

WHAT'S UP
Quarterly Newsletter of the Owatonna RC Modelers
by Dick Baumer
October - December 2018

OCTOBER

The first week of October was an exciting one for ORCM because our new (to us) 1952 Ford 8N tractor and Landpride AT25-72 mower were delivered from Waukon, IA where it was purchased. After a good clean up and thorough “physical” a test run was made and she was put to work alongside Alice. Two new gauge wheels were installed on the mower and it is ready to work in the spring. Training on this unit will happen in the spring.



Neil on a test drive of the new to us 1952 Ford 8N

On Saturday October 6, John, Joe, Kenny, Dick, Neil and Greg gathered to welcome the new tractor/mower and prepare the site for winter. New spectator fencing was installed, the table tops were water sealed, locks lubricated and the field was mowed. Alice and the Ford were pressure washed.

Efforts to sell Alice included an ad on Craig’s List but that was pulled with only one inquiry. She was then placed on the O-Town Auction where the reserve price was not met. Three hours before close of the auction, one person came out to look at and drive the tractor but he never called after the auction. The high bidder left his phone number so I called him and he ultimately purchased Alice. Alice left our property early Friday morning October 12 and will live somewhere east of Northfield, MN.

Although a budget of \$4,500.00 was approved for an upgraded tractor and mower, with the sale of Alice this project came in at \$3,100.00. Both the tractor and mower are low-hour units and should serve us well for several years with minimal maintenance.



Alice departs for her new home – She worked hard for us!

Carnage at the field one Saturday resulted in the destruction of a couple of nice airplanes and damage to a couple more. Dick's "no name" 20cc gasser did a near full throttle face plant following a receiver failure. A ceremonial fire followed after the useable parts were salvaged. The impact was so severe the klunk in fuel tank put a gash in the side of the fuel tank. Fortunately there was no fire but the LiPo packs were damaged and later destroyed. Pretty ugly debris field.



As if the above episode wasn't enough, Joe Niedermayr lost this pretty model in another similar nose-first incident. It was just one of those days!



NOVEMBER

November was a bummer-month for flying. Cold, wind, rain and snow made for less than ideal conditions. There simply isn't much to talk about for this month other than it whizzed by like the very short summer we had this year. Have you noticed that "global warming" is not talked about much any longer. That term seems to have been replaced by "climate change". Well – the climate has been changing for eons if one thinks back to the ice-age. Maybe we are headed in that direction again.

DECEMBER

The official end to the 2018 flying year ended with a dinner at Torey's new restaurant here in Owatonna. Eighteen members, spouses and significant others were present. Food was great and even though the facility was not 100% finished inside we enjoyed dining together. The group then trekked over to the Baumer's for what has sort of become tradition. The usual rum cake, cookies, snacks, coffee and adult beverages were on hand as was an abundance of chatter about r/c airplanes, heli's, boats, cars and anything r/c.

With the 2018 flying season officially over, we look forward to repairing all the broken stuff, building new stuff and convincing ourselves we need some new aircraft. While you do that, stay healthy and we look forward to seeing some of you on January 1, 2019 for the annual frozen finger fly (provided we can get into the field) as well as in the spring.