

HORSEFEATHERS



Newsletter of the Billings Flying Mustangs

July 1999 Volume 26 Number 7



COMBAT!

SCALE RC WESTERN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

By the time you are reading this, **Walt, Leland and I** have already probably lost a couple days sleep getting things ready for the big combat event. Before I forget, I want to thank these two guys along with **Pat Kenney and his Mom** for all the help and assistance they've provided making this thing happen. It just simply could not have been done without their tireless help. Also, a big thanks to Eric Hawkinson, who once again did the artwork for the posters, and not only came in on time this year, but early! Thanks everyone!!

Parking: There won't be many logistical changes this year from last year.

I want to keep the gravel areas on each side of the shelter free of cars, trailers and other large object that might block the spectators view of the pit area and the dogfighting. If you are a participant or a helper, please help me keep cars and trailers off the gravel areas immediately adjacent to the shelter. We'll park the contestants trailers where we did last year, off to the side where the steel post fence(s) begin. I'll try and keep the contestants vehicles on the east side.

For those that will be spending the night in motor homes, I'd like to have them park at the south end of the field, so that the front of their vehicles are behind the wooden posts, in line with the concession stand. I do not want motor homes and other large vehicles up by the shelter, except in those cases where contestants are pitting out of them. In those cases, motor homes will be placed east of the shelter, where the steel fence posts start. If you find that someone is being stubborn about our parking policy, please let them be and notify me.

Pilot Judges: I want to thank all the guys that have volunteered to be pilot judges! You are helping make our event the best event of its type in the country, and guaranteeing good participation in the coming years. Thanks you, thank you! I'll need you to report at the field no later than 8:30am both Saturday and Sunday. If you can arrive sooner, it would be even better. Your contact person is Larry Wilkinson, our chief pilot judge. He will get you lined out on how to score, and anything else required. If you are a pilot judge, make sure Larry knows your whereabouts at all times. Judges eat for free, so your meals will be taken care of. If you are a member and/or contestant, and find yourself with a few free minutes, it never hurts to check with me and Leland to see if you can lend a hand.

Contestants: If you are competing and will be pitting out of your car or trailer, please see me the moment you arrive to coordinate the parking of your vehicle. If you have a portable table, and don't mind using it to pit from, it would be appreciated. We will be renting some tables again this year, but there will only be about 10 of them.

Club Members: I will be at the field myself on Wednesday afternoon, and all day Thursday thru Sunday. If you are greeting pilots or visitors, please make them feel welcome. My recent email indicates there will be quite a few spectators from out of town. Its looks like we're all set, so see you at the field, and pray for good weather!

See the site map and rules on page 5

The Fly In Report

By Rick Koehn

Well, another Fly-in has come and gone. **Dennis Rollins** did a great job this year. Dennis' mom and dad made spaghetti, salad and toast for the Saturday night dinner. We also had some cake for dessert. **Speed** took care of the concession stand all weekend. Thank you Speed!. The weather for the event could hardly have been any better and the flying was great. Steve Hunt from Casper gave a great show on Saturday with his "Pine Duck" four engined something, but on Sunday, while on a low inverted pass down the runway, he lost the tail. It was very exciting for a while.

Our own **Eric Hawkinson** put on a great show with his helicopter. Some of the crew from Wyoming flew their planes with smoke on, which is always exciting to see. Even Steve Garr flew his "hangar queen" Stearman. I guess I can't call it a hangar queen any more. The last time I checked with Dennis there were about 35 pilots registered and at least three times that many airplanes. It was great fun. We were very neighbor friendly with very few retrievals have to be made. Thank you to everyone involved with this event.

President's Letter

Rick Koehn President

Hello Fellow Members,

Well, another Fly-in has come and gone. Dennis Rollins did a great job this year. Dennis' mom and dad made spaghetti, salad and toast for the Saturday night dinner. We also had some cake for dessert. Speed took care of the concession stand all weekend. Thank you Speed!. The weather for the event could hardly have been any better and the flying was great. Steve Hunt from Casper gave a great show on Saturday with his "Pine Duck" four engined something, but on Sunday, while on a low inverted pass down the runway, he lost the tail. It was very exciting for a while.

