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## CHOPPER NEWS

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*“United We Stand”*

*“Let’s Roll”*

Northern Illinois Radio Control Helicopter Assoc.

## **One of**

The World’s Largest R/C Helicopter Clubs

**AMA CHARTER NO.2099**

**August, 2002**

**Next Club Meeting, 7:00 pm Tuesday,**

**August 13th**

**Next Meeting At Our field in Addison, at 7pm**

**Editorial**

It is hard to believe the Al Fuchsen Memorial Fun Fly has come and gone already. We will all sure look forward to it again next year at the same great St. Charles location. Just for the record, \$6,680 was made at the fun fly and contributed to the Al Fuchsen Hockey Scholarship Fund, Driscoll Catholic High School, Office of Development, 555 North Lombard Rd., Addison, IL 60101. That’s a lot of smackeroos, and I know the high school will put that large chunk of money to good use.

We have good news, and the good news is that our club Fall Fun Fly is on the horizon. Let's try for 100% club turnout on the weekend of September 14<sup>th</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup>. A lot of great helicopter fun will be orchestrated by our club CD, Terry King, plus some good cookin' by Chef Neil and his pot-scrubbing trainee. With that combination, you cannot go too far wrong!!! So remember, when you are not flying, you can always chow down to some interesting and tasty cuisine by Chef Neil!! As you all know, Neil is one of the fastest grill men in this part of the country, bar none! Also, if my memory serves me correctly, last year member Steve Krauleidis set a club record by consuming five of Chef Neil's colossal burgers at one sitting. It will be interesting to see if that record will hold or be broken this year!!! I hope to see the whole club turn out for this fun gathering. Please, bear in mind; your club needs your support for this once a year wing ding (or should I say, rotor ding).

Mark Clausen came up with an interesting bulk buy for our membership (it is top secret and might be available at our next meeting), and I am hoping other members might have access to other small products. A good example would be those disposable metal handled brushes, the type that plumbers use for flux or dope. I cut the brush end down and use them to clean parts, epoxy jobs, etc. and then toss. I know I could use two or three hundred a year, and I am sure other members might be interested also. The brushes are dirt cheap if we buy them by the thousands. Anyone have a source?? Talk to Terry or Mark if you have access to any bulk buying opportunities for our club. Tie wraps maybe or metric nuts and bolts?

A special thanks goes out to Jamie, Neil, Ron, and the rest of the morning shift at our flying field that helped debug my chopper. Jamie is such a good sport. He would invest his time to get my heli just right, and then I would turn around and tear it all down. He would have to start all over and all without so much as a peep, although I think I may have seen him grit his teeth once. It was great to see all those heli geniuses hard at work getting my chopper up to speed. Thanks again, men. I'm eternally grateful.

It is my pleasure to welcome two new members to our club, Daniel Hugunin from Bolingbrook and Eric Zimmerman from Aurora. Who knows, the way things are going, we may break the elusive 60-member mark this year.

Don't forget to check out this month the For Sale and Wanted section that is loaded with some new good stuff. Also, I just want to remind you that this month's meeting will be held at our field. Marty

### President's Message

This month is our 3rd month of field meetings. The start time is 7:00pm, and the meetings will

focus more on flying and set up than our meetings at John's. The Crash and Smash will still take place and be voted on. Last month, Orval won the Crash & Smash.

Much to my dismay, I have been too busy to even get a heli up in the air. Sometimes you just have to put the fun things aside to take care of the things that have to be done. (Bummer)

I was on a good clip to use the fuel that I bought through the spring club fuel buy, but now I am going to have to do some major flying to get my stash of fuel used up.

I plan on taking Steve's advice and try to learn autos with the Raptor. I have the parts I need to convert 2 of my Raptors over to a driven tail. They are still sitting there waiting for me to free up the time to install the mod so that I can purposely try to cut the engine to an idle and get it on the ground SAFELY. Something just does not sound right with that statement, but as I recall I had on successful emergency auto (crank broke is FFF) and I have had several times that an auto would have saved the "UT OHH that's gonna cost me some bucks" statement. So learning to do Autos correctly is a good thing!!! Steve, 30 autos per tankful on the Raptor? That's a lot of practicing (possibilities for a crash) in one tank full of fuel. Soft Landings! Terry

## VP MESSAGE

(or What I Learned This Month)

When first learning auto rotations, some method of "bailing out" when things don't go right is usually used. In the newsletter last month, Steve Jensen described a really good method of using a special Idleup2 throttle curve to easily and quickly add power so a bad auto landing can be avoided. I use this method and it works quite well. Another method is to just flip the auto switch off, thereby putting the heli back into whatever mode you started in (usually normal mode). In either case, a sudden increase in power at the bottom of an auto when the blades have very little energy left in them can cause some surprises. The tail can swing around from the sudden increase in torque, and this can quickly redirect your flight path. What I'm trying to say is that it just might scare you half to death! On one approach I'll loosely call an autorotation, I really jammed in the power when the heli had very little blade speed left and was falling fast. It proceeded to do almost 2 complete pirouettes and then headed off backwards with the curved part of the skids dragging in the grass. I then discovered I could fly backwards if I was under enough pressure! Another thing that sorta psyched me out was that the tail rotor would sometimes stop turning just about the time things get scary (about 3-7 feet from the ground). Well, if the tail rotor isn't turning and you hit the power hard, you get the above-described pirouetting pleasure. For me, the remedy was installing the driven tail mod as

described in previous newsletters and club demos. Now, even if I've really killed the head speed early (too high) and can't make the landing, the tail rotor is still turning enough to mostly prevent the piro problem. And I just like to see that tail rotor turn when I'm flying! Of course, if you always do things right, you don't need a driven tail to do auto rotations. It just helps the process along.

