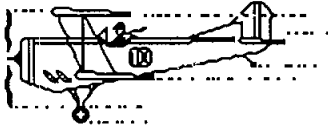
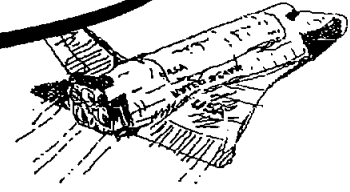


# The **R** **C** Flyer



December 1986



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

## President's Corner

Dear Member:

It was good to see the large turn out we had for the Christmas party at which we had about 80 members present. I hope you all enjoyed yourselves, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank in particular Sandra Lee, Julie Baker and my wife Lynn who did the organizing. Thanks also to all you other ladies who brought along various dishes that all went to make the party very enjoyable.

I have only just received confirmation that we will be able to continue to use the Clear Lake Park Building for another year on our regular night, which is the second Thursday of every month at 7:30PM. The reason for the delay is that there is a plan to rebuild the building and adjacent offices into a more up-to-date complex. Just like you I was not aware of this plan. However, due to budget shortfalls the plans have been shelved for at least a year. I would be very interested if any member has any ideas concerning an alternative meeting place as it is obvious that as soon as money is available we would be temporarily displaced while the work is carried out.

I went over to the Highlands Prop-nuts club party at the invite of Charlie Stevens. I know you get a copy of our newsletter Charlie, so thanks very much for a most enjoyable evening. I have been talking to Highlands to get reciprocal flying rights between the two clubs, and the possibility of joint or shared events. There is no hard agreement as yet and the Steering Committee will discuss it first before there is one. If you have any views about this subject, just call a member of the Committee and let them

## Meeting Dates For 1987

January 8th	July 9th
February 12th	August 13th
March 12th	September 10th
April 9th	October 8th
May 14th	November 12th
June 11th	December 10th

## The Secretarial Minute

This month's meeting was our annual Christmas Party and was held on December 11th, 1986.

The party was prefaced by a short meeting at which time the new editor and Club officers were introduced. A short discussion was brought up before the Club regarding the Houston Area Model Council and whether the Club should participate. A club vote should be shortly forthcoming.

Steve Rothstein's suggestion of a January fun fly was "Coldly" disregarded, but warmer weather is approaching. With no other matters to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned for a well-stocked table of deli-delights, home recipies, and well-oiled flying stories.

Steve Hunter

# Build an Inexpensive Ni-Start-Part Two

## The Charger

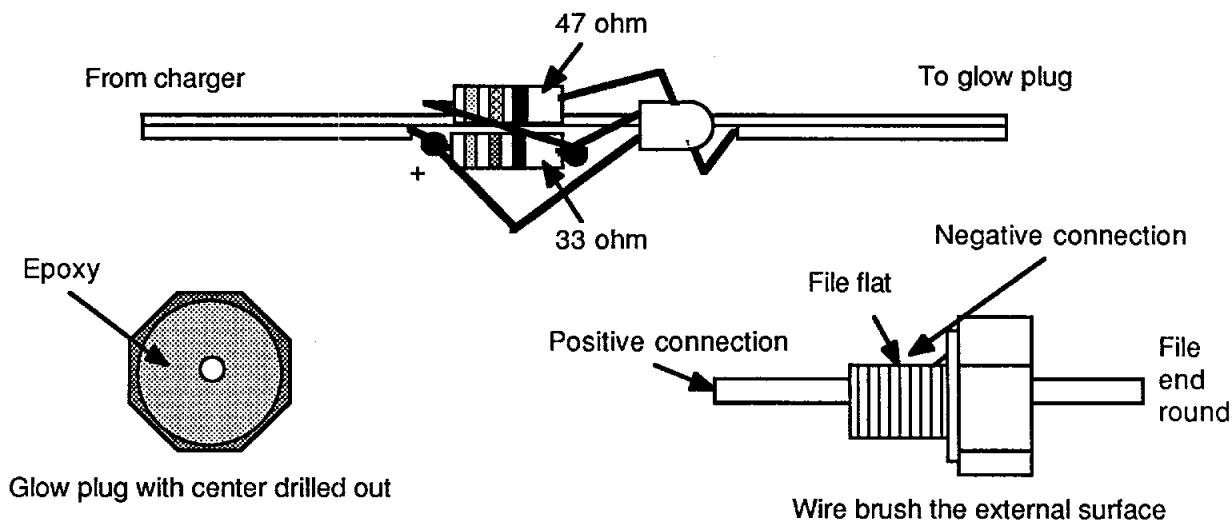
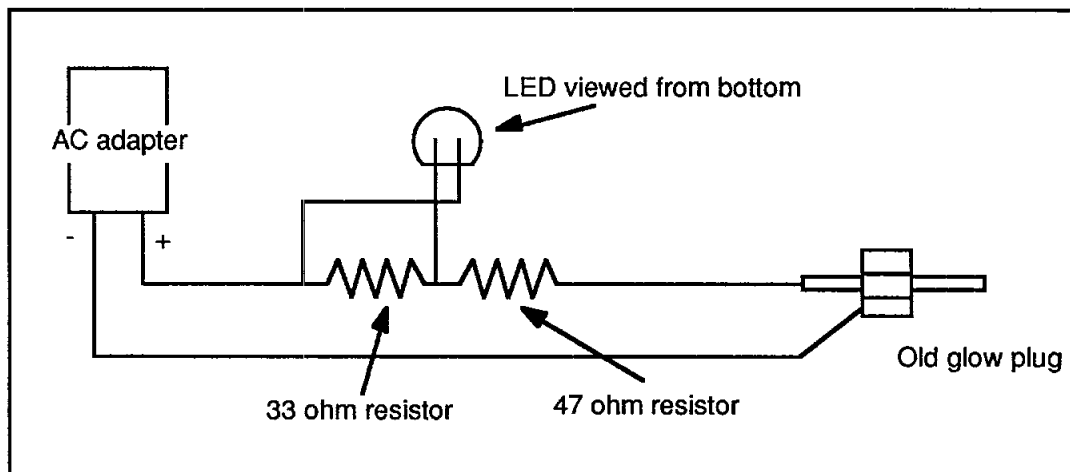
The R/C Flyer Page Two

