It's Time For Some

Propwash

JANUARY 2016

Since 1978, the voice of the Imperial R/C Club

www.ImperialRCClub.com

A PLANE VIEW

By Mike Zellars – President

Hello to all and welcome to 2016. First things first, David Raff recently reminded me I have to come up with my own title for my monthly article for newsletter. I kept pounding my head trying to think of something and then it hit me. Why not use the same as the one when I was president in 2001 and 2002? Worked for me so there you have it, in case you were wondering where the title came from.

Now on to my first article as new president and 2016. I first want to thank THE CLUB for such a wonderful showing for my first meeting. I liked the way it went and that is because we certainly have an awesome group of members this year so kudos to all.

When I decided to run for President, there were a few thoughts going on in my mind (and likely my wife's since she witnessed me do this before) on why I would like to take on this challenge again.

First and foremost is the people. I truly enjoy our membership and although I run a business and been in leadership roles for various organizations before, I asked myself how many times does one get a chance to lead a club that EXIST for one main reason……

TO HAVE FUN!

Of course my leadership roles in my other professional experiences have been important and I enjoyed the cause behind them but the difference is when I am heading to field, whether for meeting or to fly, I always have a grin on my face. As most of you know, I typically work weekdays and I am truly one of those guys that is already checking weather predictions for the following weekend on MONDAY! There is just so many ways to enjoy belonging to clubs like ours, how can you not have fun??

So there you have it, my core belief in why this club exist and why I decided to take on the President's position once again. Of course, I can't leave this subject without a huge thanks to previous leaderships who have worked tirelessly to get this club to where it already is which will make my job just that much easier.. Thank You!

Finally (I promise), let me just say that I am here for every single club member. My email and my number will be published somewhere in this newsletter. Please feel free to contact me if you ever feel the need! That's my plane view for this month, now go out and enjoy this hobby and this awesome club!

IRCC MEETING MINUTES

January 2016

Recorded by Secretary - Ian Clark.

The January 2016 meeting of the Imperial R/C Club was brought to order by President Mike Zellars at 11:00 am. A motion was made and passed to accept the minutes of the December 2015 meeting.

Visitors and New Members: We were joined by Brian Evans who was visiting. Ed Drummond and his wife Kim were also visiting. Ed was planning on joining after the meeting.

New members included Vic Allen, Don Turner, Bill Turner, Lanee Turner, and Lenard Wilson.

Treasurers Report: Gary Snyder provided all in attendance with a yearend financial report. 2015 was a very good year. Our current balance in savings is $xxxx.xx, and $xxxx.xx in checking. The club CD is up to $xxxx.xx. The club still has a line of credit with no balance on it. At this time we are debt free.

Propwash *is published monthly by the* ***Imperial Radio Control Club Inc.***

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IRCC MEETING MINUTES
(Continued)

Safety Report: Dave Dewitt has taken the position of club safety officer. Any safety concerns should be reported to him.

Instructors Report: Terry Crosby is our head instructor. He is putting a program together and is looking for volunteers to assist him. Mike Zellars gave an overview of the AMA sponsored intro pilot program.

Newsletter: Dave Raff is concentrating on the newsletter. Any articles or members input should go to him.

Website: Terry Crosby has come on board to help with the web site. Sean McCafferty reported that several issues have been corrected with more changes coming.

Old Business: The club is still looking into getting hats and patches. Several members are in contact with companies that do this and will report back when they have quotes.

Dan Hudson spent some time getting prices on having the entrance and driveway re-surfaced. He presented his results with the cost of redoing the complete driveway @ $2190.00. A motion was made and passed to table the project at this time.

New Business: The FFA has come up with new rules requiring all flying models, fixed wing and helicopters that weigh over ½ lb to be registered. The AMA has suggested we don't do this until we hear from them as they are trying to work with the FAA on exempting AMA members. Allen Sales made a motion that our club and members follow the AMA guidelines as far as registering goes. The motion was passed.

We have a new gate code. If you were not in attendance when the code was given, please see a club officer to get it.

New Events: We have been asked by the Plant City Chamber of Commerce to participate in the Planes, Trains and Automobiles program on February 27, 2016. This is the 5th year we have been invited with all members being invited. We will set up a static display and there will be an area to fly our smaller aircraft.

Florida Jets is in March and our club has volunteered to participate.

Wally Sunday presented an award to David Raff to thank him for all the work he has done for the club over the last 4 years as club president.

Sportsmanship Award: This month the proud propeller went to Terry Crosby for stepping up and taking over the training program.

