



KNOX COUNTY RADIO CONTROL

## Newsletter

Knoxville TN Aug 2015 AMA #594

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### 2015 Elected officers

Pres.....Ralph Holder.....[holderrf@charter.net](mailto:holderrf@charter.net)

V Pres.....Ralph Colon.....[ralphcolon@bellsouth.net](mailto:ralphcolon@bellsouth.net)

Secretary..Phil Spelt.....[chuenkan@comcast.net](mailto:chuenkan@comcast.net)

Treasurer...Joel Hebert.....[hebertjj@gmail.com](mailto:hebertjj@gmail.com)

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Jeff Prorise.....[jeffpro@wintellect.com](mailto:jeffpro@wintellect.com)

Randy Philipps.....[randy@accessolutionsinc.com](mailto:randy@accessolutionsinc.com)

Phil Cope.....[philipcope@bellsouth.net](mailto:philipcope@bellsouth.net)

### Safety Officer

Ed Dumas.....[ed@eddumas.com](mailto:ed@eddumas.com)

Historian.....JuneCope.....[phillipcope@bellsouth.net](mailto:phillipcope@bellsouth.net)

## THIS'N THAT

Recently, while looking through some old newsletters, I came across a contribution from an old-time builder from the middle Tennessee area bemoaning the lack of model builders today. I think he is correct in his belief that the lack of builders has contributed to the failure of a bunch of kit producers and a shortage of kits in the market. RC kit producers like Sterling, Berkley, Midwest, Pica, and Royal are a few of the major brands that you no longer see on the shelves.. Less than forty years ago, the only models at the field were the models you built.,

Hobby Town is one of the very few shops catering to hobbyists in this area and on a visit not too long ago, I was disappointed to find not a single kit on their shelves. Lots of ARFs and RTFs but no model airplane kits. I talked to a clerk and he says no one buys them so its not profitable stocking them.\

I know there is still several builders in KCRC and I guess that there will always be a few like me who just like crouching over a building board and sticking pins to hold a bit of balsa till the glue dries. I also agree that the modern ARFs and ready built are spectacular models and are fun to assemble and fly,and it is true they offer, for modelers who don't have the time or inclination to build, a way to enjoy the flying part of modeling...

Looking back over my own history in radio control, I finally came to the conclusion that I do not build to fly. I build just to build. It's true that I fly the planes I build ( at least I use to ), but even as I'd gas up for the first flight, I'd be thinking about the next build. I think I started doing that on the very first rubber powered ten cent Megow kit I built way back in 1939. I enjoy the flying and it is an excuse to build, but I think I enjoy gluing sticks together and making the structure look like an airplane more.

I guess that what I'm hoping for is that some of

you who haven't tried building your own model, get yourself a kit of some kind and give it a try. It can be any kind of kit; boat, plane or car., I think you'll find that the getting there is a lot of fun.

Got a note from David Davis, a friend in the Blount County club. He'd gone to the Jets Over Kentucky meet last week and sent this;

" The event, Jets Over Kentucky, is held every year in Lebanon, Ky. at the Lebanon/Springfield Airport. It lasts for one week. It is a single runway airport which remains open while the event is going on. On 3 occasions all the RC jets landed and a full scale aircraft either landed or took off. I would guess there were around 125 jets there. All were turbine powered except maybe a couple. The prices ranged from \$8000 to \$23,000. The airport is about a 3 ½ hour drive from here. We went up and back in one day.

We were told that the attendance was down a little this year because it rained almost everyday. Fortunately it did not rain Saturday when we were there ...David"

Turns out that a few from KCRC also went to the meet. Phil Cope, Randy Philipps and Rick Thompson are three that I heard about.



Illustration 1: Randy sent this picture  
Jeff Prorise, one of KCRC's few jet flyers, was

on vacation and missed it.

