

# Florence RC Flyer

All of the pictures in this newsletter were taken at the recent Platt I Float Fly by Kathleen Jones. Kathy is a professional graphics designer and photographer and Russ Petersen's daughter.

*Florence Area RC Aircraft Association, An Oregon Non-profit Corporation, AMA Charter # 4634*

## From The Left Seat By Russ Petersen

### Special points of interest:

From the Left Seat

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You should mark your calendar for the regular semi annual meeting of the club in early October. We will meet at Florentine estates at 2:00pm on Sunday, October 7. As always we will provide coffee and doughnuts, and I will ask Trumps and Florence Hobby to support the meeting with raffle prizes. We also have some donated RC equipment including a plane, a 4 stroke motor and other stuff that we will raffle off at that meeting.

This is the meeting at which we renew our dues for the 2007/2008 year. Our year ends at the end of October. Since many of our club members are not here in the winter, we collect dues before we all go our different ways.

We should now consider an increase in dues. The amount that I think would give us the financial elevation needed would probably be in the \$20 to \$25 range. Perhaps we can discuss a budget for 2008 at the July meeting and vote on dues at that time. The club could also consider an initiation fee, which would help with the initial costs of getting a site set up and ready to use. Again, I think probably an initiation fee of \$25 would work well. Financial needs beyond that that may develop can be handled by short term notes. Several club members have offered to loan the club money at no or low interest rates to help us through the initial stages of setting up a field.

The level of dues needed is a little uncertain. It all depends on how the airport and/or the north jetty proposals work out. But, it seems



pretty sure that we will need a porta potty next year, and that we will have to spend some money to ready a site, regardless of which direction we go.

Another major issue is what we intend to do with Miller Park as a club flying site. Some members feel that we should drop Miller Park as a club site, making it available to anyone who wants to fly on an individual responsibility basis. This has some appeal to me, since we have joint individual liability at Miller Park and the club can not restrict flying there to AMA members or monitor safety practices.

We must also consider a slate of club officers for the coming year. I have done about all I can do for the time being as President, so we need to identify a new leader for sure. I can continue to take care of the newsletter and the web page if the members want, but I need a break from spending a major part of my hobby time on club issues. We need leadership and I hope qualified people will volunteer.

### Officers:

Russ Petersen	President
Gene Wobbe	Vice President
Gary Israel	Secretary/ Treasurer
Todd Rickman	Safety
Russ Petersen	News/web
John Allen	Board Member #3
Rob Quandt	Board Member #2
Dana Winter	Board Member #1

## Platt I 2007

This year the float fly at the Platt I reservoir was scheduled for 15, 16 and 17 June. As far as I know, Mike Vaughn, Gene Wobbe and Russ Petersen were the members of FARCAA that flew at the event. This newsletter's pictures are devoted entirely to Platt I 2007. The location of the float fly is just east of Sutherlin, OR, so it is about a 90 mile drive from Florence. Dry camping is available together with a prize drawing and an evening barbecue for early registrants.

I would guess that at least 20 persons registered for the event. The flight line was full through mid morning on Sunday, when flyers began to put things away and head home. There was a transmitter impound, but the CD seemed a little confused about how to deal with the 2.4 Ghz radios, so Mike and I placed ours in the impound along with the old style 72 Mhz radios. The weather was very nice, with very little wind and only a small rain shower on Saturday. Plenty of electricians were present this year along with a fair number of the modern 2.4 Ghz radios.

Many types of aircraft were present including a Raptor 30 on floats as well as several twins and vintage scale aircraft in all sizes. This is a great event, so I hope we will see more of our club flying next year.

The registration fee for this event was \$25, but that included a complementary gallon of 15% two stroke model fuel. So, the registration fee was negligible.

## FARCAA Board Meeting

A meeting of the club board was held on June 3 at 2:00pm in the Florentine club house to discuss progress on the airport flying site application. Board members Gene Wobbe; Gary Israel, Todd Rickford and Russ Petersen attended. Board members Rob Quandt, Dana Winter and John Alan were absent.

