

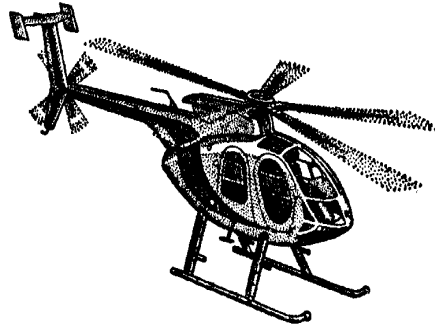
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CHOPPER NEWS



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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, March 8th, 2005

From the Editor...

Well, I received rave reviews on the changes to the newsletter from Terry King and my sister-in-law. I am not sure if my sister-in-law counts because she may be trying to maintain her spot in the family hierarchy. So basically, I had one unbiased, "It looks great!" That's good enough for me!

I meant to have this in last month's newsletter, but I had a senior moment. Mark Clausen had our official first flight of 2005. He was also the first person to have his park permit checked by the park rangers in 2005. So Mark had two firsts that day, and he could have had three firsts if he had not had his permit.

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???

This is the last month you will be receiving your favorite helicopter newsletter if your dues are not paid. Our membership chairman explains more later in newsletter.

Our cooking section could sure use a few secret old family recipes. Please, send in something soon and immortalize yourself in print.

President's Message

Ahh, March is upon us!! Soon the weather will be nice and warm...ok maybe June it will be that way...but it is getting closer. Remember to keep your batteries in good health over the winter months and cycle them once in awhile. This is the time to go over your heli and make sure everything is working properly and all of your settings are good. If you missed the last meeting, you missed your second chance to fly an XRB with no strings attached, and I mean that literally as well as figuratively!! Even Marty Hagen who has only flown heli's on the sim was able to give it a try and hover. So get on down to the meetings 'cause you never know what you are going to miss.

I have done a bad thing....I ordered (from Cindy of course) a new Zagi Tazz....yup not a heli but a flying wing with a brushless motor! I thought I would venture out into the world of fixed wings a bit. It looks like a lot of fun and from all reports it is pretty darn quick (for a wing I assume). I should have it available for the spring fling so keep an eye out if you hear a bee like buzzing.

My business has me traveling again, but this time there is a perk...I am going to Orlando a day early to go to Florida Jets!!! Again not heli's but damn cool stuff. I hope to be at the next meeting, and I will give a report on who or what may have blown up! (It's like watching NASCAR....you only do it to see the crashes).

Again, please contact me about Demos or Demo ideas and let's get this part of our meetings cookin'!

Rich Erikson

Minutes for February Meeting

The Meeting was held at John's with 15 members present and 0 guests

Rick Erickson called the meeting to order at 7:35pm

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

Minutes from February meeting were read, approved, seconded

Treasurer report showed \$1,478.05, approved, seconded

Membership report stands at 29 members from Paul Girard- 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.

Coats, Shirt, Hat orders have been non-existent. We are planning on researching a new hat at the March meeting. If you have any preferences to color and/or style be sure to be at this meeting. We will decide NIRCHA's new official hat at this meeting. You could be part of a history making decision and earn a point for the year-end prize raffle at the same time!

If you pay your dues before the end of February you will get a point for the year end prize tickets.

Don't let this slip by. Any officer can take your renewal; you only have until the 28th of this month.

Steve Jensen received his crash and smash award for January, but nobody owned up to crashing, so there will not be a crash and smash award for February.

The demo this month was on blade balancing by yours truly, me. I know at least one person read the newsletter from last month because he brought in 3 sets of blades to be balanced, and I brought in 1 set to use for the demo. Now I'm not sure that you guys realize you didn't get your money's worth when I was contacted to balance blades. I was not paid by the set. I was paid by the meeting. I have remembered in the past of doing up to 14 sets of blades during the contracted demo. Now, I am not complaining because I didn't have to work very hard, but it still costs the club the same. SO next year when this demo comes around again, I expect everyone to dig up their wood blades and make me earn my money.

Rich brought his XRB in and flew it for us and turned the controls over to several other club members to give it a try. I am happy to report AGAIN that he took it home in the same condition he brought it in, minus a few more electrons.

Pizza was enjoyed by all.

Raffle was held.

Meeting was adjourned around 9:15pm.

Terry King

Secretary



From the Desk of Paul Girard
Membership Chairman

ATTENTION: All members who were in the club in 2004, and have not renewed their membership for 2005, need to renew their 2005 membership on or before March 8, 2005. The March issue of our Newsletter will be your last issue unless you renew your membership for 2005.

Those members who renew their membership before March 1st will receive one ticket for the December club drawing.

I am looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting, March 8, 2005.

Paul D. Girard,

Membership Chairman

Maintenance and Rebuilding Tips
By Steve Jensen

Following are a list of rebuild and maintenance tips. Although the following generally apply to a Raptor 50, many of them will apply to other brands. If you can think of any points that I've left out, please let us know. Make a list and write an article! A main purpose of this club is to prevent crashes due to "If only I'd known....."

When building a heli:

*Use Loctite on most places that a steel bolt goes into a metal thread. I no longer use CA or Loctite in any place where a screw or bolt goes into plastic, and never where there's a nylon locknut. If you do use Loctite or CA into

plastic, don't re-use the screw or bolt again after you take it out; the threads will be too full of junk to grab securely the second time.

*A clutch with excessive clearance between the clutch and the liner will fail early. I believe in the advice that less is best; I shoot for a clearance of only 0.002" to 0.004" (one to two layers of scotch tape). With a new clutch bell, I usually tear out a new liner and replace it so I can tighten it up. Use paper between the liner and the bell.

*If you've had a problem with the dragonfly flutter on a Raptor head, you should reverse the head so that the blade grip lever is opposite of the original design. You'll also have to flip the flybar assembly over.

