



# June 2017 Newsletter

Volume 53 Number 6

## SIRS RC/CL



Check SIRS WEBSITE!

## Model Airplane Club

AMA District VI Chapter 621 Founded in 1964



**Pylon Racing is coming to Central Illinois !**

**CAPS' NATS Warm Up races June 24 - 25 at:  
SIRS Field (see page 2)**

**Some of the top Midwest Pylon Race  
pilots will be racing !**

### Officers:

#### President

**Jerry Worden**

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Come

Fly

With

Us!

At SIRS

Field

BEFORE

Our Next

Saturday

June 10th

7:00 PM

Our Field is

Located near

Funks Grove,

IL see map

on the next

page!

Visitors &

Guests

WELCOME

309-532-2497

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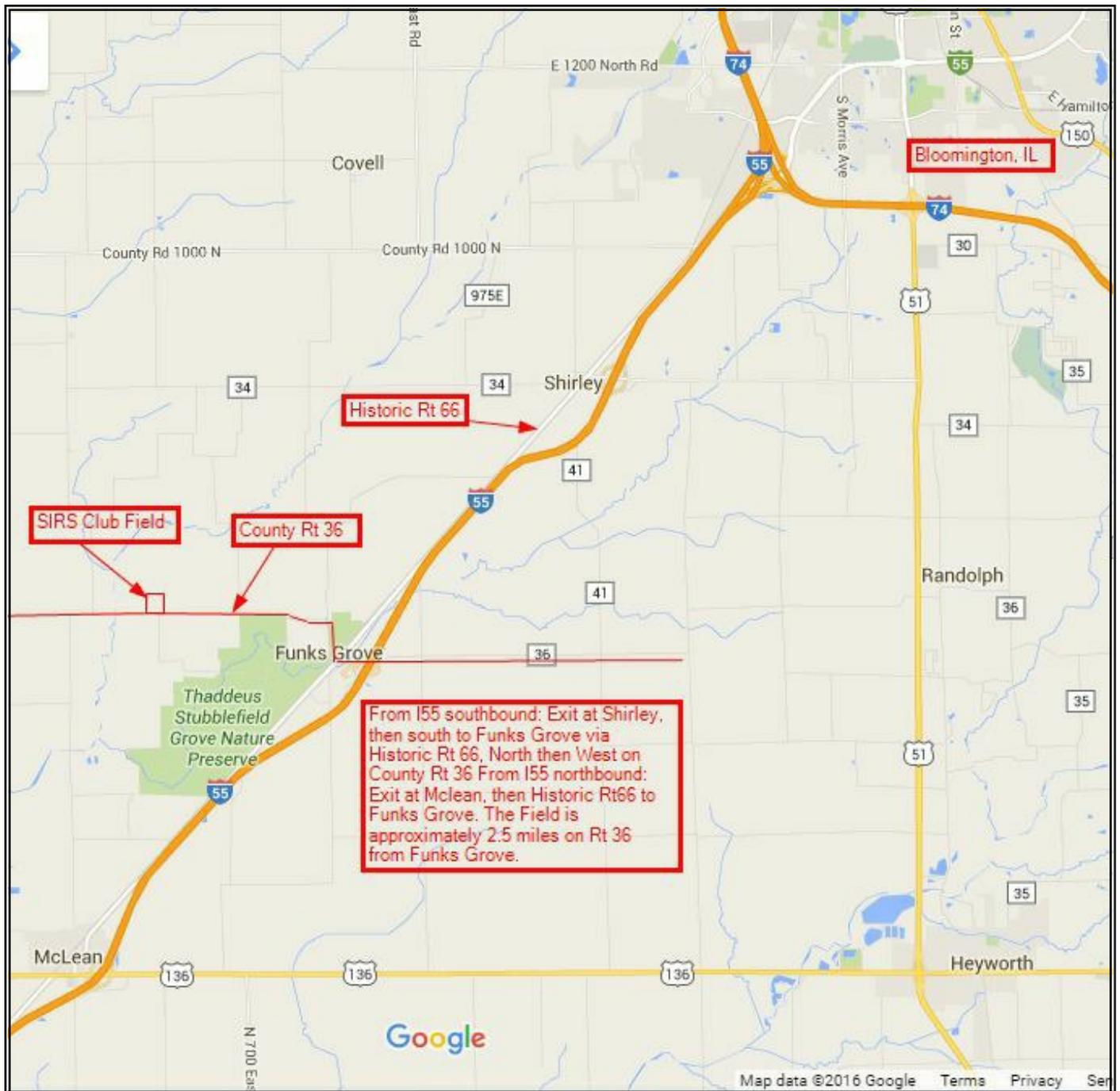
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**Club meetings are on the second Saturday  
of each month (April through October)  
at 7:00 PM**

