

*EXTRA! EXTRA! Read all about it! Get the latest scoop on R/C Helicopters.*

## CHOPPER NEWS

*All of your helicopter needs and expert help are as close as your local hobby shop!!!*

*“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**

**March, 2002**

**Next Club Meeting, 7:30 pm Tuesday,  
March 12th**

*At John’s Pizzeria, 100 E. Lake St., Addison, IL*

## Editorial

For those of you who missed our last meeting, you missed another great one. Terry brought in and showed us his night flying Raptor all dressed up in lights and battery operated main blade lights. Steve Hubbard brought in and let everyone try out his RealFlight G2 simulator. I even gave it a go. A fun time was had by all. Remember Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> is our next meeting. All of our meetings make for an enjoyable

evening out. See you there.

As of 2/7/02, member Paul Girard was formally elevated to Membership Chairman by our club President. Please send all inquiries and/or pertinent membership information directly to Paul, (773)-774-2365 or [PGirard01@aol.com](mailto:PGirard01@aol.com). With the continual growth of our club we need at least one individual just to handle this vital area of club information. It is a massive amount of ever changing data. Please keep Paul informed of any changes.

When we got to our club flying field on the morning of February 9<sup>th</sup> we noticed that a path was cleared of snow from the parking lot to the picnic tables, over to our club facility, then to our temporary igloo warming hut. Next, snow was removed to make paths going up and down the east side of the field, and then a huge 40' by 40' flight area was also cleared of snow. We figured it had to take someone forever with a snow blower to remove that much heavy crusted snow. Later in the day we found a witness to this Herculean feat. John Spatola informed us that he saw Kevin Nemeth clearing the snow with, would you believe, a snow shovel!!! Just thinking about it was enough to make me sit down for a few moments to catch my breath. The above feat was not nearly that difficult, though, when you deduct the 6' by 6' area that my Sidekick and I both worked on and cleared the week before.

As you all know by now our annual club fuel buy is on!!! Terry has included a form to send or hand in with your check. Thanks to Al's Hobby Shop we can all save a bundle on fuel. You do not want to miss this fuel-buying special!! The more fuel we buy the cheaper the gallon price. I just purchased 4 cases and saved about 70 or 80 bucks. As always you save with great prices at Al's Hobby Shop, [rc@alshobbyshop.com](mailto:rc@alshobbyshop.com), or (630)-832-4908!!!!

This is a huge opportunity for members in good standing to more than pay for their dues. I personally will save enough to pay for my membership four times over. You don't have to be good at math for this one.

You have to try Chef Clausen's Calico Bean Casserole in our Good Eats section. It is almost as good as chocolate. This reminds me that I want to include a new section in our newsletter. I know I am pushing the envelope a little here, but we have many members like myself who are alive just to eat and need the locations of new fun restaurants just to survive. Sweetie and I eat out three nights a week but can eat out as many as seven nights in an emergency. So the new section, Local Eateries, has just been born. We must keep this new section short and to the point. After all, this newsletter is about helicopters.

Hope to see you all at the next meeting. If your chopper has the shakes and the

rattles, you do not want to miss our next get-together. Terry will be armed with some answers. Bring your blades. I hope everyone is thirsty. Don't forget to get your free drink from Neil. Once again, I believe Neil is buying!!! Marty

## President's Message

It's that time again. It seems like a month just flies by so quickly. I had to write this one a little early because I am going on vacation. So when you are reading this I will be in Arizona. I'm hoping for 80 degrees and a golf club in my hand. I'm not taking a heli (bummer!!) so I will be ready to fly as soon as I get home. This winter has spoiled me for flying in the wintertime. This meeting is our 1<sup>st</sup> annual blade-balancing meeting. For those of you who want your old blades checked or you have a stockpile of new blades for the upcoming flying season, bring them in! We will make sure they are balanced to perfection. I will also demonstrate how to use a Koll balancer and a digital gram scale to accomplish the perfect Center of Gravity and weight balanced set of blades.

We have not had enough interest in jackets so I will return paid money at the meeting. The fuel sale is going along pretty good so if you want fuel bring your order form and money. I will place the order after this meeting

Soft Landings! Terry

*Editor: Yet another member having to endure hot, sweaty, sticky temperatures. Terry, I hope you can at least stay inside by the air conditioning. Next week, if the weather report is correct, we can all look forward to some clean powdery snow to revive the landscape, along with some refreshingly brisk low temperatures. I can't wait!!!*

## VP Message

FUEL TIME! Hey folks, it's time to order fuel (February meeting). As our full-scale pilot buddies would say, fuel is brains! And there's also the old Norse proverb, what comes down must first be up. I hope you all sold your unused stuff at one of the recent swap meets. Just in time.