50/50: Wally Sundey collected $212.00. Guest Brian Evans was this months winner. He chose to donate the winnings to the club.

A motion was made and passed to close the January meeting of the IRCC.

AMA Notification dated 01/19/2016. AMA Members are asked to register with the FAA.

During the January meeting of the Imperial Radio Control Club, a discussion took place as to whether or not members should register under the new proposed FAA UAV Registration Procedure. While the intent, according to the FAA, is to create a registration system for the exploding number of radio control multi-rotor or "drones" that are either in use currently or expected to be sold, the broad "generalization" of the term UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) and "drone" has, at least at this time, been designated to include the recreational aspect of radio controlled flying.

The outcome of the "discussion" was a motion made, seconded and approved by the quorum present to abide by the direction of the AMA and withhold registration until further notified.

The notification below, sent by email to all current AMA members acknowledges the request by the AMA for it's members to register with the FAA.

FAA Advocacy Meeting January 15 and 16

While the AMA continues to address registration legally and through Congress, members are being asked to register with the FAA. Pilots do not register their aircraft, they register as a pilot and place their registration number in all of their aircraft.

For decades, the AMA has had a tremendous safety record. For this reason, and based on the protections from Section 336 that we helped pass into law, we do not believe that our 188,000 members should be subject to the UAS registration rule. Section 336 is part of the 2012 FAA Modernization and Reform Act in which Congress recognized the effectiveness of community-based safety guidelines and exempted recreational/hobbyists from any new regulations.

The AMA is working with Congress and looking at legal options to address registration. On a parallel path, we are advocating on behalf of our members directly with the FAA to find a solution. On January 15 Rich Hanson, Bob Brown, Gary Fitch, Chad Budreau, and AMA's legal counsel conducted a meeting with the FAA. During the visit the AMA discussed several issues impacting the modeling community including registration. We brought a list of our members' concerns and asked the FAA for a clarification or a resolution to our concerns.

We raised multiple questions around the guidelines pilots must agree to during the registration process, such as the requirement to stay below 400 feet. *The FAA acknowledged that AMA members should continue to follow AMA's community-based safety code*. We also discussed and the FAA confirmed that the language on the FAA registration site is a guideline, not regulation. This guideline is not directed at the AMA community but rather, it is a simplified set of safety guidelines geared to the general public.

We specifically addressed the 400 foot altitude limitation and explained how under appropriate circumstances some modeling activity necessarily occurs above 400' and other activity occurs at altitude to protect modelers and spectators on the ground. The FAA understands that this community flies higher than the guideline and acknowledged that AMA pilots can abide by their own safety code which is proven to provide safe aero-modeling operations

We also raised concerns with the FAA about a possibly stricter registration process for large model airplanes over 55 pounds such as requiring an "N" number. The FAA acknowledged these concerns and we discussed possible ways to revise the large model aircraft registration process going forward.

In addition, we discussed the numerous affiliate AMA members, non-US citizen or non-US resident competitors, and citizens who are currently away from the states who have not been able to register on the FAA site. The registration site so far has not accepted foreign applications, foreign addresses or foreign IP addresses. *The FAA shares our concern about this and is working on a solution, which is expected in early February.*

Many of our members have raised concerns about the privacy and security of the federal registration database. While we know that the database will be searchable by federal registration number, we do not know yet what additional information will be publicly available. We expressed strong concerns with the release of personal information, especially the personal data of AMA's youth members. We will continue to press the FAA to safeguard the security of our members' personal information.

We understand there are AMA members who do not have a computer or do not want to submit a credit card during the application process. We discussed with the FAA the use of a paper application, which currently is only available at local FAA Flight Standards District Offices (FSDO). *To make these paper applications easier to obtain, AMA is working to acquire these documents, which we can send to members who request them.* As for members who are willing to register online, but cannot or do not want to submit credit card information, the FAA has agreed to accept gift credit cards such as Visa or Mastercard.

For those clubs that own a model aircraft as an organization and not as an individual, we requested clarification as to how to register the model. We concluded that those models should be registered under the registration of one of the club leaders. To protect that club leader who voluntarily placed his number in or on the club aircraft, the member should have a written document from the club indicating he or she should not be held responsible and is simply providing a registration number on behalf of the club.

Finally, there is confusion around whether members register themselves or their aircraft. *Members register themselves and then place their number in or on their aircraft.*

At the end of our meeting with the FAA, we invited FAA representatives to join the AMA leadership at a nearby flying site to showcase firsthand AMA's safety protocols, demonstrate club camaraderie and mentoring, and provide the opportunity for the FAA to speak with AMA member's in-person.

