



ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS CHARTERED CLUB #1255

SERVO CHATTER

A PUBLICATION OF:

ANOKA COUNTY RADIO CONTROL CLUB, INC.

MAY 2018

THE MEETING WILL BE THURSDAY, MAY 17, AT THE FIELD!!

FROM THE VEEP

I am continuing with the improvements to the grass runway. I am glad to report that the members present at the April meeting were in favor of the suggested improvements. There was a very generous monetary donation made by one of our club members. This prompted a suggestion that a hat be passed at our next meeting. Any donation helps support our club treasury. The estimates are around \$1300.00 to \$1400.00 to include rolling, leveling, and seeding. The estimates are just that. After rolling it may be decided to do more filling and seeding. Thanks to those participating in making this happen.

Jeff Slater

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

The meeting this month will be **AT THE FIELD**. The starting time is 7:00 PM and if you get there early you can get in some flying before the meeting. Remember that you should be using your current membership card to mark your channel and guests should be using their AMA card to verify their AMA membership.

In 2014 the By-Law concerning nominations for the Board was changed. Nominations are now held in May and June with the election in July. The four members whose terms end this year are Tom LaRose, Brett Ohnstad, Bob Proulx and Marc Tellevik. Hopefully we can convince them to re-up for another two years.

ACRC members should remember and follow the safety rules. We all have mental lapses from time

to time so gently remind others when you see them having a SENIOR MOMENT. Starting engines with the plane faced other than toward the runway and full RPM run-ups in the pits seem to be the most frequent violations of club rules. If you just visualize where the prop blades will go if the blades break off it will help you remember why the club has these rules. The plane should be started in the pit area and moved to the run-up area for the high RPM run-up.

The flight stations are close enough so pilots can communicate their intentions concerning take-off, landings, etc. Be sure to let other pilots know what you are going to do. Shout out "coming out", "taking-off", "landing", "on the field" etc. Remember, if the wind is from the north, you should be flying from the 5 stations by the south half of the runway and vice-versa.

Be sure that you are standing on or behind the flight station blocks. If you stand ahead of the blocks you could be blocking the view for someone who is landing and if you are standing way ahead of the blocks you are definitely in a Danger Zone. All flying is to be done beyond the runway. This even applies to Micro-Electric planes (See Rules 9 & 10). Once you land, clear the runway and taxiways as quickly as possible. If you have to do maintenance on your plane or change the battery, it should be taken to the pits.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT THE FIELD ON MAY 17 AT 7:00 PM. The summer meetings will be at the field until August. The Spring Fly-In will be on Saturday May 19 at 10:00AM.

Stan Zdon

A Look Back

May 2000

18 Years Ago

President Mark Felland put out a second call for buddy-box volunteers to help out a pack of Tiger Cubs Scouts get some stick time. Mark has invited them to the Spring Fly-In.

Dan Stahn listed a great number of “Situational Awareness” items that every pilot needs to be cognitive of, from pre-flight check, engine start up, and actual flight conditions. Everything from physical pilot positioning, who and what are around him, and aircraft placement in the sky, all must be considered important during every flight.

16 Pilots participated in last month’s Fun-Fly. A club record?

May 1990

28 Years Ago

Now that swap meets and the Apache Mall show (despite a ‘dire lack of shoppers/spectators.’) are completed, summer events are ramping up. A helicopter Fun-Fly, Pattern Contest, and Scale contest were all scheduled before the end of June. Holy Cow!

Jeff Slater continues his Who’s Who column of club member introductions. Ray Gruetzman, John Rudberg, and Paul Stafki were on this month’s hit list.

Tim Brockman vented on the lack of definition of club member discounts at our local hobby shops. Names were omitted here to protect the innocent.

Jack Overbaugh brought attention to delinquent “VIDIO TAPES” (his spelling, not mine) and made a plea for their return to the club library.

Tim Karash

ACRC INSTRUCTION

We had a nice evening for the start of 2018 flying season

Wednesday night flight training went off as rescheduled on May 2, can you believe it no snow!

The road in was much better that it had been. Thanks to Bruce Johnson for running over it with his tractor and blade. It helped a lot.

We had four returning club members and two others (father and son) who were out for an introductory flight. The night was spent flying the pattern with some figure eights, take-offs and landings

Instructors were setup and ready with the planes tuned for flight

Thanks to All, everything went well.

Tom La Rose

ACRC MINUTES

Board members present:

Virgil Okeson, Marc Tellevik, Brett Ohnstad, Stan Zdon, Jeff Slater, Bob Proulx, Tom LaRose, Tim Karash

22 members present.

Membership report:

84 Members have renewed

Treasurers Report:

Income: \$65.13

Expenses: \$371.99

Safety report:

Please review Club field rules and flying site courtesy. Both are on the club website:

www.anoka-rc.com

Brett also requested that all pilots give their planes a thorough check over prior to the first flight of the season.

Old Business:

Jeff Slater has been doing a great deal of research regarding the grass area/runway east of the paved runway. This year’s late snowfall will delay the start of the project. Compaction of bumps to smooth out, fill added, and reseeding (in that order) to level the area is the goal, however there are several options available to produce the desired results:

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- 1) Money vs. volunteers. Spend money to hire it done, or enlist an army of volunteer workers.
- 2) A walk behind plate compactor rents for \$120/day: It has a small foot print of the machine will take many hours, even multiple days to pack soil.
- 3) A large tow-behind rolling compactor rents for \$245
- 4) A self-propelled, 4ft wide, 5000 lb roller will cost \$400 and the work performed by a contractor.

After rolling/compaction, approximately 12 yd of fill will be necessary to level low areas, and a machine with a leveling bar attachment may be necessary to completely smooth the fill.

Motion made by Stan Zdon to spend the \$1300 to level, purchase fill and reseed low areas. Second by Roger Jeffrey. Motion carried. Scheduling as soon as snow melts and weather permits.

Club sign near entrance repositioning:

Central Landscaping is now reselling small utility sheds. An inventory of 10 plus units blocks the view of our sign from southbound traffic. Additional signage has also appeared near the access road entrance.

Tom Larose to look into a different sign by state of Minnesota.

New Business:

Reposition of start up stations to closer to center was done to reduce noise at pilot stations. and were moved back (west) for prop safety issues.

Motion made by Jeff Slater to move one run up station to center fence area. Second by Roger Jeffrey. Motion carried.

Riverwind center will have outdoor grounds work over the summer. Still a possibility of building being torn down in the future.

No show and tell

Raffle:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1st Jay McClurg | OS FS 26 motor |
| 2nd Ed Belmore | Long pliers set |
| 3rd Ed Belmore | Tool grab |
| 4th Duane Orson | Long Forceps |

Hobby Zone Gift Certificates

- Virgil Okeson
- Duane Orson
- Bruce Martin

Big Sky Hobby Gift Certificates

- Duane Orson
- Ed Belmore
- Stan Zdon

King Kong Hobby Gift Certificates

- Lucky Belmore
- Lucky Belmore
- Gary Titus

Board Meeting:

Board Members present - Virgil Okeson, Marc Tellevik, Brett Ohnstad, Stan Zdon, Bob Proulx, Tom LaRose, Jeff Slater, Tim Karash

Due to winters lasting grasp, the field Porta-Potty will not be serviced until the first week of May.

Tim Karash

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Earlier this month, I received an email from former ACRC member Don Hallgren. In his message, he told me several things that added up to a sad and lonely life. Don was an active member, even served as president, but when retirement age came along, his wife longed to reside in her hometown of International Falls. Don and wife packed up, Kit and Kaboodle, off to the icebox of the U.S. they went. A small R/C field in the middle of a farmer's field allowed him to get his "Fix" of flying. All was well until his wife passed away on, of all days, Christmas 2014. Later, Don lost his drivers license to narcolepsy and can no longer drive to the R/C field. His planes are now gathering dust but he has taken up woodworking to keep himself busy and alert.

One day while cruising the Internet, Don came across our club website and enjoyed reading the newsletters. He has reached out to the club to, more or less, say "Hi, I'm still here, how are you?" I believe it would be kind if we would continue to keep in touch with Don and any other former

Continued on Next Page

members by email, newsletters, or social media.

Don Hallgren's email address is:

djhallgren@live.com

On a lighter note, the club Facebook page has been changed so that anyone is allow to post comments or photos. Of course, these posts are subject to approval by the administrators of the site. The link to our page is:

<https://www.facebook.com/AnokacountyRC/>

For this month's raffle I have a "Zero Gravity" foamie airplane from Tower Hobbies. The list of pre-installed items is quite extensive, but does require you to supply a battery and receiver. It has left/right thrust vectoring control of the motor so it will be able to perform some crazy aerobatic maneuvers while close in. At last month's raffle, we had a tool grab bag that was well received, so we will do it again, plus I still have a handful of local hobby store gift certificates to give out.

Tim Karash

ACRC SAFETY

I have recently been working as a lobbyist at the state Capitol to help pass legislation concerning pensions and worker compensation issues for police, firefighters, sheriffs, and state correctional officers. It has been a very interesting experience meeting with and working with our top state lawmakers. In doing so I have been able to witness the complexities of state laws and statutes and how even one word in a statute can have drastic consequences for many people

As a club, we also have a number of rules the safety officer and the club board write, moderate, and enforce. The nice part about the club's rules is that they are much less complex than the states rules. And they should be otherwise the club would not be a fun place to be. But we still need some rules because otherwise the club might not be a fun place to be.

There are a few rules to making rules in order for them to be understood, followed and if necessary, enforced. Club rules need to be simple. If they are too complex or are difficult to understand, no one will be willing or able to follow them. The

rules also need to be relatable. If a person does not understand why a rule is in place, they may not be willing or able to follow it.

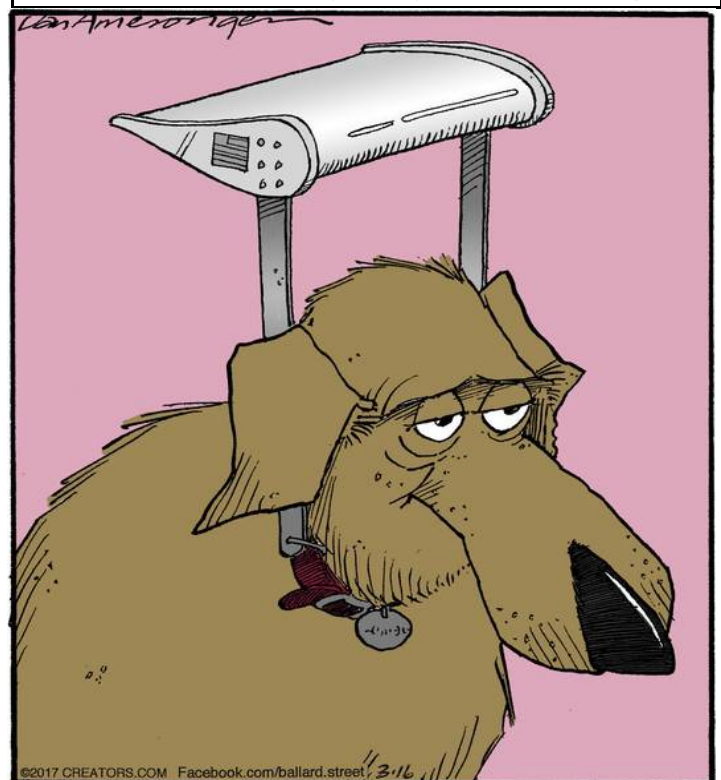
For the past few years I have been witnessing confusion over some of the rules, which indicates that there is a problem with either the way the rule is written or why the rule is in place or both.

In particular the rule concerning where pilots are able to start and run airplanes behind the flight line. Although it may seem that the rule is reasonable and obvious, I notice that it is one rule that is not consistently followed. And although it is written for safety, and I know that no one would ever jeopardize safety over convenience, it would appear that is exactly what is happening.

So is the rule concerning where people can start or energize their airplane understandable? Does the rule make sense? I would like to hear from the members of the club as to what they think it means and what could be done to make the rule easy to follow for consistency and for safety

Brett Ohnstad

Ballard Street by Jerry Von Amerongen



Airflow over the wing creates a down force keeping Clover solidly on the ground during excitable moments

BLACK WIRE DISEASE WHAT'S THE CAUSE?

The black wire syndrome is an occurrence in battery packs (Ni-Cds) where the negative wire becomes corroded (turns from shiny copper to blue-black). This is the result of either a shorted cell in the pack, the normal wear out failure mode of Ni-Cds, or cell reversal when a pack is left under load for an extended period. The sealing mechanism of a Ni-Cd cell depends to some degree on maintaining a potential across the seal interface. Once this potential goes to zero the cell undergoes what is called creep leakage. With other cells in a pack at some potential above zero the leakage (electrolyte) is "driven" along the negative lead. It can travel for some distance making the wire impossible to solder and at the same time greatly reducing its ability to carry current and even worse, makes the wire somewhat brittle. A switch left on in a plane or transmitter for several months can cause this creepage to go

all the way to the switch itself, destroying the battery lead as well as the switch harness. There is no cure. The effected lead, connector, switch harness must be replaced.

This leakage creep takes time so periodic inspection of the packs, making sure that there are no shorted cells, insures against the problem. The cells should also be inspected for any evidence of white powder (electrolyte mixed with carbon dioxide in the air to form potassium carbonate). In humid conditions this can revert back to mobile electrolyte free to creep along the negative lead. Some "salting", as this white powder is referred to, does not necessarily mean that the cell has leaked. There may have been some slight amount of residual electrolyte left on the cell during the manufacturing process. This can be removed with simple household vinegar and then washed with water after which it is dried by applying a little warmth from your heat gun.

C. L. (Red) Scholefield

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CONTRIBUTORS THIS MONTH

Tim Karash

Tom LaRose

Brett Ohnstad

Jeff Slater

Stan Zdon

ACRC SPONSORS

Blackjacks Asphalt

Hobby Warehouse

King Kong Hobbies

Hobby Zone

Big Sky Hobby

Flight Line Gifts

Woodworking Plus

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday – May 17

•ACRC Meeting-At field

Saturday – May 19

•ACRC Spring Fly-In

Saturday – June 16 & 17

•ACRC Pattern Contest

Thursday – June 21

•ACRC Meeting-At field

Saturday – June 23

•ACRC Fun Fly #1

Thursday – July 19

•ACRC Meeting-At field

Saturday – July 21

•ACRC Fun Fly #2

Thursday – August 16

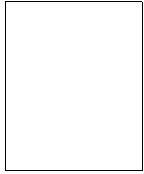
•ACRC Meeting-At field

Saturday – August 18

•ACRC Fun Fly #3

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