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CHOPPER NEWS



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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, April 12th, 2005

From the Editor...

Men, as your editor, I have just run out of steam. I've been the Chopper News Editor for 5 years now, and I am spent! With a heavy heart, I am going to have to hand off my Editor's visor and computer keyboard to another member. I hope over the years you have enjoyed reading the letter as much as I have enjoyed putting this old rag together. What a great group of guys you all are, and I have enjoyed being associated with each and every one of you. This leaves a great opportunity for another member to step up and take over the reins. I will give you free of charge, one Marty Davis, all you need to know speed course on how to be an Editor, including all of the tricks of the trade. I will personally make sure you are up to speed before I hand over the printing presses at Office Depot (well, you just hand them a copy and in ten minutes they hand back lots of copies). When you have so many great members that submit articles, it makes it a simple matter to plug these articles into the newsletter, and you get all of the credit and glory. If you have ever wanted to be Editor and influence millions of people, now is the time to step forward. Please, contact our President, Rick Erikson at Midwestpilot@yahoo.com. If needed, I will stay on until I have sent out the June newsletter. Your fame and fortune awaits you! Marty

President's Message

Ahhh...the weather has finally broke...for now! Time to dust off the ole heli's. I am looking forward to a great summer of flying. Well, first off this month I want to thank Marty Davis for his years in doing this newsletter!! You have done a great job for us, Marty, and we appreciate it. I am sure he will announce in this newsletter that this is his last newsletter for NIRCHA, and we will miss him. With this news we obviously need someone to fill the very big and sometimes clown-like shoes that Marty has left behind. This club is made up of many people, and I know I can count on someone stepping up and keeping the newsletter going. I for one would hate to see the newsletter stop being sent to everyone!!! But that is what will happen without your help. Marty has

offered to help get the new guy up to speed. If you are interested, please let me know as soon as possible so we don't miss a beat. Again thanks, Marty, for all your hard work.

I have a little story to tell of an event that occurred to Jeff Anderson and me the other day.... I was over at Jeff's house building "stuff" and we decided to get something to eat. Since the weather is getting nicer, Jeff decided to fill up his gas can for his gas burning models...he has what is called a Jersey Modeler tank...a nice can with a built in pump and hoses and such.. so we go fill up with gas and then go on our way to find some food. We get home and start to unload and he asked me if I unloaded the fuel?...me...nope. With panic in his eyes he realizes he left it at the gas station...over a half hour ago! We jump back in the car hoping to still find it there; the tank is around a 100 bucks, so he was worried that it would no longer be there. As we are heading back to the station I joke with him...with all those wires, switches and extra hoses someone might think it is a bomb!! And you know what they do with things that look like bombs anymore...they blow 'em up!! Ha ha, real funny, he says...well....as we approach the gas station there is a sea of flashing police lights and the gas station has been cordoned off and the bomb squad is on the way....we look at each other...holy #*#@#*!!! We pull up and park behind a squad and get out...the cop yells at us "get out of here, there is a bomb threat!!" I can see his can sitting in front of one of the pumps...strangely looking like a bomb...well, I can see how they thought it!! Jeff yells to him that it is his can, and it is for model airplanes!! Well, Jeff apologized a million times and the cop, after taking all of Jeff's info, got on the radio and called in a code 6... which I believe means "false alarm due to a couple of dorks leaving a model plane fuel jug behind". Those codes are strangely specific!!! Nope, not an April fool's...really happened.

Other notes...Fuel buy is in swing, and the spring fling is drawing nearer...see ya at the next meeting and, as always, looking for ideas on demos!!!

Keep the stuff that spins out of the dirt.

Rich Erikson

Minutes for March Meeting

The Meeting was held at John's with 17 members present and 2 guests.

Rich Erikson called the meeting to order at 7:33pm.

Officers present were Rich Erikson, Mark Clausen, Charlie Tittlebach, Terry King, Paul Girard. Minutes from February meeting were read, approved, seconded.

Treasurer's report showed \$1,215.76, approved, seconded.

