



April
SIRS

Model Aviation
Club



AMA District VI Chapter 621 Founded in 1964

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Next Club meeting is April 13th

Meeting will be held at 1:00 pm at the field weather permitting. Larry' shed is alternate site.

The 2024 dues are \$100 and due April 1st 2024

Control line balloon burst May 11th

POC Jerry Worden jwfly1697@msn.com

Vintage Model Aviation Day/SIRS 60th Anniversary

June 22nd-23rd

POC Jerry Worden jwfly1697@msn.com

Model Aviation Day August 17

POC Steve Meyer steves_tile@yahoo.com

SIRS IMAC Challenge Sept 14th-15th

POC Kris Akers kris.akers101@gmail.com

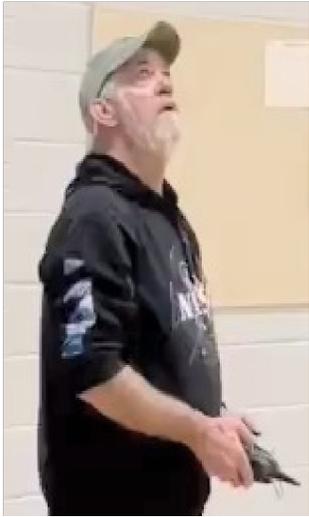
Ringmaster Fly-A-Thon October 5th, 6th as a backup

POC John Cralley jccrall@ilstu.edu

Thompson Cup TBD

POC Justin Worden justin.worden@nussbaum.com

Message from our President



It's already April and some of us have already taken to the skies. I am aware of several members who have added to their wing over the winter. I am sure they are as anxious as I am to get out there and enjoy their new acquisitions.

The east end off the runway is about the only "project" we have going on at the moment. Bob and Larry are leading the charge to bring it back up to par with the rest of the field. Anyone who is willing to help, reach out, this is one of those team effort gigs. More people, less work, that makes sense in any language.

The tentative date for Merle's memorial event is looking to be the third or fourth Saturday in May. One of the items we are looking at for the memorial will take approximately a month to create. This item will be discussed and either approved or not at the April meeting.

All of the events on our schedule have been confirmed for the year. Anyone looking to host an event is more than welcome to step forward and make it happen. There aren't that many steps involved and it can be personally satisfying as well as profitable for any worthy cause as well as an opportunity to show off our flying skills and promote community participation.

To expand on this just a touch: We all know logistics and support duties can be overwhelming even with a small club. These can be offset by others pitching in, allowing the host to focus on the participants and guests for his or her event. Parking, cooking, sales, announcing and many other tasks are open. I encourage everyone to participate in any capacity you are capable of. We are not the largest club, but we are capable of setting the standard by which all others pale in comparison! I will say it again: I am honored and proud to be a part of this club. Join me in having many, many great flights this year!

Blue skies,
Randy, SIRS Club President

SIRS Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2024

After an hour of in-door flying, President Randy Doss called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the St Mary's gym. The meeting was held the first Saturday in March due to a scheduling conflict at St Mary's on the second Saturday. There were 15 members present.

Larry read the minutes from the February 10 meeting. Dennis gave the Treasurer's report for February. Both reports were approved as given.

Old Business

No update was available for constructing an RC dirt track in the southeast corner of the field.

An event for Merle Jackson is still under discussion. Randy is the contact person. The proposal is to create a permanent feature with Merle's name such as a plaque, a street sign, etched rock. etc. Nothing has been finalized.

Jerry elaborated on ideas for the Annual Vintage Model Aviation Day/Open House to be held in conjunction with SIRS 60th anniversary celebration. The event will take place June 22 and 23. Other events planned for the year are a ballon burst, Model Aviation Day celebration, Ringmaster Fly-A-Thon, the Thompson cup and IMAC. If SIRS advertises an AMA sanctioned event incorporating the AMA in the event coverage, the AMA will send the Club \$150.

The internet accessible weather station is up and running at the field. According to Randy, the first year's internet access has been paid!

New Business

Bob is planning to spread crabgrass preventer on the field once soil temperature is appropriate. Larry will till and seed the bare patch at the east end of the runway.

Dewayne Leavens was the winner of the \$50 Bloomington Meats door prize!

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned to an hour of in-door flying.

Next meeting: 7:00 pm, April 13, 2024, St Mary's. Indoor flying at 6:00 pm and after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted.

Larry Kupferschmid, Secretary

Horizon Hobby RC Fest June 7-8, 2024 MONTICELLO, IL

***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.***

Scan this to find our flying field



AMA EVENTS

<https://www.modelaircraft.org/event-calendar>

The 2024 dues are \$100 and due April 1st 2024

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
Fast, easy, and safe.
sirsrc23@gmail.com

Please send me any upcoming events. Please send photos or any other information you would like to see in the newsletter.

Dave Leavens, Editor
gpen2@yahoo.com

April on the field

During my lifetime I have been fortunate to be involved or at least flying at quite a few clubs in several states across our country, including one in Hawaii and two clubs across the big pond. Every club has its own style and some have more restrictions or rules than others, but overall they have more in common than not.

Flying at your home field is a great way to become more competent and confident with your flying skills, including being around people you know and flying at a site where you have every obstacle memorized. Your takeoffs are standard and your turns and throttle management are made from cues you have from landmarks. Basically you are comfortable in a known environment.

Speaking from experience it is amazing how, by just flying at an unfamiliar field, you become anxious, overly cautious and flying has become more than just an average day at your home field. It's not as bad now as it used to be, but I still find myself concentrating much harder by trying to be way smoother in my turns and in my landings (yeah right). Now you can psychoanalyze all you like as to why this happens and I am not alone in this, but the bottom line is: It helps you to become a more proficient pilot. Nobody wants to crash, BUT in front of people you just met, that's memorable in a bad way!

As long as you hold an AMA card you can fly at any sanctioned field. Our rule as with most clubs is that you may fly as a guest, twice with a member present. This allows us to visit other club fields and test our abilities. If an event is scheduled on the day of your visit, the Safety Officer (SO) may ask you to fly for him to evaluate your skills. The SO has the same responsibility for his club as ours has for us: The safety of everyone on the property.

One final thought: If you identify yourself and our club, **YOU** are technically an Ambassador for our club! We want to encourage visits from other clubs as well as us visiting them. We can learn as well as lead.

Fly Happy,

Randy, SIRS Club President