

FARM Newsletter

AMA Charter 1654

May 2013

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Duane Beck



Our second club fun fly on May 5, with Les Broaddus as CD, was completed successfully with twelve pilots competing. Congratulations to Bob Burnett, who won first place. Ken Bassett took second, and Vince Tabacco third. Each of the twelve earned a ticket towards the end-of-year fun fly raffle prize.

I'm preparing to fly my Supra in a sailplane contest, my first this year. I hope the plane's performance makes up a little for my lack of practice. I'm looking forward to outdoor fun, meeting friends, and good flying. I found the fluttering servo in my Focus II may have simply been due to dirty contacts on the servo connector or extension cable. After removing the servo from the plane, it ran on a servo tester for an hour without glitching. I've since reinstalled it and flown the plane successfully several times – after sorting out some fuel plumbing

issues with the YS engine. I hope to get one more day of practice before the pattern contest.

We live in an age of increasing availability and access to technology. Open-source software, where the source code is freely available to read and modify, is transforming personal computer operating systems, web browsers, productivity applications, games, and even cell phones. Now, open-source is coming to R/C transmitters. Two nine-channel radios with open-source firmware are the [FrSky Taranis](#) (shown below left), which bears a strong resemblance to the JR 9303, and the [Turnigy's 9X](#) (shown below right). The Taranis uses [openTx](#) firmware, which has a pretty impressive list of features, including telemetry (airborne sensors that transmit information back to the transmitter), and software that runs on your computer, which allows you to save, edit, and share your model setups. The Turnigy 9X appears not to have its firmware openly available yet, but [er9x](#) custom firmware is available for it. It remains to be seen how robust the firmware will be, how well it's maintained and improved, and how quickly it will be adopted. Typically, open-source is initially adopted by the more technically inclined, who eventually advance its development to where it can be more readily accepted by the average user. If successful, it could lead the way to significantly more capable, flexible, and less expensive, radio transmitters.



Links:

<http://www.alofthobbies.com/frsky-taranis-x8r-combo.html>

http://www.hobbyking.com/hobbyking/store/_8992_Turnigy_9X_9Ch_Transmitter_w_Module_8ch_Receiver_Mode_2_v2_Firmware_.html

https://code.google.com/p/opentx/wiki/OpenTx_FrSky_EN

<http://code.google.com/p/er9x/>

Hope to see you at the field.

Duane Beck



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EDITOR'S NOTES

Jeff Killen

Upcoming Events:

1. **Monthly Club Meeting, at the Warrenton Community Center, 7 PM, 5/28/2013**
2. **Fun Fly #3, at the field, 1:30 PM, 6/2/2013**
3. **Spring FARM Pattern Contest, at the field, All Day, 5/24-26/2013**
4. **Shenandoah Pattern Classic contest, at Harrisonburg field, all day, 6/7-9/2013**
5. **National District 2 Pattern warm-up, at Culpepper field, all day, 6/21-23/2013**

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Jeff Killen

The April 2013 club meeting occurred on April 26 at the Warrenton Community Center. Besides 5 board members, 4 other members were present. No guests were present.

Correction – April newsletter

In the April newsletter, we incorrectly reported that flyers who pay for tables at our upcoming Float Fly events would be provided a free lunch. This was supposed to be for the Hobby Hangar sale day which occurred in April. Sorry about this error.

Officer Reports

The Secretary had no report. He is still looking for anyone who has a model of a P-47 WW2 aircraft ready to fly.

Nic Burhans provided us a Treasurer's report. We have \$4972.68 in the bank now. We now have 99 members; 6 pilots need check flights. We have bought 3 months of prizes for the Fun Fly events; Thanks Hobby Hangar for your support of these events. Nic projects we will be \$600 behind by the year's end. Nic explained that the shortage is due mostly to two factors: 1) renewals for 2013 that did not come in, and 2) mower maintenance which was about \$500 higher than expected. Nic is concerned; we need more members. Nearby clubs have good "competing" events, like Fredricksburg which has IMAC, and Culpepper which has a pattern contest and vintage aircraft. Our two float flies are good events for us. Nic is hoping for \$6100 by year's end. Nic continues to look for cost cutting measures, like cheap gas available in Warrenton.

