

Modelers Memo – December 2011

The year in review

by Dick Baumer

This time of year is when ORCM elects officers for the next year. Officers for 2012 are Dick Baumer – President, Sharon West – Vice President, Neil Tryhus – Secretary, Greg Salmonsens – Treasurer and Dale Nelson – Safety Officer.

The warm summer breezes we dealt with so much this season have turned to cold, blustery, blasts and snow has covered the runway thus signaling the end of another flying season at ORCM. With that in mind it seems appropriate that I recap the more significant events of the year. This year we again participated in the Home & Recreation Show at the Four Seasons and the Memorial Day parade. We participate in those events to expose our club to the community hoping to kindle interest in the RC hobby and bring new members to our club.

Events that we host at the field include our Fun Fly, the OSCAR (Owatonna Steele County Amateur Radio) emergency readiness drill, the Minnesota Radio Control Helicopter Association (MRCHA) helicopter only event, and the aero-tow glider events. Late summer several members of the club traveled to Mankato to help that club open their new field.

I was fortunate to have visited a couple of very nice RC fields (Marshall RC Field at Thorp, Wisconsin and the Wausau RC Sportsman Field at Wausau, Wisconsin). We have been invited to visit both of those fields anytime you are in the area. Both are located just a stones throw off Wisconsin Hiway 29 at Thorp and Wausau, Wisconsin respectively.

At this writing, our club has two new members who are not only new members but new to the RC airplane hobby. Bob Stevenson and John Billingsley both of Owatonna joined the Intro Pilot program and spent time on the buddy box. John soloed in October using his Nexstar. Bob winters in Arizona, has an LT-25 and is continuing his buddy box activity with Intro Pilot Lyle Bohn who also winters there. Pat Weber has rejoined the group having moved back to Owatonna.

21 folks attended the annual year-end banquet held at the Owatonna Timberlodge. Last year we were in the midst of a blizzard for this event but we had a pleasant, although chilly day for the event this year.

At this writing the field equipment has been tucked away for the long winter snooze. That means everyone can concentrate on fixing the things you broke during the season, building that new model you recently received, or finishing the one you started some time ago. Be safe during the off-season.