

Horsefeathers!



Official Newsletter of the Billings Flying Mustangs

Volume 26 Number 10

October 1999

Newsletter Has New Editor

Coming Events

October Club Meeting:

Monday, October 4, 1999
7:30 P.M.
828 Main St.
In the Heights

Billings Flying Mustangs Fall Fun-Fly:

October 9, 1999
One day only 9 A. M. to ?
For more information call:
R.E. Klaus 245-8208
or e-mail trklaus@wtp.net

Reminders:

Elections:

Club officer elections are
coming soon.
It is time to start thinking
about nominations.

Dues:

It is almost that time again also.
Start saving your pennies for
next year's fun.

After several years of faithful service Leland Schliep has decided it was time to retire as editor and chef (no, not a typo) of *Horsefeathers*. I think that we will miss his wit and charm on these pages. With any luck he will find time to continue his *Ramblin's* column because I like to hear of his adventures. We all need to say a big thank you to Leland for all the time that he has spent not only on the newsletter, but all the other jobs that he has performed for the club. We hope to see you at the field. Taking over the duties of the editor is Roxie Klaus. For more on him see the *From the Editor* column on the back page.

-The Staff

Fall Fun-Fly

It's on. At the last club meeting Rick Koehn brought up that I had suggested that we have a club fun-fly this fall. I had made a posting to the *Soapbox* section of the club web site asking if anyone was interested. Several members have expressed interest in the event. The date has been set for October 9 and I have taken the liberty of setting a starting time of 9:00 A.M. Hopefully that will give us the best part of the day to fly in. The point of the event is to get as many club members together for a fun event without any performance anxiety. I would like to have two classes one for "rookies" and one for "hot dogs". Each class will have specific tasks to perform based on fun rather than precision. Please come to the next meeting and help us plan this event. It may be the last of its type we will have for a while.

If you plan to attend but cannot come to the meeting, please contact me at by phone (before 9:00 P.M., please), e-mail, or post to the club web site *Soapbox* section so that we can have an idea of how many plan to attend. To quote Mr. Bartles "We thank you for your support."

-R. E. Klaus

News from The President



Hello club members.

Well, it was payback time. The last meeting was short our Treasurer and our Secretary. I guess if I can make a flimsy excuse of an inner ear infection and miss a meeting, they can miss a meeting once in a while. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the club staff. They work real hard. As President I just run meetings, the real work is with the rest of the staff. So, on behalf of the club, thank you.

Leland dropped a bombshell on me. He has decided to give someone else a shot at the newsletter editing. The newsletter is a vital communication link for the club members. The fact is I consider this to be one of the most important tools we have. Since Leland told me this news only a couple of days before the meeting, I was stressed only for a short while. Leland has done a fantastic job and I would like to express my deepest thanks to him. At the meeting I announced that we needed a newsletter editor and the place went quiet until a bold, unselfish man said "I could do it". *(Editor's note: the actual quote should be more like: "If I can get the right answers to some questions I'll do it". I didn't get many answers but I'm here anyway).* What a relief! Roxie Klaus, thank you for bailing us out. I Know Roxie will do a good job, as he does with everything. He has already gotten into the habit of reminding me to get this letter out. Like the rest of the staff, he knows that he has to baby-sit me. Thank you and thank you again for volunteering, Roxie Klaus.

Roxie brought to the meeting a suggestion about an end of the season fun fly. It must have been a good idea because most of the members agreed with it. The membership came up with October the 9th. The purpose of the fun fly will be just a plain fun get together. If there are some fun type events that anyone can think of, bring them to the next meeting. Maybe we can make this a potluck of fun events. Bring an event and let's do it. A little food, a little flying, and of course a lot of socializing. What could be better?

If we are to be serious about acquiring a new flying site, then we must find ways to produce revenue. This year we didn't make much money as in previous years, which will make it difficult to produce a good flying site with things such as a paved runway. We need ideas. Dennis Rollins had an idea. Some of the fly-ins he has attended have been real money makers. Please bring some ideas of your own on ways we can increase club revenue. We will discuss these at our monthly meetings.

On the fun side, I would like to mention that I had the opportunity to go to the Sheridan Fly-in. What a neat time and magnificent food. The weather was a little uncooperative, but we still got some flying in. I got to fly

some, however it was cut short by Mother Earth. I "beer canned" my Avistar. I still don't know what happened, probably just lack of skill or dumb thumb. When I brought the pieces back, my wife said "Good, now you can build something decent. I was getting tired of that old thing anyway". What a wife. That's the kind of response every pilot dreams of. Anyway, getting back to the fly-in. Bill Carpenter brought a Roadrunner with lights in it and demonstrated some great night flying. I heard talk from others that they now want to build planes with lights in them. Steve Hunt replaced the late "Pine Duck" with a five engined something or other and flew this 50-pound airplane like an



Extra 300. He did loops, rolls, high-speed touch and goes. And of course the infamous low level inverted passes. What a color scheme too, the usual Steve Hunt black. For those that have never been to the Sheridan fly-in, please consider going next year. It's very much worth the trip.

Thanks for listening,

Rick

Minutes from the last meeting

September 13, 1999

President Rick Koehn called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.. There were 22 members in attendance. The minutes for the last meeting were read by the President in the absence of the club Secretary. The minutes were approved as read. The Treasurer's report was read by Larry Wilkinson in Leland's absence.

Committee Reports:

Land Acquisition Committee:

The land acquisition committee had not met during the past month therefore there was no report.

There were no other committee reports.

Combined New and Old business:

Ivan Koeller asked if the club would like a layer of 3/4 gravel laid over the road mix that he had already put down by the gate to the field. The cost would be approximately \$10. The expenditure was approved by the President and the members in attendance.

