

At the Field

September, and its time to think about all the things we didn't get done this summer, or all the things we intend to do this fall. One thing to remember is that starting in October, we will begin meeting again at Deane Hills Recreation Center. I think Phil has (or will soon) get clearance from the center management for our meetings. Also, it's getting time to think about the slate of officers we will nominate in November. Man, time flies, doesn't it?

The Senior Pattern Masters is coming up this month, so don't forget about reserving some time to help out there. Dennis does a good job utilizing the members that come out to help, and nobody has to put himself out too much. This is a biggie as far as contests go. In fact, it is the biggest for the SPA guys! We have several members who fly in this one, and several of them always seem to take home some hardware.

I had a scare last week. I was going to take my PT-19 up for another flight after letting it set in the hot sun for an hour or so while I worked my jaw with the other guys. When it broke ground, the nose came up and it took full down on the elevator stick to hold it level. I chopped power and attempted to land but holdin full down in slow mode was more than the poor model could stand and it fell off on one side and managed to put some dings on itself. Like the motor and cowl and front end was over there and the wing was over here. The post mortem did not reveal a cause for the strange behavior until I went to get my card from the freq board and found I had put it in the wrong slot! I don't know if there was another tranny on that frequency or not since no one else seemed to have a problem, luckily.

There are so many things to remember!

I would like to know what your all time favorite model is! It might be the one you are presently flying or it might be the one you soloed on, or any other that you were especially fond of. If you would, please think about this a little and send me a write up of it. All the details you can remember will be interesting to me and maybe to the rest of the club.

For instance, Larry Weston might think his

U-Can-Do 3D might be the finest he ever flew.

Probably not, though, since he's been doing this for a while.

Or Bob Dilworth might think



his Tiger Moth is the best, but again I think that he would have another that lingers in his memory. Anyhow, you get the idea. If you have a plane now or in the past that



you were especially fond of, drop me a line and let me know. You can be as articulate as you want to be, just try to get as good a description of the plane and why you liked it. I would enjoy hearing about it and I think the rest of the club would, too. Incidentally, since I send these newsletters to the AMA, they take out excerpts that they think are pertinent or entertaining and reprint it in the national newsletter. I had an " At The Field " column once that was reprinted in club newsletters all over the country, so you could become famous!

When I can get to the field and find one of our newer members present, I try to get a picture for my files.

Recently I found Jim Freels there getting ready to fly his Alpha trainer from Hangar 9. Jim soloed after help from a few of our good instructors and is doing



very well, thank you.

In the next picture, there is nothing new at all! The flyer is Don Eiler who is almost as old as me. He is not really all that old but he has been a member of KCRC before it even became KCRC! He was flying in Clinton when KCRC was the East Tenn Radio Control Society and that was in the sixties. The model he's holding is one he resurrected that he flew many years ago when he was learning to fly.....



Minutes from August Meeting

The August 10, 2004 meeting of the Knox County Radio Control Society was held at KCRC field. The meeting was called to order by President Phil Spelt at 6:59pm and welcomed all members and guests. There were 28 members present.

Joel Hebert gave the Treasury report. The meeting minutes from the July meeting were passed as read in the newsletter. It was also reported that we received a check from Knox County Parks and Recreation for part of the shelters over the pit area.

There was a report from the By-laws Committee, which worked tirelessly on the reworking of the By-laws and Safety rules. It was reported that the new, improved rules were on the website (www.rcpattern.net <<http://www.rcpattern.net/>>) for review, and for you to vote on to accept or reject as well. For those without Internet access, the updated By-laws and Safety rules are being mailed to those members, and they can vote by mail. After the By-laws are voted on, a copy will be posted at the field, and all members are requested to download a copy for their reference.

