It's Time For Some

Propwash

APRIL 2016

Since 1978, the voice of the Imperial R/C Club

www.ImperialRCClub.com

A PLANE VIEW

By Mike Zellars – President

Hello again fellow members! The weather is really starting to get NICE and we are entering probably my favorite time to fly during the year. Not to cold, not to hot and usually not much bad weather. I hope to see you soon out at field! Speaking of, by the time you read this we would have had our family day on 4/9 but I will go ahead and say WOW, what a RSVP response I received so far. Here just a few days before and I already have 65 RSVP's. It's going to be a fun day, hope you made it out.

Instead of talking more "club" stuff, I want to spend the rest of my article allocation talking about my recent P-47 project that ALREADY has quite the story behind it as some of you are aware. I started the project about last May. It is a Meister Scale 1/5 P-47 razorback. It is powered by a Moki 180cc radial engine. The plane is built up, glassed and painted. Although I have built for many years, especially in the days where you had to build if you wanted a plane! But this by far was my most challenging effort. Basically you are just working off plans and figuring things out as you go along. I used a lot the "LAR" technique while building. What is LAR? Looks About Right! Sometimes that is what you have to do when there isn't just enough clarity. Anyway, I finished the project this past January. Here is a pic of finished bird.

The maiden, however, ended up taking longer to get to. First it started off by noticing I had a broken rocker arm! I have no clue if it came this way as I certainly didn't do it but honestly who knows. I said no big deal, I will just order another. Come to find out that ANYONE that has anything to do with Moki engines decides to take off practically the whole month of January every year! Frustrating that a $20 part was keeping me grounded but not a huge deal.

Once I received a new rocker arm, it was GO time, or so I thought! (hehe). I asked David Dewitt to assist me on the first startups as not only is he a good friend but also has had some radial Moki experience.

The engine started fine but just never sounded right on top end and rpms were fluctuating by 500 or so. That is a lot on a motor designed to be only 4500 rpms wide open. So the investigation began and come to find out the #2 coil was sporadic at best and usually just a plain cold cylinder. So off the motor was shipped back to dealer's repair service where they fairly quickly changed out the #2 coil and sent it back.

I was good to go now!!!!! NOT! On our next attempt at a maiden, I could not get the ignition box to power up anymore! ARGHHH! We tried several things but to no avail. Fortunately our clubs good friend Frank Tiano had a spare ignition so I could fly while my ignition was being sent back for repair.

So we are now ready and in mid Feb the maiden took place! What a wonderful flying model, even at 53 pounds! Well that was until I decided to roll it and for some reason it didn't like that and engine lost power! As you can imagine with a 53 pound airplane with no power, you better get that beast down and down quick which I tried to do. Ended up, it came in way to hot and to avoid the eastern fence line I tried to crab it to the left.....

A PLANE VIEW (Cont.)

End result was it stalled and the gear and big flaps almost destroyed the wing. **Almost!**

YUK!!!! Right? The fuse and motor were fine but the retracts really took a toll on that wing. It was time to order another wing kit and start over.

Fortunately though my good friend Mason Benfield heard some people saying it was a goner and not able to be repaired.

He said that he felt up to the challenge and literally took the wing home in a bag! As most of you know, Mason is an expert craftsman and it wasn't long before the wing actually took shape of a wing again! WOW!

A week or so ago, which was about 4 weeks after the crash landing, Mason called and said lets fly! We both agreed to fly it with just primer on repaired spots until we knew it was a winner. So on 3/30, the bird took to the air again and I didn't have to touch one trim! It flew like it was on rails and the radial sounded awesome. After about 4 minutes of "normal" upright flight, I decided it was time to test that "inverted" thing that plagued the original flight.

This time I probably had it a bit higher - expecting something bad and sure enough, inverted she went and dead the engine went!!!! Having a plan ahead of time helped more and it was greased in right down middle of runway. Phew!

So now it is time for me to put some paint back on and make look pretty again and in meantime I am talking to anybody that may know anything about why this engine doesn't like upside down. The fuel tank, fuel lines and ignition has been ruled out and I have it pumped. I will keep plugging away until she will fly inverted! Or she does scream along so maybe an upright pylon racer??

Thanks for all the interest and pats on back and bigger thanks to Mason who has the patience and skill to put jigsaw puzzles back together. Until next month, let's fly!

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IRCC MEETING MINUTES

April 2016

Recorded by Secretary - Ian Clark

The April 2016 monthly meeting of the Imperial R/C Club was brought to order by President Mike Zellars at 11:00 am. A motion was made and passed to accept the March minutes as posted in the club newsletter.

Visitors and New Members: Our new members include Art Duncan, Earl Studstill, Dan Pham, Abisai Diaz, Steve Diaz, Chuck Grandstaff, Alex Gust and Tommy Dean. Steve Simonds was visiting also.

Treasurers Report: Gary Snyder reported that March has been the best month for income this year. We received income from Frank Tiano's Florida Jets, and our pylon racing put on by Scott Smith and Rick Ruede. We now have a check book balance of $xxxxx.xx.

Membership Report: Our club continues to grow! We are now at an all-time high this early in the year with 124 members.

Field Maintenance Report: Mark Durkac reported all is well. He has requested additional fire ant killer and roundup to keep our field in great shape.

Jim Giallombardo is continuing to keep the field mowed. He will be changing the blades on our tractor to get it ready for the summer growth.

Safety Report: Dave DeWitt announced that we need a new first aid kit. Approval was given and a new one was ordered. Dave also reported that both Florida Jets and our pylon racing went off without any incidents. He felt that everyone was very safety conscious which made his job easier.

Instructors Report: Larry Loucks reported he has two students that are ready to solo, and Dan Hudson also has a student ready to go.

New Business: Our club is planning a family day on April 9, 2016. A signup sheet was passed around at the meeting and an e-mail has been sent out to members. Larry Loucks will be cooking our burgers and dogs. We ask members to bring their favorite side dish.

There has been a change in the procedure for recovering a plane that has been lost on Badcock property. You will need to go to the second gate and contact the guard. They will then contact someone at another location who will come over and escort you to your aircraft. It will take a little longer, but we need to be courteous to them for allowing us on their property.

Wally Sundey made a motion that the club allocate $700.00 to purchase raffle prizes to be used at Top Gun. The motion was seconded and passed. Mike Zellars announced he received the sanction from the AMA to allow our club to put on our first “IRCC Golden Age Fun Fly” event to be held Nov. 9, 10 and 11 at our club field.

Past Events: Our pylon race brought in $xxxx.xx, with expenses being $xxx.xx, resulting in a profit to the club of $741.00. Florida Jets resulted in an additional $2270.00 thanks to Frank Tiano and the efforts of Wally Sundey working the club raffle. Wally wanted to mention that he could not have done as well without the help of Gary Snyder, Jerry Ruthven, and Don LaPointe, for helping him make the club raffle a success.

Sportsmanship Award: Wally Sundey was nominated for his hard work with the raffle sales at Florida Jets. He said he would accept only if the people who helped him were included. They are Gary Snyder, Jerry Ruthven and especially Don LaPointe.

Plane Of The Month: Earl Studstill brought in his twin engine Grumman Skyrocket. It has two .25 equivalent electric motors. It was built from a Hobby Hanger kit.

50/50: This month’s winner was Jack Buie who promptly donated it back to the club. Thanks Jack.

A motion was made and passed to close the April meeting.

IRCC IN ACTION

FLORIDA JETS 2016!

IRCC Information & Raffle Display

One of the most demanding & fun job's for IRCC members at Florida Jets is Flight Line Control! Keeping ahead of the action when you have 6 aircraft in the air at the same time, all traveling at 175 – 200 mph takes a well-coordinated team. Their job - get these birds safely into the air and then back on the ground. The IRCC "Flight Line Team" excels at doing just that!

Raffle prizes on display!

IRCC IN ACTION

FLORIDA JETS 2016!

Mark Durkac & Wayne Pontius are ready with the "Crash Cart"

Jerry McGhee and Jr. Member Peyton (son) are out to help!

Jerry Ruthven along with Jack Buie & Don Lapointe man the IRCC Information / Raffle Tent while Wally Sundey works the crowd!

IRCC IN ACTION

FLORIDA JETS 2016!

This year we decided to go big with lots of raffles prizes!

These included a 32” Flat Screen TV, a Micro “PT-17” Airplane, Gamma 370 Trainer and a “Pheonix” computer flight simulator. The Grand Prize was the T-28 TX Ready Airplane.

AND HERE ARE THE WINNERS!

Thank you Gary Snyder for delivering the TV and PT-17 to the lucky winners!

THANK YOU!

To David Mottern (Owner) for your continued support of our club!

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THE NEXT IRCC CLUB MEETING WILL BE

SATURDAY

MAY 7th 2016

AT THE FIELD STARTING AT 11:00 AM!

Imperial R/C CLUB

ALL ELECTRIC FLY-IN
Saturday May 14, 2016
9 a.m. til 3 p.m.
at the AREA 52 Flying field
Open to All Electric Aircraft
No FPV Please
Landing Fee only $10
Includes Free
Lunch for All Registered Pilots!
Must be current AMA Member
Kitchen opens at 11 a.m. for lunch
Check www.baycityflyers.org for directions to the "Area 52" field
SPECTATORS WELCOME! $3 DONATION (PER CAR) AT THE GATE

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Prices:

10% - $16.00 gal. / 15% - $16.50 gal.