



HI-SKY R/C FLYER

October 2005

Volume 34 Issue 10

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 8UA 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 October meeting will be at the Midland Library October 4, 2005. The meeting will start at 7:00 PM.

Minutes of the Hi-Sky R/C Club September 6, 2005

The President called the September 2005, meeting at the Midland Club Flying Field to order at 7:05 p.m. Eighteen (19) members were present.

The minutes were approved as read.

Guest: Pat Kurtsy

Field Report: Bruce Hoover said thanks to Larry and Tom for mowing the field and to several members who helped with preparing for the Hog fly. Jim Ruple suggested having the field sprayed for weeds to prepare for the next year. Gene Laughlin said he would look into having this done. Continue to use caution around the field since more rattlesnakes have been spotted.

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From the Robbins Nest:

By Dennis Robbins

RAFFLE RESUMES: We haven't had a raffle for several months, but now is the time to resume the fun. I believe we are meeting back at the church, and I have a great item that has been donated for the raffle. Castle Creations has given us several Phoenix 25 ESC brushless controllers to raffle. The only catch is that I'm suppose to mention, (or brag) a little on the controller, which is easy to do since Castle Creations makes excellent products that lots of us are already familiar with. (They didn't actually ask me to do this, but I feel it's the least I can do, since they were so generous with their donations.)

The Phoenix-25 is a Sensorless Brushless Motor Control that retails for \$79.95, so you don't want to miss an opportunity to win one of these. Here are some features common to all CC speed controls:

From castle creations web page:
www.castlecreations.com

All Castle Creations speed controls feature:

- **Battery Eliminator Circuit (BEC):** eliminates receiver battery
- **Safe "Power On"**
- **Low torque "Soft Start":** protects gear boxes and belt drives from shock
- **Simple setup:** no complicated switches or wiring
- **Tough surface mount construction**
- **Smooth reverse exponential throttle**
- **Audible Arming Signal**
- **Self-calibrating endpoints:** maximizes usable stick travel
- **Auto Motor cut-off with reset**
- **Auto shut-down when signal is lost**
- **Microprocessor Controlled**

I've also included the owner manual in PDF format for those interested.

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Safety Report: Jim Ruple shared with the group that you should not store Li-Po Battery Packs and/or charge these batteries in your home or attached garage due to possible fire and explosion hazards. Store these batteries in a metal case or non-flammable container.

Activity: Jim Ruple said that the Callin` of the Hogs Flyin will be Saturday September 10th at the club field. There will be a \$10.00 landing fee that will include a barbeque meal.

Old Business: Jim Sevey reported that the City of Midland is continuing to work on the new flying field at Cole Park.

New Business: Rick Strange suggested that we have the annual Christmas Party at K-D's or Michael's B-B-Q. A vote on the location will be taken at the next meeting.

Show and Tell: Dennis Robbins showed his Hobbico Radio Frequency Checker.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Upcoming Events:

None

Picked Up Passing by

By Henry Smith

Our Callin' of the Hogs is over for another year. This year's event was great. The food was excellent. A. J. Lee cooked the ribs and they were very tasty. Our president helped with the decision about when the ribs were done.

The turnout was good. Max McCartney from Colorado was back. Max had been a regular at this event, but missed last year. It was great to see him again. He brought two Astro Hogs one of which is special for this event. It has Callin' of the Hogs and Midland, Texas on the fuse. He said he only flies that plane here. I hope to see you again next year Max.

We had several nice planes this year. Since we opened the type of plane up to "fly what you bring" we had a variety from various electrics to large "gas burners". Several people brought more than one plane.

This month has some good flyins. The folks over at Hobbs have a great place to fly. If you haven't been there you should go just to see where they fly. This is October 1.

San Angelo's Fun Fly is October 15 & 16. They always have a good show. It has been a few years since I was there, but I remember the food was great. They had several raffle prizes for modelers and non-modelers that year. They plan to have a \$50.00 pilot's prize each day.

The AMA Leader Club Award

By Henry Smith

The AMA established the Leader Club Program in

1992 in order to recognize clubs that successfully maintained their sites and continued positive relationships with neighbors and their community.

Participation is quite simple. There are five requirements:

1. Club must be an AMA Chartered club for a minimum of five years.
2. Club has developed and posted Safety and Operational Rules at its flying site.
3. Club has filed a copy of Safety and Operational Rules at AMA Headquarters.
4. The flying field has separate areas for fliers and spectators, clearly marked.
5. The AMA Safety Code is posted and visible at the flying field.

Clubs are recognized at three different levels. There are nine electives the club may document to reach the various levels. I won't discuss them here, but to achieve Gold status requires the five requirements plus completing the nine electives. I submit that this would be an excellent opportunity to enhance the Hi Sky R/C Club position in the community.

The electives are something a club should be doing. They include:

- Implementing a frequency control board
 - Sponsors a review of the AMA Safety Code at a club meeting at least once a year
 - Sponsors an annual public event such as a mall show, flying show or demonstration
 - Club has a formal instruction program AMA intro pilot program or other
- There are five other electives that I will not go into here, but are not any more difficult to do.

