

THE FLIGHT LINE

By David Raff – President

Let me start by taking this moment to wish everyone and their families a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year!

Let's throw a little prosperity in there too - just for good measure!

When I started in this position 12 months ago I had shared with you a few of the goals that I had set for both myself and the club which included:

Making the club meetings more about the hobby

Make the field a little more inviting to visitors

Hosting more events at our field

Let's see how we did.....

We had gotten off to a good start with the first one beginning with Gary Snyder's new EPP foam Corsair. This baby had electric retracts & lights but what really Wowed us all at the end of the presentation was when Gary flipped a switch on his transmitter and the wings folded up!

There were a few other members that shared their new or favorite aircraft and or building / covering tips over the next few months but we unfortunately have drifted away from this part of the meeting. Look for it to return in 2013 - volunteers anyone?

If we didn't hit a home run with the second one it was a solid triple with a RBI. With the entrance opened and very visible to the traffic on Route 60 we have had a significantly larger number of "visitors" (also referred to as prospective members) stop in to see how much fun we are having. As of the date of this article, the IRCC will have a total of 116 registered members for 2012. According to our treasurer Gary Snyder, this equates to 92 adult and 24 junior and/or associate members. I remember Gary setting a goal last year at this time to break the 3 digit membership mark and break it we did – congratulations IRCC!

A fantastic side-effect of this growth was, as noted above, the significant increase of our Jr. Memberships as well.

The return of the Mulberry Heli Spectacular and the 1st Annual Mulberry Electric Extravaganza and Night Fun Fly combined with our already scheduled Pylon Races rounded out the list of events held in 2012. We were also honored once again, thanks to Scott Smith, to be able to host the selection of the U.S. Pylon Racing Team that will represent the U.S.A. at the FAI World Championship in the Netherlands in 2013.

Let's not forget our buddy and fellow club member Frank Tiano and FTE for giving us the opportunity to get up close and personal at Florida Jets & Top Gun with some of the coolest aircraft in the hobby & the best pilots in the world!

Just to re-cap 2012.

Thanks to the time and generosity of several of our club members, we now have 2 new shelters, a new website, new events, a great flying site, and a lot of new members! Not too shabby, even if I do say so myself.

Please keep in mind that while I do not have a problem patting myself on the back every once in a while, this level of success does not come from the efforts of one individual. I learned a long time ago, that in order to be a successful and effective leader it requires you to have successful and effective people surrounding you. In this area I have been truly blessed. Your elected executive officers and directors have done a great job of offering their support and assistance wherever and whenever needed and for that I am truly grateful.

Now, let's all take some time to enjoy the holiday's, our families and friends and yes – do a little flying. After all, that's what we are all about!

Until next month, that is all from the Flight Line!

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IRCC Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2012

Recorded by George Nauck, Secretary

President David Raff called meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

David recognized new members in attendance, Ron and Caitie Romanoff.

November meeting minutes accepted.

Financial Report – Gary Snyder - Finances for year are in excellent shape. Income for month of November was \$XXX, with \$XXX from membership renewals. At year end, Gary plans to prepare a detailed financial report, showing all income and expense items for 2012.

Now at 116 members. We just keep growing! Dues will remain at \$200 for 2013. We need to continue our push for new members with our reputation as a friendly and helpful club.

Field Maintenance – There are no issues of concern. We will soon be ready to start the installation of our new sign, and will need some manpower help to set the 6X6 posts.

Safety – No safety issues have been reported.

New website – There are now forums that can be started by members, and members can post their own “for sale” items. So far, 19 members have registered on the site to be able to access forums and so forth. We need to make more use of the website forums with pictures we take, our personal “for sale” items, etc.

Instructors report – Steve Baxley has provided additional Futaba transmitters to use as buddy boxes. Larry Louckes reported that he had finally succeeded in getting the old Futaba buddy box back to a programable state, so we should be well fixed for buddy boxes.

Events- 12 O’Clock High has been postponed to October 2013 and combined with Monster Planes. The weathered out Monster Planes this past October was a big setback.

