

Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2001

President Wall called the meeting to order at 7:30. There were 42 members and 7 guests present.

Guests were introduced and new memberships approved for Dick Silver, Andrew Tugwell, Donald Rae, Larry Garrett, and Butch Nye.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published in the Prop Wash. It was noted that editor Jack Evans produced the April newsletter using only his right hand, that being all he had remaining after fine-tuning a 91 from the upwind side of the propeller last month.

Treasurer Don Ramsey was not able to give his report in person but had e-mailed it to Brad Wall: Club finances are in good condition and the money is available to fund the new sprinkling system. Year-end projections look very good.

Committee Reports:

Field Committee- Vice President Greg Gathright said he had been trying to contact the Chief Engineer for the sprinkling system project to find out why it has not been started. The field is really beginning to dry out and soon we will need dynamite to dig a hole in it. (This report has been paraphrased somewhat.)

Greg also reported that the new sign for the field entrance has been designed and pretty much approved by those who saw the mock-up at the March meeting. The only suggested change was the elimination of the IMAA Chapter number, the Barnstormers no longer being an active IMAA Chapter. Brad asked for comments and received general concurrence from the membership to skip any IMAA reference. Greg will proceed with the sign.

Bob Schlotter dedicated that the building over-hang project was awaiting 4 sheets of metal roofing. The framing and painting have been completed. Modifications to the plumbing are completed.

Bob Schlotter asked that the mowing crews wash the fresh grass off the mowers immediately after use. Otherwise the next person using the mower has to do so anyhow and the dried grass takes a long time to remove.

Max Taylor was asked to give a report on the condition of the mowing equipment. He said the bearings in the oldest mower are beginning to get noisy but are not a problem as yet. Something that may be a problem is the mysterious disappearance of the newest gas cans. It is possible that someone has taken them to be filled for the next mowing crew.

Fun Fly- Bob Upton said he would apply for an AMA sanction for a club fun fly in mid-September. The event will be limited to Barnstormer members.

Sailplane- Al Dalnoki reminded us of the glider event on May 19. The field should be in good condition for the winch equipment because the hay was just cut and should be raked and baled next week.

Old Business

Brad asked for a report on the "newsletter co-op" project. Ken Bauske said that an event schedule through the month of September has been updated and published in the recent Prop Wash. It is unlikely that any new events will be added, the 2001 event schedule having been pretty much completed by the AMA. The October portion of the schedule will be published next month. There was no room for it in the newsletter this month.

For those who may have missed it, President Wall again announced that the Barnstormers were given the Gold AMA Leader Club Award last month. Members should pick up their individual award pins from Jack Evans if they have not done so already.

New Business

Jack Evans indicated that Dick Pursley, our Barnstormer Webmaster, has asked that we verify our E-mail addresses and report to him any corrections. Mike Gamber offered the advice that the way our addresses are displayed invites automated copying, which in turn, will produce unwelcome junk mail. Mike suggested that our addresses be protected using an underscoring technique that humans can ignore but "bots" can't decipher.

Max Taylor reviewed a news item he had just pulled off the Internet regarding the Top Gun meet at the Palm Beach Polo Club in Florida this past weekend. (This is an annual by-invitation-only scale meet attended by the top RC fliers.) On late Saturday morning a turbine powered jet model crashed through the roof of a nearby townhouse, narrowly missing a female occupant who was drying her hair in the bathroom. The commotion over this incident built up to the point where, by Sunday, some neighbors were fashioning barrage balloons to interfere with the RC flights. It is not clear whether or not the event was called off early but it is clear that it will never again be held at the Palm Beach Polo Club. Doubtless, the safety and publicity issues arising from this event will have a negative impact on the AMA and its member clubs.

Secretary Bauske asked whatever happened to plans for rewarding the Friendship Center for the use of their facilities. In the discussion which followed members described the charitable nature of the Friendship Center, how it provides meals on wheels, dialysis and other health care transportation, and needed care for the elderly of Montgomery County. Various proposals were made to authorize Barnstormer contributions. Finally, Bob Upton moved that we provide \$40 per month from the treasury. Max Taylor proposed that this be amended to include a further cash contribution beyond this at whatever amount the membership throws in the collection plate at each meeting. Appropriate seconds were provided and the motion, as amended, was approved.

New Product Demonstration

Gene Dobesh - Gene showed a new Morris Hobbies prototype ARF all wood built-up trainer that he has been test flying. Made in mainland China and covered in Oracover, this plane should sell for less than \$129.95. Weighing about 5 pounds, the plane was designed for a 40, preferably MVVS. Gene says it flies beautifully.

Model of the Month

Gene Dobesh - Scratch built two-rotor autogiro, "Aut Two", from an Australian design. ST46, white MonoKote, 3 channel, 5 pounds. Seems to fly very well but has suffered from various structural anomalies during the initial flights, resulting in a tree top landing, a rotor-less free fall, and a rotor blade separation, which incredibly didn't seem to change the way the plane flew. Gene says the designer claims it will fly inverted.

Paul Langner - Great Planes F 14. MVVS 77, Airtonics radio, with mechanical retracts. Weighs about 7 pounds. Has made 4 flights, one of which ended in a deliberate wheels-up landing after a wheel fell off. Slid in nicely.

John Powell Jr. - Sig 4 Star 40, Rossi 45, MonoKote. Flies great, will knife edge with just a quarter of rudder. Has flaperons to control ballooning on landings.

Winner: Gene Dobesh

Raffle

Harper Taylor - Hanger 9 Aspire 2 meter sailplane. Diane Guillory - Lucky

Stik 40-46 sport aircraft ARF by Model Tech.

Mike Guillory - Field package: Micro Panel Plus glo charger, Hobbico Top Fueler, & Glo jack.

Adam Kaminskas - Just Hobbies gap filling CA, Ernst Ultra Stand

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 Ken

Bauske - Secretary