



HI-SKY R/C FLYER

April 2008

Volume 37 Issue 4

President: Bruce Hoover
Vice President: Dennis Paschall
AMA Charter Club #851

Treasurer: Ed Anderson
Secretary: Ralph Gillette
www.hiskyrc.com

Meeting:

The April 2008 meeting will be held April 1, 2008 at the First Baptist Church Activity Building on the corner of Garfield and Louisiana streets. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM.

HI SKY R/C Club Minutes: March 4, 2008

Meeting was held at the First Baptist Church Activity Building.

Bruce Hoover brought the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. There were 15 members present.

The minutes were approved as presented in the March News letter.

Treasurers Report: We have money in the checking account, in the savings account and the CD has matured drawing interest.

Field Report: Bruce reported that the field looks pretty good.

Safety Report: A.J. Lee says everything has been safe. The new fencing looks good and seems to work well.

Activities: See the events calendar for dates of the next activities.

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February Safety Notes

By Chuck Waller
AMA Dist VIII Safety Coordinator

Shop Safety

Most of my columns have been dedicated to safety at the flying field, but since this is nearing the end of the building season in many parts of the district, I thought I would share some safety issues found in the building room.

I got a note from a fellow flyer the other day that really got me to thinking. He said he was cleaning up his shop and accidentally stepped on a discarded exacto blade! Without getting too graphic, the blade went through his shoe and into the ball of his foot. I have heard of this before and each time I cringe! I have stepped on pins several times in my own shop. Believe me; you do not want to make a trip to the doctor's office to have a pin removed from your foot!

But there are several things in every shop that can cause serious injury to you or bystanders. How many times have you used a cut off blade on a Dremil tool? Have you ever broken the blade and heard the "PING" as it hits the far wall? Then there is the ever present Exacto knife! Let's see a show of thumbs...how many of you have slipped and jammed the blade through your thumb? How many times have you jammed a screwdriver into your hand while holding a part and loosening / tightening a stubborn screw?

I think you get my point. There are many items in every shop that can cause injury if used incorrectly or carelessly. Next time you go into your shop to build / repair a model, look at your work bench and think about what you can do to make the area safer. Always use the correct tool for the job and always use a sharp blade in your Exacto knife.

Please let me know about your flying events. I will try to attend as many as possible. Also let me know if I can help you with a safety problem at your field or any where you fly. Until next time Have fun and fly safe!

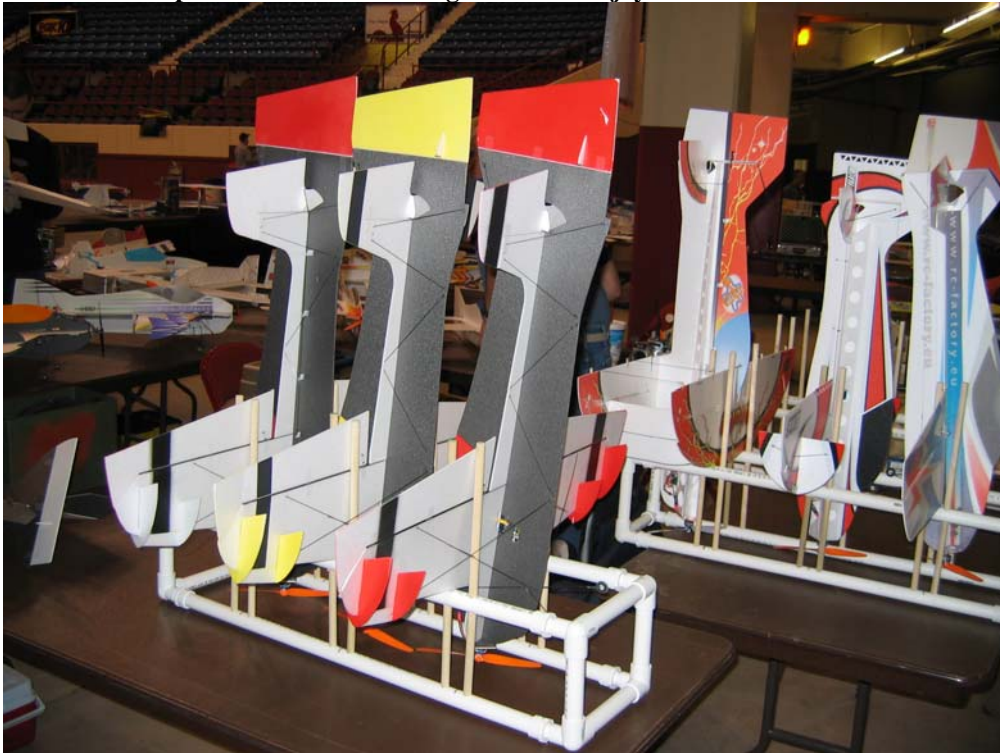
From the Robbins Nest:

The TINY, (San Angelo, Texas) has come and gone, but what an incredible event! I attended the indoor electric event in San Angelo, and had a blast! Lot's of stick time, visiting time, and even plenty of time for repairs! This venue included a hover-off, balloon bust, and an F3P indoor pattern contest. Numerous kit manufacturers were in attendance, and even three Electric tournament of champions pilots came to compete in the pattern contest. I managed to destroy a plane in the hover-off. (Someone thought I would make a good target, and took me out with their prop). If you enjoy electrics, or want to see what it's all about, you should make plans to attend one of these events.

And here is the opportunity!

SPEF (South Plains Electric Flyers) is hosting their annual weekend event on April 25th, 26th, 27th. That's right; they are going for three days. There are plans to have a basic, and F3P-C pattern contest for those wanting to try their hand at indoor pattern. This will be an introductory type contest with very simple patterns to fly, and you will have a chance to compete for a trophy, and gain an introduction to indoor competition flying. It is always lots of fun. They host a great event, with lots of raffle items, and misc. competition events throughout the day to test your piloting skills. In the past, they have had a balloon bust contest, aircraft carrier landing contest, as well as other crazy events everyone enjoys! Hope to see you there.

Here are some photos from the San Angelo event. Enjoy.



Mike Robbins and my pattern competition planes



These planes are owned by Brandon Chitty, one of the ETOC pilots



Brandon Chitty, and Mike Hammel, owner of Fancy Foam models



Ben Fisher, owner of 3D Hobby Shop, and the prize he donated for the winner of the freestyle contest. (Brandon Chitty won this plane!)



Photo of the pit area



Photo of the flight line



Brandon flying with the transmitter behind his back!

Electric Fly at CAF – The date has been set for July 12, 2008. The event will be a one day event this year. This may make for a small turnout since the flyers from the Fort Worth-Dallas area may not come. To raffle or not is still not decided. Motion was made and seconded and passed to have the CAF Electric Fly-In.

Electric Fly at the Horseshoe – Everything is go if the date can be sanctioned. The charge will be \$20.00 per person which will include one table. Additional tables can be rented. Flying will be 8:00 AM to midnight. There was some discussion about electric connections. They will probably have to bring their own long extension cords.

Dennis Paschall stated that he as club instructor has crashed 2 planes. He wanted to know if anyone wanted to replace him. No one stepped forward. Dennis Robbins donated two buddy boxes to the club to use in the instructor program. They were one Futaba and one Airtronics radios.

Gene Laughlin discussed possible cooperation with the Boy Scouts for a community awareness program. He has discussed this with the District Executive and found a willing partner. The Boy Scout troops have their own program lined up and this has to be worked out. The tentative plan is to have a ground school on some Thursday and flying on Saturday. Jim Ruple made the motion to go forward with this. The motion was seconded and passed the membership.

New Business: The AMA is offering a Park Flyer license. Henry Smith read the response from our District 8 VP on this class of license. The personal liability is reduced to \$500K but the landowner is still covered to \$2.5 million. This information had been forwarded to each officer prior to the meeting. There was a question about what weight or other requirement would require the upgrade to the long existing license. No one knew.

Port-A-potty: Mike Chase led a discussion about changing back to monthly servicing instead of only 8 or 9 times a year. He made note of the fact that the smell, fly, mosquito, and bee to include wasps and yellow jackets are bad when the service is delayed. He made the suggestion that with more usage of the field and more ladies accompanying their husbands or friends to the field it should be serviced monthly. The motion was made and seconded to have the service monthly. The motion passed with only one person voting against.

Henry Smith informed the club of the IRS requirement for all non-profit organizations with income less than \$25,000 to file a Form 990-N by May 15, 2008 and each year thereafter. He read what would be filed to those present and told the club he would file

the form.

