



The Newsletter of the *Manned Space Center Radio Control Club*

VICE President's Corner

Dear Members,

As you noticed the title of this month's column has changed (temporarily) because our "Prez" is on holiday/business trip to the UK joining his family for a little R and R. He will be back for our next meeting on the 13th of August.

A few new features are soon to be added to the newsletter in order to keep the members a little more informed of what is going on in the club and hoping to generate new or renewed interests in our activities. One is the announcement of the "Model-Of-The-Month" and the who, what, and how info. Another is the on going construction program of the DC-3 headed up by Spence Mann. Also, a listing of new members, their interests and areas that they need help (we all need some type of help in this hobby sooner or later).

The ongoing subject of "radio interference" was and is still ongoing as of the last meeting. There were no resolutions or or any specific actions agreed on, but there was a lot of concern voiced. I feel there is no all encompassing answer to what is being experienced at our flying site as well as others. The discussions did bring to light some of "old" standard Do's and Don'ts when it comes to radio installation: route antennas away from servo and battery leads, check all wiring routinely, mount Rx and battery in loosely wrapped foam, and locate Rx/battery away from engine mounting bulkhead. As a flyer and a AMA member, it is your responsibility to keep you equipment in proper operating order. This includes having your system checked for proper frequency compliance (recommended before you start your flying season and after any heavy impacts with

Next Meeting
Thursday,
August 13, 1987
at 7:30
in the Clear Lake Park
Building

objects other than air). Another area that attention needs to be given is being conscientiously aware of what is going on around you as you are participating in flying. Some examples are: keep adequate distance between pilots, be aware of how many pilots are up and what they may be flying. Make a habit of turning on your "Rx" first (contrary to the manufacture's instructions for stabilizing your airborne pack) to see if someone or something else is controlling your receiver before you try when it's too late.

Now for the new frequency or new radio concern: make an effort to stay on top of what is going on in magazine articles (especially the AMA magazine), avoid three in a row in the same prime color (IE, yellow), be alerted to the "older" frequencies that are being phased out at the end of the year and their mutual residual effects with the newer radios/frequencies. Finally, make an effort to work with your



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fellow flyer to help each other in all aspects of our hobby so it can be safe and pleasant for everyone especially the newcomers.

A spectrum analyzer will be made available at the September meeting to check your transmitters. So, get them ready (even older borderline units) to get an idea of where you stand. Note, this is a voluntary opportunity and is not meant to single-out anyone or create an air of suspicion. I feel if you are really concerned about radio interference, you will be there with your transmitter charged and fighting to get in line.

Subjects to think about: next year's "Scale Contest", we need a contest director soon and need to submit a date to the AMA. Next, schedule a return date for the cookout and funfly with the Prop Nuts club. Interests have been expressed by AMA about having the 1989 NATS in the Houston Area and being organized by the Houston Area Modeling Council. What do you think and will you support/participate???

Final word in support of our newsletter editor, without you we cannot have a newsletter much less try to work at having a good or even maybe an excellent newsletter. Please submit articles, sound-offs, sale items and announcements to Tim Bond. He cannot create the newsletter every month, he has volunteered the edit, compile, and provide the master document for distribution, but we need contents from YOU.

Please call me or Jon if you have questions or concerns, or just to gab a little.

A few weekends ago, a plane was damaged during take-off and concern was expressed that it was caused by "radio interference", but later that evening the pilot of the damaged plane assessed the conditions and events leading up to, during, and after the occurrence. He concluded it wasn't a radio problem at all, but a simple oversight in preparation of the aircraft for the first flight of the day. I appreciated the phone call from the individual and his expression of concern about the incident since I was the other party. He wanted to let me know that the concern I had about my radio's condition was unfounded and not to worry.

Thanks again, Dennis

Model of the Month

The Model of the Month award went to **Jerry Wooldridge** at the July meeting. He presented his multi-colored, monokoted Olympic II sailplane. He did a really nice job on this one!

Notes of Interest

5th annual Ducted Fan contest will be held September 11, 12, 13th north of Fort Worth.

Make sure your transmitter is **fully charged** before you bring it to the meeting for testing at the September meeting. You will need only bring your transmitter.

Please send in something for the newsletter everyone! How about some cartoons, I ran out long ago! Thanks to those that have contributed in the past, you know who you are...



Don White has 5, 10 and 15%. Call 488-1024 before 10PM.

Hal Rosenberg has 5 and 10%. He can be reached at 333-3866.

Dennis Smerz has 5, 10, 15% (mostly 5 and 10), and limited four stroke fuel available. Call him at 482-9431.



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Fun Fly Contest Announcement

A fun-fly contest will be held at the NASA flying field on Saturday, August 15, 1987. This is the Saturday after our next club meeting. The field will be closed for normal flying while this contest is taking place.

The events are a Las Vegas loops flight, a Guess The Time flight, and an Egg-Timer Pylon race. All three events will be combined to get an overall winner. There will be a handicapping system to be announced later.

For the Las Vegas loops flight, each pilot will roll a die, then start his engine, take off, perform three loops and land. After landing he will roll the die until he gets the same number as before the flight. Time starts with the die roll and end when the die stops with the same number.

For the Guess The Time flight, each pilot will take off and try to land after exactly two minutes. The pilot will not be allowed to see a watch or check the time. Time starts when the wheels leave the ground and end when they touch down.

For the egg-timer pylon race, all planes will take of at once (or as many per heat as possible) and fly around the course, a random timer will be started, ending after a maximum of three minutes. When the timer ends, the first person to cross the finish line is the winner. Note that this does not care how many laps you have completed or what your position is when the timer stops.

It is important to notice that all three events are possible by anyone who has soloed. These are not for experienced pilots only, all beginners are invited (encouraged) to compete. If there are any questions, please call Steve Rothstein, 488-5674. We will also need helpers for the contest.

Astronaut Will Visit

Don't forget that astronaut "Hoot" Gibson will speak about the Shuttle at our ~~September~~ club meeting. Make sure you don't miss this one!

Proud? Father

Stephan and Peggy Rothstein asked me to announce the birth of their daughter Kelly Victoria on July 20, 1987. Both mother and daughter are doing fine.

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The R/C Flyer

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