

STARS REGULAR MEETING of October 15th, 2014

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, Dale Butts, Brad Davis, Ed Flicker, Clark Follett, Ramona Follett, Fred Fowler, Dan Haines, Jim Keough, Tad Manske, Dave Pratt, Dick Say and Don Wehlage; for a total of fourteen.

Minutes: The minutes of the September 10th meeting were read by Tad. They were accepted by vote without change or addenda following a motion and second of Dave and Fred respectively.

Treasurer's Report: Don reported the balances in our checking, savings and tractor accounts; and then listed checks written over the past month to National Grid, Ungermann, and to Cuba-Rushford Central School for taxes. He also deposited money from dues and the Rally, and made a transfer from savings to checking. The Treasurer's report was passed after a motion of Ramona, and a second of Brad.

Nomination of Board Members: President Follett announced that three board members three-year terms would be up January 1st. They are Ramona Follett, Brad Davis, and Walt Hibbard. He then asked for nominations from the floor. Nominated were Ramona Follett, Brad Davis, and Fred Fowler. Clark then tabled the nomination procedure, saying it would remain open until the November meeting and a vote taken then.

Membership: Ed reported nothing new. He was asked if the appropriate information on Frank Leute had been entered into the membership chart. Don gave him the information necessary, and Ed said he'll update the chart and then send the updated list to all via e-mail.

Website: Clark asked again about any pictures going to Bob for posting. Dick said he's put pictures on a disk and will give it to Bob tomorrow. Dan doesn't know the status of the video pictures he gave to the Jacksons. Dick will ask Bob tomorrow as to whether he's received them.

Instruction: Walt was not in attendance this evening, but Jim K. said Dave Conklin has gotten to the point where he deserves his certificate and an AMA Pilot Patch. He also noted several others who have been making good progress in their training.

The President's Corner: Clark read a letter we've received from the staff at the Pines in Machias "thanking us for our participation". They plan on making this Parents'/Grandparents' Day" an annual event, and invited us back for next year. The 2015 event will be held the second Sunday in September.

Clark has not heard back from Cuba-Rushford Central School about our use of the gym this winter season. It's been two weeks since he inquired. If he doesn't receive the paperwork needed by the end of this week, he'd query them again. He doesn't expect any problem though, noting that last year the whole process was as slow as molasses in January as well.

The President asked the members if they've been writing down "fun facts" on crashes or other events they've witnessed this year. That info will be turned into fun and good humor at this coming season's banquet, so... "If you haven't, please do so!"

The Vice President's Corner: Dick said our last picnic, in September, was a success. Twenty some people enjoyed good food and each other's company.

Likewise, our first "night out" of the cold-weather season was also successful. Although not everyone who had signed up was able to meet at *Randy's Up the River* (due to a medical emergency), a total of twenty had contacted him to be put on the list!

November's night out will be at L'Italia on Main street in Wellsville. Dick hasn't fixed a date yet, but he'll send out an e-mail when that's decided.

Old Business: Clark announced that the driveway project has been completed. He especially thanked Jim K. for back-dragging it. We used a total of two loads rather than three, but even then, the cost came in not much over half of what had been set aside for the project.

Regarding a STARS shirt order... Dan has heard from a total of six people, with the number of shirts requested being over a dozen. He will get the ordering

information to Gary F. and then wait for Diane to get back to him. Clark thanked Dan for spearheading this effort.

Ed and Fred will get the necessary info on tractor repair costs in the next day or two. A discussion of getting it “done and back” ensued. Dewey brought up the fact that last time, the tractor had sat outside for months over the winter- not a good thing. It was suggested we “call every week” until the shop says “bring it over”- that would assuage Dewey’s concerns. Randy is going to check into a repair facility he knows of. To end the discussion, Ed said “I will take care of it”.

Matt wasn’t here tonight, but as regards the idea of an auction for next year... Randy said that Matt doesn’t think it will work. The costs of renting some sort of hall is way too expensive. There followed some discussion, including the idea of having it at the field. No decisions were made however.

New Business: At the September planning meeting, the idea of raising dues ten dollars was discussed. After hearing about the number of members who don’t pay dues, and Don’s explanation of costs versus income, all seemed to agree that something has to be done. Many felt that although we’d leave current life members’ status intact, no new life members should be created in the future. Alternative ways of raising funds were brought up and discussed, but none seemed to provide a good solid answer. One of the longer discussions concerned what to charge for parking (and *how* to charge for parking). No decisions were reached, but President Follett said this is something we should try to solve or resolve by the end of the year.

Show and Tell: Fred gave an interesting talk and demonstration on the use of a laser beam level in model building. There were few questions to be answered, as Fred gave a very complete summary of how he used the instrument, citing many examples. He was thanked by President Clark for his presentation.

STARS’ Stuff: Tom was not in the house tonight.

Our next planning meeting will be at Don’s home on October 27th at 7:00PM.

The next regular meeting will be here at JCC at 7:00PM on November 19th, remember... the *third* Wednesday.

Adjournment: Dan Haines made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Dale Butts and passed without discussion at 8:26PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tad P. Manske, secretary