



February
SIRS
Model Aviation
Club



AMA District VI Chapter 621 Founded in 1964

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NEW TIME AND LOCATION

February 10th 2023

St Mary's Church School cafeteria.
527 W. Jackson, Bloomington, IL
Enter the school from the parking lot behind the church.

Doors open at 6:00 PM Meeting at 7:00 PM
Indoor flying in the Gym before and after the meeting

FOX VALLEY AERO CLUB ANNUAL SWAP MEET
February 17, 2024 <https://foxvalleyaero.com/>

Belleville RC Flyers' Annual Swap Meet
March 2, 2024 <https://bellevillercflyers.com/>

AMA EVENTS

<https://www.modelaircraft.org/event-calendar>

Horizon Hobby RC Fest
MONTICELLO, IL
June 7-8, 2024

S.I.R.S. 2024

A memorial is not how I envisioned the start of the 2024 flying season but this is what we must do. Discussion and planning for Merles day will be worked out at upcoming meetings. As was stated in our dedication, regardless if you agreed or disagreed, liked him or thought him a pain, we will be honoring the passing of a fellow flyer, aviation enthusiast, a true lifelong member. Lets all come together and celebrate that. Let's show Merles family why our family was important to him! I would like to encourage everyone to attend. I am in need of any pictures or video of Merle no matter where or when it was taken... If you have any please send them to me.

This year S.I.R.S. will be celebrating it's 60th anniversary. We are currently working to hold our celebration in conjunction with the upcoming anniversary for all of Funks Grove. Not really much for us to do except for what we do.

The only major tasks that I foresee this year is reducing the dirt mound till its gone. Moving it to level the area at the end of the runway and to continue working on the transition from grass to runway should do the trick.

I am officially halfway down the list of members. If I haven't spoken to you yet, I hope to soon. However if you would like, feel free to contact me.

The gym in Mclean and the gym at St. Mary Church are wonderful to have and be able to fly, but, if anyone knows of a place that is larger. Please contact me, I have and will continue to pursue any avenue of opportunity.

Now I would like to address a few rumors or misinformation.

1. No... I will not be the president that tries to recreate the club. I am excited and I will reach to achieve a goal but, I'm married and I want to stay that way.
2. Yes...I am a firm believer, in that, no question, idea or suggestion is stupid or unwanted. Certainly some can be out there but, any and all will be given consideration as well as a response.
3. and No!.. unless the alien mothership parks over our field and one of us flies our aircraft up its wazoo saving the world from chaos, death and destruction, I will not promote naming our field after one person. There are way too many people that have given, to get us where we are today. I'm not touching it!

At my first executive meeting I opened with a little note I had written for a different club that's just as relevant today. It gave them an idea as to why I am here. I would like to share a bit of that with all of you.

"The sharing of knowledge and experience with other modelers and r/c pilots. The inner club rivalries/ contests/ events/ just flying with other people. The camaraderie of a shared event, good or crash site ugly, these are the memories I want to remember!"

This is why I am here, this is what I am looking for. Everything I attempt to do has that goal in focus. We are blessed with so many different flyers in our club, and there is always something to learn or perhaps teach. No one person can carry it all and I definitely encourage everyone to get involved. We can all strive to be better as individuals and as a club.

I hope to see more of you at the meeting, ya just never know what might happen.

I want to again thank everyone for this opportunity and assure you that I will give my best effort.

Blue Skies
Randy Doss
S.I.R.S.

Central Illinois Radio Society

SIRS Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2024

After a one-week delay due to inclement weather, and an hour of in-door flying, President Randy Doss called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the St Mary's gym. There were 13 members present.

Larry read the minutes from the December 9 meeting. Dennis gave the Treasurer's report. Both reports were approved after a correction to the minutes regarding John V's \$20 gift certificate. The certificate was from College Hills Meats, not Bloomington Meats as reported.

Old Business

Randy reported that Merle Jackson's daughter had contacted him and offered support for an event in Merle's name.

Randy had the first flight for the 2024 Frozen Fingers event with a flight at 12:01 am. Several other members braved the chilly weather and participated in flights at 1:00 pm.

Dave and Dewayne Leavens reported their findings on installing a remotely accessible weather station at the field. Discussion to be continued.

Jerry will contact the Funks Grove Association to inquire about holding SIRS third Annual Vintage Model Aviation Day/Open House in conjunction with the Funks Grove Bicentennial Celebration, and the 60th anniversary of SIRS, this June 22 and 23. All types of models are welcome to participate with emphasis on vintage.

Dave Leavens requested copies of receipts from the shed expansion project so that he could complete the request for the AMA grant. Larry will provide those in short order.

New Business

Jerry proposed an exploratory committee to research whether a small dirt track can be built in the southeast corner of the field to accommodate the increasing interest in RC dirt models. He is seeking members to assist, and will report back.

Randy recognized three members who spent several hours over several days searching for Steve Meyer's lost drone. They found it about one-half mile to the east. Each received a gift certificate for their generous efforts!

Steve Meyer was the winner of the door prize...a \$50 gift certificate to Atlanta Locker.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned to an hour of in-door flying. Next meeting: 7:00 pm, February 10, 2024, St Mary's. Indoor flying at 6:00 pm and after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted.

Larry Kupferschmid, Secretary

***SIRS Indoor Flying
Fridays 5:30 to 9:00
Mt. Hope/Funks Grove Park District.
Located on the west side of West Street, Mclean, IL. School gym.***

Scan this to find our flying field



The 2024 dues are \$100 and due April 1st 2024

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

AMA # (or applied for) _____

Phone: home _____ cell _____

Email _____

Make Check Payable to "SIRS Inc." and Mail to : (or bring to a meeting)

Dennis Garrigus
1301 Heritage Road
Normal, IL 61761

New member's dues will be prorated to expire on March 31st.

**Can't find your check book try PAYPAL
Fast, easy, and safe.
sirsrc23@gmail.com**

Please send me any upcoming events. Please send photos or any other information you would like to see in the newsletter.

Dave Leavens, Editor
gpen2@yahoo.com