



The Radio Flyer

The Monthly News Bulletin of the Iowa City Aerohawks Radio Control Flying Club
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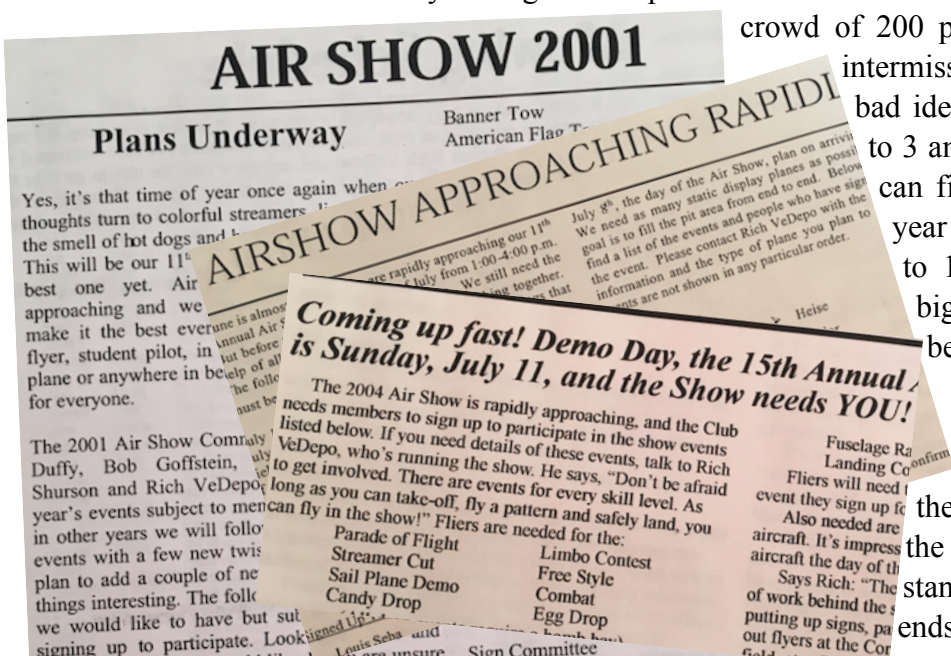
25th Annual Airshow Plans Are Underway

Hard to believe this will be our 25th Air Show coming up on Sunday August 20, 2017. It doesn't seem possible it could be that long ago we started the show but the calendar doesn't lie.

When I look back over the years, it's amazing how far the show has progressed since its infancy. For the first two years we didn't even refer to the event as a show, but advertised it as Demo Day. There wasn't any music, it was more like an organized Fun Fly than a show. Our advertising for the event consisted of spray painted cardboard signs nailed to light poles around town with FREE in big letters. We dug out the cardboard from a dumpster at a local appliance store. Pretty tacky compared to the nice signs we have today but, it worked and it was free.

The first year we had a total of 6 to 8 pilots flying in the events and we only had enough events to fill about an hour and ½. We thought that would be too short of an event to attract people so we did a 3 hour show but had an intermission half way through and repeated the show after the intermission. We had an estimated

crowd of 200 people but lost half the crowd at the intermission. Turns out the intermission was a bad idea. Today we have extended the show to 3 and ½ hours, have more events than we can fit in so we must rotate routines from year to year and entertain crowds of 1200 to 1500 people on a regular basis. Our biggest crowd in 2015 was estimated to be 2000.



Gary Bernabe was our club president the first year and I was the treasurer. We had some expenses for the event such as candy for the kids in the Candy Drop, food for the concession stand plus some miscellaneous odds and ends. I was very nervous. With only a

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Spectators are welcome at the Aerohawks' flying field and clubhouse on Hebl Avenue, west on Melrose, west of HWY 218, on manicured, reclaimed land near the entrance to the Landfill. New members are welcome at any time, at any level of skill.

The Club has an active, free instructional program for beginners. Membership is \$60 annually, and the Club also requires that members volunteer help with work projects from time to time. Members must also join the Academy of Model Aeronautics, (the Iowa City Aerohawks are Chapter 824).

little over \$70 in our checking account, if we didn't make money from the concession stand that first year we would be in trouble. I remember going to Gary and telling him we couldn't cover the bills. Gary reassured everyone that things would be fine, people would come and we would make money. Fortunately for us, Gary was right and we never looked back after that first year.

That first year we didn't have a sound system, just a bullhorn we rented from Aero Rental that emcee Larry Crabb did the announcing from. The next year we purchased a single speaker and mounted it to one of the wooden posts of the sun shelter and we were thrilled. What an improvement. We of course have added a high quality sound system since then. I think that first speaker is still in the storage shed at the field. Brings back memories every time I see it.

I remember the first concession stand was a tarp tied to the sun shelter for shade. We didn't have a nice clubhouse to house the food stand so we did the best we could with what we had. About half way through the show the wind blew so hard it blew down our make shift concession stand surprising the wait staff and customers, I'm sure.

