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**APRIL 2013**

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**MVRC regular monthly meeting at Rostraver  
 Municipal Building on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM**

One can see the many items and situations that have to be discussed and planned for an official event to occur involving our clubs and Westmoreland County Parks. Enclosed are email conversations between LHMAC, Al Kozusko, and County Parks Personal. We thank LHMAC for going to the forefront and hope for a good turnout at the float flys. One hopes that all members appreciate the work that Al is accomplishing as president of MVRC.

Al Greg McCloskey confirmed the dates for the float flys, they are as follows: Saturday, June 8 (rain date: Saturday, June 15); Saturday, August 3 (rain date: Saturday, August 10). The time for both days is 10:00 AM - 6:00PM. We will need to post signs at Acme at least one week prior to these dates. Also, I will fill-in the park permit application. We will also need special events insurance from AMA. I will contact them to see if one special-events insurance is sufficient to cover both days, if not, perhaps your club could pay for one event. I will be in contact with you with more details in due time. Thanks Rene

At our last meeting a couple of questions regarding the float fly were posed. 1) Can we charge a landing fee (\$2.00 or \$3.00) for people who actually fly? 2) Can we allow radio-controlled boats; the members were leaning to RC planes only? 3) Since these events will be posted on our websites, this will open the prospect of members from other clubs to come and fly, are these float flys only limited to LHMAC and Mon-Valley? Between Al Kozusko and myself we will establish rules ensuring that all safety precautions are followed as we do at the flying fields. I will be filling in the application for permit in a couple of weeks and will provide you with the AMA liability policy for special events. Thank You for your time and consideration. Have a nice day. Rene

1. Yes, you can charge a fee to participants. 2. Yes, you can allow radio-controlled boats. We are considering possibly suspending boating at the lake for those 2 days to avoid any conflicts. 3. You may allow anyone to fly as long as you control the event.

When you file your permit application please include all these items and I will respond with a letter/permit detailing all these various items and I will then copy that to our Park Police and Park Staff so that everyone is totally aware and informed.

I would like to do the same thing regarding your Sept. event for Giant Scale models at your field in Cedar Creek so please file that permit application listing all the various things we discussed like camping, night flying, etc and I will respond in a like manner.

Thanks and have a good weekend,  
**Malcolm Sias, Director**  
 Westmoreland County Parks and Recreation

***President's Corner***

Fellow MVRC Members:

I would like to think that the good weather is right around the corner. This recent spring snow is certainly a big surprise. Hopefully April will be a good month for flying. Don't forget to thoroughly check your aircraft before flying. Lots of us have simply store our aircraft for the winter and just charge the battery and go fly, NOT A GOOD IDEA! Here is a checklist:

1. Fuel proof all areas exposed to fuel or exhaust residue such as the firewall and engine compartment, fuel tank compartment, flap area, wing saddle area, and wheel wells.
2. Check the C.G. according to the measurements provided in the manual for the plane.
3. Secure the battery and receiver with a strip of balsa or plywood or Velcro strap. Simply stuffing them into place with foam rubber is not sufficient. These items can change the C.G. if they move around in flight.
4. Extend your receiver antenna and make sure it has a strain relief inside the fuselage to keep tension off of the solder joint inside the receiver (applies to 72 MHz). For 2.4 GHz receivers, follow the instructions that came with the receiver.

5. Balance your model laterally. You want a model that doesn't dip to one wing when you hold the nose and tail (this is the "roll axis")
6. Secure critical fasteners with thread locking compound (the screws that hold the engine to the firewall, set screws on wheel collars, screw-lock pushrod connectors, etc.)
7. Add a drop of oil to the axles so the wheels turn freely.
8. Make sure all hinges are securely glued in place. Pull on the control surfaces and check for security.
9. Reinforce holes for wood screws with thin CA (control horns, servo hatches, landing gear straps)
10. Confirm that all controls operate in the correct direction and the throws are in accordance with the instruction manual.
11. Make sure there are silicone retainers on all clevises.
12. Fasten all servo arms to the servos with the screws included with the servos.
13. Secure connections between servo wires and Y-connectors or servo extensions and the connection between your battery pack and the on/off switch with vinyl tape or heat shrink tubing.
14. Make sure any servo extensions and other wiring doesn't inter-fere with the movement of servo arms, landing gear, pushrods, etc.

15. Make sure fuel lines and pressure lines are properly connected and not kinked.
16. Balance your propeller (and spare props).
17. Tighten propeller nuts and spinners.
18. Place your name, address, AMA number and telephone number on or inside your model.

19. Cycle your battery packs in receiver and transmitter and make sure they are fully charged.
20. When you get to the flying field, range check your radio and make sure everything is working properly.

Have a safe and enjoyable flight!

The Westmoreland County March For Parks had a good turnout of MVRC pilots. Although it was cold, the sun was shining and trying to warm the area. Steve Denk did a great job as team captain.

