



HI-SKY R/C FLYER

June 2005

President: Gene Laughlin
Vice President: Jim Ruple

Treasurer: Ed Anderson
Secretary: Jim Tartt

Minutes of the Hi-Sky R/C Club May 3, 2005

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

Seventeen (17) members were present.

The minutes were approved as read.

GUEST: None

Field Report: Mike said all is good; the grounds are clean. Saturday clean up will be the first Saturday of each month.

Safety Report: No report

Activity: A.J. Lee said the Fajita Fun Fly will be May 21st. The landing fee will be \$10.00, which will include their Fajita meal.

Old Business: The Odessa / Midland IMAC contest was a great success. Thirty-eight pilots registered, even though the weather was windy. No pilots lost their planes.

New Business: Jim Sevey will be meeting with the City of Midland to continue plans for the electric flying

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From the Robbins Nest:

4TH ANNUAL ELECTRIC CAF FLY-IN

The 4th Annual Electric Fly-in is just around the corner. You can see the event listing in the most recent issue of the AMA Model Aviation. (Page 174). We also have a Thread started on E-Zone (an R/C discussion web site) This is the thread link:

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=347266>

I have sent letters to seventeen vendors, asking for donations for our raffle. It will be interesting to see what shows up. I should have a pretty good idea what we are going to receive before our July meeting.

OTHER POSSIBLE ELECTRIC EVENTS IN AREA

I have recently received info (via the internet), that San Angelo, and Lubbock may be hosting an indoor fly-in soon. San Angelo indicated their event could come together in August, or soon after.

Lubbock has also had some discussion about an indoor event, but they haven't gotten very far with plans. I let both clubs know that several of us in the Midland area would possibly attend, and to keep me informed on their progress. I took the opportunity to make sure they knew about our event in July. I hope this encourages a good turnout for us.

WHICH PLANE TO BUILD NEXT?

With the popularity of electric planes growing everyday, one might wonder what would be a good way to get started, and which plane to begin with? The first thing to consider is if you want to primarily fly indoors, or outdoors? Ask anyone, and you are certainly going to get a bunch of different answers.

A good outdoor plane to consider, and there are many, would be an almost-ready-to-fly GWS *Slowstick*. This plane costs about \$45, includes the motor, and can be put together in a couple of evenings. It is rudder/elevator only, but is a great

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site at C. J. Kelly Park.

Show and tell: Dennis Robbins showed a Hummingbird electric plane with a brushless motor. The plane has ten flights and he will be training his son to fly it.

Steven Bowers brought a Balsa Products Corsair with a brushless motor and has a wing-span of thirty-eight inches.

Ralph Gillette brought a SmartTech electric mini Helicopter and a scratch built 3DX electric plane with a 350 electric motor.

The club raffle was for two Narrow Servos and was won by David Stoner.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Electric Fly In / Swap Meet-July 9th & 10th

Callin' of the Hogs - September 10th

Picked up Passing By

School is out and a lot of us are going to start out on vacation. The graduation ceremonies are over for a while. Maybe the weather will let us get to fly a little more. I am so rusty that I have had to patch some Monokote that did not survive a rough landing. But that is another story.

The May clean up was good. Tom and Bradley Kuhn mowed the side areas and they looked great. We owe them a big thank you for their efforts. There were five brave souls who came out May 7 to chop weeds around the pavilion. They were Mike Chase, Jim Ruple, Rick Strange, Jim Tartt, and I. Mike brought coffee and cookies for a snack/treat. Looks like the rains over the last couple of weeks has helped the weeds a lot.

The Fajita Fun Fly was a success. The weather was great with a sunny not too hot day with only a light breeze blowing. There were about fifteen registered flyers and several spectators. We had glow, gas, and electric powered planes. The food was out of this world. And there was plenty of food for seconds if you wanted seconds. My wife wants Gene's recipe for fajita seasoning.

As far as I know there was only one crash during the fly in. There was a wheel pant lost over the south forty. Two people went out to look for it. I did not give

much hope of it being found, but a modeler from San Antonio found it! Not a bad day for over twenty planes flying at various times. A plane worth noting was Bruce Hoover's electric Hot Hots. That is a .40 - .46 size fun fly plane that Bruce has converted to an electric motor setup. It flies great with the electric motor. You will have to ask Bruce about the details.