**At SIRS Club Field**

**Guests and prospective members are welcome to attend.**

**Flying before the meeting weather permitting!!**



**Message to the SIRS Membership**

**June 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> the club will be holding our annual CAPS/SIRS NATS Warm up Pylon Races!**

**We will be hosting Pylon Racing pilots from Illinois and surrounding states and we need to make every effort to show them our hospitality!!**

**Holding these races requires lots of work from the SIRS members and if you have already volunteered to help Contest Director/ Club President Jerry Worden will be contacting you to remind you about when you need to be at the field. If you have not yet volunteered contact Jerry (jwfly1697@msn.com) and he will give you something to do.**

**To conduct each race requires at least 10 members so don't be shy about volunteering.**

**Dues were due January 31<sup>st!!!</sup>**

**\$90.00 (Make checks payable to SIRS)**

**New members dues are prorated = \$52.50**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**AMA #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Home** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail check to: (Or bring to the meeting)**

**John Burrill**

**903 Approach Rd.**

**Normal, IL 61761**

**Unapproved minutes from March SIRS meeting**

**SIRS RC/CL Model Club**

**May 13, 2017 SIRS Minutes**

President Jerry Worden opened the meeting at 6:55 at the flying field.

**New Business**

Jerry introduced Robert Finnegan, visiting on behalf of the local astronomy club, which has telescope and observatory facilities at the Nature Center in Funk's Grove. That group is interested in acquiring a site for the installation of a new building and telescope, and is considering a sharing agreement with our club. They are also looking at other sites. Some specifics:

1. They would erect a 16' by 20' modular building on a concrete pad, and a deep concrete base for the telescope.
2. They would expect to share in our field rental costs.
3. They will require electricity.
4. Possible locations would be the SW or SE corner (SW will be more convenient and less costly)

Jerry will provide Mr. Finnegan's email to John Burrill, who will send him a copy of the memorandum of agreement that serves as our lease.

We then went on to the business of the SIRS meeting.

Jerry reviewed the minutes from the last meeting.

Treasurer John Burrill reported the club has \$5,681.41 on deposit as of April 21, 2017, and 25 paid members as of May 12, 2017. He circulated the report and a draft budget for 2017. He also reminded members that donations would be welcome to help defray the cost of the roller we rented.

The minutes and treasurer's report were approved on a motion by Greg Vertrees, seconded by Dave Ashley.

**Old Business**

Bob Stadsholt will be following up on the barriers for the field.

Jerry reminded members of the open house we will have August 12<sup>th</sup>, and described a very successful open house he had attended at the Peoria club's field.

Fred Logue will be taking care of the "cages" for the pylon racing, and his family will also be looking after the food booth. Various members have conduit and/or dog kennel mesh if it can be used.

A reminder that we will need help for that event: 10 members each day.

A change in meeting time was discussed, and the consensus seemed to be to leave it as is since no strong feelings for change were apparent: 7:00 PM on the second Saturday.

**New Business**

Jerry mentioned that Justin has developed a T-shirt for SIRS and hopes to have them available for the June meeting. Gary Lenhardt had discussed with Jerry the possibility of installing a "petromat" runway on the field, which would enable take-offs by the smaller planes. Gary is researching this, and may be appealing for donations to help cover that cost.

James Richter mentioned that a ramp is needed for our privy in order for it to be accessible. This can be easily done, mostly with the lumber we already have.

John Siebert moved, and Paul Bessler seconded, that we strongly encourage the partnership with the astronomy club. There was good discussion on this, and all members present saw it as a win-win opportunity.

Motion carried.

Paul Bessler is giving up his Safety Officer role for health reasons. Jerry thanked Paul for his service in this capacity and asked members to consider volunteering to take his place.

Two former members rejoined the club, Dennis Wallen and James Richter. We now have 27 paid members and 2 Life Members.

Adjournment was moved by Paul Bessler, seconded by Art Ausili.

## Here is a reprint of an article from the L. A .Times

### Drone regulations are up in the air

In one week: Court overturned the FAA's recreational drone rules, a drone crashed into spectators at Petco Park, and senators introduced the Drone Federalism Act.

By Kelly McSweeney for Robotics | May 26, 2017

At a San Diego Padres game on Sunday, spectators ducked and reached to catch -- not a baseball, but a stray drone -- as it flew overhead and crashed into the stands. Fortunately, nobody appeared to be harmed, but it's easy to see how similar irresponsible flying could be a problem in the future.