Show and Tell:

Jim Ruple had an electric Ultimate biplane with a 400 brushless motor. He reports that it flew great and has a top speed of about 50-55 mph. The weight is 17 ounces.

Gilbert Hernandez brought a combat plane powered by a Fora .29 engine from the Ukraine. This engine used a Nelson plug which has greater life than our standard glow plugs. The prop was a 9 X 4 epoxy for greater life. The fuel tank is a bladder setup. This looks to be a fast and maneuverable plane.

Bruce Hoover brought a .15 size combat plane. This was powered be a Magnum .15 XLS engine with a max of 19,500 rpm but the rules limit the rpm to 17,500 rpm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

How Much Land is Really Needed?

From the Fort Worth Thunderbirds Radio Control Association Inc.,
Fort Worth, Texas

When a club needs to find a new RC flying site, the logical question must arise as to how much space is really needed. Negotiations with site owners will usually require this kind of information. Having been through this process with our own club, here are some approximate numbers to help you determine the space required. In every case, it can be argued that much more land is required or that much less land can suffice, but here is a place to start.

Assume that your RC flying site will have a runway of 400 feet in length and 50 feet wide. A club will normally mow about 400 feet or more on each end for approach and departure clearance. To lay out a comfortable spectators area with a shelter, parking lot, a flightline and pilots positions, the runway and some mowed area on the other side of the runway, all laid out in accordance with recommended AMA safety standards, will require a total field width of roughly 600 feet. While a smaller field width might be possible, be careful to maintain an adequate and safe separation of spectators from flight operations and pilots from the active runway.

Using these dimensions, a total of 16.52 acres is required for ground operations. In addition, an overfly area of 40 to 60 acres will be used by average fliers.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TAILGATE SWAP MEET AND FUN FLY

MANSFIELD CLUB FIELD

APRIL 5, 2008

Buy Sell and Fly with prizes for best in category planes.

8TH TECOMA RC ELECTRIC EXTRAVAGANZA

SHERMAN TX PETE DARTER FIELD

MAY 3, 2008

Fly in for all electric powered aircraft.

FAJITA FUN FLY

MIDLAND CLUB FIELD

MAY 17, 2008

We hope the weather is good!

MIDLAND AND ODESSA IMAC CONTEST

ODESSA CLUB FIELD

MAY 24 & 25, 2008

We need to help the Odessa club put on a great event.

11th Annual Spring Fun Fly

Buffalo Airport – Amarillo, TX

June 7 & 8, 2008

CAF Fly In

CAF Hanger

July 12, 2008

Callin' of the Hogs

Midland Club Field

September 13 & 14, 2008

HorseShoe Fly In

HorseShoe Arena - Midland

November 1, 2008

Picked Up Passing By

I hope you read the article about shop safety. It touches on some items we may take for granted until we are affected. Or when something happens to us!! The latest Model Aviation has some good suggestions concerning shop safety and clean air in your shop. I know balsa sawdust is a hazard to breathing. I have started wearing a dust mask when I sand part of a model inside the garage. I would also recommend putting used Xacto blades and razor blades in a jar to keep them from being a hazard.

FOR SALE

Alex Ewing has some model airplanes for sale. The list follows:

Astro Hog powered by a Thunder Tiger .61 engine. This 72 inch wingspan is just what you need to bring to the Callin' of the Hogs in September. This beauty comes with an Airtronics 4 channel radio and for only \$200.00.

Sig Mid-Star 40 powered by a Royal .46 engine and an Airtronics 4 channel radio. This 64.5 wingspan plane is an ideal second plane for beginners or a great Sunday flier according to Sig. This plane is also only \$200.00.

Great Planes Trainer 60 powered by a Thunder Tiger .61 engine and Airtronics 4 channel radio. This is a 65 inch wingspan plane that would make a great second plane for that beginner who wants a more responsive second plane. Or you can rework it into a fun flyer as per the article in the newsletter recently. A great buy at \$200.00.

Great Planes Super Skybolt powered by a Super Tigre .91 and a 4 channel Airtronics radio. This 57 inch wingspan plane is a smooth flying aerobat for only \$200.00.

Great Planes J-3 Cub with a Thunder Tiger .61 and a 4 channel Airtronics radio. This is a 80 inch wingspan beauty that can be flown by anyone who has mastered a trainer. A great lazy day flier priced at only \$200.00.