Membership report stands at 39 members from Paul Girard- The newsletter will not be sent to anyone who has not paid their dues from this point.

Dates set for the Club "Spring fling" for May 21 & 22 location: Belvidere. This is our club member fun fly; it is not open to the public, but invited guests are allowed.

Hats have been decided on. The club decided on a straw hat with "NIRCHA" embroidered on the hatband. 4 people have committed to hats and a 5th one committed by email. The cost of the hats will be between \$20.00 and \$25.00 each, depending on how many are ordered. Rich asked about having the NIRCHA heli embroidered on the hatband also, and I will find out about that.

The demo this month was on bleach bottle painting by Mark Clausen. His canopies always look very good. He takes the time to do it right, and it shows. He also shared his "secrets" with all of us, so anyone that was at the meeting can have a canopy that looks as good as Mark's!!

Al's spring fuel sale is starting. By being a member of this club we are able to get better prices on fuel collectively than we could individually, well except maybe Steve Jensen, but the savings will pay for your dues in just fuel savings alone. Soooooooo, fuel prices will be no more than the following:

Cool Power- 15% \$11.25 a gallon in case lots

30% \$18.25 a gallon in case lots

There are other fuels available and in about all nitro %'s. In the past they have put their fuel flyer on their website at www.Alshobbies.com I just checked, and it is not there yet, but I would guess it would be soon.

Pizza was enjoyed by all.

Raffle was held.

Meeting was adjourned around 9:15pm.

Terry King



Secretary

Performance Upgrade Parts

By Steve Jensen

Here's the fourth in a four-part series. About half of these points are generic and are not just for Raptor flyers:

1. For fast pirouettes, you can't beat a carbon vertical fin. Avoid a fin that has a sharp point that can dig into the ground during a backwards landing approach.
2. Maximize your tail blade diameter; 92mm is about it for a Raptor 50 with 600 blades.
3. Cut down the standard horizontal fin or replace it with a carbon unit. You'll improve your backwards performance.
4. The Gohbee Stinger head with V-blade paddles is a good setup. For the head, go to www.gohbee.com, use rep code 0053TD. Over the last few months, the price has dropped, and the 4mm bolt mod has been added.
5. I like aluminum elevator A-arms to keep the swash from torquing.
6. I really wouldn't go out of my way to replace a plastic aileron servo pitch (see-saw) arm with a metal one. The screws won't fall out of a plastic one, and it's plenty stiff.
7. Got to have a header tank.
8. I'm undecided yet about an aluminum frame post set, #PV0104. It's disgusting to have a screw strip out of a plastic frame post. You can use a longer screw when that happens, and it usually will hold for the life of the frame.
9. If your heli didn't come with a driven tail, then one is highly recommended.
10. Try a cyclic ring on your mode 2 transmitter right stick. It allows you to maximize your swash throws without binding in the corners, and it's great for chaos maneuvers. I go back and forth to planes and find that the cyclic ring doesn't bother the airplane flying.
11. A 401 is a fine gyro, but for a powerful 50 in a 30/50 size heli, you can't beat a 601 gyro.
12. If you go to high speed servos, after the rudder, try the pitch servo. Then elevator, then aileron. Then get a faster field charger, then maybe a larger flight pack. Maybe someone can explain why you'd want a digital throttle servo, like the TJ pro governor says it can control. I don't see the need for digital on throttle yet. It seems to me that engines have too much natural lag in them.
13. Try a governor. It actually gives you more power when repetitively banging the pitch stick back and forth. The servo won't follow the throttle curve through neutral if the engine's bogging.
14. Eliminate anything that may go through the blades while inverted. Two-piece mufflers and antennas strung out with rubber bands must go.
15. Blades: I never used anything but woodies on my 30's, but was sorry I ever tried them at all on a 50.
16. Go with PCM. Eventually the FM glitches will annoy you enough that you'll be happy to spend the extra for PCM. Failsafe only the throttle to idle, everything else to last commanded position. Steve Jensen

Editor: Steve, thanks for your four part article. Great job!!!

