

The Flying Times

The Official Newsletter of the Valley RC Flying Club

JANUARY 2010

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Visit our web site at: www.vrcfc.org

PRESIDENTS KORNER

Happy New Year and welcome to a new Year with the Valley RC Flying Club!

Our first Activity of the year is the Icy Carb Fun Fly, hopefully we will have some snow on the ground, this will be the first time in many years that snow was present for the fun fly.

Second will be the Swap Meet scheduled for February 20th at the Weyerscave community Center, bring out your extra RC planes or accessories. As always your help as Club Members makes this activity a big success!.

I would like to see a few more Fun Flys during the year. Just some activities to test your flying skills

And as a reminder the monthly meeting is the first Tuesday January 5th 7:30 at the Church of the Brethren, Left side of the Church in the Choir room.

Hope to see you there.

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Rob Levine

Icy Carb Fly

The annual Icy Carb Fly will take place Sunday, January 3, 2010, rain or shine at the club field. Participants must take off, fly at least one circuit of the airfield, and land successfully on the runway. Aircraft must take off from the ground—no hand launches allowed. The idea is to perform this “simple” task, no matter what the weather is. Once you have done it, sign the sign-up sheet and record the time (we’re using the honor system). The sheet will be collected and at the next club meeting a prize winner will be drawn from a list of all the participants. This event is open only to VRCFC members but spectators are welcome.

Swap Meet

Where: Weyers Cave Community Center. When: Saturday, February 20, 2010.

Come and buy, sell and trade R/C related items. One hundred tables are available. Sellers set-up begins at 7:00 a.m., dealers are welcome. Tables are \$10

each. Doors open at 9:00 a.m., auction at 1:00 p.m. Admission is \$3 per person. Parking is free and food is available on site. There will be raffles and door prizes.

This is an AMA sanctioned event, open to everyone. For more information and to sign up for a table, contact the Event Director, Jim Stogdale at 540-280-2616 or at hognot@hotmail.com.

26th Ray Gordon Annual Jumbo Event

The 26th annual Ray Gordon Memorial Jumbo Fly-In will be held Friday and Saturday, June 25-26, 2010 at the VRCFC flying field. Large scale model airplanes are featured at this event. Modelers from all over the Mid-Atlantic region come to fly, socialize, and share their enthusiasm for BIG model airplanes. Spectators are welcome and encouraged to attend. There is no admission charge. A concession stand will be in operation serving grilled hamburgers, grilled hot dogs, ice-cold drinks, chips, etc. Bring a lawn chair, a bottle of sun screen and plan on having a great day!

This is an AMA and IMAA sanctioned event. For more information contact Phillip Speicher at 540-984-4778 or at pcs4@shentel.net.

Membership Dues

A reminder to all members that your annual VRCFC membership dues are due and payable in January. The club

treasurer will be accepting dues payments at the monthly meetings.

In November 2008 your BOD supported by a membership meeting voted to amend the dues structure. In short the dues for most 19 to 65 year old renewing members is usually \$50, over 65 the renewing membership dues is usually \$30, and under 19 usually pay \$10. Check the new dues structure for details to see if you fit into one of the usual cases. If you have misplaced your copy of the 2009 Dues Structure please call, Chester Williams, treasurer email clwnet@yahoo.com or any member of the BOD requesting your personal copy.

Don't forget the deadline of the February meeting before a \$10 reinstatement fee is required to be added to your normal membership dues. Valley R/C will be in the process of re-chartering our club with the Academy of Model Aeronautics after the February meeting. We want each of you to be processed as a member at that time.

Also, your 2010 AMA dues are also payable (a necessary condition for flying at the VRCFC field). You should have received an AMA renewal notice. You can renew by remitting your notice, or via the web site at www.modelaircraft.org. They also accept renewals by fax (765) 741-0057, or by phone (800) 435-9262.

Safety

Jan. '10 safety lecture
It's that time again, we have gone through one year and started a new one. So with that brings up the yearly

safety lecture (Yea, I know, just all we need to hear about again).

What time I was at the field through the 2009 year I don't remember seeing any major incidents/accidents involving people personally, but there were a few instances that could of turned out worse than they did. So lets go over a few of these and see how we can rectify them.

As the flying season begins, we have hopefully (and probably) gotten new items through the holidays and possibly more technologically complex items as well.

The advent and popularity of the 2.4ghz radio systems brings in a bit of a false sense of security. Interference is practically eliminated (notice I said it was not 100% gone, its still there, just not as pronounced as before) and there is no antenna to extend before flying. With that mention, I have noticed a few times that the more we fly the 2.4ghz equipment and less of the 72mhz we forget some of things we have to do, like extend the antenna. I have seen a few models on 72mhz being flown with the antenna retracted and end with the model being nearly uncontrollable and a few instances the model prematurely landing (sometimes behind the flight line).

Another thing I have witnessed happen is a few members start their airplanes on the stands or some sort of restraining (bravo for that) but then do a full power run-up while still standing in front of the airplane with their arm over the prop arc and holding the model, or just standing there. This could be pretty disastrous if the propeller were to fail or come off while you were standing in front of the

model (not to mention painful and costly).

Easy fix on this one, after starting your model take it outside of the pit area, hold it from behind and perform your full power run-up there (also make sure no-one else is in the prop-arc). This will take you out of harms way as well as others who are nearby.

Those are mostly the items I see happening the most during the flying season and there are a few other issues as well, but I can't talk about them right now because after all, I need something else to talk about later on. I do have one more topic to bring up that should help all of the members on those busy days at the field.

There have been instances where we have three, four or five pilots up flying at a time. Everyone has been very good about being vocal about what your intentions are, but when you have 3+ people up in the air at a time and there are large gaps between the pilots flying stations, it is nearly impossible for the people at the first and last pilot stations to hear what the pilot on the other end is saying what they are doing.

So here is my recommendation on this issue. Whenever we have 2 or more pilots in the air, let's all congregate to the center pilot stations. This will ease the vocal cords from the yelling and makes for less surprises when your flying and someone is exactly where you just said you would be because they couldn't hear your intentions and taxi'd out onto the runway.

If you have any safety related issues you would like to see addressed, please let myself or Glenn Hitt know and we will look at the situation and bring it up in the next newsletter or meeting.

Happy Flying,
Thomas White
VRCFC 2010 Safety Coordinator

Officers 2010

The following members were elected to serve the VRCFC for the period from January 1 to December 31 2010: Rob Levine, President; Donald Click, Vice President; Pete Shifflett, Secretary; Chester Williams, Treasurer; Dave Burgess, Melvin Simmons and Donnie Todd as Members at Large.

Indoor Flying

Since its pretty easy to get some RC airplanes that are the correct size for gym size flying, and its beginning to get colder. I have been thinking it would be a nice if we could find a place to fly. So would anyone else be interested in this? For those of you who would be interested, what would you be willing to pay for a few hours each session (this is assuming that whatever place would allow us to use their facility has a rental fee)?

Thomas

Christmas Party

Well as we close the holidays and bring on the New Year I want to wish all of you a healthy ,happy and safe new year.

The decision was made early in the day to continue on with the Christmas party. The snow didn't stop us. We had 35 attendees that braved the elements. The snow started to fall upon us at 4:00pm and didn't stop well into the next day. The facility was very nice and well equipped with what we needed to have a successful party. There was plenty of food and drinks for everyone with great entertainment by Mrs. Bethuno playing her harp. The exchange game went smoothly including for the folks that received the chicken and the dancing Hokie.

I would like to thank all that attended with a special thank you to my wife Susan for preparing the menu. Also to Randy and his wife for helping with the set up and clean up. To Donnie Todd for finding the facility and Eagle's Carpet for letting us use their facility. And to countless members that chipped in to clean everything up.

JR

RC Report Lives

For those who enjoyed RC Report magazine, they were very disappointed that the magazine went out of business in early 2009, another victim of the bad business climate being endured by print journalism. However, the good news is that on-line subscriptions are now available with all the features of the printed magazine, www.rcreport.net. Although, Gordon Banks, editor of the print venture, is not the editor of the on-line version, readers will be pleased to know he is an active contributor to the on-line version.

Try Skis

A Good cold winter morning to each of you,

This past Sunday, Dec. 27, I was extremely disappointed upon arriving at our flying field about 2:00 p.m. to find no one, not a soul, had been to the field, no tracks nor footprints were visible.

Because of my love for flying from snow with skies, I committed a major error in judgement and began preparing my old Funtana for a flight from skies. I was alone, yes I know our recommendation is to never fly alone for safety reasons. And, yes I got by without any loss of blood or even any problem at all.

I only hope that most of you can experience the exuberant feeling of ski flying. We may have more difficulty starting the glow engines, but after that they run better, the planes handles great, and we can have a wonderful time.

The creek was up and required that I park on Rt. 11 side of the creek and I choose to start my plane beside my truck and carry it across the bridge. Once across the bridge I placed the Funtana on the snow and taxied to the runway. The snow matched my skies and for the next 20 plus minutes I did more touch & goes than I can remember. The snow was like velvet, smooth and slick as glass. Yes, my hands did get cold. The wind was directly down the runway making landings every slow. My experience was so gratifying that I thought I would go home and fly from the corn field in front of the house. The corn field was not level or smooth enough and besides I scared 35 heifers in pasture next to my flying and they broke down a gate. Well, I shall leave the rest to your imagination. It took about 6 humans 20 minutes to get them back in their barn. Shall I say my name was Mud.

Happy New Year,

Dan Myers

Things for Sale

I have the following plane for sale:

1/4 scale Extra 230 with 75" wingspan
It was a pre-built with foam core sheeted wings, all balsa and ply construction
YS-120 four stroke engine
Tru-Turn spinner
Futaba servos
On-board glow
Dubro fuel system
pull-pull rudder
Never crashed or damaged
The best flying plane I have ever owned, not tricky, glides to a perfect landing
\$575.00

Just send me an email if interested to:
gregliskey@yahoo.com

Just charge it up, add gas, and take it to the field!!

Thanks,
Greg Liskey

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Thinning the fleet a bit to prepare for some new projects rolling in, and for those that are getting close to finishing.

1- E-Flight Suhkoi 480 w/ E-flight Park 480 motor, 3 9gram servo's and a hitec hs65 servo. APC prop, no esc, no receiver. \$180

1- 6mmflyrc "depron" foam F-14 w/ swing wings. 3- hitec hs81 servo's, 1 hitec HS-225MG servo (wing swing), hobbywing 18a ESC, himax 2015-5200 inrunner motor. needs a receiver and himax gearbox. kit alone = \$100. I'll let

it go for \$160

1- Parkzone Sukkoi airframe w/ charger and motor gearbox (no electronics, no motor) good as a "spare" \$45

1- Spektrum DX-5E transmitter w/ all paperwork, only used a couple of times. have original box as well. \$45

1- Common sense RC 1-4s lipo balance charger. \$40

I'm open to offer's and can bring any of this stuff to the x-mas party on friday for those who may be interested.

Thomas
Cell- 864-918-9968