

November 2008 Meeting Minutes

President Chet Blake called the monthly Barnyard Buzzard Model Airplane Club (BBMAC) meeting to order on November 4, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. There were about 15 members present. We held our meeting at Alfy's Pizza in Monroe, but outside the private rooms we normally use. The next meeting will be on Tuesday December 2, 2008 at 6:30 P.M. at Alfy's Pizza in Monroe.

Note the new time for December 6:30 P.M. due to Alfy's reducing its business hours.

Chet asked for visitors or guests to identify themselves. No visitor was present, but Doug Hoff, one of the founding fathers, was present. It is always great to have Doug present and a part of the meeting.

Chet asked for a motion to accept the October minutes as published in the newsletter. The motion was seconded. No changes were requested. The members present accepted the minutes. Motion carried.

Chet introduced the club officers.

President - Chet Blake

Vice President - Brian Illston

Secretary - Vaughan Houger

Treasurer - Rick Hanners

Field Safety Officer - Vince Bell (absent)

Newsletter Editor and Webmaster - Ron Swift

Field Manager - Ron Rueter

Chet reminded us of the NW Hobby Model Expo coming up in February 2009. We, as a club, agreed to participate. Besides the club booth we will have four swap tables to attend. There will be a sign up sheet available at the next meeting.

Chet also reminded us that our AMA membership is good until December 31st, unless you are a life-time member or have paid for a two year membership. None-the-less, check your card and take appropriate action to remain compliant. Chet introduced the program for the evening was to be 2.4 GHz Spread Spektrum radio technology presented by Ron Rueter.

Secretary - Vaughan Houger reported we have increased our membership to 70 members including 1 family and 1 Jr. member.

Treasurer - Rick Hanners reported that the bank account has more than \$5,000.00, which does not include the money designated for charity donations. Financially the club is in good shape.

Safety Officer - Vince was absent. A comment was made regarding putting your identification (name and telephone at the least) on your radio. Ross had the foresight to do this very thing and was able to find

his radio after leaving it behind. At least this way, the other members can watch out for each other. If a radio is left behind, take note, call the person and secure it in the shed. Or, if you are in contact with the radio's owner work something out. See old business for another safety issue.

Field Manager - Ron Rueter commented that the grass grows fast with plenty of rain. If you're out at the field and notice that the grass needs cutting, take some time to mow it. You do not need to "officially" sign up on the mowing list to mow the grass - just adhere to the mower starting and operating procedures.

Ron also stated he put a valve on the water tank. This way if the hose drops down all of the water does not drain out. Thanks Ron.

Another thing Ron mentioned was the condition of the grass, other than it grows really well, it is thick - and getting more dense. One suggestion was to devote some time to thatching the field. Doug Hoff offered an attachment to the mower that can be used for such a need. Thank you Doug. We probably will set up a time for this activity.

Nominations for 2009 Club Officers

Chet asked the secretary to read the current nominations for club officers beginning with President:

President - Chet Blake

Vice-President - Marvin Walden & Ron Rueter

Secretary - Vaughan Houger

Treasurer - Rick Hanners

Safety Officer - Vince Bell

Nominations for the Dave Weber "Special Service Award" are:

Scott Curtis

Fred Hanquet

Jim Reynolds

Ron Rueter

Jim Wallis

Special Committee Reports

Alternate Field Location Committee - Nothing new but we need to get it going again.

Sound Management - A couple of sound readings were taken:

Ken's super sport with an OS 40LA read 84 db.

Chet's KAOS with an OS 46 AX read 94.

The AMA recommendation is 90 dBa. Most of our airplane engines average around 92 or 93 which is good for protecting our hearing.

Old Business

Charities - We still need to distribute the money to Hopelink and Children's hospital.

"Freeze-In" - Ron Swift agreed to organize this event should the weather cooperate with some snow. Ron will put together a proposal and present it at the December meeting. This sounds like an "cool" and fun event.

Special Safety reminder

Flying remote controlled airplanes is fun - so is driving a car, a motorcycle, an off-road vehicle, and a host of other mechanized modes of transportation. Along with the fun aspect associated with these machines is the more serious side of the potential dangers each can present. Sometimes mentioning safety is redundant and overstated - until someone gets hurt.

Recently we experienced an incident at the field involving a plane going out of control and crashing into the pits on take-off. While no one was hurt, the proximity of the plane crashing and that of a fellow flyer was way too close. There are some things we can learn and remind ourselves from this incident.

If you bring an airplane out to the field for its maiden flight and you feel like you need help, then let someone know. Also, tell everyone anyway that it is on its maiden flight so they are mentally prepared. Usually, we have a gentleman's agreement to clear the sky, so-to-speak, to give the pilot ample freedom to test out the plane for the first time.

Remember to always announce, loudly, that you are coming out onto the field when ready to take off - that you are taking off. Other pilots can acknowledge by saying, "okay", or something that indicates they heard.

Again, when landing, announce loudly that you are landing and from which direction. This is especially important when someone experiences a dead stick.

Remember to review the AMA and club safety rules. They really are there for our benefit and safety.

Have fun! I am sure I have taken up enough time and newsletter real estate on this topic. Just be safe.

New Business

Cooking responsibilities - Jim Wallis has done an outstanding job this year supporting all of the events. Thank you, Jim for all of your hard work! This topic generated some conversations around the need to have someone cook at the events. Maybe we need to scale back the offering of food to program events and field clean up times only.

Ron Swift sent a letter to the *AMA* on the topic of our club's charitable activities. An article will be written and provided in an upcoming issue of the *AMA's Model Aviation* magazine. This is one way to be visible to the larger R/C community and demonstrates our commitment to our own communities in which we live. Nice going Ron - and the club.

Plan to come to our December club meeting and bring your family and friends for pizza.

Chet talked about some different options. One of those was to have Searle at the Hitching Post cater a dinner for us. We would have to find a location. Ron Rueter suggested that the community center where he lives is available for a small fee.

We also talked about having a potluck. The club could provide something like a ham members could bring salads, rolls, desserts, etc. We would still have to find a place to hold the event.

Vaughan also presented the option of the Sno-Valley Senior Center in Carnation where his wife, Kerstin, is a cook. Kerstin would be willing to make dinner: Spaghetti, or lasagna, with salad, garlic bread and dessert. Cost is \$50.00 an hour to rent the facility, with a minimum of \$100.00. The food would be around \$5.00 a person.

With all of these options presented, the members decided to postpone this until next year. Ron Swift did mention that one of the benefits of combining a dinner with a short business meeting is that the member turn out is usually greater than at other meetings. This is important when considering which officers to vote for - for the next year.

The one decision that was a result of a motion, seconded, and passed, was that of moving the time up to 6:30 P.M. due to Alf's reducing their operating hours.

Builder's Contest

Just a reminder to think about the builder's contest. The fee is \$10 to enter. Stick built, kit, and Almost Ready to Fly (ARF) - These seemed to be the general categories. If you are interested in participating contact our treasurer, Rick Hanners, and surrender your \$10 dollars.

Monthly Program for November

Ron Rueter addressed the topic of Spread Spektrum 2.4 GHZ. The depth of research Ron did was amazing (at least to the secretary). I know I learned a lot about both the Futaba and JR formats, as well as some of the history that went into developing this technology. Ron did an outstanding job putting together this presentation. He also was in direct competition with the other patrons' collective voice volume and movements. Well done Ron!

The meeting was officially adjourned at precisely 8:18 PM.

The next meeting is Tuesday December 2, 2008 at Alf's in Monroe at 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Vaughan Houger BBMAC Secretary