

HORSEFEATHERS!



Official Newsletter of the Billings Flying Mustangs

APRIL 2003 Volume 31 Issue 4

BILLINGS MODEL EXPO

The first annual Billings Model Expo was held on Saturday March 1st 2003 at the Shrine Auditorium 1107 Broadwater Avenue.

The Yellowstone Valley Model Railway Club hosted the event. This was a first time event in Billings and received wonderful response from the modeling community. Additions support and involvement includes the Billings Flying Mustangs, Magic City RC Car Club, and the modelers involved in rockets, model homes and model assembling.

Jim Sherman reports that the event had good attendance and that his winning the silent auction power sail boat was a real highlight for him. The fact that he sold the sail boat within the hour doesn't seem to matter.

As Fred reported in the President's letter, Doug Haacke and Dennis Rollins won prizes for their airplanes. I heard that the RC car buffs had a great time with the track they had set up and that there were three model Railroad sets running all the time. We are all looking forward to doing it again next year.



**Well I guess that Bill's beautifully rebuilt Sukoi
-now sans landing gear will find a new home?
ask Bill or Steve Wha hap? Vergil**



Vergil's Nobler

President's Letter

Hi !! Well it's almost spring — the sun is shining — weather is getting warmer and the snow is gone. That means it's time for spring clean up!! Things have been pretty busy here, like at most of your places. The lawn needs its annual power raking and yard clean up, etc. WELL the air field needs it too. I was out there last weekend and just walked around. There's just a few things that I noticed. The fence is full of weeds and needs repairs. The roof on the A-frame needs to have some shingles nailed down again. The door on the concession stand is warped and needs to be replaced. Some painting needs to be done too. The runway needs to have a lot of work—the weeds are getting out of hand, making it hard to take off and land. Maybe we could organize a potluck and cleanup party at the airfield...a little work, good food and lots of fun.

Moving on now to the proposed new airfield at the Billings Motorsports Park: I know that there has been a lot of speculation on who, what and where. There have been heated talks at the meetings and that's where it belongs — at the meetings. If you want more info on it — COME TO THE MEETINGS. Talk to the people who know what's going on. We have a committee handling that. We also have a land acquisition committee involved and they bring their report to the meetings as well. Let's let them do their job. They will keep all of us informed.

I ran into Dick Nixon the other day. He tells me that our part of the proceeds from the Model Expo will be 50 dollars and that he looks forward to next year. He has reserved the Shriners gym again for March 6, 2004 and hopes that it be bigger and better and that he would like us to be there again. I said I would take it to the club and asked him to come to a meeting and talk to the members about it. It was a great show and I think we should do it again. I think being there was good for the club.

We now have a CD for a fly in and a volunteer to

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put it on. Thanks guys!! We need to get behind those people and make things happen. I don't have my calendar handy, but I believe the combat meet and fly-in have been scheduled for August. Let's get things going. Let's make this a great summer. I know people have to work, go on vacations, go fishing or whatever, but let's not leave everything up to the few people who always help out all the time. There are plenty of things that you can do to help....let's all give a hand.

We have a few new members and I bid you welcome. Hope to see you at the airfield soon!!

In closing — think safety at the field, fly safely and most of all have lots of fun. I hope to see you at the meetings and at the field.

Fred

Last Meeting's Minutes.

Meeting was called to order at 730 by President Fred Ott. VP Linda Hahn and Sec. Jim Sherman. Treasurer Leland Schliep could not attend.

Minutes from the Feb. meeting were read and approved.

There was no treasure's report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Pres Fred Ott reported on the hobby expo. It drew approximately 500 folks and all the exhibit tables were full. Doug Haacke won first place with his Mustang and Dennis Rollins placed second with his jet. Plans are in the works for next to have another Expo next year around the same time in March.

The awards banquet at D J s in Laurel was well attended especially considering the weather.

