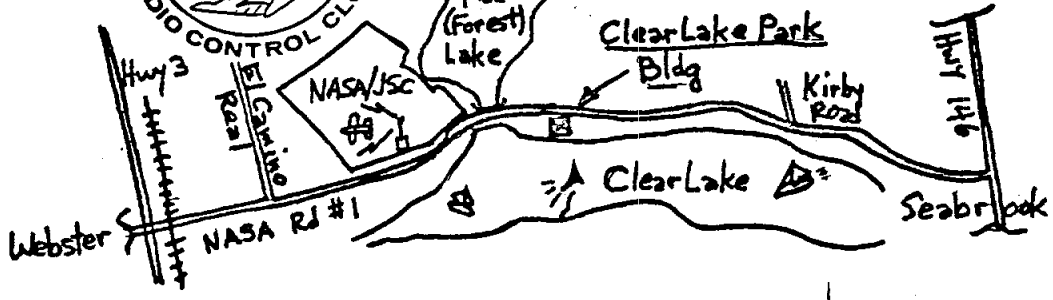
VOL. IV - NO. 4 جامعة البترول والمعادن

MEETING NOTICE and THE SIMPLIFIED GUIDE TO PERSONAL BANKRUPTCY.

NEWSLETTER

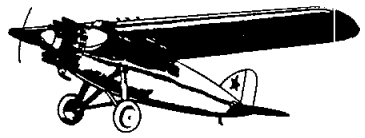


DATE: Thurs. Feb. 14, 1980

TIME: 7:30 - 10:00 P.M.

PLACE: Clear Lake Park Bldg.

PROGRAM: New Movie: "Modelings Grand Illusions"



LEAD THE WAY!

Creeping out of the dark night (mixed with a little beer fog), a group of stalwart volunteers (???) has attacked the problem of the very low participation in MSC/RCC FunFlys! Just in case you missed last month's meeting, here is a summary of the results of that great battle:

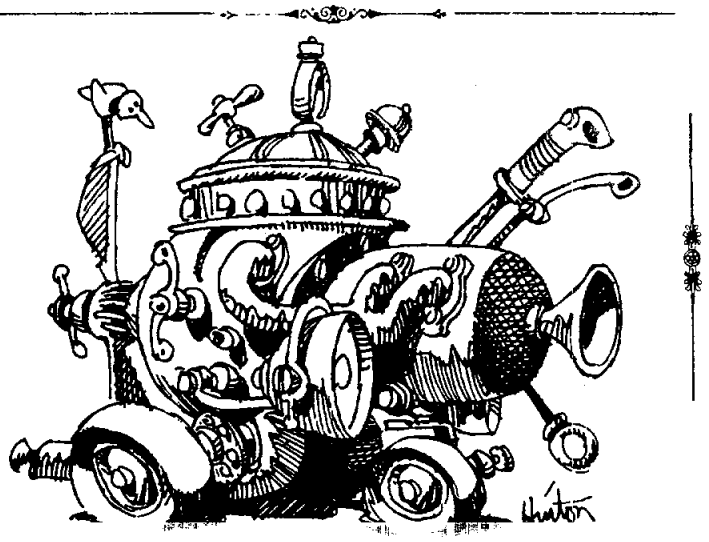
GROUP OF STALWART VOLUNTEERS

(1) FF's will be held on only 8 months of the year starting in March. They will be held on the Sat. before the regular club meeting with 1 (repeat, one) weather slip to the Sat. after the meeting.

(2) 4 of the FF's --March, May, July, & Sept.-- will be Beginner's Days (BD's) intended to familiarize members with almost anything including the upcoming FF event!! The club will have people on the field to help, but the field will be open to those of you who already know everything. (We need you types out there to do the helping!)

(3) The other 4 FF's will have the same types of events all too few of us have seen in past FF's. Hopefully there will be a couple of interesting new twists. On these 4 FF's, only participants can use the field (HINT-HINT).

(4) The April, June, August, & Oct. FF's will consist of 2 events each (on the same day) and will be divided equally between self-handicapped and some form of numerical handicapped events (you're a brave man, John Campo) such that any and all people who bother to show up will have an equal chance. Sounds impossible, huh? Points will be given for the year-end trophies - they're already paid for - based on your luck in these 4 FF's. 1st, 2nd, & 3d place at each of these 4 FF days will win one gallon of club fuel.



