



KNOX COUNTY RADIO CONTROL

NEWSLETTER

May 2010

**Knoxville, TN**

**AMA#594**

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### 2010 ELECTED OFFICERS

President.....DennisDrone

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Treasurer.....Joel Hebert

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff Prosize, Karl Gerth , Phil Spelt

### An Historical Event

KCRC put on an Air Show to benefit the Easter Seal Society in August of 1983. It started with a bang when Anthony Stevens was carried aloft in an ultralite, bailed out at 4000 feet and guided his brightly colored parachute to a landing in the middle of the runway. Several hundred people were entertained by club members who displayed models and flights. MC Dick Mages introduced events and aerobatic maneuvers were flown by Ed Hartley, Phil Cope, and Bob Dilworth. A comical helicopter routine was performed by Mike Ellis and Ed Ham. There was a Buddy Box setup operated by Jerry McLaughlin where folks could buy a ticket and get some stick time. Wilhimena Chihasz Ham was the program director and the event raised about \$1000 for the charity. ■

### AT THE FIELD

Finally there is some warm weather!!!

Went to the field a few times lately and the weather was great. Larry Weston had his Thunder Tiger Raptor helicopter out and it flew much better this week than the last time I saw it. Larry has a new transmitter and had made an error in his programming. He really banged up a Hanger 9 Tribute the last time I was there. He said he had programmed the exponential in reversed. I must say that it really made a difference when he corrected it.

Jeff Cody was there last week practicing on the SPA pattern with his .40 size Chaos. He's doing

pretty good at it too. Seems like SPA is the way to get into pattern, at least in our club.



Found John Bobrek enjoying the sunshine with his outstanding Multiplex Extra 300 model. It flies great! I was surprised at how much throw he has in the huge control surfaces! Looked like it was 60 degrees or more of throw. The model responds



instantly to the commands and John kept it firmly under control. He also had a foam stunter (also from Multiplex) that ran more to my taste. Very slow and very responsive.

Made it back on Good Friday and found a crowd. Jeff Prosis had sent out an email and suggested a cookout. Several came out and enjoyed the flying and the food. I took three models and forgot my transmitter! That's the second time I've done that since 1990..

## KCRC Calendar of Events

May 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> .... SPA type Pattern contest. All SPA Pattern rules apply except for model type. Engine size applies.

Make plans to come and help out as we try to make this one the best SPA event of the year (if the weather cooperates!).....

Family Get together!. The Armatage group was there on Friday also. Daddy Doug is in the back ground and Matt, Mike and Luke show their models. These guys have fun and get their moneys worth out of the club



Another face I don't see very often is Jim Maines. He was getting his Doghouse ready to go when I left. He said he got this model and another model plus the four stroke Magnum .91 he had on it for \$200. Not bad at all!!



By the time you get this issue, you will know that the April 24<sup>th</sup> Float Fly was postponed because of a bad weather forecast. Severe thunderstorm warnings were in effect for that Saturday so it was decided that the lake was no place to be in a thunderstorm,. It will be rescheduled....■

## A VERY SCARY STORY

**“ I thought I would share my recent experience at the KCRC field with you in the hopes that it might help prevent someone from making the same mistakes that I did.**

Carl Sten was doing a touch and go with his Intruder when the engine sputtered and died. He started to make a hard 180 but realized that that would put him in the trees. So he straightened it out and preformed a "Scully landing in the Hudson" (Melton Hill). When we got to the water's edge we could see it floating about 150 feet out. I went out on the downed tree that hangs out over the lake to flag down a passing boat. (**Lessons Learned #1. Before attempting to do something, evaluate your capabilities.**). They picked up the plane but there was no way to get the plane to shore. I asked them to take it to the boat ramp and Carl started back up the hill to meet them. (**Lessons Learned #2. Don't go in the woods by yourself**)

That's when things went wrong. I was still in the tree looking at about a 3 foot climb to get above the straight vertical drop off into the water. I scooted along the tree to the drop off and then I attempted to crawl up the bank. Something gave way and I found myself tumbling down backwards toward the water and then I went in the water head first. That was a shock! Seemed like a long time before I was able to get my head above water, but I finally did surface. I was standing in about 4 feet of water. Very thankful that I didn't knock myself out during the fall. I would be dead now if I had. After I realized that I was going to live, I was beginning to wonder how I was going to get up the 7 or 8 feet of vertical wall. I was pretty sure that Carl or Raymond Curd would miss me in about another hour. (**See Lessons Learned #2**) I was able to wade about 20 feet to a place where there was a limb hanging down. Used the limb to get up, but it took everything I had to do it. (**See Lessons Learned #1**) That's when I noticed that my little finger on the right had was bent at a very strange angle and I could not move it. Didn't hurt much, but it was locked up solid.

