

## STARS REGULAR MEETING of June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**The meeting began at 7:31PM at the club field in Cuba, with the Pledge of Allegiance by all in attendance.**

**In Attendance:** Gary Baker, Randy Bittinger, Dale Butts, Dick Fisher, Gary Fitch, Ed Flicker, Clark Follett, Dan Haines, Walt Hibbard, Rob Jackson, Thomas Jackson, Jim Keough, Tad Manske, Tom Orcutt, Dave Pratt, Dick Say and Don Wehlage; for a total of seventeen.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting were read by Tad. Two corrections were made. First of all, in the section entitled *The 2014 Rally*, Mike Burke is doing the hanging banner design work as well as its construction; Jim Goodemote is not involved. Secondly, in *Old Business* under the Hinsdale Lung Cancer Benefit, Ed did not suggest that we sell STARS caps at that function- they can be sold only to STARS members. As corrected, the minutes were approved by vote, following a motion and second of Randy and Walt respectively.

**Treasurer's Report:** Don reported having written checks to Fred Fowler, Ed Flicker, Steve Kochler, Dick Say, and himself over the past month. He also announced the current figures relating to the checking, savings and tractor accounts. Don's report was accepted after motion of Gary, second of Tom O., and vote of those present.

**Membership:** Ed had nothing new to report.

**Web Site:** Clark thanked Bob in absentia for his continuing efforts on the web site. Bob said he'd like more input from the members to put on the site. Pictures, for instance, are always welcome. It was noted that someone had sent Bob photos of past members and events to add, and they can currently be seen on the website.

**Instruction:** Walt currently has the names and phone numbers of two people who are interested in learning to fly. Also, Rob Jackson will be signing up tonight.

**The Presidents' Corner:** Clark began by discussing National Model Aviation Day, which AMA has posted for August 16<sup>th</sup>. After Gary contacted Clark, the decision was made during the board meeting to offer up our open house on August 23<sup>rd</sup> as our official day of participation. It was suggested at the board meeting to look

towards a donation to a local charity (possibly the veteran's programs at Bath VA) but it was left open- we might want to support the Wounded Warrior Project, as national headquarters is doing. Clark has gone ahead and registered us and our event with the AMA.

After discussing safety issues at the May planning meeting, Don made a Dale approved diagram of the flight line, and this was sent out to all e-mail accessible club members. The flight line flags at either end of the runway will be put up in the near future. To be fastened to a base sunk in the ground, on a flexible pole, they should cause no problems for flyers, but rather assist those flying to always be aware of the flight line location.

Next our president made the presentation of this year's Golden Prop Award, in the form of a plaque, to a very worthy recipient- Jim Keough. Clark noted all the extra effort put forth and projects Jim has worked on, headed, and/or accomplished alone during the past twelve months. Jim was, for once, at a lack for words. A hearty round of applause followed the presentation.

Congratulations Jim!

Clark next thanked everyone who had a part in May's very successful work party day. He said lots was accomplished, and Dick's picnic which followed perfectly capped a terrific day.

Both Clark and Dick talked about last year's attendance at the Grand Parents' Day festivities at the Pines in Machias; and announced that we've been invited to share in this year's effort on September 7<sup>th</sup>. This is quite a big and busy day of activities for all family members, we are but one of many things going on. Both he and Dick are planning on going, and "more would be better". If you have some interest, let either of them know.

**The Vice President's Corner:** Dick said that the May picnic was very successful. He thanked everyone who took part and helped. This month's picnic will be Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, starting about 5:00PM. As with the first one... if you can bring a dish to pass- great! If you can't, please bring chips or condiments.

Dick is also planning our first "night out", which will be held in July. He'll let everyone know when he's picked a date. Asking those present whether they'd prefer a Friday or a Saturday night- Saturday received the most votes. He said

he's looking at Moonwinks as the possible location, but that's not set in stone either. It's a good opportunity to get out with your significant other, enjoy some good food, and the camaraderie of your fellow model enthusiasts.

**The 2014 Rally:** Randy began by talking about mowing. Those who have handled it in the past will do so again this year. Hopefully we'll get support from the airport crew. As usual, we'll need the retired guys to get the job done, as the work is done during the day. Several members volunteered a sweeper, an automated rake, or other implements that could cut down immensely on our raking duties.