Ken White has been burning the midnight oil to come up with the best possible slate of events for these FF's so that we can all have a good time. At the upcoming Feb. meeting, Ken will provide write-ups of the two events to be flown in April so they can be studied and practiced at the March 8th Beginners Day!! Even if you are one of those people who absolutely refuse to fly in a C - - - - - T, no matter how rigged it is, then Ken can use plenty of help in setting-up and running the events -- and that can be as much fun as flying yourself! (Ed.Note: especially if we set up the Porta-Can, Joe) Any of you who have some experience in theoretical, imaginary math should get in touch with John Campo to help with the handicaps. If, in all this great list of activities and needs, you can't find one single thing you can do or would like to do with your club, then go straight to Ken with your "better idea"... OR just sit on your thumbs and B---H and maybe you can be one of the stalwart attackers of the problem next year!!

(Joe Martin)

KEN EXPLAINS THE APRIL FF EVENTS!

MEMBER SITTING ON THUMBS

Don't Get Steamed Up At High Prices!

We just received something new from Tower Hobbies....a special flyer sent only to RC clubs. Although it is rather short, there may be something of interest to a few of you. We will have it at the Feb. meeting where you can look at it....if anyone wants to send an order he can be the coordinator for any others. May be some good bargins...

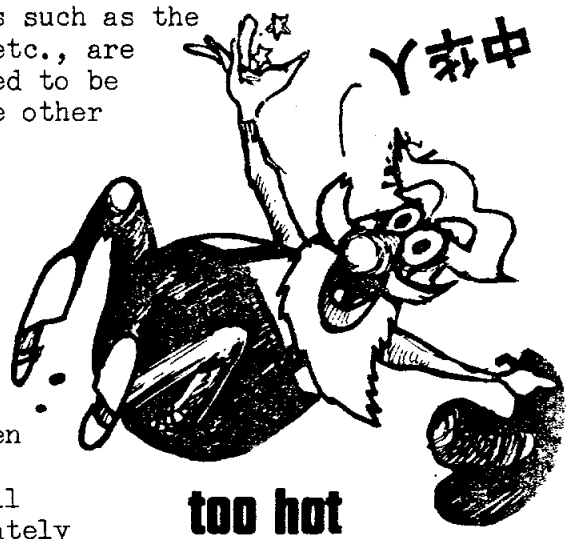
HOLD IT!

SAFETY CONCERNS OF HOT-WIRE FOAM CUTTING EQUIPMENT

by SAVERIO GAUDIANO

John Kiker discussed and demonstrated how to cut foam wing cores during the Dec. club meeting. While helping him, I observed that a possible electrical shock hazard existed with the power supply system we were using with the hot-wire bow. Although John made a particular effort to caution everyone about the problem, it's doubtful that many completely understood its significance. The purpose of this discussion is to explain how the hazard can occur and what can be done to eliminate it.

Alternating current (AC) is typically supplied to our homes as a three-wire circuit. One of the wires is called a "neutral" and is always connected to an "earth ground" at the power meter on the side of the house. Additional metallic items such as the water pipes, etc., are also considered to be grounded. The other two wires are designated as "hot" because they have a voltage on them with respect to the "ground" wire! If you measure between the two "hot" wires, you will find approximately 240 volts AC. If you measure between either of the two "hot" wires and the grounded wire, you will have approximately 120 volts AC. Ordinary wall receptacles provide 120 volts by using one of the "hot" wires and the grounded wire. (See Figure #1).



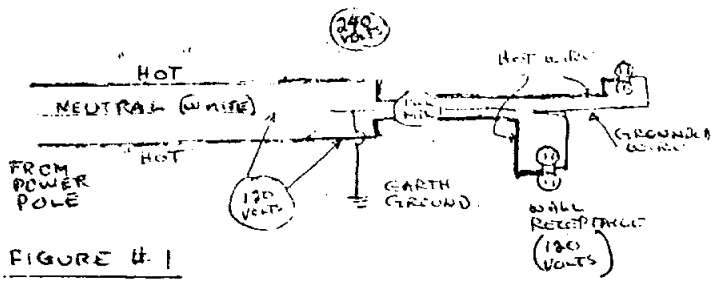


FIGURE #1

If you should accidently touch a bare wire which is connected to the grounded side of the receptacle while touching anything else that is conductive and also grounded, nothing will happen because no voltage exists between the two points. However, if you should touch a bare wire which is connected to the "hot" side of the receptacle and anything else that is connected to ground, you will receive a severe electrical shock. There will be 120 volts AC across your body and that condition may prove to be lethal.

