



HI-SKY R/C FLYER

December 2005

Volume 34 Issue 12

President: Gene Laughlin
Vice President: Jim Ruple
AMA Charter Club #851

Treasurer: Ed Anderson
Secretary: Jim Tartt
www.hiskyrc.com

Notice: Stolen Transmitter
Jon Wheeler has had a Futaba 8UXA transmitter on channel 57 taken from his possession on or about Sept. 17, 2005. If anyone has any information about this please contact Jon. Jon's phone no. is: 699-7240.

Meeting:
The December meeting will be at Michaels at Wadley and A Street December 6, 2005. We will eat beginning at 6:00 PM and have a short meeting afterward with election of officers. Yes that is the first Tuesday.

Minutes of the Hi-Sky R/C Club November 1, 2005

The President called the November 2005, meeting at the First Baptist Church Activity Building to order at 7:05 p.m.

Seventeen (17) members were present.

The minutes were approved as read.

Guest: None

Field Report: Bruce Hoover said the field is in good shape. The portable potty needs to be serviced.

Safety Report: No report.

Activity: Jim Ruple reminded everyone to think about next year events and dates.

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From the Robbins Nest:
By Dennis Robbins

SWAC 2005 (Southwestern Aeromodeling Conference)
The SWAC meet this year was held on November 11th and 12th, in the Fort Worth Convention Center. I made the trip, and despite a light turnout, had a good time. I arrived in the Dallas/Fort Worth area about 10:30 AM, and went directly to the conference. This is the first year the conference was held in Fort Worth, and locating the event, much less attempting to park, proved to be the first challenge.

Like everything else in Texas, the Fort Worth Convention Center is huge, and I entered the wrong door. After asking several folks how to get to the main entrance, I finally made my way around to the official entry site of the event, paid my money, and entered the conference.

Vendor turnout was light, and so was the attendance. Many tables remained empty, and only a few of the vendors were selling items I wanted to see. Several hobby shops had booths and were selling items at discounted prices, so this was one benefit which allowed me to purchase many items, which were not needed, of course!

What was the main attraction to the event, you ask? The back 1/3 of the large conference room was blocked off to allow pilots to fly, and this turned out to be the highlight of the show for me.

One of the first people I ran into was our own Mike Scott, (Midland), and Robert Williams (Big Spring). Also attending was Mark Greer (San Angelo), Michael Connally, (Weatherford), Ernest Butler (Mineral Wells) and Mike Feuilly. Also in attendance was Gary Jones (Clovis, NM), and Ed Couch (Fort Worth). You will recognize many of these names as the same folks who attended our own electric fly-in, as well as the indoor electric fly-in in Big Spring. It is always a joy to visit with these guys, and steal some cool construction ideas along the way.

These same pilots are the ones on the cutting edge of new, innovative designs, and represent a wealth of knowledge when it comes to motor configurations, construction tips, and building ideas.

I learned on this trip that it's not really the planes and flying that make this a great hobby, but the friends we gain along the way. I know of nothing more enjoyable than just sitting around, drinking a soda, and swapping ideas about flying, and construction. Don't misunderstand what I'm trying to say. The flying is great also, but good friends make it all the more

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Old Business: Jim Ruple said the information sign has been made and put in position at the electric flying site at C. J. Kelly Park.

New Business: Gene Laughlin said Jim Sevey is moving to another city, and he has played a great part in developing the Cole Park flying site. Gene said he would contact Jim as to whom we need to work with to continue the new field project. Nominations for the 2006 club officers were voted on and accepted by the club. President - Gene Laughlin, Vice President - Bruce Hoover, Treasurer - Ed Anderson, Secretary - David Harrell. The club voted on the time and place for this year's Christmas Party. The vote passed therefore the "Annual Christmas Party" will be at Michael's Barbeque Restaurant on A Street and Wadley Ave in Midland, at 6:00 P.M. December 6, 2005.

Show and Tell: Jim Ruple showed his Scorpio Moravia electric airplane. This plane is powered by a 400 brushed motor with a 10-7 prop. The wingspan is 52 inches and weighs 13 oz. Jim also showed his hitec 7 channel radio with a removable module. Bill Coombes showed his Slo Jazz electric bi-plane. It is powered with an A drive electric motor. Bill said the plane is very durable.

Club Raffle: Dennis Robbins donated a Fat 3DX airplane kit. Dennis packaged the kit and David Harrell donated the 350 electric motor. The raffle was won by Jonny Rotan.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

Upcoming Events

None

Picked Up Passing by

By Henry Smith

Let's have a big drum roll or maybe I should say drumstick. We have another successful year behind us. We have our annual election of officers at the next club meeting. These are the people who will lead our club in the coming year. Be sure to be there for the fun and fellowship and don't forget the voting for club officers. You also get the chance to eat one of those famous Michael's hamburgers.

By now you have heard that we are losing one of our club members, Jim Sevey, who is going to be Chief of Police in another city. Our loss is their gain. Jim, we wish you well in your new position. We are thankful for all of your efforts with our club. Those of you who have not seen his Delta Vortex flying have missed an interesting ship. The Delta Vortex is kitted by Bruce Tharp Engineering.