If they aren't really spin'n, you aren't really flyin, Mark Clausen

## Fun Fly Update

We have jumped through most of the needed hoops. We have the permit and insurance from the AMA. We have received the permit from DuPage County. We have the best chef and helper in the world (well, maybe NIRCHA) lined up. We have advertising; we made the first page of Model Helicopter Technique. All that means we are well on our way to putting together our annual fall fun fly. Look for more info and tidbits in the next couple of months. I tend to get the jitters the closer it gets, so keep a close eye out, if I start shaking uncontrollably slap me a time or two. Not too hard though. We can pull this off, Terry

Editor, Who is Terry trying to kid? Terry made last year's fun fly look like child's play with everything very well organized and tons of fun. My only suggestion would be to put the public address system speakers up wind. Fortunately, Terry is one of our club's best hoop jumpers and is as cool as a cucumber in the heat of battle!!

## RAPTOR DECALS

I noticed a tiny picture of a patriotic color scheme on a Raptor 30 canopy in an ad in one of the European heli magazines a few weeks ago. I don't remember the magazine as I never buy the euro ones, just look and return to shelf w/\$7.00 still in pocket! It turns out it was decals that are available from Midland Helicopters in the UK. Website is [www.modelhelicopters.co.uk](http://www.modelhelicopters.co.uk). They have a US flag type scheme with part# MHR30USA and also a UK flag scheme and several other colored schemes under the Raptor Upgrades section. The magazine ad showed the US

and UK schemes and only about \$20. If you want something different, this would be cheaper than even a decent do it yourself paintjob. By the way, my canopy paint is still relatively intact after a year and a half, 400+ flights with at least 5 crashes, some in subfreezing weather. The crash that finally put some cracks on the underside of the canopy also cracked the decal there. Paint can be done but decals are easier! Mark Clausen

### Local Eateries

For any of you that find yourself way, way, way out Northwest on a Friday night, I highly recommend The Cliffbreakers restaurant in Rockford, overlooking the scenic Rock River. I know it is a fur piece, but the excellent Friday seafood buffet more than makes up for the drive. Make reservations and bring a hankering for really great all you can eat seafood for \$15.95 and settle in for a splendid casual and relaxing dining experience. If you have the time take a look at the photos in the grand hallway of the notables that have preceded you. For reservations and directions call 815-282-3033 or [www.cliffbreakers.com](http://www.cliffbreakers.com). I have never steered anyone wrong when it comes to great tasting chow!!!

### Email from Steve Jensen

Thought you might want to mention the 8/15 thru 8/18 ircha world jamboree at Muncie.

<http://www.ircha.org/jamfly02.doc>,<http://www.ircha.org/events.html>

*Editor: Yes I would!*

### This Story does have a Moral

I gave a demo on setting up a cordless starter and glow box a few months ago. I used the Sullivan Dynatron starter two 7.2 volt (1500 MaH) car flat packs and the Radio Pro South Deluxe glow driver box. I was having an intermittent glitch on my Raptor when I hooked up the glow starter. Sometimes the servos would go nuts. I took the remote glow adapter apart several times thinking the end must not be tight on the glow plug. I even replaced it with a new

adapter just in case the problem was inside the dummy plug. I just knew the problem was not in the glow box because I used the same set up with my airplanes and I never had a problem with them. Well... as it turns out I took the glow box wand apart to see if anything was loose and I found a cold solder joint for the ground. This unit has a washer that the end screws down on to provide the ground for the glow igniter circuit. The washer has a tab on it and the wire is soldered to the tab. I said to myself “self (that’s what I call myself when I talk to myself) this is not the best setup in the world”. If a little dirt gets under the washer you will not have a good connection. So I looked it over real good and decided to solder the wire to the outside frame portion of the glow wand. I have used this several times and it seems to be working well with no more glitching.