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A few weeks ago Tanner and I put on a presentation for the Billings Deaconess Psychiatric Center for Children. The administrator gave us two hours with the kids who ranged from 7 to 14 years old. Dennis Rollins loaned me some videos and both Tanner and I brought planes, magazines, catalogs and equipment to show. The kids were very well behaved and showed great interest. I set up one of my planes and let the kids have the transmitter so they could look at what each stick does on the plane.

The supervisor told me that some of the kids can't sit very still very long and can get disruptive. She said she was pleasantly surprised the kids stayed interested the whole time. She asked if we would think about doing it again. Thank you Tanner and Dennis for your help.

It still have had no input on a new flying site. It appears that Doug is a one man committee on this matter. I don't believe we understand the seriousness of this matter. Although everyone has been great with the new rules regarding retrievals, this situation is temporary. It is my opinion that all of our efforts should be centered around finding a new flying site. Our whole sport/hobby depends on having a place to fly. Please, please, if you have any leads on a possible flying site, let me know.

Our big event and biggest fund raiser is coming up - the Combat meet. Have you volunteered? In order to have a new flying site as nice or nicer than the one we have now we need to

raise money. I know some of the membership may not like combat, but we need to look at this as doing our part to keep our club going. If you can help please do. Personally, I had a fun time working the combat meet last year although I fried to a crisp in the sun. It would have been a whole lot more fun if we had had more judges so we could have taken some breaks.

Thank you for listening. s Rick.



Last Meeting's Minutes.

BILLINGS FLYING MUSTANGS MEETING MINUTES
June 7, 1999

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Koehn at 7:30 PM. The minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved. Leland Schliep read the Treasurer's report. The report was approved. There were 20 members present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMBAT COMMITTEE: Preparations for the Western National Finals Combat meet are well underway and on track according to CD Doug Haacke. There is still a need for pilot judges. Contact Doug if you will be able to help with the main money maker for the year. Pilot judges will need to report at the flying site by 8:30 AM. The Billings Heli-flyers will man the club information booth during the event. It was decided that the club purchase a kit to raffle off at the event.

JIM RANGITSCH MEMORIAL FLY-IN: Two portable outhouses will be placed at the field for the fly-in and remain there through the combat the second week in July. There will be lunch served on Friday, Saturday and Sunday with a spaghetti dinner Saturday evening. Speed Leckie will be in charge of concessions again this year.

PATTERN COMMITTEE: CD Roxie Klause reported that there were five participants in this year's pattern primer. The event ran short due to gusting wind conditions.

LAND ACQUISITION COMMITTEE: Doug Haacke reported that the State land north of Billings may be available. Doug received a call from the State office saying they were interested in working with us. Doug will keep us updated on details. Meanwhile, President Rick Keohn would still like

1998 OFFICERS

President - Rick Koehn
Vice President - Dennis Rollins
Treasurer - Leland Schliep
Secretary - Steve Hergett

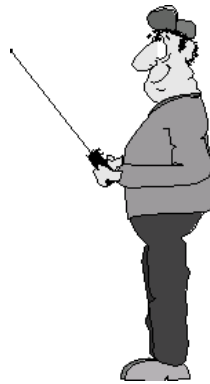
"Horsefeathers" is the official newsletter of the Billings Flying Mustangs R/C Club. This newsletter is published monthly by the club and mailed to all current members. Newsletter editor: Leland Schliep P.O. Box 22406 phone 406 256-9836 Fax 406 256-9580 email leland5@imt.net

everybody to still actively pursue the location of possible flying site and make your findings known to the committee. Contact Steve Garr, Leland Schliep, Rick Keohn, or Doug.

