

## **STARS REGULAR MEETING OF December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**The meeting began at 7:00PM in Room 124 of the JCC Olean Student Center, with the pledge of Allegiance by all in attendance.**

**In Attendance:** Dewey Barron, Randy Bittinger, Brad Davis, Dick Fisher, Clark Follett, Ramona Follett, Fred Fowler, Jim Keough, Steve Kockler, Tad Manske, Tom Orcutt, Dick Say and Don Wehlage; thirteen in total.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the November 13th meeting were read by Tad. After motion of Randy and second of Fred, 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 deposit for the month. Checks were written to Randy for Rally costs- including increased insurance, to Dale for gasoline, and to National Grid. Don made a deposit of dues payments. His report was accepted by vote after motion and second of Ramona and Tom respectively.

**Membership:** Ed Flicker is at home with Gerrie tonight. She's doing well after a bout with congestive heart failure; consequently- no report. Dick said Ed would probably appreciate a note from the club and members.

**Website:** Bob was not present tonight either.

**Flight Instruction:** The same can be said for Walt.

**The President's Corner:** Clark is preparing a letter to AMA, explaining what we have done thus far with their grant money. He'll get up-to-date figures from Don. This will cover the first six months of our projects. A final report to AMA is due after twelve months.

Our AMA membership listing with paid dues is pretty much up to date except for our three student members. They can be AMA members for free until they turn nineteen. Clark will be sending e-mails to all three, informing them of that fact. One exception is member Grant LaFrance- his AMA number does not

register with the AMA or their listing. Dale or Tad will check with him and try to sort out the problem.

Clark brought up the matter of "free flights". How many should we allow? Past practice has been to allow three at the field (this would go for cars as well) and three in the winter at the gym. After some discussion, all present seemed to be in agreement that the present policy was fine. Clark added that in all cases, persons involved MUST have a current AMA card!

President Follett has received a thank you card from the Olean Food Pantry. They were very appreciative of the food we gave them when we cleaned out the freezer at the field.

**The Vice President's Corner:** Dick brought up a matter the board had discussed at the last planning meeting- the possibility of an Olean Mall Static Presentation. We've done this in the past, and Dick feels it should be done again, if possible. He will check into the matter and report on it at the next meeting. This way we can have a discussion at January's meeting, and decide if we want to proceed or not. Several suggestions were made on what we could do, and how we could do it.

As regards the matter of public relations, several ideas concerning "charity giving" were brought up. Charity giving usually results in free publicity. The topic will be brought up again, possibly at the January meeting.

Other public relations thoughts centered around possibly having a second open house at the field- this one strictly for "community members". It would be in addition to the one we currently have. Some felt it might be worthwhile to tie it in with either the Dairy or Garlic Festival held in Cuba. We'll talk more about this as well in the spring.

**Old Business:** In regards to our Spring Dinner, Ramona talked about the possible menu choices. To begin with, we have a choice as to whether we want a sit-down served dinner or a buffet style. If we choose the buffet style, it would consist of baked sliced ham, sliced roast beef "au jus", stuffed chicken breast, scampi haddock, butter and parsley red potatoes, scalloped potatoes,

and a vegetable- served with house salad, rolls and butter, dessert and coffee. Should we prefer the sit-down dinner- all dinners would include a house salad, rolls and butter, potato, vegetable, dessert and coffee. Our entree choices would be roast prime rib of beef, shrimp scampi, chicken cordon bleu, and possibly (if we were allowed four choices) a Mediterranean pasta, which includes Kalamata olives, fresh spinach, feta cheese and fresh garlic in olive oil over angel hair pasta. She reminded everyone to please come to the January meeting prepared to make a decision.

Next followed some discussion on possible concrete and/or gravel projects at the field. These will be brought up again as spring gets nearer.

Following up on a subject Gary had brought up at a previous meeting, it was noted that there are not many places in District II that have the facilities to hold a district-wide fun fly. We are blessed with the Olean/Cattaraugus County Airport venue. Would we be interested in holding it again, and possibly-, even more often? Some discussion ensued. Randy brought up the fact that when we last had it, as flight line supervisor, he was able to ascertain that we had our "usual fifty" pilots, and four to six additional "sport flyers". A show-of-hands' vote proved to be a unanimous "yes!"

Fred spoke about the deplorable benches in the pavilion that are actually quite a safety hazard. He estimates that to make sturdier and slightly higher benches that those we now suffer with would cost between forty and fifty dollars apiece. These benches, which would be eight feet in length, would be built by himself and Steve. Some discussion ensued. Fred reiterated that they would be willing to build a prototype if the club desires it. After a motion by Randy, second of Don- the club voted to take them up on their generous offer.

Fred brought up two other subjects. He's love to get rid of our oldest tables as well, they are "well past their prime". He also may have a friend who would be willing to help us with some 'dozer work. He'll check into that and report back.

Some discussion was had on spraying benches and tables (if we make them) with urethane. Those present seemed in general agreement with the idea.

**New Business:** Please, if you haven't, see Don and get your dues paid up!

**Show and Tell:** Nothing this evening.

**STARS Stuff:** Tom is "in the house" tonight. See him if interested.

**The next regular meeting will be held in Room 124 at the student center, JCC Olean, at 7:00PM on January 8<sup>th</sup>.**

**The next planning meeting will be held on January 27<sup>th</sup>, (December's last Monday being New Year's Eve!) at a location to be named later.**

**Adjournment:** Dewey Barron made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Brad David and passed without dissent at 8:14PM

Respectfully submitted,

*Tad P. Manske, Secretary*