

Tail Spin

By: David DeWitt, President

We have been a busy club this year with the pylon race in March, Florida Jets in April and Top Gun 2007 in May. We have been very successful in all these events thanks to the club members who have generously offered their help. With so many of the clubs in the area losing their fields we are very fortunate to have a great flying site and dedicated members to help keep us going with the manpower necessary to staff these events. The income the club makes off these events allows us to maintain and make a few improvements at the flying field. Thanks again for your support.

We have a couple of months to take a breather before the next IRCC event which will be the pylon race on August 25 & 26, 2007. Rick Ruede and Scott Smith will be the Contest Directors for the race and will have more details as summer gets warmer and the date gets closer. Have a good summer, fly early or fly late to beat the heat.

See you at the flying field!!

New Members

Proposed at the May Meeting
Charlie Murdock

New to the Hobby

If you have never flown an RC plane before and are wondering what it would take to get behind the sticks - don't worry, it's not as hard as it might look. However, RC Flying is a hobby requiring commitment and dedication. It is not reserved for adults - our club has several junior members who have already learned great skills. Several of our members are family teams.

You are invited to come to the next IRCC membership meeting. Times and location are noted in this newsletter and on our website.

If by now you've decided this is a sport/hobby for you - it's time to visit one of our local Hobby Shops to get your flying gear! There are several options open to you - the most popular being a "trainer" aircraft with a high wing. Most trainers now are either "glow" or electric power Almost Ready To Fly (ARF)

models. They are mostly pre-built and require minimal assembly time (10 hours +/-).

The Hobby shop may also offer you a flight simulator - which provides valuable flight training on your home computer. These are not cheap (although much less than a complete airplane!) - but each time you nose in you can smile knowing you didn't wreck your own plane!

The RC world is being revolutionized by electric powered aircraft. These offer a very cost effective way of experiencing the hobby - without the need for fuel burning engines. You will be facing an investment of \$300-\$500 for your initial equipment.

We strongly recommend you join the AMA and IRCC and fly at an AMA sanctioned field. One of the many things the Academy of Model Aeronautics provides is Insurance coverage, and this along with the training you receive from a club will help preserve your model as you learn - a worthwhile investment!

Thanks to our friends at RCACF for this great into piece.

Fast Charging - Will it harm my packs?

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 ni-cds 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

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

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).

Minutes from the

May 10, 2007 Club Meeting

Allen Sale, Secretary

No quorum was present, so no official business was conducted.

One new member was proposed:
Charlie Murdock

One of the very best non-flying events you will ever attend:

**The Annual RCACF
Summer Swap Meet.**

**June 30th
9am til 3pm**

**Bahia Shrine Center
2300 Pembroke Drive
Orlando, Florida 32810
(Do a Mapquest to find it)**

Visit www.RCACF.com
for all the details.

**Things you don't like to hear
after crashing**

"I told you so"

"how much did that cost you"

"way to go slick"

"better luck next time"

"you should have pushed instead"

"that's what you get for showing off"

"haha! that was funny do it again!"

"you suck dude..."

The IRCC monthly club meeting will be held at FTE near the Lakeland Airport. The next meeting will be on Thursday June 7th and starts promptly at 7:30pm. Remember to bring a chair - if you want to have a seat.

"wow, look how far the fragments of balsa went"

"Didn't you have control of it?"

"apply pressure and I'll go get help"

"...isn't that your third crash this season?"

"Gosh, was that the 2nd plane you crashed today?"

"Are you done with the pin?"

"Can I borrow your glow starter?"

Ole RC Bubba got pulled over by a State Trooper for speeding. The trooper started to lecture Bubba about his speeding, and in general began to throw his weight around to try to make Bubba feel uncomfortable.

Finally, the trooper got around to writing out the ticket. As he was doing that, he kept swatting at some flies that were buzzing around his head.

RC Bubba said, "Having some problem with them Circle flies there, are ya?"

The trooper stopped writing the ticket and said, "Well yeah, if that's what they are. I never heard of Circle flies."

So Bubba says, "Well, circle flies are common on ranches. See, they're called circle flies because they're almost always found circling around the back end of a horse."

The trooper says, "Oh," and goes back to writing the ticket. Then after a minute, he stops and says, "Are you trying to call me a horse's Rear End?"

RC Bubba says, "Oh no, Trooper. I have too much respect for law enforcement to even think about calling you a

horse's Rear End."

The trooper says, "Well that's a good thing," and goes back to writing the ticket.

After a long pause, RC Bubba says, "Hard to fool them flies though."

Dear Dusty:

You were on the judging committee at my last IMAA event. Why was I disqualified?

Signed Size Matters

Dear Size

You were in the scale competition and that implies less than 100% scale.

Dusty

P.S. FEMA confiscated your airplane trailer for emergency housing.

Dear Dusty:

I am getting ready to start building my first RC plane kit. Several people have offered to help but with all the ARFs today, how can I be sure they are an experienced builder?

Signed Newbie

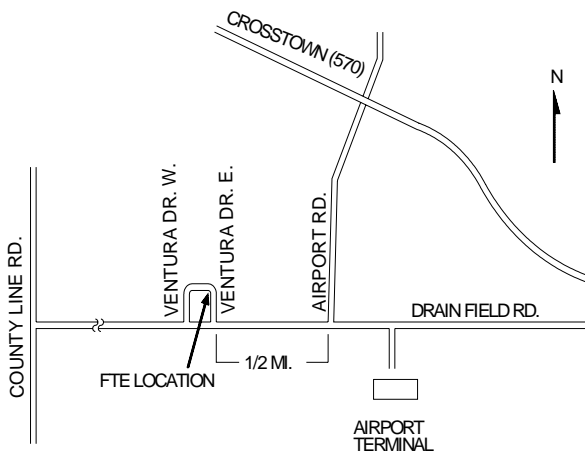
Dear Newbie.

Check his thighs for scars made by Xacto knives rolling off the work bench.

Dusty - Keep 'em Flying

Dear Dusty

I am a little concerned with what has happened in the last few months. My wife had always complained about me leaving the house to go flying. Now she even encourages me and is very dissatisfied when it is bad weather. She does insist that I call when I am leaving the field. Also when I do get home she is dressed very sexily and that is not normal for her. I guess I really shouldn't complain and just enjoy



Please **DO NOT PARK ON THE GRASS** at FTE or his neighbors.

the flying time.

Oh by the way Dusty I haven't seen you at the field in a few months, you didn't change clubs did you?

Signed Worried

Dear Worried

Still in the club, guess I just have had other things to do when you were out flying. Don't forget that call home though, wives always love to hear when you are headed back.

Dusty - Keep em flying

Coming Area Events

Proposed Pylon Race

August 25th and 26th

Rick Ruede:

ruede@tampabay.rr.com

Scott Smith:

ssmith@hansonwalter.com

Florida International Jet Rally

Lake Wales Airport

November 1 – 4

www.floridajetflyers.com

IRCC "Heli Spectacular"

Mulberry, Florida

November 9 – 11

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IRCC IMAA Winter Rally

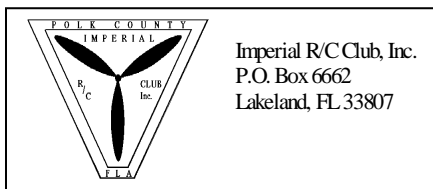
Mulberry, Florida

December 1 – 2

David Dewitt, CD

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Don't
forget the
stamp

OUR NEXT MEETING IS: June 7th

Check out the directions to our meeting place.