Randy sent this; "Louis Patton is the one who put this event together and when I talked with him he said he had a hundred fifty pilots registered so far and that was Friday morning. There have been rumors that this is the biggest jet flying event in the country but I don't know know if that is true or not. When we got there, there were storms on the horizon and a short time later, a tornado warning was issued. The bad weather soon passed and it became a wonderful day out there....Randy ■"

## Safety Column

by Ed Dumas, KCRC Safety officer

One of the things that seems to keep getting folks (even the old-timers) in trouble is trees... Like Charlie Brown with his kite, those things seem to reach out from nowhere and grab models out of the sky. The consequences can range from a walk in the woods to shake it out of the tree to losing the model to potentially getting injured trying to get the model out of the tree. One thought to keep in mind when flying around trees is to always fly the airplane as if it were in 2-dimensions... Don't rely on depth-perception (we used to call it depth-DECEPTION in the old Oak Ridge glider club) to keep the model from colliding with a tree. In other words, always keep clear air between the model and the tree at all times and you will be fine. This will go a long way to keeping the model out of the tree in the first place. However, if you should find the airplane stuck in the top of a big tree, keep in mind to let someone know when you are going after a plane, always take a buddy with you, and make use of the tree poles if necessary to get the model out of the tree. The poles are stored in the rafters of the long shelter and are tied together with bungee cables. Please take care to return them to the proper place when you are finished with them. As a last resort, there is a tree climber that you can call who has retrieved a couple of airplanes already at KCRC and is willing to help out when there is a need. Paul Dunham has about 28 years experience climbing trees and will charge a minimum of \$50 for the callout. His goal is to retrieve the model safely and not to harm the tree. Paul's number is 865-803-0357...Ed ■

## Getting the Most From the KCRC Web Site

by Jeff Prosize, webmaster

If you go to the home page of KCRC's Web site at [www.kcrctn.com](http://www.kcrctn.com), you'll see a list of links in the ribbon at the top of the page. One of those links, "For Sale," goes to the Web site's "For Sale" page, where you'll see

a list of the items other club members are selling. As a member, you can post ads yourself. And you can do so free of charge.

To create an ad, log in to the Web site and click "Members Only" in the upper-right corner of the page. Then click "Post an ad" near the bottom of the ensuing page. That will take you to a page where you enter information about the item or items you wish to sell, including title, description, seller's name, price, condition, and up to three photos. Finish up by clicking "Insert" at the bottom of the page, and the ad should appear with all the other ads on the site. Note that the club doesn't facilitate sales; the purpose of hosting ads on the Web site is to pair buyers and sellers. Buyers will contact you directly if they're interested in buying. Feel free to include your contact information in the description of the items you're selling. Interested buyers who are club members can get your contact information from the membership directory, but placing contact information in the ad itself makes it extremely easy for buyers to contact you – even if they're not club members themselves.

Anyone who buys and sells on eBay knows that the more information an ad contains, the more likely it is to move merchandise. Include a detailed description of the items you're selling. Photos help, too. As someone who occasionally purchases items on eBay, I can confirm that I NEVER buy something without a picture. A well-written ad accompanied by photos makes me more likely to buy because I feel the seller is serious about what he or she is offering.

You can also edit and delete any ads you post. There is no automatic mechanism for removing ads – after all, the club has no way of knowing when or if a transaction takes place – so please be sure to remove any ads you've posted if they're no longer valid.....Jeff. ■

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

July 12<sup>th</sup>.....President Ralph Holder called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, at the Cracker Barrel Restaurant in Farragut

We discussed, briefly, the effects of the ByLaws changes passed at the June KCRC Club meeting. The new Bylaws and Rules of Conduct for the field will be posted on the web site as separate documents, each with its own link.

The issue of material being posted on Facebook that could appear in the Newsletter was discussed. Ralph reported that he had talked with Jim Scarbrough about the possibility that this is a problem for him (losing material for the Newsletter through posting on Facebook), and Ralph reported that Jim had indicated this was not a problem, that he liked the stuff on the KCRC Facebook page. This issue had been raised by Phil Spelt after seeing an article on Facebook that could have appeared in the Newsletter.

The haying of our surround field was brought up,

as the original plans fell through due to illness of the person who had indicated he would cut the field for hay. Ralph Colon and Randy Phillips talked with a man named Allan Hunt. He is doing haying around the area, and has agreed to cut the hay at the KCRC field at no cost to the Club. Mr. Allen will bear all costs for fertilizer and weed killer needed to maintain the field in good hay-producing condition. Secretary Phil Spelt is to write a letter contract that Mr. Allen and President Holder will sign committing both parties to an ongoing arrangement.

