



KNOX COUNTY RADIO CONTROL

NEWSLETTER

June 2011

Knoxville, TN

AMA#594

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2011 ELECTED OFFICERS

President.....Phil Spelt
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Secretary.....Bill Leonard
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Treasurer.....Joel Hebert
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff Prosize, Randy Phillipps, Dennis Drone

NEXT MONTH... Talking about SAM with Dr George Shacklett.

ON May 7th, KCRC had its spring Funfli and picnic. Phil Spelt sent this note.

“ The KCRC Fly-In and Picnic yesterday was a huge success! We had between 50 and 60 people there, including folks from Blount County, House Mountain and Tellico Dam clubs. There was lots fo flying, and good food.

We owe a great vote of Thanks to Randy Phillipps for organizing the food, and generally spearheading the event. He and Jeff Prosize did the cooking, with help from Bill Tucker getting all the extras out and ready for the long lineup of hungry pilots and guests.

John Lomax sent me a TON of pictures from yesterday. I will sort through them and email some to the Club list.....Phil.

I also took a note or two and will try to give credit for pictures. Unlabeled ones are mine.



This was the first thing I saw when I got to the field. Denny Wren's Tugboat. A beauty. Denny is from

West Knox Club.

Next thing I noticed was the awesome flying of Mike Bevins from House Mountain club. His flying of a small foamy made it look like a humming bird. It would take a video to do it justice. Mike had a stable of models there, from the foamy up to IMAA size The next picture is Jason Russell also from House Mountain getting his big 3D model ready. Seems like



there's a lot of BIG models doing fine on KCRC runway. Our runway is definitely too short for jets and heavy metal speedsters that take a long rollout, but anything that will slow down should be OK.

The first KCRCer I saw was Rick Hampton with his scratch-built-from-plans C-130. It hadn't flown yet and it weighed up near 30 pounds, but looked good and airworthy. A three month effort.

There were way too many pictures to include here but I imagine that an email or two will come around.



KCRC Meeting Minutes, May 2011

Phil Spelt, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, May 10 at the KCRC field. There were 22 members present. The minutes from the March meeting were approved. Minutes for a meeting are available in the next KCRC Newsletter.

Officers' Reports

The Treasurers Report was given by Joel Hebert and approved. No unusual expenses are expected in 2011. This report is available from Joel or the other KCRC officers. The sales of the last barrel of airplane fuel to club members were disclosed.

Jim Maines, Safety Officer, presented his findings on the areas of our field that are in need of painting and replacement. A workday is scheduled for May 14 (starting at 9 am) and a discussion about who would do what followed.

The second safety topic was how to call for emergency services to the field. Our address is 3204 Williams Bend Road and this is the address we should give if we have to call 911 for help.

The third safety topic was proper disposal of mal-functioning lipo batteries. Puncturing each cell and submersion in brine is the approved method. Dave Marsden volunteered to acquire a bucket, ice pick, and salt which will be kept at the pit area for that purpose. Signage to describe 911 and battery disposal procedures will soon be installed.

Phil Spelt, President, described his recent meeting with Doug Bataille, Director of Parks and

Recreation, Knox County. Randy Phillips was also present at this meeting. Our Community Day plans were described as well as our other activities to stimulate community participation in R/C flying. Our lease clause requiring us to leave our facility within 90 days notice from the county was mentioned to Doug and he said that was just required boilerplate and the county had no plans of moving us from our site. Our Float Fly in June was approved by Mr. Bataille during the meeting.

The club also discussed suitable charities for donating event proceeds.

Old Business

Dennis Hunt reminded us that there are only ten days until our SPA pattern contest. The contest will be all of Saturday and Sunday (May 21, 22) during which the field will be closed for all other activities. The field will be closed for flying by non-contestants and open for contestants' practice from noon, Friday, 5/20. Dennis had several members sign up to help, and more help is needed on Saturday and Sunday. Contact Dennis at 483-8373 to lend a hand. Activities start on Saturday at 7:30 am.

Mike Miller fabricated several new fuselage holders for use in the pit area. They are beautiful and just in time for the SPA contest.

Phil Spelt mentioned that plans for the Community Day are going forward. The date will be either August 13 or 20. Much discussion occurred about fees for parking, etc. One idea was to charge \$5 for five minutes of trainer flying (with buddy box). The committee planning the Community Day will present their plans at the next monthly meeting.

New Business

Adding gravel and grading the driveway was discussed. It was made a motion and passed by voice vote. Ed Hartley will make the arrangements.

Model of the Month

No model was presented.

Crash of the Month

Crashes happened but none were presented for the COM award.

After Meeting Program

Phil Spelt presented a program on applying film covering to our models. After discussing the

various films (Monocote, Ultracote, etc.), Phil demonstrated how to cover an open framework. A handout on this topic is available for anyone interested. Many covering issues were handled in a Q&A format.

Next Meeting

Our next KCRC meeting will be at the KCRC field on June 14 at 7 pm. ■

FROM THE SAFETY COMMITTEE

Greetings: Another month and here we are again. Saturday May 7 was a great day. A great turnout for the fly in. I want to thank all who attended for a safe and fun fly in.

As required by our bylaws the safety committee is to perform at least once a year an audit of the KCRC grounds and facilities. Below is the report given at the May 10, 2011 meeting.

The audit included club facilities & equipment.

ISSUES FOR KCRC TO CONSIDER

- ▶ Pavilion
 1. South support beams, deteriorated at bottom and around mounting bolt see pic 1.
 2. West outside plate, aging, warped and pulled away from support beams, pic 2
 3. East side steps have a couple individual steps deteriorated, pic 3
- ▶ Bench parallel to pit
- 4. Seat board/boards have major warp
- ▶ East end of pit safety net
- 5. Several holes are in net, one large and net exhibits UV damage (brittle)
- ▶ Safety fence parallel to runway
- 6. Several posts have missing tennis balls
- ▶ Drive way gravel
 - o Due to our heavy rains, as you are driving out of the field on the right side the drive way is washed away. ■



Illustration 1: Picture 1, issue 1

Text and pictures by Safety Officer Jim Maines ■



Illustration 2: Picture 2 issue 2



Illustration 3: Picture 3, issue 3

EVENTS CALENDAR for KCRC

June 11th... Float Fly.. Melton Hill Ramp
July 18th..SAM contest Rockwood airport
July 19,20th .. SAM contest Harriman field
August 27th.. Helicopter funfly, KCRC
Sept 24th Float Fly Oak Ridge Marina
Community Day.....No date set yet

■ Apparently there is a lot of confusion about disposing of LiPo batteries. In an effort to help (or further cloud the issue), here is what I could find on the subject. This info came from the Hobbico website. The exact same info appeared on several other websites concerning disposal..

Unlike NiCd batteries, [lithium-polymer batteries](#) are environmentally friendly. For safety reasons, it's best that LiPo cells be fully discharged before disposal (however, if physically damaged it is NOT recommended to discharge LiPo cells before disposal – see below for details). The batteries must also be cool before proceeding with disposal instructions.

To dispose of LiPo cells and packs:

1. If any LiPo cell in the pack has been physically damaged, resulting in a swollen cell or a split or tear in a cell's foil covering, do NOT discharge the battery. Jump to step 5.
I found no reference that recommended puncturing the battery. Probably can be safely punctured after step 5.
2. Place the LiPo battery in a fireproof container or bucket of sand.
3. Connect the battery to a LiPo discharger. Set the discharge cutoff voltage to the lowest possible value. Set the discharge current to a C/10 value, with "C" being the capacity rating of the pack. For example, the "1C" rating for a 1200mAh battery is 1.2A, and that battery's C/10 current value is (1.2A / 10) can be used, such as a power resistor or set of light bulbs as long as the discharge current doesn't exceed the C/10 value and cause an overheating condition. For LiPo packs rated at 7.4V and 11.1V , connect a 150 ohm resistor with a power rating of 2 watts (commonly found at Radio Shack) to the pack's positive and negative terminals to safely discharge it. You can also connect it to an ESC/ motor system and allow the motor to run indefinitely until no power remains to further cause the system to function.
4. Discharge the battery until its voltage reaches 1.0V per cell or lower. For resistive load type discharges, discharge the battery for up to 24 hours.
5. Submerge the battery into bucket or tub of salt water. This container should have a lid, but it should not need to be air-tight. Prepare a plastic container (do not use metal) of cold water. And mix in 1/2 cup of salt per gallon of water. Drop the battery into the salt water. Allow the battery to remain in the tub of salt water for at least 2 weeks.
6. Remove the LiPo battery from the salt water,

wrap it in newspaper or paper towels and place it in the normal trash. They are landfill safe...Jim ■



Illustration 1: View from the west end of the pit area.

Annual SPA Contest

For the first time in many years, I was unable to get to the field to register the entrants. I did manage to get there later to check out the activity. Missed seeing the trailers usually parked there brought by the Alabama contingent, but we still had nineteen contestants flying. There were six that I counted from KCRC and the rest were familiar faces from around the southeast that usually make it. The weather was fine and looked to continue. About the only surprise I saw was that Ed Hartley was flying electric! Ed is an old traditionalist, but looks like he's conned Warren Oliver (also an electric flyer) out of an Oliver Twist and electrified it! First thing you know, Ed'll be using one of the setup tables! You can find out how he (and the others) did by going to the Senior Pattern Association websiteJim ■

The above was written on the 24th of May and sent out in the snail mail copies of the newsletter. On May 27th, I was shocked to read the announcement by Phil Spelt that Ed Hartley has passed away. Ed was a charter member and an Emeritus member of KCRC. I don't remember a time, either KCRC or the former ETRC, that Ed wasn't active and involved in club activities. He has been an active supporter of AMA and SPA from the beginning. We will miss him and we offer our condolences to the family... Jim

