

September 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** - At the August meeting these questions were raised: *"Where are the young people?"* and *"Why aren't more members at this meeting?"* As you may have guessed, these were questions from Mr. John Kiker. I didn't have any real answers and there wasn't much response from the members in attendance. What I can say is that the youth involvement activities supported by our members have exposed a lot of kids to model aviation that otherwise may not have had the opportunity. This effort is expanding to include not only activities with the local schools but also Scouting organizations. We can show our "wares" and hope there is follow-on motivation on the part of the kids to "get-involved". We are building an inventory of club equipment (a plane, a radio, engine, etc.) to allow interested "kids" (of all ages) to be able to come to the field and get some instructor guided "stick time". This needs to be publicized through our local contacts and by our members.

As far as our present membership involvement -- what's to say. Summertime may cause some conflicts for attending our meetings, but our low attendance record exists through all seasons. We have tried to put on some flying events to bolster member interest. The only thing that happens is that the same group of flyers show up who would show up whether there was an event or not!

The quality of our entertainment programs have been excellent. Unfortunately, only a token number of the membership has had the advantage of experiencing them.  
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## Words From The VP

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Bill Langdoc

Special thanks to Rick Searfoss for providing a very good and interesting program for the August meeting. For the first part of the program, Rick presented some personal insights, along with a video, from his two weeks in space aboard the Space Shuttle on STS-58. For the second part of the program, he gave a very informative talk on spins and high angle of attack flying. Both are areas of flight that can cause significant problems, but are part of the flight envelop that should be explored and mastered. Rick provided many good tips and some practice exercises to improve flying technique. Thanks again Rick.

**Next Meeting**  
**This Thursday**  
**September 14th**  
**7:30 PM**  
**Clear Lake Park Building**

**JSC Sanction** - At the time of this writing (mid-August), we still have not had a formal meeting with JSC and the Rocket Club to officially resolve our differences over use of the antenna range. I've been writing this sentence, or one similar for several months now, and am getting more anxious than you are to get this issue resolved. Now we are being told that once the Ballunar Festival and JSC Open House are over at the end of August then the meeting will be scheduled. In the mean time, I'm being  
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## Minutes from the August 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

- *Pop-carts* - Dave Hoffman has three pop-carts remaining for sale.
- *Youth Program* - Mike Laible is still actively working this effort. Mike has made contact with a teacher who really wants to work and be involved when the summer school break is over.
- *JSC Club Application Package* - No change in status.

### New Business

- *Club Canopy* - The club has purchased a new canopy as a replacement for the missing one.
- *Nominating Committee* - Volunteers are needed for the Nominating Committee, election and installation of new club officers in October is just around the corner.
- *Auction* - November is annual Club Auction month. It is time to put a flyer together and distribute. David Dale has volunteered to be the auctioneer.
- *Balloon Festival and JSC Open House* - the flying field will be closed Friday, 8/25, through Sunday 8/27.
- *Lunar Festival* - Discussion was held regarding the club becoming active in the Lunar Festival which is held annually by the Clear Lake community. Mike Laible has volunteered to follow-up on what it would take for the club to become involved.
- *Meeting room renewal* - Dave Hoffman has already taken care of the necessary arrangements.

### Show-n-Tell & Model of the Month

Wayne Green took home the model of the month, showing off his Bridi - North American T28.

### Entertainment

Rick Searfoss showed an interesting video on the STS-58 flight and gave an excellent presentation on "spins and stalls". Thanks Rick!

### Refreshments

Mike Laible volunteered to bring the refreshments for the September meeting.

## 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"

### Calendar of Events

*September 15, 16, & 17* - "7th Annual B-17 Gathering and Big Bird Fly-In" at Bomber Field, Monaville, Tx. This year's show will be conducted in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the end of WWII. A radio-controlled B-29 Superfortress, replica of the Enola Gay, will re-create the atom bomb drops on Hiroshima and Nagasaki providing deafening explosions & mushroom clouds through the use of safely controlled pyrotechnics. Also enjoy WWI and civilian aircraft of past and present, including ducted fan and turbine jets. Flying will be from 8am to 5pm Saturday, and 8am to 2pm Sunday. Raffle drawing & awards to conclude. For information contact B. B. Weber (713)498-7935, Carlos Ortiz (713)332-1991, or Mike Smith (713)930-1141. Pilots fee \$15.00, general admission \$3.00, food and drinks available from concession area.

