

HORSEFEATHERS!

Official Newsletter of the Billings Flying Mustangs



NOVEMBER 2003 Volume 31 Issue 11

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE TO BE APPOINTED.

At our November meeting per the bylaws we need to begin the process of electing new officers for the coming year. Please consider this and become an active member who cares about the club.

Article 3

Nominations for Officers and Directors

Section 1 A nominating committee of three shall be appointed by the President at the first regular meeting in November. At the first regular meeting in December, the nominating committee shall present their nominees and at that time nominations from the floor will be open and remain open until the election of the Officers and Directors.
o years from the date of election.

LOCAL PLANE DESIGN

Great Falls Pilot Uses “Plastic Cardboard” for Plane

Note: I got this email and photos from Great Falls pilots. The plane looks neat and the info may be of use to you.

From: “Randy Rossmiller” Wednesday, October 08, 2003 5:13 PM

Hi again! Thought I'd show you guys some pics of the completed plane I mentioned a few days ago in my last email. This is also a shameless plug for fellow pilot Kelly Fowler's new business, KF Design & Performance (278-5329). I made those graphics on his new vinyl cutting machine. It took a while to figure out what I wanted, because he has literally thousands of designs to choose from. But, the results speak for themselves. Next experiment is to see if that plotter/cutter will do Monokote. Give Kelly or Sheri a call if you want your next project to drop jaws. Thanks guys! Randy

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 848 Main Street!

Back to the Heights!

The membership decided to hold this month's meeting at Doug Haacke's office buildings meeting room.

See you in the Heights.



President's Letter

Did you ever have one of those days where you knew you were supposed to do something, have something to say, but you just didn't have a clue what it was? I'm supposed to be writing the President's Message today, but I don't know what has been done or not done. I've been real busy though. One of my uncles passed away suddenly so I've been on the road again to North Dakota. Not the kind of trip I wanted to make right now, especially since I had to be back in town for our wedding on Saturday, Oct. 18th. As you can see, I've been real busy. For those of you that didn't make the wedding it was held at 7 p.m. at The Perfect Place with a reception dinner following the ceremony. We had several friends and a lot of family there. The weather was perfect!!! Ann's whole family was here from Minnesota and most of mine. Ann made her own dress...with the help of her friend from Arizona and our next door neighbor. I was even in a suit and tie with a western hat to match [no supenders!!!!...yup that's right...none!] I think that it was the perfect day for both of us.

Now on to club matters: It's time to think about who you want running the club for next year. An nomination committee will be appointed at the next meeting. If I remember correctly, but don't quote me on this, a board member position is opening up too. I'll have to check on that. If you don't want to run for an office, perhaps you could volunteer for help on other committees. The new year is fast approaching and there will be plenty of events to prepare for. We are a club of over 60 members and growing. We need new blood and new ideas for the coming year's events. Those members who are always there to help out are very much appreciated, but they could use the help of new members and those who just seem to sit back and enjoy the work of others. It has been a hard year for all of us. Things happen and we deal with them as they come, then move on. We need a planning board for the Acton field on how to set things up out there, where to put the runway, parking lot, concession stand and things like that. If you go out there, look around

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and get the feel of the land. Walk though the bottom section and them go up on top of the ridge. The view from those directions is completely different. Let's get lots of ideas and bring them to the meeting. We need to get things rolling, and the sooner the better for us as a club. Got to go for now...Be safe...fly safe...see ya out flying and most of all have fun! FRED

Last Meeting's Minutes.

Meeting was opened by V. P. Linda Hahn as the president was running a little late. Other officers in attendance were Jim Sherman and Leland Schliep.

Min. of Sept. meeting were read and approved. Treas. report was read and also approved

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Land acquisition Doug Haacke reported that he had drafted a letter that is going to State for the purpose of leasing land for a flying site near Acton.

Walt Mcintosh made a motion to precede with the lease for land for a flying site near Action Virgil Jones seconded it.

Jim Sherman motioned to put Delmer Schmitd on the land acquisition Committee. Walt Mcintosh seconded it.

Leland Schliep is going to draw up buy sell agreement for the purpose of making offer to buy our present flying site, and sending it to Mrs. Morton's realtor.

Flight safety boxes Dennis Rollins /Paul Yourk reported boxes should be done by the end of week.

Dennis reported on the 2004 scale meet. He said that he talked to the Tvetene Turf farms and said they would be agreeable to us [The Flying Mustangs] to use their field for our event .

2003 OFFICERS

President - Fred Ott
Vice President - Lynda Hahn
Treasurer - Leland Schliep
Secretary - Jim Sherman

NEW BUSSINESS:

Tim Mcullough motioned to build benches or move present benches next to runway were there is no fence so airplanes could be started and then put on runway with out carrying them Virgil Jones seconded. Much discussion followed Motion failed

Virgil Jones motion that anyone with a currant AMA membership card applying for a new membership in the BFM. after Oct.1 will join at the current yearly rate and the new membership will expire at the end of the following year on DEC 31 Jim Sherman seconded it motion passed

Some THANK YOU'S

To Tim McCullough for the light in the shelter and also to Ann Sullivan{ the almost Mrs. Ott } for the sloppy joe feed at the field . Also we rec,vd a letter from Northern Skies Aviation thanking us for our participation in there event.