TENTATIVE FLYING (and how a crash or two can bring IT on): Anybody ever have a crash, and afterwards feel a bit nervous about flying again? For me it took a couple crashes within a short period of time. After that, my flying became full of knee knocking, tense jaws, and stiff fingers. I could blame it on the cold, but it really hasn't been *that* cold, has it? I found myself getting worried about maneuvers that used to come pretty easy. I searched for the secret cure to my ill. I tried the standard remedies of relaxed

breathing (difficult when the nitro fumes are aiming for your lungs). I tried successful visualization (*very* difficult when the helicopter bares its bloody teeth during your vision), and also kneading worry beads (just plain impossible while flying). In the end nothing really helped. So I flew anyway, because that's what I do when things bug me. Hmmmm, Oh yeah, lucky for me, I have a bad memory. Finally, as I was flying, I remembered what I forgot about flying. Or, most likely, I forgot what I remembered about crashing. Either way, IT went away. Now I'm as sane and sure as anybody who is capable of all these problems. Happy Flying! Mark

## General Website and Internet Information by Terry

There was a request for Websites and Internet based information on helicopters, turned in to me. I was trying to figure a way to do this as a demo or discussion at a meeting. I realized that most people would not take notes. So I thought the best way to try this would be in the newsletter. This is not an all-inclusive list; there are probably hundreds and maybe even thousands of sites that I do not have listed. I will try to break it down a little to help you find what you are looking for.

### Our Website

If you haven't looked at this one, check it out!

Nircha.com

### Forums that discuss helicopters

You can look at general discussion of just about any helicopter related subject. All of these have search features that you can look up certain keywords and find all posts with that subject. Great place to check out if you have questions. You need to register to post, but there is no cost involved. All have a "for Sale" section. Good place to look if you are looking to buy or sell.

Rotory.com  
com  
com

Runryder.  
RCUniverse.  
RCShowroom.com

## **On Line Stores & Hobby Shops**

*Just what the heading implies, places to spend your money*

Alshobbyshop.com  
com

Bocabearings.com

Gr8lakesrc.com

Helihut.

Heliproz.com  
Towerhobby.com

HHIHeli.com

Ronlund.com

Smallparts.com  
com

microfasteners.com

drillbitcity.com

servocity.

## **Organizations**

Modelaircraft.org (AMA)

Ircha.org

## **Heli & Engine Manufactures Websites**

Centuryheli.com  
cellrchelicopters.com

Jrheli.com

Quickheli.com

X-

acehobby.com (Raptor)  
modelrec.com (Hirobo)

kyosho.com

osengines.com  
Engines)

centralhobbies.com/engines.html (YS

## **Auction Sites**

Ebay.com will take you to everything for sale

<http://listings.ebay.com/aw/plistings/list/all/category19163/index.html> will take you to the RC section

[www.RCAuction.net](http://www.RCAuction.net) is a brand new auction site that just started up.

PayPal.com this is not an auction site but kind of relevant.

## Links Website

This is called Alan's RC Links website. He has posted links on this website for just about anything and everything you could think about in Radio Control

<http://homepages.ihug.co.nz/~atong/>

## Simulator Websites

Realflight.com  
htm

Tru-flight.co.uk/default.

FMS(Free!)<http://simulator.home.pages.de>

rcmodels.org/csm/ (CSM)

## Personal Websites

These are sites that are maintained by your average helicopter flyer and can contain tons of information and some contain links to other Websites as well.

RCHelicopters.org  
littlerotors.com

Raptortechnique.com

Helifever.com

Fritzthecat.com

Good Luck Surfing! Terry

### Take Care of Those Hands and Wrists by Mark

There is an article in the February 2002 issue of RCM magazine about hand and wrist care. It is entitled "Taking Care Of Our Most Often Used Tools" and begins on page 170. Now I hope there is not a one of you out there who experiences any hand or wrist problem, but I can say I have some issues there. After a lot of bicycle, motorcycle, and snowmobile riding, computer work and maybe even a little RC flying, my hands/wrists have taken some abuse. The article describes several methods to strengthen and improve dexterity. I find the exercise of quickly opening and closing the hand into a fist repeatedly as fast as you can for about 15 seconds helps out my wrists. It also gives a plug about general physical fitness. Check it out.

