

S.I.R.S.



Newsletter for the Sentral Illinois Radio Society, Bloomington, IL

A.M.A. Chapter 621

June, 2003

Soaring Cobras Invade S.I.R.S. Flying Field

by Chris Cochran, SIRS President

photos by Chris Cochran and Karl Laun



On Sunday, May 18th the SIRS club hosted an introduction to R/C flying for the Prairie Aviation Museum's Soaring Cobras. The Soaring Cobras has members ranging in age from 7 to 16 who have an expressed an interest in aviation. SIRS member Bob Tarbox brought the idea to the SIRS President Chris Cochran and together they attended Prairie Aviation meetings to coordinate the event for the Soaring Cobras. The date was chosen and work began on gathering volunteers for flight instructors. Bob Tarbox took charge of coordinating the event between the Soaring Cobras leader Fran Romine and the SIRS club.

The turnout was great. We had 17 members of the Soaring Cobras and four SIRS instructors using trainer planes. A special thanks to Dennis Wallen, Wayne Geffon, Jerry Worden, Duane Holliger, Leonard Lee, Stan Thompson, Karl Laun, and Mike Read (from the Streator Club).

Each instructor took a group of 3 to 4 Soaring Cobras, put them on a buddy cord and the flying began. A great time was had by all, I think the smiles in the pictures tells the story.

Four flying stations were set up at the SIRS R/C Field, where club instructors, with the help of their spotters, introduced young members of the Soaring Cobras to the in's and out's (and up's and down's) of piloting a radio-controlled aircraft. (more photos on page 2)

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Club Meetings

Club meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month at the flying field in Covell, IL. Meetings begin at 7:00pm during the winter (CST) and 8:00pm during the summer (CDT).

SIRS Meeting Minutes — May 10, 2003

CALL TO ORDER:

President Chris Cochran called the meeting to order at 8:08 pm. There were 9 members present.

PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Secretary Dennis Wallen read the minutes from the last meeting. Chris Cochran moved to accept the minutes as read Fr. Ric seconded. Motion was passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Chris Cochran read the Treasurer's Report. Motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Dennis Wallen. Motion was passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Chris Cochran has been working on the wording of the incorporation documents. He will be done soon.
- Stan Thompson informed the club that the new club tractor and mower is working fine.
- The kids from the Aviation Museum will be coming to the flying field May 18th from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm to get some R/C flying instruction. Volunteers are Duane Holliger, Jerry Worden, Chuck Tarbox, and Dennis Wallen.
- The Aviation Museum also needs models May 31 for a static display at the Museum from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Donations of batteries and T-shirts were made by Interstate Batteries, for the Big Bird Fly-In, June 7th and 8th.
- Wing Bags that protect your plane when carrying it are on sale at Hobbyland for a good price.

SHOW AND TELL:

Fr. Ric brought a rebuilt Shrike with a OS 15 also a Styrofoam, high wing, electric Mini-Piper.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

50/50 winner for May is Bob King. Bob donated all of his winnings to the Big Bird event. Thank you very much Bob.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chris Cochran made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm, seconded by Fr. Ric. Motion was passed.

Respectfully submitted, Dennis Wallen, Secretary.

More Soaring Cobras Photos...



S.I.R.S. Member Chuck Tarbox: Retired, But Staying Active in Aviation



Bob, standing in front of one of the Red Baron Show Team Stearman aircraft.

by Chris Cochran, SIRS President

In addition to working with the Soaring Cobras, Bob “Chuck” Tarbox is an active member of the EAA Chapter 129. Each Saturday morning from 7 am to 9 am Bob is either cooking or helping with the breakfast. He also gives guided tours at the Prairie Aviation Museum. For the past 9 years Bob has worked with the Red Baron's show team and does all the filming of the team's training routines.

After the editing is done, Bob works with the teams during their debriefs to help polish their performances. In addition, Bob flies along with the Red Baron's show team as they travel throughout the Midwest and films their performances at the events. It has come to my attention that Bob has a shrine in his basement made up of Red Baron's memorabilia, but that's just a rumor. You tell us Bob....

During the fall time of year Bob can be found out at Don Lefflers farm near

Covell, Illinois driving the tractors to plow the fields. I know Bob is retired, but gosh I think he is busier now than before when he was working for GE.