In the last issue of the R/C Flyer, you should have noticed a description of how to construct a simple, easy-to-build Ni-start out of a standard C cell nicad, and a Headlock™ glow plug connector. This month it's time to see how to build a charger for your homemade Ni-start.

The charger is constructed from the following parts:

1. Radio Shack plug-in charger #273-1431A
2. One old glow plug
3. One small LED
4. One 33 Ohm half watt resistor
5. One 47 Ohm half watt resistor
6. One package of assorted heat-shrink tubing
7. Short piece of threaded rod (without the threads)

Note that this charger includes an LED to let you know when the Ni-start is really charging. Cut the existing plug off the cord of the AC adapter, cut off another 3 inch piece of the cord, and solder together the parts as diagrammed below. Be careful not to reverse the leads of the LED, and also don't overheat it. Make sure that you slide the heat-shrink tubing onto the cords as necessary BEFORE you start soldering, or you won't be able to get the tubing over the resistors!



Continued next page



### Build a Ni-Start Charger (continued)

The connector to attach onto the NiStart is made out of an old glow plug, with the center drilled out. A piece of threaded rod wire should be epoxied into the center of the glow plug. This can be a difficult task since the rod must be supported while the epoxy sets, so be careful. Make sure you get the rod centered down the axis of the plug. Use enough epoxy to completely fill the cavity and no more. File a flat spot where the threads are of the plug on which to solder the negative wire. Solder the positive wire onto the center rod. Use two pieces of heat shrink to encase the connections--one of smaller diameter to act as a strain relief, and a larger one to overlap onto the smaller piece and over the threaded end of the glow plug.

Encase the resistors in the same manner, using strain reliefs and a larger central piece of heat-shrink. Cut out a small slot for the end of the LED to protrude through. It usually helps to squirt some super glue in the seams to add strength.

Your finished! Plug it in overnight and you will have a great inexpensive Ni-Start for the next morning.

### President's Corner (Continued From Page 1)

know.

While we are on the subject of the Steering Committee, we need suggestions for events and activities for 1987. Please come forward with your ideas now.

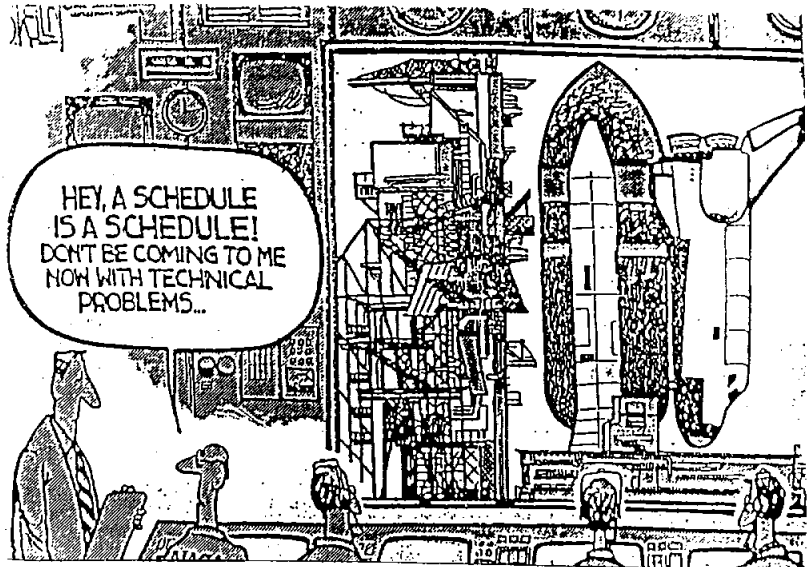
I have received very little in the way of reports concerning flying over the last month, and every time I have been at the field the activity has been down. The very wet and cold weather has had a lot to do with that, not to mention the approaching holiday season, which gives me the opening to wish you all the best for the holidays and the coming New Year.

I would also like to remind you to renew you A.M.A. and Club membership if you have not already done so before the end of the year, or this could be the very last newsletter you get for awhile.

That winds it up for the last month of this year from my end. Have a happy holiday season and all the best for the new year.

Yours Faithfully,

Capt Jon V. Vincent



### From the Editor's Desk:

Hey guys, how's it going?

Where are those contributions to the newsletter that I requested in the last issue? I'm sure that you just forgot....I'll let you off this time. Send them in on any topic!

I got a letter from the District 8 Vice-President John Clemens concerning our newsletter. He refers to it as "Excellent" and "Beautiful". Thanks John!! Look in the next *Model Aviation Magazine* for details.

Sorry that the newsletter was shorter this time around, but I've been busy fixing the Shuttle!!

*Just in case you might want to contact the editor of this newsletter, you can do so to the return address on the cover, or call me at 532-1167.*

*Tim Bond*