



February

**Newsletter
SIRS Model
Aviation Club**



AMA District VI Chapter 621 Founded in 1964

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Next Meeting is Feburary 8th

St Mary's Church School cafeteria

527 W Jackson Bloomington Il

Enter the school from the parking lot behind the church.

Doors open at 6 PM Meeting at 7 PM

Indoor flying in the gym before and after the meeting.



**SIRS Lunch Shannons
2nd and 4th Thursdays 11:00am**

SIRS Indoor Flying

Fridays 5:30 to 9:00

Mt. Hope/Funks Grove Park District.

Located on the west side of West Street, Mclean, IL.

School gym.

Enter via Southwest door.

Feb 2025

Hello everyone. As always, I hope everyone is doing well, healthy and happy. There are a few items to pass on to everyone. Altho there are a lot of details to work out.

On the plane build for the E.A.A. Larry and Jerry will be attending the advanced meeting. This meeting is next Saturday so I expect more details after that meeting, we will pass them on as soon as we know more. We will be assisting the instructors for the upcoming youth build. We do know that assisting during the camp is possible, however there are requirements to be able to do so. If you are considering helping during the camp, we can provide you with the requirements.

Unless we read the event calendar wrong. We once again are proud to host I.M.A.C. which will be their second event of the 2025 season. The date is in May and I hope we can give Kris more assistance than he knows what to do with. If you attended last year, you know they not only enriched our club monetarily but, it was a great time and we made a lot of new friends. Saw some great flying, and technical expertise. You just gotta love freestyle!

The latest news involves the island of Australia....The F3A World Cup will be held in Muncie in August. This event brings in the American team as well as Japanese, British, and others. We have been contacted by the Australian team to request our field for practice before the big event. There are no conflicts with our season and if given the opportunity, there will be conversations with their team concerning publicity with our local tv and radio stations. I will amend this by saying we will respect their privacy if that is their wish.

With any one of these three events we are showing our neighbors as well as the A.M.A. and others that, we are a part of a larger community. We take our mandates seriously and are willing to continue participating in aviation promotion and education.

John Crawley has decided to revive a club pastime. Several members met at Shannons in Bloomington for lunch, since I was on vacation I made it to the first gathering and had a wonderful time. If you want a decent meal and great company, let John know. I can guarantee conversations you can get into!

On a final and personal note I would like to state that i was ignorant of the fact that a message in all caps means shouting. If anyone was put off by this I would like to once again apologize. That was not my intent in any way. I have enlisted my grandson to further my education in computer literacy. Hopefully he will keep me from stubbing my toes. Twelve years old and really, really likes to think he is way smarter than his grampa.

Meetings are the second Saturday of every month at St. Marys in Bloomington we all would love to see your smiling faces. Hope to see you soon!

Blue Skies and Fair Weather
Randy

Future SIRS 2025 events
Vintage Model Aviation Day
Model Aviation Day
SIRS IMAC Challenge
Ringmaster Fly-A-Thon
Thompson Cup

SIRS MEETING MINUTES

January 11. 2025

After an hour of in-door flying, President Randy Doss called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at St Mary's School gym. There were 12 members present.

Larry read the minutes from the December 14, 2024 meeting. Dennis read the Treasurer's report. Both reports were approved as given.

Old Business

Randy presented the AED donated to the club by the Illinois Veteran's Assistance Program. The system will be installed at the field in the spring along with training in its use. CPR training for Club members and possibly others, will also be provided. More details to follow in the next couple of months.

The Z-mower recall will be coordinated by Larry.

The local chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) is developing a week-long summer program aimed at promoting an interest in aviation among kids ages 11-14. The EAA has requested the assistance of SIRS in building and providing a flying site for an Old School Model Works, aka Goldberg Falcon Fifty-Six, which will be the focal point of the program. SIRS is being asked to provide a few experienced balsa builders to teach up to 12 EAA "teachers" in constructing and setting up the first kit for flying, as there appears to be only one EAA member who has any experience with RC. The training will begin mid-February and run a couple of evenings a week until the kit is finished. The EAA teachers will assemble a second kit this summer with the kids. SIRS members who have currently volunteered to assist, if available, are Jerry, Al Kleinschmidt, Randy, Steve Loftus, Tom and Larry. Others having balsa experience are asked to step forward as well. This program is a work-in-progress so some flexibility is required. As an aside, the EAA distributes an impressive monthly color publication, and suggests that SIRS contribute articles and announcements from time-to-time.

New Business

Jerry suggested that more effort is needed to reach out to other local clubs to facilitate more interaction.

John Cralley stated that the Thursday 11:00 a.m. luncheons at Shannon's restaurant will resume. These were canceled due to covid. John will make the announcements.

The event to kick-off IMAC for the summer is scheduled for May 10-11 at our field.

Jerry promised a new and improved ballon burst this summer. Time TBD.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting February 8, 2025, 7:00 pm at St. Mary's school gymnasium with indoor flying at 6:00 pm and after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Kupferschmid, Secretary

Future SIRS 2025 events

Vintage Model Aviation Day

Model Aviation Day

SIRS IMAC Challenge

Ringmaster Fly-A-Thon

Thompson Cup

The local chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) is planning to build a balsa RC plane to use in a summer workshop ("Build and Fly" program) aimed at generating interest in aviation. The target audience is young people ages 11-14. The EAA is seeking the assistance of experienced SIRS builders to "teach the teachers" who will then conduct the workshop this summer.

The plan is to build an Old School Model Works fifty-six (aka:Goldberg Falcon 56) over the next few weeks in the EAA hangar at the airport. A second plane will be built with the kids during their summer workshop with the EAA instructors.

Members of the EAA who are involved in this program, hope to attend our next meeting at St. Mary's to explain the plan in more detail. It is hoped that 5 or 6 SIRS members will step forward and offer a few hours during the month of February to build the first plane with the EAA. Practically all materials needed to build an electric version of the planes have been provided by the EAA home office.

Please attend the next SIRS meeting to learn more about the program, which could be an important opportunity for SIRS to make an impact in the community! And assist another aviation organization who is seeking our help.

Larry

<https://www.eaa.org/ea>

[EAA 129](#)

Bloomington, IL

President: Charlie Bates

Contact: 309-657-2192 | eaachapter129@gmail.com

Meetings: Every 3rd Thursday 6:00 PM

Meeting Location: Central IL Reg. Airport Hangar F-15

2825 E. Empire

Bloomington IL 61704

Programs: [IMC Club](#), [Young Eagles](#), [Technical Counselors](#), [Eagle Flights](#), [Ray Aviation Scholarship](#)

Website: chapters.eaa.org/ea129

Scan this to find our flying field



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Ringmaster Fly-A-Thon
Thompson Cup

The 2025 dues are \$100 and due April 1st 2025

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

AMA # (or applied for) _____

Phone: home _____ cell _____

Email _____

Make Check Payable to "SIRS Inc." and Mail to : (or bring to a meeting)

Dennis Garrigus
1301 Heritage Road
Normal, IL 61761

New member's dues will be prorated to expire on March 31st.

Can't find your check book try PAYPAL