While there are still many questions left unanswered, please keep in mind that this is an ongoing issue and efforts are still being explored. Additional information can be found on the AMA website or by clicking on the following link:
http://www.modelaircraft.org/aboutama/gov.aspx

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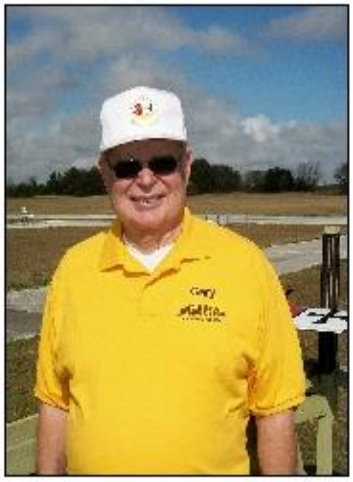
Mike Zellars

Allen Sale

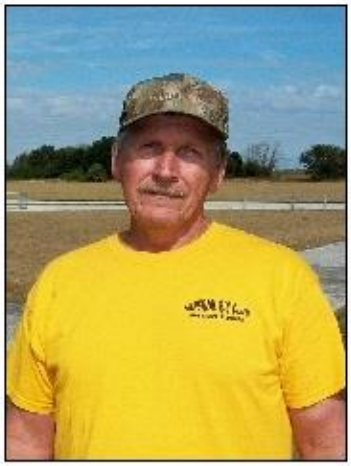


Gary Snyder

Ian Clark

Directors

Dan Hudson (3rd Year)
Wally Sundey (2nd Year)
David Raff (1st Year)



Dan Hudson

Wally Sundey

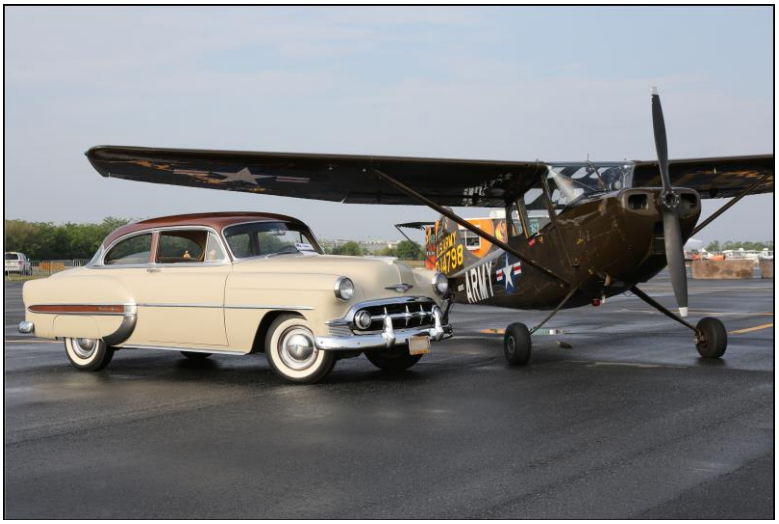
David Raff

The 6th ANNUAL PLANES, TRAINS & AUTOMOBILES EVENT hosted by the Plant City Chamber of Commerce is right around the corner and the *Imperial Radio Control Club* has once again been invited to represent the Remote Control aspect of Aviation for this show!

This "family oriented" event has a little bit for everyone Including games, rides, magicians and face painting for the kids. "Full scale" aircraft, exhibits from CSX and several model railroad clubs as well as antique, classic and hotrod cars from all over the area. The event also promotes a strong emphasis for the scouting program as scouts have the opportunity to complete all of the segments required to earn their Merit Badges in Aviation, Search & Rescue and others.

In years past, club members have assembled at the Plant City Airport proudly displaying their IRCC colors and their favorite aircraft to crowds that have exceeded well over 5000 attendees. Flying demonstrations are done throughout the day and 3 lucky members will have the chance to win one of three beautiful "People's Choice Award" Trophy's in the R/C Airplane category.

Here are a few pictures of past events and what you can expect to see.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COUNTY

So be sure to put it on your calendars **Saturday February 27th** and plan on being a part of this year's Great Event! More information including directions and set-up times will be made available soon.

THE NEXT IRCC CLUB MEETING WILL BE

SATURDAY

February 6th 2016

AT THE FIELD STARTING AT 11:00 AM!

AMA
ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS
Bringing Modelers Together

Newsletter Articles Needed!

Have something of interest that you would like to share. Please forward to the editor at raff7113@msn.com!