

# The Carrier Wave



## **PHANTOM FLYERS R/C CLUB**



**ama #393 SAINT CHARLES, MO**

February 2026

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*Phantom Flyers R/C Club Newsletter*

### **CLUB OFFICERS**

### **Contact Number**

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<b>President – Jim West</b>	
<b>Vice President – Jan Jansen</b>	<b>(314) 285-4286</b>
<b>Secretary – Ed White</b>	<b>(636) 219-2255</b>
<b>Treasurer – Don Grzina</b>	<b>(636) 233-0193</b>
<b>Safety Officer – Larry Anderson</b>	<b>(636) 233-3086</b>
<b>Field Manager – Don Grzina</b>	<b>(636) 233-0193</b>
<b>Chief Flight Instructor – Ed White</b>	<b>(636) 219-2255</b>
<b>Event Coordinator – Dan Abel</b>	<b>(314) 707-0138</b>
<b>GSLMA Representative – Harold Weaver</b>	<b>(636) 346-4761</b>

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**More information: [phantomflyersrc.com](http://phantomflyersrc.com)**

**To join or renew membership go to [phantomflyersrc.com/membership/](http://phantomflyersrc.com/membership/)**

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### **Board of Directors:**

### **Phone**

<b>Ed White</b>	<b>(636) 219-2255</b>
<b>Dan Sundman</b>	<b>(314) 749-4029</b>
<b>Jan Jansen</b>	<b>(314) 285-4286</b>
<b>Kevin Cox</b>	

## Club Events

**Club Meeting:** The next club meeting is scheduled for Feb 16, 7pm via zoom.

### Phantom Flyers RC Club Meeting

#### **Phantom Flyers RC Club Meeting Minutes January 19, 2026**

**Attendees:** 7 club members called into the Zoom meeting. Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President, Jim West. Members present were: Dan Abel, Kevin Cox, Don Grzina, Bill Ott, Ed White and Harold Weaver. No new members were present and there was no Tech Session.

**Secretary's Report:** There were no questions or changes to the November meeting minutes published in the Carrier Wave. A motion to approve was made and approved. Ed reported 28 current renewals, down from last year's high of 52, but noted that memberships typically continue to trickle in after the holidays.

**Treasurer's report:** The club has over \$10,000 in the account. There are frequent deposits to the club account as membership renewals continue to trickle in. There were no expenses incurred.

**Safety Report.** No one had any safety issues to report. Jim will contact Larry Anderson to confirm that he will continue as Safety Officer for 2026.

**Field Managers Report:** Don Grzina agreed to continue as Field Manager for 2026. He discussed the maintenance of the mower blades and complete removal of the spindles on the Lexmark mower deck. The club authorized the expenditures for new bearings last year when the mower blades locked up. Don plans to complete the installation of new bearings by end of February and reassembly of the mower when better weather permits but definitely before mowing season starts in April.

The group discussed runway maintenance, focusing on filling cracks and applying sealant. Don explained they need a vehicle with a trailer to transport the sealant and people with spreaders to apply it. The team agreed to prioritize filling cracks before sealing, with a small group of 4 people recommended for crack filling. Ed mentioned they had club approval to do the work and planned to seek reimbursement from AMA for field maintenance costs. The club secretary took the action to renew the Bronze AMA Leader Club status.

**GSLMA Report:** The GLISMA meeting discussed changes to their meeting schedule and attendance. Harold reported that the January meeting was attended primarily by Lafayette Escadrille members, and a decision was made to stop registering events with

the park department due to high fees.

**Activities Report:** Jim West mentioned that the New Year's Day Snow Fly was pretty much a bust due to low clouds. Per our Airspace Authorization with the FAA we are altitude limited to the lowest cloud level reported by the Lambert airport METAR minus 500 feet. This varied with time. Prior to the official start time, Lambert reported clouds at 700 ft meaning we could fly up to 200 ft. Bill Ahrens took advantage of the opening and flew his Radian staying below 200 ft and so chalked up the first and only flight of New Year's Day. By the official start time Lambert was reporting clouds at 500 ft meaning we could taxi up and down the runway. We waited around hoping the ceiling would lift. Instead it went down to 400 ft. The President then made the executive decision that rather than attempt to fly at 100 feet BGL (Below Ground Level) we should all go somewhere warm and get something to eat.

Dan Abel agreed to continue as Activities Chairman and will create a schedule for upcoming events, similar to last year's but avoiding conflicts with regional events. Jim confirmed the pattern contest dates for the last weekend of September and will pursue AMA sanctioning. The group discussed potentially organizing an open house event, with Jim planning to speak with Jack Boydos about leading it again. Ed White will CD a Meet-Me-In St Louis pre-Nats pattern fly-in the weekend before the pattern Nats.

The group discussed organizing a Cub Day or High Wing Day event, with Dan suggesting focusing on classic aircraft from a specific era to avoid scale-only flying.

**Old Business :** Kevin Cox was confirmed as the newest member of the club Board of Directors. We now have a full contingent of four Board of Directors.

**New Business:** No new business was raised.

Meeting adjourned at approx. 7:40 pm

Ed White  
Club Secretary

## Name the Plane

Send your answers to [NameThatPlane@phantomflyersrc.com](mailto:NameThatPlane@phantomflyersrc.com)

The December mystery plane winner is Bill Ott, F84C Thunderjet.

Mystery planes for February,



Correct answer will be revealed by Don next month. As before, anyone else sending in a correct answer (as decided by Don) will receive guaranteed respect at their next visit to the flying field.  
(Max duration 5 minutes)

Send your answers to [NameThatPlane@phantomflyersrc.com](mailto:NameThatPlane@phantomflyersrc.com)

## TO: GSLMA Officers and Club Representatives,

Below at the January 2026 Meeting Minutes from Zoom Workplace's AI Companion. I did not do any editing this time because it looked like the minutes were pretty correct. As i sad i would do at the meeting, i only sent this email to those people that attended the meeting and those like David Whitney who is still doing a great job as Treasurer. I will attempt to contact the people that i removed to find out why they are no longer attending but i need their cell numbers.

I also need the cell numbers for those of you who did attend so i can set up a group text that i can use to put out an early notice of meetings with the Zoom log on info so you have it in case you loose the final email reminder for the meeting. Note the log on info does not change we have been using the same info since we started Zoom meetings over 2 years ago.

Harold Weaver, Phantom Flyers Rep and Zoom Host  
636-346-4761 Cell

## Meeting assets for GSLMA Zoom Meeting are ready!

### Meeting summary

#### Quick recap

The meeting focused on discussing a \$3,000 bill received for reserving a park area for flying, which the group decided not to pay as they typically just show up and pay daily fees. The group also discussed the condition of the runway, noting significant cracks and potential drainage issues, with plans to document the damage with photos and possibly drone footage to present to the county for repairs. They briefly touched on the placement of a single porta-potty between the RC and control line areas, and Harold mentioned he would remove non-attending members from the mailing list.

#### Next steps

- [tom: Take photographs of the runway cracks and damage, including reference objects \(e.g., ruler, coin\) for scale, to document the condition for the county.](#)
- [Fred: Review the runway condition based on the photographs and determine if additional evidence \(e.g., drone video\) is needed; coordinate next steps for contacting the county.](#)
- [Harold: Remove from the mailing list those who have not attended meetings and attempt to contact them individually to check their status.](#)

## **Summary**

### **Flying Site Reservation Debate**

The group discussed a \$3,000 bill for reserving a flying site, which Doug refused to pay as they typically just show up and pay a daily fee without reserving. They decided not to reserve the dates for their upcoming event, even though Harold suggested this could cause issues if another event is scheduled. Fred mentioned they are doing the same for their February contest, and Harold offered to check with Dan Gill about the current drone flying locations.

### **Runway Conditions and Club Updates**

Tom and Fred discussed the deteriorating runway conditions, with Tom noting significant cracks and small holes developing. Fred suggested taking photographs to document the issues for the county. They also touched on the placement of a single porta-potty between the control line and RC field, attributed to budget constraints. Harold mentioned that the Phantom Flyers had to cancel flights due to low ceilings and their arrangement with Lambert Airport. The group agreed that Fred would check on the runway further, and Tom offered to take pictures if needed. Harold planned to remove non-attendees from the mailing list and follow up with them individually.

### **Road Condition Documentation Plan**

Fred suggested obtaining drone footage and photographs with reference points to demonstrate the poor condition of a road, which Tom agreed to organize. They discussed a specific flooded area near the flight line, with Doug noting that drainage issues had not been addressed. Tom committed to taking pictures to support Fred's concerns about the road's condition.