

Osceola Flyers Newsletter

January 2006



A Message from The Club President

2006

Fellow Club Members

This was a year of rebuilding; an unprecedented 3 hurricanes leveled our club facility. Out of this disaster came an opportunity, a chance to rebuild our shade structures and a storage building bigger, better and stronger. In the next few months we plan on adding some additional fill dirt in order to prevent some of the standing water we experience during heavy rainstorms. Other improvements will include better signage, a type of gravel ground cover for the shade structures and enlarged impound box for the transmitters. This last week, we seeded our runway with winter rye and will do some over seeding of Bermuda grass in the early spring.

Our membership continues exceed 100 members each year. We typically lose 10% to 15% of our previous years members for various reasons such as moving out of the area, other personal commitments, etc...but we do gain new members to the hobby every year. These new flyers help us maintain the membership levels required to operate a flying club. New members also require flying instructors to adequately train them in the safe use of a model aircraft.

At the last general meeting, a motion was presented and passed to begin an annual donation, on behalf of the Osceola Flyers, to a Florida Scholarship Fund. This is a great way to give a little back to the community. The board has set the goal for the Osceola Flyers to become an AMA Gold Leader Club. In reviewing the requirements; the club has already met most of them. A couple of items that are being address include a public event (mall show, public display, etc...) and a magazine donation to a local school are being addressed and should pose no problem in achieving our goal.

As I review the above, it is very apparent that the success of this club is a direct result of a great group of people that make up the Osceola Flyers. Those guest who have visited our club always leave with the same comments, great facility, friendly members, a great club! Many express the desire to see their own clubs achieve some of these same virtues. We truly are fortunate as a club and this due to an active membership who continues to contribute in many different ways.

Bob Vanderbrook

AMA Membership

If you have not renewed your AMA Membership, you will not be allowed to fly at the field, until you become current with your AMA membership. Remember, you can renew your AMA on line, and receive instant confirmation.

*Membership
Fees*

On behalf of the Board of directors, we would like to wish everyone a prosperous New Year.

The club continues to grow in strength, with quite a few new pilots joining over the last couple of months. These members are the lifeblood of the club. We are one of the few clubs that appear to welcome student pilots with open arms. Lets hope this trend continues and the club goes from strength to strength.

We overcame our Hurricane problems over the last 18 months, and it has made us a better and stronger club. If you haven't been out to the field lately, come on down, re-new old friendships, and bore some holes in the sky.

Club Website

This is unfortunately a recurring mention, but the number of members who are actually registered on the club website is a sad state of affairs for such a large club. Still only 34 members out of a total of 110.

www.Osceolaflyers.com

Club Membership Dues

Membership renewals will now cost \$45.
Please see Joe King and pay your 2006 dues.

*Membership
Fees*

Deadstick

A reminder to all members. When a pilot calls **DEADSTICK**, he needs to land urgently. Possibly even downwind, so Please clear the runway immediately. Failure to give the Deadsticked aircraft right of way, could result in both personal and equipment damage. A recent incident of members not hearing/clearing the runway after Deadstick was called, resulted in considerable damage to a members model as he was unable to land on the runway, and had to land in the rough grass. **BE CONSIDERATE TO OTHERS.**

Laminator

If any member has a laminator they would be prepared to loan Jack, he would really appreciate it. It is the intention to redo all the signs for the club, and hopefully they will last longer than the printed ones covered with Clear-Cote.

Certain Views expressed in this newsletter are not to be taken as official club policy, but are personal opinions

Club Leader Status

At the December meeting, it was agreed that the club should seek Gold Leader Club status from AMA. For those of you unaware of this program, the AMA link is: <http://www.modelaircraft.org/PDF-files/708.pdf>.

This is not an individual award, but recognition of the club, plus every member.

There are actually only 3 items we have to comply with, as we already fulfill 98% of the criteria required for Gold Status. Steps are currently underway to fulfill the three required items.

For everyone's information, the elective items we need to fulfill are Numbers 2,4 and 7

Florida Seals Ice Hockey



President Bob V has arranged an Osceola Flyers night at the Florida Seals arena. Member plus one guest will receive free entry. It is the intention to have a manned display stand in the foyer, plus if we can ensure sufficient safety measures are in place, demonstration flights by electric models. This could be great publicity and PR for the club, so the more members we can get to attend the better. At least come out and laugh at the "Blimp Flyers." Anyone interested in attending, please notify Bob V, or any board member. The proposed date is March 4 2006.

The Blimp Flyers are now doing quite well. While Practice makes perfect, we are still far from that, but we are least more confident and becoming more proficient every time we fly.

Impound Box

The practice of hanging keys, or not hanging anything at all, when a Frequency pin is taken from the Impound Box, is not only bad mannered, but against club rules. All members were given a plastic clip folder along with their membership card. These folders are great for also holding your AMA card. If you have lost yours, please the Secretary for a replacement.

Having all documentation in these folders also allows members to see who has what frequency pin. Remember the 15 minute Pin Rule (You are only allowed to hold onto a frequency pin for 15 minutes. Please be considerate to other members. Bring your membership & AMA card every time you fly.

March 25 2006 Fly-In

I will be talking to John at JR Hobbies this week, and hopefully he will also support us as well as he did last year. Steve Thomas, has already offered to begin approaching the manufacturers for promotional and give away prizes. Hopefully if the suppliers come through as well as they did For our first Fly-In, we will have another great raffle. But don't forget, any prizes at all are welcome, they do not have to be RC related.

Don't forget, both John & Steve are club members, so please support their stores.