* * * Meeting Notice * * * *

The June meeting of the Hi-Sky R/C club will be at the club field June 7 at 7:00 PM. As usual there will be time for flying before and after the meeting. See you there.

Solar powered flight

The increased interest in electric powered r/c planes gives some questions about solar powered airplanes. There is work going on in that direction.

Paul MacCready was one of the first to try solar powered transportation. In 1981, MacCready built a solar powered airplane, the Solar Challenger, and flew it across the English Channel. With over 16,000 solar cells mounted on the wings and producing 3,000 watts of power, this incredible flying machine proved to be strong in flight.

The Solar Challenger crossed the English Channel in 5 hours and 23 minutes. Thus demonstrating that by stretching the limits of technology, humans can make quantum leaps. As it turns out his 1981 flight did make a difference.

See also: www.solar-flight.com

From Red Scholefield R/C Universe 6-3-2005

Signs that you have grown up:

1. 6:00a.m. is when you get up, not go to bed.
 2. You hear your favorite song on the elevator.
 3. You watch the Weather Channel.
 4. You go from 130 days of vacation to 14.
 5. Jeans and a sweater no longer qualify as dressed up.
 6. You're the one calling the police because the kids next door won't turn down their music.
 7. Your car insurance payment goes down, but your car payment goes up.
- And last-
8. A \$4.00 bottle of wine is no longer pretty good stuff.
- From the Jayhawk Squadron, Johnson county KS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BIG SPRING FUN FLY

JOHN WESLEY FIELD

JUNE 11 & JUNE 12, 2005

WHITESANDS CROSS COUNTRY GAGGLE

VM PARK ALAMOGORDO, NM

JUNE 11 & JUNE 12, 2005

HELMERS OLD FARTS FLY IN

FORT WORTH THUNDERBIRDS CLUB FIELD

JUNE 15, 2005 (WEDNESDAY)

NORTH TEXAS ROUND ROBIN RC COMBAT

NORTH DALLAS RC CLUB WARREN FIELD

JUNE 18, 2005

HI-SKY R/C ELECTRIC FLY IN & SWAP MEET

CAF HANGER

JULY 9 & JULY 10, 2005

Odessa Big Bird

Odessa Club field

August 13 & August 14, 2005

Callin' of the Hogs

Midland Club Field

September 10, 2005

performer, and can handle some wind. Many have been built, and flown with success, and already have a huge following. This plane can be modified in numerous ways, which includes floats, various motor hop-ups, and ailerons, to name a few. This plane will also fly indoors in a larger area. I have personally flown the *GWS Slowstick*, and can testify that it handles great, is easy to fly, and would be a wonderful plane for a taste of electrics, or for a beginner to R/C flight.

Flying indoors is something everyone should attempt. By bringing our planes indoors, we can remove weather as a factor for not being able to fly. Indoor flight takes some time to get the hang of it. Flying indoors is not difficult, but requires quicker thumbs, and reaction time, or a very nimble, gentle slow aircraft. As local clubs begin to host more indoor electric events, you need a plane that allows you to participate.

The plane that immediately comes to mind is a *LazyMoth II*. This plane is also an *Almost-Ready-To-Fly*, and easily goes together in a couple of evenings. The plane flies great with a *GWS A* drive motor, (\$12), and on an 800 Mah Lipo battery, will fly indoors for about 20-25 minutes. If you have attended our club meeting at First Baptist Church, and stuck around for the flying in the gym, you have seen several in action. I have been fortunate enough to fly this plane, and it is a joy to fly indoors. It flies slow enough to allow plenty of reaction time for the folks new to indoor electric flight, but turns on a dime when needed. The only weak link to this plane (in my opinion) is the landing gear, which seems a little fragile. (The landing gear can easily be modified). Some folks have gone so far as hop these little planes up with CD rom motors, and the performance goes out the roof (literally!) They almost hover!

Happy electric flying to all, where the only good shorts are the ones you wear! Dennis Robbins

MIDLAND, TEXAS 4TH Annual-2005

**Commemorative Air Force
& Hi-Sky R/C CLUB**

**INDOOR ELECTRIC
FLY-IN & SWAP MEET**

**Saturday, July 9th
& Sunday, July 10th**

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

\$6 MUSEUM ADMISSION REQUIRED EACH DAY

Speed 280 & smaller motors
AMA card required to fly

Midland International Airport
At large hangar South of CAF Museum

INFO: Mike Scott
432-262-5132