

March 1995

The News Letter of the *Manned Space Center Radio Control Club*

President's Corner

Ray Randolph

Going's On - Quite a few things were discussed at the February meeting:

As a result of the GPS Testing at the JSC antenna range, the flying site was closed from Feb. 9 to Mar. 3. To help us over this "dry spell", four of our neighbor clubs offered invitations to our members to use their flying sites as their guests. On behalf of all our members a sincere "Thank You" is expressed to the:

Alvin RC Club
Bayport Aero Club
Prop Nuts RC Club
Texas City RC Club

and to their officers and members. It's folks like these that make RC modeling a really fine sport. Special thanks to Ed Copeland for initiating the info dissemination.

There was a lot of discussion about the NASA/Houston Rocket Club using the antenna range as a launch site. A letter was received from the NHRC President which ultimately proposes joint use of the site. While joint use is amicable it does not ensure the safety aspects of either RC or Rocket modeling. The one time a concurrent activity took place, it was like a hot bet of disarray. I hope there is a separate solution that everyone can live with. More as the saga unfolds.

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Words From The VP

Bill Langdoc

The club project to design, build, and successfully fly a world record, long distance, cross country R/C airplane is off to a good start. The goal is a 400-500 mile flight with a plane that weighs less than 11 lbs, and has an engine no larger than 10cc (60 size). To set a record during daylight, so one can see the plane while chasing it cross country, means that the plane needs to cruise at around 60 miles per hour, yet have very low fuel consumption. Jeff Longmore and Brian Morris have been busy getting the project organized. They have gathered data on the current record setting airplane, and the official FAI rules. Maynard Hill, holder of the current record at 329 miles, seems to have mastered the necessary engine and fuel technology; but the aerodynamics of his plane looks like they could be significantly improved.

**Next Meeting
This Thursday
March 9th
7:30 PM
Clear Lake Park Building**

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Minutes from the February 1994 Meeting

Resha Hill - Secretary



Ray Randolph called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as published in the newsletter.

Old Business:

- ☛ Dave Hoffman has the 1995 new club badges.
- ☛ The pop carts that Dave Hoffman ordered for the club have not come in.
- ☛ Bill Langoc received 22 responses to the surveys he sent out to club members. Copies were made available to those interested at the February meeting. The responses received will help make the club activities more interesting for 1995.
- ☛ Club members at the February meeting expressed an interest in updating the RC club logo design.
- ☛ Youth Program - Mike Laible needs volunteers to help with the next Delta Dart Program at Seabrook Intermediate. Contact Mike if you are interested. Activity will be held March 6.
- ☛ Ray Randolph has been talking with neighborhood clubs regarding Joint Club Events. Prop Nuts will talk about the possibility at their next board meeting. Texas City has offered club members to join in on their June Fun Fly. Bayport Aero Club is interested in a joint event and feels that the earlier it is the better it would be for them.
- ☛ Discussions were held regarding the NHRC wanting to use the antenna range for a launch site. The NHRC has been through the process and received permission from NASA to launch near the tower and to drive spectators out. We are still working on trying to come up with a doable safe solution for both clubs.

New Business:

- ☛ A profile form will be developed and will be used by those showing their models off. The information provided on the form will be used to write about your "Show and Tell" in the newsletter.
- ☛ Discussions were held on having "Model Show and Tell", as well as "Model of the Year". Club members expressed how much they enjoyed and want to continue "Model of the Month".

Model of the Month:

Eric and Wayne Green displayed their Kyosho RV-3. Eric has helped dad with the construction of this full plan kit. Covering was yellow and white. Hope Eric has a great time flying it.

Entertainment:

David Dale shared with member the hazards and safety associated with paints and sanding. This was very education and you can never be too careful. Thanks David.

Refreshments: Kirby Hinson will bring the March refreshment. Thank you for volunteering.

The R/C Flyer

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Jerry Hajek

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Kimberly Evans

Articles and want ads can be submitted to Jerry Hajek, 486-4722 or on 5.25" or 3.5" floppies in ASCII, Word Perfect, PFS, Word Star, Modem Xfer, or hard copy formats sent to: 1035 Bellgreen, Houston 77062. "Support Your R/C Flyer"

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There was a general consensus of opinion at the February meeting that a logo update for the club might be a good idea. A contest for members to submit ideas looks like a possibility. We'll try to get this organized later in the Spring.

