



Newsletter of The River Valley Flyers

Club #948

June 2020

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From the President: June is here and the official start to summer is right around the corner. With all that is happening around us this year, it appears that this will be a little different summer than any of us have ever seen. A lot of the normal summer events that usually take place will not take place this year, at least the early summer events for now. I also see that a lot of local Club Fun Flys that should have taken place in early summer are either cancelled or postponed till a later date. Only time will tell, but from a health safety position, I think this is the right choice to make in this situation. I am sure a lot of these annual events will be missed, but hopefully will return again by next summer.

I've struggled to make it out to the field this spring, but did manage to get out a few times to fly, and once to cut and maintain the field with my mower. When I did come out to fly something, I had a few issues with support equipment (battery charger acting up) so I only got in maybe four flights that day. I do however, always bring along with me my new camera quadcopter (aka drone) to get some pictures and video at the field. After flying this amazing little quadcopter and getting used to what all the buttons on it do, I am really having a ball with it. The only thing I find a little funky is that in order to fly it in my own backyard, I need to unlock the

“authorization zone” that I live in which is the northwest approach to the Stevens Point Municipal Airport. At our flying site there is no problem, as we are in wide open spaces out there and it is flying in unrestricted airspace. All of my other model aircraft fly in my backyard without any problems and use the same airspace as the quad, but they don’t have the high-tech sensors that the quad does to detect that they are in an “authorization zone”. I still am having a lot of fun with it though, and I’m learning a lot about how it works and getting the correct camera angles for a great camera shot. Because of its small size, it is easy to carry around and I can charge it off of the power inverter inside my vehicle. Also because of its small size, I quickly learned how to use the avionics in it so I don’t lose it in the sky. I really enjoy the learning about all of the electronics it uses in flight. I hope to get some pictures from the field for the newsletter with it this summer, as the photos that it takes are really quite spectacular.

With all that has changed in the last few months, I would hope we could have a somewhat normal summer of flying. I feel that if and when we are out there, we need to keep our distance from others and respect each other’s space. I think this hobby is a great way to relax and enjoy each other’s company, but this year we need to pay a lot more attention to keeping a bit apart. With that in mind, I would like to try having a June club meeting at the field on Wednesday June 3rd at about 6:30 p.m. If we get rained out that evening, then we will not have one as we do not have anywhere inside that we could meet anyway. We could plan to do some flying together beforehand (socially distanced of course), and have a quick meeting too that night. Let’s hope that works.

Take Care
Don

A Bit from our Safety Officer

Hello fellow flyers,

As we get into the flying season this year, I have to remind everyone of the practice of callouts when you are not the only pilot flying. With the numerous electric powered aircraft and the minimal amount of noise they produce, it is even more important to make everyone around you know the whereabouts of all aircraft and what is going on around you. There are really only 3 callouts that need to be announced and I encourage you to make the calls loud enough so those around you will know what you are doing without taking their eyes off their aircraft.

- 1: “On the field” anytime anyone is walking on the field for any reason.
- 2: “Taking off” well duh.
- 3: “Landing” and may be combined with “dead stick” or a few other expletives that I won’t go into just now.

Back in the good ole days we didn’t need to use callouts so much because the noise the glow powered engines produced pretty much told everyone where the aircraft were! Not so much anymore. I think I am one of the few diehards left using glow engines and channelized radio control, #47, and my hearing is pretty well shot after many years of turbine engine operation so the noise is a nonissue for me! Oh yeah, if you think you should be using earplugs due to the noise around you, you probably should be and I will make an effort to get some stored at the field to be available along with hand sanitizer.

Enough for this month,
Fly Safe and please use those callouts,

Larry Chamberlin
RVFRC Safety Officer

Pictures from The Flying Field



Late April Afternoon Flying



Getting Ready for Flight



Approaching The Field from The West



Flying Field View from The South



Another View from The South



Old Abandoned Farm Machinery Piece Just North of Our Field

.....RVF June Club Meeting..... June 3rd 2020 6:30 P.M.....At the Club Field.....Flying Before Hand.....No Alternate Meeting Site. Meeting will be Cancelled if The Weather is Stormy that Night.....Please Practice Your Social Distancing Whenever Out Flying.....