



October 2017

Volume 15 Issue 10



Flying Pilgrims Aero News

Next Meeting: November 15th 2017 at 7:00pm

Winter Location – Canton-Plymouth-Mettetal Airport

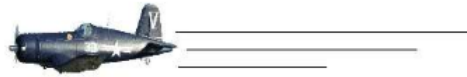
EAA Chapter 113

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President Bill Slabey opened the meeting at 7 pm with 28 people present.

Discussions

New Business

Bill Slabey Reported on our Finances:

Bill reported that through 10/03/2017 we have been running a deficit of approximately 32 dollars per person. The \$32 is the projected increase in dues in order to balance the budget. Bill brought to light that some of the yearly expenses have expanded with the landscaping and the addition of the new shelter. Some of the future projected expenses include new shelter flowering, upgrading the new shelter parking, runway sealing, access road repair, and general maintenance yearly increases. In summery Bill's projected budget for next year was in the area of 14k. 10K in operating costs and 4k in improvements. All this works out to 107 dollars per member at our current member ship level of 156. Jordan Hall injected the fact that approx. 135 of those members actually pay the full club membership fee, the others fall in the category of youth and other. If for example, next year we maintain the 135 full paying members and cut improvements by 1000 we still have a 21-dollar dues imbalance cost to meet the budget. Bottom line if we keep the dues at 75 we will run a deficit.

Although this was an unusual year for expenses much discussion followed on how to handle future expenses and hold money in reserve for unforeseen expenditures. Ideas such as spacing out the major improvements on a yearly basis and finding other ways to increase revenue were discussed. Ideas by members included holding an additional public Fun fly, recruit new members, making a Christmas party contribution and applying for AMA field improvement grant (up to %10 of cost) were discussed. After a pierid of debate a member put forth that we take time to review and table the discussion till next month.

Later in the meeting a motion was made to raise dues in 2019:

A motion - was made by Bill Slabey to increase the dues for the year of 2019 to \$100.

Lary Pretson - seconded the motion.

Motion was resolved and passed by a vote of 10 to 4.

Christmas party:

Jack Kezelian came forward and would like to organize volunteers to host the Christmas party. He proposed the party to be held at the same location as last year - Sunflower Village Subdivision Clubhouse on December 20. The address is: 45800 Hanford Rd. Canton, Mi. 48187. We will have map and directions in the November newsletter.

Christmas party RSVP:

*Jack would like all members who plan to attend the party to **email** him on the number of people that will be attending. This will give jack a better idea on how much food to order.*

With the idea of trying to keep the cost down from our previous discussion on budget. Jack presented us with figures from last year party. Roughly we are paying 10 dollars per person. After some discussion by members, Tom Ranta suggested we ask for a \$5 per person donation to offset the cost. Steve Cecale made note of what the Signal Seekers are doing. Their party is \$5.25 / person plus a subsidy by the club which they hold at popular pizza restaurant. After a round of discussion a motion was made.

***A motion** - was made to to hold the Christmas party as the same location with the addition of a 5-dollar donation per person by the attending members.*

***Members** - seconded the motion.*

Motion was resolved and passed by major majority of the members voting yes.

Bottom line by jack is that we need volunteers to come forward for setup and clean up.

Giant Scale Event 2018:

Jack Kezelian came forward again and would like to CD the Giant Scale fund raiser for next year. He made a motion to have our Giant Scale fundraiser, the date to be in September of 2018.

***A motion** - was made to have our Giant Scale fundraiser again next year.*

***Members** - seconded the motion.*

Motion was resolved and passed by major majority of the members voting yes.

THE CLUB ELECTION:

As you know the club nominations were held at this meeting, and this year we have two opponents challenging the incumbents of President and Vice President.

The business of nominations was called to order.

The presidency:

A nomination for the office of President - was made by John Lane to reelect **Bill Stabey** as club president.

Nomination - was seconded by Jim Smith.

A nomination for the office of President - was made by Steve Cecale to elect **Don Kolchmainen** as club president.