Walt McIntosh has will head up a committee. for a combat event next year and Dennis Rollins will C D it.

Also Linda Hahn will be reserving D.Js. in Laurel for our yearly banquet

As the days are getting shorter and the nights are getting cooler next months meeting will be in the Heights at 848 main

Fred Ott motioned to adjourned and Bill Poehls seconded .

De Alene (at the posh resort, no less) I went to the CouerDeAlene club's flying field north of Post Falls and flew for a couple of hours. It was a great ending to a good week. During the week I played golf on the resort course. That was fun. I spent most of the time admiring what great runways these open grass stretches they call fairways would make. They call them fairways, I call them runways. The comparisons sorta end between the two hobby/sports as I can go flying at our field or other fields almost for free while the use of their course cost \$125 for one time through. Imagine how nice a field we could have if we charged per visit to the field. I think not.

A couple of things are happening with the field(s) this month that you need to note. One is that I haven't gotten the buy sell offer made to the Realtor. I am going to put this back into the board's hands as I am just out of town and unable to fulfill this obligation. Item two is that I did get a call from the Realtor asking about our club's intentions. The Realtor says she is negotiating a buy sell with a prospect and wants to know. I am going to be returning that call this morning. The third item is that we have further advanced our State land at Acton process by doing a site visit with the State person and the land acquisition committee. During this visit we determined a logical spot for the field, the road into the field and other parameters. The State person has this input and is proceeding. It will take a few months to process the paperwork but it's in motion.

A couple of things are happening at the club for this meeting that you need to note. The primary item is the appointment of a nominating committee. It is my opinion that this is a very important job in the club as it tends to influence heavily who runs the place. The slate provided by the nominations committee has been elected every year I can remember. Who do you want running your club? Who do you want deciding how to spend the money you worked for in the treasury? How are you going to get involved? You'd better consider these things, even if you held office in the past and feel you "served your time" or if you just joined and feel you don't know your way around.

This brings me to a reflective moment and it's time to tell you that I am not going to be treasurer again next year. I am not going to take any other office either. I will keep the newsletter job if re appointed by the president but that's all. Being on the board, doing the treasurer job and the newsletter are too much for one person for a variety of reasons. I think the most

My Soap box

*THIS SPACE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR
COMMENTS, OPINIONS AND WHATEVER!
EMAIL ME AT schliep22@attbi.com*



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



A month of travel and long hours has resulted in my not having flown a model airplane in three weeks. Boy am I having withdrawals. The times I did get to fly were great though. After a week of meetings in Couer

important reason is that it excludes others from participation. If I take on three jobs, two other people can't participate and I think this is wrong. I decided this years ago and left the treasurer and vice president's jobs. I took back the treasurer at the death of Bob Moore with the intention of gathering it all back together and getting it ready for the next treasurer. I have done that and it is time. I am hopeful that the club will elect someone with financial expertise as there is more to the job than keeping the checkbook. The club is doing some pretty big money things now and needs good advice and knowledge in the money matters before us.

Now a look towards the future. I have some goals to get done before I get too old and senile to remember them. One is to get the bylaws of the club updated and revised. Last year the AMA, our governing or sanctioning body required all clubs to have bylaws. This was something new for some clubs. It also published guidelines for bylaws and gave samples. Our bylaws were written quite a few years ago in a simpler time. They have great things in them but are not quite complete enough for the present age. I have taken our old bylaws, the samples and some other club's bylaws and made a fairly complete set of bylaws. There is nothing in there that is all that startling, just more definitive at some points and easier for an officer to understand his or her responsibility. The process for adoption of revision to the bylaws is spelled out in our present bylaws and I will be moving forward on that. Keep your eyes peeled.

Another is to have the club consider changing the

monthly meeting time. There has been some talk about this and we need to consider alternatives and decide if there needs to be a change. What's your opinion?

I was a little surprised at the reaction to our safety initiatives recently passed by the club. These were a strict no taxi rule and the implementation of cages for pilots. A motion to move pilot tables out next to the runway would have gutted the safety rule completely. Folks, use some common sense. Getting a started plane from the table to the edge of the pits by the fence safely and under physical control is what the motion required. The motion does not require you to carry the plane. It requires you to have physical control. A good grip on the fin so that the plane cannot suddenly accelerate and run off would meet this requirement, wouldn't it? For those who would have trouble bending down to do this, how about manufacturing yourself a forked stick that would hook over the horizontal stab and restrain the plane while walking it out. Safety is very important. Healing from props cuts and slashes is a slow and painful process and the final result is never as good as the original. Be safe.

Oh by the way, for that fellow pilot who complained that this newsletter only had "leland's stuff" in it, I still have not recieved your contribution article. Maybe it just got lost in the mail. Send em in folks, mail, email or hand delivery.

Until next time, Fly safe. See Ya' out Flyin' Ieland

**NEXT MEETING
848 MAIN STREET
Monday NOVEMBER 3RD 7:30 p.m.**

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FIRST CLASS

TO:

