

PRESIDENT: *Jim Nunnallee* 285-8478; VICE PRES: *William Mintz*, 646-6406; SECRETARY: *Keith Hunt* 688-8078 ; TREASURER: *Don Wasilewski* 646-0474
 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN: *Norm Skinner* 646-3315; DIRECTORS: *Norm Skinner* 646-3315, *Frank Ciccarello* 813-684-4519, *Wally Sundry* 644-8639
 NEWSLETTER EDITOR: *John Burdin* 667-1785; Field Phone 425-9634 **February 1999**

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jimmy Garland.....5th
 Wally Sundry.....5th
 Erivn Lindsey.....16th
 Bill Bolton..... 26th

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

February 4th, March 4th

The deadline for contributions to the next newsletter will be **Feb. 15th**. Please have your contributions in on time.

its second flight this weekend and I was afraid to do anything more than loaf it gingerly around the traffic pattern. I just wish I had the flying skills of some of our local

limited for awhile but eventually I'll try to improve that also. Jim Smith's daughter-in-law, Linda Smith, will be behind the counter on Monday-Wednesday-Friday and I'll be there from about 10 to 4 on Saturdays. Sorry if this sounds like an advertisement. I welcome any and all suggestions about the store and I hope that we can turn it back into a convenient place where we can all feed our habit.

The President's Korner

Jim Nunnallee

I suppose I should apologize for missing my first meeting as president. However, I suspect none of you wanted to catch the nasty crud I was carrying around and it is very difficult to preside over a meeting when you're in the bathroom.

Our membership renewal for this year is going well - I just turned in three more this weekend. I've been seeing quite a few prospective members hanging around at the field lately. When you see someone standing around that you don't know, stick your hand out and be friendly. We are a friendly club and we can always use the new members.

I must confess that I think I've fallen into a modeler's trap. I had my new Sukhoi with the radial engine out for

If you have not renewed your membership this will be your last newsletter.

Please Renew Today

hotshots. I guess I'll just have to hang it in the store and admire it for awhile while I build up some more courage.

Speaking of the store; we will probably be open by the time you read this. Please be patient with us while we learn the ropes. A lot of corporate knowledge was lost with the passing of Jim so it will take us awhile to get things running smoothly again. Eventually, I'd like to increase the inventory a good bit. Our hours will be a bit

Fast Charging Will it harm my packs?

C.L "Red" Scholefield

Foreword: *Red is the host of the Battery Forum here on RC Online. He is well known for his "Battery Expertise" and has graciously given RC Online permission to republish some of his most helpful and informative articles. Red's home page is available at: <http://gnv.fdt.net/~redscho/> and you can e-mail him at: redscho@gnv.fdt.net - Edward.*

First, let's define "fast charge". The industry standard is any charge rate that will charge the cells in 1 hour or less. This fast charge capability thing is very interesting. Almost all nics manufactured today for R/C systems can accept fast charge (up to C rate, that's the rate at which you can charge the cells in approximately one hour). Cells that are specifically sold as fast chargeable go through another step in the process. This step involves charging a sample from the production lot and then measuring the end of charge voltage. Cells with the highest end of charge voltage are then analyzed for internal pressure. If the internal pressure is acceptable, that is not above a preset limit, the whole production lot is "blessed" as being fast chargeable. Of course this adds a finite amount of cost to the cell as they must be "formed" prior to being ship in order to be fast chargeable. Cells not destined for fast charge applications are shipped "unformed" by some manufacturers. Forming the cell is the process of the first charge after it is assembled. Nothing more nothing less. When you charge your R/C system packs for the first time you are "forming" them. This is why you see the instructions telling you to charge the packs for 16 to 24 hours before you first use the system. Some manufacturers ship all their cells in the formed condition as part of their

manufacturing process. So in most instances you are safe fast charging the R/C packs (transmitter or receiver) on the market if you first make sure they get a good first cycle formation charge - 24 hours at the slow rate. Where the problems arise is that some of the fast charge systems available are a little sloppy when it comes to terminating the fast charge, or they are pushing the cells too hard (higher than the C rate charge) and then damage occurs. As a rule of thumb if you packs are not getting hot (slightly warm is OK) you are not damaging them in the fast charge process. When pushing too much current into cells not designed to accept it there is the risk of driving the cells above 1.6 volts (the hydrogen over voltage point) and electrolyzing the water in the electrolyte and generating hydrogen. This is a cumulative event and repeated fast charge at these rates will result in sufficient accumulation of hydrogen to cause the cells to vent. When they do vent there is a chance that the chemical balance will be disturbed and the cell capacity will fade. Understand that the pack may not be fully charged when the fast charge terminates. It is a good practice, if you are going to fast charge frequently, to top off the packs using the slow charger. This will bring all cells to the same state of charge and "balance" the pack. Otherwise the cell that is not fully charged

will be the limiting cell on the next discharge. This continues until there is a major unbalance in the pack and one cell can be driven into reverse (if you don't crash first).

Regular Meeting Minutes 01/07/99

City Commission Chambers,
Mulberry, FL

Keith Hunt
Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:04pm. The president, Jim Nunnallee not in attendance, (illness), Vice President William Mintz presiding.

Events - Keith Hunt advised the confirmed dates for the annual Giant Scale Fly-In and Airshow are April 16,17, & 18, 1999 and the annual Jim Smith Memorial Fly-In dates are December 4 & 5, 1999.

Fred Schmidt is a new Contest Director and will be handling the proposed IMAC, (International Miniature Aerobatic Club), event. the target date is early October 1999.

New Members - Chris Wade. Welcome aboard Chris!

Field Maintenance - New Field Maintenance officer, Ed Deepen. Keith Hunt discussed painting of the runway and taxi areas, some additional markings are needed for future Competition events and re-painting of the existing markings

(Continued from page 2)

is needed. Keith and Ed will coordinate this effort. Dee Miller states he is working on obtaining new windsocks for the field.

Safety - No safety officer has been appointed thus far.

William Mintz asks that all members please do their part to keep it safe!

Instructors - Charlie Patterson is the new Chief Instructor, Joe Wedeman is a new instructor.

New Pilots - None.

Old Business - With the passing of Jim Smith, the recent IMAA fly - in has been dedicated to Jim and re-named The Jim Smith Memorial Fly In. Discussion was made on further memorial efforts such as a plaque for Jim and other past and future members who demonstrate great dedication to the club and the sport of model aviation. Ed Deeson states three RC airplane kits were donated to the Mulberry High School in the name of Jim Smith and IRCC.

New Business - John Burdin and Steve Jaworski presented the club with a new Futaba 6XA computer radio in appreciation for the support and help the club has provided for the annual Jet Meet.

Discussion was made to possibly use the radio for future raffle fund raising efforts. Art May donated a Futaba radio to

the club for use with the training program.

Appreciation certificates were awarded to outgoing officers and directors for 1998.

The new lock combination is now in effect. Those in attendance have it.

Walley Sundeay was nominated and voted to fill the vacant directors position Jim Smith had previously held.

John Burdin is now the new newsletter editor. John states all newsletter submissions are welcome. John asks that submissions be delivered by the 15th of each month on standard floppy disk or e-mail at jwburdin@aol.com

William Mintz advises that Jim Nunnallee has officially acquired Jims Hobby Shop located at 204 E Canal St in Mulberry. Hours of operation will be forthcoming. Keith Hunt asked that we support our hobby shops!!!

8 Ball Award - Dee Miller wins again for crashing a third aircraft in as many months.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55

Courtesy and common sense makes R/C modeling fun for everyone.

pm.

Please don't forget that we are now meeting at the Mulberry Police Station / City Hall. Located at the intersection of Hwy 60 & 37. The new time is 7:00PM

*

A note from your editor.

Through the years I have done just about everything as a member of the IRCC (except mow the grass). This however is my first shot at the Newsletter.

I need your help to keep this monthly "rag" interesting, entertaining and informative. Our newsletter is the primary link for information between our members, and your input is necessary. I would like for the *PROPWASH* to reflect our club, not just the editor.

Write an article, or copy one you have read and get it to me. Tell me what you would like to read about and we will try to accommodate you. I will

(813) 293-

0688



AIRPLANES, RADIOS, FUEL, COVERING, ADHESIVES, ENGINES AND MORE
COME AND VISIT YOU'LL LIKE US

1133 1st Street South - Winter Haven, FL 33880
(Bells Alley)

CHARLIE'S DISCOUNT HOBBIES R/C HEADQUARTERS

I BUY or
TRADE for: old
airplane engines
& R/C
equipment. (pre
1965)

Airplanes, Cars, Boats, Rockets,
Plastics, Tools and Parts
Specializing in Airplanes
BUY-SELL-TRADE

I BUY or
TRADE for:
old gas
powered
race cars.
(pre 1965)

7530 W. Waters Avenue
(1 Blk. W. of Hanley Rd.)

CHARLIE POULTON
(813) 882-4007

Shop Hours: M-F 11:00-6:30, Sat 10:00-5:00, Sun 1:00-5:00

JIM'S HOBBIES R/C HEADQUARTERS

Under new ownership.

Look for new store hours soon!

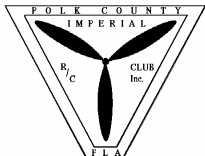
- COMING AREA EVENTS

- SUN N'FUN
April 11 - 17, 1999
- IRCC SPRING RALLY AND AIRSHOW
April 16 - 17 - 18, 1999
- FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL JET RALLY
October 22 - 23 - 24, 1999
- JIM SMITH MEMORIAL FLY-IN / IRCC - IMAA
WINTER RALLY
December 4 - 5, 1999

- HANGAR SALE

- Charlie Patterson has Club patches for sale \$ 1.00 each . He also has hats. See him at the field or call him at 859-3090.
- Sig 1/4 Scale Cub; OS160 160 twin, onboard ignition and precision servos throughout. Drop in your receiver and your off. All for only \$1,200. Wally Sundry 644-8639
-

- *Place you add here.*
- *It's free!!*



Imperial R/C Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 6662
Lakeland, FL 33807

Don't
forget the
stamp

Meeting Date P-1
Meeting Place P-3

Newsletter printing by Fletcher Printing Co.