

UMPQUA VALLEY MODELERS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES January 1, 2026

The January 2026 meeting of the Umpqua Valley Modelers was held at our Annual Polar Bear & Chili Feed at Kingery Field in Yoncalla, Oregon on New Years day Thursday January 1st, 2026 and was called to order at 12:00pm by president Dale Bensen. There were 16 members signed in along with wives, friends and numerous family members in attendance.

Jim and Myra Yourdon hosted the Polar Bear Chili feed again this year and it was fantastic as always. Great job on the chili and corn bread Myra. It was enjoyed and appreciated by all.

There was not a December meeting due to the Christmas holidays, therefore the minutes from the November 2025 meeting, mostly consisting of the information relating to the 2026 AMA Jamboree were read by Secretary Chuck Johnson and accepted by the membership as read.

The end of the year treasurers report was then read by Treasurer Terry Thomas. It was reported that the beginning balance for the month was \$3,728.12. There were two membership renewals for \$160.00 and 1 gallon of fuel sold for \$20.00. The expenditures for November were \$40.00 for field mower fuel and \$40.00 for septic service. The ending balance for the month was \$3,828.12. The treasurers report was accepted by the membership as read.

We contacted the Creswell, Eugene and Medford clubs to see if anyone would be interested in assisting with some of the flight line coordination, safety checks and parking with the incentive of getting a reduction in the landing fees at the Jamboree and some individual club acknowledgment. No one except for a couple from Medford was willing to help.

Dale Bensen is working on getting commitments from the food vendors. They were working on their schedules and cost for the 3 day service.

The electric sheep fence will be reinstalled in the next few weeks as soon as we get a good weather day and the help from a small work party. The posts have been set, we just need to get the wire run and the new gates installed.

We are looking for some new runway mastic/patching material. The emulsion based product we are using does not seem to be holding after a length of time and exposure to the sun. We need a true (difficult to find) asphalt based product like we used on the original runway installation to repair prop strikes and re-seal and hold down the seams.

As a courtesy, please take your trash, bottles, cans and crash damaged aircraft home with you. The club does not have trash service and you need to be responsible for your own cleanup at Wilbur, Yoncalla and Plat I. When you are done flying for the day,

police the area before your leave. Don't leave your trash for someone else to clean up.

Chuck Johnson looked into obtaining a tow behind lawn sweeper for the field for cleaning up the sheep droppings and grass cuttings in the pit area and found a new unit up in Battleground Washington. The price was \$450.00 plus shipping if we can't find a used one on Craig's list. Regular retail varies from \$475.00 to \$750.00.

Jim Yourdon reported that there was still a sweeper up at his house that belonged to the Creswell club and was left there when our clubs merged. He thought that it was still in fair condition and would check it out. Alan Rader made a motion and carried, to check on the sweeper condition at Jim's and report back before ordering the new unit.

As soon as time and equipment is available Chuck Johnson and Dale Bensen will go to Creswell and pick up the (pre-approved club purchase) astro turf for the Yoncalla field runway approaches and Wilbur flight stand setup area.

Don Harris reported that continued hobby support and construction activities in his shop will be on hiatus in the future, do to family health issues. He has one Bucker Jungameister Biplane that is nearly complete, (partially covered) and that he will be finishing it when he can find the time. A heartfelt thanks to Don for all that he has done in support of the club and all of our activities.

The work to relocate the field fence and field amendments at Schrum Field is still on hold temporarily until we get the alignment staking for the mining area from Kelly Guido.

John Piri reminded everyone that indoor flying has resumed at the Bob Keifer Sports Center up in Springfield every Wednesday 12:00p-2:00p. The cost to fly in the facilities gymnasium is \$9.

All year long everyone that attended the club meetings was earning a raffle ticket for their attendance each month. Some had only a couple of tickets others had many more. The aircraft being raffled for everyone's attendance this year was a beautiful red and black, Carl Goldberg, Bucker Jungameister Biplane, all servos preinstalled. Owners choice power plant and receiver ready for installation. Built and donated by Don Harris. This years winner by luck of the draw was David Abercrombie. Congratulations David!

President Dale Bensen adjourned the meeting at 12:40pm. The field was reopened to flying and more chili.

The next meeting will be held at Abby's Pizza in Sutherlin on February 11th at 7:00pm.

Chuck Johnson, Secretary