Gayle Bonnell has once again volunteered both her and Bob's services (Bob doesn't know it yet), to run the concession stand for us. (Can I have a Cheeseburger WITH cheese this time Gayle????).

We will need Spotters, Safety Inspectors, Security, Raffle Ticket Sellers plus numerous other tasks need to be taken care of, both prior to, and on the day of the Fly-In. Please see Jack if you are interested in helping out. The Volunteer response for our first Fly-In was fabulous, so hopefully 2006's will be the same.

Annual General Meeting

Just a reminder that the March meeting is also the time we elect a new Board of Directors. If you would like to stand for election to any of the club Officers positions, now is the time to start your campaign.

The club is always on the lookout for new ideas, new views and new ways to make us a better club. If you feel you can offer more to the club, please forward your names to Josh.

Nominations will be accepted right up to the actual election, as will absentee ballots. But if you require an absentee ballot, please notify Josh ASAP.

Two weeks prior to the election, he will then forward to you the names of the nominees he has up to that date. However, remember that nominations could be made at the actual meeting. The address of where to send the absentee ballots will be advised later. The best scenario, is for you all to mark your calendars for March 11, 2006, and attend the AGM.

Yoder & Frey

Well, the Auction season is upon us once again. Yoder & Frey have their advance party in action, and some equipment has already arrived. A word of caution to all members, the dirt road to the field will soon become very congested, hence extra care needs to be taken to prevent becoming a statistic. When the checkpoint is established, just show your membership card and the Yoder & Frey staff will allow you past.

Safety Issues

It was mentioned at the December Meeting, that some members are ignoring the regulation regarding the clubs actual airspace. Especially the area behind the flight line.

No models are to be flown South of the runway, no matter how far out from the East or West end of the runway they are.

If you have any doubts about where we are allowed to fly, Assume you are at one of the Pilot stands facing the runway. Project an "imaginary" line extending to infinity in both directions from the near side of the runway. Ensure your model stays IN-FRONT of this line.

As Yoder and Frey will once again be holding their auction in March 2006, they will soon be bringing in equipment, and we do not want any models over-flying the area they are using.

This could be an accident just waiting to happen, plus we do not need any complaints regarding the club.

With the club moving towards Gold Leader Status, I thought it might be appropriate for us to have some laid down procedures in the event of a club member requiring emergency Medical treatment. Plus, if the need arises, Fire services or a Police presence at the club.

Also, we will be asking the assistance of the local Fire Department/ EMT guys, and see if they would be prepared to visit the field, or have us visit them, and they can give us reminders/pointers on Fire Prevention/First Aid/CPR etc. Or at least point us in the right direction for obtaining these services.

Also, we should have a laid down plan, for us to contact the Emergency Services.

Needless to say 911 is the first number to call in the event of any emergency. State the nature of the emergency and give your location.

But what to do in the interim, while waiting for Emergency Services to arrive.

Easier said than done, but firstly **DO NOT PANIC.**

There is an old adage: **Lead, Follow or get the hell out of the way.** If one person is acting as leader, do not second guess them or try to run your own empire, follow their lead and instructions.

In the event of a fire, the initial actions are simple. **Try to put it out,** shout for assistance, but do not endanger yourself. Remember, if a fire is in the vicinity of the shed, there is fuel stored in there, hence attempting to remove the fuel would be foolhardy. In fact, even opening the door to the shed would be dangerous, so it would be better to clear the area and let the shed burn. If the fire is in the shade/pit area, use the sand buckets and/or fire extinguisher and try to put it out. .



If it is a model that catches fire, remember, the fuel tank can explode, so when using a

Safety Matters (cont)

fire extinguisher, remain a safe distance away. Do not attempt to touch the model, sadly it will be better to clear the area and allow the model to burn

Try to remove all vehicles and equipment from the vicinity of the fire (without endangering yourself or others). Have all members assemble in a location as far away from the fire as possible.

Have a member stand in the road to direct the Emergency services to the location of the incident.

Advise them of any injuries, and also inform the Emergency Services of the fact that there is fuel in the shed.

There are two simple First Aid Rules:

1) If it's bleeding—stop it. 2) If it's not

breathing—start it. The simplest method of stopping bleeding is by

applying pressure directly to the wound. **Do not mess with tourniquets etc unless you are 1,000.000% sure of what you are doing, as they can cause more damage than the original wound.** But **IF** you have to use a

tourniquet, remember, the pressure **MUST** be released every 15 minutes. And then inform the EMT's of the last time the tourniquet pressure was released.

For breathing problems, ensure the air passages are open, remove foreign objects (false teeth etc), ensure tongue has not folded back into throat, elevate the patients legs and if the patient is not breathing, commence mouth to mouth resuscitation and CPR. If the patient is breathing and appears stable, turn them onto their side, this ensures that if the patient vomits, they will not choke. Remain with them. If they are conscious, talk to them, re-assure them, **do not leave them alone.** And await the Emergency Services arrival.

If the Sheriff's department are required, and prior to their arrival, attempt to resolve or diffuse any situation, without endangering yourself. When the Deputy arrives, allow one person to give report, don't all shout at once. Remain calm and give a short comprehensive report of what the exact problem is.

There are many great websites relating to all manner of emergency procedures. But the best advise we can give all members, is to take a First Aid/ CPR course at your local college, Community Center or YMCA.



Once the professionals are at the scene—let them do their job.

This article in no way attempts to cover every eventuality or situation. Nor to be accepted as club policy with regard to treating injured members. It is a guide to common sense and each persons individual capabilities. The club can accept no responsibility for any untoward actions individuals may take.



