



Hello (From at Least Six feet away)

Checking in with all of you and I hope everyone is staying healthy. How crazy that things can change so quickly and affect so much. I am staying positive that we will all do what we can to follow the recommendations so we can get ahead of all this as soon as possible. As many other things out there, we will follow suit. At this time we will hold off on any meetings until further notice at the church. As far as field use goes, please use your best judgment. Obviously if you are out flying by yourself, not a problem but if there is a group adjust accordingly. Getting out and being able to go flying may be one of the things that will keep us going.

We are still doing our bank window display at First Security Bank, so if you get a chance swing by and take a look. Thank you to Brian for putting this together and anyone else I am not aware of. This is always a great display to promote our club.

We have changed our mall show to a Fun Fly on Armed Forces Day and use it as an open house, but at this time that will be on hold till further notice.

Let's all hang in there, this will pass, stay healthy and keep flying

Destry

Gallatin Eagles Upcoming Events:

March

30th Monday, Security Bank Window Display. See club website for details!

April

14th Tuesday, 7:15 PM: Meeting? TBD

May

12th Tuesday, 7:15 PM: Meeting at Field? TBD

16th, Saturday, Fun Fly and Swap, TBD

For more information on club events see our website: gallatineagles.org/calendar

Senior or Granddad?

I am building a 115" model of the Playboy Sr. The original was a 1930's free flight with a .60 on ignition and had an 80" span. Does this make the one I'm building a Playboy Granddad?

Anyhow, mine will have an electric motor to start with. I should have it flying this summer.

Chuck Curtis

Blast form the Past!

Its snowing outside and it's difficult to believe we will be flying soon. (Even though we will be standing 6 feet apart.) Combat planes can get closer!!

It's time to cycle your batteries. They have been sitting for a couple of months. I have numbered each battery and keep a spreadsheet of the discharge times. When the battery capacity decreases to 80-90 % of the battery milliamp/hour rating, it's time to replace it.

Also, perform maintenance on your planes and drones. Look for loose screws and nuts. Inspect clevises and control horns. Pull on control surfaces to verify mounting integrity. Fix at home - fly at the field. Last spring, I believe I shared a plane inspection list in a newsletter. Check it out. I can resend it if needed.

Now is the time to finish those winter projects you've been working on. You might also think about cleaning your workshop.

Ken Slaght (586-5900) is retiring from the hobby. He has 2 radios and about 10 electric planes; from beginner planes to a jet. Once I can get pictures and descriptions, I'll post them on our for-sale website. He's in Hill Crest retirement home which right now is closed to visitors.

Attached is a picture of my first aileron trainer a Lanier Comet ARF taken around 1975. ARFs have come a long way to improve the hobby. Look at all that hair!!

Fly safe,

Larry



Photo is from the Summit Engineering field on south 7th.

Club Dues

Reminder: We are in a new year which means dues are due. The club has continued with an annual renewal system so your 2020 dues were supposed to be paid by 1 January 2020. I know it is easy to forget until you start getting a plane ready to fly in the new year but please send your annual dues (\$42 adult; \$20 youth or \$50 family) to Chuck Curtis, [119 W College St, Bozeman MT 59715](#). We currently have 18 of our expected 38 returning members paid. The AMA should be sending you a reminder when your AMA is about to expire. Since they went to an annual system based on the month you joined everyone is on their own timetable for AMA. You can still bring your dues to a meeting or pay at the flying field to any club officer.

Chuck Banta

Collings Foundation

As many of you know, the Collings Foundation is the organization that brings WWII vintage aircraft around the country every year for the public to see both as static displays and, for actual flights one can purchase and get a feel for what it was like inside these noisy beasts! Unlike piston engined airliners from the '30s - '60s, they have no insulation, either sound or temperature. I was able to take a 30 minute ride on their B-25 in July of 2018 and without good ear protection, which they provided for us, it would've been an unbearable flight!

Unfortunately, they lost their B-17G (and seven lives) during such a flight in Connecticut last October due to engine problems shortly after takeoff and a subsequent crash landing at Bradley International Airport, near Hartford.

An article last week in the Hartford Courant by David Owens states:

The FAA, according to a decision released Wednesday, found that the Stow, Massachusetts-based Collings Foundation failed to properly maintain two of the four engines on the aircraft that crashed, did not follow the requirements of its permission to operate the aircraft with paying passengers and “lacked a safety culture when operating the B17-G.”

The FAA decision revoked the permission it had previously granted Collings to carry paying passengers and rejected an application to the FAA to renew that permission to carry paying passengers.

The National Transportation Safety Board, which works closely with the FAA, is likely months away from issuing its report on the Oct. 2 crash of the B17-G “Nine O Nine,” which developed engine trouble after takeoff and crashed while trying to return to the airport. Not being able to collect the fees passengers pay to fly aboard the foundation’s World War II bombers, about \$450 a ride, could effectively ground the organization’s “Wings of Freedom” tour, which has traveled the nation for about 30 years. The Collings Foundation has brought its aircraft to Connecticut dozens of times during that 30-year period.

Obviously, this is a huge setback for the foundation. Hopefully, they'll be successful working with the FAA to get their 'Living History Flying Exemption' reinstated in the near future. I've always enjoyed seeing these airplanes (typically a B-17, B-25, B-24, and P-51) when they've been at Gallatin field on an annual basis.

Stan Johnson

Big Sky RC Modelers 2020 Schedule of Events

- June 6. Quad Race / Fun Fly, Great Falls, MT
- June 26-28. Float Fly - Fort Benton. (see note)
- July 10-12. Fly In / Open House, Great Falls, MT
- July 25. Float Fly, Great Falls, MT
- August 8-9 Fly In, Victor, MT.
- August 22. Scale Fly In, Great Falls, MT
- September 26. Quad Race / Open flying
- October 3. Leo Somerfeld Memorial Fly In, Power MT

Note: Fort Benton float fly coincides with the local Summer Celebration, with flying primarily on Saturday, maybe on Sunday if there is interest.

For more information, contact John Sandy: phatbuggyf@yahoo.com or 771-8506 (land line) and 899-0699 (cell).

Club Officers for 2020

President	Destry Jacobs	581-4374
Vice President	Larry Nelson	599-4222
Safety Officer	Ron Banta	600-6846
Events Coordinator & Webmaster	Brian Westberg	580-3834
Secretary / Treasurer	Chuck Curtis	587-4934
Newsletter Editor	Stan Johnson	585-7541

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