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CHOPPER NEWS

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"United We Stand"

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, Jan 11th, 2005

Editorial

Well, Buckaroos, it is getting to be that time of the year again when I give you my canned editorial to entice you to renew your club membership. So here goes, take a deep breath: Just think! For a mere 20 bucks you get the use of a great flying field for 365 days, 12 informative meetings with easy access to cold coke, lip-smackin' beer, and good pizza, lots of highly experienced field help including Mr. Helping Hands himself, the latest R/C helicopter technology at your fingertips, be able to take a chance on 12 club raffles with a darn good chance of winning, be part of a discounted 250 gallon or so fuel buy from Al's Hobby Shop that will knock your socks off, share mishap stories with about 60 other great flying buddies, be part of our grand annual club fun fly plus a Spring club fun fly directed by, the one and only, Terry King, feast on free Krispy Kreme donuts on the morning of January 1st, and, last but not least, you get 12 issues of the much touted and sought after, CHOPPER NEWS. All this and still only 20 smackeroos! What more could you ask for? If you fly as much as I do, the fuel buy alone will save you 80 bucks!!! Do we have a member who can help me out with the math on this one?? Please help me solve this math problem: dues are 20 bucks and I save 80 bucks on fuel, and the answer is??? Remember, you are the club, and the club needs your support! Please, right at this very moment, ask your wife if it is OK to renew your club membership and, if so, ask her to mail it in today. Membership can be renewed at any meeting, or a check can be sent directly to our new club treasurer, Charles Tittelbach, 132 S. 7th Ave., LaGrange, IL 60525. Wives and significant others, the check should be made out to Northern Illinois R/C Helicopter Assoc. For those one or two procrastinators in our club, and you know who you are, do it right now!!! Please, don't put it off. Where else can you get so much for so little???

Our 5th annual non-event Jan. 1st wing ding is coming up sooner than you think. This year's grand non-event will have the dynamic trio, Terry King, LeAnne King, and Rich Erikson organizing the donuts and hot coffee this year. Terry and Rich seem to be unstoppable!!! Come on out and fly or just stop by to wish everyone a happy New Year. I believe we had about 25 people show up last year. Let's see who gets in the first flight of the New Year and, who knows, maybe you will get the first mishap of the year award! Don't worry about any snow. All we need is just one snow shovel and someone to man it. If my Sidekick Neil could make it out one year after eating some bad peanuts at a bar on New Year's Eve so can you!! You don't want to miss our great 5th annual non-event on Jan. 1st!!! Marty

President's Message

Hope all had a great Christmas or holiday designation of your choice....our Christmas Party was a great success....we gave over \$1200 worth of prizes!!! Among the goodies were: a Hirobo XRB SR (won by Steve Jensen), Real Flight G-2

Simulator (won by Paul Girard). Other prizes were Carbon Fiber Blades, Megatek Vectron (tethered flying saucer of sorts), $\frac{1}{2}$ off an Arizona Heli Canopy, OS 61 Heli engine (donated by a past member) and gift cards from Al's Hobby (donated by Cindy) and there was more... but I cannot remember all of it!! We also completed our Summer Raffle, thanks to Cindy's great salesmanship!! She strong armed the membership into buying the rest of the tickets...hell, she even sold more tickets than we had (note she also purchased tickets to help out our club as a donation back to the club!!). The winners of those prizes are: Marty Hagen won the \$300 Al's Gift card, Steve Krauleidis won the \$200, and Jeff Anderson won the \$100!! These Summer Raffle Prizes will be handed out at our January meeting, 'cause I did not expect to sell the rest of the tickets at the party!! All in all not a bad day for many of our members!!! The food was very good as usual and everyone had their fill. If you missed it....**you missed it!!!!** I would like to make a special thanks to Cindy and Al's Hobby for supporting our club, she gives us a lot of stuff and effort!!, and we appreciate it! Cindy made a very impassioned plea to our club to please...please...please call her first before you buy elsewhere...she will do her best to match prices. I can say personally that she does a great job with this and she can help you if there is a problem as well!!

New Year's Day Fun Fly....8 am as usual, at the club field in Addison...doughnuts and hot drinks abound...be the first to fly and crash this Year, or just come out to laugh. I mean watch the lunatics fly in the cold! Best advice is to dress warm...I had to borrow hats and stuff from Terry and his lovely wife two years running...I promise to be prepared this year!

I put forth to the members at the party if we should continue with the earning of year end raffle tickets as we did last year and it was decided to continue with that system. So once again participate, participate, participate!!! Also, the same as last year you will earn an extra ticket if your dues are paid before Feb. 28th!

As we head into 2005 let's keep in mind what is important with these machines...flying safely...have fun...but do it safely please!! As mine and your mothers have said... "Fun is fun till you hurt someone" that and "keep that up and you will go blind" er...well...that last one may just be my mom ;-) Let's make 2005 a great year...reach out to new modelers if you can and lend a hand...or offer advice to us not so new modelers who still need a little pointer here and there.

Rich Erikson

A Great Start to 2005

By Steve Jensen

A great start to 2005

By Steve Jensen

It's the day after Christmas, and my favorite Christmas present is still the RTF Hirobo SkyRobo Lama that I won at the Christmas dinner meeting. With the flybar drive link set at the optional shorter position and the included lighter/flat flybar paddles installed, it's not overly stable and can give your reactions a nice little workout. Due to conflicts, I hadn't flown my 50 for about 3 weeks prior to the last meeting. After flying the Hirobo, I got out to the field the Friday after the meeting and was surprised to find that I didn't really need any warm-up time.

There is a major difference between a computer simulator and indoor R/C. With a sim, you can practice all sorts of wild maneuvers and can crash to your heart's content. Although your learning curve is definitely speeded up with a sim, your skills still only translate about 10% to 20% to the real thing when you get to the field.

Indoor flight practice with the Hirobo seems to translate to the field to a much higher degree. Practicing various orientations appears to help directly; there really isn't much mental difference between indoor and outdoor flight. All of the same thought processes are there. Remember; if it's totally fun, you probably aren't learning much. If it's a bit uncomfortable, you're probably getting better.

I've been thinking about what I should write for an article, trying to think in terms of what heli guys could use, and came up with too much info for one month. The result is, I have put together a series of articles. They are as follows; February:

Heli Modifications to prevent in-flight self-destruction. March: Maintenance and rebuilding tips. April: Performance upgrades. Speaking of upcoming articles, the January '05 issue of Model Aviation's helicopter section says it will have an article about the Stinger conversion head for the Raptor 30/50 next month. I don't know what it will say, but I'm looking forward to it. You can get the head at www.gohbee.com for a 7% discount if you use field rep code 0053TD. You guys know I think it's a great mod.

Winter flying:

Winter flying time is here. I just got home from four heli flights at the local flying field. It was 25 degrees today, not very windy, and mostly sunny. That's darn near comfy. For those of you who might be tempted to lengthen your flying season without moving south, here's a few simple pointers.

- 1) Richen your needle valve about 2 clicks.
- 2) Don't be afraid to choke it quite a bit to start it. (hold your finger over the exhaust).
- 3) Charge EVERYTHING to the max. Cold weather will require everything your starter batteries, pump and radio batteries can provide.
- 4) If you have a tail belt, check or tighten it just before you go up.
- 5) Your fingers will need the most care. For when you're able to cover them, try some mittens and drop some "Coleman" or "Grabber Mycoal" disposable hand warmers into them. You just open the package and expose them to air and they warm up.
- 6) Last year we wrote about the transmitter mitten. It's still a great way to fly.

New Year's Day:

Today, the forecast for New Year's Day looks more appropriate for a Spring funfly; 56 degrees, partly cloudy, winds under 10 MPH. I have to drop a few friends off at O'Hare about 8:00 AM, so I won't be in the running for the first flight of the year, but I'll be there, and am looking forward to the outing. I hope to see you there!

Email from the King

Marty,

Here is an updated events article. Missed you at the Christmas party! I got a chance to fly my JR Ultimate- foamy with

outrunner motor and lipo batteries. All I can say is **WOW!** It will fly right out of my hand. If I was good enough I could hover it and reach out and pick it out of the air. That is a real stretch to believe that I could do that. I flew it at work in the warehouse and it was kinda tight for me, but I had a ball. Terry

Tip of the Month

It's that time of year where most of us will be putting our machines away for the next few months. Unfortunately the very weight of the helicopter resting on the plastic struts will eventually cause the struts to spread and sag to the point where the tail fin is resting on the ground.

There's an extremely easy fix/prevention for this. Take a handful of #64 rubber bands. These are the bands that are used to hold the wings on "fixed" trainer aircraft. A box that contains probably a couple hundred runs a buck at Al's. For a Raptor .30 (Cindy's) or .50 (mine) I use a total of six bands. Depending on the size and weight of your heli you may need a few more, maybe even less. Anyway, stretch the bands from skid to skid, across the struts, three in front, three in back, forming the shape of an archers bow. This will re-arch the strut back to the original shape. By performing this

simple step you'll notice that the vertical stabilizer is back about an inch or so above the surface. You can rest your heli like this during the entire year and your struts will always maintain their original shape. I take the bands off only to fly. The rest of the time the bands are kept on for storage purposes.

