



The R/C Flyer

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May 2020

Next Meeting – June 11th, 2020, TBD



IN THE PITS

by Mike Laible

Another month of Covid 19. This is really getting old and I am ready to get this over with. Note my day markings are getting shakier!!! I am glad Texas is one of the few opening up slowly and lets get rolling. Also,



the ones that need to stay quarantine, lets support them and make sure there fine.

I do not know when NASA will open up. Stage 1 is when center is at normal operations. Stage 1 is defined as no more threats, at all. I am expecting that is at least July. I want to hold a June meeting either by telecommuting or safe distance outside. I'll come up with something by end of May. We will have an option to meet, show some models, and respect everyone's safe space.

Otherwise, how is everybody going? You guys can send me a quick note (mrlaible@sbcglobal.net) and I can send it out, write group me or write on the JSC facebook page. Anyway, we would all like to know how your doing and what's up.

The club has made some progress on a few things. First, we got approval of the LOA for airspace. Ellington has approved the LOA for flying in Ellington class D up to 400 ft. So we are legit. So this means we have the LOA and AMA sponsored, thus we should be a "fixed site". In addition to the above, I just signed a revised space act agreement with JSC. This is a nice sign that they are wanting to work with us and once all this is over we should be back in business.

So with that said, when we get back to normal operations, we should have a fun fly and BBQ, either Saturday, Sunday or both.



BBQ both days and flying to be had by all. Lets shoot for weekend after Bomber, September 26. And yes, I can cook. Scallops in a crème sauce. No, not gonna have those for the fun fly.

Anyway, stay safe and lets see what everybody is building. Charlie sent in an article about his latest builds and I have a little on mine.

Never stop building, never stop flying.

Godspeed and safe landings,

Mike

APRIL MEETING

by Mike Laible

What April meeting!!!!

Only minutes are:

Brian got the FAA Letter of Agreement between Ellington and JSC RCC approved.

Mike got the Space Act Agreement passed between JSC RCC and JSC.

DOWNSIZING

by Char;ie Teixeira

I have been trying to downsize my "fleet" of airplanes for some time now. Too many airplanes for too few opportunities to fly, medical issues, age, too windy etc. etc. I was making some progress in achieving this goal and along comes Covid-19 ☹. After a couple of weeks of reading, working puzzles, playing cards and anything else to kill time reached the point NO MORE! Had to get out in the garage and build something. I decided to get a Sig Somethin Extra kit which I have built before. It is a very easy kit to build and is a good flying sport airplane. I did have a problem finding the kit, everybody was out and Sig was not expecting a new shipment until late May. The virus would be gone by then right? I eventually found a kit up in Minnesota which I bought and started the build in mid-April.

The kit was designed around an O.S. .46 glo engine which I did not have and I wanted to convert the kit to electric anyway and use a KV440 motor and ESC that survived the Tiger Cat "incident". Will go with 4S Lipos instead of the 6S used in the Tiger Cat. If my numbers are correct, I should get a good 5+ minute flight. The challenge will be getting the right prop size due to the low profile of this airplane when sitting on the ground limiting prop diameter to 12" max which is small for

this motor. I plan on a bench test with different size props and with a watt meter in the loop. I can always resort back to glow if I have to.

The other change I made was locking the two wing halves using two small bolts instead of the rubber bands used in the kit. Get this tip from a You Tube video thanks to Tom Altmyer.

As of this writing I have the basic construction done but now comes the time-consuming sanding, hinging, installation of radio gear and covering. Hopefully, this plane will be finished around the time the Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. That is the hope.



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WHATS UP AROUND THE CLUB

by Mike Laible

What's going on besides going stir crazy! Funny, I always thought it was stare crazy, like going crazy staring to much. NOOOOO, after she stopped laughing at me Ava informed me it is "stir crazy". Oh well, I am so happy I can add humor to Ava's day.

