

HORSEFEATHERS

Newsletter of the BILLINGS FLYING MUSTANGS



February 1, 1998 Volume 25 Number 2

Annual Awards



Banquet

Saturday February 7th

Elks Club on Lewis

The Planning is all done! The Committee's and helpers are in place. The food is being prepared. What we need now is signed up participants. You can get signed up at the meeting this Monday (2nd) or you can mail your checks to the P.O. Box on the back of this newsletter. In accordance with policy set up years ago, a reservation is only valid with \$\$\$ attached. The meal is \$15 per person again, the menu is Oven Baked Chicken, Ham and Roast Beef with potatoes or rice, salads and a desert.

Visiting and no host bar start at 6:30 P.M. and dinner will be served at 7:30. It will be Buffet style and eat all you want (till it's gone). We will be downstairs at the Elks. There will be a raffle drawing and some door prizes. We're not going to be giving away as fancy a raffle prize this year but it will be nice. Come and join us.

See Steve Garr at this months meeting to get your name on the list and get paid up.

MUSTANGS TO MEET AT THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Usual Place

Newly elected President Ron Beck has been busy in his first month in office. Ron talked to the management at the Knights of Columbus where we have been meeting for the last several years.

As you may recall, last months meeting was thrown into chaos when we all arrived just after about 80 member of a snowmobile club called their meeting to order in our usual room. The KofC folks tried desperately to find us other room but to no avail. Our group adjourned to the Winners Circle Bar after a phone call confirmed they had a very light crowd and an open room suitable for meeting.

The meeting proceeded but it was not ideal. The ventilation and noise made it difficult to hold the meeting and proved to be an "emergency only" meeting place.

Ron's conversations with the KofC management resulted with them wishing us to continue to meet there. If the snowmobilers continue to meet there they are supposed to be out of the room by our meeting time of 7:30. This does not hold too much promise of working out. We may be in the need of a new meeting place. Discussion will continue in our next meeting - at the KofC.

Mt. Aviation Conference

February 26, 27, and 28th
Holiday Inn

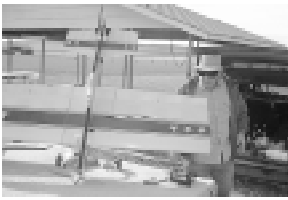
Arrangements are going real well for the Mustangs participation in the Montana Aviation Conference.

Our Raffle prize is in hand and being finished. Central Hobbies and S Bar S have provided the prize at what turns out to be NO COST to the club. This means that the raffle is pure profit. A great big Thank you to S Bar S and especially to Al Coomber of Central Hobbies for their support. Our drawing will be part of their program at their Saturday night banquet. President Ron Beck and I will hold the drawing.

The Prize is a fully assembled and ready to fly Hanger 9 semi scale Cessna trainer with a Futaba Sky Sport 4 channel radio and

OS Max 40 LA engine. Servos and all accessories down to the APC prop are included. Last year along with selling tons of tickets to the Conference attendees we also had a club member win the prize. Not a bad deal.

Our schedule is to completely set up our display on Wednesday February 25th, man our tables to answer questions, and be ambassadors for modelling thru Saturday afternoon and then dismantle our display on Sunday Morning March 1. Don Herrington is in charge of worker sign up and scheduling. Contact Don at the meeting to get your name on the list. If you can't make the meeting please give Don a call. Those with names on the list will have badges to tour the Aviation Conference and see all the Aviation related vendors displays.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Ron and the late Profile Extra 300

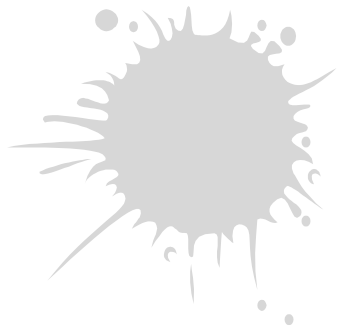
Let me first give my thanks to Larry Wilkinson for the long and what must have been an exhausting effort to bring about this Land-slide vote for my Presidency.

