



The Dope Can

Newsletter of THE SUBURBAN AEROCLUB OF CHICAGO



AMA Leader Club No 274

www.suburbanaeroclub.com

Volume 114, Issue 10

October 2014

Fun Flies Mark September

SAC Dates for October

- SAC Club Meeting
October 9, 7:00 PM
Tinley Park VFW
172nd & Oak Park Ave.
Tinley Park, IL.
- Annual SAC Auction
October 23
- Dope Can Articles
Deadline October 25
- Dope Can Published
November 1



Above left, winners of September 14 Fun Fly 2014, a "just for fun" event, line up and declare their finish order. Above right and right, heli's are lined up at September 13 Helicopter Fun Fly that featured demonstrations by professional pilots.



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2014 Fun Fly By: Al Myers

The weather was absolutely gorgeous for our Fun Fly with eleven fliers entered. Several of these guys had never flown in a Fun Fly before. There were a few mishaps, but no serious damage to the planes. Strangely enough, the limbo poles were not hit or the line cut. In fifty-some years, I don't remember a line not being cut! Plane sizes ran from a micro Beast biplane, to a 1,428 sq. in. low wing plane.

After all the rounds were finished there was a tie for first place between **Tom Lustig** and **Scott Dargis**. A fly off occurred between these two for all the marbles. Now we got serious! No landing

poker in the fly off, just skill. Scott went first in the flight order. Both pilots called for the three foot limbo. Unfortunately, Scott couldn't get his bomb released for his onetime pass at the circles. However, he did manage to make a clean limbo and four touch and goes in less than a minute for some added points. Tom, on the other hand, made an excellent bomb drop in the dead center of the circle. After this, he called out to raise the limbo to four feet since he knew he had a little cushion room. Tom cleaned the limbo to win first place. After all the dust settled it was Tom in first, Scott in second and yours truly in

(Continued on page 3)

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"IF IT FLYS WE HAVE IT!"

**Suburban Aero Club of Chicago
Minutes of
General Monthly Meeting
September 11, 2014
At the VFW club in Tinley Park, IL.
Sam Helmich, Secretary**

Meeting called to order at : 7:10 pm,
by President Greg Stevens. There were
57 members present. No new members

Reports by Committees or Officers:

Secretary Minutes: By Sam Helmich.
A motion to accept the minutes as read,
was made by Ron W. and second by
Charlie. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: By Dale Thorne. A
motion to accept the treasures report as
read was made by Bob and second by
Ron W. Motion Carried.

Safety Officers:

Planes by Chuck Fritz. Nothing

Helicopter by Mike Zubic. Discussion on

sharing the field between the Planes and
Heli's.

Field: Will be looking at sealing the
blacktop runways. We will send out an
email when we have a firm date.

Past Events: AMA Wounded Warrior at
the Float Fly was a big success; brought
in over \$400. Aug 24th Cub Fun Fly, La-
bor day Float Fly.

Future Events: Sept 13th Heli Fun Fly.
From 9am till dusk, the field will be Heli
only. Supt 21st Float Fly. Sept 14th Fun
Fly with contest and events 12noon to
3pm, Nov 16th Turkey shoot.

Unfinished Business: Web Site being
worked on, updates to follow.

New Business:

Gooney Bird Rick for having the pos /
neg flipped on starter, when trying to
start a glow engine.

Meeting Adjourned at: 9:10 pm

Winners!

Last month's big winners of the raffle end-of-
season extravaganza included, from left to right,
Will Smith, James Klee and **Andre McDonald**.
Each of the three walked away with a new plane.
It's great to see new members join in the fun and
win!



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Winding Down the Flying Season with a Bang!

We just made it through what seemed a very busy September.

The month started out with our traditional Saturday Float Fly on the first Saturday of the month. As we've seen all year, we had a good turnout and lots of good flying with great weather. Unfortunately, Mother Nature reared her ugly head and the winds were just too high to hold our last Float Fly of the year. I want to thank **Ron Wegrzyn** and **Bob VanHuis**, for without their tireless work to schlep the boat and get everything set up week after week we would be hard pressed to hold these events. So thank you to the both of you and everyone else who has helped out at these events. Check out Ron's article on Page 4 for more details.

