



Raleigh-Durham Radio Control

Volume 18, Issue

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

2009



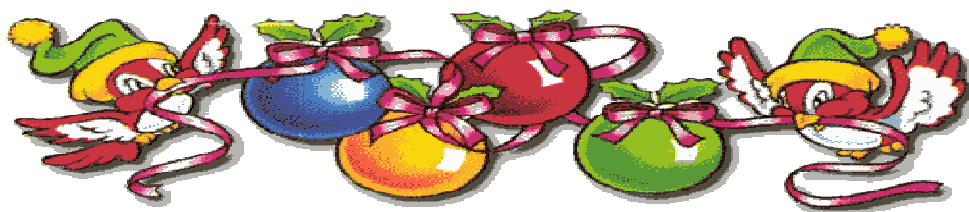
President's Prop-Wash



Larry Lewis

Where did the year go?

It seems every year goes by faster and faster these days. It was only a few months ago we were having our annual New Years Day Fun fly, and already it's time to do it again. Ya know,,,my Dad always told me the older you got the faster time went. Once again, he knew what he was talking about! This has been yet another banner year for RDRC. Three very successful fly ins, lots of field improvements, and for the most part, accident free. This will most likely be the year that puts RDRC on the NATIONAL map of clubs. Thanks to AMA and others, RDRCs "Fly for Tots" will be featured in Model Aviation in the coming months. As if that were not enough, "Victory Junction" sent a film crew out to meet us during the check dedication and plans to do a full blown video featuring our club. Patty Petty spend a great deal of time with us that day, and wants to use our club as an example of what smaller businesses or organizations can accomplish toward raising money for charities. Is that awesome or what? Like many others in RDRC, I could not be more proud to be a part of such a great club. I received more e-mails and verbal compliments than ever this year about our club. It's really amazing to see the folks we are reaching because of our attitude, and the FFT event itself. Just yesterday, I met another person joining our club because of FFT. He said he was so impressed by our efforts, and he wanted to be a part of our group. He's a new comer to the hobby and he'll hang'n with the Tuesday-Thursday crowd. You boys take care of him! ;)



Before I get too far into my writings, I need to send out a really big thanks to one of our members. That being Mr., Josh Bunn. Josh has served as RDRC vice president for three years now, and did an outstanding job of it. Josh served RDRC with passion and really stepped up the plate to help improve RDRCs standing in the modeling community, as well as our own community. During all of this Josh also devoted himself to the IMAA organization as well. As many of you know, he has done a lot of work with them as well, and now serves as an officer in that organization. As one might expect, his work load has grown to the point that it requires a good part of his spare time. Josh chose not to run again as RDRC VP allowing him to focus more on the continued growth of IMAA. Josh is bringing a level of attention to IMAA that has been needed in that area for some time. We are fortunate to have someone among our own group willing to step up to the plate yet again. IMAA will benefit greatly from Josh's contribution to the hobby. Lets all support Josh in his future efforts with that group. With that being said, we need to extend a big welcome to our newest RDRC club officer and VP, Mr., Jason Jarvis. As many of you know, Jason is as personable of a guy you could ask for. Already he has served RDRC well and help bring RDRC to the attention of the Raleigh Durham area. He organized RDRCs best ever mall show which also led to some news coverage! This of course helped lead to our best ever public turn out at FFT. We look forward to having Jason on board and working for RDRC in the coming year. Oh yea.....Jason promises to keep his hair cut so he projects a clean image for RDRC!!! ;)

Visit the club website at www.rd-rc.org

As many of you have seen in recent weeks, RDRC now has a great driveway to enter on now. After quite a wait, our former land owner Cordell Richards, and awesome neighbor Allen Medlin, took care of all the leg work to get our driveway re-graveled and leveled out. This has been a task in need for years now. Because RDRC accounts for 90% of the traffic on this driveway, it was only fair RDRC pay for it. Allen Medlin was very generous in offering his labor and equipment for free, and we only paid for the \$2450 of materials needed for the job. That of course included the trucks needed to haul it out. Please take a moment to thank Allen if you see him on your way into the field. We could not ask for a better neighbor. I think it's also important to tell you all, Allen has gone to the plate for all of us, and defended our club with folks trying to have us removed from our site. You might say Allen and Cordell are the community ambassadors. If something is going on in the community, one of these guys knows about it.

