



The R/C Flyer

Volume 30, Issue 4

April 2006

Next Meeting – April 13, 2006, Clear Lake Park Building – 7:00 PM

March meeting minutes

By: *Mike Goza, JSCRCC Secretary*

The Meeting started at 7:00pm 3/9/2006

Old Business:

Club Fun Fly will be held on April 22 at 9:00am. Snacks will be provided. Events TBD.

Field improvements and canopy repairs are still stalled. We are unable to get contact with the person in charge. We are still trying to make contact. Our next attempt will be to contact them to see if we can get permission to fix the canopy ourselves. (Editor: see Presidents update below)

New Business:

There is a safety problem with a couple of individuals at the field on Sunday mornings. They should be confronted about the safety incursions by any member of the club. In addition, it is not clear if they are AMA members. They should produce their AMA card. If they do not have it, then have security remove them. We will be confirming the situation with security and warning them of the potential problem. This can seriously affect our ability to fly out there if they have a mishap without AMA insurance.

Alvin is having a Big Bird Fun Fly on April 15th.

Prop Nuts is having their swap meet and Fun Fly on April 8 & 9th.

Prop Nuts is also having an IMAC aerobatic competition on March 11 & 12th.

Model of the Month (MOM)

Troy Whitehurst brought a Dynaflight Butterfly. It is basically a powered glider and is powered by a Super Tiger 15. Looks like it would fly well.



Bill Swchander won MOM with a 057 Tailorcraft. It is powered by a GWS LPS electric motor running on 4 cell Nicad battery pack. It is an antique kit and he hopes to compete with it in an antique modeling event held in Muncie, IN at AMA headquarters.



Dane Rouso brought two aircraft with him. He brought an electric Ultra Stick aircraft and a Firebird Freedom. The Freedom is foam and plastic construction made for park flying on calm days. It is equipped with anti crash sensors, but they don't work to well...

The Ultra Stick is powered by a 480 electric motor and, unlike the Freedom, the Stick was a kit.



Entertainment: There was no entertainment this month.

Meeting adjourned 8:25pm

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Herman Burton, President

Several issues have arisen that the membership should be aware of. First, it appears there might be electric RC fliers who use the JSC flying site on the weekends that might, and I repeat might, not be AMA members. Let me remind you: **YOU MUST BE A MEMBER OF AMA TO FLY AT JSC.** This is a requirement of NASA, and must be adhered to with no exceptions. Whether you are a member of JSCRCC is not the issue, since any NASA employee or contractor who has site clearance and can access NASA's Johnson Space Center has permission to fly at the flying site. However, to fly a person must be a member of AMA.

On more than one occasion lately fliers have been approached by members and asked if they were members of AMA. The individuals walked away, and refused to answer. I will only say that it is the responsibility of each and every club member to determine AMA membership, if there is any doubt, when you are flying. Be polite, but insistent, and insist on seeing the person's AMA card. If the person does not respond, politely inform them of the rule, and tell them security will be called to check on membership. Then, either call security, or go back to the guard shack and tell them of the infraction, with the request for them to please come out and check for themselves. Then, upon returning to the flying site, tell the people security is on the way. Then, let security do their job.

The club has had the privilege of flying behind Building 14 for over 40 years, and we do not want to lose that privilege. It is in the best interest of the club for each and every member to assist in enforcing the few restrictions NASA puts on our flying. It would be a shame to lose our flying privileges due to the ignorance or obnoxiousness of a few individuals, whichever is the case.

Mike Goza and I met with NASA recently to request assistance in getting the sun shade repaired. The gentleman was very pleasant, listened to our story, and was interested in helping. We also asked for new electrical power to be provided at the sun shade, with two 20 amp, 120v, 60 Hz, outlets stubbed up somewhere close to the transmitter impound facility. Our last request was for them to consider overlaying or filling the main and cross wind runways to remove the low spots that hold water, preventing us from utilizing the field after our frequent rains. The NASA individual listened to our requests, and hopefully will take them to the appropriate individuals who can make facilities improvements decisions.

Spring is certainly here now. Windy, rain, and warm days. Come out between showers, and fly with us! Happy landings!

