

# Horse Feathers



July 2015

Official Newsletter  
**Billings Flying Mustangs**  
Volume 41 Issue 2

**2015 Jim Steertz Memorial Fly-In**  
hosted by the **Billings Flying Mustangs**

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**Come join the FUN!**

**As you choose your RC purchases over the next year, please consider supporting those who have supported our fly in.**

## Board Highlights

No meeting was held in May and short meetings were held in June and July. In June, the upcoming Fly-In information was updated and everything seemed to be on track. The Float Fly went well.

The July meeting saw good results from the Fly-Ins. Keys to the cook house were discussed and 4 keys are distributed to the

President, Secretary, and Dick Jones and Bob Blumer for the communications of the weather station and cameras. The online dues payment and signup with PayPal will be moving forward in July.

**For the duration of your event, you may check out a key by contacting Scotty or Larry.**



## Float Fly

Saturday, June 20 saw the second of our BFM 2015 season float fly events. Turnout was a bit lighter than the first event, mostly due to June being so busy for flying event opportunities, but we had six pilots and about the same number of spectators on what turned out to be a GORGEOUS day for flying off the pond.

Folks arrived at the pond at 8am and flew until about 1:00 in the afternoon. John Hahn, Glenn Hertz, Dwight Holmes,



retrieve from it's very own trailer hooked to his RC truck! Lynda was out providing moral support to the crew, and Brandon Landrie took some



George Goforth, Scott Smith joined a fellow from Great Falls who drove out for the event (very sorry I've forgotten his name...) for a



great morning of flying and visiting. Rick Kelem brought out his rescue boat that he was able to launch and

neat video footage with a quad he's been testing.



Ryan Zahn, Marshall Smith, and Mr. Holmes (Dwight's dad) rounded out the crew for the day. Hope to see everybody Saturday, July 25 for our next Float Fly event!!

## Aeronautics Merit Badge

### Boy Scouts of America, Troop 10

When Troop 10 decided to do the Boy Scout aeronautics merit badge, scoutmaster Casey Dolf knew just where to go for help. Casey drives RC cars, so it was not long before he was visiting with the folks at Abell Hobby about partnering with the BFM to assist with the badge. Two nights of instruction were scheduled, one to



cover the basic merit badge requirements concerning the basics of flight, and an evening at the field to do some buddy box flying with instructors.

On May 4 Scott Smith and Carl Thuesen put up a static display and gave the scouts a simplified lesson in the basic physics of flight. A model was used to demonstrate all control

surfaces, how they work, and common RC functions such as flaperons, coupled flaps, and flight modes with rate changes. After the explanations, a trainer went crowd surfing around the room! The boys took turns holding the PT 40 and examining it closely. The ground school ended with a discussion of what to expect at the field the following week.

May 11 was flying night at Chamberlain Field. The boys and leaders arrived to find a beautiful evening for flying and willing instructors waiting for them. Dick Jones had a computer simulator set up, which of course was a big hit. It

helped keep everyone busy while waiting their turn to fly. Dick, John Poulson, Dave Brown, Shane Elbert and Carl Thuesen were all set up with trainers, so the waiting was minimal. Things got exciting as Dave flew his quadcopter to kick off the event. He even dropped a parachutist! Scott Smith and Larry Bennert were busy riding herd on the scouts, and taking names to organize a flight order.



All the boys, and several leaders, received buddy box airtime. The smiles were wide and eyes bright, and all had a good time teasing their friends as they flew. To wind things up, Shane put on a show with an electric pylon racer, and really burned a few hot laps around the runway. After handshakes all around it was time for the scouts to



head back into town. A great time was had by all, and the scouts were able to fulfill many of the requirements for their badge in the process. Who knows, we may even have some new students on Thursday training nights!



## Jim Stoetz Memorial Fly-In

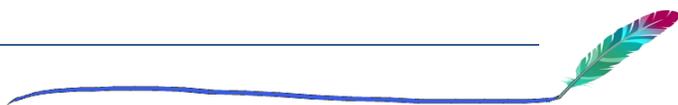
*Carl Thuesen, Contest Director*

Donor response was tremendous this year, including several of the best manufacturers in

The 2015 Jim Steorts Memorial Fly In was held June 26 through 28 at Chamberlain Field. This year 40 pilots were registered representing Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and Idaho. A complete gallery of photos can be viewed under the photos tab at the BFM web site. We have several new members, and it was great to see everyone participating in our hobby together.



Aircraft Quilt Handmade by Bonnie Jones and donated by Bonnie & Don Jones.



RC, our local vendors, and donations from several club members. Particularly



**Chris Deines, Cody (Aero Works Extra 260 110" GP123 motor and Chris Lund, Billings (Ultimate Da 150.**

noteworthy was the hand made quilt donated by Bonnie Jones, wife of Don. It was truly a work of art! Over \$5,000 worth of prizes were donated altogether. These were given away in the pilot's drawing, and several were raffled as a fundraiser. As

you choose your RC purchases over the next year, please consider supporting those who have supported our fly in.

As an experiment, food service was minimized



**Pete Ferguson, Fallon MT**



this year. A food truck came in and served delicious freshly made hot sandwiches and drinks on Saturday. They received rave reviews, and several participants asked if they could return on Sunday! We will definitely consider this for next year. Water was provided without charge all through the weekend, and other beverages were available. We skipped the banquet Saturday

night, letting everyone make their own arrangements for dinner. This worked out well, especially with our guests from out of



**Prize**

**DX9 Spektrum radio  
Handmade Quilt  
Rare Bear BNF  
Hyperion Enigma  
Griffwerks foamie  
P-47 profile ARF  
Fastener assortment  
Stunt Master RR**

**Sponsor**

**Abell Hobby  
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Gene Decker  
Griffwerks  
Maxford USA  
RTL Fasteners  
Scott Cranston**

**Winner**

**Steve Smith, Billings  
Rob Jones, Billings  
Dave Brown, Billings  
Rodney Broderson, Billings  
Riley Scherer, Billings  
Pete Ferguson, Fallon  
Dick Jones, Billings  
Ross Keene, Billings**

**Dave Foley also donated a complete RTF Slow Stick. This was ready to go with batteries, radio and chargers included. Dave awarded it to Mathew and Camden Ersek of Longmont, Colorado. The boys attended the fly in with Blair Ersek, their grandpa and former BFM member.**



town. Reducing the concessions saved expenses and boosted our profits.

Special thanks go out to the volunteer event crew, including: Scott Cranston, Scottrick Smith, Pat Kelly, Bob Blumer, Dick Jones, and Tim McCullough.



I appreciate all the time and efforts you guys provided.

**Until next year, fly safely.**