Safety Officer (Les Broaddus) noted that all things are good for now. He recommends checking your planes over well before flying, including batteries, and fuel lines.

Old Business

Larry Kauffman gave us a report on the pattern contest coming up on May 25-26. Larry has everything covered, except some help needed for food. Ernie Padgett and Les Broaddus agreed to pitch in for this. Larry could also use a few runners for the flight line. Nic Burhans told us that the scoring program is new. Bill McMullen may help Larry with running the contest. Food cost is going to be \$6. Pilot fee is \$30.

New Business

A work day at the field is scheduled for May 4. (This was later cancelled.)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Nic Burhans

FARM Inc. Treasurer's Report as of	30 Apr 13	
	1 Apr 13	\$ 5,540.97
	Deposit	
	Date	
INCOME		
2013 Membership Renewals (0)		n/a
2013 Renewal Late Fees (0)		n/a
2013 New Member Dues & Fees (2)	Apr 24	\$ 180.00
2014 Membership Renewals (0)		n/a
April 50/50	Apr 24	\$ 20.00
T-shirts & Ball Caps		n/a
Library Donation	Apr 24	\$ 19.00
Total Income:		\$ 219.00
Sum of Assets:		\$ 5,759.97
EXPENSES		
	Check #	
Field Rental - May-July '13	#1624	\$ 600.00
Fun Fly - prizes	#1625	\$ 115.48
Field Maintenance - Gas - 4/18	#1626	\$ 32.81
Newsletter - printing	#1627	\$ 8.93
Field Maintenance - Gas - 4/26	#1628	\$ 16.38
Total Expenses:		\$ 773.60
Ending Account Balance:	30 Apr 13	\$ 4,986.37
Regular Members:	48	
Senior Members:	37	
Junior Members:	4	
Associate Members:	2	
Life Members:	6	
Total Membership:	97	

Members Needing Documented Check-Outs:

David Durica **Needs check flight**

2012 New Members Needing Check-Outs:

John Gilbert **Needs Full Check-Out**

Jim Corbin **Needs Full Check-Out**

David Dix **Needs Full Check-Out**

Thomas Parry **Needs check flight**

2013 New Members Needing Check-Outs:

Juan Ronderos **Needs Full Check-Out**

Note: FARM Club Members needing documented check flights are NOT cleared for SOLO flight at the FARM Club field.

Show and Tell

There was nothing for show and tell this month.

50/50

Ernie Padgett won the cash, but donated it back to the club (Thanks, Ernie !).

Duane Beck won the fuel (thanks Hobby Hangar !)

Show and Tell

1. Gene Flynn –Tech 1, Yak 54, night flyer, use 1800 mAH Lipo for night flying. Flies well.
2. Gene Flynn – Thunder Tiger, .50 size helo, with gyro, and Futaba radio. Complex model, but Gene explained it well at the meeting.
3. Gene Flynn – Tell item – when you finish flying for the day, fill the fuel tank, and then empty it. This gets gases out of the tank from the muffler feedback line. These gases deteriorate the lines.

Board Meeting

The Board discussed the prizes for fun flies this year. We are trying to trim these costs. We will also offer free lunches at the float flies to only those folks who purchase tables (it used to be for all flyers). We need to advertise events more. We will re-visit costs mid year.

CDs for Fun Flys (the next few months) are:

April – Nic Burhans

May – Les Broaddus

June – Bill Towne



From the May Fun Fly.

FARM OFFICERS for 2013		
President	Duane Beck	540-341-8458
Vice President	Doug Cash	571-248-4959
Secretary	Jeff Killen	703-369-0807
Treasurer	Nic Burhans	540-349-2733
Field Marshall	Bill Towne	540-428-1053
Safety Officer	Les Broaddus	703-338-7539
Member at Large.	Charlie Koustenis	703-378-6214

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Some Flyers start young !

(Thanks Bill Towne for all photos this month)