RACING COMMITTEE: Dennis Winchell has penciled in the 21 and 22 of August for a race meet. Mr. Neibauer is aware of the schedule. Ron Horton has sent in the sanction for the event. More discussion will take place at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: Dennis Winchell has sent a copy of the liability waiver to Jerry Neibauer. You can sign the waiver at the field. It is kept with the log book. A list of upcoming club events was also presented to Mr. Neibauer in an effort to limit conflict with our neighbor during major events. Please still be very careful during retrieval of aircraft to minimize impact on the adjacent property. It looks like events for this year at the existing site will proceed as planned. The outlook for next year looks bleak according to Dennis Winchell. Don Herington has refurbished the frequency tags so they are legible. Don said the garbage barrels are full. Steve Hergett will contact Stu and Stan Stevens, this years sanitation detailers, to empty the barrels. Tanner Woodcock and Rick Keohn will do a presentation at Deaconess Medical Center for troubled youths. Brandon Albaugh won the 50/50 raffle. Dennis Winchell moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was second by Dennis Rollins. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Leland's Ramblin's Junk You Can Skip If You're busy



Well hello there fliers! What great weather for flying. Nice and cool, a little breeze right down the runway. What more could you ask for? Let's see - could I start with (a) some time off or (b) more time off. Sitting here in the office and dreaming is the pits. I was two weeks in Chicago area and had a day off on Sunday. I went out looking for models (airplanes type- the human types just get you in trouble with your wife) and after some work I found lots. I traveled about 50 miles down at least two toll ways to find one club's field. They have been sending me their newsletter for years and I wanted to meet some of them. They were having a Fun Fly this day but unfortunately their field has to have the gate locked all the time and I couldn't get in. They were all in there somewhere but I was locked out.

Then I went back to the area I was staying in and while driving by a "forest preserve" (their word for city park) I saw a model. I buzzed in and found not one but two fields. One was a two circle control line field and the other an RC field. Not having been around much if any control line, I hung around there for a bit talking to the guys. Seems they are a different club entirely from the RC Club that had a field adjacent. I found out pretty soon that the control line boys don't like mufflers. I also noticed how obnoxious model planes are when they go round and round and round with an open exhaust. I can't believe that they get away

with that much noise.

The RC field was busy when I got there at about 10:00 am. I counted about 25 models. All the way from a little 12" wingspan .02 RC thing to a couple or three big quarter scale gas engined TOC type planes. There were some trainers and some trash. Just like a day at our field (except we have no trash). One guy stuck a big laser into the trees off the end of the runway. Literally stuck. All that fell to the ground was a piece of the tail and a piece of the wing.. The tree was a huge thing with at least 30 feet of bare trunk. Last time I saw everyone had gone home except the Laser. It's probably still there.

As that Sunday was father's day, most everyone was gone by noon. Home to let the family take them out to Fathers day dinner. I got to visit with their club's treasurer. Seems the only money making events they have are a swap meet and auction in the spring. All other events are just for the fun of it. No problem with this as the City paved the runway and mows the grass. The field is open to anyone flying with AMA but they can close it for events. I got directions to another field where there was a pattern event going on but must have missed a turn because I never found it.

Well enough for now. Hope to see you at the Combat event.
YOUR HELP IS NEEDED.

Walking the lines to the handle



CALENDAR

July 7 - 10 Scale R/C Combat Western National Championships Billings, Montana- Flying Mustangs Flying Site

July 17-18 Great Falls Annual Fly In Black Horse Lake Field, 5 miles North of GTF

July 24-25 Thermopolis Fly In Thermopolis Wy Airport

July 24- 25 Helena Fly In

August 7 Combat Bozeman

Aut 7-8 Jet Fly In Deer Lodge

August 7-8 Gillette Fly In - Gillette Wy.