To find out more about the AMA Leader Club program, go to the AMA web site and make a copy of document #708 (www.modelaircraft.org/acrobat.asp). Read the document and make your own determination of the value of the designation. It could go a long way in helping us with our new flying site and keeping good relations at our present site.

The price of freedom is eternal vigilance.
Thomas Jefferson

Laughter is the jam on the toast of life. It adds flavor, keeps it from becoming too dry, and makes it easier to swallow.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Cloud Duster Fly In

HIAP (Hobbs, NM)

October 1, 2005

San Angelo Fun Fly

San Angelo Club Field

October 15 & October 16, 2005

Halloween Fun Fly

Alamogordo, NM RC Club Field

October 29, 2005

How fast is my Airplane?

From the Tri-Lakes RC Flying Club,
Kimberling City MO
Don Johnson, editor

A good radar gun or some type of speed trap is the most accurate way to determine your airplane's speed. To get a fairly good idea of how fast your airplane flies—without any high-tech equipment—is quite easy.

All you need to know is the rpm and pitch (in inches) of the propeller. The propeller pitch is the distance the propeller will advance in one revolution. (Technical Editor's note: The pitch is actually slightly less than that, but close enough to use for this purpose.)

To find the speed, follow this simple equation: rpm x pitch x .000947 = speed.

The .000947 converts the pitch inches and the revolutions per minute into miles per hour. For example, if your motor has a propeller with a 6-inch pitch that turns at 12,000 rpm, the airplane will probably have a top speed of roughly 68 mph. (12,000 x 6 x .000947 = 68 mph.) If your model is aerodynamically clean, this figure will be close; however, if you have a draggy airplane—such as rigged biplane—you could lose 10% to 20% of your speed.

I also hope to get some blue core fanfold planes cut out to raffle in the coming months, such as the Fat 3DX, made famous by David Harrell, and Jeff Laufer. Both of the guys have a Fat 3 DX airplane, and I have been fortunate to get to fly both of them. This plane has proven to be an excellent outdoor 350 size aircraft that possesses wonderful handling characteristics, and is easy to build. The plane is not for beginners, but more like an intermediate plane, since it does have ailerons, rudder and elevator control. Look for this plane at one of the meetings in the near future!

Dennis Robbins

Training Issues: How to Choose a Flight Instructor. By: Jack Frost AMA

Question: What is the most important decision any pilot can make?

Answer: When not to fly...Explanation: If the pilot isn't ready, if the equipment isn't ready, or if the conditions aren't right—do not fly! These are good words to go by, no matter what kind of airplanes you fly—whether they are full scale or models.

Are you an RC instructor? How did you get the job? Were you asked by your club president? Were you the only one willing to do it? Do you like the prestige of being a club instructor? Are you the best instructor in your club?

People vary greatly on their ideas of what makes a good instructor. Some think that good instructors are born and possess a kind of charismatic presence that results in highly motivated learners. This view tends to result in instructors that are more likely to credit their own performance as the key to learning instead of the ability of the learner.

Some believe that instructional ability is something acquired, involving training, discipline, and a good deal of patience. They strive for instructional excellence, and assess their effectiveness by how well the learner performs.

Most agree, however, that good instructors share a love for instructing and learning, and that a good instructor must be a learner and must possess

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For Sale

Carl Goldberg J-3 kit \$75.00 It is new in the box
It may be converted to electric or a .40 2 stroke or a .52
four stroke engine may be used.
Contact Henry Smith @ 570-6262.

If you have something to sell, let me know and I will list
it here.

Books you should read:

Your radio's instruction manual.
Your model engine instructions.
The safety procedures in the model airplane kit.
And
The Richest Man in Babylon by George Clason

Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the
life you've imagined. Henry David Thoreau

I may grow old, but I refuse to grow up!

strong motives and a positive
attitude toward learning.

There is a tie between effective
instruction and effective learning,
but instructors only enhance
learning. They set up a situation
that provides the student with the
opportunity to learn. Effective
instructors are often those who look
for ways of matching individual
learning styles to their
instructional style.

The measurement of an instructor
should not be how few hours, or how
few flights it took for his/her
student to solo, but instead, what
skills, what presence of mind, and
what judgment that student can
demonstrate.

So what things constitute a good
instructor? Besides being a
qualified pilot, there are other
important attributes that need to be
considered. The following list
includes various traits that are
important in choosing an instructor:

- Good communicator
- Patient and even-tempered
- Reliable
- Consistent
- Dedicated
- Good teaching skills
- Team player
- Thorough knowledge of
equipment
- Thorough knowledge of
safety issues
- Good preflight skills
- Good piloting skills
- Ability to judge piloting
skills
- Good at balancing praise
and criticism

This list is not all inclusive, but
it is a start. If you have
questions about becoming an
instructor, selecting instructors for
your club, or choosing an instructor
to teach you to fly, contact me
at (765) 287-1256 ext. 515.

Note by Hi-Sky editor: This is meant to provide
food for thought and not meant to demean anyone
who is an instructor in our club.