So as usual, this section is intended for whats going on around the club. So guys, send in those building projects. Got one from Charlie (above) and picked up a few from the group me page (if you haven't you should join this page)

First up is from the Johnson Space Center RC group me. Camran shared a nice pic of the blue angles fly over.



Next is a pic Fitz sent in and noted he is finally painted his A-10. I am not sure which model this is but can't wait to see it in person.



The following pictures are of two subjects I have going on. The first one is of my Bates Bearcat, fuse and wing. This plane is ready for prime. Installed all the guts and she is getting primed as I write this. I am going to do it in the national guard colors. I remember finding one but cannot seem to locate it now. I find the one out of Denver and east coast, but not St. Louis. Maybe I was dreaming.

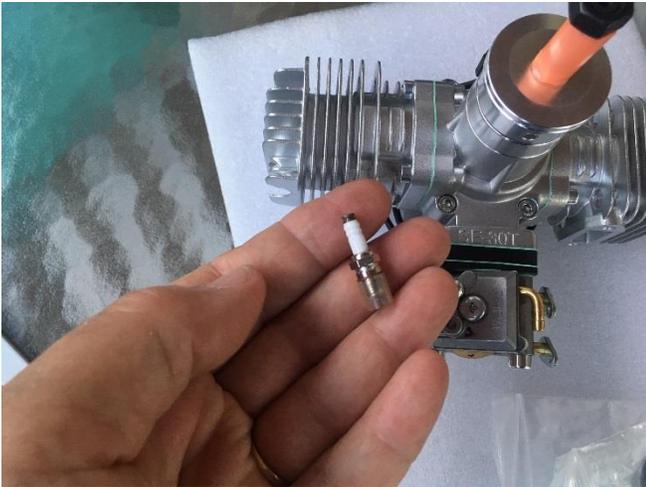


Now for my new engines. Yes two 30 cc twins on a zirolli B-25. Nice looking engines from RCGF, Scorpions. This should sound really nice and be smooth. I am currently sheeting the nacelles and then on to the wing tips. The last pic is the business end where they will go. The nacelle planking has begun.



Check out that small spark plug.

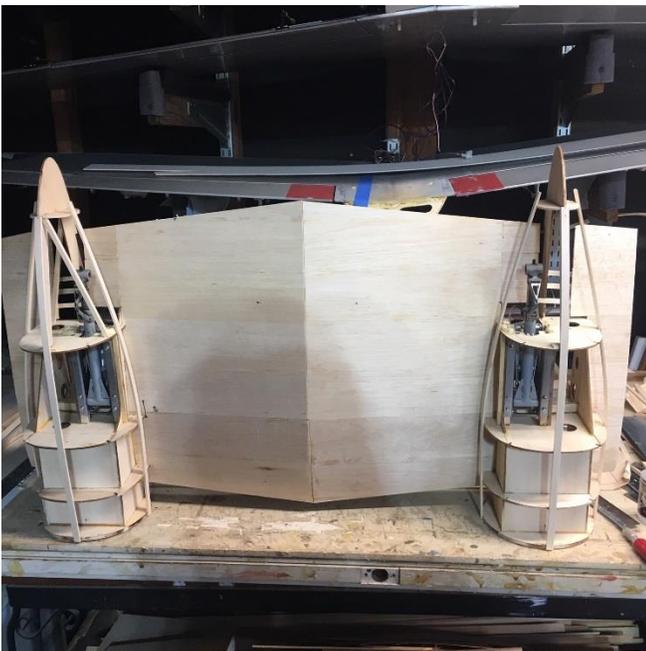
Got me a large order of RTL fasteners. The best part are the rubber backed washers.



Let's hope this ends soon. As my daughter (nurse in Seattle) says, "What a sh### show". Until next time,

Godspeed and safe landings,

Mike



Upcoming Events

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Articles and Want Ads may be submitted to the Editor, Mike Laible at mrlaible@sbcglobal.net

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FOR SALE

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WANTED