The January meeting had a snag involving another group who had our meeting room. Since this group is made up of members of "KC", and we are not nor do we pay rent for the facility, we decided not to "rumble" and moved our meeting to The Winners Circle Sports Bar. The next day I talked to the "KC" manager who assured me that in future meetings, the other group would adjourn at 7:30. There is still a possibility of a problem so we may have to consider a new meeting place.

I hope everyone is on schedule with their winter projects. I still have the fatal optimism of having three months to finish mine-then two-then one-then ARF or then " what'll ya take for that Garr"?

Lets try to get more people attending the next meeting by calling someone who has not been seen lately. Remember, Ask not what your club can.....

Ron



1997 Officers

President - Ron Beck
Vice President - Tod Monson
Treasurer - Leland Schliep
Secretary - Steve Hergett

"Horsefeathers" is the official newsletter of the **Billings Flying Mustangs R/C Club**. This newsletter is published monthly by the club and mailed to all current members. Newsletter editor: Leland Schliep P.O. Box 22406 phone 406 256-9836 Fax 406 256-9580 email leland5@jmt.net



**MUSTANGS
BUSINESS
SECTION**



Last Meeting's Minutes.

The meeting was called to order by Larry Wilkinson at 7:50 PM. This months meeting was held at the WINNERS CIRCLE due to the fact that the usual meeting place at the Knights of Columbus was in use by another group. There were 25 members present.

The minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Leland gave the Treasurer's report. The report included a 1997 year summary detailing where money was generated and the major expenses incurred. The report was approved.

OLD BUSINESS: Leland stopped by the concession stand and found the thermostat in the heater was stuck. It was about 90 degrees inside. The Pepsi machine was returned and all freezeable items were removed from the snack shack. The heater at present time is turned off.

COMBAT COMMITTEE: Doug Haacke presented the club with a \$300.00 check from MODEL AIRPLANE NEWS for his submission of an outstanding article covering the Western National Combat Meet held last July. MODEL AIRPLANE NEWS asked Doug to again cover the upcoming National Meet scheduled for this July. Doug also gave the Treasury a boost from about 25 entry fees collected so far. The Combat committee would like to have volunteers for Pilot judges this year. This would relieve the paid contestants from that duty allowing them more time to be more prepared for their upcoming round. Sponsors are also needed to help cover expenses.

MONTANA AVIATION CONFERENCE COMMITTEE: Committee chairman Leland Schliep said we need planes to display. If you have a nice one give Leland a call at 245-6008. The club will sell raffle tickets for an ARF.

RACING COMMITTEE: If you have any questions about racing and want to no how to get started you are encouraged to call any of the committee members. Dick Smith 652-3720 Doug Haacke 656- 4072 Dennis Winchell 652-2620

BATHROOM CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE: Dennis Winchell has been searching for bids for a new restroom building. He has found that estimates are around \$1500.00. Another option is the use of a prefabricated construction type toilet. These could be placed over the existing holes. The cost is about \$350.00 to \$400.00 each. There will be more discussion at the next meeting. Dennis would like to complete this project in March.

BANQUET COMMITTEE: The annual awards banquet will be held on February 7th at the Elks club. Tickets are available

from committee chairman Leland Schliep. (245-6008) Tickets can be purchased at the next meeting. If you can't attend the meeting be sure to let Leland know you want to come. The tickets will remain at the same cost as last year, \$15.00 per plate. 6:30 to 7:30 is the no host cocktail hour. Dinner will start at 7:30.

MULTI EVENT/ FUN-FLY Doug Haacke would like to hold a committee meeting directly after the next regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: There were 33 paid members at the start of the January meeting.

Elections were held. The 1998 officers are: **PRESIDENT:** Ron Beck **VICE PRESIDENT:** Todd Monson **SECRETARY:** Steve Hergett **TREASURER:** Leland Schliep Newly elected board members are: Steve Garr, Doug Haacke, and Dennis Winchell.

