

OMAS

News Letter
March 2008



Chris Elliott Presidents note

Greetings OMAS members! What an exciting beginning to the year it has been so far. For those of you not aware, a new board has been elected. We have several new members on the board as well as a few good ole previous members who are carrying on the tradition. The new board consist of the following members.... Chris Elliott; President, Robyn Bigej; Vice President, Bob Flansburg; Treasurer, Joe Slivinski; Secretary, Jay Fonville; Safety Officer, Leon Arnoldi; Field Marshal, and Kelvin Cubison; PR/News Letter Editor. Please join me in welcoming these folks to their new positions. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the former board for their service and dedication. Without their service, we would not have the fine flying facility we have today.

Now on to the present. We have had a long Winter and hopefully everyone has been working on some new airplanes (or rebuilding old airplanes) to bring out to the field. The weather this winter has been incredibly mild in my opinion which has given us some great opportunities to get out there and go flying. It has amazed me however that our attendance on some of these nicer days has been lacking. Now I realize that some of us have no lives and would spend every waking moment at the field if we could, however it would be nice to see some new (old) faces show up and show us youngsters how its done. Even Mike Rostal has wiped the cobwebs off of a couple of airplanes (the Pink Menace is back!) and showed us that old airplanes fly just as well as new ones. Speaking of getting out to the field, one of the issues the new board is wrestling with is the recruitment of new members. Facts are facts, we need some new blood in this club. Not that there is anything wrong with the old "blood", but new members generate new income and excitement. While your out doing your hobby thing, where-ever that may be, hopefully you are promoting our little slice of paradise out here. Whenever I'm visiting the hobby shop or flying at another field, I always talk up our field. If you speak to someone interested in the hobby, I would encourage them to come on out and visit us. We have several folks who have volunteered to be training pilots and would love to help make their entrance into the hobby and OMAS in particular a pleasant experience.

As far as the field goes, our Field Marshal, Leon Arnoldi has been doing an outstanding job up keeping the location. For those of you who don't know, we have a new (to us) tractor/mower. It is a newer John Deer mower with a 48" mowing deck. This is a good 12" wider than the previous mower. Although I have not had an opportunity to use it yet, all reports are that it is substantially better. Lets make sure we keep it in this condition. when you use it, please be sure to check the fluid levels (Gas, Oil, etc) before using. Also, no late night drag racing down the runway! Just Kidding! But seriously, the better we treat this mower, the longer it will last for us so before you decide to mow the gravel.....please reconsider or at least do it with the red mower.

Omas News



Continued from page 1

Speaking of gravel, we are looking into putting in some new gravel in the parking area and the road. Look for this to be done in the next couple of weeks. Leon is working with the Lewis' to accomplish this.

Also, just a reminder, Leon sent out letters to the membership to assign mowing days. If you have not returned this to Leon, please do. We have had several members return theirs so we should be able to keep the lawns at bay but we want to ensure we don't overwork the people who did respond so lets be sure we do the right thing here and get on the list.

Lastly, I wanted to discuss field use a little here. There have been a few instances over the past year that someone has shown up at the field and the club house has either been left unlocked or wide open. Worse yet, the padlock is sitting there open in the latch with the combination still selected on the lock. Not only are we inviting the malcontents in.....but we're giving them the combination to the rest of the buildings with a big bow on it.

If you are the last person at the field, please take a little extra time to check the clubhouse and the rest of the buildings to ensure that they are secured. This includes unplugging any heaters and appliances that may have been in use (i.e. Coffee Maker, Please don't unplug the refrigerators!). Even if you were not the one who opened up the clubhouse, being the last one out makes you responsible for checking that all is locked up. If you are the first person at the field and you unlock everything, please reset the combination on the padlock. We get visitors every once in a while and we don't need to advertise our lock code. If you did unlock the buildings and are leaving earlier than other folks, please announce that you are leaving and ask if someone is going to lock the buildings up. If you don't get a commitment from anybody, then go ahead and lock the place up.