OLD BUSINESS

The first order of business was the upcoming SPA Masters Pattern Contest, which will be held at KCRC field on September 18 & 19, 2004. Dennis Hunt gave a short report and reported that there will be anywhere from 39 to 50 contestants at the contest. It was also announced that you can pre-register for the contest online until September 10, and get an additional raffle ticket. It was requested that we close down the field at 12 noon on Friday, September 17 to local flyers so the SPA members can practice. Also, he requested that some of the Club members help, if they are not flying in the contest. If you can help, please let Dennis or Ed know.....

The next order of business was the announcement of our next float fly, which will be held in the park below the field on September 25, 2005 from 9am until 3pm. The field will be closed during that time to prevent frequency conflicts. Come out and enjoy the fun!

NEW BUSINESS

The first order of business was a short report about the AMA Gold Leader Status for KCRC, and the requirements that must be met. For this Club to be a gold level leader Club, which is the top level, we need to do 3 things.... Two of which we have to do anyway. Of the 9 electives, we can adopt a school program or donate a model aviation subscription to a local school library. After a short discussion among the members present, a motion was made and seconded to donate a magazine subscription to a local school.

The next order of business was an e-mail from Don Miller, who is the President of the local EAA Chapter and they will host the Tennessee School for the Deaf at Island Home airport on September 30, 2004 at 3pm. They would like for us to come again and display our aircraft. Phil said he will be recruiting for the event.

It was announced that there was a request from Knox County Parks and Recreation that we shut down the field so the Marines could use the field for one of their events. The field will be closed on Saturday, August 14 and Saturday, August 21, 2004 from 9am until 4pm. The field will be open after 4pm on those days. A sign will be posted at the field notifying all members of the closure.

The next order of business was a request by the field Safety officer to look into the possibility of repairing and modifying the bleachers on either side of the main shed. One of the members said that if it cost too much to repair them, then maybe we ought to get rid of them, as most spectators don't use them anyway. A motion was made to remove the bleachers, seconded and voted on by the members present. It was voted that we dismantle the bleachers.

Dennis Hunt had a short announcement about the AMA show team flying model aircraft, and full sized aircraft being flown during an air show that was to be held in West Virginia on the 14th of August. He said that the AMA show teams were superb flyers.

The next order of business was an announcement by Scott Anderson that he wanted to schedule the next AMA Pattern meet for next year, hopefully on May 28 and 29, 2005. He hopes to get the sanction in for next year. A motion was made to have the AMA Pattern contest on May 28 / 29, 2005, and the motion was seconded and passed.

It was mentioned that there was some talk about putting a plaque on the newly erected shelters over the pit area and dedicating them to Ben Oliver, or to dedicate a section to a different member of the Club who had passed on. A suggestion was made that we put a plaque up dedicating the shelters in memoriam of all our lost members. A motion was made, seconded and passed by the members present.

CRASH OF THE MONTH

There was no entry for crash of the month.

MODEL OF THE MONTH

There was one entry for model of the month. Jim Scarbrough showed off a Great Planes Ryan STA ARF, all done up in military colors of silver and yellow. Jim said he got a great deal on it too..... less than \$200! He said the first thing he did was iron all the covering back down and put an OS 91 four stroke in the nose for power. It features dual aileron servos, pull - pull rudder and dual elevator servos too! He said it would probably qualify for a save too. Jim brought the plane out last week and was going to let Phil Cope fly it. He started the plane and taxied it out but the engine quit. Good thing too, because Jim forgot to tighten down the bolts that hold the wing on. And he didn't check the CG either. It was way off..... so he was lucky! Jim said he's looking forward to flying it. Mighty fine looking plane Jim!

Since Jim was the only entry, he won a gallon of fuel.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58pm

Michael J. Foley, KCRC Secretary



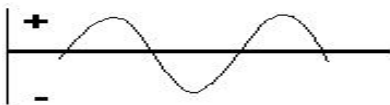
PROPWASH

by Phil Spelt

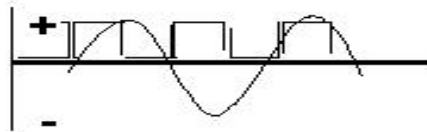
Do we have a new source of R/C radio interference? Some of you may have heard about the proposal to provide broadband internet service to homes and businesses over the existing power lines, with the resulting potential for radio interference problems. This will be a multi-part column to explain Broadband over Power Line (BPL) and why it will or will not be a problem for us.

The Federal Communications Comm. (FCC, who has ultimate control over the airwaves that we use) is in discussion with the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL), representing the amateur radio people, over potential problems stemming from BPL. We will look at what BPL is, then at the potential for problems, and finally at whether these problems will affect our radio control systems. The ultimate news is good - I don't think we will have problems. So, if that's all you want to know, you can quit reading now!

OK, what is the BPL stuff, anyhow? In simple terms, it is the imposition of a digital signal "on top of" the "analog" signal of 60-cycle AC current. AC current consists of a sine wave that repeats 60 times per second - diagrammatically it looks like this:



BPL then adds a digital signal on the same wires to this power



"signal", creating a picture like this:

Although nowhere near scale, the drawing above illustrates that two different signals can be sent over the same line, and later separated for proper use at the destination. While the AC "signal" is at 60 cycles per second (Herz), the BPL signal will be in the Megahertz (MHz) range, or millions of cycles per second (we transmit R/C at 72 MHz). In the communications world, this technique of sending two "signals" over the same piece of copper is known as Frequency Division Multiple Access, or FDMA. Many cell phones use Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) to permit multiple conversations over the same "air wave". BPL is a problem for radio people because any time you transmit a signal, you create extra, spurious frequencies, and the higher the transmission frequency, the more powerful, in general, they are. The ARRL people and R/Cers are concerned about interference with their communications for the same reasons we are concerned about other forms of radio interference at our field. With these signals going over all power lines, the spurious signals might interfere with our R/C link. But, not to worry (probably), as you will see next time.

VOTE on the BYLAWS and RULES...

This is the Wingman turning final.....pfs

This'n That

I was kidding Don Eiler in the At The Field writeup on page two when I realized that there are several of us Old Fa__ts that are still around flying. Those members who were in the club when East Tennessee Radio Control became Knox County Radio Control that are still active are Jim Scarbrough, C.D. Martin, Don Eiler, Karl Gertz, and Warren Oliver along with Emeritus members Ed Hartley, Carl Gibson, George Shacklett, Jim Clift, Don Bowman, and Glen Rhyne. Unfortunately, in the past year we have lost a couple of our charter members, Ben Oliver and John Tudor.

Man! That's a long time to be in this hobby! I wish I had all the money I've spent on it; I could retire! (again).

Don't forget the SPA contest on September 13th and 14th. This is a big contest that needs to be well represented by the club. Flyers from all over will be here and we need to put our best foot forward. Volunteer to work if you are not flying in the contest. The work is not hard and if there are enough guys helping out, it's no strain at all.

Also don't forget that the September meeting is the last meeting at KCRC field until next Spring. It gets too dark (and cool) to have the meetings there so the meetings will be held at Deane Hills Recreation Center on Morrell Road in Knoxville beginning on October 12th, 2004.

The event calendar looks pretty bare after September for flying events. There are several fun flies listed for clubs around the area and you can find these in the event calendar in the AMA magazine. There are also some non-flying events such as flea markets listed there as well.

Mentioning October reminds me that November is just around the corner. This means that very soon, a nominating committee will be asked to name some candidates for 2005 officers. Please, if you are asked to run, say yes. Just like in the good ole US of A, there is a little responsibility tied to the fun and games we enjoy. We have always seemed to come up with some good officers and the club has just gotten better and better over the years. Who knows, maybe you are the one to take us even higher!

A special note to all new members; (and old members). Please let me know if you'd rather have a land mail version of the newsletter. They are black and white and not very good quality on pictures but for folks who are not PC literate, I can mail you one. They cost the club ~ \$.80 each after mailing, but if you prefer it, let me know by phone or mail and I'll put you on the list.....