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In This Issue:
 P1-2 Reports
 P2 Old Business; Point of Interest
 P3-5 Show and Tell



December 17th, 2025 Newsletters and meeting minutes.
 Next meeting is scheduled January 21st, 2026 at 7:00PM,
 And will be held at the **EAA building at Mettetal Airport.**

Call to Meeting

President's Report:

Dale opened the meeting at 7:10PM with 19 members present. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the minutes and newsletter from November. Dale was Christmas minded and brought donuts for the meeting, and Carl also brought some cookies. Thank you both! Not much to report on in this cold part of the season.

Secretary's Report:

Remember that this digital newsletter often has links to stores and to video and other websites, shown as underlined blue text. There are some in the text below in the Show and Tell section, so you may want to read this newsletter from a tablet or better yet from your laptop for a full-sized view.

Vice-President's Report:

Joe reported that the letter of agreement with Willow Run Airport expires in April of 2026, so in January he will begin negotiations for a two-year extension. Our FRIA designation expires in 2027, so that can be taken care of next year. FRIA stands for **FAA Recognized Identification Area**. Remember that our FRIA designation allows us to fly at our field without the \$50 transponders now required by the FAA for all model aircraft weighing more than .55 pounds.

Treasurer's Report:

Jim was detained and arrived after this meeting started, but his records of membership renewals show that 25 members from 2025 have paid their dues for 2026. After he arrived, Jim told me that he added about 15 more members at this meeting as being paid for the 2026 year. No new members have joined as expected during the winter months of club operation.

Old Business

The lock on the chain and gate for the field still has the 2025 season code installed. Dale suggested that we keep that code for a week or two into the new year until enough members have paid and obtained their 2026 membership cards with the new combination code on the back. Doug Whitney has the official duty of changing the combination.

Point of Interest

As Joe was showcasing his Retro Rocket during Show and Tell, (see that section below), there seemed to be some interest in this company called **Flite Test.com LLC**. The company was created about 15 years ago by Josh Bixler, and has expanded considerably over the years. Besides designing foam-board aircraft, they have a former golf course in Ohio called (click ) [Edgewater Airpark](#) as their corporate headquarters, and they sponsor an annual show called Flite Fest that has become as popular as the Joe Nall event. They are involved in youth education of building and flying RC aircraft, and you can read about it by clicking [here](#). From that site, you can link to the Store, and the Videos on YouTube that show the flight tests of all their planes as well as build videos to help you work efficiently with foam building.

Meeting Adjourned

At 8:15 the meeting was adjourned by Dale and we began our Show and Tell.



Field Safety

starts with all members' vigilance!

Be sure to read your club's rules. They are posted on the west shelter. They are also posted on the website under the Rules and By-Laws tab.



CHECK THIS OUT!

Your plane (drone) needs to be registered with FAA. Click here on the [Drone Zone](#) to update or verify your registration. Follow instructions for how to label your plane and how to obtain your FAA registration.

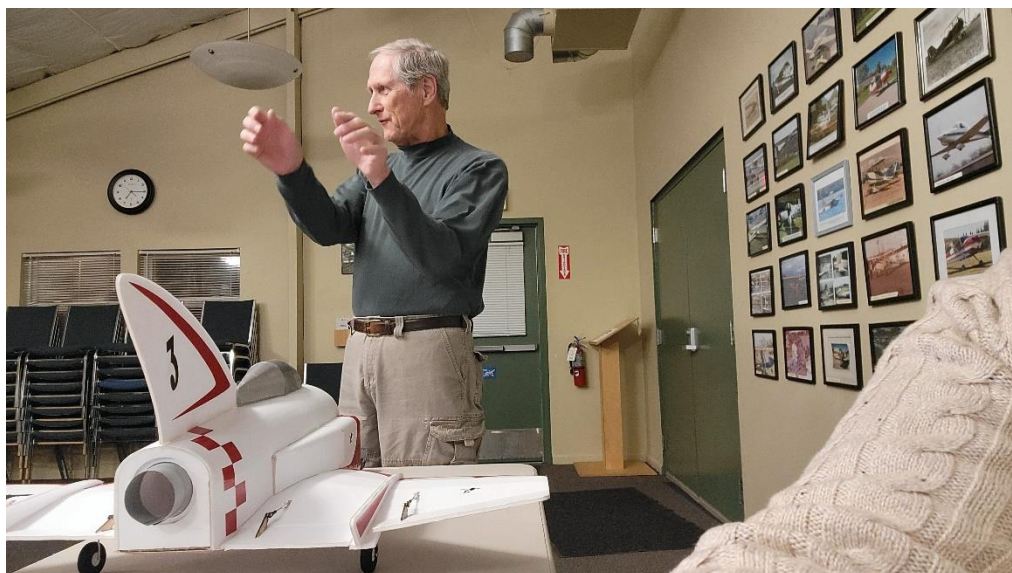
John Doe The Flying Pilgrims RC Club

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Show and Tell

Joe McCarthy for his first time built a kit from [Flite Test](#), called the Retro Rocket, \$49.99, a new model from that .com LLC. They have been around for 15 years and display videos of their planes, kits, build videos and more. Most of their planes are special dollar-tree foam builds that are laser-cut, and include wooden control horns and metal push-rod wires. They are very affordable. They also have power kits; engine, ESC,



receiver and connector packages that are matched to fit their planes. Click [here](#) for the store link. Joe's model uses a 6-blade 70mm EDF fan, 2200mah battery, and is assembled using mostly hot-melt glue. If you click [here](#) you can see the fuselage build video for this model. This is an advanced build, and requires special bending of the foam body and wing panels. Available with the kit is a landing gear package, but since the front gear was fixed, Joe

customized it with a servo so that it steers on takeoff. The plane has only elevons and elevators, no rudder. There are 3 different liveries available for this model.



Next in today's showcase was a 3D printed Rafael Jet constructed by William Walker. This French fighter is powered by a 50mm EDF, 1500mah battery. He said the plane consisted of 7 major sections glued together, and even the transparent cockpit is 3D printed! Very nice model.



To finish off the Show and Tell, Dan Schwartz brought in his selection of transmitters that are open source software controlled. These radios can be less expensive than the usual Spektrum or Futaba units. But as Dan displayed on the big screen, the set-up for these can be from simple to very complex, and the unit can have up to 36 channels or more. The cases are compact, but the size is an illusion, as these radios carry a big punch.



Dan even projected onto the big screen the software that accompanies the open source configuration of these radios for programming at your desk before you get to the field. Very impressive.



Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!