



Raleigh-Durham Radio Control

February 2012

Official Newsletter

Volume 21, Issue 2



CHARTERED CLUB

AWARD OF
EXCELLENCE



PRESIDENT'S

Prop-Wash

Welcome to February...

At the time of writing this article, BARKS/Super Bowl weekend is right around the corner. Hopefully you either picked up a good find or got rid of some of that RC stuff that's been taking up space at your home.

January flight time I feel for most people was like mine, non-existent. We did however have a great turn-out at the indoor electric flyin, 44 pilots. I was amazed how many of those pilots were non-RDRC members. We definitely appreciate the fellowship of how the clubs NC support one another. Plus how could you turn down perfect room temperature, no wind, and metal bars to limbo under... I am sure there was a run on Foam CA / Epoxy glue at the hobby stores the day after based on what I saw, JOSEeeee. All

in all it was a very good time. Thank you again Dave Hedrick for organizing this event. This is definitely something I would like to see more of during the winter months.

Website: The new www.rd-rc.com (replace the old .org with the new .com) is up and running. If you are a RDRC member and haven't created an account on the new website, please go visit the site and register. The old username and password that was associated with the .org web site is no longer valid, so it is important you register and create your new username/password. The forums, event calendar, and buy-sell section make it very interactive and it's much easier to navigate... so check it out. On the IT front, we are still looking for donations of web cams (maybe) & servers to get that service back on-line. If those items cannot be donated, then a budget will be created/presented in a future club meeting to be voted upon. Stay tuned.

Dues: They are DUE!!! If you haven't paid yet, you best get on it. The first round of membership cards is planned to go out prior to the meeting and if you want to fly or know the new combination to the shed/frequency box, you need to be paid up. Officers will be spot-checking once the first batch of cards goes out the door!!!

Events: Spring "Big Jim Memorial" Flyin will be held April 14th 2012. We have a Horizon Hobby ICON Ready-to-fly Seaplane to raffle off. It will be a complete aircraft; battery, charger, airframe, motor, ESC, servos, and Spectrum radio! We are talking a plane that can either be flown off the runway or, 7 screws later, off the water. I already have one and it is a fun "sea"-plane to have. Just ask me for a demo because once you see it you'll want to be a part of this raffle. Just remember to put the propeller on the right way... I do know from first hand experience the planes DOES fly with it on backwards, just at full throttle the entire time.

Meeting: Back at our normal Pullman house location. Dave Hedrick, our new VP and social director, has put together a series of events to be held at each meeting. This month will be Larry Lewis talking about "Radio Setup and Installation". Also at the meeting we will be trying a slightly new format. As I stated in the January meeting, I really want to push to have the meetings conducted in or around the 30-minute mark to allow for social activities and B.S. among the club members. With that, we will try to have the following for the agenda:

Visit the new club website at <http://www.rd-rc.com>

7:30-8:00 : Show and tell... (this will allow time for people to funnel in)

8:00-8:30(ish) : club business

8:30 - Close : Special Event

So if you have never been to a meeting... come on out! Don't forget to bring that item you have been working on to show it off!

Club Myth Buster: "Anyone can fly at RDRC." This statement is FALSE, but it does have its exceptions.

First and foremost, we at RDRC do encourage the promotion of the hobby but only current RDRC/AMA members flying safely (had to throw that one in) are permitted to fly at the field without exception. As for others, any person who does NOT have a valid AMA membership card cannot fly at the RDRC airfield. This is for insurance reasons and includes the use of a buddy box. For more information please refer to: <http://modelaircraft.org/files/917.pdf>

I will be accepting names if you would like participate in the "Introductory Pilot Instructor" program. Only these named people are allowed to work with non-AMA members to fly at RDRC. Once I have the list submitted, I will make it available for general public use. If you want to teach someone who is not a current AMA cardholder to fly and don't have an IPI rating on your AMA card, please do not attempt to do so. They will not be covered under the current insurance. Please seek out a club IPI and let them work with the person or encourage them to become a AMA member.

But what happens if a person is an AMA member but is not a current club member of RDRC?

Non-RDRC but current AMA members (guests) are allowed at the field only if accompanied by a current RDRC/AMA member for up to 3 visits. After that the person must procure one of the RDRC memberships. Please see our club's bylaws for membership options.

Any individual that fails to meet RDRC flying rules, including a current RDRC member flying unsafely, will be asked to leave the field. As RDRC members, we should all be vigilant on enforcing these flying rules. Flying fields can be lost very quickly with an accident of an uninsured/reckless person. Just as an unrelated but related topic, uninsured accidents are a hot topic right now being addressed in the Rocket community with an accident that happened recently in California. I won't go into details on it, but it is changing the way things are done with high-powered rocketry, flight line operations, and spectators.

Closing: As the weather becomes more conducive to model flying, make sure we all take the time during those windy/rainy winter days to perform a thorough check of our models. Check everything, then check it all again. Batteries, motors, control surfaces, fuselage, etc. it all needs to be checked to make sure your aircraft is operating at its peak. Every little item that is wrong can add up very quickly to a big problem resulting in a costly mistake or injury. No one I can assure you wants that!

Michael





Mark L ofgren

Safety Officers Report

SAFETY FIRST...

No safety issues or rules infractions have been reported, so it's assumed that everyone is being responsible and respectful at RDRC's field.

There have been reports of people showing up to use RDRC's field who are not AMA members and, therefore, not RDRC members. NOBODY can fly at RDRC who is not an AMA member and a RDRC member in good standing or a guest of an RDRC member. How to approach someone who you suspect is not in compliance will be discussed at the next meeting. RDRC's field is not a public facility. Please attend to provide input or email Mark Lofgren at clipclop@mindspring.com or call 368-2908.

AMA specifies who can teach new pilots on a buddy box. Anyone willing to be a designated instructor please let Michael Hollowell or Mark know. The AMA protocol for instructors can be found at the AMA website in the "Documents" section. Both issues, non-AMA flyers and student pilot education, are insurance/liability concerns.

Fly safely and often!!!



Safety in your club should not be an issue, it should be an attitude.

— Jim Tiller "On the Safe Side"

Notices - Upcoming Events

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Please remember that the next Monthly Meeting will be held at The Pullen House on Wednesday, February 22, 2012 starting at 7:30 PM  
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If you have not paid your 2012 RD-RC membership dues yet, then you are late. Remember, everyone gets to fly for free (with AMA card) in January, but you have to pay for February through December. Remember that the annual dues are now \$125 Open / \$50 Associate / \$10 Family Membership. Please mail your dues to Dustin Hedrick, 7212 Stuart Drive, Raleigh, NC 27615. Also, remember to renew your AMA insurance for the year 2012.  
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Join the new RD-RC mailing list at [clubrdrc@googlegroups.com](mailto:clubrdrc@googlegroups.com). Keep up with the day to day news at RD-RC and from RD-RC members.  
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Visit the new RC-RD web site at <http://www.rd-rc.com>  
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Folks, next few weeks are full of local Fly-**In's**.  
Please join in the fun.  
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March 31, 2012 — Fayetteville, NC (C-Restricted) PIEDMONT AEROMODELERS IMAA SPRING FUN FLY. Site: Club Field. Kent Porter CD PH: 919-639-3481 Email: [kent@porterscales.com](mailto:kent@porterscales.com). Visit: [www.piedmontaeromodelers.com](http://www.piedmontaeromodelers.com). Please come enjoy our site for a weekend of fun and flying. IMAA Saturday only. Concessions on site Sat for lunch. Pilot prizes by random drawings. Event raffle to be announced. 90x800' grass runway w 200 acre fly over, no trees. Sponsor: PIEDMONT AEROMODELERS  
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April 7, 2012 — EDRC 2nd Annual Spring Fly-In. Fly anything. Includes a 50-50 raffle.  
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April 14, 2012 — RDRC Big Jim Memorial Fly-in (aka. RDRC Spring Fly-In). Site: Club Field. Lawrence Lewis CD PH: 919-215-3946 Email: [rclarry@aol.com](mailto:rclarry@aol.com). Visit: <http://www.rd-rc.com>. This is a flying anything event. Food on site. Primitive camping allowed, power for charging available. 300' of paved runway, 600' grass runway. \$10 pilot fee. Sponsor: RALEIGH DURHAM RADIO CONTROL  
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April 21, 2012 — Kinston, NC (C) 2ND ANNUAL KAM FLY IN. Site: Club Field. David Jones CD PH: 252-727-4750 Email: [rcflyer@coastalplanes.com](mailto:rcflyer@coastalplanes.com). Visit: [www.coastalplanes.com](http://www.coastalplanes.com). Food and beverages on site. \$10 landing fee, fly what you bring, AMA required. Sponsor: KINSTON AERO-MODELERS  
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April 28, 2012 — Rocky Mount, NC (C-Restricted) TAD DIETRICH MEMORIAL FLY IN. Site: Town Creek Field. A Gentry CD PH: 252-343-3961 Email: [wn4z462@centurylink.net](mailto:wn4z462@centurylink.net). Visit: [www.tarheelrcflyers.org](http://www.tarheelrcflyers.org). Sponsor: TARHEEL R/C FLYERS  
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Notices - Upcoming Events

Senate joins House in passing FAA bill, exemption for aeromodeling

M U N C I E – The U.S. Senate late Monday joined the House in passing the first full FAA Reauthorization Bill in more than four years. In passing the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 both the House and Senate included a provision aimed at protecting model aviation from burdensome regulations. The President is expected to sign the bill into law.

“We are very appreciative of those in Congress who recognize that model aviation hobbyists have been highly successful at governing themselves and being safety conscious over generations,” said Bob Brown, president of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, representing 143,000 aeromodelers. “We are intensely committed to a safe National Airspace System (NAS); and have proven so. This bill is testimony to a common sense approach to model aviation.”

The AMA’s ongoing attempt to protect aeromodeling from what it believes to be unnecessary and over-reaching federal regulations was championed by Sen. James Inhofe (R-OK) who sponsored the amendment. The Academy would like to express its sincere appreciation to the members of Congress and their staffs, with special thanks to John Mica (R-FL), Kay Bailey Hutchinson (R-TX), Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) and Tom Petri (R-WI).

“I can’t stress enough the impact that AMA members have had on getting this amendment passed,” said Brown. “Last year, our members sent 90,000 letters of concern to their Congressional representatives, and the collective voice of aeromodeling was heard loud and clear.”

Rapid technological advancements and the integration of small unmanned aircraft systems, or sUAS, has been a challenge for the FAA, which is responsible for ensuring the safety of the NAS. The AMA has consistently contended that aeromodeling conducted by its members, following the AMA Safety Code, is different from commercial sUAS operations. That distinction lies, in part, with hobbyists operating within a defined area, away from people and property, and not for commercial purposes, among other self-imposed rules.

“This legislation is a very positive step,” said Rich Hanson, AMA’s Government Regulatory Affairs representative. “However, there are still steps to come. We look forward to a cooperative effort with the FAA in ensuring that model aircraft may continue to operate safely within the NAS.”

AMA expects that the FAA will issue its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for public comment sometime later this spring. The Academy continues to believe that a regulatory approach to model aviation is unnecessary and unwarranted.

The Academy of Model Aeronautics is the nation’s collective voice for aeromodeling, founded in 1936, with 143,000 members in 2,400 clubs in every state, Puerto Rico and Guam. The AMA successfully sanctions more than 2,000 events and competitions each year, and boasts the world’s largest collection of model aviation artifacts and documents in the National Model Aviation Museum situated on the 1,100-acre International Aeromodeling Center in Muncie, Indiana.

— AMA Media Release from “*AMA Today*”, February, 2012

Picture Pages



Our newest leaders performing their honorable duties...



...to a house full of of RD-RC members

Picture Pages



Indoor fly-in had plenty of pilots with plenty of indoor flying space



"Behind the scene" action at the indoor fly-in

Picture Pages



The “stuck” aircraft at the indoor fly-in...



...and the folks that tried to get it back down.

Picture Pages



Why do you think they call him the “Field Marshall”?



If you’ve never met Bill before, then this is Bill



Manny preparing for another fast-fly-by



Nice Prop!



Manny’s fast-fly-by!



This is back-seat-driving

Picture Pages



This is already getting too complex for me



One day John got a bit too comfortable



This is what it's all about



Ever wonder how rumors get started?



A clear example of Traffic Control being required here



Oops!!!

Picture Pages



Randy getting started..



...Randy ground checking...



...and Randy finishing — That's all there is to it folks!



Manny's "Fast-Fly-By Machine"



"Pop-up" — The start of a good time



Racing at RD-RC

RDRC

2012 Officers

President :

Mike Hollowell

919-426-3434

mikeh@ipass.net

Vice President :

Dave Hedrick

919-696-2681

stringsof9@hotmail.com

Treasurer :

Dustin Hedrick

919-559-7153

dust176@yahoo.com

Secretary &

Membership Secretary :

Jason Jarvis

919-601-2394

jjarvis@nc.rr.com

Safety Officer :

Mark Lofgren

919-368-2908

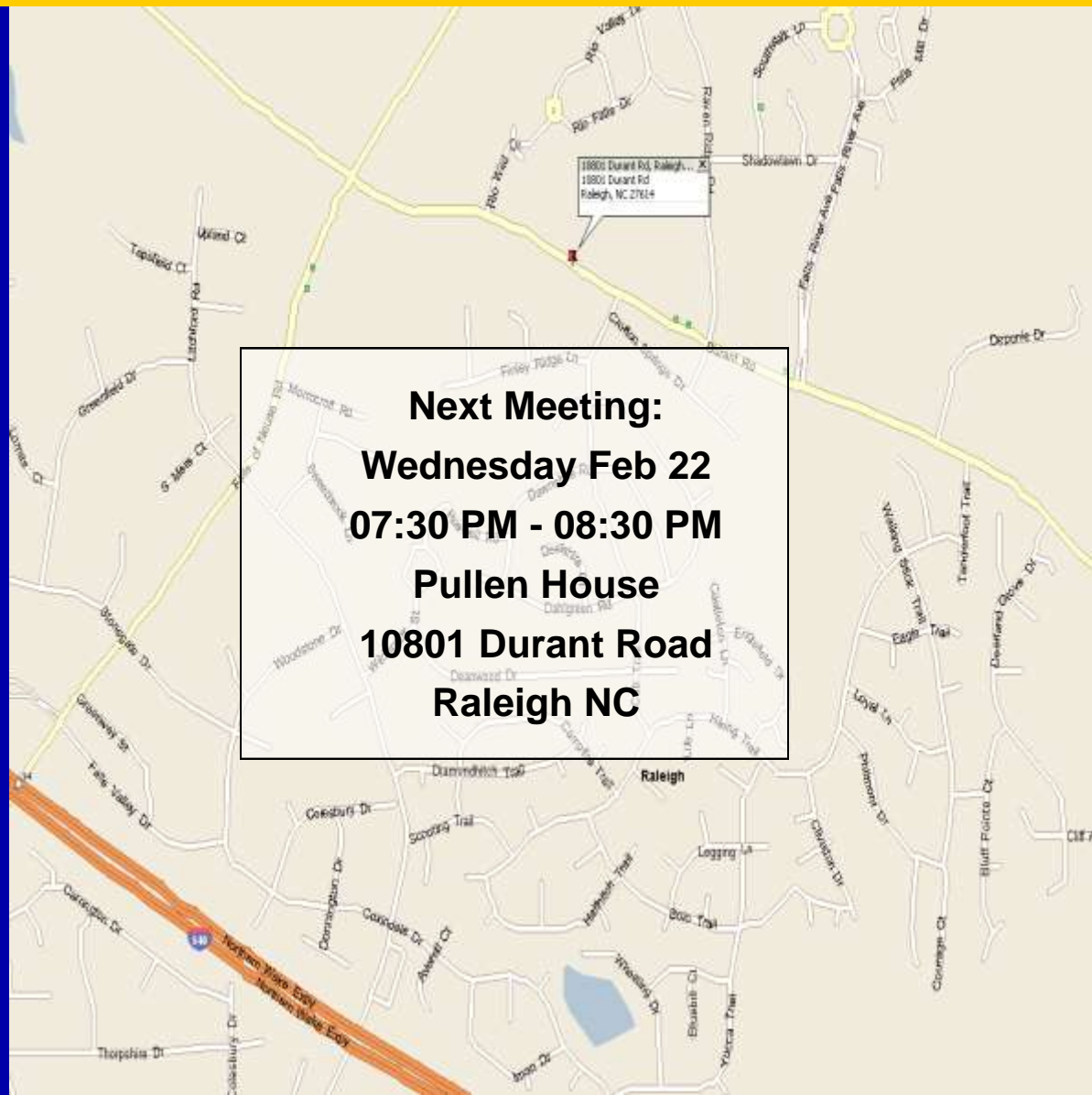
clipclap@mindspring.com

Field Marshall:

John Kiesler

919-870-8459

edirhino@yahoo.com



Newsletter

Editor:

Joe Horvath

919-671-4262

jhorvath@yahoo.com

Submittals:

All club members are urged to submit material to be published in the newsletter. The material should 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).

Thoughts from the slipstream...

If you know anyone that is not receiving this newsletter, but should **be, then please forward that person's email address to me. That way, I** can get newsletters out to that person.

We've had some fun events over the last month. We've also had too many cold and windy days. Hope for great flying weather as we get ready to enter Spring. Many local Fly-In's are **coming up shortly. Please try to join in the fun. You can't experience how much fun it really is unless** you are there.

The new RD-RC website is looking great. Be sure to visit it often at <http://rd-rc.com>

The biggest get-together of all time happens in South Carolina in May. The news is that the 3D flight line has new sod planted to **make it match the Classic Flight Line. I can't** wait to see this.

The Ed

