



95th Street Group Newsletter

Volume V, Issue IV

October
2017

The President's Corner

Greetings fellow RC flyers! After a stormy spring and hot summer, the autumn and fall seasons appear to be ushering in some great flying weather.

I usually try to get down to the field during the late afternoon and early evening. I like this time of day because the sun is at my back and the winds are usually light. I can usually find a couple of fellow members to fly with and swap excuses as to "why we landed in the bean patch." The beans were soft all summer, but now they are dry and like landing in a field of razor blades! Fortunately, by the time you read this they will have been harvested.

I was at the field on October 13th and, as many of you know, it's in amazing shape. Along that line, I was at the field the

week before to do some trimming when Richard Abels showed up to roll the field. I helped by putting out markers on the sprinkler heads; however, it was Richard who filled the roller with water and drove over the entire field. A great big "thank you Richard!"

Just about the same time the rolling was finished, the mowing crew arrived and cut the grass. We had a good conversation with the mowing crew and asked them to set the mowing decks to 1 1/2 inches. They proceeded to mow the field while we checked for any scalping. Everything looked good. I was told that this was also tried by two other club members a few weeks earlier and it worked fine. We can always modify the cutting height with a simple phone call. At 1 1/2 to 2 inches we have an amaz-



ing grass field that any RC club would envy.

Due to a family emergency I was unable to attend the annual club picnic. Darn...one event a year and I had to miss it! I understand Tony did a great job getting it all together and cooking for the club. Once again, a "great big thank you to Tony" for all your hard work! Tony also took on this task at last year's picnic.

Richard Travers has volunteered to write an article about the picnic for those of us who were unable to attend this

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Special interest item:

95th Street Annual Meeting

Wednesday
January 3, 2018

JOHNNY'S TAVERN
13131 Shawnee
Mission Parkway
7:00 PM

Come at 6:00 PM if you would like to have dinner and visit with friends and fellow members prior to the meeting

Thirteen Years Ago...

De Soto Explorer

August 19, 2004
By: Elvyn J. Jones

"Radio Flyers" – RC plane enthusiasts surf the air waves around De Soto"

Like a pup eager to start its daily walk, John Wells' radio-controlled plane bounced and jostled Friday morning as he taxied it to the takeoff strip.

The sight of the seemingly animated plane's approach to the runway at "Bob Miller Field"

stopped veteran RC flyer Jerry Tuttle in mid-stride. It was always a treat, he said, to see what Wells would coax from the plane with the two joysticks on his remote control radio.

"Watch him when he gets going," Tuttle said.

"John does things the rest of us just dream about."

Soon Wells' plane was corkscrewing through the air as it flew in a large oval. It pulled out of that maneuver to do a barrel roll then climb into a stall.

It was a near perfect day for flying, with only an

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The Presidents Corner (cont.)

If you are interested in running for office, please contact Shelby Locklear, Richard Travers or Jerry Sanderson

year (see page 3).
I've reserved the meeting room at JOHNNY'S TAVERN again this coming year for the annual club meeting. The tavern's address is 13131 Shawnee Mission Parkway. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 3rd at 7:00 PM. Come at 6:00 PM if you would like to have dinner and visit with friends and fellow members prior to the meeting. Please don't forget: our annual club's dues are \$140.00 as approved last year. You can make your check payable to "95th Street Group."

As in the past, we will send out another reminder be-

fore the annual meeting. If you like me, however, it's best to mark your calendar right now else you just might get overridden later by your significant other.

Our club's nominating committee will be submitting an agenda and nominees for club officers via email to all members during this coming December. If you are interested in running for office, please contact Shelby Locklear, Richard Travers or Jerry Sanderson. You club needs your support.

Hope to see you at the field!



Late-season mowing at the Kaw Valley Aerodrome..



Thirteen Years Ago...(cont.)



"There is no one out here to bother. It's as good as any flying field I've ever seen."

occasional light breeze stirring the wind sock hanging near the apron marking the flying zone of the 95th Street Flying Group's new De Soto Aerodrome.

Wells and Tuttle were among the 10 members of the radio controlled airplane club who showed up Friday morning to fly their aircraft and enjoy a cook-out at the club's four-month-old northeast De Soto home. The site gives the club what it wants—wide-open isolation.

