



PLANE TALK NEWS

December 2025



Club Meeting News

The next club meeting is being held at Merkle Retirement Planning, 1860 Princeton Dr. Grimes, Iowa on December 3rd starting at 7 pm. The Board meeting will be held at 6 pm if you'd like to attend.

President's message:

As you all can tell, the weather has changed and it's time to get out the skis. Get a plane ready for the yearly Penguin Fun Fly scheduled for January 1st at JP Field. The club meeting will start at 11:00 am and lunch will follow the meeting. I'd like to thank Bill Castle for making the chili! Please bring a side dish or appetizer.

Don't forget to send in your dues for 2026! To be eligible for the Penguin Fly, you must have your 2026 membership dues paid.

The club will be voting on a new bylaw change documenting the process to rename a flying field. The new bylaw will be discussed at this month's meeting. The final vote will be taken at our January 1st club meeting. The bylaw will also be emailed to each member for absentee balloting.

I was asked about the EPJ Runway project. Why are we doing all this work for something that will only be used several times a year? The project benefits us in two ways. 1) We don't have to fly over corn and gives us more room for parking. 2) It gives the club the opportunity to hold larger events. A large Warbird or Jet fun fly will help promote our club and possibly bring in new members! Please note that several club members brought this idea up and are willing to step forward to run one or two large events to help promote our club! I think seeing large 1/4 and 1/5 scale jets flying will get some excitement going! The plan is to put something in several local magazines, TV and radio stations to promote the event(s). If you have any other ideas, please bring them forward and be willing to lead the event(s)!

We will be discussing next year's budget at the December meeting and voting on it at the January meeting. So, if you want something in the budget, now's the time to bring it up!

I'm looking for a new Auctioneer for next year's auction. If you can assist, let me know!!

Think about presenting a program and sharing some of your knowledge. Every member appreciates your effort.

That's it for now!

Ray



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Modelaires Board Meeting Summary – November 5, 2025

Meeting Details:

- Held at Cozy Café, Johnston, Iowa, called to order by President Ray Pick at 6:00 PM.
- 10 Board Members present, 1 absent; 4 additional Modelaires members attended. Dan Hansen joined via video conference.

Key Agenda Items & Decisions

1. Approval of Prior Minutes:

- a. Previous meeting minutes were read and unanimously approved for record.

2. Treasurer's Report:

- a. Presented by Jim Lewis.
- b. Highlights:
 - i. Membership dues for 2025 totaled \$10,831.16.
 - ii. Year-to-date income: \$13,335.20; expenses: \$9,034.08.
 - iii. Overall net: \$3,915.75.
 - iv. Bank balances increased from \$36,238.79 (Sept) to \$37,365.29 (Oct).
 - v. Major payments: EPJ lease upcoming.

3. AED Status:

- a. No updates on Ankeny Airport's AED system; discussion tabled.

4. Lawn Mower Status:

- a. JP Field mower repaired and stored; EPJ mower had transmission seals replaced (\$723.77 expense) and returned to storage.

5. Memorial Plaques:

- a. Name plates for Karl Schultz and Ed Niles installed at flying fields.

6. EPJ Runway Project:

- a. Petra Mat installed runway closed until further notice pending safety fence installation.

7. Auction Review:

- a. October 4th auction had low turnout; \$1,322 profit.
- b. Kent Wood (auctioneer) receives \$100 check for service.
- c. Facility price increase discussed; location kept for next year.

8. Board Elections:

- a. Elections for Vice President, Secretary, and JP Field Board position scheduled for December 3rd, 2025.



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- b. Ballots to be distributed via email; mail-in voting encouraged absentees.

9. Bylaw Change:

- a. Proposal to rename JP Field to Ed Niles Field discussed.
- b. Board reaffirmed 10-year minimum before field name changes.
- c. Article XII details the renaming process, requiring board and membership approval, newsletter notice, and majority vote.

10. Storage Sheds Proposal:

- a. Suggestion to add storage sheds at EPJ Field tabled due to lack of volunteers for drafting standards.

11. Penguin Fun Fly:

- a. Scheduled for January 1, 2026, at JP Field. Board meeting at 10:00 AM, membership meeting at 11:00 AM. Lunch to be provided.

12. Runway Removal Proposal:

- a. Suggestion to remove unused runways at EPJ Field rejected; weed/grass control to be discussed later.

13. Next Meeting Location:

- a. December meetings to be held at Merkle Retirement Planning, Grimes.

14. Other Business:

- a. JP Field clubhouse ramp project ongoing.
- b. AMA website connection updates in progress.
- c. Field safety rules to be updated and posted.
- d. Approval to buy new tires for JP Field Lawn Mower (\$100).

Adjournment:

- Meeting adjourned at 6:49 PM by President Ray Pick.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.



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Bylaw Change:

Article XIII

Flying Field Renaming

- 1) A flying field name can only be changed once every 10 years. The date the name has been voted on needs to be recorded and documented for future reference.
- 2) To rename a field, the following process must be adhered to:
 - a) The name being recommended must have been a prior Modelaire member.
 - b) A letter of recommendation must be submitted to the board stating the reason why this member deserves this.
 - c) The board must approve the recommendation.
 - d) A notice of the field being renamed must be published in the newsletter for 2 months.
 - e) The notice must be approved by the membership at each monthly club meeting for 2 months.
 - f) A ballet will be created stating the new name and published in the 2nd month's newsletter.
 - g) The voting process will follow normal election rules for absentee (mail in) voting.
 - h) At the 3rd club membership meeting, a vote shall be taken.
 - i) A majority vote is required for the motion to pass.

Upcoming Events

December 3, Club Meeting at Merkle (Club elections)

January 1, 2026, JP Field - Penguin Fun Fly and Club Meeting at 11:00 am

Social Get togethers:

2nd Saturday of each month at JP Field

4th Saturday of each month at HyVee Ankeny North or at the field (Summer months)



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2026 Des Moines Modelaires Membership Application

You must be a member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics and registered with the FAA before joining the Des Moines Modelaires.

New Member ___ Renewal ___ / Adult ___ Youth ___ Spouse ___

Name: _____
 Street Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Home phone: _____ Cell: _____ Birthday: _____
 AMA #: _____ AMA Expiration date: _____
 FAA #: _____ FAA Expiration Date: _____
 Trust # _____ Preferred Flying Field (Circle one): EPJ / Westfield
 Email Address: _____

You **MUST** have a current AMA membership and FAA Registration valid at the time of applying or renewing to be a Des Moines Modelaires club member. If you are flying an aircraft weighing more than 0.55 lbs., it must have an FAA sUAS registration number affixed to it.

The following Membership dues are in effect through December 31st of 2026

***New Member-Adult - \$10 times the number of FULL months left in the calendar year (max of \$100)**

Note: You are NOT charged for the month you join.

Youth - \$15 Spousal - \$50

*A new member is defined as someone who has not been a member of the club for more than 2 years.

Renewal– Adult \$100

Youth \$15 Spousal \$50

Adult – 19 & over–your age anytime during 2026

Youth – 18 & under through December 31st, 2026

Send this membership application, a copy of your AMA membership card, FAA registration, Trust Number and a check (made out to Des Moines Modelaires) to:

Steve Clime
 14414 Oakwood Dr.
 Urbandale, IA 50323

Cell# 515-314-9960
 Email: sclime02@gmail.com



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EPJ Field East of Elkhart

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Flying Field Locations

The Des Moines Modelaires maintains two high-quality, friendly flying locations in the Des Moines area. See below for address and map information:

EPJ

E. Paul Johnson Field (EPJ)
12559 NE 72nd St, Polk County, Iowa (East of Elkhart, Ia.)
Latitude: 41.47 20 N
Longitude: 93.27 51 W




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JP Field (Formerly West Field) West of Grimes

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West Field

West Field
T Avenue (West of Grimes, Ia., 1/4 mi. S of Hwy. 44)
Latitude: 41.40 55 N
Longitude: 93.54 45 W

Map Satellite Hybrid





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About the Des Moines Modelaires

- We fly radio-controlled model airplanes, helicopters, gliders, and quad-copters at our two club flying fields.
- We hold monthly meetings typically the first Wednesday of each month.
- We produce a newsletter for our members and the general public.
- We host several fun fly events at our fields each year.
- We will do demonstrations anywhere safety permits.
- We will do presentations about our hobby for groups.
- We have an auction for RC equipment each fall.
- We conduct private training by appointment and public training at our flying fields during the summer.
- For more information about us, check us out at www.desmoinesmodelaires.com.
- To contact us, email dsmmodelaires@gmail.com.