



April 2015

Official Newsletter

Billings Flying Mustangs

Volume 41 Issue 1

Board Highlights

The Board has met three times since January 1st of this year. In the first meeting new Board Officers were elected. They are: Scott Cranston, President; Dave Brown, Vice-President, Larry Todd, Secretary; and Rodney Broderson continues as Treasurer.

Carl Thuesen was elected to fill Director # 3 (ending 2017). He is also appointed as Safety Officer for the Club. Pat Kelly was appointed to fill Director #1 (ending 2015) and Rob Jones was appointed to fill Director #2 (ending 2016) vacated by Scott Cranston.

Change in Meeting Location. The meeting location was changed to a room at Gordy's Casino located at 2248 Grand Ave. Meeting will begin at 6:30 pm. This space provides more room and a quiet atmosphere so that people can be heard.

**New
Meeting
Location**

Members. As of the April meeting we have 47 members.

Meeting Agenda. We are posting the meeting agenda on the web for all to see. The intent is to make each meeting efficient by following an agenda. This means that where members have an item to be discussed, they should email the topic to bfmustangs@outlook.com. The Secretary will get it on the Agenda.

Minutes. The process for Minutes is the Secretary will email the detailed minutes to

Board members after the meeting. Then a summarized version of decisions will be developed for the newsletter to be posted on the web site. The newsletter will have additional items besides minutes. If a member wants the actual minutes please contact the Secretary and they'll be provided.

Requirements to fly/Guests. No one may fly at Chamberlain Field without having a current AMA card. This is outlined in the By-Laws Article 7 addition, reside in County may member at a day. Those outside

**No Fly
without
current
AMA.**

Section 2. In Guests who Yellowstone fly with a fee of \$10 per residing Yellowstone County may fly as guests for no fee. The Board asks all members to enforce the current AMA requirement and the \$10 fee for Yellowstone County residence.

Posted at the Field is a Flying Member list. This will help member identify members of the club.

Membership Application Form. The Application form has been revised to clear up confusion over "Intro" & the "New/Renew" sections. It is posted on the WEB site: www.billingsflyingmustangs.us under Documents and Application.

WEB signup. We have not gone forward with the PayPal signup. The requirements are that we have a Tax ID Number, which also requires us to submit a Form 1024 for Tax Exemption. Information on 501(c)(7) were handed out for discussion.

Filing the Form 1024 under 501(c)(7) is a Social Club designation, which Hobby clubs as our own fall under. It requires us to account for member dues and relevant revenue obtained towards our purpose but split out revenue generated outside our purpose. Our Club has no established processes to capture and split out this accounting and we have to get clarity on applying the rules before moving forward.

June Fly-In. Carl Thuesen has contacted businesses for the Fly-In and volunteers were named to attend to the pilot registration desk. In addition food services and raffles are moving forward.

Opening the No fly zone. Currently a no fly zone exists for the East and south east part of



The Red outline designates the opened fly zone.

the Field. There are times when flying in that area is necessary, in particular for glider landings and for Helicopter flying with a westerly sun. The fly zone is has now been expanded to include the east and south east part of the field.

However, in using this area, members, please mindful of our neighbors.

Cameras & Weather Station

Here is just a little update on the cameras at the field. For the past couple of years our internet connection when from the field to the microwave uplink site just down the road and then on to Bob Blumer's house where we connected to the Internet. Here lately there has been a bunch of construction going on between Bob's house and the uplink site which will eventually block the signal to the BFM site. So the uplink site are allowing us to use one of their IP address so

we can still have Internet out at the field. Not only is this very nice on their part but it is a much faster connection than before. We should be able to watch the video from the site in full motion.

Another part of the problem is some of the cameras we are using runs an older outdated version of Java and it makes it impossible for us to view the cameras in motion. We are working on getting new cameras for the front of the field to help with the clarity of the picture. If the new cameras work out, we can temporarily use the existing ones to view

the heli field and work on the camera from the cook shack a little later on. More updates to come. Thanks to Dick Jones and Bob Blumer.

So... keep looking for better pictures.

Guest Flying \$10/day with AMA

AMA Required. Flying at Chamberlain Field has always required a current AMA number. A current number insures that AMA member for liability if something goes wrong in their flight. The Club is also a charter member of the AMA. This provides additional liability insurance for the Club and Flying Field. So, when flying at Chamberlain field, the pilot is covered by the individual AMA insurance and the club charter insurance.

The Club is making a concerted effort to assure that pilots have current active AMA memberships in order to fly. This protects both the pilot and Club.

Guest Flying \$10. Members, when you bring guests to fly, it is required that those who live in Yellowstone County pay \$10 per day. Guest residing outside of Yellowstone County fly with no fee. In either case, a current AMA membership is required. Please pay this amount to a Club Board member or mail it to the BFM P. O Box.

To help with this requirement, a Club member list is posted frequently in the Flying Shelter. This posting will help members establish who Club members are.

Rest Rooms

The rest rooms have been cleaned and power washed. The intent is to power wash them more frequently so they are useable. Hopefully, the Club volunteers can get this done. Sanitizer dispensers are now installed as well as new roll dispensers. They are looking good!

Heli Pads

Pads for helicopter takeoff and landing have been installed adjacent to the graded runway. There are 2 pads. The first is located between spools 1 and 2 and the second is further down between spools 3 and 4. The size



is 8 ft. wide by 6 ft. long and 3/4 inch thick heavy rubber mats. They were installed before the

strong winds of March and never moved. They are substantial.

For those who have tried them out, they are great. No more dirt and dust kicking up when spooling up or landing. The west side is also great to fly helicopters especially in the morning where the sun is at your back. This is

a great addition to the facilities at the club. Thanks to all who helped with this project.

Dragging Runway

The graded runway was hard to use because it was not only rough but weeds were a constant problem. The guys under leadership of Don Jones built a homemade grading platform, put some weight on it and went to work. It turned out Great! This runway is now as usable as the paved runway. Thanks to all who helped with this effort.



Agenda

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First Aid Kit

We always had a first aid kit that was stored inside the metal cabinet. It is stocked, but hasn't been updated in a while. And people

tend to look past the sign on the cabinet that says "First Aid Kit." We now have an additional kit that is up to date and freshly stocked. It will be mounted in the Flying Shelter and ready in a moment's notice.

We always stress safety, but in the case of need, these kits will be ready.

Fly-In

The June 27-28 Fly-In is going well. Carl Thuesen reports good response with donations. This ought to be a good year.

BFM Pylon Bump & Run

The Fifth Annual BFM Bump & Run will be held June 6th and 7th. It is a

single event held over two days. With an official practice day on Friday the 5th. We are looking for BFM volunteers to help run, judge and participate in the event. An event flyer will be available soon. If you have any

questions you can contact Earl Seaholm or Ed Alves. In advance, thanks for your support and sharing the club with Pylon Racer's from around the country.



Race Track maintenance

Grass is planted around the track to compete with the weeds. The planting occurred two days before Billings received 1" on rain. That will sprout the grass and with some watering this spring, we should have a nice grass border around the track. Hopefully, establishing grass will make the track not only more usable but will be less maintenance and more enjoyable.



Seeding around track.