

**Hamilton
County R/C
Flyers**

AMA CHARTER #3083
DISTRICT VI

The Transmitter

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MAY 2004

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CLUB OFFICERS

- President: Rick Castor
- Vice President: Steve Percifield
- Secretary: Matt Kemp
- Treasurer: Gene Krodell
- Field Marshall: Phil Compton
- Librarian: Gene Krodell
- Safety Officer: Matt Kemp
- Co-Editor: Steve Percifield
- Co-Editor: Matt Kemp
- Webmaster: Scott Mineart
- Training Coordinator: Chris Atwood

PREZ SEZ---- April has been unusually warm and with that the grass has been mowed every weekend since the 2nd week of April. Last year we did not start mowing until the first weekend of May. The bad news is that it has been very windy. Jeff and I mowed last Friday, the runway looked great, I returned 2 days later and I could not believe how much the grass had grown or the amount of dandelions that had taken over. Hopefully we can treat the dandelions and get rid of them. So if you want a well groomed runway when you fly, make sure you do your part with the mowing.

April was also unusually dry, Which is not good for rolling. Hopefully by the Time you read this the field will have been rolled, which the main ingredient is a moist ground.

The VP has put a sign up sheet on the forum for the [City Wide Fun Fly](#) which we participated in and did well in for not seriously practicing. Last year we would have done a lot better if we would have practiced more and if we would have had more participants from our club. It was a blast, just ask anyone who participated last year. The memorial rock was placed at the field and has been engraved. It looks great. We will have the official dedication May 8th so make sure you come out and make a day of it, weather providing. Well that's all I have for now, hope to see you at the field.

PREZ.

April Meeting Minutes

- ◆ Vice-President Percifield called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm. In Rick's absence. Nine members, 2 visitors, and 2 guests were in attendance.
- ◆ The grass is growing rapidly and there are many weekends open for mowing on the sign-up sheet. If you haven't signed-up yet, please do!
- ◆ Don't forget that Saturday, May 8th is "Field Maintenance Day". We plan to rent a big roller to smooth the runways. We will also put up two sun canopies, apply weed killer and do any fence repair and field clean-up necessary. Come on out about 8 am to help make this effort as fast and painless as possible. Then we'll fly.
- ◆ The Robison memorial "rock" has been selected. Rick is investigating costs for plaques or engraving. We will plan to move this rock from across the road to our field this Saturday (April 10).
- ◆ On Saturday, May 8th we'll also hold a Jim Robison memorial and field dedication at 1 pm. Jim's family will be in attendance.
- ◆ So far there are three SE5a airplanes under construction for our fall Dawn Patrol squadron. The Dynafly SE5a is a good flying machine that's easy to build and sells for about \$115 at Tower Hobbies. It would be great to have a big Hamilton County Squadron of SE5's so start yours now while there's still plenty of time.
- ◆ Mark Schofield reports that the combat rules committee made a presentation at the east-side club meeting and showed our state-of-the-art combat machines. According to Mark there was quite a bit of interest so there might be some inter-club combat this summer.
- ◆ Rick reports that he may have found a nice stone for the Robison memorial. He will continue to investigate engraving or plaque costs to report at the next meeting.
- ◆ Don't forget the Camp 'n Fly is coming up on June 12th, So get your lighting equipment ready. Give night flying a try if you haven't already. Last summer we had a blast. We can even use a hand-held spot light if you have no lighting on your favorite electric airplane.
- ◆ Gene gave a treasurer's report that shows a balance of \$997 after subtracting all bills, the lease, and the mower pay-down.
- ◆ Steve Percifield has arranged to have several speakers come to our up-coming meetings. At this meeting Chuck Baker and his friend Biff presented everything you ever wanted to know about "Electric Powered RC Flying". This presentation was very well organized, including notes. They brought along a huge collection of airplanes, motors, batteries, chargers, and just about anything else one could imagine associated with electric flying. My favorite was their scale electric Wright Flyer; The detail and technical innovation was impressive. You missed a good one if you didn't attend. Don't miss the next one!

◆ The Raffle:

No raffle was held due to the Electric Powered Flying presentation.

Show and Tail

No member brought anything for “Show and Tell”, but that’s OK this time since there were many electric airplanes as part of the presentation. But please bring them next time. Remember that they don’t have to be pretty, finished, and can even be new in the box – We like to see them all.

Meeting Attendees

Chris Atwood
Phil Compton
Myron Demaree
Matt Kemp
Gene Krodel
Scott Mineart
Steve Percifield

Trent Roesch
Mark Schofield
Ed Sheets

Al Macintosh
Paul Huggins *

Chuck Backer **
Biff **

* (West-side club member)
** Guest Presenter

* Visitor

Following are some photos from the April guest speakers. Chuck and Biff did a great job with their presentation. As you can see they brought an airforce of electric planes for the demonstration as well as batteries, chargers, connectors and servos.



AT THE FIELD

Here are the only shots I have from the field for April. If you look real close at the first one, you can see that Paul crashed real close to our outhouse facility. According to Trent, this was close to being a “real shi..y crash”. Paul added that if he had hit the outhouse, he would not go down and get the plane?????



Not staged. This is the way it crashed!!



Paul, wondering if we are going to charge for fence repair??

Veep's words

Here we are into May. The time is flying by. It's almost time to plan next year's Toledo trip! It would be nice if the wind would stop blowing. Every time I've gone to the field it seems just short of hurricane conditions.

Rick and I rolled the field on May 1st and it seemed to really help. The main part was really smooth. The new part down on the East end still had some bumps, but with repeated rolling, should smooth out in time. The 2 ton roller was a trip. It took some time to get used to steering the thing. I got it out on the field and right off almost wiped out a section of pilot stations. I think this is where Rick took over and did most of it. He was “one “ with the roller. The vibrator was deafening. Huh?

Flying should be at a peak, but I don't see many out. Maybe the weather has prevented much activity. Speaking of activity, The grass is out of hand. Please see the sign up sheet and fill in where you can. We need all the help we get. Right now, after a weeks worth of growing, it is really high. The lack of rain should slow it down, I hope.

Our night fly is almost upon us. June 12 will be here soon. Get your lights on those airplanes and come out and fly. It is a blast.

I have the info on the “tail bomb drop” system and will be testing it soon. Get a plane picked out and get ready to join us in practicing. I want to have “City Wide “ practices as often as possible, maybe a couple a month. I would like to have them early Saturday morning so as to not interfere with normal activities. We could practice for a couple of hours say from 8:00 until 10:00. Let me know what you think.

See you at the field,, Steve p

ITEMS STOLEN

Tim Hamilton, a member of the Southside club, had his workshop broken into and the following items were stolen:

1 - Fatty Sparrow Slow Flyer w/radio gear, outrunner & brushless controller I've included a link so you can see what one looks like...

<http://www.hobby-lobby.com/fatty.htm>

2 - Hitec Focus 3ch AM transmitter

3 - .40 sized Stik fuselage (white) w/ Webra 50 engine (no wing)

4 - Airtronics 4ch Vanguard transmitter

5 - Assorted motor flight packs 7-cell, 500-650 MAH

6 - (2) 10-cell 1350 MAH motor flight packs

7 - Assorted tools and glues

If you are approached by someone that you think might be selling any of these stolen items, express an interest in the items and try to get contact information from the person as if you were planning to call them back when you had the money to buy the items.

Tim is willing to pay a reward for any items recovered, based on condition and value. Please contact him if you have any leads either via phone (preferred) or email.

Tim Hamilton
Phone numbers:
Home - 783-2067
Cell - 850-2190
Email address:
eeflyr@aol.com

EMERGENCY SAFETY ALERT

Lithium Battery Fires

Lithium batteries are becoming very popular for powering the control and power systems in our models. This is true because of their very high energy density (amp-hrs/wt. ratio) compared to NiCads or other batteries. With high energy comes increased risk in their use. The, principal, risk is FIRE which can result from improper charging, crash damage, or shorting the batteries. All vendors of these batteries warn their customers of this danger and recommend extreme caution in their use. In spite of this **many** fires have occurred as a result of the use of Lithium Polymer batteries, resulting in loss of models, automobiles, and other property. Homes and garages and workshops have also burned. A lithium battery fire is **very hot** (several thousand degrees) and is an excellent initiator for ancillary (resulting) fires. Fire occurs due to contact between Lithium and oxygen in the air. **It does not need any other source of ignition, or fuel to start**, and burns almost explosively.

These batteries must be used in a manner that precludes ancillary fire. The following is recommended:

1. **Store, and charge, in a fireproof container**; never in your model.
2. Charge in a protected area devoid of combustibles. Always stand watch over the charging process. **Never leave the charging process unattended**
3. In the event of damage from crashes, etc, carefully remove to a safe place for at least a half hour to observe. Physically damaged cells could erupt into flame, and, after sufficient time to ensure safety, should be discarded in accordance with the instructions which came with the batteries.
4. **Never attempt to charge a cell with physical damage**, regardless of how slight.
5. Always use chargers designed for the **specific** purpose, preferably having a fixed setting for your particular pack. Many fires occur in using selectable/adjustable chargers improperly set. Never attempt to charge Lithium cells with a charger which is not, specifically, designed for charging Lithium cells.
6. **Never use chargers designed for Nickel Cadmium bat-**

City Wide Fun Fly

teries.

7. Use charging systems that monitor and control the charge state of each cell in the pack. Unbalanced cells can lead to disaster if it permits overcharge of a single cell in the pack. If the batteries show **any sign of swelling**, discontinue charging, and **remove them to a safe place outside** as they could erupt into flames.
8. Most important: **NEVER PLUG IN A BATTERY AND LEAVE IT TO CHARGE UNATTENDED OVER-NIGHT**. Serious fires have resulted from this practice.
9. Do not attempt to make your own battery packs from individual cells.

These batteries CANNOT be handled and charged casually such as has been the practice for years with other types of batteries. The consequence of this practice can be very serious resulting in major property damage and/ or personal harm

Safety Committee

Academy of Model Aeronautics

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Yep, I know it's a few months until Aug 21, but if you look at weekends until the Fun Fly, there are only 14. Only 14 chances for practice. We need to start getting ready now if we are going to bring that trophy to Hamilton County.

So, pick an airplane you want to use. Make it one you are very comfortable with. Trainers dominate this competition for a reason. They are stable platforms, easy flying. You want something that will fly under any weather condition. You want something that will fly at reduced throttle well. I am going to use my old 4-star .60.

So, here's the plan. Starting in May I will have hopefully 2 sessions a month, for anyone wanting to attend, to practice the City Wide events. These are Bomb Drop, Limbo, Stick Break, and Spot Landing. Any of these you can practice on your own at any time, but we will gather early Saturday morning so as to not disturb regular flying. We can practice for a couple of hours that way. But here are some tips. To practice Limbo, walk to the center of the field. (only do this when no one else is flying and you might ask anyone there for the time) and make low passes down the field using your antenna as a judge for the limbo streamer. Get a speed you are comfortable with and make as many passes as you can. For spot landing, put a towel in the runway and try to land on it. Do as many touch and goes as you can. For stick break, just try flying the length of the field at 3' altitude, down the center line. Again, don't do this wide open, find a comfortable speed. No practice for bomb drop other than just doing it.

I believe the South Side Club has a couple of practice fun fly's during the summer. If they do and they are open, several of us have already discussed attending. This gives first hand experience.

sp

Events calendar

- ❖ MAY 1st, Shoop's Fly In – Shoop's Field, Brown Co.
- ❖ JUNE 5th & 6th, Internet Fly In- Tracee Field
- ❖ JUNE 12th-CAMP N FLY, Night fly at Hamilton Co. Field
- ❖ JULY 24th, Warbirds Fly In- Tracee Field
- ❖ SEPT 10th, 11th, 12th-Heartnut Fly In Tracee Field
- ❖ SEPT 17th, 18th, ADA Fly In, South Side Field
- ❖ SEPT 25th, Dawn Patrol Over Hamilton Co., Ham Co. Field