

July 2026

THE TALON



From the President

Wow! We are half way through the year!

Although the weather hasn't been the most cooperative, thanks to all of your dedication our club continues to make great progress!

I want to personally thank all of you for your effort and dedication. The work that continues to be done to develop our new field, maintain our current field, offering excellent educational programs, sanctioned events and more ... you folks continue to amaze and impress with what is being accomplished!

Ken Losch attended the AMA National Fun Fly in Muncie last week and had a great time! This was my first opportunity to fly at the national flying site and it won't be the last. I encourage all of you to make the trip and visit AMA in Muncie if you get the chance. It is well worth the trip and the Museum is incredible.

We are getting close to the point where we will need one more "all hands" day at our new field to get the final round of work done before we move to the new site. More on this at the July meeting - I hope to see you there.

Have a safe and happy 4th of July!

Larry Erbach, President

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Bill Mielke

Events & Promotion

Mike Missak

Safety

Jim Steward

Education & Outreach

Lynn Garnand

Field Maintenance

Mark Glawe

From the Vice President

Happy 4th of July!

Hopefully everyone enjoys the holiday safely. The weather hasn't been the best so far this season, but I hope it changes and gives us more chances to get out to the field. The new field is coming along quickly, and should be ready before too much longer. Thank you to everyone that is helping with all the mowing. It's been a long journey, but we're almost there.

Please remember I would like to do a food drive at the July meeting for the Hebron food pantry. The number of donations drop dramatically in the summer months. Until then, try and get out and fly if the weather cooperates. Thanks again for your support during our transition to our new field. It's going to take all of us to make it work!

Ken Losch, Vice President

If God wanted us to fly, he would have given us more money!

HANGAR SALE HELP NEEDED!

Volunteers and donations are needed for our upcoming Hangar Sale at Galt Airport. Please contact Larry Erbach if you have items to donate that you need to have picked up.
815-370-6870.

Volunteers are needed as follows:

Friday Evening July 17th - 4 to six people to set up tables and prepare for the sale.

Saturday Jult 18th - "all hands on deck" - people needed to man the club sales table, seller registration, 50/50 raffle and also for clean up after the event at noon. Need folks to set up sale items starting at 7AM, helping with Vendor registration at 8AM, Hangar sale at 9 AM and clean up starting at noon.

Paul Urquhart Field update!



We are now mowing twice a week at Urquhart Field as the grass continues to get established. Great to see new additions to "The Ground Crew" too.

Top Left: Our fearless leader Mark G. **Top Right:** Derek S.

Middle Left: Andrew D.

Bottom Left: Drew D.



To the entire "Ground Crew" - thanks for all the time and effort you put in each week to maintain both flying sites!

THANKS GUYS!!

AMA National Fun Fly



Ken & Larry headed to Muncie to check out the AMA National Fun Fly and it was well worth the trip! There were enough breaks in the weather to see a wide variety of aircraft and meet a bunch of great people! **Upper left:** Ken taking a shift as “Air Boss”. **Above:** District XI VP Phil Tallman’s Turbine in action!. **Left:** There were a variety of Helicopters! **Lower left:** District VI VP Gary Himes impressed the crowd with his Precision Aerobatics Addiction XL **Below:** Busy flight line on Saturday !



Education Program Update

Thanks to all of you who have so generously shared your time and knowledge, our Education programs are going strong! In June, we wrapped up youth classes for a bit, after a very successful, SOLD OUT Kids and College "Introduction to Model Aviation" 3 day class. (See the next page for a few pictures.)

We saw a bunch of interest from the Kids and parents, so hopefully we'll see some new members from our efforts. Ken Losch reported already making arrangements with a student and his mother from the first week of this program to get them up and flying. They have already purchased a plane!

We have one more education program coming up for Adults!

This program at MCC entitled "Demystifying Drones" will be held on Saturday July 11th at MCC and is for adults 18 and up. (See the flyer in the events section of the newsletter.) This program will include static displays of RC planes as well as drones, and an Agricultural drone.

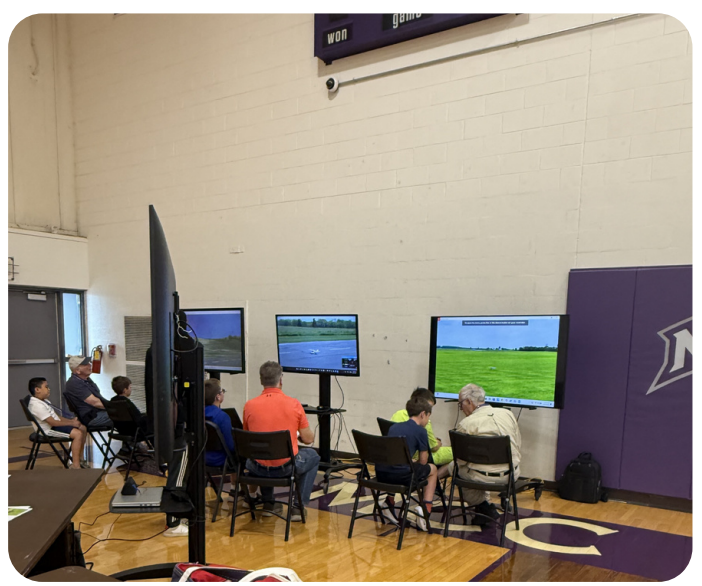
The participants will be given a chance to fly the discovery drones we use in our youth classes to allow them an opportunity to experience drone flight first hand.

Weather permitting, there will also be flight demonstrations of an Illinois State Police drone and Mark Beckman will also do an R/C Airplane demonstration.

The program runs from 1:00 to 4:30 PM on Saturday July 11th

If you have co-instructed in the youth drone classes and are available to help with this adult program, please let Lynn Garnand know!

MCC "Intro to Model Aviation"



Article in Model Aviation!

DISTRICT NEWS



VI

Gary Himes

Vice President

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District VI

Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri

Happy birthday, America! This year is the country's 250th birthday! Have fun and be sure to celebrate with family and friends safely and responsibly!

Larry Erbach reported that the Chain O Lakes Eagles RC club in Hebron, Illinois, is finally starting to develop its new flying site! The club has been busy with its youth education programs and has begun participating in McHenry County College's Kids and College program in Crystal Lake, Illinois, starting with the Know Before You Fly drone class, which was developed by the FAA and AMA.

During the college's spring break classes, nine club members, in addition to McHenry County College Education Chairman Lynn Garnand, volunteered as instructors and helped 27 students from ages nine to 14 take their first step into model aviation!

The next program will be a three-day Introduction to Model Aviation class during the college's summer break. The club already has half of the 40 slots in the summer program filled! The Chain O Lakes Eagles is grateful for the support of AMA with these education programs that are helping to bring new members into the club and expand the reach to the next generation of model aviators!



Our club's efforts in youth education were recognized in the July issue of "Model Aviation" magazine!

Thank you to all of our members who so generously share your time and knowledge with the next generation of model aviators - you are making a difference not only for our club, but for the hobby in general!

Upcoming Events!

Wednesday, July 15th - 7:00 PM

CHAIN O LAKES EAGLES MONTHLY MEETING

Rusty Nail - 4520 Ringwood Rd - Ringwood, IL

Saturday, July 11th - 1:00 to 4:30 PM

DEMYSTIFYING DRONES

McHenry County College - 8900 Route 14 - Crystal Lake, IL

Saturday July 18th - 9:00 AM -Noon

Annual Hangar Sale Swap meet at Galt Airport

Hosted by the Chain O Lakes Eagles

10 x 10 seller space \$10

50/50 drawing at 11:30 AM

Galt Airport - 5112 Greenwood Road - Wonder Lake, IL

THE LIEBMAN INSTITUTE FOR SCIENCE INNOVATION PROUDLY PRESENTS...

DEMYSTIFYING DRONES



EXPERIENCE THE THRILL OF DRONE FLIGHT FIRSTHAND!

July 11 | 1–4:30 p.m.

Location: MCC campus (Scot Room, Gym, and Soccer Field)

Fee to attend: \$28 for General Admission | \$5 for Seniors (65+)

Test your pilot skills with drone challenges guided by local experts, then discover how drones are used across McHenry County through live outdoor demonstrations, including:

- RC planes
- State police drone operations
- Search-and-rescue technology
- An up-close look at large agricultural drones

You'll also have the chance to ask questions and learn more about the safety, privacy, and practical considerations surrounding drone technology.

Light lunch and snacks provided. Ages 18+.

Presented in partnership the Chain O' Lakes Eagles RC Flying Club, and assisted by experienced club members.



Scan the QR code to register visit
www.mchenry.edu/lisi for more information.

Chartered by the Academy of Model Aeronautics, the Chain O' Lakes Eagles RC Flying Club is a Gold Leader Club which recognizes chartered clubs that meet the highest standards of community service, safety, and activity.





The Chain O Lakes Eagles RC Flying Club **2026 HANGAR SALE & SWAP MEET**

SATURDAY JULY 18, 2026-9:00AM-NOON
Galt Airport - 5112 Greenwood Rd- Wonder Lake, IL



- **SELLERS WELCOME!**
- **10 x 10 space \$10.00**
- **SELLERS SET UP - 8:00 AM**
- **SALE OPENS - 9:00 AM**
- **50/50 Drawing at 11:30**

Questions?
e-mail milky734@aol.com



Treasurer's Report (Drew Durik)

- As of June 30th, we have 41 adult members, 4 junior members and 2 youth members for a total of 47 members.
- The current treasure's report was presented at our meeting on June 17th and was approved by the club members in attendance. A copy is available to club members upon request. You may e-mail me at drew.durik@gmail.com to request a copy of the report.
- Developing the Paul Urquhart Memorial Field required a significant capital investment. We managed all development expenses with strict oversight to protect our organization's future. I am proud to report that even after accounting for all development costs to date, our organization remains completely financially sound. Our foundational reserves remain intact, and our operating cash flow is secure.
- As agreed upon in our August 2025 meeting, I will no longer be providing financial details in the monthly Talon but a current detailed report will be provided at our next club meeting on July 15th.

Drew Durik, Treasurer



SECRETARY'S REPORT—Mark Beckman

The June meeting was held at The Rusty Nail Saloon on June 17th, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM and was led by Larry Erbach. There were 20 members in attendance.

Board Updates -

The Secretary's report was approved.

The Treasurer's report was approved.

Ken Losch presented the treasury report for Drew Durik and noted the club has 45 members on the roster.

Committee Updates -

Larry Erbach: Events/Promotion

Larry reported the Float Fly was a great success. He stated when searching for help with drones on Gemini AI, COL Eagles are listed first.

Jim Steward: Safety

In Jim's absence, Larry presented the yearly safety talk.

Education Outreach - Lynn Garnand

Lynn summarized the recently completed Kids and College program. He noted the upcoming Science of Drones at MCC on July 11th. There will be 40 adults present. We will have a state police drone demonstration. Jim Doolittle will display his agricultural drones and Mark will fly his Big Stik off the soccer field.

Field Maintenance - Mark Glawe

In Mark's absence Larry reported The Cub is cutting the Paul Urquhart field and the second round of fertilizer is done as well.

Broadleaf weeds were sprayed by Jim Doolittle.

Old Business:

Larry stated the field is in good shape and is growing. The solar system will be done soon.

Bill needs volunteers for the hangar sale on July 17th and 18th.

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SECRETARY'S REPORT—Mark Beckman (continued)**New Business:**

Larry requested a motion to approve using Dual Rates as a website service. The motion was approved.

Ken is planning a summer food drive for the Hebron food pantry.

The winner of the 50/50 raffle was Andre Szechowycz. He donated the winnings to the club.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Mark Beckman, Secretary