Nomination - was seconded by Joe Nazelli

The Vice presidency:

A nomination for the office of Vice President - was made by Jim Smith to reelect **Joe McCarthy** as club vice president.
Nomination - was seconded by Jim Gibboney.

A nomination for the office of Vice President - was made by Steve Cecale to elect **John Alaniva** as club vice president.
Nomination - was seconded by Joe Nazelli

The Secretary:

A nomination for the office of Secretary - was made by Bill Slabey to elect **Rick Reynolds** as club Secretary.
Nomination - was seconded by Jim Smith.

In conclusion of the nominations, all **other club officers** were re nominated and are running unopposed. To be clear I am not running for reelection as secretary, thus Rick Reynolds is unopposed.

Campaign Statements by the nominees will be posted at the end of this newsletter.

From your Secretary on Upcoming Election Procedure:

As Secretary it is my job to offer those members who cannot attend the November meeting an absentee ballot in the upcoming election. However, I would encourage all members who can come to the meeting and vote - to do so. Those members who cannot attend, please print and check mark your vote on the ballot. **Note: The ballot with instructions will be emailed separately following this newsletter. For a short time, it will be available on MS OneDrive in PDF format (See Link at the top of this mailing).**

Your **unopened** envelope will be taken to the meeting and your vote will be added to the total at the time of vote counting. The accounting will be done by the club trustees and me.

Follow the instruction on the ballot: Mail (USPS) the ballot to the address shown on the ballot. All envelopes will be numbered as I receive them and If possible, I will email you your envelope number (ballot number). This is to ensure you your vote was counted and provide a level of secrecy. if anyone wants to check (which I encourage), This number will be transferred to your ballot and you can check and see it was received and counted by the trustees. Hopefully this will ease any doubt of integrity to the vote.

On the average only about 1/4 of the members show up for the club meetings. If you're in the 3/4 group who can't make it to meetings, hears your opportunity to have a say in the club. Daniel D Secretary Flying pilgrims.

FIELD OPERATION SAFETY starts with all members vigilance!

Follow the "SEE AND AVOID" GUIDANCE set forth by the AMA.

Call out warnings of approaching full size aircraft.

Fly at a safe low altitude relative to oncoming full-size aircraft.

Because of our location relative to Willow Run Airport, we have a **400 Ft.** height restriction.

Commercial test development of UAV's is prohibited at the field.

Dan D (Sec)

If you have any items you would like to sell and send a list out to the club, feel free to email me pictures. I will be happy to email viva mas email mail system. Anything worth mentioning for the Fun Stuff section, ongoing projects or additions to our expert information folder etc. are welcome as well. secretary@flyingpilgrims.com

If you're interested in getting more information or joining the club. Please feel free to contact me by phone at 734-482-8258; See us at the field or attend our monthly meeting, now being held Mettetal Airport. The address is **8550 Lilley Rd, Canton, MI 48187.**

Note: A high resolution copy of the newsletter and pictures can be viewed or downloaded via the [Microsoft OneDrive](#) secure link provided at top of email.

Flying Pilgrims Club Officers for 2017

President: –	Bill Slabey		
Vice President: –	Joe McCarthy	<i>Trustees:</i>	Steve Cecale
Secretary: –	Daniel Debens		Don Kolehmainen
Treasurer: –	Jordan Hall		Joe Nazelli
Safety Officer: –	Glenn McIntosh	<i>Chief Flight Instructor:</i>	Ed Hernandez
Lead Instructor: –	Ed. Hernandez	<i>Sub Instructor:</i>	Daniel Debens
Webmaster: –	Carl Cornell		

SHOW & TELL

Due to the length of this email with the elections, show and tell will be pushed to the November issue. However, you can see Toms Ranta fantastic F16 pictures on OneDrive by clicking the link at the top of this email.

Campaign statements prepared by the candidates for the office of President.