### A Post From Kevin and Rich's Bulletin Board

Marty and I were at the field this past Saturday and shoveled out an area for take off's and landings, thanks to the heads up on Marty's part for bringing a shovel!

To our amazement some kids in the area decided to build an igloo about 25' south of our pit area. So now I guess you fair weather fliers don't have any more excuses, we now have a warming house!

On another note, Ross, our other weekend flying comrade, graced us with his presence. He fueled up and flew about 1 1/2 minutes before his fingers started hurting; he hasn't been out in a long time and forgot to bring his gloves. Sunday the 3 of us met at Pratt Wayne at 8:30 and enjoyed Krispie Kremes that Marty and Ross brought. It just doesn't get any better than that.

Happy flying

Neil

*Editor: If you haven't already, you have to check out the club bulletin board. Let's all try and make an effort to use and enjoy it. Remember use it or lose it, and it is read worldwide.*

### China Update, Just Saying, Hi/Bye

Hope your last meeting was good and that the Realflight demos went well. Sorry I didn't make it; spent some time with my wife that night. I miss you guys, but my wife I miss more. Been home 1 week, leave tomorrow again. Was gone 4 wks, will be gone 4 more minimum.

Flew my Raptor 3 flights within 24 hours of return, felt good! No problems, just a little rusty.

Bob Corwin's been really gung-ho and keeping me on my toes (It's been fun; gave me my chopper "fix"). We got his LMH JR gyro installed, ran the motor in, and flew it in his garage. Watch out for this guy, he's learning like wildfire on the Realflight sim and already planning his next chopper!

Just had to say hi, hope you're doing well. Steve Jensen

### From Our Field Pit Area, Mr. Helping Hand Himself

Members, for those of you that do not know me, my name is Gary Ohlin. Most weekends I arrive at our Club Field at about 10:30 am or 11am. If you are having problems setting up your helicopter or learning to fly come on out, and I will try to help you. This hobby of ours is a lot easier if your heli is set up properly. Giving your fellow members a helping hand is one of the fun reasons of being in a club. Give me a call at (630)-629-6177 anytime or just show up Saturday or Sunday morning. Gary

### Good Eats by Chef Mark Clausen

“It's from a cook so fine I had to marry her.”

**Calico Bean Casserole:** Try these beans for a real treat. They're so good, you'll be tempted to eat them all by yourself, but don't do it unless you live alone! This recipe is simple, but that's not why it's a favorite at my

house - they're just plain GOOOOD! Serves 4 or more (in a big house) or 1 (in a small house)

Ingredients:

½ lb ground beef

½ lb bacon (cut into small pieces)

1) 15 oz. can butter beans

1) 15 oz. can pork and beans

1) 15 oz. can kidney beans

½ C. chopped onion

¼ C. white sugar

¼ C. brown sugar

1 T. vinegar

1 tsp. mustard (dry)

½ C. catsup

¼ tsp. salt

¼ tsp. pepper

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

2. Fry ground beef and bacon together. Drain.

3. Mix all ingredients together.

4. Place in 2-quart buttered casserole and bake for 45 minutes.

Beans, beans, the musical fruit.

Editor: My honey bunch and I gave this recipe a try, and it was everything Mark said it

would be and then some!!!

### Club Raffle Update

The Raffle is going well, but could be better. We have 29 tickets left and one of them could be the winner. I will have the tickets for sale at the meeting or you can get them by contacting me at RTK5812@netzero.net or by phone at (708) 499-0155 after 7:00 P.M.  
Ron Kwilinski

### Event Calendar

News Flash: Take note, at its new location, the big event, the must see or fly in of the year will be here before we know it with all the big name fliers. The Al Fuchsen Memorial Helicopter Fun Fly will be held at its new location, the model airplane field just off of Campton Hills Rd. on the far west side of St. Charles. I believe they had 100 entries last year at its old location at Fermi Lab, and they are expecting a like number in St. Charles. This year an exciting night fly will be included for the first time. The field is located just east of one of St. Charles' landmarks, Chicago Land's home for wayward boys, a training facility for disobedient errant youngsters. Let's all hope the boys' home will dim their searchlights for the night fly. If you hear sirens go off don't make any sudden moves or run for it (just kidding, I didn't write that, it wasn't me, my fingers made me do it). This is not too far from my neck of the woods.

