



KNOX COUNTY RADIO CONTROL

NEWSLETTER

July 2010

Knoxville, TN

AMA#594

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2010 ELECTED OFFICERS

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff Prosise, Karl Gerth , Phil Spelt

A NASTY INCIDENT

The following is an excerpt from an incident report by Dave Mathewson in the AMA Insider recently.

-” An incident occurred April 16 when an AMA member who was flying a 450-size electric helicopter in a Tampa, Florida, public park lost control of the model and injured a young woman walking in the park. It appears that after calling 911, the pilot and his friends stayed with the injured person until EMTs arrived, then picked up their equipment and left. The local authorities will probably cite the men for ignoring a local ordinance against flying in that park.

This is an unfortunate incident that casts a cloud over what we do as model aviation enthusiasts. The local FOX News affiliate picked up on the story and ran a piece that included video that, by most standards, could be considered pretty graphic.

The potential for collateral harm to all of us as a result of this incident is significant. I've been asked a number of times whether or not the pilot and his friends involved were AMA members. In the end I'm not sure it matters. The news piece didn't say, "Park visitor injured by AMA member (or non-AMA member) flying a model helicopter." It said, "Park visitor injured by toy model helicopter." “

The article goes on to describe the efforts of the AMA and local RC club members to defuse the situation and somehow placate the family of the victim, but as he says, the incident could easily have been tragic. It just points up the fact that our models, both helis and planes, could be dangerous and it is our responsibility to make certain we do everything we can to fly them safely. Before each flying session, always check signal range, direction

of control surface travel, battery voltage levels, electrical connections and the structural integrity of the model .

Make a habit of flying safely... End of sermon.....Jim. ■

MINUTES, JUNE 2010

President Dennis Drone called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, June 8 at the KCR C field. There were 21 members present.

Minutes for the May meeting were approved as printed in the June newsletter.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

The Treasurer's Report was given by Joel Hebert and approved. A copy of the report is available from Joel or the other officers.

OLD BUSINESS

Ed Hartley reported that the field had been mowed and the driveway graded.

NEW BUSINESS

Safety Committee Chairman Karl Gerth presented a proposal to have 9 new field safety signs fabricated. Jerel Zarestky may have some NOS signs. He will check. Ed Hartley volunteered to make the needed signs using his vinyl cutter. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to let Ed make the signs.

Gene Waters mentioned cutting down the trees that have grown up where the scrap steel was piled behind the outhouse. The majority opinion seemed to be to leave them standing.

Randy Philipps brought up for discussion letting the grass get high at the ends of the runway as a catch fence. The general feeling was that the high grass would cause more problems than it would solve.

Ed Hartley displayed a logo to be placed on caps for all Masters pattern contest entrants.

Dennis Hunt reminded everyone that there are only 3 meetings between now and the Masters. He encouraged all "local" flyers (KCRC, Tennessee Eagles, House Mountain, etc.) to participate.

Ed Hartley asked if anyone had the Mach I kit that was donated by Ed Lyerly for a Masters raffle prize. The consensus was that Phil Spelt has it.

Jerel Zarestky reminded all that the House Mountain Fly-In is this Saturday.

Dennis Drone gave the money from the sale of the scrap steel to Joel Hebert for deposit in the club treasury.

Dennis Drone reported that our AMA Charter seems to be screwed up at AMA HQ again. He's working the issue.

David Isenberg and Kevin Giles are "new" members.

VISITORS

Mike Whitmore attended with Dennis Drone. Mike is assisting the TAC Air folks with commissioning a new turboprop airplane.

Dennis Hunt's grandson Michael entertained the crowd with more of his superb discus-launch glider flying.

CRASH OF THE MONTH

Ed Hartley described achieving forward flight with his helicopter. The problem being he flew it into the trees at the east end of the field. Bill Dodge assisted in the retrieval. Damage was as one would expect from flying into trees.

Doug and Matthew Armitage (Matthew flying) displayed what can happen with abrupt application of up elevator in a power dive. The wing spars of the Tutor were not up to the g forces that occurred. And the fuselage was not up to the impact with terra firma that resulted

from the wing folding.

Jeff Cody had a proxy presenter for the demise of his Hangar 9 Twist. The good news – the wing half that came off in flight caught an updraft and floated gently to earth. The bad news – Randy Philipps presented a photo of the remains of the rest of the aircraft after it contacted earth.

Matthew won COM.

MODEL OF THE MONTH

Phil Cope displayed his JetCat P60 turbine-powered Canadian Forces CT-114 Tutor (Snowbirds color scheme) model. The model is equipped with pneumatic retracts and pneumatic brakes. It had a very successful maiden flight at Blaine, TN yesterday.

Bill Dodge displayed the latest of a long line of SPA pattern planes, an Ultimate Kaos. Bill fabricated linear ball and socket joints for the aileron and elevator hinge lines to eliminate any gaps in the hinges. The wing was moved forward $\frac{3}{4}$ " for balance. The model also incorporates two-piece ailerons.

Bill won MOM.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by Don Eiler, KCRC Secretary.



Illustration 1: Gene Waters admiring Phil Cope's new jet. Saw a note in Facebook that Phil has gotten his jet waiver; that makes two in KCRC.

Missed a picture of MOM winner Bill Dodge's

new pattern ship at the meeting..I sent him an email requesting a picture and he said I might get a picture of the pieces; that he'd had radio problems (again!) at an SPA contest the weekend after the meeting and destroyed the model. ■

THIS AND THAT

Went to the big auto show in the parking lot of the First Baptist Church of Lenoir City on Saturday, June 12th. They had tractors, trucks, motorcycles and cars from most every decade; both restored and modified. They also had radio control model airplanes! The Tennessee Eagles were invited and showed up in force. They had many models on display and were putting on flying demonstrations from the church's soccer field. Every time they cranked up an engine, the crowd responded. They were much appreciated. One of the guys there was Jack Halburnt. I met Jack while I was a member of the Eagles a few years ago. I was sorry to hear that a couple of the guys I knew over there had passed away. ■

Went to KCRC field the other day and met one of our newest members, David Isenberg, who was showing off a new sporty model he'd gotten from



3D Models in Hong Kong. A very good flyer; both model and modeler. He said that he had used the Hong Kong connection for a lot of his equipment. I've had pretty good luck with them also.

Also ran into Carl Sten who was at the field practicing with his Intruder and he had a new electric



jet he'd bought from Hobby-Lobby. He said he got it complete with everything but receiver for about \$135. It looked like it was worth it when he flew it! It was very fast and very aerobatic. I wonder how old that Intruder Carl was flying is!. I have a picture of him with an Intruder that I put in the newsletter back about ten years ago. Can it be the same one? ■

At the monthly meeting in June, Ed Hartley was asking about a missing model. Ed Lyerly gave a model to be raffled off at our May SPA contest, and had also given one to be raffled off at the upcoming Masters here. This model had apparently gotten lost. Turned out to be a false alarm as Phil Spelt found it stashed with all the coolers and other paraphernalia he carries to all the tournaments. ■

The Model Aviation magazine that comes with our AMA membership has become one of my favorite hobby magazines; especially the scale column by Stan Alexander. The article in the July issue was a good example. On several occasions, I have mentioned how much I like building models; scratch, kit or whatever. The building part of the hobby is not very popular any more because no one seems to have the time needed to do it. Another reason is that it is almost cheaper to buy an ARF than it is to buy a kit and finish it.

KCRC has always had a bunch of

members who were very talented at producing a beautiful model out of a bunch of sticks and balsa planks. Kit building is an art form where time and sweat pays off with a finished product, but real scratch building (where the finished product starts with just a gleam in the modeler's eye) requires much more dedication. A couple of KCRC scratch builders who come to my mind are Gene Waters and Joe Parrott. Joe is not active at the present time but these guys are two of the best scratch builders I ever knew. The following pictures are kinda representative of their work.



Illustration 2: With a little photo doctoring,, Here is Joe Parrott with his scratch 1/4 scale Fokker DVII. Flown by Phil Cope at Joe Nall.



Illustration 3: This is Gene Waters scratch built non-flying model built for display at McGhee Tyson airport. .

There are other members of KCRC who do exceptional work at both kit building and scratch building., but Joe and Gene kinda stand out in my mind.■

A few years ago, before spread spectrum, we built a very nice frequency board and all (at least most all) of the members got into the habit of getting the clothespin and putting their AMA card in its slot. When I'd go to the field and see a strange face, I could go to the board and see who it was. Now when I go to the field, I usually have to open the board to put my card in. Most of the guys I fly with now seem to be on spread spectrum and there doesn't seem to be a place in the board for their cards. **The BIG problem with this is we no longer can easily look to check whether the flyer is current with the AMA, and that's a problem.**

I know we sometimes have guys who are not KCRC members flying, but we need to know if they are AMA members because that is a prime requirement of our lease. **We need to get back to insisting that all flyers have their AMA cards on display in the Freq board.** It's not all that much trouble to walk over and stick the card in the box and it conforms to our field rules. ■

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 17th,18th , Land of the Sky SPA. Ashville N.C.
CD will@willstech.com
Aug 2nd,3rd SAM in Tennessee, Rockwood TN
CD shack11@bellsouth.net
Aug 4th,5th.. SAM in Tennessee. Harriman TN
CD gon2fly@comcast.net
Aug 21st,22nd SPA Classic Chattanooga TN
CD mike@robinsonfamily.as

Saw this bit of good advice recently:
Before criticizing someone, walk a mile in their shoes. That way, if they don't like it, you're a mile away and you've got their shoes!!!

