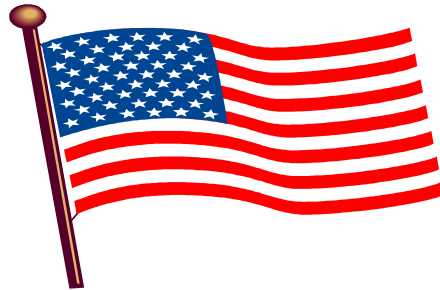


*EXTRA! EXTRA! Read all about it! Get the latest scoop on R/C Helicopters.*

# 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

Next Club Meeting, 7:30 pm, Tuesday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2004

### Editorial

It sure is nice to have all of that hot humid weather behind us now. I can't wait for all of the cool crisp days that are on the way! Our engines run easier (open the needle valve for cold weather flying), and our blades work more efficiently in the cool dense air. So dress warm, find a nice sunny day, and get out and enjoy the rest of the year!

Let's not forget our fifth annual non-event get-together on January, 1<sup>st</sup> for flying, coffee, and Krispy Kreme donuts. I hope to see everyone there, and don't forget, now is the time to get your AMA license and field permit.

For what it is worth I have had SBC Yahoo DSL for a year now, and it is very fast and cheap. If available in your area why pay 24 bucks for slow AOL dial up, when you can get high speed internet DSL for only a few bucks more, \$26.95?

If anyone has a list of all or just one of this winter's Swap, Buy, and Sell R/C Meets, please send it to me, and I will post it in the newsletter.

I was hoping we could start a Local Eateries section for the newsletter. I know our younger members will not understand us older guy's extreme interest in food! I am in my "live to eat" stage of life. So if you know of any new and/or interesting restaurants let us all know! My #1 proofreader and I usually eat out three nights a week, but we can eat out all seven nights in an emergency!

Please, feel free to send in stuff for your favorite club newsletter. As you will see, I have had to adlib using everything but helicopter stuff this month for fill.

### President's Message

Again I find myself writing my newsletter article in an airport...Pittsburgh to be precise. I have come to the realization that Pittsburgh is like iceberg... iceberg is a berg of ice...and Pittsburgh is a burgh of Pitts, 'cause it is the pits for sure. I did manage to find a local flying field, which did have a bunch of nice guys flying at it. If you are not familiar with the geography of Pittsburgh, it is very hilly and has dense forests. I went on Runryder and did a search for the local fields and printed out a map. So I am on my way to the field and I turn off the beaten path onto a gravel road...into a forest...I am driving and driving seeing hunter after hunter parked on the side. I started thinking about the movie, "Deliverance". Anyway, I keep going, thinking how the hell can there be a flying field in here? The hills were very steep and no sign of a clearing, I drove up a steep hill and voila! At the top and I mean on the top of a foothill there was a field, well, a runway anyway. A 40 x 700 ft runway...and that was it. There seemed to be 7-8 foot trees surrounding the field but I was corrected; they were the tops of 30-40 ft trees. It was

the damndest thing. If you did not make the field, you were in deep doodoo. This did not stop the locals from taking out their turbine jet and other expensive aircraft.

I had an interesting opportunity the other day, I received a phone call and it was a woman looking to book a keynote speaker for their aviation club. She had found me via our web site and asked if I would be interested in speaking to their aviation club. After I had agreed to do this, I started getting nervous...could I talk for a long time about RC helis?

Well, I brought my two helis and Jeff Anderson's jetcopter as static displays, as well as a video and a simulator. When I got there the president of the club told me not to worry that I would have a good 70-80 minutes of time for my discussion!! Holly Crap!! Could I talk for that long...er...well...yup! I did, answered questions, showed a few minutes of flying on the video and let a couple folks try the simulator. It was a great success, and they will probably come out to see us fly at our spring fling! It was nice to talk to full size pilots and get their reaction to what model helis can do. Most said...hey helis can't do that!! We may not get any members from what I did...but it was nice to do something for the community.

Sad to say, I won't be at the next meeting...I will be in Boston...yea me!? But we do need to start getting counts on Christmas party attendees. It will be the same deal as last year so if you are planning on attending please give me a call or email with a head count. Rich Erikson, 815.356.8518, [richerikson@yahoo.com](mailto:richerikson@yahoo.com)

We will be sending out an email and/or calling to finalize these numbers so we can plan for the food properly. We are going to do the give a gift get a gift plan again, and we may just slip a decent surprise in as well!! Remember they are gag or unused items. Do not go buy anything. Look around your shop, find something you don't want...wrap it up real pretty and bring it along. I think most of you will remember how it worked last year...if you bring one to give you will get one! Remember, it is just for fun! See ya at the party!!! Rich

## Minutes for October Meeting

The Meeting was held at John's with 14 members present and 3 guests

Rick Erickson called the meeting to order at 7:40pm

Officers present were Rich Erickson, Mark Clausen, Terry King, Paul Girard, Charlie Tittlebach

Minutes were read from September meeting Approved and 2nd

Treasurer report showed \$1,854.33

Membership report stands at 57 members from Paul Girard

Rich talked about our summer raffle; we need more people to buy tickets. If every member purchased just 1 more ticket we would sell out

New Business: The thank you letters have all been sent

2005 fun fly is to be September 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>. Sanction application is in the mail. Christmas party plans are starting. Will check with the Embroiderer on prices for Jackets, Shirts, and hats and put an order form in the next newsletter.

