# "Prop Kicks"



EST. 1975 Editor - Leif Thomson

166 Pusey Mill Road, Cochranville, PA 19330

#### The Newsletter of the Cloud Kings Radio Control Club - Oxford, PA.

## Most Successful Year Ever

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Brian Swarts reports that this was our most successful year financially. We finished the year with \$832 in the treasury. All 1999 bills are paid.

#### **Membership Drive**

Membership applications have been mailed to most of the existing members. Please make sure that you renew your AMA membership for 2000, as well as renewing your membership with the Cloud Kings if you have not already done so.

#### **Christmas Party**

The club had a very nice dinner at the Red Rose Inn for our Christmas Party. It was nice to see several of the club members bring their wives. Thanks to Jeff Connor for making the dinner arrangements. The food was excellent



The welcoming committee...



The beer was good!



So was the dinner conversation.

#### **President's Corner**

#### **December Meeting Report**

I was pleased to see a very good crowd at the December 14 club meeting at the West Grove Fire Hall. There were a number of positive decisions made by the members in attendance.

This is the time for renewing your membership if you have not done so. Please send a copy of your 2000 AMA card plus \$35 to Brian Swarts by March. We will be mailing a new list of club members in that newsletter, i.e., all of those who have paid their dues by that time.

I reintroduced the issue of frequency of club meetings; we had voted to have meetings quarterly a bit more than a year ago, with the idea that we would revisit this after a bit of time. The discussion suggested that most members' feel that quarterly is a bit too infrequent, and that monthly is too often. Meetings at semimonthly intervals were therefore unanimously approved, with the first meeting occurring on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of February (8<sup>th</sup>). Future meetings will thus fall in April, June, August, October, and December.

In accord with this, we decided to increase the frequency of newsletter mailings, to be sent out in the alternate months, starting with this newsletter.

This raised the issue of transfer of editorship of the newsletter. As you know, Alvin has decided to resign the editorship after 25 years of regular publication. This is an amazing record, and is largely responsible for the club remaining together for that length of time. Alvin, the club thanks you and is indebted to your long service. Leif Thomson has agreed to assume editorship, adding to his secretarial responsibilities. Leif and his computer has become a regular fixture at our club meetings. In order for the newsletter to occur, Leif needs members to submit articles. This really is your newsletter, and it is important that it reflect your interests. If you have a contribution, please submit it to Leif by the first of the month of the newsletter, e.g., by the first of March for the March newsletter. You can submit either a paper copy or e-mail message.

As readers of the newsletter can attest, almost anything relating to the hobby is appropriate, including reviews, construction or flying tips, information about upcoming or past club events. Putting out a newsletter is extremely important to maintaining cohesiveness of the club membership and providing information. It also should be a fun read, and I know that there are some pretty funny people in this club!

Upcoming club events include the voting on the slate of officers for the upcoming year. In order to facilitate this process, I have appointed a Nominating Committee to serve for this year and next, charged with the responsibility of submitting a slate of officers to the membership for voting on in the first club meeting of the year. This committee is Bill Losey, Leif Thomson, and Kurt Rahner. You can read their nominations later in this paper.

Finally, there is a need to get started on planning for the club Fly-In. Several members expressed dissatisfaction with holding the event in July, mostly centered on the inhospitable weather that often occurs in July. We considered both June

and September, and voted to have the meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June (a date that is also OK with Mr. Harris) at Harris Field. Mark McQuaide, Mike DeNest, Brian Swarts and Dick Plyler volunteered to organize and plan this event. They will be reporting out on their ideas in the April meeting, for suggestions and input from the entire club.

Brian Swarts announced that the West Grove Boy Scout Troop has requested that we make a presentation, and we feel that this is a very good opportunity to showcase club activities in a positive light. Dick Plyler has made a proposal for a new member requirements, which is published in this newsletter.