Save for a steady popping from the gun club to the north, there was no human presence evident. Isolation was fast disappearing at the club's old site at 95th Street and Clare Road, where a neighboring Catholic high school is a year away from opening.

Development brings potential obstructions like power lines and people who may not share the club mem-

bers' affection for the high-pitched whine produced by the gas engines that still power the majority of the planes.

"We are really pleased," Tuttle said. "There is no one out here to bother. It's as good as any flying field I've ever seen."

Club founder Bob Miller of Leawood said he'd seen development overrun a number of fields in his five decades of flying. The surrounding flood plain would spare it that fate.

"We're going to be here a long time," he said. "It'll be the last one for me."

The club leases river three acres of Kansas River bottom land from Darrel Zimmerman. He allows the members to fly over the 40 acres of soybean field that border the site.

That offers excellent sight



Club founder Bob Miller. Photo taken during one of the club's seasonal picnics, July 2003. With great loss, Bob passed away on March 20, 2015

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Thirteen Years Ago...(cont.)

lines for creative fun. Soon after Wells got his plane in the air, Mark Smith loaded a roll of toilet paper in the fuselage of his larger plane. After remote piloting the plane to perhaps 300 feet, Smith banked his plane to the left, dropping the paper for Wells to slice into smaller streamers.

The boys-at-play atmosphere was at odds with the age of the club members present. Tuttle said those able to attend the club's weekday outings were his fellow "gray hairs." Wells, a law enforcement supervisor for the city of Lenexa, was an exception. His schedule allowed him to take Fridays off, he said.

The hobby filled a void for the older members, Tuttle said.

"My wife's my best friend, and since my retirement we've shared a lot of wonderful time together," he said. "But I found I missed the company of men. This hobby gives me that"

The camaraderie and good spirits wasn't diminished by the occasional accident, such as the one Phil Abbadessa's plane experienced when it cartwheeled on a landing attempt.

Wrecks were just part of the hobby, club members said.

Some repairs can be made on the spot and are even anticipated. That was true of Abbadessa's plane, which the Lenexa man quickly made air worthy with the replacement of made-to-shear nylon bolts to reattach the landing gear.

More expensive repairs won't ruin the day's flying for most members, all of whom showed up with multiple airplanes, some carted about in modified trailers.

Building and repairing the planes required a commitment, Tuttle said, but it was part of the hobby that made it more interesting.

"For every hour we fly we spend four at the workbench," he said. "You better know how to solder and something about electronics."

There were many interests to explore, Wells said, but for him the joy of flying was paramount. "For me, it's kind of a hobby and sport and kind of an artistic outlet — being able to carve up the sky," he said.

(end of De Soto Explorer article)



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Annual Club Picnic

By: Richard Travers

This year's picnic was a real winner. The weather was great, the wind was light and almost everyone showed up. Plenty of "highly skilled" pilots took to the air to entertain us and there were no serious mishaps, just a few short walks to the bean field.

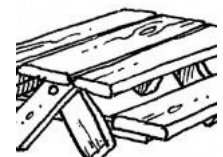
Tony Stuckwisch, "Head Grill Master," and his helpers did a great job cooking. As usual, the ladies brought the real treasures...the covered dishes and desserts. Everyone got their fill and it was delicious.

Bill Stuckwisch and his wife came out to visit with us and to share the fact that Bill is doing well. Bill was his usual jovial self and many of us got to visit.

Dennis Evans brought his multi-year project...a B-29 that is nearing completion. The plane will be powered by four 4-stroke engines. The level of detail applied to the nose, cockpit windows, engine nacelles, gun turrets and everything else is truly remarkable. It's even all in "old fashioned wood."

The most enjoyable part of our annual picnic was getting together with our friends. We don't all fly at the same time of day, so it is great to fly and visit with those who are on other shifts. We did a lot of catching up, saw some interesting new airplanes and had a good time hanging out.

If you missed it you missed a great day.





Unexpected Little Gem

By: Elaine & Ed Noulin

While traveling to the NW this year, the spouse and I stumbled upon one of those little hidden gems...one that was totally unexpected.

