



KNOX COUNTY RADIO CONTROL

NEWSLETTER

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Knoxville, TN

AMA#594

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2009 ELECTED OFFICERS

President.....Dennis Drone

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Secretary.....Donald Eiler

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Treasurer.....Joel Hebert

Email... hebertjj@comcast.net

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff Prosize, Karl Gerth , Phil Spelt

*I'd like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you and your families the very best for a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
..... Jim*

THIS AND THAT

Recently I got involved in trying to upgrade the power unit on my electric powered Morris the Knife. I quickly found that when working with higher voltage circuits there are some differences from the power requirements of, say, a Slo Stik, using two or three Lipo cells and a 150 watt motor. One of these differences lies in selecting an ESC unit to control the speed of your motor. Warren Oliver recently wrote about his experiences electrifying an SPA model* and I found some answers to a few my questions. I think that some of you might appreciate the article I found in the November issue of **AMA Insider** on ESCs. At least I found it helpful in understanding some of the terms used.. It was reprinted from a British publication and very readable.. Jim ■
*Warren's article was passed around the KRCRC mail list a couple times and is definitely worth reading.

KCRC INDOOR FLY IN

October 28th marked the date of another KRCRC sponsored indoor fly In at the hangar at McGee Tyson airport. This was the third or fourth edition and probably the most successful, as Boy Scouts from around the area were in attendance to garner some aeronautical

knowledge and expertise. KRCRC member John Bobrek did a write up and posted a video at his website ([HTTP/www.westknoxrc.com](http://www.westknoxrc.com)). There is also a write up and photographs on the www.kcrctn.com website. There was almost 100 in attendance, and according to the video, everyone had a good time. ■

KCRC COOKOUT

On Sunday, November 1st, a hungry group of KRCRC members gathered at KRCRC field to burn some grease and ingest a lot of cholesterol as a result of the House Mountain Fun Fly cancellation. Due to the abundance of rain the previous week. It was felt the threat of messing up the House Mountain field was too great. However, that just served as an opportunity to get together at KRCRC field and cook up some hot dogs and hamburgers. Pictures of the activities are posted on the new website. ■

Crashing is an option

In the November issue of **Model Aviation**, Don Apostolico of Don's Hobby Shop in Salinas, Kansas, wrote an article stating that "Crashing is not an option". I'm afraid that I must disagree; Crashing is always an option. It's not that a crash is inevitable, but they will happen if you give them half a chance. Back when I started RC in the late fifties and early sixties, we flew on one 27 mhz channel called the " citizen's band ". Every one flew on this one frequency and there were many crashes because of radio interference. These were unavoidable in most cases. Later when we got extra channels in the 27 mhz band things got a lot better, but we still had a lot of radio interference. Not until we were given the 72 mhz frequencies in the late sixties along with vast improvements in radio technology did real radio dependability come along. In those early

days, we could truthfully say that if you flew often enough, you WOULD crash.

In his article, Mr. Apostolico went over many ways to prevent crashes, and I'm sure they all work. Mostly they had to do with getting the proper equipment and learning to fly. The biggest tip was to keep your mind on what you were doing. My models do not cost very much in money but represent a considerable investment of time and I don't enjoy crashes any more than the modeler with the \$6000 model does.

I don't worry much about radio problems anymore and equipment failures are extremely rare. If I don't screw up, then generally I don't crash, but human error is the big bugaboo and it is a fact of life. I don't think you can legislate it out of existence or ignore it out of existence. It's there and regardless of the amount of money you spend, or how many check lists you use, I think there is going to be a time when you screw up. Veteran modelers still take off with a control reversed, or weak batteries, or some other kind of iffy condition. They just want to get in this one flight. I think a screw-up is almost required every so often, sorta like a sacrifice to the RC gods. I remember one time in a much more stupid age when I took a newly completed model of a Dave Platt designed SE-5 to the field for it's first flight. After a hot, pains taking hour of assembly, connecting functional flying wires and such, I found that the ailerons were reversed. You couldn't reverse the controls then with a switch on the tranny and the thought of taking everything apart and putting it back together helped me make a terrible decision; I just had to remember that left was right and right was left. I learned a couple of the hard lessons that day that stay with you. .

On the other hand, if there were no possibility of a crash, I don't think we'd get nearly as much fun out of it. The first flight on a new model always gets my juices flowing and my knees shaking, and I bet it does with you, too. ..Jim ■

MINUTES, NOVEMBER 2009

President Dennis Drone called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, November 10 at the Fellowship Church. There



were 22 members and Brewster present.

Minutes for the October meeting were approved as printed in the November Newsletter.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

The Treasurer's Report was given by Joel Hebert and approved. Budgeted expenditures are tracking very well with the 2009 budget. A copy of the report is available from Joel or the officers

BUSINESS

Safety Officer Scott Anderson reported that the water tank fire extinguisher has been received. A secure storage container will be provided for it.

Scott also reported that new AMA Safety Code was published in the October Model Aviation, to take effect Jan. 1, 2010. There may be some impact on our draft rules. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to leave the draft rules as written for the December approval vote.

Scott reminded everyone to discharge Li-Po batteries to 3.8-3.9 volts per cell for storage.

Bill Dodge reported that the netting for the east safety fence has been ordered. Total project cost will be about \$150 with the netting being \$65.

Dennis Drone reported that the RV electrical hookup installation will be delayed a little longer (next week) due to his work schedule.

Charles Wilson reported for the Nominating Committee. All of the incumbents have agreed to run for reelection. In addition, Rick Hampton is going to run for president. Gene Waters has agreed to run for Board of Directors and Ed Hartley was nominated from the floor at the meeting for the Board of Directors.

Anyone not having a user name and password for the new KCRC web site should contact Jeff Prosis.

Dennis Drone reported that the October Hangar Fly had over 96 attendees, with 19

registered pilots. With food being donated, and meals for non-Scout and non-KCRC attendees being charged at \$3 (hot dogs) or \$4 (hamburgers), the club netted about \$30. Dennis is investigating new venues for future Hangar Flies. A larger hangar at TYS may become available. Also Thompson-Boling Arena is being investigated. Dennis is to contact Performance Sports & Hobby concerning their participation in the hangar flies.

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved, seconded, and approved that dues for 2010 remain the same as 2009 - \$60 for individuals, \$75 for families, and \$30 for students.

OTHER

Phil Cope reported that he had recently talked to Skip Dishner and Skip was in ICU and not doing well. However Phil got word just before the meeting that Skip was doing much better. He was out of ICU and they were looking at a rehab program for him.

George Campbell had very nice KCRC logos for anyone who wanted them.

Scott Anderson is working on short kits of the Flying Pizza Box that flew very well at the Hangar Fly.

Bill Dodge has fuel available.

MODEL OF THE MONTH

Bud Weisser displayed his latest design, a tractor canard called the "Doll Fly". It featured patio umbrella ribs being recycled for fuselage longerons, a fuel tank a long way from the



engine, and several Coroplast parts made from material supplied by Memphis Lawn Service.

Another design feature is the ability to convert the model to pusher propulsion.

Larry Hayes won the MOM competition with his Giant Super Decathlon built from the Dynaflyte kit. The model weighs 16 lb. with an Enya 1.20 from Gene Water's collection.



Covering is Solartex.

CRASH OF THE MONTH

Dennis Drone was the only entry. He displayed the remains of the fuselage of his indoor 3D electric model. Dennis impacted



Mother Earth when he flew toward the ground when he meant to fly away from it.

PROGRAM

None.

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM.

Minutes submitted by Don Eiler, KCRC Secretary.■

Pictures by Gary Lindner

^ ELECTION TIME AGAIN

Here is the list of candidates for the December election. The bylaws call for at least two candidates for each office and Charles Wilson and the committee has done an outstanding job in securing some great folks to vote for. You can come to the meeting at 8000 Middlebrook Pike and vote in person or you can write out your choices on a piece of paper and mail it to Gary Lindner at 988 Dewitt Drive, Lenoir City, TN 37772, or, since Ed Hartley has arranged for online voting, you can do it there. No one has an excuse for not casting a vote. **Here is the web address for voting and don't forget to vote for the safety rules update. To read the rules changes, go to the September 2009 issue of the newsletter on the kcrctn website.....Jim**
<http://www.rcpattern.com/kcrc/vote2010.htm>

President

Dennis Drone
Rick Hampton

Vice President

Gary Lindner
Ed Hartley

Secretary.

Don Eiler
Larry Hayes

Treasurer.

Joel Herbert
Larry Weston

Board of Directors

Phil Spelt
Jeff Prosis
Karl Gerth
Gene Waters

Received a note from Scott Anderson, KCRC safety officer about a new Pattern Forum.

Are you interested in the classic pattern planes of past? Have you heard of the Senior

Pattern Association, Ballistic Pattern Association, Vintage R/C Society?

We have created a NEW forum to put all these organizations under one roof with several others for you to use! No fees! There is a free selling area and an area for the vendors there is an area to list your business and post a link. Banner ads are available for a small fee and will rotate with other vendors.

If you're interested check out

www.classic-patternrc.com

So let's get some threads started! We are interested in your ideas and feel free to email them thru the forum...

PatternPilot1

Classic-PatternRC.com Administrator

From the Presidents Corner:

The year is drawing to a close. We are blessed to have no major problems at KCRC and I hope the same has occurred with all of you as well. I am looking forward to the upcoming election and our annual January KCRC Dinner. Please pass along any restaurants that you might like to attend. I will be sure to wear the "Presidents Hat" and perhaps pass it on to the next generation. This upcoming year, I will be learning to fly Pattern....what will your New Years resolution be? ..**Dennis Drone KCRC President**

EDITORIAL COMMENT

*I have been involved off and on in KCRC since the late sixties before we were even KCRC and I can't remember a time when we didn't have good officers who took good care of club business. Looking at the list of candidates for 2010 just tells me that you can't go wrong whoever you vote for, so do your duty and vote. **THEN SUPPORT WHOEVER GETS ELECTED..***

2010 will be upon us before very long, and since this is the last edition of the newsletter for 2009, I'd like to wish all of you a happy and successful year to come. May each of you get all the flying you want without screwing up too much and messing up those pretty modelsJim