Finally, Rick Thompson, who chaired the ByLaws Committee, described the new financial bookkeeping and reporting system prescribed by the changes in the ByLaws.....Respectfully submitted,....Philip F. Spelt, Secretary...███

## KCRC Meeting Minutes, July 13, 2015

President **Ralph Holder** called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

There were no new members or guests present.

**Minutes** of the June meeting were unanimously approved, as presented in the July newsletter.

**Joel Hebert** presented the **Treasurer's Report**, which was also approved unanimously.

### **Reports of Officers and Committees:**

President Ralph Holder made the following comments. (Ralph's personal notes)

- The Revised Bylaws voted in at the last meeting have been posted on our web site. Thanks to Jeff Prorise for this

- Newsletter vs Facebook.

Facebook has its place in the day to day club events. It is interesting and perhaps important at the moment to those who belong, but our newsletter is available to all club members and interested parties, now and in the future. If you were not aware, it is archived and becomes a part of the club history. Also, it goes to AMA and we have had items in our newsletter added to the AMA's National newsletter. It is important that we support our newsletter. Please participate and send Jim pictures and articles. Thanks to Jim Scarbrough and Michael Catlin for their efforts

- You notice that the field hay has been cut. Allen Hunt is the new individual that is cutting our field. He has cut the hay in the pass but club officer change in the pass, contracted with someone else. He approached us, that he would again cut the field at no charge as long as we guarantee him the cutting of the hay for a long period of time. So the board has elected to present Allen with a contract that as long as each party is satisfied with the other party the contract will continue.

- Saturday July the 4th we had a cook out for the club members in attendance. John Basalone and I provided food. Since Chef Charles was not available, I stood in for him. Members contributed \$54 toward the cost and we donated it to the club.

- Again my thanks to John Basalone for cutting the clubs grass this past month and John Partridge for stepping up and doing some trimming. These fellows are doing a great job but could use some help.. **I will ask again, that we need participation from other members.** Without volunteers to cut our grass, the grass cutting and trimming becomes the **biggest expense** for the club, followed by the runway repair. We would be in the red and asking for another dues increase. So if you can help, talk with John Basalone.

- **V.P.Ralph Colon** discussed our July 25<sup>th</sup> Float Fly. Clubs within a 75 mile radius have been invited. See Joel's email. AMA card required..

There was no **Old Business**.

### **New Business,**

Several members voiced concern that members were pulling up to unload next to the flight line and it is causing undue stress and ruts to the grass area. Members should understand that only members with disability tags are allowed to do this. We reviewed the bylaws and found the wording on this was unclear and tabled it for the Executive team to discuss and bring its findings back to the club.

### **Model of the Month:**

No model of the month entries..

### **Crash of the Month:**

Eddy Smith discussed several crashes he has had this past month, one he states was a lost signal, no control, but nothing conclusive was presented. Eddy has won in the past and was ineligible.

John Basalone also discussed several crashes he has had; two in one day. He blames it all on his trainer, Phil Cope (Ha-Ha) and maybe a senior moment. He wants everyone to know he does not blame it on lost signal or servo failure as do others

Eddy won by default since John has won this year.

Meeting was adjourned about 7:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Ralph Holder, sitting in for Phil Spelt, Secretary, absent due to illness...███

## **WEATHER STATION**

**by Ed Dumas, club Safety Officer**

NOAA/ATDD in Oak Ridge is still working on getting approval to fly their octocopter at KCRC from the FAA, but in the meantime we are planning on installing a

weather station at the field to make continuous weather measurements to help validate the instruments on the octocopter.

The instruments will measure air temperature, relative humidity, air pressure, wind speed, and wind direction.

The location of the tower was discussed at the meeting and it was decided to secure it to the existing pavilion structure on the far end of the flight line pavilion, near the helicopter flying area. By securing the tower to the main structure there will be no need for guy wires.

A propeller wind monitor will be mounted on top of the tower and an aspirated shield with the temperature and relative humidity sensors will be mounted approximately 2 meters (7 feet) up from the base of the tower. The data logger, backup battery, and cell modem will be in a weatherproof box near the base of the tower.

Data will be relayed back to NOAA using a cellular modem and will be available in real-time from a NOAA data server. Ed Dumas will create a web page that will show the current conditions and a history of the last 3 days of data for each of the measured variables. There will be NO CHARGE to the club for the tower, the instruments, or the monthly cell service. These charges will be picked up by NOAA. A/C power will be required to charge the small lead-acid backup battery and this will be obtained through one of the existing outlets adjacent to the tower. It was also noted that the practice of shutting off the breakers at the end of each flying session is not necessary and the A/C power should be left ON continuously. Several ways of doing this were discussed, from rewiring the breaker box to putting a padlock on the box.

We expect to get the tower installed sometime in the month of July. The initial setup will take place on a weekday afternoon so as to not interfere too much with the flying.-----Ed ■

## FLOAT FLY

Joel Hebert sent a round up on the July 25<sup>th</sup> Float fly held at KCRC.

“ Ralph Colon did a great job setting up a registration table and had drinks available.

Steve Jones was there with a camera with a big lense; let's hope he got some great shots.

Randy Philipps was there in shorts and sandals, this proved to be a big help, as he was willing to wade in to launch and retrieve planes.

Ralph Holder and grandson Zach were there with the retrieval boat, thus fulfilling the 3 prime rules of a floatfly ( 1. You need a retrieval boat. 2. You really need a boat. 3. I'm not kidding you; you really need a boat.)

Here's the pilots and planes that were there ( that I remember.)

Phil Cope had his big beautiful nitro SeaWind there; powered by a .91 4 stroke (I believe). This one bit the water when he lost complete control. Probably a battery connector failure which points out a common problem with these type models: they sit around for a year or two before they get taken out to fly. The engine was showing signs of being gummed up after sitting around.

Phil also had an electric Parkzone Icon and his old SeaMaster with an OS .55 AX. Both flew very well.

Jeff Procise was there with his big OS .70 4 stk powered yellow Cub. This was one of his first ARFs assembled and he's put it on some nice floats and brings it out for floatflies. Ed Dumas and Ralph Colon got some stick time in on this beauty. It really looks scale in fly bys.

Ralph Holder had an electric Flyzone Tidewater flying boat he got for this floatfly. It flew very nicely and Ralph seemed right at home flying off the water for the first time.

Joel Hebert had his Parkzone Icon. Ed Dumas helped with launching and got some stick time in on it. The Icon has sponsons and no wing floats and is easy to skip and bounce off the water when landing if you don't really slow it down and ease it in on touchdown.

Someone had a Flyzone Beaver on floats. This model flew well and really jumped off the water.

Someone had a HobbyZone Super Cub foamy on floats. I did not see this one fly.

An out of townner participant had a large gas powered Cub ( I think ); he was having trouble getting this one off the water.

John Bobrek was there with an FPV quadcopter taking some video. Dave Marsden also showed up with his Traxxas Alias quadcopter.

Steve Bayless had a WWII destroyer there, but had some technical difficulties, so it stayed in dry dock.

We had several KCRCers as spectators and helpers. Maybe some of the other guys can fill any any info I left out. I believe Steve Jones and Jeff Procise will be sending you some pics...Thanks,...Joel “ ■

▶ Got several pictures from Steve and Michael Catlit at the float fly that are shown on the next page.

▶ Next month I'll try to have a write up and a picture of the Society of Antique Modelers event held in middle Tennessee written by KCRCer George Shacklett George is a long time member of the SAM and included in thier Hall of Fame..

▶ Take advantage of this good weather cause its not too long til the cold winds blow.....Jim ■

► Float Fly was well attended. Michael Catlin posted some videos on Facebook showing some of the flying and the crowd. Joel sent a write up with info on some of the planes. I'm not sure of who owns what here but here is a small group of pictures showing some of the beautiful models.



*Illustration 2: Steve Jones picture*



*Illustration 5: Steve Jones picture.*



*Illustration 6: Steve Jones picture*



*Illustration 3: Picture by Michael Catlin*



*Illustration 7: Michael Catlin photo*



*Illustration 4: Picture by Michael Catlin*



*Illustration 8: Steve Jones photo*