Hot food right off the grill is available at the field. When it was at Fermi Lab I give it 3 Beer Steins\* for taste and presentation, a relaxed back yard fare, with burgers and hot dogs done to a turn and a wide choice of condiments. Lets all hope their 4 Beer Stein\*, succulent roast pig dinner will still be included with the entry fee. The fun fly will be on the weekend of June 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. You will not want to miss this fun time. Lets try for 100% club participation. This news story is still developing with more detailed information to follow next month or call Cindy at (630)-832-4908 or email [rc@alshobbyshop.com](mailto:rc@alshobbyshop.com) . Marty

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

## Better Ways and Shortcuts by Marty

1. One of the bolts came loose holding the pitch tray on my Raptor causing a few beautiful loops before my chopper planted itself right into terra firma. This will not happen again. I now have a 3mm running thread that has an aircraft nut on either side to hold everything where it belongs. You must drill out the frame just enough so you can easily screw the threaded rod in place and then use nylon insert nuts to hold it all together. It's the cat's-meow!!!
2. Take the time this winter to look over all of your helicopter's control links. They are all to work smoothly and not to be too tight. If they are too tight and stick, you will get a plus or minus centering and make your helicopter harder and less fun to fly. Conversely after many hours of flying check the ball links to see if they have not become worn, too loose, and need to be replaced. This tune-up costs very little but can make a large improvement in how well your chopper flies. Spend an hour or two and get it right.
3. So far my tuned pipe seems to be the hot setup. More get-up and go with about the same fuel economy, and I like the sound. A shorter engine life might be a factor but then again, with the extra horses, maybe I won't have the tendency to run the engine so lean. Who knows, the two might balance themselves out, although it does seem like the negatives always tend to outweigh the positives in these situations.

### Local Eateries

I would like to share with you, McNally's Pub located in St. Charles and now also in Elmhurst. Fun authentic Irish food with a great friendly atmosphere, and I highly recommend everything but the fish and chips. Marty

## For Sale, Lots of Good Stuff

**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 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 [jrealty@juno.com](mailto:jrealty@juno.com)

**For Sale:** Bergen Intrepid Gas Helicopter, hovered one time. All new equipment, including all Futaba 9203 servos, Futaba Piezo Gyro FP-501 with High response S9203 servos. Asking \$1150.00 OBO.

X-cell Graphite Gas Helicopter hovered only, 5-6 times, all new equipment, custom painted canopy and tail fin, also comes with the stock canopy and fin, Bergen cooling fan and shroud, JR.NEJ 120S gyro, Futaba 9201 servos except throttle. Asking \$1150.00 OBO. Will separate.

Futaba 8UHP 1024 Heli Radio, Channel 16, with 2 129 DP receivers. Pristine condition, no scratches or dents. \$550.00.

Can send photos, if anyone is interested in purchasing any of this equipment that they should either e-mail, Aeronut04@aol.com or call during the day 630 261 9281. Thanks Jim Nicosia

Editor: From what I understand, I firmly believe the above Bergen and X-cell gas helicopters were hovered only a few times by a little old school teacher with no mishaps!!!

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  
King

Terry  
815-547-7016

Vice President

Mark Clausen  
815-325-1565

Secretary  
Nesheim

Neil  
630-351-4002

Treasurer  
Rinn

Robb  
630-906-1731

## Newsletter

Editor/publisher  
Davis

Marty  
630-377-1865

#1 Proofreader  
Davis

Linda  
630-377-1865

## Web Site

The Web Guys

Rich Erikson and Kevin

Cashman

[www.nircha.com](http://www.nircha.com)

Membership

Chairman  
Girard

Paul  
(773)-774-2365

Businesses Who Support Our Club

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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

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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## Club Fuel Purchase

We are off to a good start. We have taken orders of over 15 cases of fuel. 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. Last year we ordered 124 gallons of fuel. Our cost was under \$18.00 per gallon. This year we are looking at \$17.49 and that INCLUDES tax.

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

Circle nitro content wanted                      30% is what everyone bought last year

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I have had people ask me how they can order if they cannot make it to the meeting. Call me! E-Mail me! Send me a check! If you want to take advantage of this offer get in touch with me and we will work out the details.