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Black Hawk R/C Pilots Newsletter April 2011

Notes from the President

Club Calendar

Monthly Club Meeting at the Highway 63 Diner	April 26 th at 7pm
Club Field Clean-up Day	May 14 th
Sig Fly-in Invitational	June 11 th & 12 th
SSC (Slow Survivable Combat) Event	June 18 th
Blue Ray Pylon Racing	June 19 th

The good news is spring is finally here and it's time to get out to the field and fly. The bad news is that the weather has been terrible the last couple of weeks. Hopefully, things will get better soon. The flying field is in pretty good shape and ready for flying. I've been out to the field several times, mostly to kill gophers and get the mowers ready for the season. There's new gravel down on the access road. If you don't have the new combination to the lock on the gate, check with Hank or myself.

Several things are coming up soon. The annual spring Field Day will be on Saturday, May 14. (May 21 is the rain date.) Come on out to the field and bring a shovel and rake if you have them. We'll be setting up, fixing up, cleaning up and when we're done with that we'll be eating up and flying.

The Grundy County YMCA summer program has asked us to help with their aviation program during the week of June 13th. The kids will be flying some simple airplanes and maybe paper airplanes. They'd like us to put on a flying demonstration. I haven't checked out the space, but I'm thinking that electrics will be appropriate. Let me know if you can help.

I haven't heard from Mike Walker about the aviation program at the Waverly - Shell Rock school, so watch for an announcement by email.

The annual Sig Fly-In is the weekend of June 11-12 in Montezuma. Sig has new owners, so we'll see what changes they make, if any. Any aircraft are welcome to fly, but the contests will be for Sig aircraft only.

The Lincoln Sky Knights are sponsoring one of the HuckFest events this year. There will be four days of flying on June 9-12 at their club field near Lincoln, Nebraska. For more information, go to www.cornhuckfest.com.

Our club is sponsoring two events on the weekend of June 18th and 19th. We'll have Slow Survivable Combat on Saturday and Blue Ray Pylon Racing on Sunday. Come out and fly or if you don't have something to fly, come out and help with the events. We'll need judges, spotters and a cook or two!

See you at the field soon.

Neal Leeper

President, Black Hawk R/C Pilots



Visit us on the web at : www.bhrcp.org

Field Marshal's Report

- ◆ Neal, Al, and myself went to the field on the 6th. Neal and Al changed the spark plugs and fuel filter on the old mower. It's up and running. Al sharpened the blades on the Deere and it's ready to go.
- ◆ We smoke bombed and poisoned the gophers and it looks like we are making headway on getting rid of them.
- ◆ Ragsdale Dozer service, has put down rock on the drive.
- ◆ After doing an outstanding job of mowing last year, we are going to lose Roger Koopman as our mower. He won't be able to do it this year. *Thanks Roger for the great job.* Hopefully with a few volunteers we can get the job done.

Keith Johnston

Field Marshal—Blackhawk R/C Pilots

Black Hawk R/C Pilots Club **Meeting Minutes for March 22, 2011**

- ◆ The meeting was called to order by the Club President at 7:00 PM at the Highway 63 Diner.

Reports

- ◆ A motion was passed to accept the minutes as published in the newsletter.
- ◆ The Treasurer reported the total account balance in checking and savings. A balance is still owed on the UNI Dome rental, but we haven't received the bill yet. The Treasurer will check to make sure that the property tax and insurance have been paid.

Old Business

- ◆ The UNI Dome has not yet set a schedule for next year. We expect the 3rd weekend of February will be available again.
- ◆ A check was received from Cedar Falls Tourism & Visitor's Bureau to cover the cost of the AMA ads and the web site for the E/xpo.