After the second year Larry Crabb retired and moved to Arkansas. Looking for an emcee replacement, I was elected to pick up the duties because they said I wasn't safe enough to fly in the show and I've done it ever since.

The third year we changed the name of the event from Demo Day to the Iowa City Aerohawk Radio Controlled Air Show and set the show to music. We didn't have the music recorded on a laptop. It was recorded on cassette tapes and they were queued by using an eraser on a pencil and played from a tape deck into the microphone. Much easier now, that's for sure.

So as we get ready to celebrate our 25th year, I hope as many of you will get involved as possible. Whether it is flying in the show or helping out behind the scenes we hope you will be part of the fun. I have sent out a list of events I will be choosing the show from to all club members. It's all based on how much interest there is in these various events. There are still several of you that normally participate that I haven't heard from yet. If you haven't gotten back to me, and plan on flying in the show, please get ahold of me right away. I would hate to see an event you want to be involved in get scratched because people didn't respond in time.

If you don't feel like you are ready to fly in the show but can help us in other areas, such as parking, concessions or putting up signs, we need your help as well. This will be the first year the City won't allow us to put up our signs on City property. If you have a business, know someone who owns a business and will allow us to put up a sign or two please get in touch with me. Our success depends totally on getting the word out about the show. We will also be asking our members to take a sign home with them and displaying it in your yard the week of the show.

So there you have it. A little review of how our show has evolved since the beginning 25 years ago. How many more years will it continue to go on is pretty much up to our members. It takes a village to raise a child but it takes an entire club to put on a good show. Get involved. It's a great way to give back to the club while promoting our hobby and gaining new members. Sign up today if you haven't already!

Article by Rich VeDepo



Iowa City Aerohawks General Meeting May 2nd, 2017

-Meeting brought to order by President Dave Petsel @ 7:00 PM

-Treasurers report from -

Motion to accept

1st - Gary Bernabe

2nd - Gerald Hollander

Passed

-Meeting Minutes

Motion to accept

1st - Lance Meyer

2nd - Marc Niehus

Passed

OLD BUSINESS -

-Discussion ensued regarding using a 5 gallon bucket of Thompson's water seal on the deck. This can be done.

Members talked about repairs to the clubhouse. Looking at covering up the areas that were dismantled for leveling.

Motion to spend \$250.00 for clubhouse repairs

1st - Lance Meyer

2nd - Shawn Linn

Passed

-Talk began regarding the pop machine. Club members have decided that the machine will be established as OUT OF USE. We will not be filling it this year. It will sit unused and unplugged.

Motion to not use

1st - Shawn Linn

2nd - Marc Niehus

Passed

-Discussion ensued regarding the float fly in May. The date for the float fly was discussed.

Motion to move the float fly from May 20th till the first weekend in June. Increase insurance for 3 float flies.

1st - Roger Schultz

2nd - Lance Meyer

Passed

NEW BUSINESS -

-Club members discussed the use of Auto-Fly mode while flying, particularly during learning towards being solo'd. It has been decided that all new pilots learning will need to learn without the Auto-Fly. If pilots want to use Auto-Fly mode once they have solo'd, that is their choice. Bruce Fisher will be adding this to the Flight Training instructions.

-Talk began again with the location of the swap meet this year. We are looking at possible insurance requirements.

Talked extensively regarding the pros and cons for the proposed location. Discussion is tabled until the next meeting. Please make sure you are here to discuss this very important topic at the June meeting.

-We will be renting a roller this week for rolling the runway.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:23 PM

Motion - Gary Bernabe

2nd - Roger Schultz

Passed



June 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

July 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Don't forget that the first Tuesday of the month is the General Membership Meeting and the third Tuesday of the month is the Officers Meeting at the **Field Club House!!!**

Club night is every Thursday night..."what is club night?" you may ask...well, its the night we all like to get together fly and grill out at the Club! Bring a dish to share!

2017 Event Calendar

June 17th
1st Float Fly

July 4th
Coralville Parade

July 8th
2nd Riverside Float Fly

July 22nd
2nd Ditch Clean-up

August 19th
Air Show Field Preparation

August 20th
24th Annual Air Show

End of August
Sertoma Pancake
Breakfast

October 15th
Kent Park Float Fly

December 14th
Tentative Holiday Party



NOTE: New Date for the FLOAT FLY

After much discussion at the last membership meeting, a decision was made to move the **1st Float Fly now to June 17th**. As mentioned before in the newsletters past, this is probably one of the more interesting/fun events we host every year. We will be out at the Riverside Casino pond, just south of the IA-22 from 9am until ...well, until we wear ourselves out! Bring your own snacks and drinks...and just as sunset comes, the group will be heading over to the Riverside Casino to enjoy the All-You-Can-Eat **Roberts Buffet**. This is TRULY an AWSOME event !!!