (515) 289-1144  
 or @ clone2tb@mchsi.com  
**DIRECTIONS:**  
 GO TO ANKENY, IA. ON I-35, TURN OFF AT EXIT 96, GO EAST ON FIRST STREET. THE CHURCH IS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE STREET.  
**NOTES: Setup starts at 8am. Sales start at 9am.**  
**Electric flying is for micro planes and helis. Site is a church gym.**