

FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter of the Valley RC Flying Club

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Chester Williams

Sometimes I have difficulty thinking of things to write. Fortunately (or unfortunately, depending on how you look at it) events at the field and conversations with members provide me with topics to discuss.

This month I want to focus on non-members flying at the field. It's been brought to my attention that this has been happening recently. Randy Ryman wrote me the following a couple of weeks ago:

Here of late I've been out riding and sometimes stop by the field to see if anyone is there flying. The last two times I've done that, there was someone there, but left immediately as soon as I showed up. I'm becoming convinced that persons are using our field that don't belong either to AMA or the club. First time I stopped in, there was an older black BMW. The kid was flying what appeared to be a helicopter on the bridge side of the pit area. As soon as I started across the creek in the truck, he grabbed his stuff, put it in the car and left. He went by me and didn't even so much as look.



Google Map image of the Flying Field

Follow-up email exchanges between Randy and I revolved around what to do about it. I'm not really sure if there's anything we can do about it. What do you think? If you have an idea about this please let me know. This is a serious problem we need to address because the actions of these non-members could put our lease in jeopardy and put us in legal/financial trouble if they damage property or injure someone.

One thing Randy and I both agree on is members being able to identify each other. There are so many people in the club that it's hard for me to keep track of who's who. Randy suggested that we reintroduce club ID cards. He said we could require that anyone flying at the field have in his/her possession their club ID card and their AMA card. The biggest problem we've had in the past with ID cards is getting them distributed to everyone. I suggested that



maybe we could create a photo directory of all club members. This would be especially useful for helping us match names with faces, but I'm not really sure about how well this would go over. Maybe we could combine the two ideas and have photo IDs and a photo directory. Since I work for the hospital this idea doesn't seem strange to me at all, but maybe it's overkill. What do you think?

I invite those of you who are (or have been) members of other clubs tell us how you tackled these problems. I'm curious to see what was done and I'd like to know how successful the solutions were.

That's it for now. Have a great May! See you at the meeting.

Good evening to all,

Our new member, Glenn Hitt has bought and paid for materials, used his time to build, and delivered, not one but two plane setup tables. The materials alone cost \$145. That is out of his pocket. The two new tables are under the shelter with the older two tables. Come to the field to fly and inspect our new tables. They were donated to Valley R/C. This project was discussed with several members prior to any decision by Glenn to construct the much needed setup tables. Thanks Glenn!

The next time you see Glenn may I suggest a heart felt "Thank You" and a few dollars would be greatly appreciated. This expenditure was not approved by the membership or the BOD and consequently no Valley R/C funds have been spent. For those of us that use the tables a personal donation to Glenn for materials is proper and just good business.

The next time you come to the flying field just look around and notice the new donations made by members. The drone weather vane and the new tables have been added in the past several weeks.

Valley R/C is blessed with talented, generous, and friendly members.

Dan Myers

Expoland R.C. invites all members of your club to join us on Sunday June 8, 2008 at 9:30 for a day of fun, good fellowship, and great flying at one of the best flying sites in Virginia.

Exit 91, I-64 between Staunton and Waynesboro. Follow the Expoland signs. Drinks and Food Available. Visitors are welcome.

A bunch of us went last year and had a great time!

Blue Skies,
Aaron****

Several people asked me Sunday if the May meeting would be held at the flying field or at the church. ALL meetings will be held at the church. I've decided not to have meetings at the flying field for several reasons:

1. You never know what the weather is going to be like.
2. The shelter isn't a good place to conduct business.
3. People (especially newcomers/visitors) will miss the meeting because it isn't taking place where advertised.

The church is close to the field, so if you want to get a little flying in beforehand there's plenty of time to do so and still make it to the meeting on time.

- Chester

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