NEW BUSINESS:

2003 OFFICERS

President - Fred Ott

Vice President - Lynda Hahn

Treasurer - Leland Schliep

Secretary - Jim Sherman

Don herington started a discussion about the new field at the BMP grounds. Much discussion was held on the pros and cons.. Many members were in favor of keeping the old field and seeing what we could do to improve relations with our neighbors. Dennis Rollins volunteered to talk to Mr Nibauer to see what his views and concerns are. It was motioned by Tim McCullough and was seconded by Steve Garr to get a \$75 00 gift certificate for dinner for Mr Nibauer as a good neighbor gift.

COMMITTEE. REPORTS:

Dennis Rollins reported on the 2004 scale event to be held in august. He talked with scale builder George Vogelsaign of Germany who said he would come to our meet if we had one. Dennis pointed out that this would be a big draw, as he puts on quite a show.

Vergil jones was busy with his camera again this evening. He says he is starting a club album!

New members were Ken Zahn and Taylor Brown .
MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 830
JIM SHERMAN SECRETARY.

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



I love newsletters like this one. Ones where I have enough stuff to just fill it up. Not too much, not too little. A little squeeze here, a little stretch there and it all works out. Thanks to all who contributed. I appreciate it.

I took a day trip with my wife yesterday, Saturday. She had a meeting in Great Falls so I drove her there. We got up at 4:30 a.m. to get her there on time. Because I know that the Great Falls modelers are always welcoming and that they have a neat new runway, I took a plane with me. After dumping, er delivering my wife, I headed out to the field. There was a guy setting up one of those new ARF Kadets like Jim Sherman has. The wind was already up near 15 mph and I wondered about his sanity but then I hauled out my plane and had to wonder about both of us. I took the Tiger 60 which just doesn't care about wind or

continued next column

My Soap box

There must be a glut on the market of yellow paint. It is no longer restricted to center lane markings, cubs and cabs now. Every car lot in town has a few bright yellow cars for sale.

My Nobler is slowly being completed. Two weeks with a pulled right shoulder muscle has slowed things a lot and then the hot air gun quit. This made for another trip to Central. I wonder if I'll ever get title to the place?

The camper is ready and Mary says she is ready to do something Vergil

THIS SPACE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR
COMMENTS, OPINIONS AND WHATE'
EMAIL ME AT schliep22@attbi.com



Leland's Ramblin's continued.

anything else. I flew a flight and had a good time.

Then two "wild and crazy guys" (Steve Martin quote.) showed up and the BS started. We visited and I flew about three more flights during the morning. The guy with the Kadet actually flew it too. By then the wind was over 15 mph and he had a hand full but it worked just fine. He had to have a guy hold the plane until the engine was up and then run out to catch it after landing because the wind would have just flipped it away.

The two guys whose names I did get were John Sandy, former president of that club and his side kick Bill Allison. They told me stories that come right out of the all out fun of RC. They told me stories about 70 mile cross country flight where a 40 size plane was launched with a 24 ounce auxiliary tank duct taped to the top of the wing, of flying cross country in weather that almost put one guy into hypothermia. Rain, mud, cold -- wait a minute didn't I say they were having fun? Well they claimed it was fun and sounded sincere. Strange folks in this RC hobby/sport aren't there.

One of their activities just sounded like too much fun to not mention and I had them email me the notice which is back on one of the later pages in this newsletter. They call it field of the month. They round up a group, have breakfast and invade a nearby RC field. They fly all day and head back home. They've been to Helena and Stanford and are now bearing down on Conrad. Whose going to be the sparkplug for the Billings force. We have lots of fields within two or

Continued page 6 column 2

FOR SALE

I Need room in the shop!

**Midwest G202 \$300 Great Planes G202 \$150
Great Planes 300S \$150 Great Planes J3 Cub 20
size \$90 Great Planes Ultrasport 60 \$75 Great
Planes Ultra Sport 1000 \$200.** all are monocote
covered. No servos or engines.

Leroy Bangert 406 259-2966

KILLER BEE.

Bridi Kit, Built by Don Fisher. Flies great. Works
with Super Tiger 3000 or Super Tiger 3250. Airframe
only. Leland Schliep 406 245-6008.

continued from page 3-Lelands ramblings.

EVENTS FROM AROUND THE AREA.

