

STARS REGULAR MEETING of September 10th, 2014

The meeting began at 7:30PM at the Club field in Cuba, with the Pledge of Allegiance by all in attendance.

In Attendance: Gary Baker, Dale Butts, Jamie Bowen, Gary Fitch, Ed Flicker, Clark Follett, Fred Fowler, Dan Haines, Tad Manske, Tom Orcutt, Dave Pratt, Dick Say, and a guest- Frank Leute; thirteen in total.

Minutes: The minutes of the August meeting were read by Tad. Ed pointed out that as regards a major point in the section entitled "2014 Rally Wrap-Up", "when they sign the application, it reminds them that they have to work at the Rally and Open House." The minutes were then passed by vote without change or addendum, after motion and second of Gary B. and Dale.

Treasurer's Report: As Don was not at the meeting, this report was given by President Follett. During the past month, checks were written to Clark, Dale, Dewey, Randy, National Grid, Bradford Publishers, Ramona, Don and Ed. One transfer was made, and the open house collection was deposited. Gary F. asked if the figure for advertising was over a thousand dollars. Discussion and explanation followed. Much of it centered on the fifty signs made (which can be reused every year by simply changing the date), and the Union Street Banner, which is also a one-time charge, (other than changing the date on it every year). The Treasurer's report was also passed by vote, after motion of Dave, and second of Jamie.

Membership: We had an application for membership. Frank Leute of Olean, a retiree, gave us some background on himself. Even though he'd had bad luck years ago in control line flying, he's always wanted to get into RC- and decided this should be the time. He is an AMA member. Upon motion and second of Gary B. and Dave, his application for membership was approved by vote of those present and he was welcomed to the club. As we're past the half-way point of the calendar year, his dues will be half the normal, and he was given both a STARS cap and blue new member's folder by our membership chairman, Ed.

Web Site: Bob still needs Rally pictures for our web site, and Dan noted that he's donated some video for that purpose. Also, we still need pictures from the recent Open House as well.

Instruction: Walt is currently training several new flyers. Both Gary F. and Dale brought up the idea of letting everyone know, by e-mail, when a newly proficient flyer had soloed; and also suggested the newly soloed pilots be presented with both a certificate to that effect and an AMA pilot patch. These ideas were put into the form of a motion by Tad, seconded by Jamie, and passed by vote.

The President's Corner: Walt, Dave, Dick, Clark and Ramona went to Grandparent's Day at The Pines in Machias and had a good time. They provided a display of planes and did a presentation for the attendees. Some of the visitors showed some interest, maybe we've "struck a chord"?

Speaking of interest, Dan asked if we've approached schools about our hobby. Gary F. explained that the only way to successfully approach schools today is by going through science and/or shop teachers, and even that is becoming more difficult. Schools are not as "approachable" as they were in our time.

The Vice President's Corner: Since he was not able to speak with his normal connection this year, Dick was unable to get the Community Room as the J.C.C. Student Center for second Wednesdays this coming indoor season. However, after dealing with a new contact, he was able to get the third Wednesday for the period of October through April. Thanks Dick, for "toughing it out".

Our V.P. also announced that the final picnic of the year will be held on September 20th, and we'll plan on eating at 3:00PM. Please bring a dish to pass, or chips, cookies, condiments- whatever you can. Dick will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers for all.

Dick announced that he's going to make a "Founders' Plaque" over the winter. When Bob Dunn passed away, it really affected him. He wants to assure that the gentlemen who began this club are not forgotten. He plans to affix it to a wall of the shed. He was given a round of applause by those present.

Old Business: Clark announced that we actually made some money on the Open House. Gary F. asked if we had donated some of it to the Wounded Warrior Project. Dick said we should do that another year (or donate to another cause), but this year we're keeping the money, as we finished in the red at the Rally.

After very little discussion, it was decided that we'll postpone putting concrete under the pilot's shed. Since we made no money at the 2014 Rally, all seemed to

agree that this made sense. Speaking of projects, Clark said we still plan to get a second load of gravel for the driveway (and money has been budgeted for that), but we will not need to get a third load (thereby saving some money). Half of that second load will be put down at the north end of the driveway, the other half at the south end. Lastly, on project underway... Clark said about half of the chairs have been painted, the rest will have to wait until good weather returns again in the spring.

New Business: Ed says the tractor requires a major repair. He has acquired an estimate of \$1000 to fix the clutch. Ed feels there is no way it will last another season. Ed and Fred will look further into the situation and report at the October meeting.

Gary F. gave us an excellent rundown on what's happening vis-à-vis the FAA and its new interpretive rule. He encouraged everyone to do to the AMA website, read about it... and then send an e-mail supporting one or more of our positions as they affect you. He said that the AMA has hired a lawyer and filed a lawsuit against the FAA; but as of this point in time, Gary can offer no timetable as to when we may see some action, hopefully positive.

Gary also mentioned that the NEAT Fair is this coming weekend. If you're interested in going... get ahold of him soon.

Dan said he'd like to get a STARS shirt. He is willing to query, by e-mail, other members who may like a shirt. If you're among them, please reply to Dan before the October meeting. The more shirts ordered, the lower will be the price per shirt.

As regards Matt Kloss' idea of having an auction, since others in the area have stopped having them, Matt has agreed to chair the event. Gary F. said that a flea market prior to the auction is always a good idea. He'd be willing to be the auctioneer of record if we have one. Dale suggested that Matt develop a plan for such an auction and bring it before the club before the end of the year. We can't have one this year- it's too late. Gary F. suggested we have it at the Rally, or at the Open house. Next year would be the first one - he agreed we can't have one this year. Gary F. also said that to bring people in, we'll need door prizes. Someone else mentioned that food availability would also enhance an auction.

Discussion pretty much ended at the point; it's up to Matt to proceed to the next point in the process.

Dale said he'd heard some concern about the safety of turbine jets at the open house. Let him know what you've heard, and we could bring up the topic again in the future, if necessary.

Show and Tell: Nothing this evening.

Star's Stuff: Tom is in the house this evening, see him after the meeting.

Our next planning meeting will be at Clark and Ramona's house, September 29th at 7:00PM.

**Our next regular meeting will be at J.C.C. on October 15th at 7:00PM.
Remember, that's the THIRD Wednesday of the month.**

Adjournment: Gary Baker made a motion to Adjourn. It was seconded by Jamie Bowen and passed without discussion at 8:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jad P. Manske, Secretary

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