



## November 6th 2019 Meeting Notes

### Secretaries Report

- Secretary report was read from the October meeting and approved.

### Treasurers Report

- Treasurer's report was read and approved with the following transactions.
  - \$58.88 for servicing the Ford tractor for winter.

### Old Business

- The Groupme app is being used to communicate between members. If you are interested in being added to the group that is using the app. Please let Neil know and he will get you set up.
- AMA Grant Status – The sheds are completed for the siding project and all paperwork has been turned into the AMA to satisfy our responsibility for the grant we received.

### New Business

- Thank you to everyone that came out to help with the field shutdown day on Saturday November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The sheds were cleaned out and the scrap from the siding project and sheds will be taken to the dump. Setup tables have had the tops removed and items stores for the winter.
- November is election month for the next 2 years. All nominated people were re-elected to the positions as follows. Only change is John Billingsley as the V President.
  - President – Neil Tryhus
  - Vice President – John Billingsley
  - Treasurer – Greg Salmonsens
  - Secretary – Neil Tryhus
  - Safety Officer – Dale Nelson
- Dues for the upcoming season were discussed and modified. We will be increasing our dues by \$10.00 per year for the next 3 years. 2020 will be \$60.00 before Feb meeting and \$65.00 after Feb meeting. 2021 will be \$70.00 and \$75.00 and 2022 will be \$80.00 and \$85.00 respectively. This keeps us in line with other clubs in the area and also puts money back in the treasury which has been depleted this year to upgrade mowing equipment and side the sheds. It was motioned and voted on instead of having a surcharge added each year. Along with the increase in membership if members want to donate extra money for field maintenance we will accept any extra funds that members would like to donate.
  - Along with this we discussed the maintenance of the field and the fact that we need more members to step up and assist with the field maintenance during the season. Our membership that has been doing the maintenance averages 83 years of age. I will attach a letter at the end of the minutes (page 3) that was sent to me about our aging maintenance crew and responsibilities for maintaining the field. I agree with this letter and ask all members that fly at our field to read the letter and assist with field maintenance next season. If you come to fly and have an hour to mow we would like it if you did. Any assistance is appreciated and if you

do not know how to operate the equipment we will train you so you can do your part.

- During the date of October 18<sup>th</sup> a wind storm tore up a large part of our fabric runway. We will plan on replacing this in the spring after we can find suitable replacement material. We will be contacting the AMA about the disaster relief fund and the possibility of the \$500.00 funds they supply to clubs that suffer from natural disasters. The increase in membership dues will also be used for this type of project to make the field flyable again. We will also request member assistance to put the new runway material down in the spring.
- The end of the year dinner will be on December 6<sup>th</sup> at the Timberlodge in Owatonna. Happy hour at 5:30 and dinner at 6:30. The Baumer's have offered to host an after dinner party at their new home. A message will be sent out to RSVP if you are coming to the dinner so we can make a reservation.
- Little discussion was held this month about the possibility of making a small part of the field into an RC car track. More research needs to be done if our contract allowed for a car track on site and will be brought up at a future meeting.
- There will be no meeting in January since the 1<sup>st</sup> would be our meeting night. We will hold the frozen finger fly on January 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00AM weather permitting.
- November meeting topic – Dick presented a demo on charging your batteries and what you need to know about the battery and charger types for safe charging and battery management..

**Next formal business meeting will be on Wednesday December 4th @ 6:30PM – 8:00PM in the Gainey Room of the Owatonna Public Library. We will meet here on the first Wednesday of the month through April except January.**

**See letter below on page 3.**

## MAKING A CLUB SUCCESSFUL

Whether it is a classic car club, garden club, book club, church group, civic group or a radio controlled model club, some will succeed and grow while others wither away.

Why is that?

A member of Owatonna RC Modelers once made the following profound statement:

“Every Club Needs a Mother”

That statement literally means that every club needs a good leader. In the case of ORCM over the years we've had a good set of bylaws, great fiscal management and responsible management teams. Unfortunately, management teams alone cannot guarantee the success of a club or organization. The day-to-day general tasks must be accomplished by the membership. I joined ORCM about 13 years ago because of the welcoming nature and friendliness of the group. It made no difference what anyone flew or how they flew it. That welcoming and friendly nature exists yet today. The facility itself has changed dramatically in that time and efforts continue to this day to make the facility more attractive, easier to maintain and therefore providing more flying time with less work time.

Like so many other clubs, it is the “work” aspect of club membership that is currently causing issues for ORCM. In the time I've been a member of ORCM there has been a core group that has done the vast majority of the work maintaining the field. For the last several years, six members have been almost solely responsible for the majority of the work. The oldest member of that group is 88 years old and the youngest is 78. The average age of the group is 83 and all of us have medical issues of one type or another in addition to having the aches and pains of old age. Continued work at past levels is no longer possible for this group and it is high time younger members of the group, local or not, step-up if ORCM is to continue to grow and prosper. It is your club – participate.

If members do not participate the only option for continued grounds and equipment maintenance is to pay for these services. That means hiring a couple people to perform those services and dealing with the injury and resulting legal issues, or using a lawn service company to do the mowing and outsourcing other maintenance. Obviously either option would result in much higher membership fees. That alone would likely decrease club membership. Neglecting grounds and equipment maintenance will destroy this club.

I didn't grow up on a farm so I can't drive the tractor or do some of this stuff is a flimsy excuse. You may not be a mechanical engineer either but you learned to drive a car. You can learn to use a hammer, spray for weeds, use and re-load a string trimmer, mix 2-cycle fuel, repair the runway, change oil and filters on the mowers etc. All you need to do is ask for help.

Be a more active club member by helping out with the various tasks. Remember, you do not need permission to mow, trim, paint, repair, remove trash, or any of the other routine tasks.

Dick Baumer – (a duffer running out of gas)