Steve's team included Bob Walter, Walt Sevryn, Fred Fronzaglio, Bob Bruecken, Bill Haas and (his friend George, who may be a future member), AJ Sweitzer, Jason Smereczniak, Mike Bunardzya, Dave Herrington, and myself. Mike Bunardzya and Dave Herrington set up the booth with the MVRC banner, airplanes and handouts. Those of you who could not attend, please extend special thanks to the team. We had a number of people that wanted to attend but had special personal commitments. I would like to thank Paul Sedlak and our sponsors who donated but could not attend the March For Parks. I am also pleased to extend a special thanks to Fred, Walt and Bill for making a special effort to attend even though they could not walk the trail. I really missed the ones that could have shown up but decided not to attend.

It has come to my attention that members need reminded that we all need to be considerate of others flying. I would like to remind everyone that it is our responsibility to maintain a strong sense of respect and consideration for *each pilot* and *spectators*. It is up to all of us to support and help each other. Do **NOT** stand around and ignore issues that could potentially affect all of us in a negative manner. Become involved to protect the interest of our club. We are addressing these issues and will share more about our direction at our next club meeting.

As a reminder to everyone our Executive Committee is the compass for our club. Let them know of any suggestions you have for our

club. The EC includes AJ Sweitzer, Jim Hinson, Erik Strauser, Ron Novak, Steve Denk, and Jason Smereczniak. The EC continually meet once a month to make recommendations on club matters for the good and welfare of the organization.

Dave Herrington has been doing a great job with our web site. Take a moment and see what you think. If you have any suggestions, please let Dave know.

His email is [dherrington@gmail.com](mailto:dherrington@gmail.com). While we are talking about web sites take a moment and check out our District III web site, [www.amadistrict-iii.com](http://www.amadistrict-iii.com).

I will continue to use the internet as much as possible to communicate with our members. Please let me know if you have any suggestions, questions, items of concern, or anything you would like to discuss or bring up at our meetings. My email is [Kozusko@comcast.net](mailto:Kozusko@comcast.net). If you do not have email access, please call me at 724-872-4030. We want to make sure we have everyone's email and phone number to keep you aware of what our club is doing and what we can do for our club.

Don't forget about our open subject discussions during the meetings which give everyone an opportunity to express themselves about any subject. Hope to see you at the meeting.

Keep healthy, be safe, have fun flying!

Al Kozusko  
President, MVRC

## Executive Committee

Meeting Minutes-March 30, 2013

Attending Meeting: AJ Sweitzer, Jason Smereczniak, Al Kozusko, Mike Eiben, Walt Sevryn, Ron Novak, Jim Henson, Steve Denk, Erik Strauser, Rick Altomari, Dave Herrington, Nick Carrozza

- The EC recommends the following addition to the bylaws. *If any elected position becomes available for any reason the following procedure will be followed. The position(s) will be advertised in the next newsletter. Nominations will be taken and elections will take place at the next meeting.*
- Before the EC recommends for or against purchasing insurance on the contents of our building it would like to see all the information from Erie in written form and also would like to know if it would be possible to reduce the \$20,000 coverage to lower the premium.
- The EC recommends a spotter when flying on very busy flying days.
- The EC said that no one should have to wait an extended time to fly- please be considerate.
- The EC recommends calling takeoffs and landings and flying the pattern.
- The EC would like to remind members that we must use the pilot stations for safety. It was discussed that at times you do not know who is flying when you are not flying from the pilot stations. We must help each other obey the rules, be considerate, understanding and respectful of each others proficiency of flying.
- The EC recommends using the area to the upper left for 3D airplane and helicopter flying especially during busy flying days.
- The EC would also like to remind all members to obey all park rules such as all animals must be on a leash and not allowed to roam freely.

AJ Sweitzer  
EC Chairman, MVRC

## Secretary's Report

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. The officers in attendance were the President, Vice President, & Secretary.

The February minutes were read and approved.

**Treasurer:** Ron was absent. He reported via email to Al we have \$7534.68 in the treasury.

Correspondence: none

**Executive Committee:** AJ reported the executive committee met Feb 23. They discussed:

1. Possibility of club donating \$100 for March for Parks
2. Extension of Grass Barrier
3. Volunteers for Float fly and Giant Scale
4. Safety First
5. By-Laws change for club officer vacancy. Discussion took place. AJ and executive committee to further refine wording to present at a later meeting.

**Field Report:** Rick reported cabin fever is setting in. The tractor blades are sharpened, painted, and balanced.

**Old Business:** March for Parks - Steve reported it is March 23. Registration fee is \$25. Brochures are being circulated. There are 6 areas for the contributions. For Cedar Creek Park the money will go to a dog park. The information is on the contribution form.

Mike reported on commercial insurance from Erie. Cost is approx \$300 per year. A policy is to be written up and reviewed by the executive committee.