Got to the top of the hill and had to parade back to the shelter all covered with mud, water, and ants. Very humiliating! Phil Cope was there by this time. We all had a good laugh about it while realizing that it could have been a very bad thing.

I came home and stopped by the emergency

room to get the finger fixed. They popped the dislocated finger back in place and told me that I had chipped the socket of the finger joint. Had me schedule an appointment the next day with an Orthopedic Surgeon. Then they put a splint on it and sent me home. Hurts very little and is just a little bit swollen; so I am very lucky. The Orthopedic Surgeon says that everything is in the right place and just wait to heal.

There are probably several more lessons to be learned from this, but I'm just happy to be alive on my 66 Birthday! ....**Karl Gerth, Safety Officer** ■

Karl was very, very lucky! That's the way statistics happen. The hill going down to the water on the east end of the field is a killer! No way will I ever go back down it. The last time I did I thought I would have a heart attack before I got back to the top. If I ever get another model down there, it'll stay there before I go after it!....Jim ■

## MINUTES, APRIL 2010

In the absence of President Dennis Drone and Vice President Gary Lindner, Past President Phil Spelt called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM on Tuesday, April 13 at the Fellowship Church. There were 17 members present.

Minutes for the March meeting were approved as printed in the April newsletter.

## OFFICERS' REPORTS

The Treasurer's Report was given by Joel Hebert and approved. A copy of the report is available from Joel or the other officers. Joel reported that we have 83 members.

Past President Phil Spelt discussed his recent fingers-meet-prop accident that resulted in two broken fingers.

## OLD BUSINESS

Dennis Hunt recruited helpers, supplies, equipment, etc. for the May 1-2 pattern contest. He announced that Dennis Drone will operate the grill for the contest.

The Float Fly is on for 9 AM, April 24 at the East Ramp at Melton Hill Park. Spelt will check on the retrieval boat.

The mid-summer Float Fly at Sweetwater is on hold.

## NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made, seconded and approved to cancel the dues for the year for any member on active duty in the military.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to cancel dues for 2010 for Bill Walters. Bill was on active duty last year after paying his dues.

Joel Hebert reported that the Fellowship Church "Yard Sale" would be Saturday, April 17. It is always a good one.

The May meeting will be at the field.

### **MODEL OF THE MONTH**

Craig Dieter showed his electric-powered Standard J-1 biplane from a Pat Tritle short kit. It weighs 23 oz. RTF with a wing loading of 4 oz./sq. ft. Not only is it a beautiful model with the paint scheme of the J-1 flown by Charles Lindbergh in his barnstorming days, with the light wing loading it flies at scale speed and is a beautiful sight in the air. Awesome, Craig!

### **CRASH OF THE MONTH**

Phil Cope reluctantly accepted COM for his misadventure with his F-5 EDF and an airplane-eating tree.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

**Minutes submitted by Don Eiler, KCRC Secretary.** ■



1. Above is the beautiful Standard J-1 that Craig Dieter built from a Pat Tritle short kit, and the April Model of the Month. This is the latest in a series of Pat Tritle short kits that Craig has built, and he's working on a new one now. ■

## **CONTEST CALENDAR SPA contests in area**

### **Ben Oliver Memorial...**

Knoxville TN, May 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>..

CD Dennis Hunt, [zimpro@comcast.net](mailto:zimpro@comcast.net)

### **Cass Underwood Memorial**

Andersonville, GA, May 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>. CD Scott Sappington, [mrmay2006@comcast.net](mailto:mrmay2006@comcast.net)

tentative **Hotlanta**

Atlanta, GA June 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>

CD John Baxter, [rjbaxter2@comcast.net](mailto:rjbaxter2@comcast.net)

### **Hotlanta Antique**

Atlanta, GA.. June 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>..

.CD Dan Dougherty, [globalirc@mindspring.com](mailto:globalirc@mindspring.com)

\_\_\_\_\_ These represent the activities that seem most important to KCRC members. I found no AMA pattern contests listed in the AMA online Events Calendar for this area. If you are interested in other type contests in this area, please let me know and I'll try to include them. ■

In this issue, there are a couple references to safety issues that need to be mentioned again.. Karl is pretty literate in his description of a hair-raising experience in Melton Hill Lake trying to recover a model, and theres another item in the Minutes mentioning ex-President Phil Spelts broken fingers. Both cases point up the fact that folks can get hurt at any time when they let their focus wander. No way should anybody EVER go alone ( or be alone ) in the woods around the field. Too many bad things can happen that you may not be able to control, and Phil just turned his brain off a bit while standing in front of a running engine. It just goes to show that even the old timers that ought to know better, still can let down their guard and get hurt. Both Phil and Karl, as well as nearly every member who's been doing this hobby for a long time, has made most of these mistakes before. You just never outgrow the need to be CAREFUL...■