



The Airscoop

The Official Newsletter of the Indian River Kontrol Society



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AMA Club #208

June 2023

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Home Page: WWW.IRKS.ORG

IRKS Meeting Minutes May 17, 2023

The May 2023 meeting of the Indian River Kontrol Society was called to order at 7:30 PM. There were no new members or guests present and we had only 12 members attending this evening.

President Armstrong requested a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as published in the May 2023 issue of The Airscoop. The motion was made, seconded, and passed without any discussion. Roger Hardin provided some snacks to munch on this evening. (If any member would like to volunteer to bring snacks to our meetings please contact Roger Hardin at 321-431-6779. Those bringing snacks get an extra raffle ticket towards a \$20 cash prize.)

Officer Reports:



Gerry Armstrong, President: April concessions were **\$9.00** and that was the only income. Regarding the Flying Site Fund we have **\$1,746.01** in our checking account and **\$81,259.43** in savings for a total of **\$83,005.44** We still have **\$500.00** in allocated funds so the available funds are **\$82,505.44**.



Vice President Ernie LeClair: Ernie reminded everyone about the UFO event scheduled for June 24th and noted that there is an event flyer for it on the website. (**Secretary's note:** We will need several volunteers to man the entrance gate that morning. Please call Ernie at 321-626-3734 if you can help!)



Roger Hardin, Recording Secretary: Roger talked briefly again about the Remote ID requirement (RID) which will begin Sept 16th of this year for all aircraft weighing more than 250 grams that are flown in an area that is **not** designated as a FRIA (FAA-Recognized Identification Area.) He noted that he read info about a very small RID unit offered by the Dronetag Company (Dronetag BS) that will be available for \$49 **only** on May 22nd. After that day they will be \$89.

Roger said he didn't know if the Dronetag units will require a separate antenna but he will try to research it more. The small size of the unit (0.66 X 0.55 X 0.19 inches, and weighing only 0.105 oz.) would make it suitable for most smaller aircraft. Stay tuned!

Ernie reminded everyone that the FAA is not happy until you are unhappy!



Steve Formanek, Membership Secretary: Steve said we are holding steady at 149 members.

John Van Workum, Treasurer: John read his General Fund Summary for April 2023: Income was **\$120.00** for 2023 dues, **\$40.00** for 2024 dues, and a **\$20.00** late payment penalty.



Expenses for the month were **\$20.00** for the General Meeting Raffle and **\$85.33** for the Porta-Potty. The total expenses for the month were **\$105.33**.

The balance in our General Fund is now **\$10,622.71**. This includes **\$2,923.86** in the Equipment Fund and **\$1,350.67** in future year's dues. The available funds for the year are **\$9,272**.

Ernie LeClair Safety Officer: Ernie discussed the incident at the 524 site where county workers complained about aircraft overflying them. He warned everyone that if we overfly workers we may lose the field even before December 2024. He noted that a spotter should be used whenever one is flying high-performance aircraft.



Jim MacLean said that there have frequently been workers near the dirt plies in the NW area of the facility; Ernie responded that we need to be aware of workers or others **anywhere**.

Old Business: There were no motions or 524 concerns brought up at our last meeting.

Regarding our search for a new flying site there is still no good news. Gerry said that the Deseret Company requested more info and he sent it but they have not responded... and phone calls to them have not been returned. The Malabar Annex is a "no go" as construction will be starting soon and there is no guard access.

Realtor Mike Moss is still looking for a site for us and Mr. Platt didn't show up at a proposed meeting. Essentially there is nothing available in Brevard Co.

Gerry said that we need to make plans to evacuate the 524 facility; we can indeed leave some stuff and the county will demolish/remove it for us. There is still a possibility that we can find land for a site in Osceola County but it would be very far away...we will keep trying!

The club picnic has been cancelled and a notice to that effect was sent to all members.

Member Roger Vizioli still has CL planes for sale and other "stuff" to give away. He can be reached at 321-452-7874 (H) or 321-543-7783 (C).

New Business: There was no new business to discuss this evening.

Model of the Month: Jim MacLean brought back his now-finished “Stick Something.” This model was also featured in last month’s Airscoop.



Jim MacLean’s “Stick Something”

Roger Hardin brought in his unfinished Dancing Wings Hobby Sunbird motorized glider. The plane has a 1.5-meter wingspan, carbon fiber leading edge on the main wing, Park 370 motor with 8 X 4 folding prop, Hitec Karbonite gear servos, and will use a 1000mAh 3S battery. He said he found a build video on YouTube that was helpful, but the build was still a pain!



Roger Hardin’s Sunbird

Show and Tell Gizmos:

Roger Hardin started out the Gizmo show and tell by explaining that he used tiny balsa wedges to set the servo wires into his Sunbird wing rib holes. Because he will be using transparent covering he wanted the wires to show up straight instead of “sloppy”. Once the wires were in place with the wedges he used a tiny bit of Zap Goo to attach the wires to the ribs...then removed the wedges...”easy peasy”.

Jim MacLean showed us his servo tester with a gauge that is very easy to read. It resembles a clock and is easy on the eyes!

Ernie LeClair showed us a set of saw blades that fit a Dremel tool. The blades are made of stainless steel and are rated at 10K RPM! Ernie said they are much safer than using cut-off blades that shatter...and only cost \$11.00 for an entire set.

President Gerry Armstrong brought in a “plethora” of gizmos he’s used over the years...including:

- Wing tubes with clothespins on them for identifying what plane they go to
- A sanding jig for making vertical stabs
- An E Z Tensioner for adjusting the tension on band saw blades
- A soldering jig made from 2 clothes pins on a small board
- “Corn Removers” from the beauty aisle that are great for sanding
- Old credit cards that can be used for spreading epoxy
- A tire tread gauge that can be used for measuring depths
- A digital thickness gauge for measuring thin pieces of balsa
- A crimping tool made from needle-nosed pliers
- “1-2-3 Blocks” (machining tools) that can be used as weights

Those of you who missed the meeting will just have to ask Gerry about his gizmos! He has many more as well.

Events: The Southeastern Electric Flight Festival (SEFF) was 3 weeks ago. Per Gerry Armstrong there were 209 pilots in attendance and it was a great time.

Joe Nall is going on now (with some of our members in attendance.)

There is a big swap meet in Sanford on May 27th.

Raffle: Gary Armstrong won tonight’s \$20 prize raffle **just for showing up**. Congratulation to Gary!

There was no other business to discuss so the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:23 PM.

For The Good of The Club:

IRKS Swap & Meet - Due to the rainy forecast for our club meeting night, we are postponing our Swap Meet from June 21st until July 19th.

IRKS UFO Event – Our UFO Event is scheduled for this Saturday June 24th. As I’m sure you are aware the weather forecast for this week is lots of rain. There is a high probability that the event may be postponed, so watch your email for the latest updates.