

CARTWHEELS

BY: LARRY LOUCKS, PRESIDENT

So here it is 2010, I hope everyone had a good holiday season. December was a pretty quiet month for field activities; it was colder and windy more than I have seen in a long time. We do not have any events scheduled for January other than our monthly meeting January 7th at 7:30 PM.

At last months meeting we had twenty members attend and this is a really good thing, thank you all for coming. Talk it up at the field, ask everyone you know and lets see if we cant get some of our other members to come on out, it would be terrific if we could get 30 guys to attend, or 40 or 50??

Larry Minot gave a great presentation on his beautifully built 38 special Bi-Plane. It is always nice when someone does a presentation or "show and tell" at the meeting.

Please contact myself or Gary Snyder if any of you would like to bring in your favorite plane, helicopter, radio or discuss some in depth aspect of RC you are more than welcome, because it makes the meetings that much more interesting and informative.

Kudos and thanks to the mysterious suspects who painted the white lines on the runway, now we can see where we really should be landing!!

Congratulations to Nadia Moore our "Sportsman of the Month" for her assistance to Nick Ruys in building his Lavochkin LA-7 Airplane.

That's it for this month,

Have fun, be safe, SEE YA at the meeting.

New Members

Proposed at the December Meeting

-0-

**** 2010 Membership Renewals Are Now Due ****

If you have not completed your 2010 IRCC Membership Renewal now is a great time to get started.

Just mail in your renewal / application form along with a copy of your 2010 AMA card, and your check.

New renewal forms are required each year to verify information, and copies of AMA cards and renewal forms are kept on file.

Do it now because by the time you receive this notice, your membership will be about to expire!!!

If you have not received your new AMA card that is OK. Once you receive it and get a copy of it to Roger, your new 2010 IRCC card will be mailed directly to you.

Roger must have a copy of your 2010 AMA card, 2010 IRCC Renewal form and payment before you can receive your 2010 IRCC membership card.

Remember flying privileges expire at midnight December 31st.

Go to membership on the website, and download the Application and Renewal Form and get the process started today.

**Our next club meeting is:
Thursday January 7th at FTE.
Plan to attend and see what's new.**

We need a good picture of Roger and David (new officers) for the Website.

Please forward anything good to:

info@imperialrcclub.com

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P.O. Box 6662
Lakeland, Florida 33807

PRESIDENT

Larry Loucks
813-363-1654
dummthum@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENT

David Raff
863-521-4226
raff7113@msn.com

SECRETARY

George Nauck
863 619 2897
gsnauck@aol.com

TREASURER

Roger Pilkenton
863-324-2149
thedodgetwo@aol.com

DIRECTORS:

Rick Ruede (3)
Ian Clark (2)
David DeWitt (1)

FMO:

Ian Clark

SAFETY OFFICER:

Allen Sale

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Bob Curry

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR
and**

WEBMASTER:

John Burdin
863-648-9933
jwburdin@tampabay.rr.com

Website:

www.ImperialRCClub.com

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

IRCC Meeting Minutes

December 3rd, 2009

*Minutes recorded by:
George Nauck, Secretary*

Larry Loucks called to order at 7:30 sharp.
We had 20 members present!

Wally was there hustling 50/50 raffle tickets.

The outgoing treasurer Rick Ruede was absent, but sent treasurer's report with Larry. We have money. Incoming treasurer Roger Pilkenton was present to collect membership applications and dues. Secretary George Nauck provided Roger with a large envelope to collect them.

Minutes from prior meeting were accepted.

Field Maintenance – It was reported that a white centerline mysteriously appeared on the E-W runway this very day. It is suspected that Captain Mike, who bought and installed new windsocks recently, may be implicated. George Nauck suggested that parallel stripes at 10 foot intervals be painted on the grass for a hundred feet on the North side so he and his students could hit one occasionally.

The November Helicopter Spectacular netted around \$xxxx due to the huge turnout and extra-ordinary concession sales. Thanks to the cooks and volunteers!

