

Meeting Minutes July
6, 2000

President Max Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:30. There were 23 members and 2 guests present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published in the Prop Wash.

Don Ramsey gave the Treasurer's report. The bank balance is running ahead of what was anticipated for the accounting year- end, which is the end of July. Part of this flushness is because we are getting more new members than we have had historically at this time of year. Additionally, the Big Bird event has contributed nicely and two members have pre-paid dues for next year. More will be coming in when the dues are due next month. The books were available for review at the head table and Don offered to answer any questions about them.

Max asked for reports of members' sickness or health. Some reports were given but will not be detailed here for reasons of privacy. Not much was known about the condition of most of the 108 members who were unable to attend the meeting.

Committee Reports:

Big Bird- Max gave the report for the event director: There was a pretty poor turn out for this fly-in, no doubt a consequence of the rain which surrounded the event all week end but never really fell on the flying field. Those who showed up had a good time and got plenty of flying in.

Sailplane- Al Dalnoki reported that this event was a bit of a disappointment in that no non-members showed up to fly. Aside from the heat, the weather was good and those who did show up had fun.

4-Stroke Rally- Chuck Rodgers reported that the rally would be limited to a single day, Saturday, July 8. Anyone with a 4-cycle engine should show up and fly.

Field Committee- Vice-President Rick Oliver reported that he will soon install the removable wings for the pilot's safety fence. He then asked Max to provide a report on mower repair problems because Max is usually the repairman. Max stated that frequent mower repairs are needed because the field is being cut too short, too wide, too long, and tonight he was fed up with broken belts and abused machinery. Discussion ensued on how to bring the mowing crews up to speed regarding which areas are to be mowed, what machinery to use for each job, and what grass height is desired. It was generally agreed that the requirements have been addressed in the newsletter, posted on the mowers, and marked physically on the field with chalk and flags. Still, the problems persist.

Obviously, with a rotating crew assignment falling about every year and one-half, individuals have difficulty keeping their mowing proficiency levels high. A permanent crew could do a better job. It was suggested that a volunteer mowing corps could be recruited and rewarded with free memberships. Others recalled that in the past bids had been solicited from professional lawn firms but these had been astoundingly high. Worse yet, a flock of goats would surely scalp the grass and possibly be harder to manage than the existing membership crews. (And local schools are no longer graduating quality goatherds.)

There being no quorum present, any resolution of the field problem remained open for a future

meeting. Generally it was agreed that 10 to 12 dedicated persons, either as a mowing crew or as advisors to the mowing crews, could control the mowing quality. Their activities would have to be approved by the membership and described in the newsletter. The changes involved could be in place for the next administrative year. Members who may be interested in such a volunteer assignment should contact Max Taylor. Meanwhile crews should follow the present schedule and abide by the guidelines.

Old Business

The AMA has issued new rules, which need to be posted at the field. Unfortunately the new rules do not fit in the space allotted to the old rules. The changes provide safety restrictions which, in effect, will serve to prohibit pylon racing of any kind.

The mysterious appearance and subsequent disappearance of beer in the club house refrigerator stimulated a reminder to the membership not to drink and fly, in that sequence. Max observed that this would be a good topic for inclusion in a new "Rules Section" contemplated for the newsletter.

Joe Berryman reported that his lone Introductory Pilot Program student has successfully soloed and has joined the club membership.

Paul Langner recently observed someone flying without an AMA card in the cardholder. When challenged, they admitted they were neither AMA members nor guests of a club member. They were asked to leave and did so. President Taylor urged the rest of us to be similarly alert to fliers who don't belong at our field. We have many new members and it is sometimes difficult to distinguish new from no-no.

New Business

One reason it is often difficult to identify Barnstormer members at the field is that we never see some of them at the meetings, not even some of the newer members. (In puzzling fact, some new members seem never to have been observed at the flying field either.) Max and Rick opened the meeting for ideas on how to increase club interest among the missing. Suggestions included new raffle concepts, various punishments for absence, entertainment videos (airplane related), building technique demos, and guest speakers. It was generally agreed that penalties for absence were a bad idea.

The membership of Steve Knight was approved.

Meeting participants were again asked for their ideas on which physical club improvements should be implemented next. Runway suggestions prevailed. Treasurer Don Ramsey said we easily could afford a geo-textile runway at the present time. This, in turn, would make an excellent base for asphalt later if we wanted it.

Meanwhile, volunteers are needed to build new picnic tables.

Show and Tell:

Gene Dobesh - Mistress pattern plane, from a kit by RC City. YS 61. Lace trim paint. Gene described and demonstrated the fail-safe battery back-up system he installed.

Al Dalnoki- Aspire sailplane, an ARF from Hanger 9. Weighs 30 oz. Al also showed how he controls the charging current for the diminutive airborne packs needed in hand-launched and other small gliders.

Winner: Gene Dobesh

There was no raffle. Meeting adjourned at

9:10 P.M. Ken Bauske - Secretary