#### Harris Field "Rules of the Road"

I was at Harris Field on Saturday, December 18, flying with Mark McQuaide and Kurt Rahner. As we were finishing, Mr. Henry Huber, the Zoning Officer from Upper Oxford Township came by and noted that we were in violation of an agreement between Mr. Harris and the Township in a couple ways. First, we had been flying beyond the 300' setback distance from the edge of the property along Penns Grove and University Roads. Second there had been flying activity on two consecutive weekends.

Although this was slightly embarrassing, we had a satisfactory exchange, and we took advantage of the opportunity to express the attitude of the club members to be good neighbors.

A brief review of the provisions of the agreement concerning our activity at Harris Field may be in order. Basically, the agreement says that we will fly 300' away from those roads. The times are limited also, in that we must fly on alternate weekends, by a schedule made available to all club members. During the week, we can fly on Wednesdays and Thursdays only. Flying must not begin before 10 a.m. and noon on Sundays. Finally, electric or gliders can fly at any time.

I included this review, redundant information to most of you, I am sure, because as was noted by Mr. Huber, if there has to be some sort of notice of violation issued, Walter Harris is the one that will be affected most directly. We are on his property at the invitation of Mr. Harris, and I, for one, do not wish to jeopardize this good relationship that has existed for more than a decade.

As you probably noted, there was an additional, troubling issue that was raised-apparently there was someone flying at the field the week before (on the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> of December), when Harris Field was supposed to be closed (although, Walter Harris tells me that it was an electric plane, and so was OK).

A new flying schedule for both fields for all of 2000 is included in this newsletter mailing. Please keep review the field open dates before flying to make sure that we are complying with our field agreements.

Richard Donham

#### **Other Harris Field News**

During the wet winter months, look for a red plastic jug or a traffic cone at the entrance to Harris Field. If the marker is there, please park by the road and walk to the field. Driving on the driveway and soft ground during wet times creates ruts that are difficult to repair.

Remember that we have access to this field only through the kindness and generosity of Walter Harris and family.

#### **West Field News**

Cream Road has been closed at the bridge east of the field. West Field can only be accessed from the West. Take Jackson School road West to Scroggy Road North to Cream Road.



West Field on a good day.

#### **February Meeting**

The next meeting of the Cloud Kings will be held on Tuesday, February 8 at the West Grove Fire Hall at 7:30 PM.

Please plan to attend this meeting. We will be voting for the officers for this year.

Remember that we agreed in our last meeting that we will now meet every-other month starting in February. The purpose of the increased meeting frequency is to allow more time for model-related discussion and less time for club business.

If you have any ideas for show-and-tell or club meeting activities, please contact one of the officers and give us your suggestions.

#### **Nomination of Officers**

The nominating committee proposes the following nominees for officer:

President - Richard Plyler Vice President - Jeff Conner Treasurer - Brian Swarts Secretary - Leif Thomson

These nominees have been contacted and are willing to accept the responsibility of carrying out the duties of office. Of course, any other qualified candidates may be nominated before we vote for the officers next month.

#### **New Member Process**

Dick Plyler has suggested that we implement a more formal process for new members to the Cloud Kings. This issue will be discussed in the February meeting.

### Proposal for becoming a member of Cloud Kings:

"Someone wishing to join Cloud Kings RC Club must attend any regular meeting at which he introduces himself, obtains a sponsor, pays the initiation fee and verifies AMA membership. This new perspective member is now permitted to fly at our fields ONLY with his sponsor, instructor or a consenting member and abide by all applicable rules."

"Prospective Membership continues until he has attended two (2) regular meetings, after which FULL MEMBERSHIP is voted upon by those attending that second meeting and must be unanimous. Regular membership is granted after regular dues are paid."

"Total time allowed for this process is one year, after which the individual is dropped and all flying privileges stopped."



#### **Classified Ads**

Hobbico Accucycle Charger - \$50 Excellent condition in box with manual Call Leif (610) 932-4238

Enya 35 Airplane Engine - Free! 15-year old engine, hardly ever used Call Leif (610) 932-4238

Advertise your hobby-related items in the Cloud Kings Newsletter. Just send your ad to Leif Thomson for publication in the next issue.

