



PLANE TALK NEWS

February 2026



Club Meeting News

The next club meeting is being held at Cozy Cafe Johnston on February 4 starting at 7 pm. The Board meeting will be held at 6 pm if you'd like to attend.

President's message:

With a heavy heart, I have to report the passing of two prior members:

Jerry Proudfit on January 12th. A Celebration of Life will be held at West Des Moines Christian Church, 4501 Mills Civic Parkway in West Des Moines on Saturday, February 7, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

Byron Clark on January 17th. A Celebration of Life will be held later this summer. Once I find out the details, I'll let you all know! I was lucky to see Byron the day before he passed. I know several Modelaires stopped in to see Byron.

We still need to keep **John Arbuckle** in our prayers. He's currently in Hospice care at Mill Pond Ankeny.

For the Penguin Fun Fly, we had around 25 members flying. It was a bit chilly with little winds. We all had a great time flying!

Don't forget to send in your dues for 2026! This helps Mike do them all together versus randomly.

The new bylaw change documenting the process to rename a flying field and the 2026 Budget have passed. We anticipate a budget deficit for 2026.

Just a quick note on the new EPJ runway. A lot of the South runway came up. I'll schedule a runway repair in April. We have a car club willing to help us out! We will give all the helpers the opportunity to fly!

That's it for now!

Ray



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January 1st Board Meeting Minutes:

The Modelaires Board meeting on January 1, 2026, at JP Flying Field addressed organizational updates, financial reports, and planning for the upcoming year.

Key discussions included approval of earlier minutes, the 2025 financial summary, and the 2026 budget proposal with an expected deficit.

- **Meeting attendance:** (7) board members were present with (4) members absent. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.
 - **Approval of prior minutes:** Les Hofland was absent. President Ray Pick read the minutes from the December 3, 2025, meeting; the board approved the minutes without changes.
 - **2025 Treasurer's report:** Jim Lewis reported that membership dues exceeded budget, total income was above projections, but expenses slightly exceeded budget due to equipment and training costs. The club ended in 2025 with a net positive balance and increased bank balances.
 - **Bylaw change proposal:** A new process for renaming the flying field was outlined, requiring a prior member's name, board approval, newsletter notices, and membership voting.
 - **2026 membership cards:** Members who paid fees received laminated cards; members can print and laminate their own via the website.
 - **2026 budget proposal:** The board reviewed a budget expecting a \$2,550 deficit due to increased maintenance, facility, and office supply costs. Savings are available to cover shortfalls, and the board plans to add events to improve finances. The budget was approved by the board.
 - **Runway condition:** The new runway has suffered damage from wind.
 - **Next meeting scheduled:** February 4, 2026, board and membership meetings will be held at the Cozy Café in Johnston. **The Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 PM** with the **Membership Meeting** being held at 7:00 PM.
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2026 Board Members:

President: Ray Pick

Vice President: Mike Turvey

Treasurer: Jim Lewis

Secretary: Les Hofland

Board Members:

Greg Helton

Jeff Ireland

Bill Castle

Dave Kalwishky

Dan Hansen

Larry Petersen

Vincent Stefanski



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Upcoming Events

Let's Get some events scheduled!

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:

**Mike Turvey
10776 NW 107th St
Grange, IA 50109**

**Cell# (515) 707-4280
Email: MLT1024@Q.COM**

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 NEI 72nd St, Polk County, Iowa (East of Elkhart, Ia.)
Latitude: 41.47 28 N
Longitude: 93.27 51 W



The map shows the location of E. Paul Johnson Field (EPJ) in Polk County, Iowa, east of Elkhart. A red pin marks the field's location on NEI 72nd St. The map includes major roads like I-280, I-80, and I-480, and nearby towns such as Elkhart, Booneville, and Alkove. A legend in the top right corner shows 'Map', 'Satellite', and 'Hybrid' options. The bottom right corner of the map area contains the text 'Map data ©2011 Google - Imagery ©2011'.



An aerial photograph of E. Paul Johnson Field (EPJ) showing a paved runway and taxiway cutting through a green field. A small building and other structures are visible near the runway.




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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 53 N
Longitude: 93 54 45 W

Map Satellite Hybrid



A Google Maps screenshot showing the location of West Field. A red pin marks the location on T Avenue, west of Grimes, Iowa. The map includes street names like Grimes, Johnson, and West, and highway markers for 44, 147, and 141. A scale bar at the bottom left shows 2.00 and 1.25 miles.



An aerial photograph of West Field, showing a large, light-colored paved area, a grassy field, and several small buildings or hangars. A white van is parked on the grass.



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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.