
CHOPPER NEWS

Please, frequent your local hobby shop

AMA CHARTER NO.2099 March, 2001

Next Club Meeting, Tuesday, March 13th

Meeting at John's Pizzeria at 7:30pm

Editorial

If you have not been to a meeting in a while, you might want to stop in and see what is going on. Our Club

President and Vice President are working at a feverish pace and pooling their talents to give us some interesting and very informative meetings. Keeping meetings new and fresh will be very challenging and will require a lot of time and energy from both Terry and Steve and is definitely a two-man job. Since this will be very time consuming for both of them, they will be looking for volunteers to help out from time to time, especially from people who have expertise in certain areas. It would be a big help if every member would fill out the February newsletter's club questionnaire that will help Terry and Steve decide in what order to present club meeting activities. They will try and have copies available for people to fill out at the next meeting or use the one in the February newsletter. Rumor has it that at the next meeting we will be treated to demonstrations on batteries and ways of greasing our choppers. It was good to see Mark and Jeff step up and provide a pair of great demonstrations at the February meeting. You are not going to want to miss any of these future informative meetings.

The following is a partial list of great bulk fuel prices from Al's Hobby Shop. Cool Power, 15% at five cases or more, \$10.69. Cool Power fuel, heli, 30% at 12 cases or more the price is \$18 a gallon. If we can get it up to 30 cases we can get an even better break on price. I know I will use at least two or three cases myself. We need a list of all the people that are interested and how many cases you will want. As you can see, the more fuel we buy the cheaper the unit price. A full list of fuel and prices will be available at the next meeting. My scanner would not copy the list without turning it into gibberish.

Bulletin: Recently my trusty sidekick (our club's #1 grill man) and I were at the flying field when we saw a non-winter flyer show up with no heli to fly. At first we had no idea who it was because he was clothed from head to toe with layer after layer after layer of jackets with only parts of both eyes exposed to the elements, but after talking to him we realized it was fellow member Tim Gleason. Tim only talked to us for a few minutes and mostly about how it was too cold to fly. When he turned to leave, we may be mistaken, but we firmly believe we heard him decree, "It's sunny, and we are going to have six more weeks of winter!" and then he turned and left as quickly as he had arrived. We are not sure if Tim will make this weather forecast proclamation a yearly thing or not. My sidekick will corroborate this story.

I want to thank Terry, Steve J. and Ross for some very interesting and informative page filling articles last month. Articles like those are the meat of this newsletter and are very much appreciated. My stuff is more like an appetizer and is only there to wet your appetite. In the tabloid business it is either feast or famine. One month I have a ton of articles and info, and the next month I have zip. It's a never-ending battle. You can help me win this war by sending me information for the newsletter.

Last month's newsletter (and this month's, I hope), was on the house from a group of anonymous benefactors. It would be nice if this same magnanimous group could continue to support us in this area. Let's keep our fingers crossed. Last year this group picked up the cost of printing two newsletters, which was a big help. Of course, the postage for the newsletters is still paid by our club.

I want to thank Jerry and Steve J. for helping me win the battle this month with their interesting articles for the newsletter.

President's Message

I have received our sanction notification and permit number from the AMA. So we are all set to go. Our Fall Fun Fly is set for September 22nd & 23rd. We will start making plans at the next meeting. Last year we had well over 50 members, and so far this year we only have slightly over 30 of those members who have paid their dues for this year. Our dues are only \$20.00. If you cannot make it to a meeting, send out a check to Robb Rinn or any of the club officers. We expect to have another bunch of good demos at the next meeting so be sure to, COME ON DOWN! Don't forget about the case lot fuel orders being taken at this meeting.

Terry

Vice President's Message

DEMO'S and ARTICLES:

There have been several good comments from those who enjoyed last month's meeting. A hearty thanks goes to Mark Clausen for his canopy painting demonstration and to Jeff Torsrud for discussing the two heli's he brought. It's really good to see individuals take the opportunity to educate and entertain the rest of us. I look forward to more "Bring Your Stuff" presentations this month. **You're always invited to discuss, teach or show. No reservation required and appreciation will be forthcoming.**

Last month's newsletter contained two good articles by Ross; the Rolling Circle article had been requested by a member and Ross responded thoroughly. The Vortex maneuver article filled in the expert's viewpoint of a previous article. It's great to have such an advanced flyer in the club and even better to know he's so helpful to us. Thanks a lot, Ross! **If you'd like to submit an article or letter, bring it to the meeting or E-mail it to Marty at martin.davis1@worldnet.att.net or MLD999@worldnet.att.net.**

We have several "incentive" programs under consideration to show how much the club appreciates the demonstrations and newsletter submissions. It'll be interesting to see these programs progress.

