

## **STARS REGULAR MEETING OF June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**The meeting began at 7:31PM with the pledge of allegiance by all in attendance.**

**In Attendance:** Randy Bittinger, Dennis Den Bleyker, Jamie Bowen, Bob Bush, Dick Fisher, Gary Fitch, Ed Flicker, Clark Follett, Ramona Follett, Jim Goodemote, Walt Hibbard, Gene Hickey, Kip Karn, Jim Keough, Tad Manske, Bill Messer, Dave Pratt, Dick Say, and Don Wehlage; nineteen in total.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, taken by Dick S., were read by Tad M. After motion and second of Gary F. and Jamie B. respectively, the minutes were accepted by vote. Tad thanked Dick for filling in for him at the May meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Don W. presented us totals for the checking, saving and tractor accounts, and listed the checks he'd written during the month; Ed F. for pilot barrier supplies, Fred F. for flight preparation tables supplies, National Grid for electricity, and Ramona F. for both cleaning and painting supplies. He also made two deposits, one of the AMA field improvement Grant monies, and the other, Gary F.'s donation towards the Geotex project.

**Membership:** Ed F. had nothing to report, although when asked how Fred Fowler is doing, Ed was happy to say that he's doing very well. It'll be a while before he can do all he's done before, but he's progressing nicely, and faster than first thought. The entire membership was happy to get that report, and wishes Fred the best in his recovery. By the way Fred, we love the preparation stand you've made!

**Web site:** Bob B. has posted a picture of Dewey Baron's latest project on the website. He'd appreciate as many more pictures as he can get, from any and all members.

**Flight Instruction:** Walt H. said the trainer is ready and waiting for action. President Clark said he had a couple of prospective members who might be using it shortly.

**The 2013 Rally:** Randy B. noted that the meeting he'd called for department heads on the 19<sup>th</sup> went well, and that everything seemed well in hand.

A discussion ensued, mainly between Clark F. and Randy B. about the procurement of new wire for the Rally. It was decided to go with 200 feet of 12-3 SO cord.

The radio to be raffled has been obtained, and after some discussion, it was decided to also raffle a donated vapor.

Randy asked Jim K. how he was doing on promotion. Jim said all is in readiness, and he will e-mail Randy a copy of the new graphic design he'll be using this year for advertisement.

Randy also asked Don W. if he'd checked the radios to determine their condition. Don said they all seemed fine. When questioned about how they worked with the headsets however, he said that hadn't been done. Randy explained the problem with the connector spacing and Don volunteered to handle the acquisition of appropriate washers to fill the need.

A discussion ensued on our fire extinguishers and their condition. It was decided to have them discharged and recharged before the rally. Clark said he'll make sure it gets done.

Lastly, Randy thanked everyone involved for all they'd done thus far, and looks forward to a successful Rally.

**The President's Corner:** We still need more volunteers to man the Walmart Hot Dog Stand on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please contact Clark if you can assist. We plan to be there from 10AM until 5PM, and... more hands make light work.

**Vice President's Comments:** Dick reiterated Randy's comments about the "thank you's". Everything we do in this club is a team effort- and anyone who helps in any way- deserves a big and heartfelt "thank you"! President Clark joined right in and, this evening, especially singled out Kip K. for the rails for steps at the track, Gary F. for his monetary donation, Ed F. for the pilot barriers, and Dick S. for the wood for the track platform deck.

#### **Old Business:**

**The Geotex Runway project:** Clark announced we'd received a quote for two rolls of the product. Each roll is 15' by 300' and weighs 320 lbs. The members seemed quite happy with the quote and directed Clark to initiate the purchase. Clark will contact them tomorrow and pay for it with a credit card.

No decision has been made yet on the staples to be used, but it will be solidified by the end of the Rally. No work on the project will be attempted until this year's rally is history.

Don W. gave a report on his findings concerning a weed killer to be used prior to the installation of the Geotex. After mentioning costs on several different industrial grade products, he recommended we purchase a particular non-discriminatory one from Tractor Supply. A short discussion ensued, after which a motion to have Don purchase

the product was made by Ramona F., seconded by Gary F. and passed by the membership present.

**The Barn Floor project:** Jim K. reported that he and Gene H. have started work on project plans. They will need help when the time comes to remove everything in the barn to prepare for pouring the floor. They plan to do one half of it at a time. Their plan will have the garage door close completely, having it come all the way down to a graded ramp.

Jim reminded everyone involved to keep copies of any and all receipts, as a report must be made every six months to the AMA on how we are spending their grant. Gary F. reminded all that no matter what the AMA has given us, the amount we keep can only be equal to ten percent of the total project cost.

**The RC Track project:** Dave P. said track work is progressing. He will need help pulling nails out of donated wood, and when it comes time to move ties and put everything together. He also mentioned one area that needs some straightening out and repositioning. Kip K. was asked if he could use his tractor to do it. When Kip said he could, Dave thanked him in advance. Bill Messer asked about the particulars of just how much of the pipe he wants to donate will be needed, and the dimensions thereof. Clark F. said he will get that info put together and sent to him shortly.

Speaking of projects, kip K. reminded everyone that our fence is looking pretty shabby. It took him much effort to sand and paint it last time, and it needs to be done again before it gets any worse. Jim K. says he can sand blast it, and that should help the effort considerably.

President Clark gave a special thank you to all who have worked on this track project, especially Kip K. and Randy B., and to all who have donated to the project.

**Flight Preparation Table project:** Ed F. brought up the fact that Fred F. would like to continue and complete this project, but we'll have to bear with him... it'll take time. Clark said to thank Fred, and tell him we certainly do want his expertise in doing the table- we want the rest of them to look as good as the first.

**New Business:**

**STARS Shirts:** Gary's wife Diane currently has orders for four STARS shirts. If she could order more at one time, she could undoubtedly get them at less cost. If anyone would like to order at this time, send Gary F. an e-mail. He needs your name, size, color, and what you want embroidered on the shirt. Please get this info to him very soon- Diane wants to get started as soon as possible.

**State Police Patrolling:** A discussion was held on changing or adding to our signage, so as to enable the State Police to keep an eye on our property. Nothing was decided, but this definitely needs looking into, the sooner the better.

**Adjournment:** Dave Pratt made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Bill Messer, and passed by those present at 8:43PM.

**The next regular meeting will be held at the field on July 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM. The next planning meeting will be held at the field on June 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM**

Respectfully submitted,

Tad P. Manske, Secretary