Leland had received a Christmas card from Mrs. R. W. Morton, who is the landlord of the flying field. It would be a nice gesture to send a card her way next year.

Leland also noted that there was some interest in a new-comer pilot training course. This idea will be put on the agenda at a future meeting.

(Banquet) PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Doug Haacke and Larry Wilkinson were appointed to this post. They will be in charge of award presentation at the banquet.

Leland volunteered to be the 1998 concessions Czar. The CD's of each event will work with Leland on organizing concession needs.

The 50/50 raffle winner was Brad Wiser.

1998 President Ron Beck took over the helm and entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

FOR SALE/LOST AND FOUND/WANTED

A FREE service for readers to unload that junk, find that jewel, and or call for help.



**Next Month!
promise!!**

Leland's Ramblin's Junk You Can Skip If You're Busy!

Well, here I am, down to that time of the news that any editor hates. I have used up all the articles presented, laid it all out and filled it all in. Darn I have to make some more room. Seems like I'm always a half page long or a half page short. Come on guys write in exact column units next time ok? Well maybe it is too much to ask. I guess if it was easy anyone could do it and then Eric would still have the job. ooooooh.

It has been a fairly productive winter for me. No new construction, just rebuilding but having fun at it. I rebuilt that little 4 Star 40 and it flies better than before the wreck. It has almost pure control in pitch and roll and some mixing made the yaw almost clean. I am thinking I may have a decent pattern plane with that little beast. I bet if I put in a large degree of expo to smooth it out it would fly a fair sportsman pattern. It's the first plane I have had that will do a good knife edge with my poor flying skills. I just roll it up, throw the rudder to it and use a little elevator to keep the line and it will keep on for the length of the field. I have explored the very bottom end of the speed envelope. I was flying along just a click above falling out of the sky and shoved in all the aileron and rudder it had and did the slowest sloppiest roll to inverted you ever saw. It then proceeded to mush along inverted at a speed that would have made the Lazy Bee's proud.

I have the Ultimate Biplane ready to go fly. After I rebuilt it, it is about a pound lighter due to the weight I removed from the tail and the fact that it appears to balance without extra nose weight. The engine seems to be running stronger now too. Maybe when I threatened to burn the whole pile I woke it up! I weighed the plane engine and all ready to fly and it was eight and a half pounds. I put the fish scale in the tie rope when I was burning in the engine and it pulled over 9 pounds. Seems like that should fly. Of course the wind has been over 30 m.p.h. every minute of sunshine since I finished it.

On to real business. As noted else where we are moving right along into our schedule. The Annual Awards Banquet is all set. The food is ordered, the tickets are on sale and Larry assures me he and the Program Committee are on track. Steve Garr will have the sign up sheet and ticket sales at the meeting. Sign up early and often.

The Montana Aviation Conference is on track. We have three tables, a TV and VCR supplied by the Conference. Don Herrington will have the worker sign ups. Our raffle prize tickets will be on sale at the meeting for those of you who believe in getting the first tickets off the roll.

Powell has their Swap meet on March 14th. The swap meet is free but you can spend a bunch of bucks on some real neat stuff there. In the evening they have a shrimp or prime rib dinner for \$13.50. You need reservations for the dinner. Generally if the weather is good folks go out and fly between the swap meet (10 a.m. to noon) and the dinner (6 p.m.) Contact Web Higgins or Larry Pettingil for reservations and more info. If you need help finding them contact Don Herrington or Steve Gar.



Hey, fighter pilots!

January has been a busy month! I'm happy to report that registrations for the Scale R/C Combat Western National Championships have gone through the roof! As I write this on the 19th of January, our current number of registered pilots stands at 39, and I'm talking with 3 guys from Detroit who want to come and are trying to work out frequencies conflicts! That would bring the count to 42 pilots, and the month's not even over yet! Needless to say, I'm tickled to death, and hope we can find 8 more pilots to round out to our limit of 50. We said it was gonna be bigger and better, and it looks like we're already bigger! Ron Daniels, a designer and builder from Canada, has offered a \$100 prize to anyone who wins our contest flying one of his designs. There's also 2nd and 3rd place money. What a great guy, and what gorgeous plans.

