



The R/C Flyer

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August 2006

Next Meeting – August 10, 2006, Clear Lake Park Building – 7:00 PM

July meeting minutes

By: Mike Goza, JSCRCC Secretary

The Meeting started at 7:00pm 7/13/2006

Old Business:

Herman gave out some old model of the month trophies.

We have heard nothing from JSC on the field improvements. James attempted to work on the canopy, but was lacking the proper tools to perform the job. We are going to try and get the pipes out of the ground this weekend at 9:00am. If we can get them out, then we will order the parts to fix the rest of the canopy.

We are still having problems with a couple of flyers that do not have AMA cards and are flying on our field. If you approach these people and they do not produce an AMA card, then ask them to leave. If they do not leave, then have security remove them. These people may cost us our flying site if there is an incident with an aircraft. Only JSC employees can fly with an AMA card and badge without belonging to the club. If these people are contractors, then have them removed.

New Business:

Just a reminder... There is a club Fun Fly on

October 14th. Everyone come out and have fun.

The club voted to have banners made for advertising our club at AMA events. Herman will purchase the banner. Club members can borrow these as needed.

Dave will bring refreshments for August and Karl Swigert will bring them for September.

James Lemon will check with Lands End about having our logo put in their system so that we can purchase shirts and such directly without having to keep a stock of shirts in the club. This should be a reasonable option for the club. James will report back next month with prices.

Model of the Month:

Troy brought a model of a Chinese Junk constructed by a friend. It was very well built.



Karl brought a Hanger 9 Pulse XT powered by a Super Tigre 45 for show and tell. It is highly prefabricated. To put the kit together required no gluing. It was all bolted together.



Herman Burton won MOM with a Four Star 120 powered by an OS 160 twin cylinder. It is covered in yellow Oracover.



Entertainment:

There was no entertainment this month.

Meeting adjourned 8:20pm.

CANOPY REPAIRED

By: Herman Burton, President

A group of the club members arrived early Saturday morning, July 15, with hammers and tools, ready to tackle the repairs to the canopy. Tas Crowson brought along his gasoline-powered electric generator, hand tools, pipe cutters, etc., while Bill Schwander drove down to Kemah Hardware to buy 18" long pieces of 1 1/4" galvanized pipe sleeves. All the legs of the canopy that had not previously broken off at the ground level were cut off, the legs shortened about 18", and the new sleeves dropped down into the old thin-walled pipe portion that remained in the ground, embedded in concrete. The new sleeves provided a solid support of about 6"-8" of solid pipe for the existing pipe columns to drop over.

James Lemon, Mike Goza, Clay Bare and Danny Williams all took their turns cutting, holding, pushing, plus removing the nylon rope tie downs, cutting off the rusty poles, and other assorted jobs until the job was complete. Bill Schwander was helpful, too. Tas solved each problem as it arose, adding much to the speedy completion of a hot job.

The repaired canopy is about a foot and a half lower than previously, which provides better shade than before. All the broken legs are now solidly anchored to new sleeves, plus the nylon rope tie downs are taunt and secure. At a later date, small diameter wire rope will be installed to replace the nylon (stretchable!) rope tie downs.

Thanks, men, for helping out the club. A job well done!

Records Are made to be Broken

By: Charlie Teixeira, Editor

I suspect that along with many (most?) of the club members, I usually skip right past the "Focus on Competition" section in the back of the (AMA) Model Aviation magazine. If you haven't checked this section out, you should and you will be surprised. The topic in the July issue listed all the existing FAI World and AMA National records. Many of the competitive categories I don't have a clue as to what exactly they are.

What I did find interesting was the large number of records that are on the books since the 1960s and 1970s. One FAI record (Open Glider, height) even goes back to 1948! For AMA, there are some 50 or so records set in the 1970s, must have been a good decade. This all begs the question as to why these records have not been broken sometime during the past 30-40 years. Are these categories no longer of interest, or modelers just not interested in expending the effort (and money) required to break a record?

This is not to say records are not being broken. Over 60 FAI records have been broken since 2000. On the AMA national level, over 40 AMA records have been broken the past several years. So the competitive spirit is still alive albeit only in selected categories.

Is there any interest in a JSCRCC member (or team) going after one of the long standing records, maybe with club sponsorship? Just a thought.

Letter to the Editor

Charles, I enjoyed the article re the electric cross country flights. Some of the old-timers in the club will remember my old "Gulf Coaster" glider design that was kitted for a while. My friend, Ralph Copenhaver, converted a real old Coaster to electric with outstanding results. This is a big aircraft, 109" span and weighs near 3 lbs, but if there is any lift around it will find it! I thought the attached picture was interesting - taken with a little Kodak P-850 at full 12x zoom. Believe it or not, it was taken at about 3 in the afternoon with the moon in the background - a fitting shot for the NASA group.



We do have nice, clear air out here! Tell all of my old friends hello for me. Any of you guys would always be welcome and we have a small guest house (hint).

Best regards,
Bert Striegler

(Editor: Bert now lives on a farm about 8 miles east of Brady, Texas, just a couple of miles south of highway 190, in a little farming area called East Sweden. He has a runway, the eastern edge is just 75ft. out of the back door of his shop, lucky guy!

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