Plans were to have a new shelter constructed in the coming weeks, but that has been postponed now due to funding. Don't worry! The money is there, but we have chosen not to reduce our club funds any further at this point because of several club improvements already. We took care of a lot of *standing work orders* this year to include, and awesome new road sign, new club banners, new driveway, and trash pick-up service. All of which were voted on, and approved as far back as a year and a half ago. Considering we made several of these upgrades at once, and the overall cost of operating our club has increased the last two years, we chose to wait on the shelter for now.

As many of you have heard, a motion has been made to raise club dues a small amount. Our dues have remained at the same level for several years now, while operating cost have continued to climb. The dues increase is only \$10 a year, which works out to .83 cents a month. Before voting on this increase, attending members at our Jan. club meeting will be provided a complete year end financial report and 2011 spend plan. Dustin Hedrick is putting that report together now. As many have stated, an increase is most likely needed to maintain our current facilities and standards we have, but members should still be provided documentation, or proof that the increase is needed. Fortunately, the cost of our club lease has not been raised in several years. But if it follows the path of most clubs, it will eventually go up. In talking with members of other clubs across the state, some have stated recent increases. As for now we will be paying the same amount we have for the last several years. In fact, I will be delivering the rent check next week to our land owner. This of course is to keep us in line with the current lease agreement. The rent **MUST** be paid prior to January 1st. As always, the check will be hand delivered to our land owners business office. We don't want to take a chance on it being lost in the mail. I remember this happening a few years ago!

So what is new in RDRC?

Well,,, how about a little racing!!!!!! Yep, we have several members that have shown an interest in low key club level racing. We tried this a few years ago, but chose to go with quickie style racers. In fact, we went with the Great Planes VIPER arf. Even with standard type 40 size engines, it proved a little intimidating for several folks. Some just sold them off at swap meets, and some of course got into a fight with the ground! Even a common 40 size glow engine would carry these planes well over 100 mph. So what makes this recent interest any different? Well folks I'm here to tell ya! ;) First off, we're NOT going to use a super clean aerodynamic racer as an airframe. After a lot of research in design, availability, and most importantly COST, we have chosen to go with a basic design named the Sky Raider Mach2. It's available from *Airborne Models* in California <http://www.airborne-models.com> and it only cost \$89 ! This is a 40 size sport /trainer with a symmetrical airfoil and comes in two pre-printed colorful color schemes. Red or green. But better than that, it also comes in 4 solid colors as well. Red, White, Yellow, or Orange. This would be the route many would take so they could add custom graphics to separate their plane from everyone else. Much the same way we did with the Vipers. They came in red or white. Also, there is already an organized class of racers with this model now. In fact, the Charlotte area holds up to three races a year now. Like we're hoping to do, this is a low key style of racing using just two pylons, and an affordable motor. The motor of choice is the Thunder Tiger 40 ball bearing engine. \$89 from either Tower Hobbies, or other suppliers. Other engines are allowed and you can see those here. http://www.rcpro.org/html/rules/club_40/club_40.htm

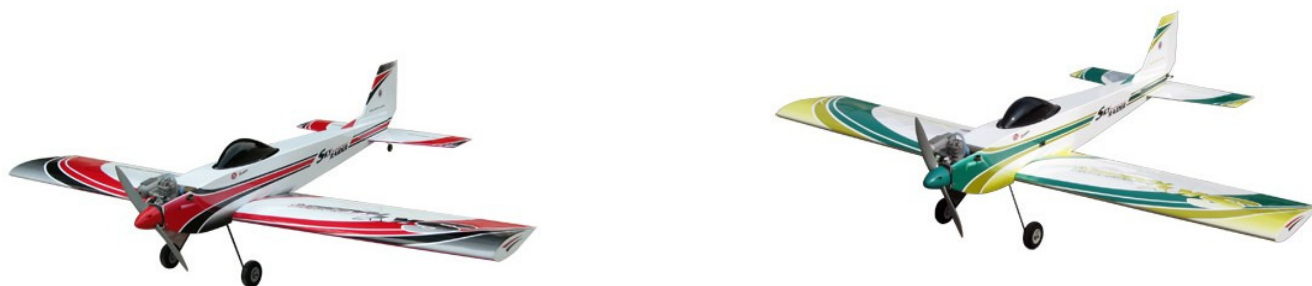
You must run a STOCK engine with the STOCK muffler. Again, we're looking at getting some low key racing within our own club, but should you decide you want to take it a little further, you'll have an airframe already in hand that you can go racing with. Also, if you choose to use one of the approved RCPRO class engines with our club event, you'll be set up for the more organized racing groups should you decide to go. As for what we'll require for our deal, we're going with this set up.

Air Frame: Airborne Models Sky **Raider Mach 2** \$89 *two printed schemes or four solid colors*
Or Airborne Models **LA Racer 40** \$109 *four printed schemes or four solid colors*

Motor: Any 40 size glow motor, **to exclude** a special race designed engine. (I.E. Nelson, Jett)

Will we allow a 46 engine? You bet! We just want to get folks to participate more than anything, but we also want to keep the playing field as even as possible. We'll run stock engines, stock airframes, and stock fuel tanks. I'll add another bonus. We don't expect everyone to just take our work for it on how well these planes will work for us, so here's what we're going to do. Robert Vess and I have both agreed to purchase one of these plane/engine combos and build them, fly them, and test out the whole combination. I'll be building the pre-printed RED version, and Robert will do the GREEN version. Also, we will be buying the recommended Thunder Tiger 40 BB ABN engines to see how these motors work. We've heard nothing but great things about this engine, and feel pretty certain we will be trying out some of the Charlotte area racing in the near future. So,,,,,, we're just going to get ourselves prepared for that as well. If you look at the Club 40 Racing Rules on the site, you'll see several motors are accepted. You can see that here:

http://www.rcpro.org/html/rules/club_40/engine_list.htm



Click on the picture to go to the 'buy' page on the Airborne Models website for the color you want, you have to call for solid colors though! Tel: 925-371-0922.

Here's another **Bonus!!!** Man...this just keeps getting better! Lol I talked with Dave Hockaday at **East RC**, and he's setting up a business account with Airborne Models now. He is willing to play middle man for our airframe purchases, as well as the Thunder Tiger 40 engines! We can order all of the needed items through him. I do know that the Thunder Tiger 40 engines are out of stock right now, but should be available later this month. Of course.....we expect DAVE to be in the middle of the racing crowd to! ;) So Dave.....be sure and order an extra Raider for yourself!

This really looks to be a lot of fun folks. And the planes will not be all that fast. Probably in the 80 mph range at best. And IF you decide you're just not in to the racing thing after all, you still have a great sport type airframe to fly. Or, sell to someone who wants to try it out themselves. This really should be a lot of fun folks. Several members have already said **THEYRE IN**, and we hope to have more joined in. I'll let Dave and the East RC guys give details on ordering planes and motors.



RDRC Christmas Party

It's Time to Eat!!!

That's right folks, its December and that means Christmas Party! No meeting, no business, and no drama! ;) Just good ole socializing and knocking back some awesome food. Last years event went really well and we're going to be doing it all again this year. Like last year, we'll be meeting the Fargo Steak House in Zebulon. Only difference being, we will be meeting a little earlier. Several have commented that we needed more time to socialize before we ate. I have to agree. It was so good to have so many wives's there last year, and we were so pleased to see the good conversation taking place among everyone. So, this year we'll be meeting a little earlier to allow for more chat time.

Here's the schedule. **We meet at 6:00 PM** talk up a storm, and yes,,, kick back a drink or two!

7:00 Pm we order food, talk some more, and yes.....have another glass of wine! ;) Ice Tea for Me!!

Jacqui and I are really looking forward to this, and hope to see you all there. If you plan to attend, please **RSVP Josh Bunn ASAP**. He has reserved the private room already but needs to have an approx head count prior to us showing up.

It's been an awesome year folks. By far, the best ever. I sometimes wonder how we keep making each year better than the one before, and how on earth we'll top it next year. But we always do. **We're RDRC folks!!!**

It doesn't get any better than that! ;) Look forward to seeing you Wednesday night.

Safety Officers Report



SAFETY FIRST!!

RDRC is wrapping up 2009 as being a year with one bloodletting at the field and another at a member's home.

Mark Lofgren

Attempting to retrieve a fallen ignitor by reaching through a spinning prop is not good. Also, hitting the throttle for an electric plane turns that plane's power plant into a buzz saw is not good either. Both mistakes appear to be due to lapses in attention which we all make hopefully without injurious consequences.

We all must always be aware of spinning props and blades and the location of our body parts.

There were other "injuries" but to planes and helicopters. Some were due to pilot error and some were due to problems with the aircraft. Pilot error is inevitable especially when we attempt new maneuvers or push the envelop. Problems with the aircraft are another issue which each of us needs to avoid through careful inspection and maintenance of our equipment and performing preflight checks. The November issue of the AMA magazine has an article about the causes of crashes along with a checklist of things we all need to continually check to keep our aircraft flying safely. Some readers might think the article and checklist too elementary. Just think of the reasons given for the crash of the last aircraft you saw go in. Probably one or more of the items cited in the list are mumbled as the reason for the crash.

When retrieving a downed plane or helicopter be sure to call out that you're on the runway, retrieve it quickly, and **determine the crash's cause back in the pits.**

Be sure your fail safe and engine emergency cut-off are set properly. The club doesn't need to explain why a plane has appeared in someone's yard miles from the field.

Many clubs do not allow flying alone. This is not usually a problem at RDRC. The field cameras prove that, weather permitting, there is usually someone flying. If you find yourself alone, use extra caution and keep your cell phone in your pocket. An injury or health emergency might require a call for assistance. Reaching into one's pocket for the phone at the flight line or in the pits is easier than searching for it elsewhere.

That's the 2009 safety wrap up. Let me know of any safety concerns that arise that you feel need to be addressed. My cell phone is **368-2908**.

BUT REMEMBER...we are all responsible for safety. Do not hesitate to address a safety concern with whoever is causing the problem. Be polite and be specific as to the nature of the problem. The person might not be aware of the danger he might be flirting with. See you at the field where wind and gravity, when used in correct proportions, make for an interesting day!

Mark Lofgren

RDR 2009 Officers

President:

Larry Lewis
231-4983
rlarry@aol.com

Vice President, CD & Membership Secretary:

Josh Bunn
919-404-2332
Josh@qualityplusautomotive.com

Secretary:

Dave Hockaday
919-554-2154
wb4iuy@teara.org

Treasurer:

Dustin Hedrick
919-559-7153
dust176@yahoo.com

Safety Officers :

Anthony Wiencek
919-786-2546
ajwiencek@earthlink.net

Mark Lofgren
919-368-2908
clipclp@mindspring.com

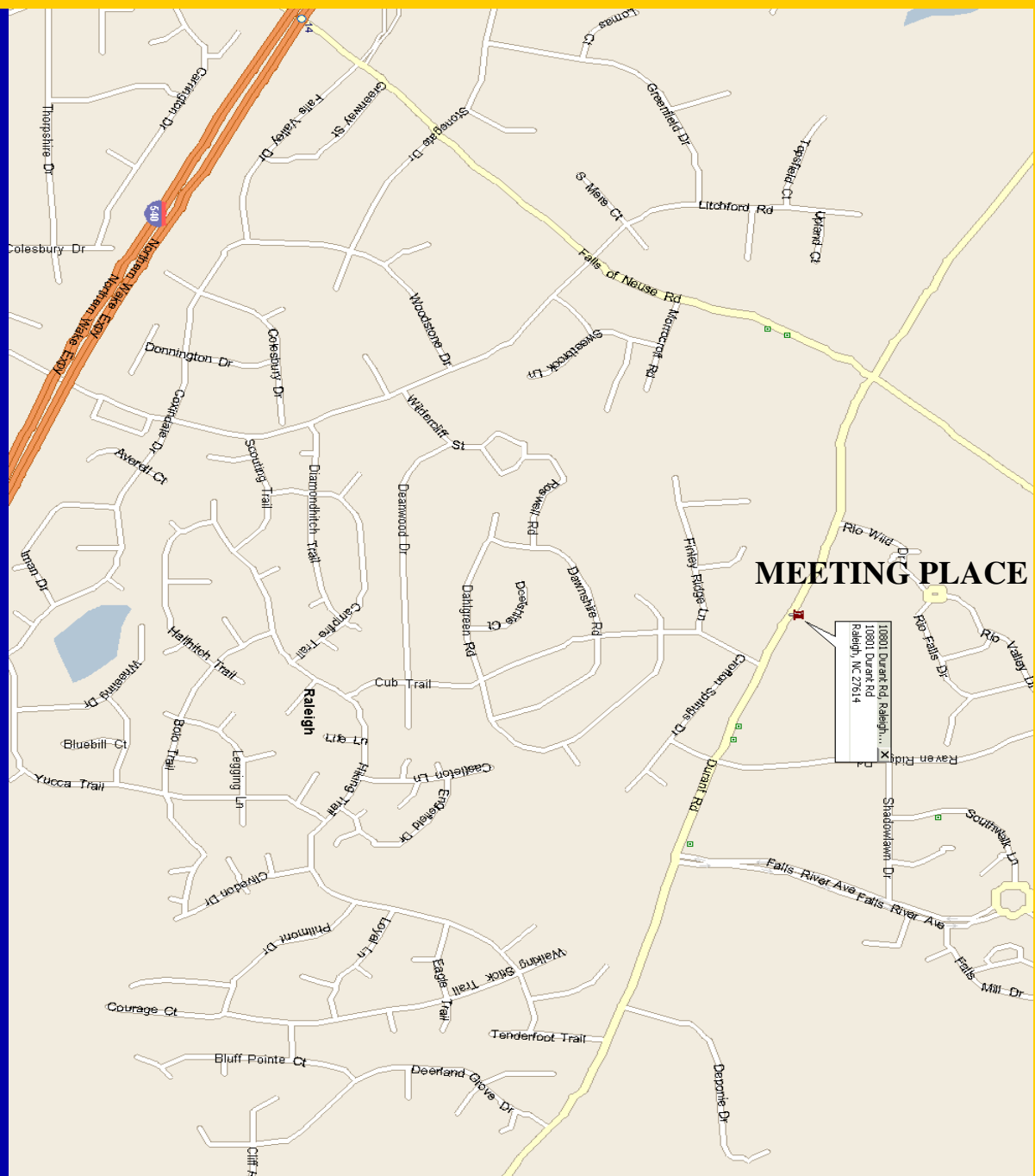
Newsletter

Editor:

Dave Langridge BEM
1019 Askham Dr
Cary, NC 27511
919 475 5081
Rcgeckoman@nc.rr.com

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:

Happy Christmas to you all!!! And a very merry New Year...don't forget the opening unofficial RDRC New Year FLYIN on..umm....er...New Years Day I think!!! :)

See ya at the field.....

Dave Langridge



Raleigh-Durham Radio Control

Volume 18, Issue

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

2009

President:

Larry Lewis
231-4983
rclarry@aol.com

c/o Dave Langridge BEM
1019 Askham Dr
Cary, NC 27511

TO:

