

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 just down the street at your Local Hobby Shop!!!



Merry January 2008 !!!!

For the 2nd straight year, Terry and yours truly were able to fly on New Year's Eve Eve, on a day that had ice accumulating on the leading edges of our planes. These are some of the most enjoyable outings of the year. Tip #1: Check your Trex belt tension in the cooler weather. ☺

A's Hours	Mon 12 - 8	Thur 10 - 8	Sun 12 - 5
	Tues 10 - 8	Fri 10 - 8	
	Weds 10 - 8	Sat 9 - 5:30	

Northern Illinois Radio Control Helicopter Assoc.

AMA CHARTER NO.2099

Next Club Meeting, 7:00 pm, Tuesday, January 8th, 2008

Al's Hobby Shop, Elmhurst, IL!!!

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

Larry

Electric Helicopters Are a Lot of Fun

I am going to make a major confession. I've explored, tried, built and flown them, but I have to admit I'm simply not a huge fan of electric powered airplanes. They're fun in their own right, but they aren't at the top of my list. With that being said, I'll continue to fly them. There's a huge all electric event coming up in February at the University of Illinois Armory at which both Cindy and I will participate, but as I've stated, they just aren't the most fun I can have. Understand, this is my opinion only, electric airplanes sell well, and there's a big following. I made the following comment to one of Cindy's customers during the Christmas holiday season. "There's a lot of hobby in this store for a lot of different people and personalities. We don't all like the same thing and that's what makes the hobby fun."

Now, with the above off my chest I'll make another comment. I absolutely enjoy electric helicopters. I think electric helicopters are, for lack of better words, a blast. I realize most of us don't consider the Blade CX-2 much of a helicopter, but it is a method of introducing the hobby to a lot of people. During the Christmas season I was doing about a dozen demos' a day. Add to that repairs and test flights, and if Horizon Hobby Distributors offered an award for most CX-2 flights during the month of December I'd be in the top ten if not on the top of the list.

Besides my personal Blade CX-2, I also own a T-Rex 450 and the Gazaur Mars which I reviewed in last month's newsletter. I only have one problem with the 450 class electric helicopter. They are small, which means they disappear quickly. I have to keep them both in pretty "tight" or they become a dot in a hurry. I'm not alone; this is a pretty common comment at Cindy's store. They are a lot of fun, but get small faster than we like.

Due to the aforementioned, a lot of us, myself included, would like to have the larger 600 class electric helicopter, but the biggest hurdle is the incredible battery expense. Well, I had an opportunity late this past November to, in part, work around part of this incredible expense. I had two customers who asked me to assemble and trim an electric Thunder Tiger, and Align T-Rex 600 respectively. I was excited about the projects, but I neither had a battery charger nor was I interested in the expense of purchasing a charger that could handle a 5000mah 6S Lithium battery pack. The solution took some thought, but in the end was more than simple. I have two 5000mah 3S LiPo packs, and I also have an Accucycle Elite has the capacity to charge two 5000 3S pack simultaneously. From this all that was needed was a Deans connector wired in series, and some Velcro. Currently a 5000mah 3S LiPo is less than half the cost of the 5000mah 6S pack required for a 600 class helicopter. Not only this, but one of the big issues is the expense that is occurred when one of these battery packs gets nicked when the heli succumbs to the inevitable pull of gravity. Yes, a 5000mah 3S pack is expensive, but most of us have chargers that can handle this capacity battery, and by wiring two of these in series a substantial amount of money can be saved. Chargers, packs, repairs, it all adds up.

I had a ball flying both of these helicopters! I have to admit, other than flying "heavy" they were both stable, smooth, (and not one bit noisy). I really didn't want to deliver the T-Rex 600, but I knew that within a few minutes of flying the helicopter that brevity would overtake common sense, and unless I wanted to use up all my profit repairing the product I better get it on the ground and packaged for the customer.

Think Spring;

Mad Mac

Up and Coming Events 2008

January 8th Club Meeting at Al's Hobby

Feb 2nd - Tri-Village R/Cers Swap - Wheaton, IL Site: Dupage County Fairgrounds. For Info: Larry Larsen PH:847-697-1518 after 6pm. Vendor doors open 7:30am, door open to public at 9am. General admission \$5.

February 12th Club Meeting at Al's Hobby

Feb 23rd - Fox Valley Aero Club Swap Meet - St Charles, IL Excel Gymnastics Bldg located at 3N800 Peck Rd. For Info: James Toth PH:847-888-8890. 100 tables \$15 each or \$12 pre registration rate. \$7 admission Set up 8am open to public 9am-3pm.

Mar 1st - RVRC 14th Annual Swap Meet - Rockford, IL Site: Rockford Christian School Gym. For Info: Denis Bielick PH:815-732-4039 email: denis@inwave.com. See ad for more info. Visit www.rvrcflyers.com.

March 11th Club Meeting at Al's Hobby

April 8th Club Meeting at Al's Hobby

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 Guy Mike Mazurkiewicz.

Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of every month, at 7:00pm, at Al's Hobby Shop, 121 North Addison Rd, Elmhurst, IL. 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	Cindy McFarlane	630-832-4908	Treasurer	Charles Tittlebach	708-352-4915
Vice President	Tony Loquercio	847-678-2833	Secretary	Ron Bernson	
Membership	Paul Girard	630-725-6533	Web Guy	Mike Mazurkiewicz	
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Newsletter

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