



The R/C Flyer

Volume 25, Issue 3

March 2001

Next Meeting – Thursday, March 8th at 7:00pm - Clear Lake Park Bldg.

The President's Corner

By: Clay Bare, President

Hey Guys/Gals! I hope all are doing well and getting in plenty of flying time before the hot summer weather is upon us. I know I personally have taken advantage of the great weather during the past few weeks. As I was out at the field this morning (it was a little on the windy side), I was reminded of one of the RC modeling cardinal rules. If it doesn't feel right on the ground, it won't get better in the air (no, I was lucky this time and didn't damage my plane). When I got to the field, it was very windy, but since my plane had been hanging in the garage, I thought it would be a good idea to run the engine a little with no intentions of flying it. It started with the first flip of the prop... Wow, I've got to fly it! The plane was badly out of trim and the wind was gusting in excess of 25 MPH but after I got the plane trimmed out the rest of the flight was uneventful with the exception of the tricky high wind landing. I thought to myself, its back on the ground let's go home... NA! Back to the air I went. This time I got a little braver and tried a few aerobatics. During a snap roll, I heard a pop followed by some very mushy aileron response so I quickly brought the plane in to inspect it. The right aileron clevis broke. Upon further inspection, the elevator clevis had popped open but luckily was still in place. I guess I didn't take into account the wind speed before snapping the plane and overstressed the clevises or maybe I should have given the plane a more thorough inspection after the long layover. Had I stuck with my original instinct (it was way too windy), the proceeding would have never happened.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the Club Procedure Rules, especially #5. It reads:

The only people with permission to fly on the JSC flying site are JSC Government employees, JSC/RCC current Club

members and guests with a current AMA license/membership card accompanied by a JSC or JSC/RCC Club member.

If you invite a guest to use our field, you owe it to your guest, JSC, and more importantly your Club, to make sure that you accompany your guest to the field. You are responsible for your guests and their safety while they are on the JSC site. Please be sure that your guests understand that you must be present while they are at the field. I would hate for someone to get hurt or JSCRCC lose the privilege to fly at JSC as a result of one not being familiar with our rules.

That's enough soapbox for now. If you have a moment, please review the Club Procedure Rules and keep them in mind at the field. I hope to see everyone at this month's meeting and also at the field.
Be safe! Think safe!

February 2001 Meeting Minutes

By: Michael Laible, Secretary

Meeting was called to order by President Clay Bare at 7:10 PM

Approximately 37 members were present and three visitors. The visitors were Derrick Smith, Bill Sweeney, and Jim Brock. Bill just recently soloed. Congratulations Bill!!!

OLD BUSINESS

Treasures report showed an estimated positive net of \$1035 for the month of January leaving a balance of \$5175.00

New field passes were handed out.

The Fun Fly committee gave a report on the status of the upcoming fun-flies. They will be held on the Saturday following the club meeting. Thought is that a fun fly will be held during the month of March, April May, June, September, and October. More info will be coming next month.

Progress on the transmitter impound was discussed. It was mentioned that the building process is awaiting a go ahead from NASA. Mr. Laible is working this and expects approval in the next week or so.

Herman Burton mentioned wearing the club name tags. This was well received and temp tags will be made available and a reminder for club members to wear the club supplied tags.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed

MODEL OF THE MONTH

James Hornsby showed his Great Planes Fandango. This is an electric park flyer and James mentioned the great service that he received from Willis Electric.

Bill Sweeney showed his SIG LT25. It is powered by an OS 25 FX and has about 12-15 flights. Bill just recently soloed.

James Hornsby's Fandango won the Model of Month for February.



PROGRAM

The program was a video on the Battle of Midway. This was a well-done video and was full of real footage.

REFRESHMENTS

Don Fisher will bring March refreshments.

Program for March meeting

By: Brian Warkentine

Mike McGraw will be coming to talk about jets. He will bring a recently completed Renegade. He will also share with us other products that he distributes.



Mike Laible Updates

A group of us are planning a little combat on March 10th. I will be on target for my plane but may not have a flight in yet. WELL, nothing like first flight/ first combat. I promise I will be reserved. You know, I never get excited!!!