This story does have a moral. The problem might be right under your nose; your brain may be the thing that is holding you from finding the problem. “I just knew the problem was not in the glow box because I used the same set up with my airplanes and I never had a problem with them.” Oh Well, better luck next time. Terry

### Repeat Good Eats by Chef Marty

Here is a neat trick for cooking ears of sweet corn. Remove all but two layers of husks, leave silks on and microwave on high, (approximately) 2 ears for 4 to 5 minutes, 4 ears for 6 to 7 minutes, 6 ears for 8 to 9 minutes, and rotate quarter turn halfway through cooking. Be careful not to overcook. Important: let rest for five minutes with husks on. You will never boil sweet corn again which means, no steamy kitchen, no pot, and most important no mess. Trust me on this, men, and give it a go. You will impress your Sweetie with this one, and she will be singing your praises for some time to come!! Bon Appetite! Marty

### Event Calendar

**News Flash:** It is one of the up-and-coming Fun Flies of the year. Our annual NIRCHA Fun Fly, September 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Mark it on your calendar right now. We will have the same great food as last year with our renowned Chef Neil and his talented pot scrubber trainee, Marty. I give the burgers, chips, canned cokes, and maybe some morning Krispy Kremes, a brazen, \*2 Beer Steins (Tums will be located in the rear of the concession area, available only

on a first come, first serve basis and please no pushing and shoving like last year). Let's try for a 100% club turnout. Drag racing, Auto contest, and bomb drop are among some of the activities planned with lots of great prizes. Hungry spectators are also welcome. Our masterful Terry King will CD this event and can be contacted at 815-547-7016. More on this Event as the story develops.

**Bulletin:** Sycamore Steam Show and Threshing Bee are just around the corner. You do not want to miss this live steam show. Come on out to scenic Sycamore, IL for another year of antique farm equipment display demonstrations sponsored by the Northern Illinois Steam Power Club. Take Rt. 64 west out past Randall Rd. to Burlington Rd. stoplight, turn right on to Burlington Rd., which will turn and send you out West to the town of Burlington. On the other side of the town there will be a sign to direct you to the festivities. If you're not familiar with that neck of the woods it might be wise to check a current map before you head out (Burlington Rd. and Rt. 64 intersection were moved in last few years). The event begins on Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, and runs through Sunday August 11<sup>th</sup>. Activities are from 10am to about 4pm each day. Lots and lots of huge operating steam tractors and more on about a 100-acre farm and also for the wives a large antique area to peruse at their and your leisure. I believe it is four bucks to get in and worth every penny. For lunch I would recommend Fay's pork chop dinner which I give an unabashed \*4 beer steins. If you're not into plastic utensils bring your own hardware from home. Every day they have a parade at 2 pm with lots and lots of history to look at and enjoy with all of that live steam equipment in operation. See you there and trust me when I say, it's a hoot!!!

<http://www.nsea.com/mem/board/mes/995739899.html>

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On Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>, Memorial Giant Scale fun fly will be held at 9:00 am Sunday at the Pratt's Wayne Woods field. Sponsored by West Suburban Barn Stormers Club. It is always a great show; so make sure to bring your camera. Food will be available and I give it \*2 Beer Steins.

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\*1 Beer Stein = palatable, 2 Beer Steins = interesting, 3 Beer Steins = mouth-watering, 4 Beer Steins = lip smacking

For Sale or Wanted, Lots of Good Stuff

**For Sale:** 1 flown but never crashed .30 Quick Pro EMS Carbon Heli. No electronics, motor, or main blades. Painted Fiberglass canopy and fins. Carbon Frames, Metal fan, smooth as silk (New sells for \$499.99)

1 new in box .30 Quick Pro EMS Metal Heli. Unassembled and still in original packing. (New sells for \$399.99)

I would like to sell both together for \$400.00    See Terry King

**For Sale:** OS61SXH-WC engine new in box, \$175 also 600 mm fiberglass blades. Semi-symmetrical, \$20.

**Wanted:** CP 30% heli fuel. If you have too much fuel and don't want to winter it, let me know! Call Mark Clausen at

815-325-1565 or [Markclaus@hotmail.com](mailto:Markclaus@hotmail.com)

**For Sale:** USED:RealFlight Deluxe with Transmitter Interface and Generation 2 Upgrade. Asking \$95.00 NEW:RealFlight Generation 2 with Mode 2 Transmitter. Asking \$175.00 If interested call Ed (I have an answering machine) 773-239-2470 or [emkoman@juno.com](mailto:emkoman@juno.com) Thank you, Ed

**For Sale:** OS Max .32 SX less than 3 gallons, excellent cond. asking \$80.00 plus Shipping - JR Flight Pack - (5) 507 servos upgraded to 517, R600 6 channel receiver less crystal, JR 1100 mAh battery, on/off switch harness, excellent condition asking \$ 150.00 plus shipping

- Hobbico Volt Watch - very little use - asking \$8.00 plus shipping. If interested please email Rod at [DaRaceNGuy@aol.com](mailto:DaRaceNGuy@aol.com) or call (312) 853-5740. Thanks, Rod Laureano

**For Sale:** Lite Machine, it has a Sport Piezo Gyro, Hitech radio. New parts include: motor, clutch, tail boom, main blades, main shaft gear, and canopy, pretty much all of it is new. Have extra engine and other parts too. Asking \$500.00 please page or e-mail Jorge, Pg. (708) 378-1351 e-mail [jreality@juno.com](mailto:jreality@juno.com)

## 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: [www.nircha.com](http://www.nircha.com) and is maintained by Web Guys, Rich Erikson and Kevin Cashman.

*Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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	815-
	547-7016	

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