August 14 Combat Great Falls

August 15 Fun Fly Great Falls

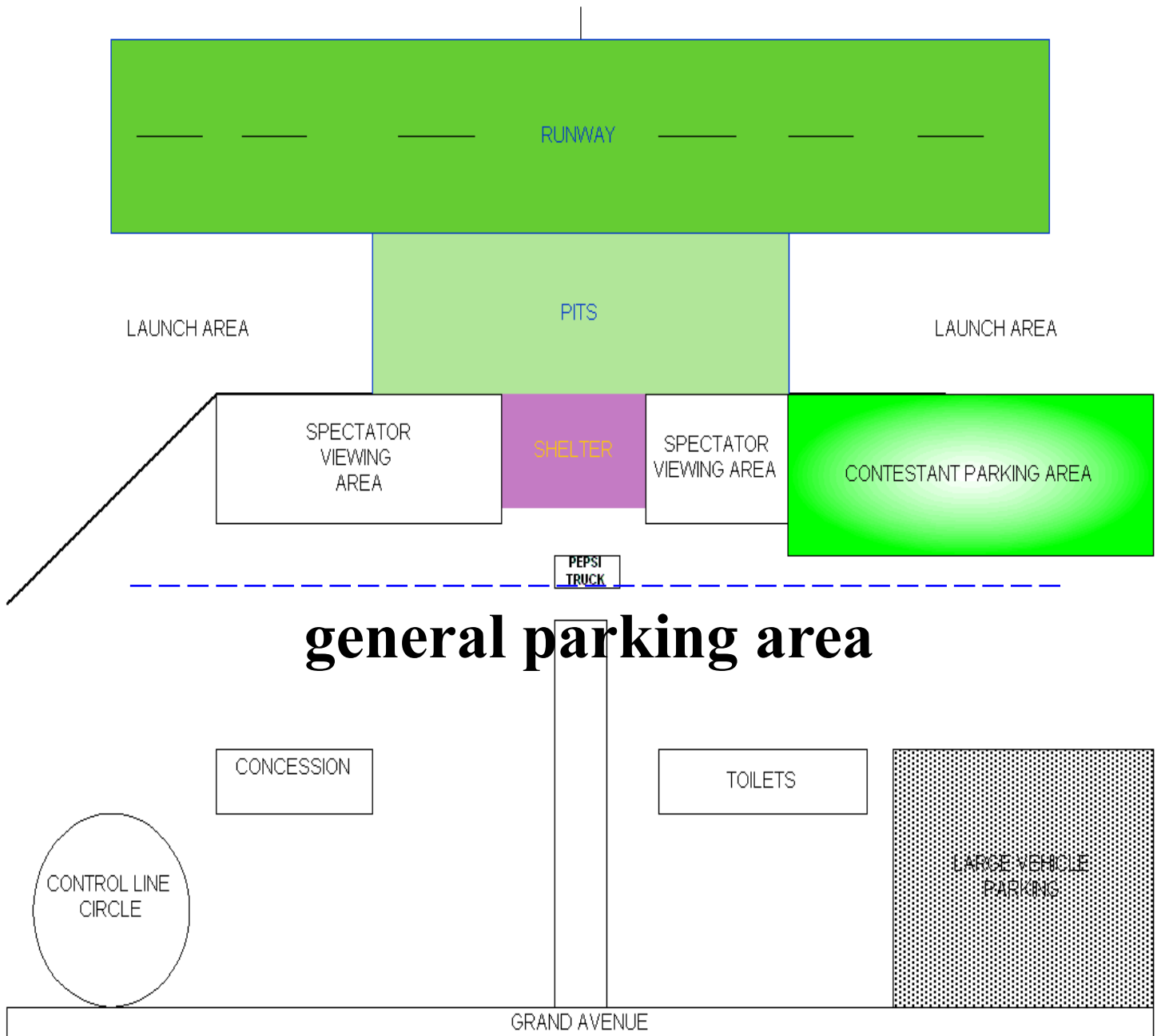
August 28-29 Pattern Lethbridge

August 28-29 Cody Fly In Cody Wy.