I have volunteered to be the Clear Lake School district liaison to District AMA. All this means is that I try to get magazines (Model Aviation) into the schools. Details still being worked.

The TX impound is a go. We got approval from John Ngo, Building 14 facilitator. (Editor: Construction will begin first week in March and should be completed by mid-March).

However, in doing this I found out we need to apply for a frequency permit for JSC!!!! Go figure. Not a big deal, just need to fill out the form. Seems like JSC is cataloging all the frequencies that are used on site. This is good, although I got worried when she said that the EVA and health crew use 72 MHz!!!!!! WHAT??. She finally said, well close to 72 MHz.

Details forthcoming
Happy landings

Club Shirts Update

By: Brian Warkentine

Our first order of club shirts was a great success. I am keeping a running list of those that didn't get shirts that first go around and would still like one. If you would like a polo shirt please let me know. I will now take another look at T-shirts, caps, and patches. If you have an interest in these other items please let me know.



Brian Warkentine with his "all weather" airplane while in Moscow

Gotcha!

By: Don White

For whatever reason our engines seem to be running backwards more often lately. Maybe it is the cool temperature or the fuel but it seems to be more prevalent than usual. I know that the engine being too rich is a typical reason but if the problem has not happened to you it will!

We have all seen that the engine can reverse itself after a few seconds, again not always but jazzing the throttle back and forth will sometimes get the engine running in the correct direction. This happened to Bill Sweeney and I recently. He was starting the engine and I was holding the box. The engine started and Bill, to see which way it was running, put his hand in front of the engine to feel the wind, at that moment I was successful in getting it reversed, the plane lunged forward..... and the rest could have been a nasty accident. While the engine was running backwards, the plane had backed up ever so slightly, and when it reversed itself it leaped forward almost eating his hand.

Be safe and keep your hand away from in front of the prop, way away!

Somethin Extra Update

By: Charlie Teixeira

Back in January I wrote a short article about the "Somethin Extra", a SIG kit that is really neat to build. I said at the time that I would let you know how it flies. Well, I finally got around to getting it in the air and the performance is awesome with a K&B .48. The plane weighed in at 5 3/4 lbs., probably the lightest plane I have built in this class. However, the "specs" say the weight is between 4 and 5 lbs.! I just don't see how they can advertise that light a plane. Anyway, it flies great. Scott White has the same plane and if you have seen what he can do with it, well, I get rather depressed watching him. But maybe with lots of practice????

I highly recommend the kit based on quality of the laser cut parts, ease of construction, low cost (~\$70) and flying qualities.

A must see!!!

New pictures by Brain Morris at

<http://www.geocities.com/tattler100/flying.html>

New Club Flight Instructor

Don White has joined the ranks of club flight instructors for fixed wing aircraft. He can be reached at 281-488-1024

For Sale:

Complete micro-R/C outfit for front-yard/gym/park flying, including:

-Braun "Mouse", all-composite airframe, built and covered with light Mylar-"most maneuverable airplane in the world", should weigh about 6 oz. fully assembled.

-Hitec Focus 3SS FM with Tx, "Feather" ultralight Rx, two HS-55 submicro servos

-Faulhaber 1524 coreless ball-bearing motor with 15.8:1 gearbox

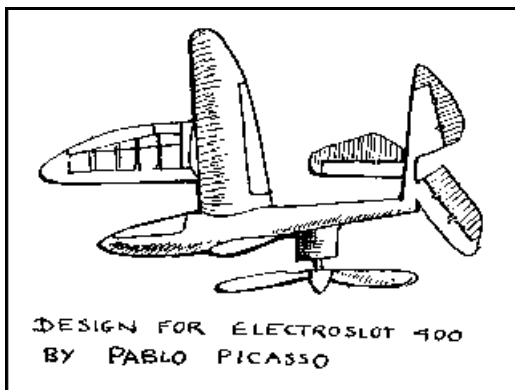
-Braun 10/4.5 carbon propeller

-135 kHz electronic speed controller, specially designed for coreless motors, with BEC

- 8 cell 9.6v 50 mah nicad not yet flown, needs some final wiring, will include spare connectors and other parts:

\$350.00

JJ Robinson II
281-461-0944



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