New Business

- ◆ Ralph Hadlund is retiring from R/C flying and has some models for sale in the Club Newsletter. He has several other planes for sale, but they aren't in town right now. Call Ralph if you are interested in any of his aircraft.
- ◆ The lock on the gate at the flying field was inoperative. It's been cut off and a new lock placed on the gate. Labels with the new combination were passed out to put on the back of your club membership card. If any member doesn't have the new combination, contact Neal Leeper or Hank Schafer.
- ◆ The condition of the flying field and access road was discussed. The road is passable but in need of additional rock. Some pot-holes and ruts need to be filled in. Pocket gophers have been very active over the winter. An initial "treatment" has been done to try to reduce their activity. The mowers have been checked. The John Deere mower has been filled with fresh gas and runs fine. The old mower will not start!
- ◆ A motion was moved and approved to authorize the Field Marshall (Keith Johnston) to have the access road graded, if necessary, and additional rock put down and have the old mower put back into good running condition. The Field Marshall should use his good judgment in making the expenditures (i.e., if the cost to repair the mower is too high, consider alternatives). Keith also needs to check with Roger Koopman on mowing plans for the summer.
- ◆ A letter to Congressman Bruce Braley concerning the pending FCC authorization bill was signed by all club members present. The letter encourages Congressman Braley to support an amendment that would exempt recreational model aircraft from FCC regulation.

Upcoming Events and Activities

- ◆ Aviation Day with Waverly-Shell Rock students at the "W" in Waverly is usually held in May. We need info from Mike Walker.
- ◆ A Club Field Day is planned for Saturday, May 14th to get the field in shape for the summer.
- ◆ Two events are scheduled for June 18th and 19th. An SSC (Slow Survivable Combat) event will be held on Saturday and Blue Ray Pylon Racing will be run on Sunday. All club members who have an SSC kit are encouraged to get started now on finishing it so they can participate in the SSC event. (We know who you are!) The Blue Ray Pylon Racing will use the outdoor rules with 3-cell batteries and 6.5 x 6.5 props. If you don't have the correct prop, 6.5 x 6.5 props will be available at the event.
- ◆ The Grundy County YMCA Youth Camp will be held the week of June 13 – 17. They have requested our assistance for their Aviation Day. The kids, ages 6-12, will be having some flying contests with paper airplanes, simple one-piece foam aircraft and possibly some rubber powered foam or balsa airplanes. (No Delta Darts.) They would like assistance with the events and a flying demonstration with electric aircraft over the golf course. Contact Neal Leeper if you are available to help.
- ◆ The next meeting will be April 26th at the Highway 63 Diner.
- ◆ A motion was made and passed to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Neal Leeper

President

From the Editor

- ◆ The April meeting will wrap up the meetings held at the 63 Diner. . Plans will be made for the field clean-up day on May 14th (rain date May 21st). As one of the winter meeting attendees, I would like to Thank the owners of the 63 Diner for allowing us to hold our meetings at their restaurant.
- ◆ Next month's meeting will kick off the "fair weather" meetings at the field.
- ◆ The indoor flying at Hudson High School has come to a close for the year and flying at Central has started up again.
- ◆ I am considering a separate monthly "For Sale" e-mail only type flier to be sent to those wishing to receive it. Send me your feedback at paul.nora@cfu.net.
- ◆ In the future, I will be attempting to get the newsletter out by the 3rd Tuesday of the month (the week before the meeting). For me to make this happen, I would respectfully ask that submissions to the newsletter be made by the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Paul Johnston

Editor—Blackhawk R/C Pilots Newsletter

Letter from Bob Nelson

Attached is the flier for the Sig Annual fly in. You are invited as this is Sig's 60th year and the 37th fly-in.

See ya there,

Bob Nelson

Design Engineer/Customer Service

SIG MFG. CO.

Montezuma, Iowa

bobnelson@sigmfg.com

Come Fly With Us At The 37th Annual



SIG **R/C Fly-In**

June 11 & 12, 2011
SIG Field
Montezuma, Iowa

**A R/C Fly-In open to all types of R/C model airplanes - glow, gas, and electric powered.
Fun Fly events and special prize drawings for pilots flying SIG, HERR, and KAVAN airplanes.**

PRE-REGISTRATION BY MAIL IS RECOMMENDED
ON-SITE REGISTRATION AND TX CHECK-IN AT 8:00 A.M. SATURDAY
PILOT'S MEETING AT 9:00 A.M. SATURDAY AND 8:00 A.M. SUNDAY
FOOD WILL BE AVAILABLE ON SITE

ENTRY FEE: \$10.00 PER PILOT

For more information and an Entry Form, contact:
Bob Nelson, Contest Director

SIG Mfg. Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 520
Montezuma, IA 50171-0520
Phone: 641-623-5154
Email: bobnelson@sigmfg.com

Breakfast & Lunch
At Field Both Days

AMA SANCTIONED

Back by Popular Demand!
FUN FLY EVENTS
Special added event!
E-FLY SATURDAY NIGHT
AFTER 7:00 P.M.

