

PULSE

AMA Charter 382 - An AMA Gold Leader Club

MAY 2008

Upcoming Meetings and Events

The next meeting will be at the EAA Building on Wednesday, May 14, 2008 at 7:00 pm.

From the President

By Ed Ryan

Hey every one and welcome to May.

It's been a pretty tough spring to get out and fly, it wasn't even nice enough for our field clean up. Hopefully the weather will get better and we will get some quality flying in.

This month there are a few things going on, we have our annual heli fly on the 24th and don't miss aviation days or the hanger dance on the 17th and 18th. Next month we have our fun scale fly in on the 14th, so bring something that looks scale and fly it. Our meeting this month will be our last meeting at the EAA building, all of our summer meetings will be held at the field. See you at the meeting.

From the Vice President

By Steve Scott

A little break from my "bio column" this month but lots of things are happening. This spring has not particularly started on a good note for my household. The warming temperatures and snow meltoff combined with a sump pump which for some reason suddenly ceased to function resulted in a finished room downstairs transforming into a wading pool. Unfortunately, this was also the room I was using to store all of my RC airplanes, including some I recently picked up on the used market.

To make a long story short, my insurance says they're "ok" with replacing the waterlogged models and engines so it looks like I'll get to go shopping soon.

They were just going to cut a check to cover the replacement costs I provided so I won't have to replace the items per item. At any rate, that gives me the opportunity to upgrade some technology. I've already done a portion of that since I wanted to get in on the JR/Spektrum Giveaway event. A trip to King Kong Hobbies and now I'm the proud owner of a new 2.4GHz JR X9303 heli system. I considered getting a DSM2 module for my existing Futaba 9C but, from what I've read, neither the modelmatch nor servosync features work with any of the module systems. On my UltraStick 40 I noted the full span ailerons don't work exactly in unison via four separate servos. I also picked up spare 9ch and 6ch Spektrum receivers so will have a total of FIVE 2.4GHz receivers once the bonus receivers arrive – I never even owned five 72MHz receivers! I'm starting to think the Digital Spread Spectrum radios are doing to the 72MHz FM radio market what the digital compact disks did to the LP vinyl market back in the 1980's.

At any rate, now I can get "even" with my son Alex, who's "superior" Spektrum DX7 system guides his Mini UltraStick. Speaking about the MUS, I managed to crash his the first time he let me fly it a few weeks back. I found he sets up his radios to suit a 16 year old's reflexes - not his old man's. A replacement fuselage, replacement motor shaft on his Park 480 brushless motor, some minor repairs and it'll be back in the air by the time you read this. At any rate, that qualified as my first ever RC splat. It will also likely be the last time he ever lets me fly one of his airplanes.

The Blaine Aviation Weekend is approaching and I was disheartened to find we never confirmed our participation this year. Given that the EAA has allocated their building for another use means we're officially spectators this year. Too bad, since the rubber band models SPMRC used to have the kids put

together up in one of the northern hangars was what brought Alex and I into the club. He was age 5 or 6 at that time and was in line waiting to build his model. A lady came up to him to announce they were going to shut down for lunch and he'd have to come back later. The kid literally bawled for days but I guess he survived.

My control line club is going to be flying again at the show so please stop by to chat or even bring one of your CL relics out and we just might get it – or you – in the air.

Contests/Events

May 17	ACRC Funfly-10am start
May 17	ACRC Spring Fly-in-10am
May 18	Hobby Warehouse Swap-A-Ganza - 8am
May 24	SPRC Heli-Fly-10am-5pm-CD Paul Rono
Jun 7	Grassfield Heli-Fly- CD Mike Dammar
Jun 14	SPRC Scale Fly -10am-?pm(Not a contest, Stan!)
Jun 21	N.Dakota Skids Up Heli Fly
Jun 21	ACRC Funfly-10am start
Jun 20-22	MARCEE 3M E-fly
Jun 28	ACRC Warbird Fly-10am
Jun 28-29	North Country Model Controllers Collective Madness (NCMCRC.com)
Jun 28-29	TCRC Electric Fly & Camp-Out
Jul 11	ACRC Funscale Contest
Jul 12	TCRC Big Bird Invitational Fly-In
Jul 19	SPRC Frankfurter Fly-10am-?pm
Jul 19	ACRC Funfly-10am start

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

by Stan Zdon

We all have mental lapses from time to time so gently remind others when you see them having a SENIOR MOMENT in regards to the SPMRC Safety Rules. Starting engines with the plane facing other than toward the runway and full RPM run-ups in the pits seem to be the rules that are violated the most often. If

you just visualize where the prop blades will go if the blades break off it will help you remember why the club has these rules. Also remember that engines are not to be started when the plane is on the spools. The plane should be started in the pit area and moved to the run-up area for the high RPM run-up.

EVENTS - There will be a SPMRC Scale Fly-In June 14 and the SPMRC Septemberfest will be September 13. Anoka County R/C will be having their Spring Fly-In on May 17 a Fun Scale Contest on July 12. The Scale Flyers will be using the ACRC field again for the Scalemasters contest on August 2. These events are open to members of other clubs. If you have any questions concerning the activities at ACRC call Stan Zdon at (763) 784-3121.

SPMRC has 105 members so far for 2008. 93 are adult members and 12 are junior members. If you know of anyone looking for a club to join have them to contact me and I will mail them SPMRC information and an application.