Crash & Smash: Mark received his for the "self-ejecting head!! Matthew Leifheit won by default; he was the only one to own up to a crash

There was a discussion on the Center of Gravity and the ways to check it. Some feel it is not an issue, while others feel it needs to be done. The discussion turned to NiCd and Nickel Metal Hydride batteries and the strengths and weaknesses of both. See what everyone missed that didn't come to the meeting.

Raffle was done with several GOOD prizes (1-year sub to MHT)

Pizza was had and the meeting was adjourned, Club Secretary, Terry King

*Editor: I have flown both helicopters and planes that were tail heavy! Helicopters and airplanes cannot fly when tail heavy from my experience!! In forward flight both will porpoise right into the ground caused by super hyper sensitive, uncontrollable pitch!!! I guarantee!! So if your model is too sensitive in pitch try adding nose weight!*

## If It can Happen, It Will

I don't know if this qualifies for newsletter worthy information, but it was about the funniest thing that ever happened to me. Funny, I'm sure because it didn't involve any expense on my part. I was doing a setup for a raptor 30 for one of Cindy's customers. I had corrected some servo problems I had seen, and had repaired some questionable "tinkering" on the customer's part... So, anyway, I'm at the flying field, and was getting pretty comfortable with the heli, as the setup is pretty standard on my part. I had transitioned into fast forward flight and was just doing your basic "figure-eight" type pattern and was getting ready to pull some strong vertical in order to test on the tail for pirouettes when all of a sudden stuff started falling off of the helicopter, the motor quit, and I was forced into a low level unexpected auto. Well, in checking what had fallen out of the heli and caused the sudden change in pitch was the damn motor had fallen out! In checking, the customer had done some personal motor inspection but hadn't bothered to locktight, or even torque the motor mount screws down. No damage other than a

cracked landing gear skid, but it was at least an interesting day at the field. I doubt there's even a moral to the story, but I suppose I could recommend to others to check their motor mount screws on at least a semi regular basis. Dennis McFarlane  
*Editor, Great story, helicopters always let you know what is left undone!!*

## 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.

## Local Eateries

I am sure most of you guys have been to Famous Dave's, a medium size local chain serving great barbeque. Famous Dave's is a restaurant that has been around for a while but is worth mentioning because they are sooooo good at what they do! Legendary Pit Bar-B-Que!! They have locations in Addison, Carpentersville, Lombard, Naperville, North Riverside, Orland Park, Palatine, Streamwood, and Vernon Hills. Please tell them that the town of St. Charles would be a very good new store location!

### Up and Coming Events by Terry King, 2005

June 25 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>	Al Fuchsen Memorial Fun Fly	TBA (maybe St. Charles new field?)	St. Charles, IL
July 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup>	Fun Fly Quad Cities RC Whirlybirds 10am to??,	SEVEN CITIES SOD FARM,	Davenport, IA,
Aug 11 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup>	Fun Fly, IRCHA, 8am to 5pm, Biggest heli fun fly in the US	AMA Headquarters,	Muncie, IN
Sept 10 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup>	NIRCHA Fall Fun Fly, 9am to 5pm,	Howards 2873 Townhall Rd, <u>NORTHERN ILLINOIS RC HELICOPTER ASSOC.</u> AMA CHARTER NO. 2099	Belvidere, IL .

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 Helicopter Forest Preserve Flying field is located on Grace St., in Addison (on the border with Lombard), and about one mile north of North Ave. Field permits can be obtained by calling 630-933-7200.

### Club Officers

President	Rich Erikson	815-356-8518
Vice President	Mark Clausen	815-325-1565
Secretary	Terry King	815-547-7016
Treasurer	Charles Tittelbach	708-352-4915

### Newsletter

[Choppernews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Choppernews@sbcglobal.net)

Editor/publisher	Marty Davis	630-377-1865
#1 Proofreader	Linda Davis	Fax 630-377-1865

### Web Site

The Web Guys	Rich Erikson and Kevin Cashman	<a href="http://www.nircha.com">www.nircha.com</a>
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### Membership

Chairman	Paul Girard	773-774-2365
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