Tucked away at the foot of the highest mountain in the state of Washington and sandwiched between the mountain and the sea, sits one of the nicest, little hobby shops one could ever imagine.

Pacific Rim Hobby is located along the harbor in Port Angeles, WA. The store occupies a building that was once a railway station, then art gallery and now serves as a source of materials and equipment for a variety of hobby enthusiasts.

The shop is owned and operated by Greg Scherer. It stocks a wide range of items specific to model railways; model planes; R/C planes; R/C cars/trucks; U-control planes; kites, etc. Even though the building is small...perhaps not much larger than 50 X 150 feet, but don't be fooled. It packs a potent punch!

The beauty of this shop is how well the merchandise is organized and how accessible the items

are to those in hunt of just the right "thingy."

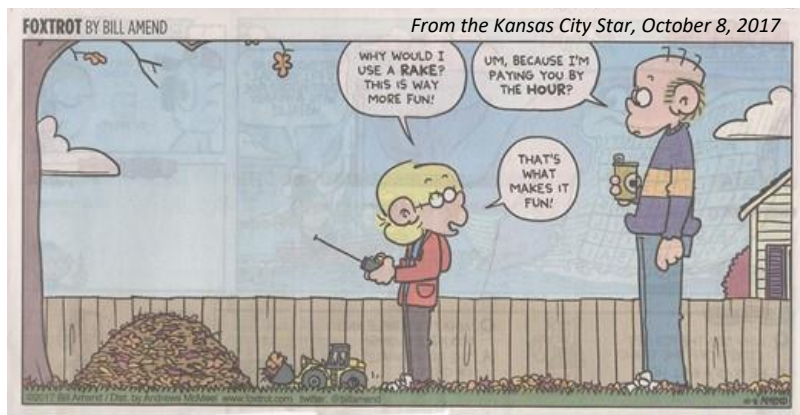
In addition to the layout, nearly everything in the shop appears to be excellent quality, up-to-date merchandise...no obsolete or junk stuff here! Heck, we even spotted several "just released" Horizon Hobby ARFs, all neatly stacked and waiting for someone like me to take one home. Unfortunately, there wasn't an inch of spare space left in our vehicle!



Given the town's location, we just had to ask: "where on earth do R/C flyers find a place to fly?" Well, seems that the local club was able to secure a very nice site adjacent to the William R. Fairchild International Airport. From what I can tell from their directions to the site, it's located on airport

property about one third of a mile off to the south side of the main runway. They apparently have been operating there for some time without any major conflicts.

Bottom line: it was refreshing to see that the hobby, along with the merchants who support it, is alive and well, even in less than ideal situations. Nice going folks!



It's important to remember...

If at first
you don't succeed...
skydiving is not for you!





The Buzz Around the Field

(Below)

This could be the start of something big! Actually it is the start of something big. That's Brad Carter "testing the fit" of the cabin section of a kit plane he's preparing to assemble. The plane is called a Panther by Spor Performance Aviation and, depending on the configuration, has a wing-span of between 21.5—23.5 feet. It'll top 200 MPH, weighs between 600-800 lbs and features a folding wing design. Definitely NOT an ARF!



(Left) Spotted at the field during the last Sunday in October was Henri Lemus and his sweet daughter Victoria. They were out to perform the annual winterizing of the sprinkler system.

Henri has his own lawn care company that specializes in underground drainage systems, landscaping, tree and shrub pruning along with irrigation installation and repair. He also enjoys flying R/C helicopters! Need a lawn care service? Give Henri a call at 913-915-6468.



(Above) Ever see a spigot sneeze? That's what happens when Henri puts his diesel-powered air compressor to work.



Address news articles to:
Ed & Elaine Noulin at:
edsrncg@kc.rr.com



(Above) Speaking of something big! No, it's not the latest ARF from Horizon Hobby, rather an ultralight that visited the field in October 2004.

The 2017 Club Officers Are:



Pres.
J. Brown



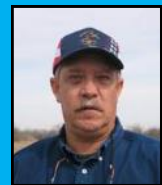
Vice-Pres.
R. Abels



Sec.
M. McNeill



Treas.
B. Alexander



Field Marshal
R. Donley