

Balsa Dust

Newsletter of the Fergus Falls Regional R/C Flyers
PO Box 224
Fergus Falls MN 56537



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings,

The indoor season is upon us and the Christmas party is around the corner. The party will again be held at the home of Mike and Julie Drouillard. Their address is 24472 County Road 124, Fergus Falls. For anyone that hasn't been to the party, it is casual. It is for all club members and their spouses. Bring a favorite dish to share and enjoy the Drouillard's fantastic hospitality.

We will hold a brief club meeting. The slate of officers will be voted into office. Nominations were as follows: Pres. Tom Davis, V. Pres. Scott Hafner, Sec. Mike Drouillard, Treas. Jerry A. Johnson, Board members Don Martinson, Bill Roberts, and Chris Mavis. All of us are looking forward to serving the club for the 2019 calendar year.

Our indoor activities at OLV have been well attended. There has been a good mix of action between flying and trucks. Our planned future dates are as follows: Jan. 10 & 24, Feb. 7 & 28, Mar. 14 & 28. Come out and join in on the fun and talking smart.

We have discussed a winter gathering at the farm. Another idea would be to go to the St. Cloud hobby shop and run the trucks on their indoor track on a weekend day. If anyone has other ideas, bring them up at the party. I hope to see you all at the party. May Santa bring you lots of fun stuff and

may you be blessed with a healthy, happy New Year.

Tom

December 13th Meeting and Christmas Party @ at Mike & Julie Drouillard's

Notes from the November 8th Meeting

The November meeting of the Fergus Falls RC Flyers was held on November 8th at OLV Gymnasium. Those present were Larry and Roger Simonson, Floyd Lee, Christi Dickey, Don Martinson, Tom Davis, Bill Luedtke, Bill Roberts, Jerry A Johnson, Chris Mavis, Izic Albright, Scott Hafner, Jim Kraemer and Mike Drouillard. Old Business: None New Business: Nominations were held for officers as follows: Tom Davis for president; Scott Hafner for vice president, Jerry A Johnson for treasurer, Mike Drouillard for secretary, and Bill Roberts and Chris Mavis for Board members. (Don Martinson is on the

Board as retired president). Motion was made by Don to issue a check of 150 dollars to OLV for use of the gym seconded by Bill motion carried. Motion was made by Mike to have a junior membership for 5 dollars seconded by Jim motion carried. It was decided to have the February meeting on the 7th instead of the 14th because of Valentines day. The December 13th meeting will be held at Drouillard residence. Everyone is invited to come at 6:00 for lunch! Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Mike Drouillard

From AMA Government Relations

Remote ID rules for model aircraft should be flexible

The FAA Re-authorization Act was signed on October 5, 2018, and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has been assessing the requirements of this new law and meeting with the AMA to collaborate on how to implement the provisions. During this transitional period, the FAA has

informed us that our members should continue to follow the criteria of Section 336 and AMA's Safety Code.

One of the FAA's top priorities is to establish remote identification guidelines to safely integrate unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) into the airspace and address security concerns. AMA maintains that under our safety programming, UAS pose no new risk to the airspace; therefore, the remote identification rules for model aircraft operations should be more flexible. As the FAA develops a Notice of Proposed Rule-making (NPRM) (or proposed rules) to require remote identification requirements for UAS, AMA has recommended the agency consider a one kilogram threshold for model aircraft that must comply with the new requirements. AMA's Park Pilot program has operated without incident for over ten years, and thus proven that the smallest and least capable models do not jeopardize the airspace and should not be required to comply with remote

identification. AMA members should keep in mind that the regulatory process must go through numerous stages; even though the FAA has begun the process for a proposed rule, it will most likely be several months – or years – before a final rule for remote ID is implemented.

For model aircraft above a one-kilogram threshold, we assert that the modeling community can meet the safety and security objectives of remote identification requirements by either operating at an AMA charted flying site or by utilizing a software-based solution which marks the location of the operator. Both options would allow for the most cost-effective and easiest way for the low-risk model aircraft to comply with remote identification requirements and would not require equipping aircraft with transponders or other electronic devices. The FAA would have the information it needs to safely manage the airspace while limiting the burden on the hobbyist community.

The safe integration of UAS into the national airspace is paramount, but AMA members have proven to be responsible model aircraft operators for over 80 years. By utilizing a risk-based, flexible approach, the model aviation hobby will continue to thrive for generations to come.

Thank you to all of our members for your support! Please continue to monitor modelaircraft.org/gov for the latest information or contact us at amagov@modelaircraft.org with any questions.



PO BOX 224
Fergus Falls MN 56537

Meeting & Christmas
Party December 13th at
Mike & Julie
Drouillard's

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