



Volume 44 Issue 02

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Saints Website - [www.saintsrc.com](http://www.saintsrc.com)

### Who's Who?

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## Prez Sez for February 2017

### Meeting at the Hobby Shop

This month we will be meeting at the Mark Twain Hobby Center, Wednesday February 8th at 7:00 P.M. I hope that Wednesday nights continue to work for everyone. We had good attendance at last month's meeting.

### AMA Meets with FAA

Representatives from the AMA continue to meet with the FAA. The FAA is still working on "interpreting" the Congress's special rule passed in 2012. This means we are not free and clear as yet from additional restrictions that the FAA could impose. Stay tuned to your email.

### Ideas under consideration to help small electric aircraft

At the last meeting, Wes Wallin suggested that we look into something that other clubs have started to use to aid their pilots that have small electric airplanes. As we all know small aircraft have small wheels and are challenged to take off and land on a grass field. Some clubs are now using Geotextile woven fabric laid out on their field to give a smooth surface for small aircraft. Geotextile is similar to landscape fabric. It is very thin and woven to allow water through, yet blocks weeds. Geotextile is:

- Removable – it can be rolled up at any time
- Fastened to the ground with wire loops pushed through the fabric.
- Cost – a 400' x 15' roll costs \$495 from Lowes. One roll should be sufficient for a 100'x30' strip
- Installation- it is labor intensive to install but does not require any special tools – just the mower we already have and elbow grease.
- Lasts about 3-4 years.

We would have to discuss this with the field owner first, but we will discuss all this at the next meeting. **This is just an idea we are considering.**

Here are some links the Wes provided to videos of other clubs installing Geotextile:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qk0EVJ\\_ROqA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qk0EVJ_ROqA)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8L9Tg9aPJ6o&t=128s>

## Get your membership applications in

Remember to get your membership applications in as soon as possible. Dues are still \$125 for the full year.

## Show and Tell Needed

Bring your latest winter project, even if it is in progress. Wes Wallin had an interesting model to show us last time. I especially liked his new talking transmitter that used audio queues to tell you things like flight time left and what switch you just flipped. This is better than looking down at your transmitter.

Richard

**Editor's Note --- March Newsletter will only be sent to members listed on the next Contact List that will be published just prior to the March meeting.**

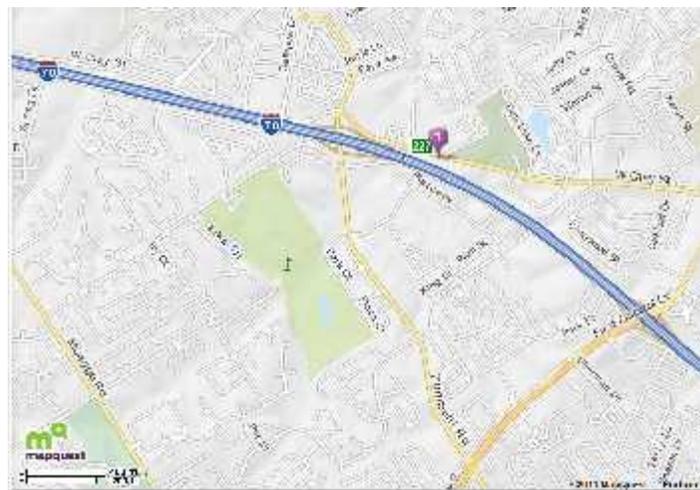
## Meeting Schedule

**Meeting Dates:** 2017: Feb 8, Mar 8, Apr \*, May\*, Jun\*, Jul\*, Aug\*, Sep\*  
Oct\*, Nov\*, Dec\* \* TBD

**Meeting Time:** 7 to 9 pm

**Meeting Location: Mark Twain Hobby Shop**

From eastbound I-70 take the Zumbuhl exit north and turn right on West Clay. Go 1/4 mile. Mark Twain Hobbies will be on your right. The meeting room is entered via the leftmost outside door for Mark Twain Hobbies.



## Meeting Minutes

## **January Meeting Minutes (1/11/2017)**

The first meeting of the new year was called to order on 1/11/2017 by our President, Richard Jenkins.

Vice President Doug Sanders took the roll call. There were 13 members present at this month's meeting including 2 new members. There are 35 members that have turned in their applications and paid club dues for 2017. The cost of membership is still \$125. Membership cards were passed out for those who had mailed in their applications prior to the meeting. Those who turned in their applications on the meeting date will receive their cards in the mail prior to next month's meeting.

Welcome new members Sid Kinzel and Frank Eck.

There were 56 members in our club as of December 31<sup>st</sup> 2016, including two non-flying senior members.

Our Treasurer, Mike Dierker, was present and he gave the treasurers report. Approved.

There was a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as given. Approved.

**Old business.** – None.

In lieu of our December meeting, the club's Christmas Party was held at Tony's on main street in St. Charles. Wes Wallin and Don Bollinger each received the \$50 door prizes. Don Shelton and Dan Conway each received the attendance prizes for the year of \$100.

Please take note: Due to prior commitments, our President announced that meetings will be held on Wednesday for the next 2 months. Some of our members belong to other clubs and it has often been expressed to me that Thursday meetings conflict with other clubs meeting date. It was noted that if Wednesdays increase our meetings attendance, we may consider making Wednesday's permanent.

Wes Wallin, talked about adding a smooth surface at the field for takeoff assistance of smaller models. Other clubs are using a material that is similar to the underlayment used for driveways and gardening. Costs are about \$3000. Wes said that you can search YouTube for examples of this process used by other fields. Another member talked about a tarp like material, semipermeable but breathable. We would have to clear it with the owner. Wes will send out links before the flying season.

**Field report:** Wet, Windy we joked that it's windy.

**Safety report:** - none, nobody's been flying yet.

**Show and tell:** - Wes Wallin's wonderful wife bought him another plane. It is a 70mm free wing F-104 Starfighter. Wes said the build was quick. He watched several YouTube videos which show how smooth the plane flies and lands. The F-104's battery setup calls for a single 6 cell battery, but Wes utilized two 3 cells clipped in series which required no soldering. Believe it or not, this makes the plane lighter. The plane comes with retracts and flaps. He started the plane up at home and it had so much power that it blew a rug across the floor and into the wall. He joked that his wife was not very thrilled with that! He powered it up at the meeting and demonstrated the flaps, surface movements and smooth retracts. The cost of the plane is around \$200 which is extremely reasonable. The nose of the plane is magnetically attached and easily removed for transporting the plane. Wes fired up the engine . . . wow, powerful as hell!! The plane can be purchased from Motion RC. Although 5 blade fans are typical, it comes with a stock 12 blade fan. Although this makes the plane

quiet, you still hear lots of that 'whoosh' sound accustomed to the sound you expect from an EDF (Electric Ducted Fan) jet.

Richard brought in his take of a portable airplane stand. I believed he saw the design on the internet and tweaked it so that it's was pretty light, fold's nicely and fits in the back of his SUV. It will handle any size plane from foamies up to the larger 50cc balsa models. The clamps that support the plane's fuselage are adjustable down to 2 inches and will adapt to larger fuselage diameters. The original design had straps that supported the fuselages. Richards tweak is so much better, as it has greater contact area and won't allow the plane to flip from side to side. There is a tray that flips down, making it convenient for holding a transmitter or other field components. The stand folds to a flat 3 inches, making it easy to fit behind a seat. It would take up minimal room on a car floor leaving plenty room for your planes and other equipment.

50/50 –. Larry Bollinger

Attendance Prized – Wes Wallin, Cecil White.

John Bouchillon welcomed any information for the web site, anybody got anything for sale? Does anyone have any events worth mentioning?

Motion to adjourn.

Three awards passed out:

Outstanding Member of the Year - Cecil White.

Officer of the year - Me, Hawkeye

Crash of the year – Jim Plonka. (Not just for the quality of a crash, but for the quantity of crashes.)

Cecil White  
Member of the Year



Hawkeye  
Officer of the Year



## SHOW & TELL

Richard Jenkins'  
Portable Airplane Stand



Wes Wallin's  
F-104 Starfighter

