

the

MONITOR

December The MRCS Officers 2014

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Newsletter Editor: Ken Myers	Next Meeting: Date: Wednesday, Dec. 3 Time: 7:30 pm, EAA Building, Mettetal Airport	

What's In This Issue:
The November Meeting - November Show & Tell: Bob McDonald's SIG 4-Star 40 - The Upcoming December Meeting - Upcoming Events

The November Meeting

A great Commemorative Air Force DVD was provide by Rich Sievert. It was a great way to start the meeting.

Our Guest Speaker

Larry Markey did an excellent and very informative presentation on FPV Tree Racing.

The quads used for this racing are very easy to fly and they are self-leveling, yet very aerobatic. The basic 'kit' is \$110 racing drone kit. It does need to be programmed.

They measure 250mm between propellers and that is a class for racing.

The group Larry belongs to is the Detroit Drone club.

<http://www.meetup.com/DetroitDrone/>

The 'racers' are glown with goggles or monitor. They are flown through paths in the woods.

The total cost can be done for a couple of hundred dollars.

Larry shared some good videos of races for a couple of courses. The machines have two video cameras on board. One is used to fly by and one to record HD video of the flight.

He also showed an Horizon 5.8GHz camera, which noted is really good.

At this time, everything is sourced seperately and requires soldering.

NAZE-32 controller is used to control the flying machine.

http://www.readymaderc.com/store/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=3246

This type of racing and flying machine is so new that nothing is really RTF. The boards have to be set up and the drivers to program them installed.

Larry does expect to see RTF versions within a year.

Here is some more information on this new, exciting and fun type of flying.

Helicopter Frequencies

21,27,29,39, 41

Sailplane Frequencies

11, 12

Larry provided the following information:

This page has a lot of information on course design, rules etc. It also has a link to their YouTube channel which has some good videos. Our Detroit Group will affiliate with this group. Do a search on FPV racing and you will find videos from around the world.

<http://www.meetup.com/FPV-Tree-Racing-League-Chicago/>

FPV Tree Racing League - Chicago

On your mark, get set, go! This is an RC racing league for FPV Drone pilots. We run organized races/meetups once a month at a variety of locations around the Chicago area. We have practice meetups two weeks before every race event. Occasionally we participate in regional and national events as a team. We are a sub group of Chicago-Drone User Group which is a charter of Drone User Group Network.

New to FPV racing?

Attend a practice meetup and talk to the Tree Racers. Learn about equipment, course design, practice drills and race tactics. We also have a Beginners class that effectively creates a low stress entry into FPV racing.

Can any machine participate?

Yes. But our courses are designed for the small sized copters. 450 sized machines will have a tough time with some of the obstacles unless you fly in the beginner class.

Speaking of classes what are they?

We have 3 distinct classes. The Spec class limits overall thrust and is for racers who want to compete based on pilot skill not equipment power. Open class is for people that want to fly whatever they have (hex, big motors, etc). Equipment can trump pilot skill. Beginner class provides a low stress entry into the FPV racing arena. Racers fly what they have and navigate an easier subset (no obstacles) of the course. No points, no timing, no stress. Move into Spec or Open class when you feel comfortable.

Are there rules or is it more like a fun fly?

The actual race events are competitions, not fun flies. We follow clearly defined rules. In fact, groups around the world have adopted them.

But we still joke around. We meet two weeks before every race to practice for the upcoming race. Those events are unstructured (but there are courses set). Bring lots of blades.

I see videos with poles & pool noodles. Is that what the courses are?

We certainly have plenty of pylons and pool noodles. But our Tree Racers find them, well . . . not as challenging. We have scouted natural, safe areas to hold our events (ie not parks). We lay down 100 yellow arrows to define the course which makes learning the racing line go very quickly. We run two types of races at each event. Rotorcross is a timed event that has many turn types (slaloms, hairpins, sweepers) and obstacles (thread the needle, duck under, flyover, doorways). For the second race of the day, we simplify the course and run blade-to-blade races. That is where you fly it like you stole it!

Are there any prizes?