What would an organization such as ours do without teamwork? Talking about teamwork reminds me of a story about a couple of guys riding a bicycle up a long steep hill. The man in the front is struggling very hard pedaling and several times he thinks about quitting, but he keeps on pedaling. Finally they reach the top. They pull over for a break and the man in front says "I sure did have to struggle to pedal up that hill, but we made it." The man in the back said "I know what you mean, I was holding on the brake as hard as I could so we would not roll backwards." You may

draw your own conclusions about their teamwork. We don't need that kind of help.

Have a Plan

By: Bill Coombes

One of the benefits of flying "pattern" competition (as it was called in the olden days) was that it forced you to fly a predictable, recognizable, sequence of maneuvers on every flight. In other words, it imposed some discipline in one's flying, and, lo and behold, it made you a better pilot. Although not having flown in competition in many years, I still try to remember the lessons I learned when I did compete, so that every time I fly, I have a mental "plan" of what I want to accomplish during the flight. In instructing my young kids from school, I've found that making them do repeated maneuvers to my satisfaction allows them to move more quickly toward their first solo. They are disciplined fliers.

Planning prevents the airplane from flying the pilot. Having considerable experience now in both full-scale and model airplanes, I can say that many times I have had occasion to remember to "fly the airplane." Yet I have watched many experienced pilots do just the opposite.

In watching flying at our field and at the electric field of choice (Abell Jr. High), I have seen guys who could be really skilled fliers constantly chasing their airplanes through the sky until they find themselves disoriented and their airplanes at risk. I firmly believe that they aren't flying with a plan, but rather the airplane is flying them. With the CAF, I have participated in the hardest kind of flying to learn, formation, and believe me, the discipline and need to have a plan (a thorough briefing, an understanding of the rules formation flying imposes, etc) is the only thing that prevents catastrophic accidents. Guys who can fly an airplane well enough when alone suddenly discover a whole new set of skills necessary to master before they are safe in a formation, or they don't fly formation.

I'm not advocating that all of us in the RC world rush out and become IMAC pilots, but I am saying that flying each flight with a specific plan (like really round loops, or skillfully centering maneuvers in front of you, or a perfect landing pattern) will impose some meaning to your flying and you will become a safer, better pilot. And your airplane will last longer as well. With the high price of these Alfa warbirds that I am into right now, economy forces me to always fly with a plan.

My two cents.

Ability is what you are capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it. Lou Holtz

Avoiding the phrase "I don't have time.....", will soon help you to realize that you do have the time needed for just about anything you chose to accomplish in life. Bo Bennett

The cynic knows the price of everything and the value of nothing. Oscar Wilde

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

There is nothing close to Midland. We need to get our events scheduled for 2006.

For Sale

FOR SALE --- contact Bill Coombes at 689-8359 or better...email at snj24@earthlink.net

- Top Flite Spitfire kit...60 sized...complete NIB. \$75
- Top Flite Airacobra kit...NIB...60 sized, with cockpit kit...\$75
- The World Models Clipped Wing Cub (electric power) ARF -- - \$60 new in the box
- Horizon Hobbies PT-19 (electric power) ARF --- \$60 never flown, almost ready to go
- Norcal BT-13, 60 sized, all balsa, built by AJ...never flown...ready to go...add your engine and radio...blue and yellow Army Air Corps paint scheme... \$100

If you have something to sell, let me know and I will list it here. My phone number is 570-6262 or email me at hksmith35@prodigy.net

enjoyable. It makes me realize that we burn up lots of energy and quality time whenever we have arguments within our club, and friendships are put in jeopardy.

At this next meeting, and especially during Christmas, let's remember what this hobby is all about, which is giving to others, sharing what we have, being thankful, and realizing that we live in the greatest country in the world.

Have a great Christmas with your family and friends, and God Bless.....

Dennis Robbins

New Officers

By Henry Smith

We are going to elect a new set of officers even though some will be serving another term. A few people go into this for the prestige and not for the service to the other club members that an elected club office brings. Those newly elected club officers will no doubt have moments of anxiety wondering what you are doing here and what you are going to do. I don't have an elected office, but a year ago I was asking myself why did I volunteer to be newsletter editor???

For most of us, being elected to office is an opportunity to show people that we can do something to make life better for other Hi-Sky R/Cers. Now that you are in a position to make changes, the reality sets in that we cannot accomplish anything alone. The power of your office is limited, very limited indeed. In order to accomplish much, it is necessary to get a vote of the Hi-Sky club members who show up at the meetings in order to do anything. So we as members of the Hi-Sky R/C Club have a responsibility to show up at club meetings to accomplish the club's business. If we don't participate in the club's business, we should not complain. I know that there are times everyone must be somewhere else on meeting night. All I am saying is try to attend a maximum number of meetings (please).

All the new officers need to do is convince the club members of the need for a project. That may be easier said than done, but that is the way things get done. Many good ideas require developing over time rather than being instantly completed. Don't be afraid to call a club member to do something. Don't hesitate to call or ask someone about an idea you have. Let the club members know you are acting in their best interest and are involving them in the process. We all must work together because we are too small to be divided.

As Dave Brown, AMA President, said "Modelers are the greatest people on earth-even when they are arguing with you."

You can complain because roses have thorns, or you can rejoice because thorns have roses. Tom Wilson – Ziggy

It's never too late to have a happy childhood!!!