If you are thinking about purchasing a new radio pick a channel other than Channel 13. There may be some interference on this channel. If it can be kept clear there should not be a problem for any SPMRC member.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL ON MAY 14 AT 7:00 PM AT THE EAA BUILDING. The June, July and August meetings will be at the field.

From the Secretary

By Dan McArdell

Meeting Minutes from April 9, 2008. The meeting was held at the EAA building and called to order at 7:11 p.m. Members Present: 29, New Members: 3, Visitors: 0

Board Reports

Vice President: Steve Scott asked if we were going to be part of the Blaine Aviation Days this year. The general consensus was that there is not a lot of interest and it's probably too late to get involved for this year. Safety: No issues.

Field Maintenance: The spring clean-up day is Saturday, but with snow forecast, it will probably be cancelled and if that's the case, we can reschedule. The runway needs work, particularly the north taxi-way. The landowner will be running a blade through the parking area to level it. We also owe the landowner \$200 for plowing. Tom Stratton asked whether we might modify the shelter by adding hinges and the ability to fold down wall panels. Paul Rono replied that the shelter wall was designed like the one at ACRC and fold-down panels could be added to get some more circulation when the weather is hot but more materials would be needed to finish the work. Ed Ryan said that a heli hovering area will be on the north / west area of the parking lot and that either railroad ties or one section of fence would be put in place to stop traffic and define the hovering area.

Membership: We picked up about 6 new members since last month.

Events:

- Grassfield R/C club will have an Electric Fly-in Saturday May 17th and a big-bird fly-in later in the summer (Aug 23).
- Anoka County RC is having a Fun Fly May 17.
- The Sky Hobby (formerly Hobby Warehouse) Swap-A-Ganza is Sunday May 18.
- Blaine Aviation Days is May 17-18.
- Our club is hosting a Heli-Fly on May 24th.

Treasurer: There has been just a little activity in the checkbook, not too much to report right now.

Old and New Business

None to report

Show and Tell

Tom Stratton: Tom showed an Electra that he won in the December raffle. It has a 550 brushed motor and 2 cell lipo pack. The original kit didn't include ailerons, but he modified by adding some dihedral and ailerons. The wing is held to the fuse by a bolt in the back and a single pin in the front. It's designed to fly slowly. It is not a hotliner. He's done some slope flying with it and also out at the field.

Ed Ryan: Ed showed the Top-Flight Mustang that he brought to last year's bare-bones meeting. It took him a year to finish it. The fuse was very easy to build. He's using a Hangar 9 mechanical retract set with servos for each one. He deviated from the plans to get the cowl to fit and look right. Finishing the plane took a long time. He painted the silver color first, then the red, then black. It's powered by an OS 120 with a Slimline Pitts muffler and weighs about 10 lbs. The ailerons and elevator surfaces were enlarged and he's not using any flaps. The radio gear is 2.4 GHz, spread spectrum powered by a lipo with voltage regulator. He modified the controls to use pull-pull rudder.

Al Schwartz: Al showed a Top-Flite Piper Arrow. He has an OS 60 in it; it can use a 120 if you use retracts. He didn't install flaps or retracts. It came out light at about 9 lbs and has a full flying tail with the whole elevator being able to move up and down. It was a tedious build. It turns out the balance was good. It has a lot of wing, approximately 1200 sq in. He used a stripe cutting tool to make the striping from Monokote.

Mike Erickson: Mike showed his ongoing project which is a combination of components from several prizes. It's an old Midwest Citabria kit with clipped wings. It came with blueprints but no instructions. A fast building kit, it is covered with Solartex and has simulated rib stitching that ironed on. Painted it with Krylon. The engine is an ASP 75 and has a Bisson muffler. It is for sale.

Steve Scott: Steve showed his E-Flite Divo. a 3D sheet foam biplane. The kit contains about 10 pieces and goes together fast. He found that very little fitting was needed. It is powered by a Park 300 brushless outrunner motor, 730 maH lipo battery and a Castle 10 amp speed control.

Raffle

- 1st place: Dave Kreiner, Permagrait
- 2nd place: Dave Stroben, Kaos ARF
- 3rd place: Larry Gaalaas, 10% fuel
- 4th place: Jon Lecy, Fuel
- 5th place: Ed Ryan, CA glue
- 6th place: Larry Gaalaas, wheels

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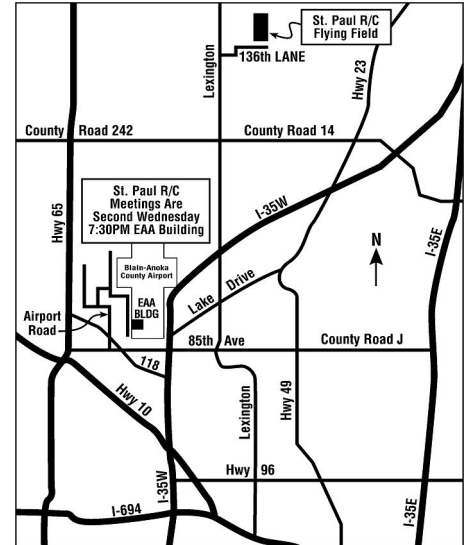
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SPMRC Club field is located 15 miles north of the Mpls/St. Paul area. From I-694 head north on I-35W, exit at Lexington. Follow Lexington north to 136th. Turn right on 136th and follow it east to the flying field.

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Newsletter of the St. Paul Model Radio Controllers, Inc.

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