

HRRC Flyer

Official club newsletter of Hampton Roads Radio Control Inc.

Volume 5 Issue 2
February 2004

Upcoming Events

February 14, Yorktown Swap Meet at Yorktown

Middle School

March 4, HRRC Club Meeting 7:30

March 6, TMSS Fly-In

March 13, Swap Meet in Lebanon, PA

March 20, CVA Mall Show

April 1, HRRC Club Meeting 7:30

April 10, 2004 Field Maintenance Workday.

April 23, 2004 HRRC Banquet @ Suffolk Holiday

Inn 6 pm.

April 24, 2004 Annual HRRC Fly-In

May 8 Scout Air Show, HRRC Field

Message From the President

We have 104 registered members!!! Which is great. however 35 (about) are not pilot qualified. While not a bad thing, it's a third of the club, and will be a challenge for our instructors. Peak flying season is coming and I feel we must take a few measures to ensure we have a safe one. Knowing how to fly is not a requirement for being a member of this club. Flying safely and properly is!! We promised that "We will teach you to fly" when we signed you on as a club member. Well, let's stand behind what we say.

Here is what I propose we do. Please note that the board members are: Henry Cahoon, Gary Murdock, Bob Howell, Dave Haywood, Dom DePolo, Bob Swain, Jon Beeler, and Ken Stevens, They are on the board to see that this club operates properly and they are here to help. If you need help learning to fly then PLEASE say so (ask someone to take you up). If you know how to fly but are not yet proficient enough to be a qualified pilot then PLEASE say so. If you are a qualified pilot but haven't flown in months and want a hand, PLEASE say so, ask for a spotter. We WILL provide the help you need to become a pilot. If an issue comes up at the field, that you don't feel comfortable addressing immediately, talk to one of the board members.

And this is how we are doing that. I have asked Dom DePolo to act as head instructor. He will be picking up what Keith started. Keith has health concerns now that prevent him from continuing. Dom is developing a training program for instructors and WILL check out all existing instructors. Any one desiring to become an instructor (which means having the ability and the desire to help) will be given the chance. If you find yourself not getting help then contact me directly. I will see to it that you get help.

We are going to revise the pilot qualifications. This is not to exclude anyone--it is just to ensure that pilots have the skills they need. These planes are expensive, and this is investment protection. The Board of directors met on the 29th of January and we will continue on Feb 9th. We will have a plan in the works soon.

Instructors are mentors, and should show others by example. Here is what I ask that everyone do. Please wear your club membership card when you are at the field. New members be advised that if you see an "I" on that person's club membership card, then that person can be sought for help on virtually

Continues

Rules of the Month from the By-Laws

13. All flyers are expected to conduct themselves with courtesy and in a sportsman-like manner at the flying site. Fostering of camaraderie is a prime objective of the club.

14. Anyone who brings children or pets will keep them off the runways, taxiways, pit areas, and parking lot. Pets must be kept on a leash in the designated area.

Meeting Highlights from February

Approximately 28 members were present. John Collins was welcomed as a guest.

The Minutes and Treasurers' Report were read. Club members now total 103, another all-time high.

The 2nd Annual Ground-Hog Chili Fly Day was a tremendous success. There were approximately 50 people in attendance with 9 batches of chili. Five planes participated in the Combat Event. Ray Goodwin was the winner with two cuts on Pat Finn's ribbon. Other pilots were, Gary Murdock, Kenny Stephens, and 'Dirty Joe' Robinette. Scoring criteria follow later in the newsletter.

Henry spoke about a potential decreasing safety trend caused by growing pains. With small numbers at the field, safety infractions are more easily tolerated; however when more pilots show up--more than 8 or so, there is too much going on. Also, with growing numbers, the chances of having more than one person on a particular channel frequency management and discipline become more important. Frequency pins should have the pilot's name on them as well as the frequency. And NEVER take another's pin down.

He also emphasized that if a new person--not a club member shows up with a plane, he/she should be asked for verification of their AMA membership in a friendly non-confrontational manner. Furthermore, if a new person does have proof of AMA membership, they should be discreetly monitored until they can prove their proficiency, and a brief explanation of some of the unique features of our field given.

Continues

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Club Officers

President
Henry Cahoon
487-6439
Cahoon_henry@hotmail.com

Vice President
Gary Murdock
410-2380
mudrocks3@cox.net

Secretary/Treasurer
Robert Howell
(757) 934-9126
BuilderBob005@cs.com

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M-F 10-5 p.m. Sat. 10-6 p.m. • Sun. 12-5 p.m. M-F 10-9 p.m. Sat. 10-5 p.m. • Sun. 12-5 p.m.

radio control cars, planes & boats • slot cars • trains
model kits • dioramas • rockets • kites • sports cards
toys • science items • tools & paints • gifts and more!

The HRRC Flyer is published monthly for the benefit of Hampton Roads Radio Control Club Members.

The Club holds regular meetings on the 1st Thursday of each month at the location given below. More information is available on the web site: hamptonroadsrc.com

The Deadline for article submission is the date of the monthly meeting. Submit articles in any form to Rick Lawrence (editor)-hrrc@cox.net or (757) 623-0477.

The information contained herein and on the web site is for the sole and personal use of Club Members strictly for their enjoyment in the pursuit of building and flying radio controlled aircraft.

Directions to the Club's Meetings

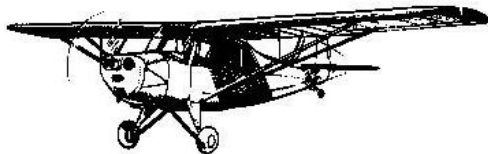
The Airline Parts and Service shop will be the meeting place until further notice. Meeting time is 7:30 pm.

Its address is: 3530 Airline Blvd., Portsmouth.

DIRECTIONS:

From Norfolk / Va. Beach go through the downtown tunnel and stay on I-264 to the Greenwood Drive West exit. Proceed down two lights to Airline Blvd, turn right and the shop will be the second building on the left between the 7/11 and the Burger King.

From Suffolk follow Route 58 past our old meeting place and get in left lane. This will turn into Airline Blvd. come up two lights, the shop is two buildings past second light on the left.



Eagle Hobby Shop

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Sat 9:00 - 1:00
Sun 1:00 - 5:00
Or call for an appointment

Highlights from February Meeting (continued)

Henry introduced the board members present at the meeting and reminded everyone that they are the persons to go to if there is an issue that can't be resolved at the field. The board is currently developing some policies to improve safety at the field. Henry reviewed the importance of wearing badges and the meaning of the 'I' on the badges indicating that pilot is qualified as an instructor. Dom DePolo will become the Instructor Coordinator and maintain the Instructor qualification standard. It's important for all new members to be shown proper instruction, as that is a major reason for joining the club. Instructors are MENTORS to this end.

Dave Haywood is the Club's Safety Officer. Dave asked that all members review the club safety rules--which are currently available from the web site, and have been partially published sequentially in the newsletters. He also stated that the AMA frowns on planes being flown to collide. Any deliberate collision voids the AMA liability insurance for that particular incident. So combat planes should be flown with streamers in order to avoid the tendency to fly at each other.

As a courtesy, Henry asked that if there are more than 2 pilots flying, that others present go spot for the active pilots. And he encouraged all pilots to fly with purpose--to stay in the pattern when flying in that area and not simply cruise the sky letting the plane determine where it will go next.

He mentioned that there were 3 different radios sitting at the same time on the pilot boxes on Sunday. This is a violation of the impound rules, and could be the cause of a channel violation if those habits are not stopped.

6 Planes went down Sunday, 2 were involved in a combat mid-air, 2 were mechanical failures, and 2 due to pilot error. All planes went down in the field. Henry felt that our luck may be running out as sooner or later, a plane may crash behind the flight line.

The banquet arrangements have been finalized. The price will be \$24.60 for adults and \$18.11 for children--tax and gratuity included. The meal will have two entrees in addition to several side orders: Champagne Chicken and Grilled Salmon. It will be served buffet style.

There will be no Scout Show, however there will be a 'Scout' Air Show on Saturday, May 8th. The time will be announced later.

The Scale Fly-in is scheduled for Saturday, July 24th and will be AMA sanctioned.

Several club members tested some channels between our field and the Isle of Wight field which is 3.78 miles as the crow flies from our field--there was no signal detected. Keith Harrell quoted the direct distances to Joe Robinette's 3.8 miles, and the Red Baron field 4.6 miles. At those distances there should be no interference between the respective fields.

President's Message (continued)

any beginning topic. I'm sure that many of those instructors will notice membership cards without 'P's and offer to help.

If you have an airplane go down and have to walk for it. Make SURE that anyone flying and those around know you are walking out. Do not just walk out. Wait for people to stop flying on a quiet day, have people spot flyers on a busy day. It's a simple and safe measure. The rules say that you have to announce your intention to walk onto the field, but you should receive acknowledgment from all other pilots that they know you are doing so. If you don't get it, shout again.

Be Safe and Take Care of Each Other,
Henry

Highlights from February Meeting (continued)

Bob Swain is finalizing the Air Show Team Roster. If you are not a member and would like to be, and conversely, please let him know as soon as possible.

April 10 will be the Field Maintenance--Work Party Day. Specific work items will be forthcoming.

Henry Cahoon won the 50/50 raffle, and donated another \$15 to the 'Fence Fund'.

Joe Robinette's Float Fly was proposed to be either May 14,15, or 16--however he has subsequently remembered prior commitments for those days. The 'New' dates are: May 21, 22, 23rd, and the event submitted to AMA for insurance coverage.

Bob Deaton moved and it was voted that 5 minutes be dedicated exclusively to safety at each meeting.

The Yorktown Swap Meet will be at the Yorktown Middle School on February 14th. Another swap meet will be in Lebanon, Pa on March 13th.

Park fees are now due and payable only at the Park entrance gate. The fee is \$25. The club is 22 members short of all having purchased their park passes. All members are reminded to sign in whenever they fly, and please put the chain up as they leave. Our numbers count toward support that the park can give and have resulted in several benefits in the past year. One of which is a smaller increase in fees than other groups saw!

Ray bring the rake. Next time you see Ray Goodwin at the field, ask him if he remembered to bring the rake.

Show & Tell was:

Bob Howell's Christen Eagle "Part Deux" powered by a Zenoah G45, and Bob Swain's ARF FloatPlane with **very attractive and detailed frequency pin.**

Inter-Club Council Event Schedule

John Backes from CVA is now the Inter-Club Council leader. Eddie Israel had done the work previously, and did a great job promoting the hobby between several clubs.

The events below comprise the entire season 'schedule' for the Tidewater area R/C clubs. Only a portion will appear in subsequent newsletter schedules.

The club abbreviations are as follows:

NPRC: Newport News Park Radio Control

IOW: Isle of Wight

TMSS: Tidewater Model Soaring Society

TRC: Tidewater Radio Control

CVA: Colonial Virginia Aeromodelers

Feb 14, Swap Meet Yorktown

March 6, TMSS Glider

March 13, Swap Meet, Lebanon, PA

March 20, 21 CVA Mall Show

March 20, NPRC Frost Bite Fun Fly

April 10, TMSS Glider

April 24, HRRC Spring Fly In

May 1, IOW Big Bird Fly In Open IMAA Rules, IMAA membership **not** required

May 8, HRRC Scout Air Show

May 15, CVA Spring Picnic Covered Dish

May 16, NPRC PB&J Fly-In (charity event)

May 22, 23 TRC Jet Rally at Fentress

May 29 HRRC Aerobatic Fun FLY

May 31 IOW Chicken Fly Fly in

May 30, CVA Helicopter Fly In

June 5, IOW IMAA Fly In - Sanctioned

June 12, TMSS Gliders

June 12, CVA VLP (very low pressure) Fun Fly

June 13, IOW Interclub Fun-Fly

June 26, NPRC Senior Pattern contest – sanctioned

June 26, 27; TMSS at Ft Lee

July 4, IOW Picnic

July 10, TMSS Gliders

Combat Scoring Criteria

The scoring criteria used at the Chili Fly Day Combat Event were:

Cutting streamer

+50 points per cut [except own streamer]

Continue flying after mid-air

+50 points

Crash due to pilot error

-20 points

Failure to ENGAGE

-20 (Maximum)

Flying into the NO-FLY zone

Disqualification

Inter-Club Council Event Schedule (continued)

July 17, NPRC Fun Scale Contest

July 24, HRRC Scale Fly In – sanctioned

Aug 14, CVA Something Different

Aug 14, TMSS Gliders

Aug 22, NPRC IMAC – sanctioned

Aug 29, CVA Interclub Fun-Fly

Sept 11, TMSS Gliders

Sept 11, NPRC Founders Day fly in

Sept 18, CVA Cub Fly Charity

Sept 25, CVA Payload Event

Oct 3, HRRC Interclub Fun-Fly

Oct 9, 10; CVA BAGS IMAA

Oct 9, TMSS Gliders

Oct 17, IOW Chili Fly

Oct 24, NPRC Interclub Fun-Fly

Oct 23, CVA Picnic

Nov 13, TMSS

Dec 14, TMSS

Aerobatic Fun Fly Scheduled for May 29

Tim Walker is organizing an Aerobatic Fun Fly at the field on May 29th, 10:00 am (weather permitting) with June 5th being the alternate rain date. It is open to all club members and anyone else who is interested. All planes are eligible for entry. The pattern flown will be the AMA basic sequence (see attached). The rules will be loosely based on the AMA/IMAC judging criteria, and no pilot will score a 'zero'. Any type of trainer, aerobatic plane, or scale plane is allowed. IT'S ALL FOR FUN BUT IT WILL MAKE BETTER PILOTS AS WELL! YOU WILL HAVE TO PRACTICE IN ORDER TO WIN!

Judges will be needed, so if you don't feel comfortable flying, feel free to critique those that do. If you know you're good enough to win and don't feel the need to prove it, please be a judge. There will be prizes awarded--details will be announced later. Tim will be at the meeting in April and May with more details. Call him at work (757-534-1251) with any questions.