Good Eats by Chef Dennis

I certainly don't hold the patent on this, but until recently it was one of my favorite late night snacks...

Triple bypass movie meal:

- (1) Bag of Fritos
- (1) Can of chili
- (1) Bag of shredded cheese



Spread the Fritos out on a platter. Microwave your favorite canned chili (I liked Hormel chunky with beans) until hot. Pour the chili over the Fritos. Top with your favorite type of shredded cheese. Put the platter back in the micro until the cheese is melted. Enjoy with at least two cans of your favorite beverage. Do NOT try to go to bed without a sleeve of antacids on your night stand.

Like I said, my doctor won't let me eat like this anymore, something about high blood pressure and perhaps a bit high cholesterol level (what do they know) but for you guys that can still munch, have at it.

Dennis McFarlane

Helicopters for Sale!

Great Prices!!

For Sale: New LMH and starter. I still have an LMH purchased ready to fly from Al's. It was flown once by Ross and is in perfect shape. I also have a starter that is set up for the LMH. I would be willing to sell them for \$300 if anybody is interested. I really enjoyed the 6 years I was a member. A better bunch of guys or a more helpful group could not be found.

Thanks for 6 great years. Robert Culver, rculver@flash.net

Make Offer On: Raptor 50 Kit 90% assembled including OS .50 Engine (never used) new price \$549.00, Futaba GY401 with s9253 digital servo \$219.00, Futaba 9CHP Controller with servos and 16K cam pak (never used) \$499.00

Make Offer, all prices marked retail, for any questions contact, Scott Smucinski, 630-674-4753 or email to:

Scott.Smucinski@nav-international.com

Make Offer On JR Vigor CS CCPM / Shaft Drive helicopter kit!!

Heli needs a .61 heli engine, servos. main blades (680 - 720 mm). Tail rotor blades included. Started this kit before I had neuro surgery and there's no way I can finish it. The only part assembled is the main frame - the kit is new in its original box except for the main frame. I am willing to answer any questions about the kit. The retail on the kit is \$950 - I will take the best offer over \$500.

Chuck Noyes, cenoyes@sbcglobal.net (630) 897 - 5142

Up and Coming Events by Terry King 2005

NIRCHA Club Fly Spring Thing, IL

5/21/05-5/22/05 2873 Townhall Road, Belvidere, IL 10:00 am both days. Night fly Saturday, This is our Club event for members and guests.

Al Fuchsen Memorial Helicopter Fun Fly, IL

6/25/05-6/26/05 - St. Charles, IL (C) Al Fuchsen Memorial Helicopter Fun Fly. Site: Club Field. Cynthia McFarlane CD, 21 W 341 Fullerton Ave Lombard IL 60148 PH: 630-832-4908 e-mail: rc@alshobbyshop.com. 18th annual helicopter fun-fly sponsored by Al's Hobby Shop. Fun styles competitive events (including autorotation spot landing and drag racing). Entrance fee includes Saturday evening dinner. Door prizes for all pilots. Overnight camping - no hook ups. Proceeds go to Al Fuchsen Scholarship Fund. Sponsor: FOX VALLEY AERO CLUB

Fun Fly Quad Cities RC Whirlybirds, 10am to be decided, July 9th & 10th, SEVEN CITIES SOD FARM, Davenport, IA,

Aug 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th Fun Fly, IRCHA, 8am to 5pm, AMA Headquarters, Muncie, IN, Biggest heli fun fly in the US

NIRCHA Helicopter Fall Fun Fly, IL

9/10/05-9/11/05 - Belvidere, IL (C) NIRCHA Helicopter Fall Fun Fly. Site: 2873 Townhall Rd. Terry King CD, 2637 Graham Rd Belvidere IL 61008 PH: 815-547-7016 email: tvking@rockford.com. Sponsor: NORTHERN IL RC HELICOPTER ASSOC

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 and is maintained by Web Guys, Rich Erikson and Kevin Cashman.

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 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

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Web Site

The Web Guys	Rich Erikson and Kevin Cashman	www.nircha.com
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Membership

Chairman

Paul Girard

773-774-2365