Rick Koehn brought up the subject of having a fun-fly as mentioned in the last newsletter. It was decided to have it on October 9, 1999. Details will be worked out at the October 4 club meeting.

Rick Koehn announced that the club needed a new newsletter editor as Leland had stepped down due to time constraints. Roxie Klaus volunteered to take over.

Dennis Rollins is looking for someone to take over the Jim Rangitsch Memorial Fly-In. Dennis will still be involved but

wants someone to share the work. Rick suggested that it may be a good idea to make it a group effort.

Rick Koehn gave a short report on the Sheridan, WY fly

in. A good time was had by all who attended.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Leland's Ramblin's

Junk you can skip if you're busy!

An exciting month for me in RC. As you can tell by now, I have shed the newsletter editor job. Good luck Roxie and thank you for taking this very important job. Fresh blood will do the piece good. Hey, you members, you know how to write, send Roxie material. Ok?

Next thing on my agenda for RC this month was the Fly In at Sheridan. I had a great time although flying was limited by the cold and wind. For years this event has had good weather and then the last two years it has sucked badly. If we could have taken about 20 from the knots wind speed and put the 20 into the temperature column it would have been great flying. It was great RV camping though and great socializing. I flew one flight. It was less than spectacular but the plane survived and my knees knocked from the adrenaline as well as the cold. Nice. The guy from Casper who crashed the Pine Duck in Billings was flying the replacement Pine Duck IV. It was a FIVE engine ugly black thing. What a neat sound it made. Flew good too. I don't think it was as large as the Pine Duck that died in Billings but impressive anyway.

The Saturday night dinner was great. The Prime Rib sure smelled good. Made me regret turning vegetarian real big time. I did so love that Apple wood roasted Prime Rib. I ate well anyway and my wife attested to the taste of the meat. The entertainment was very "interesting". It seems one of the Sheridan fliers, young fellow named Joe, has been doing more marriage avoidance than the RC wives could tolerate so they put on a skit wedding for him. With our President as the bride and Alice Garr as the groom, you can imagine the hilarity. Vergil played "Here comes the bride" on his violin (Fiddle?). I heard the object of this skit stating how glad he was that his girlfriend had decided not to come out for dinner.

My wife and I had a nice weekend in San Diego this last weekend. We found a sailplane place on the cliffs at Torre Pines. Lots of wind off the ocean

and a group of people flying sail planes. Those are interesting. Just 2 channels on most, no engine, no fuel, just wind. There were planes ranging from little foam ugly things to 1/3-scale sailplanes that were very nice.

The cliff was about 300 feet high and at the bottom, there was a nude beach. You couldn't see there from the cliff but it might make for interesting airplane recovery. The fliers talked about the winds not being good at times and of buying a power plane to tow them aloft. They said they needed a pilot who knew how to fly power to run the tow plane. Interesting. The cliff was shared by hang glider pilots and Para gliders. The human carrying things would fly right through the model air space, blowing a whistle all the way. What a way to practice combat! Chase that whistle blower. Probably would be frowned on.

Well I intend to try to fly this week, I am in town and ready. Just a couple of past due projects to finish and then out to the field. Hope to see you there.

Thought for the month - "Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself."

Take care and see ya out flyn'

Leland

1999 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**. The BFM R/C Club is an Academy of Model Aviation chartered organization. The articles printed herein are solely the opinions of the authors. Newsletter editor: R. E. Klaus, PO Box 22406, Billings MT 59107
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From the Editor

I want to thank Leland and all of his predecessors for all the wonderful work that they have done with this newsletter. As I recall, this was Leland's second term as editor. It takes a fair amount of time and talent to put together a good newsletter. I will do my best to partially fill the size 99 EEE shoes that those before me have worn.

Each person that takes on this job has their own way of doing things and the newsletter takes on part of their personality. Hopefully not too much of mine will leak in. Filling these pages is a difficult task and I need the help of all of you to do it. Many of us have a closet journalist hiding within ourselves waiting to be released. I would appreciate being flooded with articles from all of you. This way the newsletter will be full of interesting articles rather than my rantings and ravings.

I would like to have the newsletter in the hands of the members before the first of each month. That way hopefully everyone will have it before the meeting and any events that are happening that month. In order to do this I will need to have anything that you wish to appear in the newsletter before the 20th of the month. If I do not receive it by then it may not appear in the month that you intended it to. Please send any event reports or other materials as soon after the event as you can to insure that it will appear in a timely manner. Written material is best sent by e-mail or on a disk snail-mail. If you are submitting electronically please send the material as a plain text file without any formatting.

This is the easiest way for me to work with. If you do not have access to a computer please send your articles typewritten. It takes much longer if I have to work from a hand written document and I cannot guarantee accurate translation. If your article contains scores, please use the following lay out:

Class Name
Place , Name , Score

If you have pictures that you wish to share, the actual picture is the best to work from. Electronically submitted pictures usually do not translate to print well. The best results are obtained when the pictures are as large as possible (5 x 7 work better than 3 x 5) and the subject takes up as much of the picture as possible. Small objects do not "blow up" well.

The number one rule that I have regarding printing an article is simply that ideas and opinions are debatable but people are not. I will not print anything that appears to be a personal attack on anyone.

While I have been preparing to take over the newsletter I have been looking over my collection of nine years worth from our club. As I read, a quote from one of our countries founding fathers kept running through my head as I thought of our clubs current state: "We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately". *Benjamin Franklin, July 4, 1776*

-R. E. Klaus

**Billings Flying Mustangs
PO Box 22406
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FIRST CLASS

TO: