

# Propwash

www.ImperialRCClub.com

## Touch & Go

By: Scott S. Smith, - President

Pylon racing? Has Scott lost his marbles? No I haven't, the racing scene is a very fascinating, and exciting facet of our hobby. What do most newbies ask at the field or the mall show? How fast does it go? is probably the most popular question. What does that tell us as a group of pilots? People are attracted to speed, and not so much to a great looking and flying scale plane. Does this mean we should all go racing and give up what makes us happy? Of course not!!! What pylon offers is a great crowd pleaser, a way to get some younger people involved, and the chance for some guys who want to compete the opportunity to do so. With the very limited number of clubs in Florida capable of hosting such an event, we have a golden opportunity to hold a racing date, and draw both spectators and pilots to a very exciting time. I will give you a detailed report from a race Feb. 28 – 29, and we can then form a plan to put on another first class event for our organization.

Do we really need a new flying site? Well, if you plan on being around for any length of time or advance to a larger, faster or another type of model...YES. Our current site has been a very successful location, and has been among the best fields in the country for a long time. But now, progress is closing in, and we need to move forward to once again being one of the best, not just like the rest. Are we in danger of losing our field right now? No, but the day will come when we have to move on, and we need a good plan so we aren't rushed into a compromised field to operate out of. There are a lot of factors we have on planning right now, with the county showing an interest in RC as well as some land availability just around the corner. We need space to fly anything we want to, as well as the ability to hold larger, and more interesting events in the future. We all can see where the future of our sport is headed, and we need to be on the cutting edge of that expansion. The American Heritage Dictionary defines **Imperial** as: ...*Outstanding in size or quality*... and it is time that we once again live up to those standards. A Larger membership, and flying site, as well as the quality of our location, events and members. All of this is within our grasp, let's not let it slip away.

### **Please note:**

**The first day of Florida Jets falls on our normally scheduled club meeting date for March. We have a lot of club members who will be working or participating at FJ. Therefore, the March meeting will be held one week later on March 11<sup>th</sup>.**

### **Top Gun**

April 27 – May 4, 2004

Lakeland Linder  
Regional Airport



*For a full color version of the IRCC newsletter go to our website, and follow the newsletter link. A color version may also be printed from the website.*

I just want to know one other thing, how do you guys who fly during the week seem to use up all the good weather for the whole group? I sure hope you guys are making the most of the beautiful flying weather during the weekdays, I sure do envy you! I'll see you at the field...

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### **Newsletter Changes Coming**

Your club leaders are working hard to reduce cost and improve efficiency. By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have completed several Email test to our members. We want to be sure every member receives the Newsletter in a timely manner. Viewing and printing it from the website will be the most efficient, however this will remain an option for our members. We understand that everyone won't like to do this, and some may want to continue to receive the newsletter in the current printed format. Over the next couple of months we will continue to offer both versions, printed / mailed and website / notify. Once everyone who has the capability to access the newsletter from the IRCC website has experienced it that way, they will have the option to opt out, and not receive the printed version. We understand that it is our responsibility to get the newsletter to our members, and your preference will be respected.

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P.O. Box 6662  
Lakeland, Florida 33807

**PRESIDENT:**  
**Scott Smith**

863-670-5141  
ssmith4710@aol.com

**V.P. Jim Urick**  
863-858-4741  
iflyrc@earthlink.net

**SECRETARY:**  
**Dee Miller**

863-644-3866  
aquaclean@  
tampabay.rr.com

**TREASURER:**  
**Dave DeWitt**

863-644-3815  
benz425@aol.com

**DIRECTORS:**

**Dr. Art Magerino**  
**Arnold Schmidt**  
**Charlie Patterson**

**FMO**  
"Bunk"

**SAFETY OFFICER:**  
(Looking)

**MEMBERSHIP**  
**CHAIRMAN**  
(Looking)

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**  
**John Burdin**

863-648-9933  
JWBurdin@aol.com

**Website:**  
[www.ImperialRCClub.com](http://www.ImperialRCClub.com)

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

## New Gate Signs Are Up



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### **Minutes IRCC Meeting**

February 5, 2004

President Smith called meeting to order at 7:30. The minutes of the January meeting were accepted. The Treasurers report was accepted. We now have 50 members. We had one guest; Carl Baron.

*New Members:* Ron Turner; T. J. Lopez

*Field maintenance:* We now have new signs at the front gate, and we are working on a new flight stand.

*Safety Report:* None

*Instructors Report:* Ron Turner and

T. J. Lopez have instructors.

*Newsletter Report:* The newsletter is now available on the internet. If you want to be notified when it is posted get your E-mail address to David DeWitt.

*Website Report:* No new report.

*Events:* Due to Florida Jets and our clubs participation the membership moved the March meeting date to the 11<sup>th</sup> of March. Florida Jets will be held March 4 through 7. Top Gun will be held April 27 through May 2. President Smith discussed the possibility of IRCC getting into Pylon Racing and the possibility of our holding races at our field. The membership gave its support to this venture. President Smith is now investigating this facet of the hobby. There will be a trip in the near future to a Pylon race and a report to the membership will be forthcoming.

*Old Business:* Wally Sunday was not present to report on the starting stands.

*New Business:* President Smith discussed his efforts to secure a new flying site; this will be a long term project.

*Sportsmanship Award:* The club voted to give it to Scott Smith for his hard work, good attitude and, putting up with all of us.

*Plane of the Month:* There was no plane of the month, but President Scott showed us his ¼ midget which promises to be fast.

Motion to adjourn was made and passed.

The IRCC monthly club meeting will be held at FTE near the Lakeland Airport. The next meeting will be on Thursday March 11<sup>th</sup>, and starts promptly at 7:30pm. Bring a chair (if you want to have a seat).