We need clear, enforceable rules, but drone regulation is complicated. These unmanned aerial vehicles can range from a selfie camera that fits in the palm of your hand to a powerful flying robot that automates farming . Officially, drones are considered to be aircraft or model aircraft, depending on how they are used. (More on that in a bit.) Given this wide variety of applications and undeniable rising popularity, it seems that drones deserve a new legal category and perhaps even dedicated air space, but for now they remain in limbo.

On Thursday, a bipartisan group of senators introduced the Drone Federalism Act, which could establish a process for federal, state, local, and tribal governments to work together to manage the use of recreational and commercial drones. It is the latest attempt to make rules that balance between letting people enjoy technology while ensuring public safety.

"As drone use has exploded across America, neighbors, communities, and local governments are all still trying to figure out the best way to balance the property rights of drone users, land owners, and public safety," said Senator Mike Lee (R-Utah), in a statement. "These disputes need to be decided at the local level, not with top-down proclamations from Washington. This bill allows for those solutions to be discovered while still protecting interstate air travel."

The debate over how to regulate drones is so complicated that even the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is still figuring it out. Just last week, the District of Columbia circuit court of appeals ruled that the FAA is not legally allowed to regulate model aircraft such as recreational drones -- which is a bit awkward, since the FAA has (illegally) required drone registration since 2015. The Unmanned Aircraft Systems section of the Agency's website currently warns:

"We are carefully reviewing the U.S. Court of Appeals decision as it relates to drone registrations. We are in the process of considering our response to the decision as well as any registration implications for non-commercial users. Please check this website regularly for further updates and instructions. In the meantime, we encourage registration for all drone operators."

The recent incident at Petco Park occurred just over a month after San Diego amended the city's drone law to bring local laws in line with the FAA's rules so that local authorities can issue citations for reckless flying. Unfortunately, since recreational drones no longer have to be registered, cops will have a hard time tracking down the culprits.

The drone that crashed at Petco Park appears to be a GoPro Karma, which could've been part of a recall. While rules are shifting, it's likely that large venues will start to find their own ways to protect their customers, such as investing in anti-drone technology.

Sebastian Blum, VP of Business Development at Dedrone tells us, "Dedrone's software is a proactive detection solution, which would be able to detect this drone over one mile away from the stadium, and also map its flightpath, giving security personnel a warning of an incoming drone and protecting their athletes and spectators. With a proactive drone detection, security would be able to find the drone when it entered the stadium and intercept it and prevent any spectator harm."

Last year, the FAA released long-awaited guidelines for commercial drones, and since then, hundreds of thousands of pilots have registered to fly drones for business. Now, we're overdue for clarification for hobbyists who fly drones for fun.



## **Central Illinois Radio Society (SIRS) NATS Warmup**

**SIRS Flying Site - McLean, IL  
Saturday & Sunday, June 24 & 25, 2017**

**AMA 424 Q500 - Entry Fee \$25 Each Day - Saturday & Sunday**

**AMA 426 Q500 - Entry Fee \$25 - Saturday & Sunday**

**NMPRA EF1 - Entry Fee \$20 - Saturday & Sunday**

**15% Nitro Fuel Will Be Supplied**

**Field Will Be Open For Practice On Friday**

**Saturday & Sunday - Short Course For 424 & 426 & EF1**

**Lunch Will Be Available On Site On Race Days**

Please Pre-register At: [www.capsracing.com](http://www.capsracing.com)

For More Information Contact

CD Jerry Worden - (309) 531 - 0073 E-mail: [jwfly1697@msn.com](mailto:jwfly1697@msn.com)

See [www.sirsrc.com](http://www.sirsrc.com) for directions to the SIRS flying site.



**This is the Flyer for our June Pylon Races!!**

**Share it with anyone that you think would be  
interested in attending!!**

## 2017 Events Schedule

**All EVENTS at the Field are subject to favorable weather!**

Club Meeting June 10<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM at the Field

June 24-25 Nats Warm-up Pylon Races  
AMA Sanction # 623  
(See page 7)

August 12<sup>th</sup> Model Aviation Day SIRS Open House

Sept 9-10 Field of Dreams Fall Classic Pylon racing

October 8th Ringmaster Fly-A-Thon

October 14th Thompson Cup Pylon Race (club meeting at the field)

November ??? Annual SIRS Banquet at Covell Community Building

## **Some links you might enjoy:**

**Stupid Drone use!!**

**Anti Drone systems!**

**Drones vs elephants!!**

The basis of world peace is the teaching which runs through almost all the great religions of the world. "Love thy neighbor as thyself." - Eleanor Roosevelt

John Cralley, Editor

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Send me your **NEWS**, Photos and any model aviation related information to share!!