OFFICIAL RULES AND INFORMATION FOR THE 2011 SIG R/C FLY-IN

- 1) All applicable AMA and FCC regulations governing the pilot, his aircraft and equipment, and his conduct while on the field will be enforced. Consideration for the safety of spectators, fun fly personnel, and other flyers is of the utmost importance. Any hazardous flying over a controlled spectator area will be cause for immediate grounding.
- 2) This event is a family-style Fun Fly, with the emphasis on safe fun flying and camaraderie. There will be ample open flying opportunities for all registered pilots. This is not a contest.
- 3) This Fly-In is AMA sanctioned. You must show a valid AMA license when you check in at the flying site. If you are not currently an AMA member, new AMA membership applications will be available at the site.
- 4) Each registered pilot may bring and fly as many different R/C model airplanes as he wishes, as long as each model meets all pertinent AMA guidelines. Maximum engine size is 6.0 cu. in. Maximum weight with fuel is 55 pounds.
- 5) All AMA legal frequencies will be allowed at this Fly-In. This includes the use of all 50 channels (both odd and even numbers) in the entire 72 mhz. and 2.4 GHz. band. In over 36 years of R/C activity, there have been no known frequency issues at SIG FIELD.
- 6) All transmitters and receivers must meet narrow-band standards. As part of the registration form, the pilot will sign a statement indicating that his radio equipment meets the guidelines for narrowband operation.
- 7) Safety first! Each contestant is required to have a spotter/pitman with him at all times while on the flight line.
- 8) The SIG Field is located 1-1/2 miles south of Montezuma, Iowa on U.S. 63. Montezuma is located 8 miles south of Exit 191 off Interstate 80. It is approximately 60 miles east of Des Moines and 110 miles west of Davenport.
- 9) Pre-registration is encouraged. You may obtain an official entry form from:

SIG Mfg. Co., Inc.

R/C Contest

P.O. Box 520

Montezuma, IA 50171-0520

EVENTS FOR THE 2011 SIG R/C FLY-IN JUNE 11 - 12

◆ **BOMB DROP: For SIG airplanes only**

Eggs, dropping device, and rubber bands furnished.

◆ **SUPER TURF TAG: For SIG airplanes only**

This is an airborne version of musical chairs and will be flown in rounds. Up to 6 contestants get airborne and orbit away from field. At the sound of the horn they must do a touch and **GO**. Last man down and any that can't go are eliminated. Continue until only one man left. Winner of the heat advances to next round.

◆ **SATURDAY NIGHT E-FLY: For all electric park and slow flyers**

From 7:00 P.M. until dark is reserved for electric flying only. Bring your park and slow fliers and enjoy an evening of silence.

FAA Rules Watch



The following is the latest news from the AMA website concerning the small Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS) regulations:

Conference Committee to Consider Language to Protect Model Aircraft

The political process of creating legislation is more of an art than a science, and the fact that H.R. 658 does not include an exemption for model aviation (MA) does not necessarily mean there wasn't support for such an amendment. Quite honestly there is a significant amount of backing in the House for our issues, and numerous Representatives have come forward with pledges of support and offers to assist in protecting MA from onerous regulation.

In the days leading to the passage of the House FAA Reauthorization and Reform Act there was a considerable amount of discussion regarding language for an amendment to the bill. An agreement on the proposed language was a little more difficult to achieve in the House than in the Senate, and we were unable to settle on the exact verbiage before the Bill was sent to the floor for a vote. Again, that's not necessarily a bad thing.

In the legislative process it's not unusual for there to be significant differences between the House and Senate versions of any particular bill. In such cases the two versions of the Bill are referred to a joint Conference Committee to iron out the differences. Though we would have preferred to have an amendment in the House that mirrored the language in the Senate, the good news is we still have an amendment in the process and there doesn't appear to be any major issues challenging consideration for an exemption.

Of course in the political process there's never any guarantees. Nevertheless, we are hopeful the Conference Committee will include language in the final bill that will allow us to continue to enjoy modeling as we do today.

-Rich Hanson, AMA Government Relations and Regulatory Affairs Representative