*If you want to avoid the wah-wah's, then insert a spacer if necessary so you remove all excess vertical play in the autorotation bearing.

*If you have any play between a metal upgrade rotor head and the main shaft, see Mark Clausen or me. We have different methods, depending on whether your main shaft is hollow or not.

When rebuilding a heli:

*I probably need a disclaimer for this one; note that straightening a badly bent shaft is not recommended. Yes, I believe it's OK to straighten a spindle or main shaft or tail shaft that's only slightly bent. If a shaft's seen 2 or 3 minor straightenings, then discard that shaft and replace it. You can also pound out a small boom strike dent in a tail boom.

*Don't straighten bolts or tail hubs or any aluminum CNC parts unless they are a flat sheet or a tube that's only slightly tweaked, like a frame side or a tail boom support rod. Never try to straighten the CNC ends of a tail boom support rod.

*If you've had a firm boom strike, or a bad tail blade hit, replace the tail hub. This may sound extreme, but it's the only part I've seen that will routinely fail due to stress cracks. Replace it even if it looks all right. Of course, never straighten a tail hub.

When maintaining a heli:

*If you go around the heli once in a while and try to tighten everything, take a hint from those few bolts that do move. If they're into metal, take them out and Loctite them.

*Anyplace you see black oil accumulating is a place where the metal is wearing away. Tighten, monitor, or replace as appropriate. Examples: tail boom support rod end screws and the interface between the tail boom and the clamp for the support rod/ horizontal fin.

*The rubber bands that hold the receiver and battery pack in place will rot. Replace them regularly.

*Replace the battery pack every 2 years or 500 charges (even short fast-charges), whichever comes first.

*Replace the switch at least every two years.

*Keep the slop out of the pitch slider; always keep it lubed and replace it as necessary.

*Much has been said about ball links. Check them ALL. I check mine at least every 5 flights.

*Check all wiring for chafing or possible bare spots.

Better ways and Shortcuts

1. I stole this idea from Dr. VanDorpe, Lid-Storage organizer with 46 compartments, only 15"W, 11"D, 3"H. or about the size of a small brief case. Made by Akro-Mils Co. and available at Office Max for about 10 or 15 bucks. It is worth its weight in gold with all of its little compartments. I believe it is a must have item with everything in one container. Leave at home or haul to field. Marty
2. If you are flying multiple helicopters from one transmitter it would be a good idea to check directions of all servos before each flight. I learned this the hard way. Marty
3. I make maintenance repairs after the fact (crash) but people who fly often and well, make maintenance repairs before they break (mishap). Marty

Open Email from Robert Culver

Hi Marty,

I sent a note to Paul notifying him that I am not renewing my membership for 2005. I sent you a "cc", but it wasn't delivered because I had the wrong address in my address book. Sorry about that. I have enjoyed your superb newsletters. Great job. I told Paul that I got rid of my Nexus because I haven't flown for two years. 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

Editor: No, we thank you! Sounds like a great buy on that LMH and starter. Give Robert an email and talk it over.

Bulletin: Two Brand New Helicopters for Sale! Great Prices!!

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.

Up and Coming Events by Terry King 2005

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

Swap Til You Drop 2005

IL

3/26/05 - Wheaton, IL (E) Swap Til You Drop 2005. Site: DuPage County Fair Grounds. For info: John or Debbie Howe PH: 630-541-3054 email: rcwife2@comcast.net. Or visit our website at www.suburbanrcbarnstormers.com. Table set up and check in at 7:15am General admission at 8am. Tables \$15 pre-registered or \$20 at the door. One Adult admission with each table. Admission \$5 Children under 12 free. Coffee Donuts Pop available. Raffle. 8am - 12pm. Planes, Boats, Cars, Helicopters, and more. Sponsor: SUBURBAN RC BARNSTOMERS INC

The Weak Signals R/C Club Presents! 51st R/C Expo R/C Model Show Ohio

"The Toledo Show" At the SeaGate Centre, 401 Jefferson Avenue Toledo, Ohio 43604, April 1,2,3 2005 Show hours: Fri/Sat 9am to 5pm - Sun 9am to 3pm, Handicap parking available - Tickets readily available at the door!

Admission is \$7.00 per person per day, and new for our 51st R/C Expo, kids 12 and under are FREE!

NIRCHA Club Fly Spring Thing

IL

5/21/05-5/22/05 2873 Townhall Road, Belvidere, IL 10:00am 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: tyking@rockford.com. Sponsor: NORTHERN IL RC

Good Eats by Chef Terry King
Bachelors Delight

This is best when cooked on a grill or an open wood fire with lots of beer to wash it down.

This dish varies from cook to cook. It depends on what you like so you can make it to suit your individual tastes. 1 lb. Hamburger, 2 to 3 potatoes, carrots, onion, celery, mushrooms and whatever else you like.

Lay a sheet of tin foil out on table about 24 inches long and place hamburger in center of tin foil

Season with Lowreys and pepper

Place cubed onions on hamburger

Place cubed potatoes on top

Place sliced carrots and celery on top of the whole pile

Lift both sides of tin foil bring together and roll down to food

Roll both ends in until reaches food

Place another sheet of tin foil same size on table

Place food/foil ball seam down on tin foil and lift and roll as above.

This can be placed directly on hot coals, place outside seam down cook for 20 min, roll over (use pliers, glove, or stick to roll over) cook another 20 min. Tear open top let cool and eat.

Will feed about 2 or one very hungry person; can be made bigger to feed more

Do not be afraid to experiment, a piece of bacon makes it taste very different. If you don't like onions leave them off. If you love anchovies put them on.



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

Newsletter

	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	www.nircha.com
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Membership