The "Club Project" committee came back with a recommendation that an attempt at the FAI distance record might be a doable project. The committee (co-chaired by Brian Morris and Jeff Longmore) is looking for technical expertise to support the project development. This is starting to spawn some real interest and sounds like fun. If you are interested in being involved, contact Brian or Jeff. (Anyone have a 1957 Chevy convertible as the pace? chase? car?)

Congratulations to Eric and Wayne Green on their model of the month.

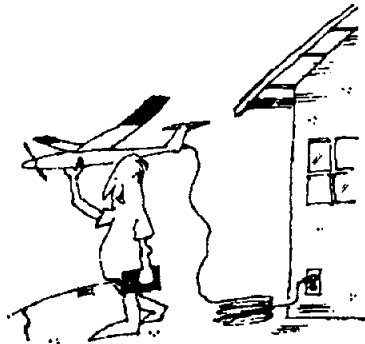
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There is some interest on the part of our neighboring clubs to have some joint activity. The interest seems mainly to have our members participate in some of the established events rather than initiate a new "joint" event. I can understand this position because events demand a lot of work to pull-off. Established events are easier than trying to form a new one. I'll pass along any new information as more discussions take place with the other clubs.

Mini-Product Review -

Well, I finally got to try the "Hobby Lobby Int. Oracover Lite Film". It seems equally as good as the basic Oracover film, but is 50% lighter. The shrink qualities are excellent and compound curve covering goes really well. The only draw back seems to be the limited number of colors available in the "Lite" category. If you have a covering job on a plane you are trying to save weight, this film will help. If you really want to save film weight use Litespan film which has no adhesive. For this you have to paint "Balsaloc" on the structure and then only put adhesive where it is required.



Project In Work - The "stand-down" at the flying site has dramatically increased the build time on the "Lazy Bee". The redesign of the nose structure to support the larger engine is done and turned out neat (even I do say so). What was a fragile little airplane is now a rugged little rascal. The fuselage is framed, sanded and painted with "Balsarite". I'm now in the process of locating the equipment. The nose moment is so short on this plane that the equipment is all in the front or all in the back and the center is empty. You'll see what I mean at one of the near term meetings (maybe April). I'm getting anxious to see this little plan fly.

(VP from Page 1)

The beauty of this undertaking is that there are so many different aspects that anyone in the club who is interested can get involved and make a meaningful contribution. If you would like to help give Jeff or Brian a call at 335-1532 or 481-3900, respectively.

As luck would have it, we have had some very nice weather while our flying field is shutdown. By the time you read this, the long duration GPS testing will be over and we should be back to flying. Fortunately, there are no other long term tests scheduled for the antenna range.

A special thanks to David Dale for the program at February's meeting on the hazards of the various materials and chemicals that are used in our hobby. For those who weren't there, carefully read the labels on all the paints, thinners, and glues that you use. There are many irritating or down right hazardous ingredients in many of them. Use of an appropriate mask, and at times gloves, is a protection that we should all get in the habit of using when sanding, painting or gluing.

Looking ahead, Gene Kranz will be speaking at our April meeting about the full scale biplane he is building. Gene is very enthusiastic about his home built project, and says that he has lots to share with us on the experience.



New Technology!!

The R/C Flyer

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March 1995

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Charles Copeland 532-1570
Tas Crowson 474-9531
Don Fisher 474-4942(H) 483-2157(W)
Wayne Green 484-3151
Don White 488-1024

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John Campo 488-7748
Charles Copeland 326-2360
Paul Ellis 480-3839(H) 488-9878(W)
Don Fisher 474-4942(H) 483-2157(W)
Mike Goza (Heli and Airplane)
554-4016(H) 483-4696(W)
Wayne Green (Heli) 484-3151
Jerry Hajek 486-4722(H) 246-4312(W)
David Hoffman 476-5206(H) 479-1945(W)
David Tadlock (Glider) 481-5227