FLYING:

Although January was a pretty good month for flying, this month hasn't been. My only stick time has been on Realflight. My control box is about 15 months old and after hundreds of hours of use, the rudder stick pot wore out; the carbon in the pot wore through. These are standard Futaba stick parts. I called Realflight and they have an excellent return policy; send in the defective controller and they'll return a new controller for free. I couldn't bear the ship/trade/ship back delay, so the pot got fixed instead; Removed pot, rotated 180 degrees, reinstalled, wired to opposite end of pot, reversed direction in the software, recalibrated controller. Works as good as new, and the pot wiper touches all fresh surfaces. Maybe when the good weather comes, the box will get sent in. Those other pots may not be far behind. It's a good thing thumbs and fingers don't wear out.

Steve

Club Meeting Minutes from 2/13/01

There were 15 members and 3 guests present.

The meeting was called to order by Terry at 7:35 PM.

Terry informed us that we have 7 new members bringing the membership to 25 as of January meeting.

He also informed us that the pizza contribution would be raised to \$2.00 per member.

The treasurer reported the club balance to be \$480.27, in which \$275.00 will be donated for AI's fund.

Old Business:

Terry informed everyone that as of our January meeting, we have collected \$275.00 for the AI Fuchsen Hockey Scholarship Fund.

He also asked if anyone else would like to make a contribution to the fund.

Terry asked if anyone was interested in ordering a club jacket. The cost for the jackets is \$80 each and they will be delivered at the March meeting.

He informed us that the fun-fly was changed to September 22 and 23, 2001

He also informed us he had sent in the sanction application to the AMA.

Terry again informed us how important it was to acquire a DuPage Forest Preserve permit **to show usage of the field to keep it open.**

Terry suggested that our web-site have a delay on posting our current Newsletters hoping to possibly bring in new members to our meetings for them to receive up to minute news. He suggested the possibility of having a password for members.

New Business:

There are **Fuel sale fliers** available for AI's, pricing is normally \$21.50 on sale now 5 case lots at \$18.79 per gallon. We discussed a "club ordering" of fuel at our March meeting to possibly get better pricing. It would be advertised in our next newsletter.

Terry discussed the "**Demo Suggestion Forms**" and noted 1 form has already been turned in.

Steve explained some possible new awards including Best Demo & Best Newsletter Article. **The award could be a sponsorship from a manufacturer from the list made up.**

He stated Cindy would donate gift Certificates from AI's, \$15.00 per month that would be matched by the club. Possibly 3 awards each good for \$10.00, \$5.00 from AI's and \$5.00 from club.

Steve also explained \$5.00 for club Raffle was needed to help pay for raffle prizes and to keep the club in the black.

He also stated that pizza ordered from John's was for the use of the room for our club meetings.

Terry brought in a picture of a heli hovering inverted on the ground.

He also stated that Tony Sheffield, the winner of the Crash and Smash Award for October has not yet picked up his award, he suggested nailing it to the wall, so he could lighten up his briefcase.

Our agenda for tonight included:

Mark Clausen explained the steps he took in painting his Raptor canopy.

Jeff Anderson brought in his Raptor and JR 46 to show and explained their modifications.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM. **Club Secretary Neil**

THE RADIO SHACK "TALKING TIMER"

Do you guys ever get nervous about how much fuel you have left? Do you enjoy bringing the heli in close just to see the fuel level? Last summer I was at a runway when a "plank" flyer did a pass at a pretty decent altitude while he looked at his watch to see how much fuel he had left. He looked up in time to see the plane nose-in (total) right in the middle of the runway. Within a few weeks he had a Radio Shack cat# 63-877 "Talking Timer". I bought one in January (think it was \$15.99??) and tried it. I think it's great. It's reasonably small, clip it on your neck strap or antenna or put it in your shirt pocket. The female's voice is an appropriate volume for a flying field. I found that my tank got reasonably low after 10 minutes last month (the needle was pretty far open). The timer will be silent for 5 minutes then give you minute-by-minute warnings for the next ten minutes if you put it in the countdown mode and start at 15 minutes. I land about the time she says "five minutes left" It's got a memory to use to recall the 15 minutes. I've tried the Futaba timer in the Futaba transmitter, but it hasn't worked for me. There's no warning and it's too quiet. The Talking Timer works great and reduces any concern over how much fuel you have left. I'll bring one to the next meeting. Steve J.

Editor: I have one, and it is also good for a lunchtime snooze wakeup call at work! I use the intermittent car horn sound that is guaranteed to get you up every time from a deep sleep. Sounds like an approaching car is just about ready to run you over. That sound will lift you right out of your chair every time.

