



S.W.A.P. FLYER

Southwest Area Park Modelers



Volume 2007, Issue 1
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Clear Canopy Polish

Here is a good canopy polish trick: use toothpaste on the canopy. Smear a liberal amount of toothpaste on the canopy and use a toilet tissue to buff the canopy to a glossy finish that will not scratch at all. Then use alcohol to remove any residue left by the toothpaste.

- AMA Insider, 9/07

President's Corner

As the 2007 flying season draws to a close, I'd like to thank everyone for all the help in making this a banner year for this aircraft club. We've seen a number of nice improvements to the facility this year, and it is a testament to the hardworking folks that make this club a success.

In the spring we saw the addition of the shed. Anyone who helped with the fun-fly events would certainly agree that it has made those events far more bearable. The logistics are incredibly easier by having all the gear stored at the field.

In April, Rodney showed us a prototype safety table that could be used to

assemble and start our aircraft. Thanks to Mike Crum's generosity and labor supervision skills, we now have a total of nine of these tables at the field. One Sunday in November, all the tables were occupied, and I found myself helping someone start their plane on the ground. It really made me appreciate those tables!

In July, Mike Crum came through for us again, with the gift of a new frequency board. He re-located it to a spot that doesn't block the view, and it even accommodates our 2.4Ghz pilots. Thanks Mike!

In September, we moved six loads of dirt to start filling in the duck pond. It

made a noticeable difference, and perhaps we can do it again next fall, to make it even better. Thanks to Josh Burwell for his generous donation of equipment and time to help make this needed improvement.

We had some difficulty with our chain getting cut and locks disappearing, but we may have that problem solved now. Rodney came through again with heavy-duty chain, and it is working.

As you can see, much was accomplished this year. Lets work together to make next year even better—from facility improvement, to our flying skills, to membership retention and growth.

Safety Thoughts (continued on page 3)

With the coming of winter, let's remember to give our aircraft the maintenance they deserve and probably need. After a summer of hard flying, it is past time to check for loose hardware, worn clevises and control horns, broken hinges, fuel soakage/damage, and unbalanced propellers.

Don't forget to take care of your batteries as well.

On the flying front, a few reminders may be in order:

If you have not read the field rules lately, you should do so now.

Communication including calling takeoffs and landings is

not just a courtesy, it is mandatory! Also, during busy times, removing your card from the frequency board when your flight is complete is also expected as per the rules.

You may access the field rules from the club web site.

Maiden flights should be ap-

Notices/Upcoming Events (continued on page 3)

Quorum By-Law Vote

In August, we voted to establish a quorum of 13 in order to conduct club business. This is the official publication of the intent to vote on that change in the December meeting. If it passes, a change to the club by-laws will be made.

December Meeting

Speaking of the December meeting, we will have our annual pot-luck and gift



exchange. Please consider bringing a dish to share with other club members. If you wish to go home with a gift, please bring one. Gifts should be aircraft related and limited to a value of \$25.

Combination Change

On January 1, the combination to the blue gate and first aid box will be changing. The new combination will be (members only). Please make a note of this. Also, a

reminder that the combination should not be shared with non-members.

Fund Raiser

At the October meeting, Art Vail generously offered to use his P-51 as a fund-raising opportunity for the club. We will print 500 tickets, to be sold for \$5 each. When they are sold, the winner gets the plane, Art gets \$1500, and the club gets \$1000. Everyone wins!

Financial Matters

As of October 15 2007, our balance in the treasury is \$3,956.32. Past treasurers agreed that this is a healthy balance for this time of year. It seems that our fun flies and modified September event are more than making up for the lack of a judged TOC. This is great news for us!

Each member should spend a little time

thinking about improvements they would like to see in 2008, along with a rough idea of the cost. It is not too soon to start planning for next year's expenditures. Please see any officer if you have ideas!

We will be invoicing membership renewals (it should have been included with this newsletter!), as we did last year. If you were not a

new member in 2007 and did not receive an invoice for 2007, please let an officer know so that we may check your address against our records.

More Tips and Tricks from the AMA Insider, September 2007

Stir Sticks (popsicle sticks)

The next time you are in the hobby shop, pick up some Popsicle sticks. They come in boxes of 100, 500, or 1000 and they are cheap. You will be able to use these for all kinds of things like servo rails, reinforcing splices, skips, fuel tank stops, mixing epoxy—any

place where you are going to put screws. You will find all kinds of uses for them.

Recycling Masking Tape

Use the clear backing on MonoKote film to recycle masking tape if it is still in fairly good condition.

It keeps the adhesive from going bad. When the tape is needed, just peel it off.



Fun Fly Notes

This year we scheduled 5 fun fly events. Two of them were mostly busts due to inclement weather (morning rain in one case, high wind in the other). While we cannot control the weather, we can think about what we'd like to do next year.

Did we hold enough fun fly's? Too many? Do you like having food and drink available at the field? Would you like to see food available more often, either with or

without a fun fly?

The fun fly's we held were not themed or scripted. Would you like have a warbirds day? A combat day? A barnstorming day? A need for speed day? Days with events such as climb-n-glide or blind flight?

Should we aggressively advertise them, or do you like the thought of having them primarily for our own members? If you were in

charge, what would you change about the fun fly's?

We'd truly like these events to be fun for everyone. If you have ideas, please make them known. Even better, get involved in the planning and execution of these days. The astute observer will notice it was the same group of guys who managed each of these events. More help is not only welcomed, it is going to be necessary to keep the days interesting and sustainable.

Notices/Upcoming Events (continued from page 2)

Here are some events that you might pencil in for next year:

January 21 2008:

Nominations for club officers

February 18 2008:

Club elections

February 19 2008

Provinces Library show-n-tell
Mike Newman POC

April 4-6 2008:

Weak Signals Toledo Show

July 10-13 2008:

Warbirds Over Delaware



Safety Thoughts (continued from page 1)

proached with even more caution and vigilance. Proper surface movements, throws and especially CG should be checked and double checked. Enlisting the help of another set of eyes can many times help avert a disaster in the making. Do not use the asphalt runway for a maiden take-off; the grass is a far safer

option. Letting other pilots present know that you are about to maiden a plane is also a good practice. Nobody wants to be surprised by a maiden flight that threatens or violates the safety line!

Remember, in the absence of Rich Wright, the safety officer, all of us should

der the obligation for enforcement of the safety rules. Please have the courage to offer a word of help, and in more serious situations, firm feedback, when that is the appropriate action. Keeping the field operating safely will go a long way towards keeping us in residence at the park.

SWAP Modelers

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.SWAPRC.ORG

Note re. web site: a new design is in progress.
Look for an improved web presence in 2008!

Take a kid flying today!



President: Greg Gee 410-969-0659
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Treasurer: Rodney Marshall 410-544-6575
Secretary: Dale Ferguson 410-761-5935
Member-at-Large: Art Vail 410-247-4281



Wishing everyone a happy and safe holiday season!