{UPDATE: After almost totally forgetting about our Man of the Year, Vergil Jones, and adding a new pilot from California, our total registered pilots now stands at 44.}

I mentioned at the meeting that I need ideas for finding pilot judges for both days of the competition. I'd REALLY like to use club members, so if you and a friend can spare a weekend, please, please let me know as soon as possible so I can start making arrangements. If you know someone who might be interested in volunteering, I'd like to know that as well. If you know a group I could approach about helping, pass that along as well. This would really be the icing on the cake. If you're the guy that either gets the judges, or has the idea that winds up getting us the judges, I'll personally pay for your membership next year. That's how serious I am about needing pilot judges!!

Earl Seaholm is online now (God help us). I suggest if you are connected to the Internet, now might be a good time to install that software that filters out foul and abusive language.

Speaking of Earl, his Cubs are now legal, according to our rules. He's already whipped up a couple, and even put an ASP .25 on one. This, apparently, has satisfied his thirst for speed. He's already tried attaching a streamer, but it comes off AT LAUNCH. Now he's faced with the horrible thought of toning the thing down. According to his wife, he lost a lot of sleep knowing Vergil had a ship that was considerably faster.

Ron Horton has been building like crazy. In addition to getting a couple of race planes ready, he's managed to find the time to build a few combat Sea Furies. One he powered with an OS .20FP, and from what Ron reports, it's a tad underpowered. Knowing that Ron has been spending some time at Seaholm, we can expect to see a .25FX in the Sea Fury before long.

You can expect to see some twins at the big combat meet in July. At least four guys that have registered have indicated they plan on competing with twins. I'm not gonna ruin the surprise,

but only one of 'em is a P-38. The others are others that you wouldn't expect to see, and should be real crowd-pleasers. I only hope they last until July!

If you're considering buying a new combat engine, you may want to shop no further than our own Central Hobbies. Alan has the best price on .25FX and .25FP around, including all the popular mail-order places. Which reminds me of something else. Just for kicks and giggles, I weighed the MVVS .21 and the OS .25FX, and discovered the .25FX is a full ounce lighter.

Finally, my 4 Hurricane kits came fresh out of the factory from Jeff Weiss. These are the new machine cut complete kits that Jeff has been talking about. They come with a full hardware pack, all the balsa, ply, lite-ply and a great set of plans for \$49.95 direct. These are not made from Gus Morfis designed, but Jeff's own design. They build up quite fast, and are hell for stout! I framed up a fuse in a short evening, and am just starting on the wing. Jeff currently has the Bearcat, Hurricane and P-51B available.

Don't forget the primer coming up in April. Please try and have one plane ready for some practice. And don't forget about our need for pilot judges. See ya at the meeting!

-Doug



ATTENTION!!

The race begins in May, those of you ,like myself,who are not ready to race until the last moment should heed this WARNING; Get off your lazy backside and build that super fast pylon racer....

The pylon racers (Quickie 500) are easy to build and if built reasonably straight are a fun plane to fly. There are a number of planes that can be purchased either ARF or precovered ready to put on the motor and race.If you don't have time to build this is a good option and will have you at the Spring race having a wonderful time and winning thousands of dollars...well maybe a hotdog and a free beer but none the less some fun. The hardest part of racing is doing this little article, if you only knew how slow I type

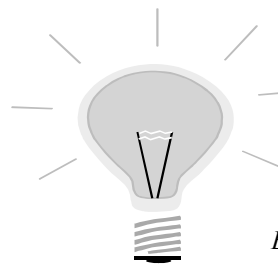
The racers from Cody have been talking about putting on a race this year, they have a great field and several people who attend races in our area. The Sperry's of course are World famous pylon racers and no doubt be in the Hall of Fame in the near future. Pam is really the racer, Mike is kept around to build the planes and drive the van to the events. We'll be looking forward to Cody's race.

My understanding is our new Pres. is looking to try his hand at the race this spring, I wish you luck and by the way Congrats and Thank you for accepting the Presidents job.The club is lucky to have members like yourself to work to better our hobby and local club.The club is only as good as our active membership, get out and support our hobby.

Leland told me I only needed to write a couple of paragraphs? Now is that because I'm really bad at this or because he already has the Newsletter about done and I'm very late? I'll try to do better next time...

See you all at the Billings Flying Mustangs Gala Awards Banquet ..

Go Fast and Turn Left
Dick



Current Events!

By Steve Hergett

It is the start of a new year and for the first time in four years I don't have an electric project in the works!! This year I've changed my priorities. I will get my combat planes built first and then start on an electric.

I'm still trying to rathole enough money for the next electric motor I want to purchase. It is a "brushless" motor. As the name implies, these motors do not have brushes. Advantages of this type of motor are higher efficiency and increased flexibility. The same motor will be able to power a .25 to .60 size plane by changing the battery cell count and gearbox ratio. The new 2000 mah size batteries along with the more efficient motor will allow flight times of 7 minutes with generous power consuming aerobatics.

Since I don't have an electric in the works, I'll tell you about somebody who is working on one now. Bill Goetz is the proud new owner of an electric sailplane. Last year Bill was somewhat frustrated with his lack of flying time (due to being out of town on business constantly). This year he will be prepared to fly a lot more.

The electric sailplane usually requires nothing more than a little open space to fly. Naturally it is quiet, so noise is not a problem. It is the perfect traveling companion for the RC flyer. Flying this type of plane is different than you typical glow powered plane. I really enjoy this relaxed type of flying. It is way more fun to do than watch, kind of like watching golf on TV. Sailplanes are designed to catch rising air and then ride the thermal.

Conventional sailplanes are limited by there launch height usually obtained with a winch or a bungee called a hi-start. Electric's have the ability to gain higher altitude which enables you to get to the better air easier, without the fuss of setting up the cumbersome launcher.

Still another advantage offered by electric sailplanes is the ability to do other types of flying. After your neck becomes tired from looking up at your little speck of a plane which you have been flying for more than twenty minutes on the last thermal you can do a little boogie with it also.

Bill's plane has a modern style sailplane wing, which is very thin. In a shallow extended dive it should reach speeds in excess of 80 m.p.h.. Pull back on the elevator and do a monster loop, or two. It should also be able to roll if the air speed is sufficient.

With this type of thin efficient wing, the plane is not going to slow down easily for landing. Bill is going to counter this by setting up the ailerons to operate in a "crow" fashion. With the "crow" both ailerons will move upward simultaneously to effectively kill the lift and create drag for a more controlled landing.

Good luck Bill and have fun this summer flying. Oh,— don't pack your spray bottle and paper towels, you won't need them.

Race News from the Washington Transplant Racer

Attention "Go Fasters" in Montana and surrounding area. Surrounding are those that live with the symbol of the "Bucking Bronco". I am sure that the symbol was inspired by the Billings Mustangs. I think they have been around longer than Wyoming.....

There are two races in Eastern Washington, that are almost as close to you as they are to me. These races are a little over 200 miles west of Missoula, right off the I90. Both sights have great facilities for racing. Lots and lots of asphalt, and nothing to run into. The races are both scheduled during the month of August. The First is in Deer park, which is about 20 miles north of Spokane, at the Barons field. The second is in Ephrata, Washington, at the airport. Ephrata is about 80 miles west of Spokane. This is an event that is promoted by the city and is a big event in their cit....uh..town. Both of these events are good sites, and have the opportunity to be the biggest events in the Northwest, because of the central location. It should draw the racers from the coast, Canada, and Montana. The event conflicted with the Billings event last year, so the date was changed to accommodate the racers from your area.