A WILD SEPTEMBER

This September we'll have the opportunity to have the world's biggest Heli funfly right next door in

Muncie, Indiana. This comes from Jeff Torsrud via www.horizonhobby.com where there's an event calendar in the news section. It looks like the Columbus, Ohio IRCHA Heli Internationals is moving to Muncie. It'll be Sept. 16 to 19 and it follows immediately behind the World Championships, Sept 7 to 15 which is also at Muncie. I know that at least 4 Nircha members were at Columbus last year and Muncie will be a great opportunity for more to go. This'll be a great warm-up for our Sept 22-23 NIRCHA funfly.

Steve J.

It Could Only Happen to Me, Maybe

I bought one of the first Raptors from Al's Hobby Shop and crashed it many, many times, but I learned to fly somewhat. I replaced about seventy per cent of the parts during my education. After the helicopter got a little older, about two hundred flights, the clutch started grabbing, and I got a really bad radio glitch. It would jump up and down and go sideways. It got so bad, I was afraid to go up. I received a lot of advice concerning this problem. I replaced all servos, radio, receiver, gyro, antenna, main, tail, and starter shaft bearings. Unfortunately nothing worked. I started it up with the body off, we all looked at it, and someone touched the starter shaft, even though the shaft had no up and down play, low and behold there was the clutch, even with the new bearings installed. I pulled it apart, and found shiny marks on the starter shaft, where it went through the clutch pinion. However, I didn't know what else to do, so as a last resort I ground .30 (thirty thousands) off starter shaft where it went through the clutch pinion. Shazzam, no more clutch, however, the clutch was still not right. I took it apart slowly, with three of the engine mount bolts out of the frame, the fourth one still tight, but the motor was loose. All four bolts were bottoming out in the mount. After the motor had been replaced in the frame several times, I discovered that the frame had been compressed and no longer supported the motor with a tight fit. I drilled and tapped the motor mount for 6-32 bolts. I also put in a new starter shaft and the end results were that no additional problems occurred.

I purchased Raptor number two and saw that the motor mount was drilled all the way through, no problems so you would think.....wrong. The holes were tapped only as deep as the old one. I tapped it all the way through and again no problems. I hope with this insightful information, it possibly could save a few clutches, or tempers which ever comes first. Jerry McGee

Better Ways and Shortcuts

Keep an eye on your tail rotor servo. I have mine mounted on the tail boom and had an intermittent loss of control the other weekend (for a very exciting 1 minute). On further inspection I found that my servo's electronics had been marinated in exhaust from my engine. It is beyond me as to how the oil and slop made its way past the seals on the servo but it sure did. At present I do not have a way to prevent this from happening. Any suggestions? Marty

Neat Web Sites

. By Sept 24 we'll be all partied out; the IRCHA world jamboree (A great event) immediately follows the world champs at Muncie and directly precedes our club event. The IRCHA world jamboree was the contest that was held at Columbus last year; it's a great fun fly for all. IRCHA confirmed 2001 contest calendar at

Toledo R/C Expo, April 6,7,8 Web site: www.toledoshow.com

Event Calendar

BREAKING NEWS: My prayers have been answered! I have a reliable source that states a new Krispy Kreme donut shop is going to be built on Randall Road in St. Charles and should be up and running and producing those delicate little morsels in a few months, and the store will only be five minutes from my home. *Mark this on your calendar right now!* On January 1st, 2002, at 8 am, I will bring three boxes of these little gems along with some great tasting, piping hot coffee for our first flying day of the New Year of 2002. You will not want to miss this great get-together! Krispy Kremes are to die for!!! For Mark Potts or any other members who are terrified of winter all you have to do is show up and roll down your car window just enough so I can pass you a Krispy Kreme (only one donut per window roll down allowed). Upon hearing the news about the new Krispy Kreme store, our club's #1 proofreader here at Chopper News said that she would drive all the way to the field just for one Krispy Kreme! How about you?

Legal Disclaimer: *We cannot make any guarantees, but we will make every effort humanly possible to insure that no member and/or guest freezes to death at this non-sanctioned club get-together!!!*

Swap Til' You Drop is the large annual swap meet held at the DuPage County fairgrounds on April 14th. General admission starts on Saturday at 8AM and closes at 12 noon. The swap meet is put on by Suburban R/C Barnstormers and includes planes, boats, and helicopters. It is best to get there early before all the good stuff is gone. Call John Howe for table information at 630-372-4536

For those in a traveling mode there is the April 21-22, "Tallahassee Contest Clinic", in Tallahassee, FL contact Gordie Meade, 850-576-9800

For Sale

For Sale: X-Cell 30 with carbon frame set, high performance clutch, flybar stiffeners, O.S. max 32, frame supports, glass canopy with 5 servos and JR receiver, CSM heading hold gyro \$875 contact Joe Ragusa, (630)-655-8816.

