



# SMAC Thrustline

The Newsletter by and for the Springfield Model Airplane Club

February 2003

### Officers 2003

**President**  
**Clem Schmid**

**Vice President**  
**Bob Mc Williams**

**Secretary**  
**Joe Ferrara**

**Treasurer**  
**Tom Minnich**

### Board Member 2003

**Bob Riffle**  
**Buzz Massey**  
**Don Barnes**  
**Chad South**

**Past President/  
Safety Officer**  
**Terry Blake**

### Assistants 2003

**Newsletter Editor**  
**Ken Petry**

**Mower Maintenance**  
**Harold Dickerson**

**Work Liaison**  
**Neil Perkins**

**Chief Instructor**  
**Position Open**

### Minutes of SMAC meeting, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The meeting was called to order by Club President Clem Schmid.

#### Secretary's Report

Club Secretary Joe Ferrara was not present and the minutes of the December 2002 meeting were instead read by Clem Schmid. The report was then accepted as read.

#### Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was read by club Treasurer Tom Minnich. Additionally, Tom reported that the current paid membership stood at 34. The report was then accepted as read.

#### Old Business

**Field Maintenance:** The runway area still needs some work. The ground needs to be filled and seeded. Clem Schmid is checking on topsoil. John Shaw said that a large dirt hauling truck could be rented for approximately \$40/HR.

**Secondary flying site:** Terry Duke and Ted Wallace had a further discussion with the City of Springfield which apparently does not like the idea of leasing out the land. Additionally, several club members objected to the land not being developed by the City, requiring the club to do so instead. The matter is still open.

**Training program:** The matter is open. We still need a training supervisor.

**Mall Show:** The annual R/C show at the Upper Valley Mall is scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> as preparations continue.

**Donated equipment:** Apparently, 2 model aircraft which were donated to the club by Azarr to be raffled off as 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes at the December meeting never got there. The club needs to decide what to do with them.

#### New Business

**Additional Land:** Landlord Randy Bishop has offered to rent more land to the club (approximately 1 acre). The additional rent would amount to about \$250 more, resulting in a \$1,350 a year in payment for the use of the land. If the club was to go ahead with this idea, we need to decide what to do with the additional space. There was talk of cutting down on the length of the runway and increasing the width. Tom Minnich said he would discuss the matter further with Randy. A motion was made by Buzz Massey to give Tom the authority to work out an agreement and seconded by Terry Duke.

**What direction should the club take?:** In searching for direction, the Board and club members were asked to contribute 1 idea. The following suggestions were received:

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Calendar of Events

February 4, 2003

SMAC Board Meeting 6:30 PM  
SMAC Club Meeting 7:30 PM  
Asbury United Methodist Church  
104 E. Clark St.  
North Hampton, Ohio

February 15, 2003

R/C Trade Show  
Sponsor  
Mad River Flying Association  
Champaign County Fairgrounds  
Urbana, Ohio

March 4, 2003

SMAC Board Meeting 6:30 PM  
SMAC Club Meeting 7:30 PM  
Asbury United Methodist Church  
104 E. Clark St.  
North Hampton, Ohio

April 4<sup>th</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Toledo R/C Show  
Sponsor  
Weak Signals R/C Club  
Toledo, Ohio

May 6, 2003

SMAC Board Meeting 6:30 PM  
SMAC Club Meeting 7:30 PM  
Location to be announced

June 3, 2003

SMAC Board Meeting  
SMAC Club Meeting  
Time and Location TBA

June 6, 2003

Come Fly with us "Public Day"  
Sponsor  
Mad River Flying Association

September 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Helicopter Fun Fly  
Sponsor  
Mad River Flying Association  
Night Flying on the 6<sup>th</sup>

*(Continued from page 1)*

- (1)...Electric fly with the intention of inviting other clubs.
- (2)...Inviting other clubs to fly with us (2 votes).
- (3)...Inter club fly-ins.
- (4)...Fun flies.
- (5)...Control line fun fly.
- (6)...Fun flies at club meetings.
- (7)...Winter dinner.
- (8)...Sailplane fun fly with the intention of inviting other clubs (2 votes).
- (9)...I like old-timer events when I first joined the club. Several years ago, this was big (2 votes).
- (10)...Just a good, safe place to fly model airplanes.
- (11)...Club shelter house.
- (12)...Airshow, fun-fly, etc.
- (13)...More participation at meetings & events.
- (14)...Use 50/50 money for WWII warbird ride instead of model engines.

The Board will discuss the suggestions and present it's findings to the club.

There being no further business, a motion to close the meeting was made. The meeting was then closed by President Clem Schmid.

Respectfully submitted,  
By Acting Secretary  
Joe Ferrara

## I'M BACK

As you can see, after a 1 month hiatus, I'm back as newsletter Editor. The format will remain the same with the deadline for material for the newsletter being two (2) weeks prior to each meeting. Items accepted for the newsletter include for sale items, wanted items and articles or upcoming events info.

I would also like, in as much as costs continue to rise, to email all newsletters possible rather than using the Postal Service. All that is required is full internet access, including E-Mail and Adobe "Acrobat Reader" which is available at no charge from Adobe's Home Web page. Let me know which way you would like to receive the newsletter.