HELENA FLY IN

Helena Flying Tigers Fly In. July 12 & 13th at
Tiger Field. Contact Mel Reed 2720 Winslow Ave
Helena Mt. 59601 E-Mail melreed@peoplepc.com
Ph.406-227-6075 Thanks Mel

HAVRE MALL SHOW

Just a little note that the Saddle Butte R.C. Club of
Havre will be hosting a Mall Show on April 5 at the
Holiday Village Mall. One and All are invited to bring a
Plane and join us. Set up time is 9:00 and tear down at
4:00 you can contact Bonnie at dbhildpk@hi-line.net
or 406-265-5089



BIG SKY THUNDERBIRDS MISSOULA ANNUAL FLOAT FLY

JULY 19 & 20 2003

Non Competative Flying- Open to members of
AMA. An AMA sanctioned event. All Aircraft must
be inspected and successfully flown previous to this
event. or prior to 9 a.m each day.

No dogs allowed on the premises. No charge.
Potluck picnic lunch Saturday for participants (Out of
town guests need not bring anything.)

No-Host banquet Saturday evening. contact D.
Felstet at 406 626-4426. Tbirds10@msn.com Or
Clarence Almen at 406 543-7024.
Tbirds2@montana.com.

POWELL FLY IN JUNE 14, 15TH ANNUAL CODY FLOAT FLY AUGUST 9, 10TH.

Contact President Bob Mees bobmees@wtp.net
307 587-7276

SOME OTHER WYOMING EVENTS -

May 10th & 17th- Casper Airmodelers Association
- Pylon practice and time trials, airplane shakedown
and open flying. Gene Corson 307 234-4360.

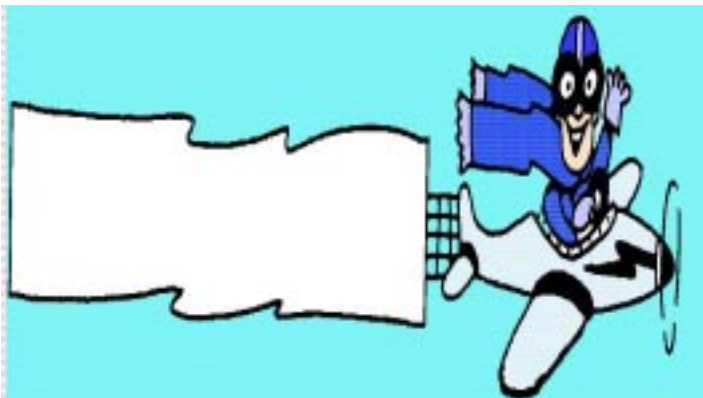
May 24, 25 and 26. Antelope Squadron, Gillette.
IMAA Big Bird Fun Fly. Nolan Barz 307 682-5136

May 31 - Casper Airmodelers Association - Sage
brush Carrier event. Gene Corson 307 234-4360

July 4th - Casper Airmolelers Association - Fun Fly,
BBQ, fire works. Steve Hunt 307 577-1414

July 19, 20th Casper Airmodelers Association - 3rd
annual Central Wyoming Fly In. Steve Hunt 307 577-
1414

August 1-3 Bear River Modelers, Evanston Wy.
Fly In Ted Lyle 307 789-3345



August 23, 24 - Gillette Sage Hoppers, Gillette Wy.
Annual Fly-In Jack Adsit 307 687-1450
September 5-7 The Flying Cowboys, Sheridan Wy.
Annual Fly In John Steir 307 674-7342

BIG SKY THUNDERBIRDS MISSOULA Western Montana's Largest Combined Flying Models Event.

May 23rd, 24th and 25th

Swap Meet from 1 p.m. on the 23rd to 9 p.m. on the 24th. Non contest flying at the TBird's field all day Sunday the 25th.

Flying Models of all type welcome. Area Club Booths, Hobby Shop and Dealer displays. Swap shop areas, Static Display competition, Demonstrations. Raffles, Great Prizes.

AT the LLama building. Secure display area, locked at night.

Models will be independantly judged using AMA Scale guidelines. ThunderBird plaques will be awarded. in multiple catagories.

