

June 1995

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

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## President's Corner

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Ray Randolph

**Goings On** - Our Fun Fly committee is "pressing on" with the development of the events and prizes for the upcoming event. I think the plan is to focus on the type of events that will be forgiving and extend airplane "lifetime." I hope the future turn-out will be an increase over last years events. Get involved, folks!

We will be checking into having a joint activity with some of our neighbor clubs to perhaps have a dinner meeting and tour of the "Lone Star Museum". There is probably a minimum number of attendees to make this kind of activity affordable, so a joint activity may be the answer. I'll try to have some of the details at the next meeting.

The club project guys are planning to do some "pickup truck flying" practice in the next few weeks and may enter the "Road Rally" event, which I think is schedule for June? - July? It will be interesting to hear from them at the next meeting and hear what flying from a "moving field" is like.

The youth involvement activity is looking to the Fall for continued activities with some of the local schools. It sounds as though the prior events were all well received and supported. Thanks for the member support - and keep it up Mike!

## Words From The VP

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Bill Langdoc

Jim Farris gave a super program at the May meeting on constructing a composite wing using vacuum bagging techniques. The demonstration was fascinating and really helped understanding the method. Jim has certainly mastered a technique that gives strong, beautiful, precise results. Too bad we ran out of time before he got a chance to cover fuselage construction. Several of you asked if we could get Jim to come back. I'll see if we can get him to show us more later in the year.

**Next Meeting  
This Thursday  
June 8th  
7:30 PM  
Clear Lake Park Building**

Gene Kranz, former Director of Flight Operations at JSC, has been rescheduled to talk at the June 8th meeting on the full scale Renegade Spirit biplane he is building. You may remember that Gene had been scheduled to speak in April, but had a conflict with an Apollo 13 commemoration. Gene is very enthusiastic about his home built project, and says that he has much to share with us. This should be a special program and every one should plan to attend.

## Minutes from the May 1995 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:

▪ *Youth Involvement* - Howard Schaffer has expressed to Mike Laible an interest in forming a "Youth Club" and is willing to head it up. The club which would start in the Fall and would meet after school hours.

▪ *Joint Club Events* - The Bayport Club offered to have a joint fun-fly on June 3. Club officers and attendees at the May meeting accepted the offer and has also agreed to help pay for the food and drinks.

▪ *Club Project* - No new information regarding the "Distant Flight" project. Jeff Longmore mentioned that some of the project members were planning to practice flying from the back of a moving truck.

▪ *Fun-fly Committee* - Don Fisher will contact the committee members to plan and schedule a club fun-fly.

▪ *Trainer Planes and Radios* - Tas Crowson has volunteered his Aerostar 20 to the club. If there are any other club members that would volunteer to provide radios or airplanes for training, please contact Bill Langdoc or Don Fisher.

▪ *Pop-carts* - According to Dave Hoffman, the pop-carts are suppose to be shipped next month.

▪ *JSC Club Application Package* - Bill Langdoc and Dave Hoffman have been working to complete our package for submittal.

▪ *Lone Star Flight Museum* - Ray Randolph will check into the possibility of arranging a tour and dinner meeting (possibly as a joint club event) at the museum.

### New Business:

▪ *Rocket R/C Club* - Flying site will be closed due to the Top Gun NAR Sanctioned Regional Competition, scheduled on June 10 and 11. This is being hosed by the NASA/Houston Rocket Club. In the event of bad weather, alternate dates are June 17 & 18.

▪ *Newsletter Support* - Thanks goes to Bob Blaylock for volunteering to take on the club newsletter distribution task.

▪ *JSC Roundup* - Bill Langdoc mentioned that the JSC Roundup will be used as a source for advertising the club events and meetings.

### Show-n-Tell:

Xcell Pro Windstar and Xcell Gas helicopters - shown by Mike Goza. Both helicopters were built from kits and are Miniature Aircraft models. The Xcell Pro Windstar is finished with acrylic lacquer and enamel, weights 11 lbs, and has a modified OS 60 engine. The Xcell Gas model weight 13.5 lbs, finish was also done with acrylic lacquer and enamel, and has a Zenoah 23 engine.

Lazy Bee - shown by Ray Randolph. Model manufacturer is Clancey Aviation; the plane was built from a kit, and covered with yellow Orocover "Lite". It weighs 54 oz and has a HP VT-21 (.21 ci) engine. Done at last!

### Entertainment:

Thanks Jim for making the effort and giving an excellent demonstration on constructing a composite wing using the vacuum bagging techniques; everyone learned something and found it interesting.

### Refreshments:

Even though a reminder was left out of last months newsletter, Ted White remembered and brought refreshments to the May meeting. We appreciated the cookies and drinks. Jeff Longmore has volunteered to provide the refreshments for the June meeting.

### Calendar of Events:

June 3 - Bay Port Club and MSC R/C Club "joint fun-fly event"  
June 24 - MSCRCC fun-fly beginning at 9:00 a.m.