Our 2012 Heli Spectacular had a good turnout and the weather was great. Although we lost some momentum by not having the event last year, we hope that our event will return to its preferred status again. Pilots who attended had a great time. It was great to see past members Mark and B.J. back at the field. It’s hard to believe that these guys were stark beginners at what seems to have been just yesterday!

The electric Fun Fly is this weekend. All day Saturday will be for anything powered by electrons or rubber bands. Landing fee is either \$10 or an unwrapped toy for the “Toys for Tots” promotion. It is expected to have 10 or more pilots for the night fly on Friday night. Steve Baxley and David Raff showed us a couple of foamies fully decked out with colorful led light strips.

New Business – A propane powered 5000 watt generator has been donated to our club. We are considering placing it at a distance from the shelters and running power to the shelters for use during our special events. The cost for install should be minimal.

The executive board met and discussed a number of ideas for the future of IRCC. They approved the purchase of 9 new walkie talkie radios for use at events for a total cost of less than \$100. There was also discussed a means to potentially reward those who volunteer to work at our events and the FTE promoted events. This will be brought to the membership in the future.

Mason suggested that each NEW member be given a IRCC tee shirt, which is needed for them to work at the FTE events. There was a consensus that this is a good idea. Cost to the club would be minimal and would prepare new members to volunteer.

We discussed the possibility of a “youth day” at the field to get all of our youngsters together at one time.

The sportsmanship award went to Terry Crosby for helping out with training and volunteering to become an intro pilot.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.



The IRCC monthly club meeting will be held at Frank Tiano Enterprises (FTE).
The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 3rd and will start promptly at 7:30 pm.



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will be held on Thursday,
January 3rd, at 7:30 PM at
Frank Tiano Enterprises.

Coming Area Events:

Florida Jets

February 7th - March 2nd

Top Gun

May 1st - 5th

9th Annual Southern 500

March 15th - 17th

AMA Vision

We, the members of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, are the pathway to the future of aeromodeling and are committed to making modeling the foremost sport/hobby in the world. This vision is accomplished through:

- Affiliation with its valued associates, the modeling industry and governments.
- A process of continuous improvement.
- A commitment to leadership, quality, education and scientific/technical development.
- A safe, secure, enjoyable modeling environment.

AMA Mission

The Academy of Model Aeronautics is a world-class association of modelers organized for the purpose of promotion, development, education, advancement, and safeguarding of modeling activities. The Academy provides leadership, organization, competition, communication, protection, representation, recognition, education and scientific/technical development to modelers.

Here is where we meet each month.

Please **DO NOT PARK ON THE GRASS**
at FTE or his neighbors.



STRANGE LIGHTS REPORTED OVER MULBERRY!

By: David Raff

This normally quiet little town became a hotspot recently for reports of strange “glowing” flying objects. At just after dusk on Friday December 7th 2012, people driving along State Road 60 in Mulberry noticed several brightly colored UFO’s, Unidentified or Unmanned whichever you prefer Flying Objects. The reports stated that the unknown objects appeared to be hovering, performing aerobatic loops and rolls and flat spins and in some cases even flying upside down. Many of the crafts were caught on film.



Further investigation revealed that it was just the Imperial Radio Control Club holding their first Night Fun Fly Event! As part of the **Mulberry Electric Extravaganza** the club extended an invitation to all participants to come in on Friday and show off their “night time” flying skills!

Several pilots both from surrounding clubs as well as a few IRCC members amazed the ever growing crowd of spectators with their abilities and very brightly lit aircraft which in addition to the starship “Enterprise” included:

A Parkzone F-27 Stryker



A T-28 Trojan



An F-16 XL



A Hawk 3D



And many others!

A landing zone was created using solar powered LED landscaping lights which seemed to “just like in the movies” magically appear as soon as darkness fell!

The crowd enjoyed the show so much there was even conversation of making this a monthly club event. So keep your eyes open and searching the night skies. You never know what you might see next!