Next up on our event schedule was the Heli Fun Fly put together by those wacky heli guys. **Mike Zubik**, headed this one up with the help of **Ed Henshel**, **Andy Jurkowski** and **Mike Linko**. They all did a fantastic job of bringing in a large crowd and several pilots, including six professional heli pilots, to the event. The weather was a bit on the cold side for September with temperatures in the low 60's, which may have kept even more people away. As it was, the parking lot was overflowing with cars and spectators, so all in all it was a great turnout. The professional pilots put on a spectacular show at noon when they all flew at the same time and dazzled the crowd.

The following day was a beautiful fall day for our first Fun Fly in quite a while. **Al Myers** organized the Fun Fly contest open to anyone who wanted to compete just for the pride of saying, "I had fun"....no prizes, just fun! Being a relative newcomer to the club, this is the first Fun Fly I've experienced where we competed in several events including a bomb drop, limbo, touch and go and landing poker. It was definitely my first time at attempting a limbo contest, and I must say I did pretty well by clearing the 6 foot ribbon. Al did a great job of organizing the event and everyone had a great time. You can find out more of the details and the winners by reading Al's article on Page 1.

If you haven't been out to the field lately, please know that we managed to get our runway and taxi ways seal coated. **Dale Thome** headed up soliciting quotes from various asphalt companies, filling in the cracks prior to

seal coating and making sure that everything went smoothly the day of the work. The runway looks great and will hopefully last another two years before we do it again. Thank you Dale for coordinating and managing this task and thank you to all the members for staying off it until it was dry.

Another field improvement, if you want to call it that, was the installation of removable pylon poles at each end of the east/west field. A group of us are getting into pylon racing and are beginning to set up our planes. **Sam Helmich** and **Chuck Fritz** are the ones spearheading this venture and will be working out the rules and classes for competition beginning next year. So if you're interested in learning more about the specifications for the planes and rules, talk to Sam or Chuck.

Don't forget that we will be having our annual auction on Thursday, October 23rd. Doors open at 6:00 pm, so if you have anything to sell or want to purchase come and see what's available. There are always good deals to be had.

Lastly, we had a Board meeting last month to discuss up and coming by-law changes that need to be done just to get rid of some of the antiquated rules that may not apply anymore. I will be sending out information on these changes in next month's Dope Can so everyone can see them and then vote at our meeting. However, there is one item that needs some discussion among the members prior to putting anything to a vote. That's the idea of term limits for the elected officers. I was the one who brought this up, not because I'm tired of being President and want to move on, but because I feel it's good for the club and keeps things fresh. For one, it forces new blood and ideas into the officers and things don't get stagnant. Secondly, it will allow someone who's thinking about running to do so without the fear or being "in the position for life". If one knows that it's a limited time commitment, then hopefully it will cause more members to consider running. As with anything there are also downsides to term limits. The most obvious one to me is that, if we set term limits and no one steps up to fill the position, the current position is then vacated without anyone filling the position. Obviously, this needs more discussion by the members before anything can be put to a vote. For this reason, I'm asking everyone to give some preliminary input into this by filling out the voting ballot found on Page 5 to first see if we want to entertain having term limits. We'll take a vote and open it up to more discussion at the October meeting.

That's about it for now, so until next month, fly safe and have fun.

(2014 Fun Fly, Continued from page 1)

third.

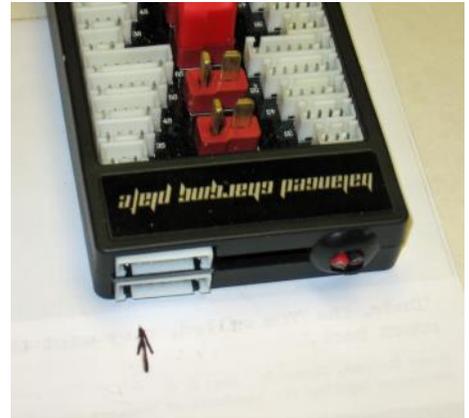
Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and all agreed that we need to do more of these types of events, to the point of having at least two per year, one in the spring and one in the fall. I would like to thank former prez

Ron and current prez Greg. They were both a great help scoring our fliers as I was pretty busy with setting up the limbo. Speaking of limbo, one guy said he wanted an 87 foot limbo. I said, "you got it" and gave him two thumbs up. I turned away when I heard a thud. Apparently, he needed 88 feet or not try the 6 foot line. Whoops, sometimes we all get a little too brave.