## The R/C Flyer

EDITOR

**Jerry Hajek**

ASSEMBLY, POSTING, DISTRIBUTION

**Bob Blaylock**

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"

## FUN FLY

**A club Fun Fly is planned for June 24, 1995, beginning at 9:00. The events are still being finalized, but there will be something for every one regardless of skill level or experience. Event details will be announced at the June meeting. Mark your calendars and plan to come out for a good time.**

(Pres from Page 1)

**Mini-Product Review** -- Master Airscrew propellers (Winsor Prop Mfg.) have expanded their line of "Simitar" props to include more sizes and pitches. These props are pretty rugged and seem quieter than the standard shape. I've had the same prop on the Cherokee for about a year (knock on wood) and it's still in good shape. The one feature that could be improved would be to put serrations on the back of the hub. The prop has a tendency to rotate when mounted with a spinner backplate and move away from the backplate stops. These props are reasonably priced and with the increase in sizes are great for .30 to .60 size engines for sport flying.

**Projects In Work** - Well, the Bee has flown. The trim settings are extremely sensitive and the first flight was pretty "sporty". I needed a little help to get to a "hands-off" condition. After that I had to switch to "high rates" to get enough control surface throw for good maneuvers and control with elevator and ailerons. It appears that when the big wing is trimmed and stable, the control surfaces must "wrestle" the wing to a different attitude. But with a few adjustments the "Bee" is a "Pussy Cat"! This guy performs pretty well with the HP VT .21 four cycle engine, but with the added weight and strength it likes to move rather fast. This, in turn, says you don't let your attention wander. This has been a fun but demanding project. If anyone decides to build a "Lazy Bee", I would suggest strengthening the nose -- no matter what size engine you use.

(VP from Page 1)

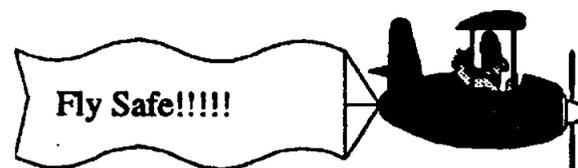
The club has provided our charter, proof of insurance, roster, safety rules, badging plan, and usage schedule to NASA JSC as requested. At this point in the time, the dispute with the Rocket Club over shared usage of the antenna range is still unresolved. Once we have re-secured our official center sanction, then we will continue negotiations with the Rocket Club. In the mean time, continue to be careful on the first and third Saturday mornings of each month, in case members of the Rocket Club show up and press their claim for usage of the field. Also be aware that the Rocket Club has scheduled and is publicizing a

regional meet for June 10 and 11, with an alternate rain date of the following weekend, June 17 and 18. This event was not coordinated with our club, or as far as we can tell, with the center. On which ever weekend it occurs, we need to leave the field to them. Hopefully by the June meeting we will know more about this.

As the club works with the center to resolve this problem, every one of us needs to pay extra attention to safety. JSC has initiated a much greater emphasis on safety, and we need to be especially careful that our flying is not viewed as an unsafe, hazardous operation. We all know that in this hobby crashes occur. We just need to minimize their impact (no pun intended) so that neither people, or other equipment and property are damaged.

Within the last month I have been at the field when major crashes occurred. In one case a wing failed while maneuvering at a fairly high altitude, and in the other the onboard batteries died. Both incidents resulted in ballistic return to the ground and destruction of the airplane. Fortunately in both cases nothing else was damaged. But the point is, the potential is always there and we all need to be particularly alert to preventing accidents to start with, and to flying in such a way that if something does fail in flight the plane will come down away from people, cars, and buildings.

One final item as a follow up to something in last months R/C Flyer and as discussed at last months meeting. The club is beginning a program to re-cycle planes to young people to get them started in the hobby. If you have an old, but serviceable, trainer or radio system that you would be willing to donate (Maybe for a tax write-off, we are checking.) or sell at a cheap price, contact me at 482-2369. The club would like to have some fully usable trainers to loan and or sell to get more youth involved.



Popcarts will be here by meeting time.  
Call Dave Hoffman 479-1945 to get yours

DON FISHER  
FUN FLY =>

June 24TH  
=> 9 AM  
=> \*Pylon  
\* Balloon Bust  
\* Climb / Glide

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## The R/C Flyer

412 W. Pasadena Blvd.  
Deer Park, Texas 77536  
(713) 479-1945



MICHAEL LAIBLE  
2823 SEA LEDGE  
SEABROOK, TX 77586-1554

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June 1995

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### **Fuel for Sale**

Jim Brock 334-1715  
John Campo 488-7748  
Charles Copeland 532-1570  
Tas Crowson 474-9531  
Don Fisher 474-4942(H) 483-2157(W)  
Wayne Green 484-3151  
Don White 488-1024

### **Instructors**

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