Dennis McFarlane

Great Time Was Had by All

The Christmas party that the club put on this year was great. Rich Erickson did a great job, the food was good and everybody had fun. I personally enjoyed selling all of the tickets for the club raffle. I hope nobody was offended by my strong arm tactics.

Happy holidays to all and please do not forget Al's Hobby shop in 2005!

Cindy Mcfarlane

FOR SALE

For Sale: Hawk Sport, OS .32 (3 gal.-Coolpower 30%, through motor and airframe), Futaba T6XA 127DF Receiver, servos, Expert Piezo Gyro, 1200mAh Battery, Crash Kit, spare landing gear, spare fan. Posting for a friend, he has moved up to 50 size. This heli is truly ready to fly, add fuel and go. I will have it at the January meeting \$450.00. Terry, 1-815-547-7016

For Sale: ALL NEW, IN THE ORIGINAL BOXES. PURCHASED FROM Al's Hobby Shop on 12/01., RAPTOR, TTR4832, 30 CLASS HELICOPTER

(Frame and Rotor Head Assembled), ENGINE, O.S. MAX 32 SX-H, RADIO, JR XP8103DT, R549 RCVR, 517 SERVOS (5), 1100mah, Channel 27, (72.330 MHz), GYRO, FUTABA AVCS RATE GY401, SERVO, JR NES-4735 REAL FLIGHT SIMULATOR, Complete faux Transmitter, CD and Instructions., ULTRA-TOTE, BATTERY, TORQMASTER LC Pb CAL, 12V, 7ah, BATTERY CHARGER, 12V, POWER PANEL, DELUXE, HOBBICO, FUEL PUMP, ELECTRIC, HANGAR 9, STARTER, TORQMASTER 90, 12V, BEARING UPGRADE, RAPTOR, THUNDER TIGER, BLADE BALANCER, K&S, GLOW ADAPTER, REMOTE, STARTER EXTENSION, FUEL CAN FITTINGS, TAIL SERVO MOUNT, K&S, FUEL FILTER, HELI-MAX PITCH GAUGE, BLADE SUPPORT CARRIER
SILICONE FUEL LINE
SOCKET WRENCH, 4-WAY, PURCHASE PRICE \$ 1,800, ASKING PRICE \$ 900. Dennis Smith, 630-790-8451, dennis.smith@carrier.utc.com

Up and Coming Events by Terry King, 2005

Up and Coming Events by Terry King

2005

The Milwaukee RC Assoc 27th Annual Auction and Swap Shop

WI

01/09/05 - Milwaukee, WI (E) The Milwaukee RC Assoc 27th Annual Auction and Swap Shop. Site: Waukesha County Airport Expo. For info: John Yoh PH:262-567-1866. 9am - 3pm. \$4 entry \$20 tables. Sponsor: MILWAUKEE RC ASSOCIATION

Tri-Village RCers Swap Shop

IL

2/05/05 - Wheaton, IL (E) Tri-Village RCers Swap Shop. Site: DuPage County Fair Grounds. For info: Larry Larsen PH:847-697-1578. Vendor doors open at 7:30am Doors open to public at 9am. \$20 per table \$18 for 3 or more tables. General admission \$5. Sponsor: TRI-VILLAGE RCERS

Huge Mega R/C Swap Shop

Mark This on Your Calendar, Saturday, February 12th, 2005

This is the R/C swap shop you have been waiting for all year!!! It is located at the Pottawatomie Park Community Center in St. Charles. Tons of R/C stuff for you to look at and buy! Doors open for all of us shoppers at 9am and ends at 2pm. If you want to rent a table it is \$12.50 prepaid or 15 bucks at the door and table setup starts at 8am. For more info call Julian Pugh at 630-513-1951. Directions: Take RT. 64 to 2nd Ave. in St. Charles, (2 blocks East of Fox River), turn North on 2nd Ave and go 7 blocks and turn West (left) on to a street called North Ave., Community Center will be on your right side of the road.

11th Annual Swap Meet

IL

3/05/05 - Rockford, IL (E) 11th Annual Swap Meet. Site: Rockford Christian School Gym. For info: Denis Bielick PH:815-732-4039. Exit I-90 at State St. Turn right go .3 mile to Bell School Road turn right go .7 mile to gymnasium. See ad for additional info. Sponsor: ROCK VALLEY RC FLYERS CLUB

Al Fuchsen memorial fun Fly

IL

6/25/05-6/26/05 Location To Be Announced (St Charles new field??)

July 9th & 10th Fun Fly Quad Cities RC Whirlybirds 10am to??, 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@rackford.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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Choppernews@sbcglobal.net

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#1 Proofreader	Linda Davis	Fax 630-377-1865

Web Site

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

Chairman	Paul Girard	773-774-2365
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