Sept. 4-5 Montana State Pattern Championships - Billings Flying Mustangs, Billings MT

September 11-12 Sheridan Fly In Sheridan Wy.

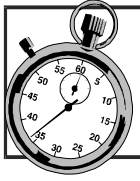
OUR HERITAGE!



Site Map and Basic Rules.

The following rules are setup to facilitate our event and to make everyone aware of their latitude and responsibility. Your cooperation will enhance our event.

1. Working club members are admitted free.
2. Contestants are admintted free.
3. Contestants may park in the area marked on the map as contestant parking. This will be an area of cars, trailers and motorhomes/RVs. We would like to keep the larger vehicles to the East to facilitate spectator viewing.
4. Non Pit and Non Contestant RV parking is being provided in the area marked Large Vehicle Parking.
5. The area under the shelter is to be used by contest officials and workers. No spectators (even if they are club members will be allowed in this area)
6. The area marked Spectator viewing area will be kept clear of equipment and airplanes. It will be taped off in such a manner as to keep spectators safely back from the edges of the pits.
7. The general parking area will begin on a line east and west from the south end of the Pepsi truck. Do not park anything nearer the shelter and viewing areas. This includes working and non working members, officials and contestants.
We will try to have signs posted to eliminate confusion.
Do your part to comply. The middle of a big contest is not the time to express you individualisms. Thank you so much.
Contact Leland for help with any questions.



Around the pylons...

NMPRA DISTRICT NEWS

Seems that I sent this to the wrong e-mail address for the last issue so much of it will be outdated info, although I think that it still has some merit and info. If you are planning on a race in the west check out the Denver group they are a progressive bunch, with several races in the works. Do to some unfortunate circumstances the Billings spring race was canceled. Seems a local farmer is being difficult. I understand that they may try again in August. On a brighter note though, the Denver area racers seem to be getting things going their way. They are hosting a pylon race. Let me pass on the info from the flyer I received, it goes as follows.

“OK, pylon racers. You asked for it and now you got it. May 2, 1999 Jefco Aeromod’lers presents Quickie 500 and Quarter 40. We need a good turnout if the effort is to continue. There is also going to be a race at Longmont on June 6th. Howie Wayne is the CD and he is waiting to see how the may 2nd race turns out. Mike DelPonte is planning a race in August at Crosswinds. The season finale will be back at Chatfield, September 18th and 19th. As I said before, we need a good turnout! No excuse will be accepted! A poor attendance for the first race will set the tone of impending doom for local three pylon racing before we even begin. The response to setting up a special-purpose organization

to promote racing was less than overwhelming; suggesting that our local pilots were more interested in actually racing than in going to meetings about racing. Now is your chance to prove that conclusion was correct. Otherwise we will be forced to reach an alternative conclusion, namely that our local pilots are simply a bunch of weenies (this was Duane’s input, weenies, I take no credit). Be there or be counted as a sport flyer! Subtle as always, Hal Garwood (303) 526-2900”

Sounds like we’ve been challenged, I am trying hard to make it down there. I’ll let you know how it goes. Not too much else to report on. If anyone in the district wants the responsibility, has the site, security, vehicle and desire to store the pylon cages the AMA/NMPRA is providing let me know. As of now it sounds like some preliminary plans are in the Denver area. Let me know what you think.

Lastly, another tech tip from Wyoming- I know everyone out there has had the problem of trying to get the fuel tank in a quickie with the foam taped to, stuffed around, glued to the fuse methods and still wonder if it is foamed good enough and dread taking it out. Solution; get some of that 1/32 athletic foam ankle wrap tape and you can wrap your tank into a neat mummy like fuel cell that goes in and out easily. Put on as many wraps as you like, it conforms right to the tank.

Mike



Next Meeting
848 MAIN STREET IN THE HEIGHTS
MONDAY July 6
7:30 P.M.

Billings Flying Mustangs
P.O. Box 22406
Billings, MT 59104

FIRST CLASS

TO: