



# Raleigh-Durham Radio Control

Volume 18, Issue 1

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

January 2009



## President's Prop-Wash



Larry Lewis

Well, looks like we made it through another great year of flying events and RDRC continued its pattern of growth by adding several numbers to our membership list. RDRC also gained more recognition in the RC community and really had a strong presence among fly ins across the Midwest and eastern coast. It amazes me how many members of RDRC show up in magazines or on the internet. We have definitely become one of the more well known clubs in America, and we've really established ourselves as a great club among the world of RC. Rumor has it we're getting pretty popular with charity organizations to! ;) A lot took place in 2008 with RDRC, and many great events went in to history books. Without doubt, the 2008 FFT was a huge success with life long memories being made on both

days of the event. In spite of going through one of NC's worse droughts, RDRC had its field looking great and the grass runway was in much better shape than ever before. Of course the Big Man upstairs provided the much needed rain to green up the grass, and just a few weeks before the event itself!

As in the past, several improvements were made to our site before the event. We added more electrical outlets, rewired the building, and improved the safety of the existing outside wiring. Already we have plans to add more outlets this year. The addition of more outside outlets will greatly aid club members flying electrics. We also have plans to install small work tables under the shelter. This will provide an area to put your chargers and batteries on while pumping fresh electrons into those batteries! Electric planes have become a huge part of our club now, and we need to address the needs of those modelers.

It's been pretty amazing to see the large numbers of people coming out on these cold days to fly. In years past, cold days at the field look more like a ghost town than a flying field. Not so any more. When the temp's get above 45 now, folks are lining up the flight line! And wind? What Wind? It's a common sight to see our club members all bundled up in the coats negotiating cross wind landings now. I've been out several times this year and watched the wind sock standing straight out, yet members were firing their motors up and pointing it down the runway. THAT'S what I'm talk'n about!\

As I was saying before, RDRC gained several new members this year. That's not that uncommon for a club these days, especially for RDRC. But what does stand out is the caliber of people we gained. Never before have a seen a club acquire so many new folks with the enthusiasm and "Can Do" spirit than RDRC did this year. At the FFT event this year, Jacqui spent most of our drive home time talking about how so many of our new members were working so hard at our event. Heck, we even had non-RDRC members pitching in to help! How cool is that?

And speaking of events! Ya'll best be get'n ready for the RDRC Spring Meet! It's just around the corner folks. April 11<sup>th</sup> will be here in no time at all, so get out there in the shop and finish up that winter project. I know I've been in the shop quite a bit in recent weeks both building, and making any minor repairs I needed to our fleet. At present, Jacqui and I have 17 planes in the trailer ready to go! Of course, that would be possible if I hadn't had such a good year this past season! How good was it? Well,,,,,,,,,,,,,lets just say I came within 4 days of a perfect year! Yup, didn't loose any of my planes until those last days of December when I sent my brand new East RC pre-production Spoiler to its grave,,,,,,,,,on the maiden flight!!!!!! Good news is, I know what caused it. Most common failure in RC. BRAIN FART with the modeler! I had a voltage regulated switch failure causing the airplane to loose all power to the receiver. This wasn't so much the fault of the switch as it was me. Although the switch was supposed to be able to handle an 11 volt battery, it's not common practice to do so. I had a 7 volt battery for the plane, but didn't quite trust it, so I opted to drop in a 2300 mah 11 volt unit. Had all the power I needed, but the additional voltage was more than the regulator liked working with. So, halfway through the flight, it went on strike! Anyway, short story made long, my perfect season wound up in a cardboard box that day! ;) By the way, that new East RC Spoiler is one awesome plane! Goes together VERY fast, and the quality of the plane is very nice. After building mine, I responded to Dave and the crew with my comments, and they have already had the changes made for the production models. Just for the record, Spoiler #2 is ready to go! And check this out. It only took about 4 1/2 hours to build! Of course, I did save some time re-using parts from #1 ( pull-pull cables, landing gear, servo linkage) but that would only have added about an hour or two. So basically, we're talking about a giant scale plane going together in 5 to 6 hours! You can't beat that folks. Another cool thing about this plane, it has such a wide flight envelope. It flies as slow and easy as ANY trainers out there, but kick up the throws, add some throttle, and you've got one wicked 3D machine! You guys are going to dig this plane.

Another cool plane that's been showing up at RDRC is this really awesome piece of blue foam. Though it may be new to most of you, it's actually been around for quite some time. The plane of course is the works of Robert Vess. It's called the 2EZ, and it's named that for a very good reason. For such a great flying, crash resilient airframe, it's just TOO EASY to build! We've been experimenting with different foams, motors, batteries and servo's for the last few weeks, and our goal is to make this plane as affordable and easy to construct as possible.

Visit the club website at [www.rd-rc.org](http://www.rd-rc.org)



*Larry Lewis*

For now, we do know this. The best all around motor has been the “Hang It” 2212-06 (EAST RC) out runner. And it’s only \$28 !!!! Our battery of choice is the Thunder Power 1320 mah 3 cells (East RC)

Speed control needs to be in the 25 amp range. We’re using the Castle Creation 25 amp from Horizon Hobby. Servos should be in the 17 to 20 oz of torque range. We’re flying most of ours with the JR 285 digitals, but I wanted to try a less expensive servo on the second model, so I used some of my E-Flight S75 foamy servos. They deliver 17 oz of torque and worked just as good. I know East RC has very affordable micros in their store now that should more than fill the bill on this plane. The rest is just a little foam, some simple push rods, and one piece of 3” X 1/8” X 36” balsa. (This is enough to do two planes) I know a lot of you are chomp’n at the bits to get one of

these, but just be a little more patient. We’ll have a get together real soon. Until then, be getting those other items together so you’ll be able to get it going. Trust me, it wont take you long to build it if you have it all the parts on the table.

So as you can see, 2009 is going to be yet another interesting year at RDRC. Already several cool new planes are on the works, and people are talking about upcoming events.

Just a few more comments before I let go of your ear. First, I’d like to thank RDRC member **Dave Langridge** for taking on the **RDRC Newsletter Editor** for 2209. With his great attitude and vibrant enthusiasm toward this hobby, I know he will do a great job with it. I’d also like to thank **Brandon Hockaday** for doing such an awesome job with it over the last year. Brandon has so many projects and RDRC commitments going on now, that he felt it best to pass the torch on to someone else for the news letter itself. But he will still be very active in several club matters like dues collection, membership cards, and club mailings. Brandon is a good Joe, and I ain’t about to let him off Scott free! ;)

**Dues!** Brandon tells me we’ve had a good response by club members, and most of you have already paid your 2009 dues. If you haven’t yet,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, please,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,write the check! ;)

**January Meeting Place.** After checking out a couple of spots located by RDRC club members, it has been decided to have the Jan RDRC meeting at a location found my Manny H. This months meeting will be held **at Camden Manor Park Apartments** club house. It’s located off Edwards Mill Rd. That’s just up the hill behind Crabtree Mall. We have been provided **the lower club house** facility (this place is so big they have TWO club houses!).

The physical address is:

**Camden Manor Park  
4500 Manor Village Way  
Raleigh NC 26712**

When you get there, keep right and travel to the lower North West end of the complex. Pretty much, you just keep going down hill and turning right. When you see the swimming pool, you’re there. They will be providing chairs. We might be a little cramped if we have a really big turn out, but should be ok. If you get there early, you can enjoy the pool table, fooze ball, air hockey, big screen TV, etc etc etc!

I want to thank Manny for finding this place, and also want to note, he has taken care of any monetary issues needed for us to use this place. Thanks Manny. If you guys have any trouble getting there, just call me at 215-3946

So, we’re off to another great year in RDRC. I look forward to spending time with all of you this year at RDRC, and as in the past don’t hesitate to call on me if you have any problems or issues that need working out. That’s my job!

Hope to see you this Wednesday night, January 28th!!

Larry



## A Few Words from the VP

### Josh Bunn

As I sit here and watch it snow outside I think about how much fun we have as a group. How about the New Year's Day gathering we had? There was over forty people there, even with how cold it was. The events that Dave put on were fun and we got a lot of laughs out of it. And yes a T-28 can compete in a fun fly event and do very well. LOL Don't forget that the BARTS swap meet is coming up this week end. I am sure there will some good deals there. I have got a car full of stuff to get rid of. With the weather being bad the last few weekends, I hope there has been a lot of building going on. I know I have been doing a lot out in my shop. Just remember to double check your control surfaces before you fly. I have watched a lot of planes crash on the maiden flight due to surfaces being programmed backwards.

**-Josh**



## Minutes of RDRC meeting

By: Secretary Dave Hockaday



*As there was no meeting last month there are no minutes to report!!*

*Normal service will resume next month!*

*This months meeting is at :-*

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# NEWS YEARS DAY FLY-IN 2009

## **RDRC 2007 Officers**

### **President:**

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### **Secretary:**

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### **Safety Officer:**

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### **Membership Secretary:**

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## **Newsletter**

### **Editor:**

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### **Submittals:**

All club members are urged to submit material to be published in the newsletter. The material must be received by the second Saturday of each month. Text is easily submitted in the form of regular mail or e-mails sent to my address above, photos can be attachments in any format that your camera produces (or scanned photos).



### **Note from the Editor:**

**A New Year and a new editor arrives. Thanks go to Brandon for working on this for the past year. I hope I can do at least as well as he has done. If you, the club member, has anything you wish to report, say or get attention for please send it in email to me at rcgeckoman@nc.rr.com and I will get it in here!**

**I am looking to start up a swapshop page in each newsletter so let me know if you have RC items to sell or something you want to buy and we'll get it started up.**

**Any photos from daily flying or events will also be good to have, send them to the same email address. I am looking forward to a good years flying, especially with that T-28!! They are a BLAST!!!**

**Dave Langridge BEM**



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c/o Dave Langridge BEM  
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**TO:**