# ROGER GET WELL SOON!!!

## Communication Needed

As any organization ages and its mature members mature in their mastering of the necessary skills, lack of enthusiasm becomes a natural problem. No longer do the members look forward to gathering with their peers in order to hone their new found skills. Now it is everyone for themselves, whenever and wherever it is convenient. This is evident both at the flying field and the club meetings. Not many years in the past it appeared everyone reserved weekends for the enjoyment of and participation in the hobby. Not so anymore and there has to be a reason. If the organization wishes to be dynamic, it has a duty to find the answer for this lethargy and remedy the situation.

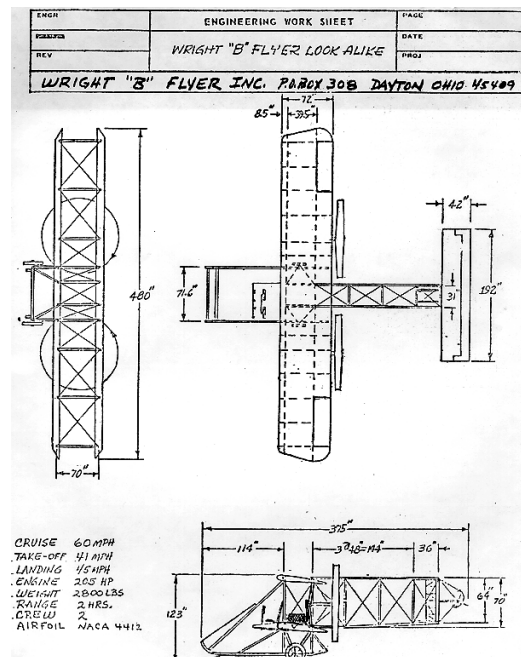
The first step toward redemption has to be communication. In the past, members communicated on the days falling between the weekends and especially on weekends that were unfit for modeling activities. Without communication there is no way to cultivate enthusiasm in any endeavor. There were times in the past, when at first, very little enthusiasm was shown for a suggestion, but communication between members defined and refined the suggestion resulting in an anticipated activity. Not only that, but new ideas are and were generated by these many communications and led to many very worthy implementations. The organization must be especially oriented to those known or conceived activities that will involve the majority of its members. What they consist of makes no difference. What counts is the enthusiasm of the membership. This lays a heavy load on club officers, but isn't that why the most dedicated members are nominated? Leadership is not a position, it is a job that requires many hours of hard work and perseverance to guide the organization toward its preconceived destination. Without dynamic leaders there is no need for meetings or for that matter organized activities. Like Topsy, the organization will not grow, it will just exist. Unfortunately, this is the easiest road to follow, and the hardest pitfall to overcome, but overcome we must. Winter provides the time to sit back, analyze, perceive the future, and communicate, without which the organization falls right back into the same old rut.

Like all endeavors in life, you can only get out of the hobby what you put into it. If you follow the direction of no involvement, you will find no gratification. Therefore, it is imperative that the membership becomes more involved in the performance of the organization. For example, there are a few members who, for one reason or another, have yet not learned to enjoy the accomplishment of flying by themselves.

This is unacceptable for this organization with the skills its membership possesses. There is no rhyme nor reason for the club to allow this. The bottom line for the existence of the organization is, at the very least, to see all members have this capability. From this point forward, the preferences of the individual must be given due consideration. This is the only way to achieve the goals of the organization.

It is time to reacquaint ourselves with the intent set forth in the bylaw, amend attitudes and direction, and make a concerted effort to proceed into the future with a growing dynamic organization. Put your views, opinions, and ideas on paper. Send them to your Editor and help the organization develop to its potential!

from Turbulent Tissue,  
Jim Mowrey, Editor  
310 Capitol Avenue,  
Kinsley KS 67547



## **Cycle, Check, Cycle and Check Again!**

Edited for SMAC

The 2003 flying season is rapidly approaching. Now's the time to check that old ship over and get your batteries ready for the new season. If you have a cyclor and the batteries have been lying around, then by all means cycle them a couple of times to get them up to full capacity and give you an idea of how well they've weathered the winter. If they don't measure up, try recycling. If they still don't measure up then dump them and get a new pack. If you don't own a cyclor, consider purchasing one. The hundred bucks or so can easily pay for itself with one airplane save.

Give the plane a good check before you bring it out also. Look at the control surfaces, hinges, clevises and push rods. Check the engine mount to make sure it's secure. Repair any tears or cracks in the covering. Replace anything that doesn't look quite right. If you lose a plane because of a lousy 50 cent clevis that fails, you're gonna kick yourself where the sun don't shine. If you bring out a new plane for that first flight, remember to double check all the control surfaces and

don't forget to balance it! Those first few flights can be very stressful so if you're not all too comfortable, ask someone to stand with you or to take it up for the first flight to trim it out and see how it's going to handle. Better to be safe than sorry!

from Antenna  
Mike Mayer, Editor  
155-04 99<sup>th</sup> Street  
Howard Beach, NY 11414

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

Renewals for the year 2003 are now DUE!  
Dues for this year must be paid by the end of the February meeting or you will no longer be a member in good standing. **NOT IN GOOD STANDING** includes not having flying privileges, no newsletters, etc.

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