The foam cutting equipment we used had a simple variable transformer to adjust the level of voltage delivered to the hot-wire and therefore its temperature. An electrical diagram of the system and a similar one using an electronic dimmer control is shown in Figures #2-A & B.

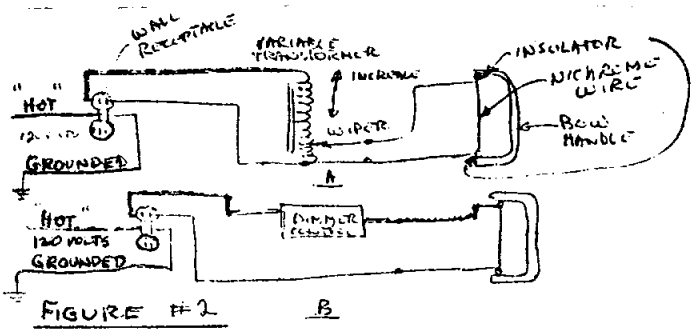


FIGURE #2

Neither circuit provides total isolation from line voltage and is therefore a possible shock hazard.

The setup can be plugged in a wall receptacle in either of two directions. The first, shown in Figure #3-A, has the transformer "common" and its wiper connections to the bow at ground potential. In this case the shock hazard is minimal, but increases as the wiper is moved toward maximum line voltage. It is the safest of the two choices, if and only if, you are certain which side of the receptacle is ground potential. Do not assume about what it should be. Also, understand that as the wiper is moved toward maximum, the shock hazard increases.

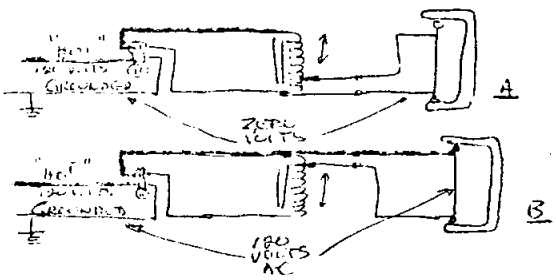


FIGURE #3

When the setup is plugged into the receptacle in the opposite direction (Figure #3-B), the transformer "common" and its wiper connections to the bow wire are at 120 volts relative to the ground. If you accidentally touch the wire or the connections to it you will encounter the exact same shock hazard described in Paragraph 3

To eliminate the possibility of electrical shock with the previously described system, it is necessary to isolate the bow wire from the AC power line. This can be done by adding a transformer to the circuit and would be similar to th designs shown in Figures #4-A, B, & C. Details on these systems will be provided in a subsequen newsletter.

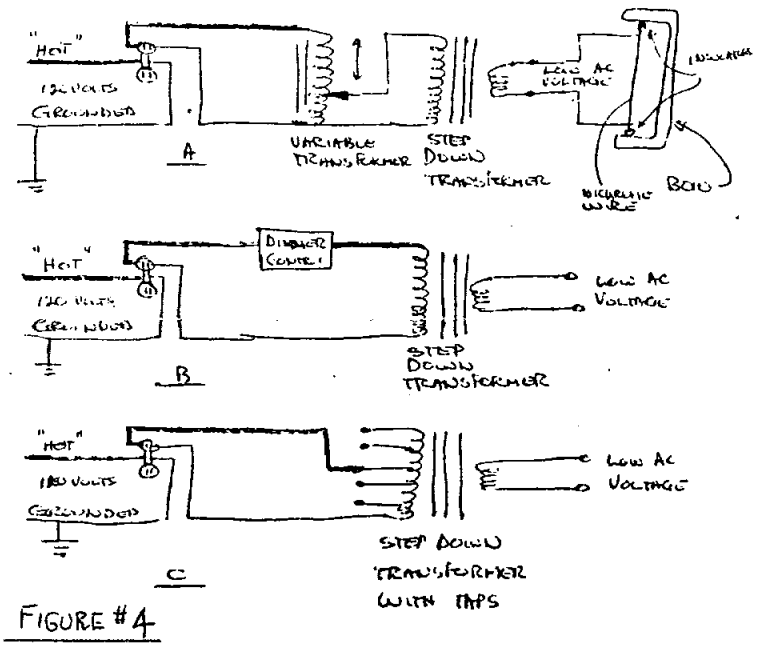


FIGURE #4