Bill Slabey Presidential Campaign Statement:

At the request of members who attended the October club meeting I have written this to describe my vision of Flying Pilgrims. So, again I am writing this brief overview to introduce or re-introduce myself to Flying Pilgrims members. From my initial officer position of VP a few years ago I have always considered my role to be to foster the shared vision of the club membership to have a safe and friendly place to enjoy our radio control flying hobby. I believe this club is doing great and will continue to be doing well because of its membership that recognizes it will cease to exist if its members don't volunteer to help it operate.

BACKGROUND: I am not retired and I still work for Roush Enterprises in Livonia as its quality director. I have been involved in the RC hobby in the mid 1980's and like many RC hobbyists I had major lapses in the hobby because I was busy being active with family, work and other hobbies (racing TRANSAM series cars). See car below:



In 1996 I quit racing and devoted my time to family life and support of my wife who was diagnosed with MS. My daughter became an avid soccer player and volleyball player. In late 2007 I got back into RC flying and bought some inexpensive foam electric trainers which were powered by then the state-of-the-art lithium polymer batteries. I was flying at local soccer fields

and found that it was not really appreciated by others so I joined the club. I started scratchbuilding foam EDFs like the one below (which still is a good flyer). It even has thrust vectoring and goes about 90 mph. Below is 2008 prop-in-the-slot foam RC flyer.



Click [here](#) for the maiden video of the above plane back in 2008. It is quite agile and fast for a flat foam plane. It still is a great flyer.

I have written how to articles for the club to introduce members to electric RC flight powered by lipos.

RUNWAY RESURFACING -- When club VP I managed the runway resurfacing which included getting competitive quotes and staying at the field during its re-construction. Bottom line is the club lengthened the runway 100 feet and widened 5 feet back in 2013 at cost \$10K less than previous quotes. I took a week of vacation to make sure it was executed per plan.

When the surface on the southeast side was not acceptable I held back \$5K until it was properly repaired and resurfaced by Nagle.

Before:



After:



I prepared an AMA grant application that became a standard from which others are judged and was asked by AMA HQ to be on the annual AMA field improvement grant review committee. This takes over 8 hours to review the 50 odd applications that are sent into the AMA annually. My AMA duty is NOT to approve grants but to review and rank the club grant applications. In 2013 we received the maximum allowable grant. As an aside, our club is eligible to reapply every three years and the maximum reimbursement of 10% but not to exceed \$3K. For this year we should be able to submit approximately \$8K of field improvements and hope to receive a 10% grant. See the video below of the runway resurfacing that Rick Reynolds put together to document the field improvement.

<https://youtu.be/pqNQaN-GyRQ>

As president this year I volunteered, as any member would, to do what is best for the club. Remember, this club ceases to exist without volunteers. No one gets paid. The successful Fall Phaseout for Fun airshow last September shows what a motivated group of volunteers can do. Those who helped deserve a warm thanks from everybody. It was impressive to watch everyone pull together and make it happen.

Accomplishments this year include:

- **LAWN SERVICE** -- Best lawn service we have had mow the field this year (except when Glen M. takes a day off to mow the field and rake it up). Thanks to the support of club members we were able to secure a lawn service that now mows the field short enough in the runway area. It is difficult to get a lawn service to scalp your grass field, but it eventually became a reality by repeatedly stopping at the field at 8AM on Thursday morning to meet with the mowing service crew to reinforce what we need.
- **Reducing the hazardous areas surrounding the runway** -- Planes were being lost in the 12 foot tall Phragmites northeast of the runway. The daytime crew volunteered to try to cut them down with chainsaws and weed whackers. Their efforts did not work. It was impossible do without the right tools and methods. Since those attempts failed I decided to visit the Hawk Farm (north of field and east of the field) and talked with the owner, Richard Hawk, about what to do about getting rid of the tall Phragmites. These people are our neighbors and will effort they have become our friends. He said he would take a look and suggested he could cut them down with his 30 foot wide brush hog and then turn the soil with his pull behind disk. He offered to do it for a modest fee that was less than a third of what it would cost if we rented the equipment and did it ourselves. When finished, trees were removed and the ankle snapping trenches that were hidden in the tall grass were gone. Once he started working on the phragmite area it became obvious that he had the equipment, know-how and the time to clean up the 10 acres surrounding our flying field. Thanks to Richard Hawk who drove the brush cutter and disk; and his farm manager who ran the front loader the entire 10 acres north, east and west of runway was cleaned up and ready for rolling in a few days. Jack Kezelian, our long term, and always taking on projects club member with Glen Rex rented for the club a 20 ton roller from Michigan Caterpillar. When finished We now have an accessible out of bounds area that won't break any ankles and allow one to drive a vehicle to retrieve a plane. Keith even found his plane that disappeared into the Phragmites. Of course, the weeds will grow again and will need once or maybe twice a year brush hogging. This will increase our operating expense to brush hog the 10 acres north, east and west of the field. Below is a picture of main piece of Hawk Farm equipment that cleaned up the brush and Phragmites:



- **EAST END SHELTER** -- We also voted on adding a new all steel shelter on the east end. Thanks to Matt D. and Joe N. who brought the idea forward we got it erected before the Fall Phaseout. I took another couple of days off work to be there while the installer put up the shelter. Below is the video I posted on Facebook of it being built.
- <https://www.facebook.com/FlyingPilgrims/videos/1631872460166971/>
- **2017 Fall Phaseout** -- Working with Carl Cornell who set up our Flying Pilgrims Facebook page I created promotional videos to get people aware of the Sept. 16-17 Fall Phaseout. I don't know

how much this helped but I hope it did. Below is one of the teaser videos I put together. There were several. This is the first. It is less than a minute:

- <https://www.facebook.com/FlyingPilgrims/videos/1573741642646720/>
- **Recruiting younger members** -- I have a goal to foster bringing on board younger members to the club since our club needs to promote the hobby with the younger generation. Below is a picture of three of them working on a plane under the shelter. It is a joy to watch Ed Hernandez take them through their basic flying instructions. Dan Debens takes the time to teach them how to fly as well and it's fun to watch Dan D. connect with them and teach them very patiently. Our younger members learned to fly safely at our field very quickly. They are an excellent addition to our club. Pay no attention to the old guy in the neon yellow sweatshirt.



- At the October club meeting at the EAA I reviewed our current financial status and proposed a budget for 2018. Nothing was finalized, but the budget is proposed for both operating expenses and field improvement. I would like to see it through for 2018 with the support of club membership.

I hope this explains what I have done for the club as an officer and would like your vote for Club President in 2018.

Thanks for taking the time to read this. If re-elected we can continue to make this club greater than it is.

Bill Slabey President Flying Pilgrims RC Club

Don Kolehmainen Presidential Campaign Statement:



Hello, fellow Flying Pilgrims members. My name is Don Kolehmainen and I am running for the position of club president in the upcoming election.

I have been a member of Pilgrims for the past 10 years, and I learned to fly through the club's trainer program. You have probably seen me around the grill at the field as I have volunteered to host the club Fun Fly's the last several years along with Glenn McIntosh and Joe Nazelli. In addition, I was also involved in the runway project committee, which brought contractors to the club for a question-and-answer session about what was needed for a project of that size. I helped provide several different funding options for the anticipated costs, with handouts that were given to club members.

I have given a lot of thought about what I can do as president to help improve the club:

- Stimulate our membership numbers and get more people to come to our events: Create a Spring Fling event to start off the year where everybody is welcome to fly whatever they have. Any food leftovers could be used at our regular fun fly events and not create excess for the club to manage.
- Reach out to local youth and get them involved in the hobby. For example, invite local Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and elementary schools for a day to teach them about r/c and let them try flying a simulator or trainer to get them interested.
- Join the AMA Introductory Pilot Program to help new members and those who are interested in joining get started at our club.
- Better manage the club's funds by prioritizing which field improvements are necessary in any given year to fit within the budget.
- Create an event planning committee to research ways to make the fun fly's better and save money.
- Make the club more welcoming to both members and spectators

These are just a few ideas that I have, and I am excited to get the opportunity to continue the work that has made the Flying Pilgrims one of the premier clubs in south eastern Michigan.

