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CHOPPER NEWS



All of your helicopter needs and expert help are just down the street at your local Hobby Shop!!

February 2006!!

Al's Hours

Mon 12 - 8

Tue 10 - 8

Wed 10 - 8

Thu 10 - 8

Fri 10 - 8

Sat 9 - 5:30

Sun 12 - 5



Break the law of gravity.... Go flying



Northern Illinois Radio Control Helicopter Assoc.

One of

The World's Largest R/C Helicopter Club

AMA CHARTER NO.2099

Next Club Meeting, 7:30 pm, Tuesday, February 14th, 2006

... To the 2005 Membership ...

To all our Members in 2005 who have not renewed their memberships for 2006: The *March Newsletter* will be the last one you will receive until your membership is paid.
Paul Girard, Membership Chairman

Pre-season thoughts

February is here. Batteries cycled, check. Fuel line replaced, check. Still cold outside, check. Now is a good time to make a plan for the upcoming season. What do you want to accomplish this year? Hovering, Forward Flight, Inverted stuff, Autorotations, Buy more Bling, Fly more, Crash less, etc Without some sort of agenda you may wander aimlessly along without pushing yourself to the next level.

Whatever it is, start thinking about it. Simulate it, then get out there and get started. It's as easy as , well it may not be that easy but you can do it.

“A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step” Confucius

Newsletter articles get sent to: lstevens@ksbhospital.com Thanks!

Larry

Minutes for January 10th Meeting

The meeting was held at John's Pizzeria with 9 members present and 0 guests.

Mike Hollingsworth called the meeting to order at 7:45pm

Officers present were Mike Hollingsworth, Ron Kwilinski and Paul Girard

There was no treasurers report

There were no minutes because of the Christmas Party

Paul Girard gave a membership report of 20 paid members. Dues MUST be paid by the March meeting.

Old Business

You MUST tell Al's you are from the club so we will get credit for the rebate program when you make a purchase

New Business

There was no Crash and Smash reported

Demo

Mike Hollingsworth showed his artistic ability of how he carves the tail fins into different shapes.

Terry King brought in a Spectrum Radio, a new technology at under \$200.00 for a 6-channel radio for all to see.

Steve Krauleidis brought in the XL Stratus. Now it's almost ready for some good weather to see what it will do.

There was no Raffle

Pizza was eaten

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm

Ronald Kwilinski

A note from the Ex.

Hey everyone! A message from your ex. No, not ex wife, ex prez. Well my 2nd job is off and running and keeping me very busy. Just got back from a tradeshow in San Francisco, if you have never been, you should go very neat place. Despite the reasonably warm weather, I have not been out flying yet. Too crazy of a time for me I guess. I do have plans to go brushless on my E-flight Blade in the near future and I will report on how that goes when I do it.

Now, if I don't make it to the next meeting (unsure at this point) you all need to discuss the following issue:

I got a call from Johns Pizza (ya know, the place we hold meetings)and they have a choice for us.

A. Move the meeting to the dining room and go on as normal

B. Keep the back room at a charge of \$75 with no food (currently we pay 50 bucks and get 2 pizzas)

They told me that rising heat bills and time to clean up was getting too much to deal with. I told Josie (the woman who called me) that we would use the room for at least one more month. So go to the room this February. Also they do not want us to bring in our own drinks or food. They have told us this before and we forget over time, they want us to buy their drinks and food so please keep this in mind.

Now I have some thoughts on the matter and they are:

We could extend our summer field meetings one month earlier and later using Johns less. Currently we use the room 9 months at \$50 per month = \$450 per year and on the new plan that would put us at 7 months at \$75 per month = \$525 per year and keep the room.

Leave the schedule alone and use the dinning room. I personally am not fond of using the dinning room. I think we loose something while trying to behave for others eating their dinner.

Find a new place to hold meetings (village hall, library, other "more nice" restaurant). This might be what we need to do. If anyone has an in somewhere we should investigate. We are a low budget club, with dues only 20 bucks we don't have a lot to work with and \$75 bucks with no food seems a bit steep to me. It does need to be in the same general area, centrally located for all our members.

Any way, discuss and work out a plan. Regardless, Let Johns know if we are using the back room or the dining room for the next meeting.

For now that is it, keep the stuff that spins out of the dirt.

Rich Erikson

Addendum by Larry: I don't know about the city, but out in the country a person can rent a school gym for quite a bit less than \$75 for a couple hours. Scouting organizations (another not for profit) do it all the time. If eating/drinking is of little importance, this may be another option.

Every other month meetings thru the winter months??? My other club does not have meetings (except Xmas party) from Nov-Mar.

WINTER MAINTENANCE



It's that time of year. If anyone else out there is like me, you're getting a little edgy. Winter has been pretty mild so far, at least for the Chicago area, but just because it's mild, that doesn't mean it's been short sleeve flying weather. For this reason, most of us have been stuck at home with our heli's propped up on a shelf.

A lot of us have been doing some practicing on our electrics. Flying indoors as the opportunity presents itself. However, spring is quickly approaching. There's been one or two days that I'm aware of people getting out and warming up their nitro helicopters. Before you grab your machine, put it on a quick charge and head to the field because of an unexpected nice day I'd like to recommend a bit of maintenance.

Before you start you might need to pick up a really valuable tool. Go to your local home improvement center (Menards) and pick up a decent NYLON bristle brush. Considering we all have at minimum \$1500.00 (I know this figure goes way up) invested in our helis I honestly figure spending 3 or 4 additional bucks to be justified. I have a two inch brush. The size really doesn't matter, (geez, how many times have we heard that statement) just don't get one that's so big you can't fit it into tight spaces. Once you have a brush it will be your designated helicopter-cleaning instrument. Don't use it for anything else, especially painting your wife's bathroom, you'll understand why if a couple of sentences.

The next step is to take your heli down from the shelf, remove the canopy, and wipe it down. Don't hose it with cleaner, just take a shop rag and dust it off. What I want you to do with the paint brush is to get into all the cracks and crevices and get those cleaned out also. On dirty areas you'll have to use a cleaner, but once again, don't hose down the heli, our purpose here is to get it clean, not sloppy wet. Instead take your cleaner and spray the bristles of the brush, then once again get down in the little spaces and clean them up. Now it's time to decide on which end of the heli you are going to start. Look it over, check for obvious loose or missing items. Don't stop by just looking. Get in there with your fingers and feel for things that might be out of place. You might find that setscrew that looks tight has backed out a turn or two once you rub your finger tip over it. You are going to be surprised just how much more sensitive your fingers are to little things that are out of place as compared to relying only on your eyes. I start at the tail rotor and work my way forward. You might find it easier to start at the front the front and work to the back. It really doesn't matter where you start, just don't bounce around from one end to the other. Once everything is cleaned up, and snugged back down, check the date on your battery pack. If it's more than five years old consider replacing it. I'm not a battery expert, but from experience, five years seems to be about the maximum life expectancy of a battery pack. Since you've got the heli down, and some tools out why don't you take the time to replace all the fuel lines, including the one in the fuel tank. It's well known that nitro and silicon don't like each other, which causes the silicon fuel line to begin to dissolve with exposure. The guys that fly a lot replace their fuel lines once a month. I honestly feel once a year (for my type of flying) is the minimum. It will only take a few minutes to do, and I can guarantee it's one potential problem that's been removed from the list of trouble. Now that everything is clean, and secure, take a few drops of your favorite lubricant and oil the main and tail rotor shafts.

There's just one thing more thing to do... Now that your heli is clean, lubricated, and has fresh batteries. All that's left is to replace the canopy, put it back on the shelf, and wait for spring. Gosh how I hate winter...

Mad Mac (Dennis)

For Sale or Cleaning house, you pick

1 set (New In Package) MS Carbon Fiber night blades 550/12/4 2 color lights **new price \$123.97**
1 (New In Package) MS Charger for above blades **new price \$ 15.00**
1 set (New In Package) Super 60 Heli light kit 2-F9 Drivers, 10 ft HD glowwire
8 ft HD glowwire colors Lime/aqua **new price \$ 83.99**
1 set (used) Raptor V-1 canopy (custom painted) with 1-F9 driver Aqua and
red HD glowwire for tail **used value\$ 65.00**
Total \$287.96

Asking price for all above \$125.00

1 set (New In Package) Quick UK Carbon Fiber tail pushrod kit for Scedu 30-50
includes 1 CF rod with metal ends, 1 Aluminum Hor. fin mount with guide for pushrod
1 set of Aluminum tailboom servo mounts **new price \$63.99**
Asking price \$30.00

Contact **Terry King** 815-547-7016 or TVking@rockford.com

For Sale - Gently Used Raptor 50

Raptor 50 V2, includes TT 50(5 gal), 600mm woodies

My price: **\$325.00**

Contact **Larry Stevens** 815-631-1279 or lstevens@ksbhospital.com

Reminder:

When making a purchase at Al's, please state you are a member of NIRCHA and your purchase is to go into the **CLUB REBATE PROGRAM** Thank you

Up and Coming Events 2006

February 14th, Next NIRCHA meeting at John's Pizzeria

Feb 4th* Tri-Village Swap Meet @ Dupage Co. Fairgrounds

Setup at 7:30 a.m., Doors open at 9 a.m. to public

Feb 25th* Fox Valley Aero Swap Meet @ Kane Co. Fairgrounds

Setup at 8 a.m. , Doors open at 9 a.m. to public

Mar 4th* Rock Valley Flyer Swap Meet @ Rockford Christian

Setup at 8 a.m. , Doors open at 10 a.m. to public

Check your Model Aviation for further details

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	Mike Hollingsworth	- -
Vice President	Mark Clausen	815-741-4723
Secretary	Ron Kwilinski	708-499-0155
Treasurer	Charles Tittelbach	708-352-4915

Newsletter

	lstevens@ksbhospital.com	
Editor/publisher	Larry Stevens	815-562-3190

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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Support your local hobby shops, the people you can turn to with questions and suggestions.