Bob and his daughter Lisa Visel in their Red Baron uniforms

Words from the Prez



For months the SIRS officers have been gathering information regarding the incorporation of the SIRS Club. Most recently, the officers have found an effective avenue for the SIRS Club to undertake this action. The incorporation of the SIRS Club will offer an additional legal protection layer for each SIRS member, in the event of a tragedy. The AMA has provided staggering statistical data that shows that 90% of the clubs in the US have incorporated. The primary reason is for incorporation is the additional legal benefits above and beyond the AMA primary coverage's which take effect after an individual's personal homeowners insurance policy. In these days of large scale aircraft and regular scale, the aircraft are faster more nimble and the weights/wing span have increased dramatically, which in turn we must realize can do significant damage in the right circumstances. Thankfully, we at the SIRS Club have been free of major accidents, and let's all do our part this year to continue this track record.

The Club officers want to inform you of the information gathering actions that have taken place to date. The Officers will be providing in-depth paper work to the meeting attendees in next months (July) meeting. At the meeting, after the information has been presented and discussed, we would like to gain acceptance (by vote) and continue with the incorporation proceedings. With acceptance we can move forward and have the SIRS Club incorporated within a reasonable time period, then we can all enjoy the flying season that is upon us.

If you should have any questions or comments please contact Chris Cochran, SIRS Club President or Jim Danforth, SIRS Club Treasurer. Contact information can be found on page two of the newsletter.

Chris M. Cochran
President, SIRS Club



S.I.R.S. Big Bird Fly-In, June 7, 2003



HOBBYLAND

The Fun Store with the Red Door

616 North Main St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

309-828-1442
800-743-1402



Come in and try out
our RealFlight G2
Simulator

Winnebago Sport Modeler's RC Club Annual Fun Fly(s)



- ◆ **Sunday July 13 & Sept. 21, 2003**
- ◆ **Start time 9:00 AM**
- ◆ **Kieselburg Forest Preserve RC Field - Roscoe, IL**
- ◆ **Free Flying – No Landing Fee**
- ◆ **2003 AMA License Required**
- ◆ **Flying Demos throughout the day**
- ◆ **Helicopter Demo – 10:30 AM**
- ◆ **Experience flying with provided trainer plane and instructor**

Directions:

(From South) I-90 exit Riverside Blvd. west to Perryville Rd. Perryville north to 173 (T intersection) turn left to 251. Right (north) on 251 to Swanson Road. Right on Swanson Road ½ mile to flying field on right.

(From North) South from Roscoe, IL on 251 to Swanson Road. Left on Swanson Road ½ mile to flying field on right.

- ◆ **Raffle – Great Prizes**
- ◆ **Food Tent Available**
- ◆ **Music & DJ**
- ◆ **Good Time!**

Radio Controlled Airplane Show

Open House – Fly-In – Swap Meet
June 22, 2003

Presented by: Sangamon Valley R/C Flyers
Holmes Airport, Southeast of Lake Springfield
Springfield, IL

Gates open at 10:00
FREE ADMISSION

Flying starts at Noon
NO LANDING FEES

- AMA registered pilots—bring your own planes to “show off!”*
- Students and potential members of SVRC can fly with an instructor **
- Static displays of many different types of Radio Controlled Aircraft
- Transmitter impound will be provided for frequency control
- Refreshments available at the site

*Pilots must present a valid AMA card to fly. **Instructors will be available throughout the day to assist students and prospective members.

For more information e-mail mikebehl@hotmail.com



Notes from the Editor

The summer flying season is entering full swing. In addition to flying at your home field, many of you will be traveling to various flying events across the country.

I've attended several event myself in my short R/C career, and have come away from each and every one of them with new friends, ideas and aspirations.

As always, I welcome any photos or commentary on *your* experiences that might be of interest to the rest of the membership.

Karl Laun—SIRS Newsletter Editor

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Upcoming events in June 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1	2	3	4	5	6 2nd Internet Fly-In Camp Atterbury IN (6-8)	7 SIRS Big Bird	
8 SIRS Big Bird Water Fun-Fly Rockford, IL	9	10	11	12	13 JR Aero Tow Monticello, IL	14 SIRS Meeting RC Scout Fly-In Hoffman Estates, IL	
15 Father's Day Fly-In Eldon, MO	16	17	18	19	20 Pylon Race St. Charles, IL	21 Giant Scale Fly-In South Bend, IN	
22 Sangamon Valley Open House/Fly-In Streator Fun-Fly	23	24	25	26	27 Jet Rally (27-29) Winamac, IN	28 Freeport Fun-Fly Freeport, IL (28-29)	
29	30	In the coming months.... S.I.R.S. Open House • September 6 Winnebago Fun-Fly • July 13 & September 21					