

UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 8th Annual Holiday Membership Meeting (Legends Steakhouse) – 6:00pm start
- January 5th Membership Meeting (Legends Steakhouse)
- January 21st Swap Meet Columbia RC Flyers Spring Hill, TN
- Tuesdays Indoor Flying 6:30 to 9:30 pm (Highland Heights Church of Christ, Smyrna)

See www.mprcf.com's calendar page for more information.

www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=123327474373735

November Meeting Minutes

The November Meeting was held at Legends Steakhouse on Thursday, November 3rd. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Vice-President Mike Dunphy. There were approximately 20 members present. The October Minutes and the October Treasurer's Report were read and accepted.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. <u>MTRCCA Swap Meet:</u> This event was discussed. Those members who volunteered to help with concessions were asked to arrive at 7:00am. All members were encouraged to attend what looks to be a huge event.
- 2. <u>Toys-For-Tots Fly-In:</u> Based on the donations received at the October 16th Fun-Fly and those received from the radio raffle earlier this year, the club will be making a donation of \$375 to Toys-For-Tots. All members were thanked for their continuing support of this charity.
- 3. <u>2012 Officer Nominations</u>: 2012 Officer/Board nominations were reported on by Tim DeWitt, the Nominating Committee Chairperson. Nominations were also taken from the floor during the November meeting. All positions are running unopposed except for Safety Coordinator. The nominations are:

President

- Jim Powers

Vice-President/Secretary

- Mike Dunphy

Treasurer

– Dan Wandell

Safety Coordinator

- Jim Palmer

- Sebastian Krauss

Contest/Event Coordinator

- Tim DeWitt

Field Maintenance Director

- James Ridley

- 4. <u>Tall Grass Mowing:</u> The tall grass surrounding the field was bush-hogged by Brent Savage and it looks great. Thanks Brent.
- 5. <u>Landfill Expansion:</u> See the summary at the end of the newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. <u>December Holiday Meeting:</u> The Annual Holiday meeting will be held at Legends Steakhouse on December 8th. This is a date change from the usual first Thursday of the month. The "meeting" will start at 6:00pm. Due to the field issues, it was decided that this would be a low-budget meeting. The club usually spends several hundred dollars on the Holiday Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

President Powers' Presidings

Well, once again it is building time. The weather has cooled off and although we will still see some very nice days for flying, we need to take time to make sure our aircraft and equipment are in good order. Check and rework your fuel systems, patch those little tears in the covering, replace that worn out and scuffed prop, and don't forget those tires that have outlived their usefulness. Here's a little tip for those that have tail draggers that are impossible to steer, check to make sure that you have a little toe-in on your front tires. If not, or if you have toe-out, trying to take off can result in a bad hair day. For those that fly glow, it is very important to make sure that you run all of the fuel out of the engine before putting it up for the winter. Start it up and let it run until it quits, then put in some after run oil. Now it will be ready next year when you want to go flying again. I think the number one thing we all need to check is our batteries. I write the date on any new batteries that I get so that I will know how old they are. If you are using NiCd or NiMH batteries be sure to cycle them and make sure that after being drawn down on discharge that they charge to at least 80% of their rated capacity. For example, a 1,000mah pack should recharge to at least 800mah, if not, recycle it again. After three times, if it doesn't come up to where it should be it is time to replace it. Knowing your aircraft is in tip top shape and ready to fly is the greatest feeling EVER.

I'm sure that our flying site is on everyone's mind, and I want to assure you that we are doing everything that we can to keep us flying at the landfill. We were successful in having the fence removed from the end of the runway, but there will come a time in the future when it will have to go up. Sometime in the not to distance future we are going to have to move to another location. We are looking very hard for another site and we ask all members to let us know of any place that might make a good flying field. Mike Dunphy is heading up the Site Search Committee. If anyone knows of something let Mike or me know and we will be glad to check it out. I know there is a great site out there somewhere but it won't come to us, we will have to find it.

