

STARS REGULAR MEETING of February 13th, 2013

The meeting began at 7:03pm with the pledge of allegiance by all in attendance.

In Attendance:

Gary Baker, Randy Bittinger, Jamie Bowen, Bob Bush, Dale Butts, Brad Davis, Dick Fisher, Gary Fitch, Clark Follett, Ramona Follett, Fred Fowler, Jim Goodemote, Walt Hibbard, Kip Karn, Pat Kennedy, Jim Keough, Tad Manske, Bill Messer, Tom Orcutt, Dick Say, and Jay Wade; twenty-one in total.

Minutes:

The minutes were read by Tad M, and approved by those present and voting after motion of Jim K. and second of Jamie B.

Treasurer's Report:

President Clark F. read Don Wehlage's report, including individual checks written, the two deposits made, and checking, savings and tractor fund balances. Following motion by Brad D. and second of Gary F., the report was accepted by vote.

Membership:

Ed Flicker was under the weather, so not in attendance tonight. After Clark F. brought up the annual re-reinstatement of honorary members, all three were approved by vote, following Clark's request that someone make a motion to have the Secretary cast one ballot, for all three - motion and second of Jim G. and Randy b. respectively.

Web Site:

Bob said that pictures of Gary's new Stearman, being built by Jim G., were not yet on the website, but would be soon.

Flight Instruction:

Walt H. said "we need some new students! "

Rally Information:

Randy B. has received his certification as a Contest Director. Jim G. said he is currently waiting for some paperwork from AMA. Fred F. said that like last year, he will handle the major mowing again. Jim K. announced that we have received a \$750 grant from the Cattaraugus County Department of Planning and Development, Tourist Bureau. It is to be used for advertising purposes, and must be used outside of Cattaraugus County.

Vice President's Corner:

Dick S. had nothing special to bring up.

President's Corner:

Clark reminded everyone that we still need a treasurer and a newsletter editor. He noted that the club charter application has been sent in.

The board decided that the best way to handle the fuel costs for field maintenance, (after Don had consulted with our bank) was to purchase a pre-paid bank card and then replace it when used up.

After discussion at the January planning meeting, the board is recommending to the club that we save at least 75 to 80% of the Jim Messer bequest. The main reasons for this was to make sure our future is secured. Having this in the bank as insurance against an extra small Rally profit (or heaven forbid - a loss) may someday save the club. Some discussion ensued. Gary F. felt that ALL the money should be saved. Both Randy B. and Dick S. agreed with him and there was a general consensus that this was the best plan. Randy noted that what currently holds this club together is the Rally - it's a reason to all work together, and to give something back to a club that supplies our flying field needs. Gary F. brought up the fact that "active clubs are growing, dormant clubs are the ones losing membership". Once again, there was a general feeling among those in attendance that he was exactly right.

Dick Fisher asked about the flying site grant that had been mentioned, and Gary F. explained it to his satisfaction.

Don has told Clark that the Gold Leader Club application has been sent in. Gary F. remarked about now few Gold Leader Clubs there actually are, and that we should strive to keep that special status.

Old Business:

Clark reminded all to please get their dinner money in by the 20th of February- and don't forget to specify your entrée choices.

New Business:

Randy B. wants to know if anyone is going to Toledo this year. Please contact him if you are planning to.

Jim K. gave a presentation on his idea for a Flying Field Improvement Project. This three-fold project would include (a) a 20' x 24' addition to the present building, (b) a Geotextile Runway addition for electric flyers, and (c) a concrete floor for the existing building. If we were able to get an AMA Site Improvement

grant, and about a thousand dollars from member donations, the remaining cost to the club would be about \$7000. Jim concluded his presentation by giving his "rationale" for the project, and saying he'll bring the project up again at the March meeting. He will be getting additional info out to all members before then, and if you have any question in the meantime, feel free to give him a call.

In regard to Jim's presentation, Gary F. asked about the effect it would have on our taxes. Dick S. would like to have the info on how much the last addition to the building cost us. Both Gary and Dick thanked Jim for his obvious effort this far, and agreed fully with him that we definitely need both a concrete floor in the existing structure; as well as a general "clean-out", the building of additional shelf space, and a better floor plan for storing what we have.

Show and Tell:

Jamie B. passed around a beautiful Valentine's Day gift box he had made with the new laser cutting system that he talked about at the January meeting. He noted that he'd already made and sold quite a few. Everyone agreed that they were exquisite.

STAR's Stuff:

Tom did some business with his STAR's stuff tonight.

Don Wehlage was not present tonight as his mother recently passed away. A sympathy card was passed around, and all were asked to sign it.

Meetings:

The next regular STAR's meeting will be here at the JCC Olean campus at 7:00pm on Wednesday, March 13th.

The next planning meeting of the board will be held at Dick Say's house at 7:00pm on Monday, February 25th. Clark reminded everyone that all members are invited to attend board meetings.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Jim G., seconded by Gary F., and passed by those in attendance at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tad P. Manske, Secretary