For Sale: GWS Piezo Gyro, first 60 bucks takes it, will bring to next meeting. 630-377-1865 Marty

For Sale: Raptor ARF 49 bearings, OS motor & Century Muffler installed, TT 36 & TT muffler included, Xcell 60 landing gear, Telebee Heading Hold Gyro, JR 652 with 517 throttle & collective, 3-4721, tail boom mount servo. Gem 2000 monitor. 2oz Hayes header tank. Some spare parts and all manuals included. Also CSM 10 simulator included. \$800.00

Contact Larry Conro (815)-547-3112

For Sale: Kyosho Nexus 30, combo, piezo gyro with 9205 servo, Futaba Super 7 radio, with 2 receivers PCM and PPM, including all servos, battery packs and ready to fly with two sets of fiberglass blades, flown only 6 times, like new, only \$650. Also For Sale, LMH including engine, Piezo Gyro, and servos, all for only \$250, well over \$400 new. Call Frank Whitaker, (847)-468-7574.

For Sale: Two Xcell .60's w/ OS .61SX, Bergen upgrades: clutch, autobalancer, main shaft, clutch and tail drive bearing blocks, push-pull collective & elevator S9203 tail servos, 4721 control servos, piezo gyros, KSJ mufflers, Peget starters. Futaba 9ZHPS transmitter w/memory module & case. LOTS of parts, flight box, chargers, servos, accessories. Too much to list, everything must go. \$600 for each chopper, \$400 for Xmitter, \$1500 takes all, make offer! For info call Martin Van Leeuwen, 630-224-4231(W), 630-554-8527(H), vanl@megsinet.net

Thanks, Martin VanLeeuwen, Oswego, IL

Editor: I am sure you have helicopters, parts, etc. that are just taking up space in your basement. There are other people in the club that could put them to good use. Advertise now!

Fuel Purchase

Most of us use fuel for our helicopters. There are a few who use electric power and this will not save them any money at all, but for the rest of us this will save you money in the long run. I buy my fuel by the case because I cannot get it locally. I have to make sure that I have enough fuel, so when I come down for a club meeting, I check to see how much fuel I have. I try to buy fuel when I am down here so I do not have to make a trip just for fuel. Every spring Al's has a fuel sale and the savings is considerable. AND you will have the fuel you need when you need it. As a club I do not see too much problem coming up with a 12

case order. If you are going to use more than a couple of gallons of fuel this year, take a close look at purchasing your fuel now and saving yourself some money. If you are interested at all bring your money to the March meeting and fill out the attached form. We will combine the smaller orders and place it as one big order and get the best price we can. We will be able to get the price listed on here and if we can get enough to get a lower price we will refund the money that was overpaid.

Number of Cases (4 gallons to a case) wanted: _____

- Circle nitro content wanted 15% 30%
-

Name: _____ Total Paid \$ _____

Editor: We should have this form available at the next meeting.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS RC HELICOPTER ASSOC.

AMA CHARTER NO. 2099

We are actively looking for new members to join our Radio Control Helicopter Club. All that is required is an interest in R/C helicopters, field permit, and a \$20 membership fee. Please feel free to join us at one of our meetings to become a member or just for a visit. We hope to see you at the next meeting. Our Club web page is: <http://members.xoom.com/nirha>. and is maintained by Web Slave, Mark Potts.

Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of every month, at 7:30pm, at John's Pizzeria, 100 E. Lake St., Addison, IL (1/2 block East of the intersection of Addison Rd and Lake St.). During the summer, the monthly meetings are held at the flying field, June, July, and August.

Our Forest Preserve Flying field is located on Grace St., Addison, and one mile north of North Ave. Field permits can be obtained by calling 630-933-7200.

Club Officers

President Terry King

Vice President Steve Jensen

Secretary Neil Nesheim

Treasurer

Robb Rinn

Newsletter

Editor/publisher Marty Davis

#1 Proofreader Linda Davis

MLD999@worldnet.att.net

Businesses Who Support Our Club

Membership Application/Renewal, Annual Dues \$20

Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Phone_____Email_____

○

AMA No. _____ Frequencies
Used _____

○

○

Field Permit No. _____ For permit information call 630-933-
7200

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○ *Membership can be renewed at any meeting or sent directly to our club treasurer, Robb Rinn, 433 Lake Lawn, Aurora, IL 60506. Check should be made out to Northern Illinois R/C Helicopter Assoc. You are the club and the club needs your support! Please renew your membership **NOW!***

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