I feel that with hard work and dedication, our club will continue to grow and membership will rise as we promote a safe and friendly environment for everyone.

Let's put the fun back in flying!! Sincerely, Don Kolehmainen

Campaign statements prepared by the candidates for the office of Vice President.

Joe McCarthy Vice Presidential Campaign Statement:

Background:

I have a BS in Mechanical Engineering and an MBA from the University of Detroit. I spent 38 years with Ford Motor Co. in various engineering and managerial positions, mostly in Powertrain Engineering. This was interrupted by a 2 year tour of active duty as a Lieutenant in the US Army. In my spare time I also managed my wife's automotive upholstery business. After retiring from Ford I worked part time as an Engineering Consultant and Liaison Engineer.

I have been actively involved in RC and a member of the Flying Pilgrims for 24 years, and served as club vice president off and on for about 10 of those years.

Responsibilities:

The function of the vice president is to assist the club president and to fill in for him in his absence. Also to fill in for other officers in their absence at club meetings. Admittedly the vice president is the least demanding officer position. Besides acting as an advisor to the club president, in the past I have run club meetings when the president was absent, updated and re-written club rules and by-laws, negotiated an operating agreement with Willow Run Airport management, assisted with training, and kept the membership up to date on FAA and AMA regulations. Additionally I am frequently at the field and a regular participant whenever there are work parties.

Vision:

The Flying Pilgrims has the nicest flying field in Michigan and a great bunch of members. My mission is to keep it that way. The field will need maintenance and some minor improvements in the near future. Additionally promoting safety and mutual respect and harmony among the membership is a priority.

I have a good rapport with the current president and would continue that level of support regardless of who the future president may be.

Regards, Joe McCarthy

John Alaniva Vice Presidential Campaign Statement:



I am John Alaniva and I am running for vice president of the Flying Pilgrims.

About me: I'm relatively new to the RC hobby, mainly through my son Danny, and have been a club member for 5 years. Danny and I became members after the 2011 summer of watching members fly and getting to know a few of them. However, I am not new to club organizations and have many years of experience from another hobby group that dealt with model trains. I was active in the North Central Region of the National Model Railroad Association for more than 20 years. That group had more than 650 members throughout all of lower Michigan, northern Ohio and northern Indiana. My experience in that organization was: registrar (10 years) and vice president (4 years). In 2004 I was part of the team for the 2007 NMRA Convention and served as the treasurer (3 years). With respect to The Flying Pilgrims I have helped run the parking for the last several 1/4 Scale meets in addition to helping with the set-up before the event and the tear-down afterwards. In my professional life I have worked for the Department of the Army for 33 years – 19 years as a technical writer and the past 14 years as a Logistics Manager for weapon systems. My job has taught me the importance of organization and good communication skills, since it involves a very diverse group of people world-wide.

My vision: I want to see the club become more organized and do a better job of informing its members. The monthly meeting should have a short, but specific agenda each month – too many topics at once and those in attendance lose focus and interest. All things related to the maintenance of the club should be voted on by the membership before acting on it, not after the fact. Keeping the membership involved assures that it is THEIR club and that they have a voice. I want to see the rules applied equitably across the board, not special exemptions because of status or tenure. And I'd like to see the club get back to being fun. Let's face it – the Fun Fly's are great, but it's the same old schtick and same faces every time. Where are the rest of the members? Why aren't they involved? The club needs to do a better job of involving all 135 members, not the same group of 30-35. Membership is critical to survival and longevity – we need to spark interest in more youth to carry what we have. We are fortunate to have one of the finest places to fly in the area, and we should strive to pass on the passion for the hobby that we all share.

John Alaniva