*October 6, 7 & 8* - "1995 Air Festival" sponsored by the Baton Rouge Radio Control Club. Giant remote control airplanes, full scale fly-bys, hot air balloons, sky divers, Halloween party at the field (award for best costume). Free Cajun Jambalaya dinner Saturday night for pilots and their friends. Schedule: Friday, Oct. 6 (7:00pm till 9:00pm Halloween party). Saturday, Oct. 7 (9:00am till 5:00pm Flying, 5:30pm Cajun Jambalaya served). Sunday, Oct. 8 (9:00am till? - Flying). Flying field is located on Hwy 190, signs will be on Hwy 190. Camping available at field, sorry no hook ups. Overnight accommodations: Newcourt Inn, I-10 & La. 415, exit 151, Port Allen, La. For reservation call (800)826-3375, say airplane for special rate of \$36.95. The manager is a Big Bird pilot. You may call Ward Watts, Event Director, for additional information at (504)261-5974. Concessions available.

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Maybe this is just a "low" in the cycle that clubs seem to take, but it is a little disheartening when effort is put forth to try and accommodate the membership and not much comes of it. Johns' suggestion is to call members and remind them of upcoming meetings. I guess we could do that, but somehow that almost seems like coercion. Quite frankly, if members want to be "absentee members", I'm inclined to say "so-be-it". It sure makes it easier at the field when there's almost never a frequency conflict, when the canopy provides enough shade for everyone, and when pilot positions are half empty. This is probably more than enough on the subject. The club will be what the members want it to be!

Thanks to David Dale for giving us a rundown on his participation in the recent road rally event. A special note of gratitude to Rick Searfoss for providing us the instructions and presentation on doing "spins" and "stalls". Rick had some excellent technical data and provided his personal experiences to re-enforce it. Thanks Rick.



**Mini-Product Review** - It looks like the races (at Galveston and other places) have raised the interest in the "101" inch wingspan AT-6 and SNJ-5 model aircraft. "Yellow Aircraft" and "Ohio R/C" are really promoting their versions. Both pricey, but look like neat kits. I'm not anticipating building one, but I haven't run across any "new" products lately.

**Projects In Work** - The building board has been quiet this summer. I haven't done anything on the ACE 4-120 Bipe, but think about it occasionally. If I get into building, I'm thinking about "customizing" it into what might pass for a "Fleet Bipe" with a rounded fuselage and revised engine cooling. Who knows!

*See Ya!*

*(VP continued from Page 1)*

told by a number of you, who fly regularly on Saturday morning, that informal operating procedures have evolved which makes sharing the area with the Rocket Club relatively safe. While I'm glad to hear that coexistence appears feasible, we must have written, jointly agreed to safety procedures to ensure that our insurance is valid. So, continue to be extra careful on the first and third Saturday mornings of each month, and keep flying safely.

**Routine Plane Maintenance** - I saw an article in another R/C club's newsletter reminding members to take the time to routinely inspect their planes for loose fasteners or cracked joints. That is excellent advice and something that is all too easy to neglect. This time of the year when we can fly regularly can put a lot of minutes on your plane. All the engine vibrations, maneuvers, and landings can really loosen things up. Spending 15 minutes to check out your plane, before the next trip to the field would be time well spent.

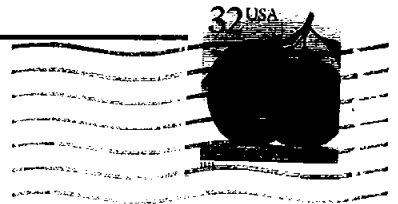
Start with the engine and check all the screws and bolts to make sure that they are tight. You will be surprised how often you will find some that have worked loose. Next check the fuel lines and tank for any cracks, leaks, or worn spots. Check the entire radio installation. Is the servo tray loose? are the servo screws tight? How about the push rods, ball links, clevises, etc.? Carefully check all control surfaces, hinges, and horns for any sign of damage or looseness. Are all the tail joints still strong? Also check the fuselage for cracked bulkheads or spars. Look at the wing closely and gently flex it to see if there are any cracks in the structure. Check the landing gear and make sure that they are still securely attached to the fuselage, and that all wheel collars are tight. Now you are read to go flying again.

*See you at the September meeting.*

**ADDRESS CHANGE  
OR CORRECTION ?  
Call David Hoffman  
476-5206(H)  
479-1945(W)**

## *The R/C Flyer*

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



MICHAEL LAIBLE  
2823 SEA LEDGE  
SEABROOK, TX 77586-1554

## **September 1995**

### ***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