*Club's Fun Fly
April 22nd, 9:00AM
(See more info on last page)*

Checklist

By: Editor

I believe we had an article many months ago about the merits of having (and using) a check list of things needed at the flying field for a flying session. Well I guess I did not heed the advice. Several weeks ago I headed out to the field on a perfectly good day only to have it wasted because I forgot my transmitter. What a bummer!

To avoid similar frustrations make your self a check list and use it as you load up your vehicle before heading out to the field. Here are some common sense tips.

- Make a generic list that would cover all your airplanes to avoid having multiple (and confusing) lists. Even if you don't need that air pump for the plane you will be flying that day, at least you had to think about it.
- A 3x5 card with a bright highlighted border works well. Tape it to the handle of your flight box so you can't miss it.
- As you forget items (you will!) add them to your list.

Now if I can just remember where I put mine----

A SPECIAL GROUP OF FRIENDS

When I was in school in Houston in the 1940's, I flew control line models at Hermann Park. There were two circles set aside for us on weekends. A few years ago I returned to my childhood. A 12 year old boy who lived across the street was the catalyst. I saw him taxi testing a model in the street and I told my wife that I had a retirement dream of building and flying R/C models. She said: "Well, you are retired, so what's holding you back?" The young neighbor stripped the radio and engine out of the trainer he was playing with and gave me the plane. He said I had to get my own radio and engine. He introduced me to you folks and within a few weeks, with the help of Don Fisher, I was flying.

A little over 36 years ago, I realized I had a serious problem with alcohol. I didn't have a drinking problem – I had a quitting problem. With the help of God and several other wonderful friends I have been sober since December 28, 1969. Little did I know what would follow! In subsequent years, I worked with other men to help them get started in recovery, I had a 15 year hospital ministry in which I often called on drunks and other drug addicts, and I served as a volunteer alcohol and drug counselor at Harris County Jail for 5½ years. I am also active in The Episcopal Church Recovery Ministries. While I was working for Boeing in support of JSC, they allowed me time and resources to set up and administer an Employee Assistance Program like they had in Seattle.

Now, what is so special about you folks? There are some other groups with which I meet every week. One of them interfered with our club meeting. I changed my schedule so I can meet with the R/C club more often.

You people are a refreshing difference from my many other friends. I have become fairly skilled at identifying folks who are in trouble with

chemicals, and I recently realized that when I am with you folks, I'm not seeing the normal 10% to 12% of the population which needs help. You folks are so clean and sober that I don't think many of you even smoke cigarettes! For me, you are a special group of friends. Thanks for being there when I returned to my childhood!

Troy Whitehurst
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Some Tidbits from Brian Morris

- Age is just a number and mine is unlisted.
 - An expert is someone called in at the last minute to share the blame.
 - At my age, I've begun to regret the sins I did NOT commit.
 - The first Ten Commandments are the hardest.
 - A retired husband is a wife's full time job.
 - Happiness is the place between too little and too much.
 - I have seen the truth and it makes no sense.
 - If only the good die young then what does that say about senior citizens?
 - Even at a Mensa convention, someone is the dumbest person in the room.
 - Without geometry, life is pointless.
 - To a worm, digging in the hard ground is more relaxing than going fishing.
 - Is it my imagination, or do buffalo wings taste like chicken?
 - If people talk behind your back, it only means you are two steps ahead.
 - Why is the National Guard in Iraq and the Army in New Orleans?
 - If the world is getting smaller how come they raised the postal rates?
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Upcoming Events

4/8/06-4/9/06: Propnuts Annual Flea Market and Fly-In, Crosby, TX. CD is Taswall Crowson, 281-474-9531.

4/15/06: Alvin RC Big Bird/Swap Meet. Contact CD Ken White at 281-331-7724 for more information.

5/6/06: Bomber Field Float Fly, Monaville, TX. CD is Nick Stratos, 281-471-6762.

6/3/06-6/4/06: Bomber Field War Bird Event. Nick Stratos CD, 281-471-6762.

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JSCRCC

April 22, 2006 Fun Fly

Come have some fun burning holes in the sky and with a little luck win some prizes. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. Bring your spouse/partner/children but make sure their name(s) are on Hoffman's list two weeks prior.

Start ~9:00AM

Finish ~ 12:00

@JSC field

Events will be decided at the April 13th club meeting.

Participants must be members of JSCRCC and AMA