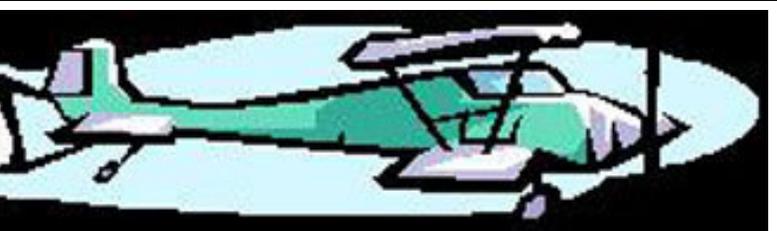
Also, please re-familiarize yourself with the club safety rules. With so few people coming out to fly on any particular weekend, we have become a little lazy with the rules. Please use the designated pilot pads behind the safety fence when operating your aircraft. Your excursions onto the runway should be limited to placing and retrieving your aircraft. We also want to get into the habit of announcing our intentions such as COMING OUT and LANDING so that we don't have any runway incursions. Another no-no that several of us are guilty of is taking off that hot 3Der from the taxiway. It is very un-nerving to someone in the air to have an airplane blast past them from the rear taking off from a taxiway. Its just bad form so please refrain from doing it.

If you see someone breaking the safety rules, please give them a gentle reminder of the rules they are violating. Again.....a GENTLE reminder.....there is no need to get into a conflict. Sometimes, the offender has no idea he or she is violating the rules. If the offender repeatedly violates the rules and does not respond well to the "gentle reminder", then please contact the club safety officer or any other club officer and we will have a discussion with the person in question. If you happen to be the person at the end of the "gentle reminder", please take this in the context in which it was provided. The safety rules are there for everybody's benefit and enjoyment. An accident could ruin everybody's day. And if an accident happens while you are blatantly violating the safety rules, then it is not an accident.....its negligence.

In closing, I just want to say that I am very excited to face the challenges of the coming year. Remember, this is your field! Come on out and enjoy it!

Chris Elliott
OMAS President

From The Field



There are a few of us that are just plain die-hards when it comes to playing with model airplanes. As this picture shows the field is alive with activity. In the foreground we have John De Camp and his grandson, just beyond Johns head is Dick Linn, next to him is Leon Arnoldi, then there is Stan Landeen, and Mike Rostal and of course myself Kelvin Cubbison.

From The Field



Still seems to be no shortage of activity at the field, this was taken late February. Cold but fun, boy I for one cant wait for warmer weather. Must be to cold for Mike to hunt for rocks so he is flying airplanes instead. For those of you that don't know, Mike said he was cutting back on flying and going back to his old hobby of rock hounding. So far he's been out at the field on a very regular basis.

From The Field



Here is Tom Coffee with his newly built PBX, this is an electric arf. I got to fly this model that day and it flies well when there is no water in the wing floats.

Another picture of the PBX, nice looking model. We need more people getting into float flying as we have a great resource here that most clubs would die to have, that would be the pond!!



Here is a lone chopper pilot. Note the dot in the sky above and a little to his right, that would be the chopper.

From The Field



The Wilga 35 flies off the water!! I have been flying this model off the runway for quite some time. I wanted to get used to it before I flew it off the pond. Not sure if that was a good idea, boy what a difference. Same airplane but totally two different worlds. All in all a good flying airplane and hopefully I will have a good many hours of flying it off the water.

Omas News



News from the Field Marshall

I'm happy to report our "new" John Deere mower is a pleasure to operate. Robin Bigej and I mowed about a week ago, didn't work so well for me as Robin took over the new mower and I was relegated to "Old Red".

The Lawn mowing crew, all volunteers, are now ready for the summer. Thanks to Tom Coffee, Sam Lee, Chris Elliott, Jay Fonville, Joe Salus, John VanLoo and Robin Bigej for helping.

The Board approved the money for repairing our access road. Weather permitting, Mark Lewis will do the grading and it will be rocked. Hope to not interfere with flying but please be patient.

*We plan to turn on the water early in March when the weather warms up. If you see something that needs work at the field please call me at 503-357-2417.
Leon Arnoldi*

R.C. Modeler N.W.

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Club Meeting

There will be a club meeting March 29th 2008 at the clubhouse/flying field, to hopefully draw some attendance we will be barbequing some hamburgers. This is on a Saturday and plan on burgers around 1 o'clock, come early for flying fun. Some of the discussions will be about when to have our fun fly air-show, we need input on the date. Please come and support your flying field.

Tammies
Hobbies



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