## **Making a Difference**

*By: John Burdin*

There has been a lot written and posted on the internet over the past six to twelve months regarding the AMA leadership. Some good, and a lot of very negative things have been written.

It seems that the leadership in Muncie has decided to wage war on the parts of the R/C model community that it doesn't want to become educated about. Adding fuel to the fire, the AMA seems to be picking on the various SIGS (significant interest groups) which have propped up the AMA from the mid 1980's through the mid to late 1990's.

For those of you who are not aware of how the AMA works, here is a brief lesson. The AMA is largely managed by an Executive Director, lead by and elected President and governed by an elected executive committee. One vice president from each AMA district. We are in district five, and Jim McNeill from Birmingham, Alabama is our representative. The EC sets the policy, makes the rules and does the heavy lifting. By nature it is a relatively tight nit group. The president has no vote in EC matters, but as most chief executives, he does influence attitudes, initiatives and the direction of the EC.

The AMA moved to Muncie Indiana in the early 1990's from the Washington, DC area, and spent about five years tying up all the loose ends of the move, and building a new national flying site. Although the national flying site was largely completed just a few years ago, there is continuing work on the facility and museum.

In matters of government relations at the federal level the AMA has been outstanding. Issues of frequency's for our use is a continuing problem as technical development of the nations communication systems expands. Our freedom to fly in light of "9/11" has been preserved, if not expanded, and the AMA has people who work tirelessly assisting R/C clubs with community relations, preserving and building new flying sites.

The challenges of the twenty first century have not been met, and they continue to fail on this issue. The challenges of new technologies that are allowing AMA members to fly higher, faster

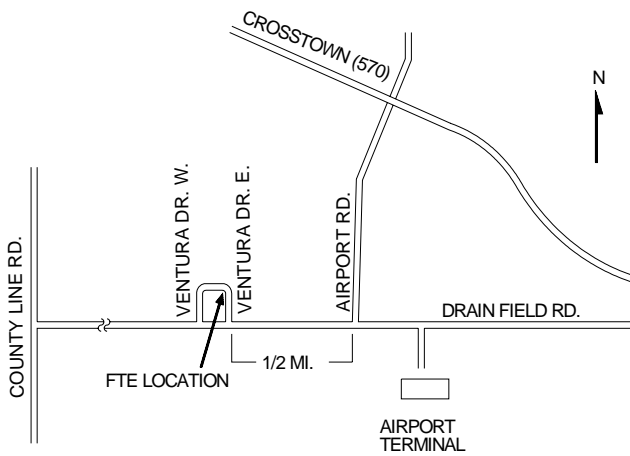
and more nimble models. About twelve years ago the words "giant scale" was becoming ingrained in our vocabularies. Yes big airplanes with eighty inch wing spans!!! Big engines running on gasoline swinging twenty inch props!!!, Racing airplanes weighing twenty five pounds and going nearly 200mph were a hot item. Helicopters were starting to enter a new era in the mid 90's with bigger engines and more sophisticated radios to do the work. The term "3-D" was the new buzz word. By the late 90's we had another phenomem, turbine jet engines, creating the truest of scale airplanes.

Here we are, 2004 and all of the things I just mentioned have become even bigger, faster, more reliable and in most regards safer. Yet, with twelve years dealing with all of these subjects and more, the AMA is still operating with a 1960's mentality. It's truly amazing to me that they have all but ignored the obvious; Technical innovation. It's like the guys in Muncie have been a time warp. They act like all of this was thrust upon them yesterday, in stead of the ten plus years they have avoided it.

It's time we all worked to make a change. The only way the AMA as we know it today will survive, and as modelers we can survive is to vote in change. Where it starts for our club is with the District VP. He needs to go, and I will write more on that in later issues. Tony Stillman is running for the District 5 VP, and I am supporting him in this year's election. I have known Tony for a long time, and if we can get five or six guys like Tony on the EC we will have *Made a Difference.*

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[Contributions to the IRCC newsletter by club members are always welcome. Hobby related subjects 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.](#)



*This map takes you to where we have our monthly club meetings, normally held the first Thursday of each month. Remember to bring a chair.*

There are a number of other businesses in and around FTE. By the time our meeting time rolls around, most of the employees of those businesses should be gone home. This leaves a lot of parking, and a very short walk. Please **DO NOT PARK ON THE GRASS** at FTE or any of his neighbors

## **March Meeting Agenda**

### **Florida Jets Wrap-Up**

### **Top Gun Planning**

Preparations continue for this year's event.

### **More Pylon Race Information**

Scott Smith will have a report on a recent event he attended.

### **Starting Stand???**

Wally Sundry will have a complete report on his proposed idea.

### **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](http://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](http://FrankTiano.com)

### **Florida Int'l Jet Rally**

November 5 - 7  
Lake Wales Airport  
[www.floridajetflyers.com](http://www.floridajetflyers.com)

### **IRCC "Heli Spectacular"**

November 13 & 14  
Doug Bruns CD  
[DBruns6549@cs.com](mailto:DBruns6549@cs.com)  
[www.imperialrcclub.com](http://www.imperialrcclub.com)

**Your assistance is requested.**

**Please remember to contact Jim Urick regarding Florida Jets and Top Gun.**

**Phone: 863-858-4741, Email: [iflyrc@earthlink.net](mailto:iflyrc@earthlink.net)**

**Check out the IRCC website: [www.imperialrcclub.com](http://www.imperialrcclub.com)**

**We are adding new things all the time!!!!**

**Note the meeting date change for March as indicated below.**

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS: March 11<sup>th</sup> \*\* Note Date Change \*\***

***Check out the directions to our meeting place.***