Randy wants new signage this year. He's thinking of a plethora of signs- "cover the area with them!" He said, "If we don't have publicity for the event... we won't have profit either!" He explained that he's designed an 18" x 24" sign that can be made of corrugated plastic. Not only is it quite weatherproof, but it also can be used year after year by simply changing the date. Everyone seemed quite enthusiastic about the idea. Randy said he could get twenty-five of them for a reasonable fee, or fifty for only 20% more cost.. It seemed unanimous- those present said "go for the fifty!" Randy ended his sign talk with- "I want to use these over each year, so don't let them get stolen or otherwise lost".

He also felt that, even if we don't have pilot prizes this year, we should do more with our raffles. At one point it was suggested that maybe a radio raffle is not the way to go. Spectators would have no interest in that. On the other hand, a ready-to-fly airplane would definitely have more appeal to them. After some discussion, it was more or less decided to go for two RTFs; a drone and a Cub. Thomas J. will look into getting them for us.

Gary brought up the new computer system AMA is currently in the midst of installing. We would be able to contact everyone who flew at last year's rally, as well as other prospective pilots by e-mail... with an ad campaign for the rally itself. This idea was also met with enthusiasm, although, looking at the calendar... it was decided to wait for next year to implement it.

In regard to the banner we'll erect in Olean, Ed said that Fred Fowler received a sizable donation from the Chamber of Commerce for the project. We lucked out this year in that the city DPW okayed it- even at this late date. Next year we should get our request in much earlier. It will probably be costly to hang it this

year, as Mike Burke will do it. The DPW's bucket truck is currently too busy with electric work to put it up for us.

Randy asked us to talk up the Bruce Kline Stearman rides that will be available during the rally. They are \$80 apiece for about a twenty minute ride, and are, of course, dependent on the weather.

**Old Business:** President Clark announced that the May 17th Hinsdale American Legion fund raiser for the Lung Cancer Society was very successful, especially later on in the afternoon. There was plenty of club help in the earlier hours, but it tailed off later in the day. Clark thanked everyone who took part. He especially thanked Randy for the great job he did in designing and building the club display he brought to the event. Tad mentioned that he'd won a beautiful Waterford crystal bowl at the Chinese auction held during the day at the Legion.

Clark next talked of the driveway project, giving us the quoted costs of our bidders for the project. They were Mark Kelner, Giardini, Ungerman, and Duggan and Duggan. Some of the bids were for using crushed white stone, others offered crushed #1 limestone. Following some discussion, and looking at the need to get the project done sooner rather than later, the club passed by vote a motion of Dale, seconded by Gary, to authorize payment up to a certain monetary limit for the project.

Dale said we now have our three new fire general purpose extinguishers. He is currently working on an electric fire extinguisher. He reiterated that all-electric airplanes should only have their batteries connected at flight assembly stations, or forward of that.

Clark brought up the "underground problem" we currently have with our buried electrical lines. He explained what needed to be done. He plans to run a 240V 30 Amp service. He'll us a 1" buried conduit, having a four circuit breaker box on the end. He also plans to run an extra line for future use. The ditch the line will be set in will be deeper than the current run, and will be cushioned with sand both above and below the conduit. Dan suggested that yellow tape be put in the ditch as a safety measure. Clark then gave us the cost of materials he had calculated. With this information and a motion and second of Walt and Jim K. respectively, he was directed by vote to expend the necessary funds.

With this project and others in mind, it was decided to have a work party before the picnic on the 21<sup>st</sup>, beginning around 9:00AM. As with the last one, bring your own tools.

**New Business:** A prospective new member was introduced and presented for membership. Following a motion of Gary and second of Walt, Rob Jackson was approved as our newest member. A round of applause accompanied Clark's welcome, and Ed gave him a new member folder.

Jim K. and Ramona will be sandblasting and painting the club chairs on the 18<sup>th</sup>, a week from today. Other help is always welcome.

**Show and Tell:** There was none.

**STARS Stuff:** Tom O. is in the house tonight- see him after the meeting.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Gary Fitch and seconded by Tom Orcutt. The motion was passed by vote at 9:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Tad P. Manske*, Secretary