Faulty Balance Boards

Recently, both of my LiPo chargers started displaying constantly fluctuating voltages in all modes. They could not balance batteries and randomly displayed "out of range" errors. Those symptoms seemed to indicate faulty chargers. However, a little digging proved otherwise.

I've been using generic balance boards. They regularly see fairly high currents and I guess they got tired! I found a 6 S connector, positive pin (arrow) open on one board and another open pin on the second board. In that condition the common ground is lost and the charger constantly hunts while reading each cell in turn. I had a similar open pin in another part of one of these boards some time ago. I no longer consider them reliable for higher current use and have made up squids for both chargers.



September Show and Tell By: Greg Stevens

Al Myers brought in his home crafted wood flight box so we could all see what real craftsmanship looks like. This was a beautifully crafted box containing all his flight tools and hardware. The drawers are designed to lock in place so that when you turn the box at an angle they don't all come open, as I'm sure we've all experienced with our "off the shelf" boxes. The only problem I see is when Al was asked how much it cost to make, he chuckled and joked "probably somewhere around \$500.00"! A bit pricy, but well worth it.

Sam Helmich brought in his brand new Roc- Hobby, P-51 Strega race plane to show everyone. This is an aerobic foamy with a 44" wingspan. It's powered by a 4 cell, 2200 mAh LiPo Battery. These planes are capable of 90 mph out of the box. Roc-Hobby currently has about four different models including a Corsair, P-51 Voo Doo, and Sea Fury, all race ready. These models come

complete with motor, ESC, retracts, flaps and 6 metal geared servos for \$199.99. All you need to supply is a battery and receiver. If you haven't heard, several members are purchasing these planes for pylon racing at the field. Rules for different classes are being proposed for racing in 2015.

Dan Pesek brought what he calls his Sky Hybrid to show. This plane started out as a Super Skybolt biplane and was converted by Dan to a low wing, sport monoplane. The plane is powered by a O.S. 61 FX nitro engine and has a 65" wingspan. Dan uses a Futaba radio system with 6 servos. The plane is all wood construction, covered in black, yellow, red, white and blue Monokote covering. Special features of the plane include flaperons and ailerons as control surfaces. Dan says the project was rewarding and the plane flies nice.

Gooney!

The Gooney Bird for the month was awarded to **Rich Stroup** for apparently not knowing that red wires are positive and black wires are negative. Not once, but on two separate occasions, Rich tried to start his nitro engine with the positive and negative wires crossed on his electric starter and couldn't figure out why his engine wasn't firing. He finally had to ask for help and quickly found that he had his wires crossed. Hopefully now he's learned what we all should have learned back in grade school.



Last Float Fly for 2014 By: Ron Wegrzyn

We had lousy weather for the last Float Fly of 2014. The wind was blowing like nobody's business, upwards of 25 mph. About eight SAC flyers showed up, but only **Ken Mathis** took off and made one flight. Again, next year we plan on having the bi-weekly Float Flies on Saturday with at least one on Sunday in September, as we did this year, due to the Woodland Swap Meet. The Float Flies only last until 1:00 p, so they don't take up the whole

day. We are still planning on the event being on the first and third Saturday of each month with participation free to SAC members and \$5.00 landing fee for non-SAC members. Of course, we will still have the Memorial Day and Labor Day Float Flies when we serve food and all will pay to fly.

Hope to see more of you next year.

September at the Field

At left, crowd enjoys Heli Fun Fly

Below, digging holes for future racing pylons.



At left, Tom Lustig aces the bomb drop at the 2014 Fun Fly



October Raffle Prize **Thunder Tiger Super Decathlon 40**

- Balsa & lite ply construction
- Fiberglass cowl and wheel pants
- Aluminum struts
- Yellow and Blue Ultracote
- 64 inch Span
- 45 inch Length
- Requires .40 - .46 2-Cycle Glow Engine and 4 Channel Radio



Official SAC Ballot

Should there be term limits established for all elected officers?

