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MTMA February 7, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Twinsburg Public Library

Members in attendance: Dan Cutlip, Robert Ferrante, Samantha Ferrante, Andrew Kleinhenz, Ted Schaetzle, Jim Bartell, Mike Nowak, Bruce Levison, Mark Recktenwald, Lee Hamer, Cheryl Cziryak-Hamer, Hannah Cziryak, Andrew Cziryak, Hugh Finegan

The meeting was called to order by Mark Recktenwald, MTMA vice president and senior advisor, at 10AM

1) The minutes from last year's annual meeting were approved by membership present. It was recommended that this year's minutes be released and approved in a more timely manner

2) Reports

a. The Membership Report was given by Mark Recktenwald

Active Members 24 paid member families (~40 individuals) in 2008 up from 21 (~35 individuals) in 2007, 19% gain

Yahoo Group:

Members: 119 in 2008, just under 5% gain from 2007

Activity: 217 messages (141 in 2007) 54% gain, most since 2002 Yahoo increased size of Photos storage from 100 MB to 100 Gb during the 4th quarter of 2008

Web-site

Activity: Averaging 288 unique visitors/month generating 242 MB/month bandwidth of the allocated 25.6 GB/month. That is a 69% increase in unique visitors/month from 170 in 2007 and a 128% increase in bandwidth from 106 MB/month in 2007.

Storage: Currently using 246 MB of allocated 512 MB disk space.

Other: Photo Gallery feature of the web site not being used as much as it could. This feature requires a new login if you want to upload content or comment on existing content, but it is much more robust than Yahoo group Files and Photos, and it can stream videos (Yahoo group can't).

<http://mtma.x3fusion.com/gallery/>

b. The Treasurer's report was given by Dan Cutlip.

Income: Membership dues, range fees.

Expenditures: Section renewal, insurance, equipment, etc.

Proposed budget for 2009 was deferred until discussions of new business

c. Launch Site Status and Safety Report given by Mark Recktenwald

Pichan's Sod Farm is still available for launch at just about any time. The size of the site is the limiting factor concerning its use. It was used twice in 2008 and should be used twice in 2009. Aurora Ray Harmon Field was used since August, 2008. We have developed an excellent relationship with the Aurora Parks and Recreation and the model airplane fliers. This needs to continue.

A discussion of safety ensued. Reminders to keep flight trajectories away from the houses and nearby road were made. There were a few "near-misses" last year. The importance of the RSO function was reinforced. The role of the RSO to insure that all safety precautions were taken prior to any flight was described. Also, the need to have a debriefing of all problems or "near misses" was discussed.

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- d. Ground Support Equipment Report was given by Bruce Levison and Mark Recktenwald
The Multi-rod launcher is in good shape and needs routine off season maintenance.
The High power pads are in good shape as well.
Fire extinguisher is OK.
RET Recovery is OK.
A safety kit has been donated.
The club has acquired the original SNOAR tracking theodolites. They are in need of minor cosmetic repair and should be ready for spring
 - e. Section Activity Report for 2008 was given by Mike Nowak. See attached report.
- 3) Launch Schedule for 2009 given by Mark Recktenwald
Tentative (pending Aurora city approval) launch dates at Harmon Field:
- March 14, 28
 - April 4, 18
 - May 2, 30
 - June 13, 27
 - July 18
 - August 15, 22, 29
 - September 12, 26
 - October 10, 24, 31
 - November 14, 27/28 (Annual Turkey Shoot)
 - December 12, 19

A discussion concerning use of the field by club members ensued. It was decided that we would ask Aurora Parks & Recreation for permission to allow a club member was also a NAR member to fly on the field at other times, as long as they worked it out with anyone else (model airplane club) using the field. If this was approved, non-NAR members need to have a club officer present to fly due to liability concerns.

10th Anniversary Launch at Pichan's May 16 (MTMA #1 was 5/16/99).
Night Launch Saturday, July 11 at Pichan's

- 4) Nomination & Election of Officers for 2009. The current MTMA officers were nominated, ran unopposed and were voted in for 2009. They are:
- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| President | Bruce Levison | |
| Vice President and Senior Advisor | | Mark Recktenwald |
| Treasurer | Dan Cutlip | |
| Secretary | Mike Nowak | |
- 5) New Business
- a. A discussion of club business was led by Mark Recktenwald. A set of revised bylaws was presented and the changes were discussed. They are need due to our new field location and to bring them up to current standards. They were distributed to members for review and will be voted upon at an upcoming meeting, likely at a launch. MTMA will join with the Aurora Flying Aces to present a plaque of appreciation to Jim Kraus, Director of Aurora Parks and Recreation. The club approved spending up to \$100 on the plaque. Membership cards were discussed and it was decided that stickers would be provided annually to members to put on their NAR cards. Non-NAR members would receive membership cards. Incorporation was discussed and felt to be a good idea, depending upon cost. One estimate was just over \$100, the other was \$500. It was felt that the lower amount was within budget, and would be further investigated.

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- b. Equipment Needs for 2009
HPR Ground Support Equipment – a discussion was led by Mark Recktenwald concerning a high power controller. It was decided that Mark, Bob Ferrante, and Andrew Kleinhenz would work on this project, and report back to the club to see how much it would cost. It was felt that it would be within our current budget. Recovery systems were discussed by Bruce Levison. It was decided to further investigate the purchase of a “sling-shot” based recovery system for the club to aid recovery of models from tall trees. A first aid kit was being donated to the club for 2009.
- c. Sport Flying 2009
LDRS 28 to be held at Potter, New York, July 2-6
NYPOWER 14 to be held at Geneseo, New York, July 24-26
Andrew Kleinhenz volunteered to coordinate club road trips to NYPOWER 14, since there was a great deal of interest in sharing rides and rooms.
- d. Contest Flying 2009 was discussed by Mike Nowak
NARAM-51 will be held in Johnstown, PA August 8-14. Rooms are now available at the Holiday Inn. The actual flying field is 35 miles away. It is a reclaimed strip mine and used for motocross races. It is near the crash site of flight 93. Somerset, PA is actually closer to the launch site for accommodations.
GLRMR-9 will be held by Skybusters in Amherst, OH April 25-26. It may be scheduled one week later, depending upon field availability.
A discussion concerning hosting contest events ensued. Given the level of interest, the travel distance of members and the field conditions, hosting a regional meet was considered to be feasible. It was decided to host a Regional meet this June, and to consider hosting another one or two in the fall. Contest events could also be flow at our spring club launches in order to familiarize the club with contest flying.
- e. New website with unique URL discussion led by Mark Recktenwald
It was decided to pursue the www.MTMArocketry.org URL if the price was small. It would make our URL more consistent with other NAR sections
- f. A discussion regarding a club Newsletter was led by Mike Nowak
It was decided to publish a newsletter in the next few weeks, and determine the need for future newsletters afterwards.
- g. Community outreach was discussed by Bruce Levison and Mark Recktenwald. We are still active with scout groups, and Bruce is a TARC advisor. In the past, we had worked the KSU Air Show. Working with the CAP was discussed
- h. A build session will be scheduled in the future for the NARAM-51 take it fly it
- i. The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 PM

Next Meeting Scheduled for January 9, 2010

Mike Nowak
MTMA Secretary