The December membership meeting is just a few weeks away and as always this will be our Christmas dinner. We would like to extend an invitation to all members and their families to join us at this special time of the year. We try not to do any more club business than we have to at this meeting, but the election of officers for next year must be completed. For the first time in many years we have

a contested race. Two members are running for the position of Safety Coordinator, Jim Palmer and Sebastian Krauss. All voting members will be given a ballot and shortly after the start of the meeting the ballots will be counted. If you cannot attend the meeting you can send in an absentee ballot to our PO Box. All ballots that are mailed must be received by December 7th to be counted. The position of Safety Coordinator is very important so please take the time to vote.

The end of the year is just around the corner. Don't forget that your AMA expires on December 31st. As we all know, we can't fly at our field without a current AMA. We will be checking to make sure that everyone's AMA is up to date after the first of the year. Remember too that your MPRCF membership expires on January 31st. You can renew at the membership meetings or you can mail in your renewal to the PO Box.

That is going to wrap it up for this month. I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving and I hope to see a great turn out at the December meeting. As a last reminder, the December meeting will be one week later than usual, December 8th, at Legends Steakhouse in Smyrna starting at 6pm. See you there.

Jim Powers President, MPRCF





FIELD UPDATE

Two weeks ago Mike Dunphy and I met with representatives of Allied Waste to discuss their expansion plans and to look over the proposed new flying site on the west side of their property. We also discussed changes that would be needed at the proposed site to accommodate modeling activity; particularly the removal of trees on the south side of that field. The outcome of this meeting was:

TIMETABLE FOR OUR CURRENT LOCATION

- 1. Allied plans to start work on the new hill in January or February of next year (2012).
- 2. The first thing that they will do is to start blasting to remove rock. They have concerns about our transmitters and cell phones interfering with their blasting. They are also concerned about us being so close to the blasting area. For these reasons flying will be limited once blasting begins.
- 3. Then they will extend the buffer hill that is currently off the west end of the cross runway and install a 30' mesh fence on top.
- 4. When the blasting is complete, they will install a liner. They advised that there could not be any aircraft flying over that area while the liner is exposed. Apparently it is very easy to tear the liner and the cost to repair a tear is between five and ten thousand dollars. Once the liner is installed and covered, flying over that area would not be as much of a concern. They have advised that it could take as long as 4 to 6 weeks to install and cover the liner, effectively grounding us for that period of time.

PROPOSED NEW FLYING SITE ON ALLIED WASTE'S PROPERTY

- 1. Regarding the trees that we would like to remove, we were advised that there is a natural spring that sits within those trees and Allied uses this site for the sampling of ground water. For that reason they said the trees could not be removed.
- 2. If the site were to be developed, we would have to put in an access gate before their main gate on the north end of the field, and run a road the length of the field to where the parking area would be situated.
- 3. We would need to erect a fence on the site to shut off access to the main part of the landfill.
- 4. Allied advised that they would be able to help with the grading of the road and runway area, but that there is no money in their budget to do any more than that.

We looked at different ways of positioning a runway that might eliminate the impact of the trees. Our conclusion is that with the direction of the prevailing winds and the direction of the sun, this site cannot be made into a suitable model aircraft site.

CONCLUSION

We need to start looking hard for a new flying site. Mike Dunphy has been selected to chair the Site Selection Committee. It is important to note that Mike isn't in charge of finding a new site; all MPRCF members bear that responsibility. Mike and his committee are responsible for gathering all leads on potential properties, assessing these locations, and working with the Board and club members on a lease/acquisition strategy.

We need all club members to keep an eye out for potential sites and to spread the word among your family, friends and neighbors. Often, flying sites are obtained by simply spreading the word around. Maybe you know a farmer who has unproductive land, or a developer who has land that won't perk. These are opportunities. Maybe you have an "in" with the County Parks Department, or the Corps of Engineers. These are opportunities too. We need everyone's help. If you think that you know of a potential site, you don't need to feel compelled to open up any dialog or negotiate with the owner; the committee can handle that if you would feel more comfortable. Lastly, at this point nothing is off the table; we would consider leasing or buying.

I will keep you informed as we know more. In the meantime, please keep your eyes and ears open for potential sites.

Jim Powers