Russ reviewed the progress of discussions with Rene Kirk, Airport Manager to date. A flying site on the northeast corner of the airport property was discussed at some length. Russ discussed proposed safety rules and procedures that would be in force if the club chose to fly at the airport site. Each of the components of the rules were discussed in depth, and board members made revisions to the rules draft. The rules draft was adopted by the board, but it was agreed that the rules would need to be adopted by the club membership before they were accepted club policy.

Rennie Kirk had asked for a flying demonstration at the airport site and one was scheduled for June 7. Todd Rickford, Mike Spinner and Russ Petersen were identified as club members to do the demo. Kirk wanted this demo primarily to check noise to see if model aircraft in that location would be a problem.

All of the attending board members had viewed the site except Todd Rickford. Russ and Todd drove to the site after the board meeting and looked at the area carefully.

## Woahink for the remainder of 2007

The remaining flying schedule for the club every other week float fly is July 23 (Monday), August 6 (Monday), August 20 (Monday), September 2 (Sunday), and September 16 (Sunday). The Douglas County/Roseburg visit will be October 5, 6 and 7. I now have a key to open the gate early and I will probably be there at 7:45 to 8:00am in order to beat the wind. If you are there when I go in, you can join me. Others will have to wait for the Ranger to open the gate.

For the Douglas County group, many come for the full week before the float fly. They camp at the Woahink campground and tinker with their planes during the week, so you might think about going early this year.



Super Marine Racer



Vintage Biplane



Telemaster E on floats



Pre WWII Navy Fighter



Pre WWII Navy Fighter

## Woahink Developments

Some of the club members may recall that when some of the members of the Douglas County RC club (Roseburg group) came to Woahink for their annual fall float fly/camping outing in 2006 there was a schedule conflict with a state wide track meet. The track meet had an approved special use permit from Oregon Parks. The RC group did not have a special use approval. The flying group, including some FARCAA members went ahead with flying activities giving ground and space to the track meet as necessary. This seemed to work, however at least one track organizer was upset and registered a complaint fairly noisily.

This year I was asked by Shirley Stench, Woahink Park Manager to stop by and visit about our RC activities. In conversations with her it was clear that she did not know that the group last fall, and our RC club in Florence were separate operations. After some discussions it is clear that she now wants us to submit a special use permit application by September for the following year for our bi-weekly float flying activities. She also would prefer that the annual visit from the Douglas Co./Roseburg group be included in our special use permit application. It may also work out that we will pay a fee for the annual permit, but Shirley assured me that she would try to arrange a no fee permit for us in 2008. I will submit an application for our 2008 flying in September, and then we will know if we have a fee to pay, and what the amount may turn out to be. I will keep you informed

I have submitted a list of our remaining bi-weekly float flying together with the Douglas Co./Roseburg dates (5,6 7 October) and if there are problems, I will let you know.

## Airport Flying Site Demonstrations

Russ Petersen, Todd Rickford and Mike Spinner flew at the airport north site and at the mid field site at airport manager Rennie Kirk's request. These demonstrations were flown at 10:00am on June 10 and at 9:00am on a subsequent Sunday. Other members and interested parties watched the demo flights. The purpose of the flights was to let the airport manager see the nature of the flight pattern that model aircraft would occupy and to evaluate any noise issues that they might create. The flights were flown without incident.

## Status Of The Field Search by Russ Petersen

There are three initiatives open at the moment. We have worked with the Airport Advisory Board, the City Manager and the Airport Manager to work out a provisional arrangement to fly at what we are calling the north airport flying site. If this works, it could turn into a permanent home for the club. If it does not work we will be back to square one.

The second initiative involves a possible site on the North Jetty. We have had a meeting with the regional planner and with the local Parks administrator at the site. They are doing some research to see that there is no violation of Oregon law or policy if we fly at that site. We would be fully responsible for all improvements and we could not restrict access to the site. However, we would have special use permits and we could discourage others from flying there. We are currently waiting for a response from the regional planner regarding this proposal.

There is a 40 acre plot of land adjacent to the City business development park that is graded and would make a fine site. But, there is not road access and at the moment we are being told that we can not drive to the area where we would want a runway. I have put this on hold until we see how the airport arrangement works out. We also should wait to see if the State Parks proposal is acted on favorably.



Sport Twin



Raptor 30 on Floats



Hangar Nine Super Cub



Flite Line



Sport Scale Racer

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Mail To:

**If you aren't flying you aren't trying**

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