



FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter of the Valley RC Flying Club



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings to all members of Valley R.C. I want to congratulate everyone that contributed to the 3rd annual swap meet. It was a major success, and it seems to be growing each year. I talked with most of the vendors in attendance and as usual they said they liked our events because we make it fun! I enjoyed it very much and felt like it was our best showing yet. Great job to all!

I believe we just about sold out of tables this year. I took head counts throughout the day and there were at least 200 people in the building most of the time. We sold out of hotdogs around noon, and I think even the girl scouts sold a few boxes of cookies. A BIG THANK YOU

to all the gals that ran the concessions; we appreciate your efforts very much. Last year we improved our creek crossing, built a new safer fence, had a great jumbo/swap meet, and gained some new members. 2008 was not the best weather year by far, but we grew as a club in many ways. Looking ahead to 2009, folks are already calling about our Jumbo fly in dates. The folks from Georgia and Tennessee are planning on coming again this year. That says a lot about the event in itself.

A few members have been talking about doing a little charity work this coming year. We've also been chatting about a few hotdog and a coke days during the summer. I think *(continued on page 4)*



The Flight Box

By Randy Ryman

What items do you consider necessary for your flight box? Usually, the most important things are the items needed to keep you flying while at the field. Obviously, you can't carry everything. I tried that once. I custom built my own flight box, which, when finished, more or less resembled a steamer trunk! And I still didn't have what I needed at times. When you are beginning, all you can do is make a best guess at what you need to have at the field. Better yet, go ask some of the veteran members what they consider important to have. Some items can be substituted for others. For instance, if you don't use either a starter, a leather glove, or chicken stick for starting your model, that will allow ample room for band-aids, which you will surely need eventually! (if not stitches) A small roll of clear packaging tape can patch up those corn field Monokote dings and allow you to keep flying. Of course, spare glow plugs and props are always high on the list. The nice thing about all this is that among the members usually at the field, someone will have what you are looking for. Don't be



afraid to go ask for something if you need it. The nice thing about this club is that I have never seen a member refuse to help another flyer who needed something. So, if you are one of the newer members, step up to the plate and ask for something if you need it.

Swap Meet

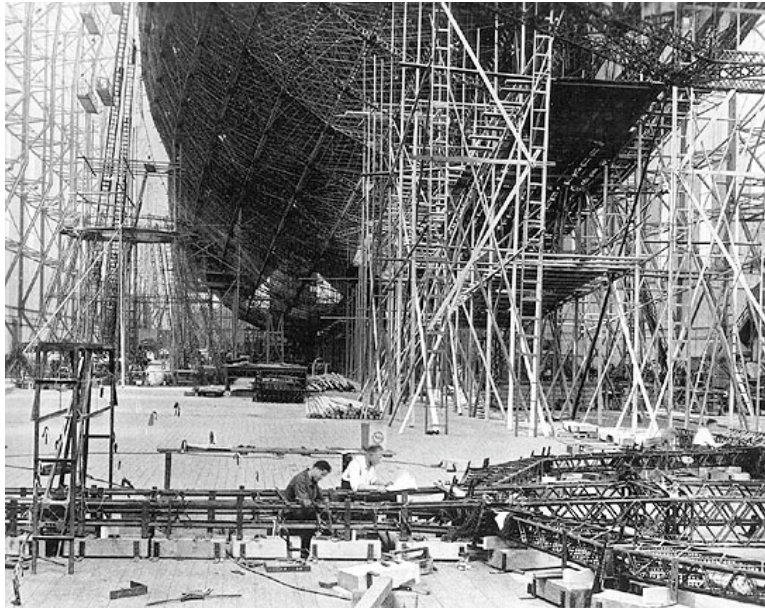
On Saturday, February 21, 2009, the Valley R/C Flying Club operated our most financially successful swap meet. The nearly \$1500 profit is almost double the profit of the 2008 event. Come to the March 3, 2009 club meeting at the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren at 7:30 p.m. for more details.

Let's talk briefly about the other benefits of our event. I have been impressed with our Jumbo Fly-In that we hold each June. The Jumbo and now our Swap Meet have the ability to bring the club together for a common goal. For me that goal is to have fun and at the same time provide the club with some profit. We met my goal of fun and profit!

Congratulations to all members that participated in any way. I will not attempt to name all members that I saw involved in some way. However, I must publicly thank Jim Stogdale for his leadership in this event. Dave Burgess and Mike Meffert handled the raffles, one a 50/50 and the other a donations raffle. The concession area of responsibility was handled by Rob Levine's wife Jill & family and several other member's wives. The donation of 120 hot dogs and buns from Robert Cline were sold every quickly. Come to the March meeting for the details.

Congratulations to all! A job well done!





Building Tip

Submitted by: Randy Ryman

Ever have trouble controlling epoxy when putting in certain parts on your model? Here's a way to get rid of the excess epoxy and make a neater joint, plus reduce weight. If you are edge gluing a part to another part, line up the part first and mark around it with a pencil. Remove the part, and put masking tape around the pencil line of the part. Epoxy the part in place. When the excess epoxy squishes out, it will come out onto the masking tape. After the part is clamped, or while holding it, pull off the tape, and the excess epoxy will come off with it, making a nice neat joint. Excess epoxy makes a sloppy looking job, AND adds weight. Epoxy

outside the joint does no good anyway. I know, it doesn't sound like much, every bit of weight you keep off the plane will make a difference! (if you're going to add weight to your plane, do it where it matters—with horsepower!) This also works well with most other adhesives, except of course, the CA types, which set almost instantly.

Club Business

The February meeting is past. I am now required to collect a \$10 reinstatement fee in addition to membership fees from any 2008 member applying for 2009 membership. I plan to send by email to the 2008 membership our latest roster. Please check it for accuracy, especially for the \$ sign in the first column that indicate that you have paid your 2009 dues. In the very near future I will complete the Rechartering Process with AMA. At that time any members with unpaid 2009 dues will be dropped from our confirmed 2009 members of Valley R/C Flying Club with the Academy of Model Aeronautics.

With Spring comes great flying weather. Have a Great Day.

Dan Myers, Treasurer
Valley R/C Flying Club

Aviation Quote of the Month

"Let us hope that the advent of a successful flying machine, now only dimly foreseen...will bring nothing but good into the world; that it shall abridge distance, make all parts of the globe accessible, bring men into closer relation with each other, advance civilization, and hasten the promised era in which there shall be nothing but peace and goodwill among all men.

- *Octave Chanute, 1894*

Ed. note: Notice that the above statement was made NINE YEARS before the Wright Brothers flew at Kitty Hawk!



(continued from page one) we should maybe think about trying to combine at least one event with a (kid's day) or maybe even invite some of our city officials to come out and try their hand on a buddy box. Never hurts to "grease the skids" to quote a friend of mine.

Nothing has been set in motion; we need to discuss these possibilities at our upcoming meetings. Please come out and share your ideas and thoughts with your fellow club members. When you show up at meetings you are supporting your fellows and your club at the same time. Someone asked me the other day how I liked being president of the club. I was able to reply I was honestly enjoying it and the members were helping me over the rough spots. We all pitch in and spend weekends sometimes doing things for the club. It is easy to overlook the simple phrase we all like to hear. If you have not heard it in a while for your unseen deeds.... **"Thank You"**

Blue Skies,
Aaron Swindle
President/Valley R.C.



Spring is March 20th at 11:44am

From Wikipedia: Equinoxes occur twice a year, when the tilt of the Earth's axis is pointing neither away from nor toward the Sun, causing the Sun to be located vertically above a point on the equator.

The name is derived from the Latin *aequus* (equal) and *nox* (night), because at the equinox the night and day are equally long. The term equinox can also be used in a wider sense, as the date (day) that such a passage happens.

The word is also used for the same event happening to other planets, and in setting up a celestial coordinate system—see Equinox (celestial coordinates).

At an equinox, the Sun is at one of two opposite points on the celestial sphere where the celestial equator (i.e., declination 0) and ecliptic intersect. These points of intersection are called equinoctial points—the vernal point and the autumnal point. By extension, the term equinox may be used to denote an equinoctial point.

An equinox happens each year at two specific moments in time (not a whole day) when the centre of the Sun can be observed to be vertically above the Earth's equator, occurring around March 20 or 21 and September 22 or 23 each year.

UTC date and time of solstices and equinoxes^[1]

year	Equinox Mar		Solstice June		Equinox Sept		Solstice Dec	
	day	time	day	time	day	time	day	time
	2002	20	19:16	21	13:24	23	04:55	22
2003	21	01:00	21	19:10	23	10:47	22	07:04
2004	20	06:49	21	00:57	22	16:30	21	12:42
2005	20	12:33	21	06:46	22	22:23	21	18:35
2006	20	18:26	21	12:26	23	04:03	22	00:22
2007	21	00:07	21	18:06	23	09:51	22	06:08
2008	20	05:48	20	23:59	22	15:44	21	12:04
2009	20	11:44	21	05:45	22	21:18	21	17:47
2010	20	17:32	21	11:28	23	03:09	21	23:38
2011	20	23:21	21	17:16	23	09:04	22	05:30
2012	20	05:14	20	23:09	22	14:49	21	11:11
2013	20	11:02	21	05:04	22	20:44	21	17:11
2014	20	16:57	21	10:51	23	02:29	21	23:03



Upcoming Club Event

**Friday & Saturday
June 26-27, 2009** **25th Annual Ray Gordon Memorial Jumbo Fly-In**

Where: Harrisonburg Flying Field

Info: Large 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 and plan on having a great day!

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

Good News for All!

February 1st - August 31st

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sun-Up to Noon	No Activity	All Activities	All Activities	All Activities	All Activities	All Activities	All Activities
Noon to 12:30pm							
12:30pm to 3:00pm	All Activities						
3:00pm to Sun-Down							
Sun-Down to 11:00pm	Electric Flying	Electric Flying	Electric Flying	Electric Flying	Electric Flying	Electric Flying	Electric Flying
11:00pm to Sun-Up	No Activity	No Activity	No Activity	No Activity	No Activity	No Activity	No Activity

Horizon Hobbies has announced a recall for the DX6i transmitter. They have found possible issues with the stick potentiometers. There are specific date codes that apply so check the link below or contact Horizon Hobbies for more information.

<http://www.horizonhobby.com/Articles/Article.aspx?ArticleID=1885>