If you are interested in any of these planes call Alex Ewing at (432)-694-2787.

If you have something to sell let me know and I will put it in the newsletter. Send an email to:

hksmith35@prodigy.net

“What is a committee? A group of the unwilling, picked from the unfit, to do the unnecessary.”

Richard Harkness

“First you forget names, then you forget faces. Next you forget to pull your zipper up and finally, you forget to pull it down.” George Burns

“Technology is a way of organizing the universe so that man doesn't have to experience it.”

Max Frisch

Strokes: What to Look For

Thanks to David Mills

Thermal Thumbers of Metro Atlanta for providing this information

Although unable to find and credit the original source, the following knowledge of first aid is always helpful. The simple steps outlined might save a life or lessen later complications. None of us is getting any younger. Spread this around as you see fit.

Stroke Identification:

A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within three hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke. He said the trick was getting a stroke recognized, diagnosed, and then getting the patient medically cared for within three hours, which is tough.

Recognizing a Stroke:

Remember the "three" steps, S.T.R. Read and learn! Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke.

Now, doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

S: Ask the individual to smile.

T: Ask the person to talk and speak a simple sentence coherently. (i.e. It is sunny out today.)

R: Ask him or her to raise both arms.

If he or she has trouble with any one of these tasks, call 911 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

New Sign of a Stroke

Another sign of a stroke is this: Ask the person to stick out his tongue. If the tongue is crooked—goes to one side or the other—that is also an indication of a stroke.

Hi Sky R/C Editors Note: I thought this would be of interest and valuable information for all of us. Also: Sudden numbness or weakness of face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body. Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding. Sudden trouble seeing in one eye or both eyes. Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination. Sudden severe headache with no known cause. Stroke is the 3rd leading cause of death and the #1 cause of adult disability. A Stroke is a medical emergency. A Stroke is treatable within 3 hours of symptom onset

ON THE SAFE SIDE

Safety Reminders for the New Season

By AMA Staff

AMA would like everyone to have a safe flying year with no accidents. Here are some items that might help in that regard.

The first is the use of Li-Poly batteries in our models. If you are flying electric airplanes with Li-Poly batteries, it is highly recommended that a fire extinguisher be kept in your car. Fire caused by Li-Poly batteries can happen through a shortage, improper charging, or crash damage. Standard household extinguishers (Class A, B, C or a combination of these) will not put out a lithium fire. Rather, it can increase the blaze. Class D extinguishers (metal/sand) are the only type capable of putting out flammable metal.

If a class D fire extinguisher cannot be obtained for your vehicle or flying site, at the least, keep buckets of sand ready and available should a fire start. (The sand must be dry because water reacts with lithium fires to make them worse.)

Second, remember to cycle the batteries in transmitters and airplanes to ensure they are up to par. Airplanes can go down because either the transmitter or the flight pack batteries have failed. If you should by chance get your airplane to respond long enough to land, do not taxi back toward the pits. Get it down and kill the engine. A running airplane with dying batteries is little more than a loaded gun waiting to go off and injure someone.

Most folks have a winter project that is now ready for a test flight. New airplanes mean new additions to the transmitter. Remember to always check to ensure it is the correct one for the airplane. Always look to see that the control surfaces are moving in the correct direction when you are ready to taxi out. Also, as a new project, make sure it has been finished with your name and address or AMA number.

Lightning produced by electrical storms can travel amazing distances. If you are flying and should see lightning in the distance, just think of that radio antenna as a lightning rod. Lightning has been known to come 10-20 miles across the sky and strike a person just standing there—and that is without a 3-foot lightning rod in his or her hand.

Engine failure on takeoff is a common occurrence. Every time, when you taxi out, always think, "What am I going to do if the engine quits?" Remember that the best way to land is into the wind and with the wings level. If that means a walk out in the weeds a couple of hundred yards to get your airplane in one piece, that's much better than taking a broom or shovel out to the middle of the runway to scoop up the pieces.

Lastly, it is strongly recommended that members do not fly alone. In a hobby where things can go out of control with the slightest of error, potential dangers are not far behind. It's helpful to have an extra set of eyes to watch for any interferences or problems the pilot may not be able to see while following his or her model. Better to be overly prepared than under prepared. At the very least, you have a buddy to talk to and show off for!