

STARS REGULAR MEETING of October 9th, 2013

The meeting began at 7:01PM in room 124 of the JCC Olean Student Center, with the pledge of allegiance by all in attendance.

In Attendance: Randy Bittinger, Dale Butts, Brad Davis, Ed Flicker, Clark Follett, Ramona Follett, Fred Fowler, Walter Jackson, Jim Keough, Tad Manske, Bill Messer, Tom Orcutt, Dick Say and Don Wehlage; for a total of fourteen.

Minutes: The minutes of the September 11th meeting were read by Tad. After motion of Ramona and second of Brad, they were approved without change by vote of those present.

Treasurer's Report: Don presented the current figures for the checking, savings and tractor accounts, and also listed his checks and deposits for the month. Checks were written to Fred for gas, one for school taxes, and one to National Grid. Deposits made were from the collection of dues and sale of ice cream. Don's report was accepted by vote after motion and second of Bill and Dale respectively.

Nominations for 2014 Officers: Brad began by "renominating" the present staff of officers... Clark for President, Dick as Vice President, Don as Treasurer, Tad as Secretary, and Dewey as Safety Officer. Both Don and Ramona nominated Jim K. for treasurer. Jim said he'd think about it if Don took over the Publicity Director's job from him. They both decided to think about it until the November meeting. Don also nominated Dale as Safety Officer. Dale said he'd rather not, but he would think about it until the next meeting. Clark reiterated that nominations will remain open right up until the time of voting; so if you come up with a great idea or two- hold that thought until November!

Membership: Ed said there are no changes to our membership listing for this month. Our newest members, Allen and Mike have paid their dues, and have been seen at the field this past month.

Website: Although Bob wasn't here tonight, Dick said he had posted many new pictures, including ones of all the new additions at the field- the pilot stations, tables, concrete floors and Geotex installation.

Flight Instruction: Walt was not at the meeting this evening.

The President's Corner: Clark began by reading the certified letter sent to Dennis Den Bleyker which asked him to attend the planning meeting of September 30th. Dennis did not show up at the meeting. The recommendation of the Planning Board is to let Dennis' membership run out in December and not renew it. A short discussion followed. All who spoke agreed with the recommendation. No one who spoke disagreed. The recommendation will be carried out. Dale suggested we might want to send a letter of apology to Chris Brown for the way he was treated by Dennis during the incident that led to this whole affair. The President said we'll keep this under advisement.

Clark next read a letter from the Pines in Machias. He then described the visit he and Dick made there during their "family Activity Day". According to this latest letter, the Pines would like to see us come back during next year's Family Activity Day. They are going to try to make the day an annual event, it went over so well. Everyone seemed to agree that this would be very worthwhile putting on next year's calendar, with more members helping. Tad asked if there was some way we could get some "positive publicity" out of it.

Clark next noted that many people have already flown off of the new Geotex runway. Gary is one of those who seems to be really enjoying it.

Although it is not yet drum-tight, that will probably not occur until we get some very warm sunny days next spring.

The next item was the Winter Party. After the success of last year's "winter party" in the spring, all those in attendance seemed to agree we should leave it in the spring. Ramona will talk to Moonwink's (which everyone wants to go back to), and try to secure a Saturday date as late in March as possible. She'll also get menu suggestions for both a sit down dinner, and a buffet; and bring those to the November meeting. Speaking of the Spring Party... our President wants to revive the awards we used to give at said party; the Bonehead Award, the Golden Propeller, and possibly add some others. For the benefit of some of the newer members, Dick explained the Bonehead Award and its recent history. Bill and others reminisced about receiving it, and said it actually was something they look back on fondly. Winding down the discussion, many present felt a revival of awards would be a good idea.

Finishing up the President's Corner, Clark said he had the letter from Cuba-Rushford Central School concerning our winter flying at the elementary school gym. This winter's season will run from 1:00PM to 4:00PM, every Sunday from November 3rd through March 30th. Ramona brought up the idea that the least we could do for the school was to give them a subscription to *Model Aviation*. Practically no discussion followed her motion to that effect, Randy's second, and a positive vote. Tad suggested that the magazine be sent to the Middle School/High School, as the K through 5 kids in the elementary school probably wouldn't enjoy or appreciate it as much. Don will see that the subscription gets sent.

Old Business: Dick gave a report on the Geotex installation project. The northwest corner needs a little work, and shrinking isn't finished

yet, but otherwise everything seems to be done (other than rolling up the excess material in the garage so that it can be more easily stored). Dick profusely thanked everyone who had played any part in the project. A total of fifteen people showed up for the actual installation that Sunday morning. He also noted that between the new pilot stations, tables, concrete floors, track work and Geotex installation (and let's not forget a successful Scale Rally and Open House)- this club has accomplished a great deal in 2013. He said he was so proud of everyone's efforts, it reminded him of the camaraderie of the "ol days" that many love to refer back to. A spontaneous round of applause by everyone, for everyone, followed Dick's heartfelt comments. Randy reminded us not to forget the older members who made all of this possible by scrimping, working and saving to buy us this beautiful piece of real estate called the STARS' Field.

Ramona gave an update on the track work. The piping contributed by Bill is now on site. She said she hoped to get the posts and rails of the railing up before winter hit, and, probably in the spring, also build a work table at the back of the platform for use by the track RCers.

A few members brought up the hobby shop in the Olean Mall, leading a discussion which ended up saying in effect, "if we support it, it'll support us". The owner is now stocking some aircraft, and has expressed his willingness to stock what we'd like.

New Business: Randy announced that this coming week he'll get out the letter requesting we be allowed to use the Olean Airport for next year's rally.

Fred then brought up three items he wanted to explain and explore. Firstly, he'd like permission to put in a second charging table on the opposite end of where the first one is. He said the first one gets plenty of business, and he'd be happy to put together a second. The

consensus was to do it; so a motion of Ramona, seconded by Dale was passed telling him in effect to go ahead!

Secondly, Fred would like to see the club purchase hearing protection for the mowers at the field. He felt two sets of a headgear type would do it. A motion of Don to that effect, seconded by Clark, was easily passed by those voting.

Thirdly, Fred would like permission to clear out an eyesore of old, termite-filled wood on the north side of the garage, and also some more piled up behind it. He knows of someone who will come in and do the job for nothing. Noting that the feeling in the room was with him, President Clark told Fred to go ahead with the project.

Ed brought up the fact that there is also lots of scrap metal behind the garage. That should be cleared out as well. Much if not all of it might be sold for a few bucks. After Jim K. said he'd help, Ed was told to go ahead and do it.

As an appropriate ending to tonight's meeting, Vice President Dick led a round of applause for all of the evening's volunteers.

Show and Tell: Bill showed a series of solid glass globes that his grandson had made for him. Each was colored yet transparent, had a design on the bottom half, and inside was a lasered etching of an airplane- a different plane inside each globe. Beautiful in craftsmanship, eye-opening technologically- they were enthusiastically passed around and viewed.

STARS Stuff: Tom was "in the house" with his stuff tonight.

Adjournment: Jim Keough made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Randy Bittinger and passed without dissension at 8:18PM.

The next regular meeting will be held across the hall from room 124 in the JCC Olean Student Center large meeting room at 7:00PM on November 13th.

The next planning meeting will be held at Clark and Ramona's home on October 28th at 7:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tad P. Manske, Secretary