The events that will be flown are Formula 1, Q40, and 428 Quickie 500. I know that there are a lot of Q40 and Quickie 500 racers there, come play with us. We have a lot of fun. The dates are:

Spokane, Wa. August 8th and 9th, 1998 Ephrata, Wa August 29th and 30th, 1998

Rhonda and I hope to see you all there, Darrol Cady dcadv@pacifier.

bex surfin's
Neat tricks and tips gleaned by
Ron, Mr. Internet, Beck.

PATTERN CORNER

Precision Aerobatics News and Items of Interest.

These fine columns will return next month!



1998 EVENTS - Events from all over the Region.

FEBRUARY 7. - Billings Flying Mustangs Annual Banquet 6:30-7:30 no host bar. 7:30 Dinner Elks at 12th and Lewis ave. Leland Schliep Coordinator 245-6008.

FEBRUARY 26,27,&28. BILLINGS Montana Aviation Conference Display and Booth. Set up Wed 25th, Tear down Sunday 3/1. Aerial display and Raffle. Leland Schliep Coordinator 245-6008.

March 14 POWELL Swap Meet and Banquet - Dinner Reservations and info Larry Pettingill Powell.

April 18 - GREAT FALLS - Static Mall Show at Holiday Village

APRIL 25. BILLINGS Billings Flying Mustangs Spring Combat match. 1 day event. Doug Haacke Coordinator 252-7210.

MAY 16 & 17. BILLINGS Billings Flying Mustangs Spring Race Meet. Dick Smith Coordinator 652-3720.

May 24 - GREAT FALLS - Scale Combat Primer.

JUNE 6. BILLINGS Billings Flying Mustangs Spring Pattern 1 day event *Tentative* (low turnout last year=reluctantance this year).

June 6 - MISSOULA - Combat

June 20, 21 GREAT FALLS - Air show
JUNE 26, 27,&28. BILLINGS Billings Flying Mustangs Ranguitch Memorial Fly In. Dennis Rollins Coordinator 652-5026.

JULY 11 & 12. BILLINGS Western Regional Combat Championships. Doug Haacke Coordinator 252-7210.

July 17 - 19 GREAT FALLS - Fly In

July 25, 26 MISSOULA Float Plane Fly In.

August 1,2 GREAT FALLS Big Sky Pattern Meet

August 8, 9 CHOTEAU Jet Fly In

August 8 & 9. SPOKANE, WA. Race meet.

AUGUST 15 & 16. BILLINGS Billings Flying Mustangs Summer Race Meet. Dick Smith Coordinator 652-3720.

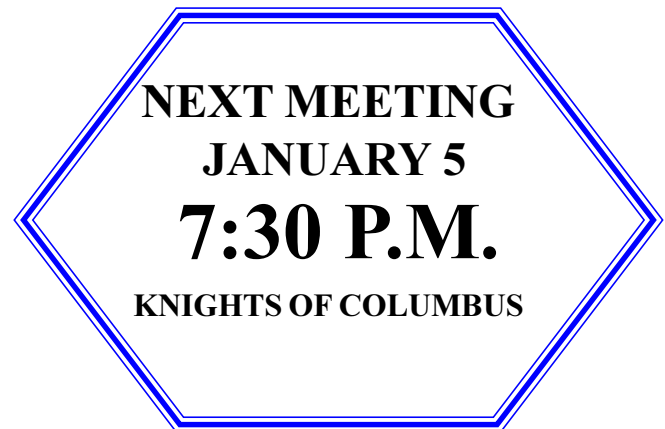
August 29, 30th. EUPHRATA, Wa. Race Meet.

SEPTEMBER 5 & 6. BILLINGS Montana State Pattern Championships Eric Hawkinson Coordinator 248-8127.

September 13 GREAT FALLS Fun Fly

SEPTEMBER 19 & 20. BILLINGS Billings Flying Mustangs Fun Fly/Multi Task Event. Doug Haacke 252-7210 Coordinator.

OCTOBER 3. BILLINGS Montana Combat State Championship 1 day event. Doug Haacke 252-7210 Coordinator.



Billings Flying Mustangs
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FIRST CLASS

TO: