

Touch & Go

By: Scott S. Smith,- President

I would first like to welcome back all of the members who have once again decided to call Imperial their home. I know that a lot of you left for one reason or other, and I assure you that we will make every effort possible to make sure those issues are over with, and don't show up again. Welcome back guys, we all are glad to see you again. I want this year to be a building year for our clubs future. It is time we move on to a bright future, and once and for all leave the problems behind us. What does the future hold? Stay tuned and you will not be disappointed.

Our year starts out with two large events, Florida Jets and Top Gun. Make sure you get with Jim Urick to volunteer, and be a part of these events. These are two of the largest events in the country, and for our club. You will be up close and personal with the people you read about in the magazines, and have a great opportunity to talk to these people one to one. Not to mention working around everything from vintage one of a kind aircraft, to the fastest turbine jets, and many of the manufacturers who make this sport happen. I dreamed about being a part of these events as a kid, and now they are right here in our back door. Don't miss out on one of the greatest opportunities of your life.

I hope all of you know that I put the highest priority on our members, not on membership. By that I mean, that if we are all having a great time together, the numbers mean very little to me. I don't want to brag about 200 members, and have to apologize about all the personal problems in the same sentence. If we have 85 happy members who enjoy each other and what we do, who could complain? The only clubs that have to have huge numbers are the ones whose income comes from dues. I believe events are where we should focus our attention, not on membership dues. That is why having everyone participate is so vital to our organization. When new people come to visit, welcome them, and show them a good time. We have all been the outsider at one time or another, and isn't it great when you are finally welcomed in

The Imperial Radio Control Club
is proud to host:
Florida Jets
March 4 – 7, 2004



Top Gun
April 27 – May 4, 2004

Lakeland Linder
Regional Airport



as a part of the group? I would like to see a larger membership as do many of you, but not if it means sacrificing the happiness of the members who have been here thru it all. If there has been one thing I have learned in the past few years, it is that you cannot put a price on happiness, but it is worth any price.

I will see you at the field...

2004 Membership Renewals are PAST DUE!!!

All renewals are submitted to:
Dave DeWitt – Treasurer.

If you misplaced the membership application that was sent to you, go to the IRCC website under Membership, open and print a new application.

The IRCC Website is up and running again. We have Email capability with this site which will allow us to send messages, reminders and other important information to our members. Please get your Email address to Dave DeWitt as soon as possible so he can update the member database.

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

Contributions to the IRCC newsletter by club members are always welcome. Hobby related are best, and both humorous and general information about R/C may be used. Please forward your material to the newsletter editor via Email so we can use our member's ideas.

Want to be a Scale Judge?

By: John Burdin

Have you ever thought about being a judge in a model competition? Many of us have flown in front of them, or seen them and wondered; could I do that?

There is a learning curve, and you don't start without proper training. Then after initial training, you are placed at level that you are comfortable with. Judging does take concentration. You may be on the flight line for up to two hours at a time looking a different pilots, airplanes and maneuvers. The discipline required is not rigorous, but it is taxing, and can be fun, and very rewarding.

I have judged thousands of aerobatic, pattern and IMAC flights through the years, and view it as a challenge, and enjoyed every minute of it. Judging may also help you build your skills as you see how many pilots fly, and how they deal with all the adversity thrown their way. Cross winds, cold, hot, etc. are all elements a pilot must deal with when it's his or her turn to fly. When it's time to go, you go.

Frank Tiano would like to invite our club members, if interested to become involved in scale judging. Frank will provide the instruction. Teaching you what is required, and expected from a scale judge. Frank may offer an opportunity for a newly qualified judge to work at the prestigious Top Gun event later this spring.

This is a wonderful opportunity to be trained by one of the very best in the

business, and get your feet wet right away. By working as a Judge, and doing a good job, Frank will likely ask you to come back on a regular basis, and even compensate you for having an exciting time, and being around a lot of great model aviation guys. Yes you can be a scale judge!!!

Regular Club Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2004

FTE Site

Dee Miller, Secretary

Scott Smith called meeting to order at 7:30. The minutes of the December meeting were accepted.

The Treasurers report was accepted. 24 members were present.

We had one guest, John Martin who later in the evening became a member.

Field maintenance: The wire fencing on the east side of the gate needs repair; this will be done soon.

Safety Report: Scott Smith suggested we fly using spotters as a precaution.

Instructors Report: None

Newsletter Report: John needs more articles.

Website Report: Website is now up.

Events: No discussion

Future Events: Florida Jets March 4-7. Frank Tiano reported that Top Gun will have a new category this year. It will be called Pro-Am (I fly and have it built by others).

The club has voted to support both events this year. More details will be supplied by Jim Urick.

Old Business: No discussion

New Business: The new combination was given to the members.

Sportsmanship Award: The club voted to give it to Robert Stenger for his hard work at all events. Jim Urick asked that members take note; Wally Sundry had a good idea with this nomination.

The IRCC monthly club meeting will be held at FTE near the Lakeland Airport. The next meeting will be on Thursday February 5th, and starts promptly at 7:30pm. Bring a chair (if you want to have a seat).

Plane of the Month: Tom Conner and Son showed the club their new scratch built Stick. Powered by a K&B 60 and covered in blue and yellow Coverite fabric and vintage markings, the plane has a "classic" look to it. Nice plane guys!

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:35 and passed.

Mars Landing

*There has been a lot made about the latest mars landing.
It certainly brings R/C to a new level!!!!
Here is something from RCU that was kind's cool.*

Congratulations to our American cousins on NASA's successful Mars landing by the spacecraft Spirit. An incredible achievement!

But I have to say that the Spirit design does bear a passing resemblance to the 'Macx Mars Probe'

....not too sure about the prop. though?

P.S.....I always thought that our Beagle 2 was doomed to failure. After all why put a dog on Mars....when a call of nature beckons there's no trees...are there???

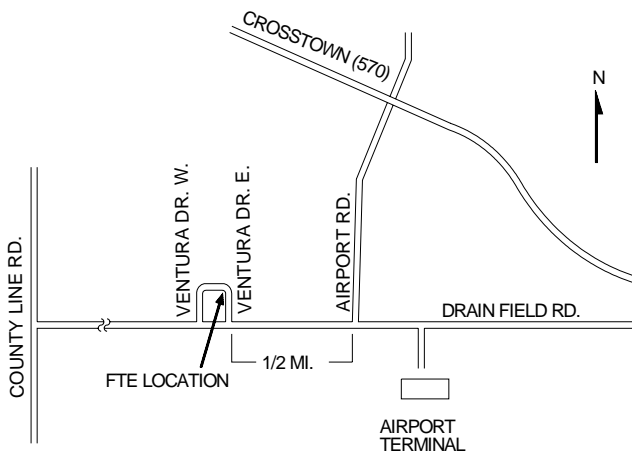
I wonder if he runs this on 20% or 30% nitro!??



New Gate Signs

The signs that have been at the entrance gate are being replaced. By the time you receive this newsletter they should be in place. I will try to get them in the newsletter version that will appear in the website, and in the next newsletter.

Their replacement was way overdue, and along with other things being spruced up around the gate area, our flying site should be more attractive to visitors.



There is a vacant lot across the street from FTE which is a good place to park. There is another facility to the west of FTE which has parking. Please **DO NOT PARK ON THE GRASS** at FTE or his neighbors.

OUR NEXT MEETING IS:
February 5th
Check out the directions to our meeting place.

February Meeting Agenda

Florida Jets and Top Gun

These events are just around the corner, and the event planning is well under way.

What changes would you like to see???

Come to the next club meeting and bring them up.

Who's building what?

Bring your latest creation and show the other members what you are doing.

If you have a topic for discussion let Scott Smith know so he can put it on the agenda.

Coming Area Events

Florida Jets

March 4 - 7
 Lakeland Linder Airport
FrankTiano.com

MacDill AirFest

April 3 - 4
 MacDill AFB, Tampa

Sun'N Fun

April 13 - 19
 Lakeland Linder Airport

Top Gun

April 27 - May 4
 Lakeland Linder Airport
FrankTiano.com

Here are new / replacement signs at the front gate.