**New Business:** George Wilson made a motion to donation \$100 to March for Parks. Bill Kilpatrick seconded. There was a question from floor. Can it be ear marked for cedar creek? Al responded yes. Motion passed. Steve will provide more info separately.

Al and Rick met with Greg. There is a new staff this year. We shared all of our upcoming events. We are working with the park on the Giant Scale Sept 7 & 8. There are many items happening behind the scenes to make this successful. The vandalized "John" was discussed. The park plans to replace it once they make sure it was a one time event.

Al reported from the AMA there are 40 clubs in a 50 mile radius. About 20 clubs have web sites.

**Safety Officer:** Mike discussed some folks veer to the left during takeoff. Please remember to counter with your rudder.

**Newsletter:** Walt reported he's happy people are reading the newsletter based on errors reported!

**Publicly Chair:** Jason reported he's in contact with Lauren Jones from the county to update our information.

**Web Site:** Dave Harrington reported the .com is not working yet. The .org is working still.

**Show n Tell:** Mike B: Same quad copter as Jeff Sumey had at the last meeting.

Low discussed GRAPHINE. It's made from carbon and 1 atom thick. Bottom line is batteries of the future! Google it on the web to learn about it.

**New Members:** Michael Calla  
The meeting adjourned 8:53 pm

Janet Poague  
Secretary, MVRC

# Schedule of Events for 2013

**APRIL** 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>-(Friday, Saturday) Toledo RC event-check AMA for schedule.  
12<sup>th</sup>-(Friday) MVRC regular monthly meeting at Rostraver Municipal Building at 7:30 PM

**MAY** 3<sup>rd</sup>-(Friday) MVRC regular monthly meeting at MVRC Flying field at 7:00 PM

**JUNE** 7<sup>th</sup>-(Friday) MVRC regular monthly meeting at MVRC Flying field at 7:00 PM  
8<sup>th</sup>-(Saturday) Float Fly at Acme Dam: (rain date: Saturday, June 15) - from 10 AM to 6 PM

**JULY** 5<sup>th</sup>-(Friday) MVRC regular monthly meeting at MVRC Flying field at 7:00 PM

**AUG** 2<sup>nd</sup>-(Friday) MVRC regular monthly meeting at MVRC Flying field at 7:00 PM  
3<sup>rd</sup>-(Saturday) Float Fly at Acme Dam: (rain date: Sat. August 10th) - from 10 AM to 6 PM

11<sup>th</sup>-(Sunday) Cedar Creek Fun Fest at main park.  
18<sup>th</sup>-(Sunday) MVRC Family Picnic at the field.

**SEPT**---6<sup>th</sup>-(Friday) MVRC regular monthly meeting at MVRC Flying field at 7:00 PM

- 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>-(Saturday, Sunday) Mon Valley RC Air Show. -CD Nick Carrozza
- 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>-(Saturday, Sunday) MVRC Heli Fun Fly- CD Jeff Sumey

**OCT**----4<sup>th</sup>-(Friday) MVRC regular monthly meeting at Rostraver Municipal Building at 7:30 PM

**NOV**----1<sup>st</sup>-(Friday) MVRC regular monthly meeting at Rostraver Municipal Building at 7:30 PM

**DEC**-----6<sup>th</sup>-(Friday) MVRC regular monthly meeting at Rostraver Municipal Building at 7:30 PM  
 ??? Christmas Party- (to be determined)

## Club Activities

<http://player.vimeo.com/video/39325401> Some people have all the fun. Check out this web site. Click on website.

### Winter Project & Field Activity

Fred Fronzaglio tried to overcome the winter doldrums by building a beautiful Hog. Even though he had to compete with his buddy at his workshop (that SOB), the results were great for a “young man”. He, along with 117+ other members of MVRC, is waiting feverously for some good flying weather. The following pictures (after Fred’s) show the field activity on the weekend of March 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> when there was a break in the weather (which didn’t last long). *“Come on, SPRING”*.



Welcome back, Pete!!

Many gab sessions occur

Jeff doesn't waste the day





Lew M., "I got it"



More gab sessions



Al Kozusko and his RC blimp crew, courtesy of the Pgh Penguins

**MARCH FOR PARKS-2013**



The bold ones walked 2 2/3 miles around the lake.



End of the Walk



MVRC display tent



Group picture of MVRC members in attendance



It was asked, "Would one of these pole tents work at our field?"



Cold weather was fought with bonfire

*A computer once beat me at chess, but it was no match for me at kickboxing.*

*Accept that some days you are the pigeon, and some days you are the statue.*

*Always forgive your enemies. Nothing annoys them so much*

*Anyone who says he can see through women is missing a lot.*

*The fairest thing in nature, a flower, still has its roots in earth and manure.*

**Hope the newsletter was read completely. The input into the club shows that people care and want to discuss the club's direction.**



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