Racers are going for points and ultimately prizes and trophies. We have sponsors that supply prizes.

Hmmm. Interesting. What can I do to get involved?

Well, first signup so you get notifications. Next, attend a practice event. And learn all you can. And check out our racing youtube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/fpvtreeracers>

A link to Building a competitive but low cost racer.

<http://www.meetup.com/FPV-Tree-Racing-League-Chicago/about/>



Larry's Racing Quad

The November Meeting

Arthur Deane started the meeting by calling for the Swap Shop Report.

Rudi Reinhard related the problems with us being able to get into the building on Sunday and the setup.

After that major snafu, our wonderful volunteers did the set up in record time. There were a lot of people waiting in the very cold weather.

Rudi noted that the in the door attendance was down by \$300 or about 60 people.

He also noted that the days of swap meets are waining.

The Northville Parks and Recreation is rebating 1/2 the cost of the hall.

Roger Wilfong did well on selling the 50/50 raffle tickets.

We all thanked Rudi for his hard work and putting this event together for years and years.

AMA District 7 V.P., Tim Jesky, visited.

Dave Stacer gave the treasurer's report. We had 51 paying members for 2014. Unfortunately or membership is still decreasing.

Dave shared our expenses for the year and the income. Thanks to a lot of donations, we didn't end up in the red.

The Friends of the Field appeal is provided us with the equivalent 25 more members.

Our cash reserve has been able to grow, very, very slightly.

Arthur opened nominations. The previously nominated individuals and positions were:

President	Arthur Deane
Vice President	Ken Myers
Secretary	Lynn Morgan
Treasurer	Dave Stacer
Field Marshall	Bill Brown Sr
Safety Officer	Rich Sievert

There were no nominations made at the meeting. Nomination were closed and the previously nominated individuals elected.

November Show and Tell



Bob McDonald shared his recently complete SIG Four-Star Forty. It was built from the SIG kit and the power system modified to an electric system.

Bob scratch built the cowl and added a top hatch with a spring loaded lock.

A Cobra C-4120/18 540Kv swings an APC 13x8E prop. 6 A123 2500mAh LiFePO⁴ cells provide the power to the motor.

Its ready to fly weight is 5 lbs.

It uses a taller landing gear than the one supplied in the kit to accomadate the 13" diameter prop.

Factoid

This was the first Show and Tell since **April of 2013!** It is building season NOW, so let's get building out there.

The Upcoming December Meeting

The December meeting is our annual dessert social. It is just a relaxing meeting with a lot of chit-chat and some good desserts.

To change your email address contact Ken Myers at kmyersefo@mac.com

The 2015 membership application is available at the club Web site,
<http://www.midwestrcsociety.org>,
for downloading with the link on the homepage.

IMPORTANT: Channels 36 & 56 May NOT be used at the 7 Mile Rd. Field

Upcoming Events

Tuesdays, Nov. 25 - March, Skymasters' Indoor Flying Continues through March, 11 am to 1 pm, Ultimate Soccer Arenas, 867 South Blvd., Pontiac, MI 48341

November 30, Sunday, Skymasters' Indoor Flying Special Day, 11 am to 2 pm, Ultimate Soccer Arenas, 867 South Blvd., Pontiac, MI 48341

December 3, Wednesday, Midwest monthly meeting, EAA building, Mettetal Airport, video at 7, meeting 7:30 Annual share a dessert and social meeting. Bring an indoor plane or chopper to fly as well, as we will indoor fly in the large maintenance hangar once again.

Thursdays, Dec. 4 - April, Legacy Center Indoor Flying Season Continues through April, Noon to 2 pm, Legacy Center, 9299 Goble Dr., Brighton, MI 48116

The Upcoming December Meeting

The Wednesday, December 3 meeting will be our traditional dessert and social gathering..

Midwest RC Monitor
Editor: Ken Myers
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Commerce Twp., MI 48390

The Next Meeting:

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 3, 2014

Time: 7 p.m. video, 7:30 meeting

Place: EAA building, Mettetal Airport, Plymouth