Yes No

If yes, what is your recommended term limit?

1 year 2 years 4 years Other, no. of years _____

Please bring your ballot to the October meeting, or mail to:
Sam Helmich, 3112 Edge Creek Drive, New Lenox , Illinois 60451, prior to the October 9th meeting

Suburban AeroClub of Chicago

ANNUAL AUCTION

October 23, 2014

**Tinley Park VFW
172nd and Oak Park Ave**

Doors Open 6:00 pm

Auction Starts 7:00 pm

Free parking in city lot one block south of VFW

Entry Fee for buyers and sellers: \$2.00

**Sellers Fee: \$1.00 per item for up to 10 items,
no fee for additional items.**

Raffle Prizes

THUNDER TIGER DECATHLON 40 ARF

\$50 CASH

One raffle ticket included in entry fee

Additional tickets \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00

Notes to Buyers and Sellers

- **Sellers are responsible for protecting the value of their items, by bidding them up if necessary.**
- **All sales are final.**
- **Suburban AeroClub of Chicago does not handle money exchanges. All exchanges are between buyer and seller.**

More information

Contact Ron Wegrzyn

708-478-8858

ronwegrzyn@comcast.net

Visit our web site: www.suburbanaeroclub.com

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL 2014

Dues: \$55 (Regular) \$10 (under 18) **Mailing Fee for Dope Can: \$5

**Required only if you want paper copies of Dope Can newsletters mailed to you. Emailed copies and paper copies picked up at monthly meetings are provided free.

Name (Please print): _____ AMA No.: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Email: _____

Are you a Veteran?:

Complete the section below only if your information has changed since last year:

Address: _____ Phone: () _____

Please Note: The club roster including names, AMA numbers and contact information will be available to members in the password-protected section of the club website. If you wish any of your information excluded from that site, please indicate above by circling the identifier for the item(s). Example: Email:

Bring this form to any monthly meeting, or mail to:
Dale Thome, 21440 S. 78th Ave., Frankfort, IL 60423

FLYING FIELD EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Both sides of the pin box should be opened for access to frequency pins, first aid materials and fire extinguishers. Incident report forms are kept in the box. Reporting injuries and near misses allows us to investigate and determine what can be done to prevent re-occurrences. Emergency information signs are posted at the field.

Ambulance Service

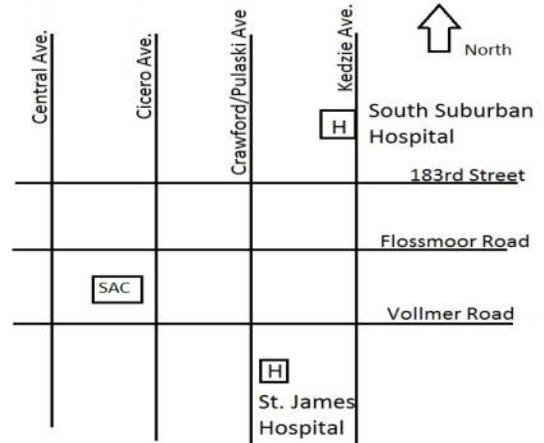
Dial 911 and request help "at the flying field located on Cicero between Flossmoor and Vollmer Roads"

Advocate South Suburban Hospital

17800 Kedzie Ave
Hazel Crest
(708) 799-8000

Saint James Hospital

20201 Crawford Ave
Olympia Fields
(708) 747-4000



2014 SAC OFFICERS

SAC Instructors (call for an appointment)

President	Greg Stevens	815.463.9044	Ron Wegrzyn	Planes	708.478.8858
Vice President	Bob Stroz	708.990.6269	Mike Gulick	Planes	708.479.4842
Safety Officer (Aircraft)	Chuck Fritz	708.259.7928	Dan Pesek	Planes	708.423.2710
Safety Officer (Helicopters)	Mike Zubik	708.945.4548	John Kallend	Multi-rotor	708.798.7242
Secretary	Sam Helmich	815.464.0048	Robert Stroz	Planes/Heli's	708.990.6269
Treasurer	Dale Thome	815.469.1944	Sam Helmich	Planes	815.464.0048
Board Member	Ron Wegrzyn	708.478.8858	Chuck Fritz	Planes	708.259.7928