See the other article from Missoula for Contact info.

RIVERTON FLY IN

The Wyoming Modelers' Park Association (WyMoPa) in Riverton will hold it's First Annual Fly-in at the Park on July 11, 12, 13. The Park is located on the north edge of Riverton on Highway 26. We have two paved runways that are 350 X 50'

Details are still in the works, but the standard Fly-in format will be followed. There will be overnight camping (no hook-ups) at the Park. For the wives, the Riverton Day-in-the-Park, a full day Arts, Crafts, and Entertainment activity will be going on Saturday in the Central Park.

Come join us for our First Fly-in. For information on the Fly-in check out our web site at www.wyomingmodelerspark.com or contact Rich Hardt at rich@contactcom.net. Rich Hardt, editor of the Wyoming Modelers' Park Association Newsletter.

FIELD INVASION OF THE MONTH.

Editors note: While in Great Falls this week, I flew at the club field. I ran into two guys who had either flown too many RC combat missions or were just plain plane crazy. I think both. They told me about the field of the month and followed up sending me this notice. I was invited so you are too. They just meet for breakfast and go out flying - someplace. If you want to go, give them a call. We may set up a copy of this program real soon. Ieland.

25 March 2003

Attention Mission Pilots; Squadron commanders, Captains, Crew chiefs, and Support staff.

This mission assignment has just come down from the High Command.

Location Conrad Montana

Code name; High-Line

Date; 19 April 2003

Time; 0930 hours

Meeting rendezvous; Home Café, 408 ½ S.

Main

Field; Conrad

Field Commander; Duane Habbits

You are hereby authorized, and expected to, make yourself and equipment ready and available for the above engagement.

Field Commander Duane Habbits advises there are two exits into town, just take one or the other and find downtown and the only traffic light. The restaurant lies a half block South of that light on the west side of the street. Please meet us there for breakfast where Duane will provide the briefing and take us to the field.

Duane says the field surface close-cropped grass.

Field is in good condition.

As always feel free to e-mail questions to this station.

Bill Allison Pilot

AMA Announces New Liability Insurance Carrier.

From: Carl Maroney of the AMA:

The AMA Executive Council on Monday night, March 24, reviewed several liability quotes offered for consideration. They approved an offer from Westchester Surplus Lines Insurance Company, AM Best Rated as A IX .

This coverage is identical to the expiring 2002 policy with another company. The annual premium as compared to last year went up by 70%. There will be no lapse in liability coverage for clubs that have re-chartered. Also coverage will continue for additional insured's (site owners).

The AMA Headquarters operations is focusing on getting various documents printed and customized for both club and property owners. Documents will be mailed as soon as possible.

-Carl Maroney Special Services Director
From: "Darrell Anderson" AMA AVP.

Your AMA Reps

DISTRICT XI VP

Bruce Nelson

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Leland's Rambilin's continued from page 2.

three hours that could use a good invasion. There's Cody, Powell, Sheridan and White Sulphur Springs for sure and I bet we could find more.

Speaking of events, these sparked a load of more ideas that have rolled around in my head and are in need of a leader. These could be informal, just for fun events. I would like to see a one lap race with take off and landing on the Mustang's field and the outer marker at that historic marker on the back road into Laurel. I would like to do a weight lifting contest for planes where a size of plane to amount of weight formula would be used to even out plane size differences. It would be two laps of the field with as much weight as you can tape to the top or bottom of your plane. I would like to have a cross country event going from our field to some place else. How about round trip to Molt with a BBQ at the field afterwards. Let's get together for breakfast Saturday and dream up a game of the day and go do it. How about Saturday April 12th at 4Bs on Grand at 8:30 a.m. for the first one. Talk it over at the meeting and let me know.

Time for me to call it a night. I've had a great weekend and now I'm wore out. Time to go to work Monday to get some rest. Call me if you get a chance to go out and fly. If I can I'll come out too. later later. See Ya out flyin' Ieland.

Next Meeting
828 MAIN STREET
MONDAY APRIL 5
7:30 P.M.

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



FIRST CLASS

TO: