

MECA President's Comments – May/June 2024

MECA hosted its annual meeting on Friday, 5 April, 2024, following events at the Toledo R/C Expo. In attendance at Pizza Papalis were:

Dan Cencer
Paul Jackson
David and Ginnie Kaufman
Rich Kacmarsky
Kim Kramar
Rich Magin
Don and Penny Murray

David Zwolak called the meeting to order at 7:00PM and provided an overview of MECA status. The year yielded a gratifying number of members volunteering to fill critical roles. These included Walt Wilson and Tom Brown as Race Car Co-Editors, Jeff Prescott as backup Historian, and Stanley Stembera as backup Web Master. Walt wrote two informative articles containing new tether car history. The second of these, on the Eagle engine, appears in this issue and presents the first published details of the obscure Eagle. Nowhere else but MECA can you get this information! Tom is covering tether car events to promote awareness (see Collecto announcement this issue). Jeff is assisting historian duties. Stanley is working on a website revision. More to come.

Members were generous to MECA. Ray Leone donated wet-cell batteries from his recent article. Sale of these unique items provided \$75 to the treasury. Thank you Ray! David Kaufman donated multiple copies of 1940s era engine books written by Bernard Winston. A set will be placed in our historical file. Others will be offered for sale in an upcoming Swap Sheet to benefit MECA. Thank you David!

Dan Cencer provided the treasurer's report – full details in this issue. Overall, the MECA treasury and membership have been stable in recent years. Two new members and two renewals resulted from Toledo. Transition to a new printer incurred slightly higher costs for file transfer. Cencer and Zwolak will be working to update our bank account records to include selected current officers.

Rich Kacmarsky reported Bulletin/Swap Sheet status. First issue (March/April) from the new printer experienced some difficulties including delayed posting of website files. The situation is largely due to transfer of duties formerly from one person, and now involving three. This, as well as cost, is being addressed.

Rich Kacmarsky also reported that he will be relinquishing Bulletin editor duty at the end of 2024, but will remain as the Swap Sheet coordinator. Thanks to Rich for his years of dedicated service to MECA. Under his guidance and creativity, the Bulletin has evolved into a world-class engine publication. Well done, Rich!

Richard Magin, our backup, will begin editing the Bulletin in 2025. MECA owes thanks to Rich Magin for assuming this vital role. I personally have seen Rich operate, and I know we can look forward to more great Bulletins to come!

Open discussion proceeded with a suggestion that we put some of MECA funds into a bank certificate-of-deposit (CD). The advantage would be a higher interest rate. Disadvantages could be jeopardizing MECA's non-profit status, and restricted access to CD funds for a defined period. A motion was made that Cencer and Zwolak examine the Pros/Cons, and report back on possible actions. All present voted in favor with no objections. Also, estate planning invoked discussion in follow-up to recent Bulletin articles.

With no other comments, David Zwolak adjourned the meeting at 8:00PM. (Note: Because of space constraints in this issue, members wanting additional meeting details can contact Zwolak, or any of the named board members.)