Next club event will be next year in March, Florida Jets, and then Top Gun in May.

Larry Minott gave a superb discourse on Control Line airplanes and flying. He showed his Brodak 38 Special that he painstakingly built over a 6 month period. He would not consent to using it for a trainer. Larry recently took 1st place and 4th place in the control line event in Tampa. Great going, Larry!

It was suggested by Wally Sunde to provide a plaque to outgoing club officers in appreciation for their service to the club. It was unanimously approved.

George Nauck displayed the plaque presented to him by Henry and Michael Soldano in appreciation for the encouragement and help to new pilots.

It was suggested and unanimously approved to present John Burdin with a gift certificate for his tireless, excellent work in publishing our newsletter and maintaining our website.

The Sportsmanship award went to Nadia Moore, a nurse who has been assisting Nick Ruys to complete the huge Lavochkin LA-7. She is a tremendous sport in her willingness and helpfulness to a club member.

The 50/50 went to David Raff.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 PM with everybody happy

**ON THE SAFE SIDE
The Lighter Side of Safety**

by Don Nix, Insider Safety Column Editor

My last column about self-appointed, rude, and dangerous hotdogs in RC drew more mail than any previous one. With one exception, all the letters were not only in agreement, but most gave examples of similar incidents at their own fields and how they had dealt with it.

The lone dissenter was not only indignant ("Nobody is going to tell me what I can and can't do"), but at the end of his e-mail stated he could tell I was probably pro gun control and a few other unspeakable sins, none of which were true or had anything to do with flying model airplanes. Oh, well.

As I was debating subject matter for this issue, it occurred to me that funny things related to safety do happen from time to time. They are only funny when no person is injured or no property is damaged. The following incidents took place years ago at a very popular RC flying field in Southern California.

Late one Saturday afternoon, one of our most regular and experienced pilots was flying an Ugly Stik and began yelling, "I don't have it! I don't have it! No control!" then watched open-mouthed as "his" model gracefully climbed into the pattern, turned downwind, turned again and passed in front of everyone, continuing on around again, seemingly on its own. This field was a very busy one with 12 pilot stations, and most had models in the air at the moment.

Gradually he realized what had happened. This particular fellow liked to fly low and in the weeds (literally), but

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

was always careful to do so well past the far side of the runway, at least a hundred feet from the flight line. As he made one of his low and slow passes into the afternoon sun, an almost identical Stik was taking off at the far end of the pit area and starting to climb into the pattern. At that time of day, at that particular point and general altitude, models tended to become silhouettes briefly.

Ah, you can see it coming. Just as our friend was approximately abreast of the model taking off, his eyes picked up the other Stik as his own. In the meantime (as we discovered an hour or so later), his model had continued unhampered and uncontrolled straight ahead, crashing into a golf course several hundred yards to the west. I might mention the golfers were not amused.

On another occasion, one of my friends who did a lot of training of newbies was helping a beginner with his brand new trainer, checking everything, starting the engine, tuning it, and explaining what he was doing at every step. After getting the engine tuned and idling properly, he told the proud owner that he wanted to check the engine at full power with the nose up to be sure it wasn't too lean. The owner, eager to please, held the airplane vertical while the engine test was made, and was still holding it in that position when the instructor reduced the power to idle.

Yes, the fellow was a beginner, but he had been at the park for a couple of hours, and certainly must have seen what others were doing all around him. No doubt nerves pickled his brain at that moment, because when the instructor nodded at him, assuming the fellow would put it down at the edge of the runway, the poor guy simply tossed it straight up into the air, nose pointed skyward, engine at idle.

Incredibly, the stunned instructor, having more skill and presence of mind than most of us, punched the throttle full forward, managed to get the thing wallowing into the air and flew it out into the pattern. Another fine example of what happens when we assume something.

TIPS FOR CLUBS

Club Corner

by Jim Wallen, AMA Insider Club Editor

In many parts of the country about this time of year, the weather is a little dicey. If you are lucky enough to hang out in the southern climates you have a long flying season. If you reside farther up north, you can be seeing snow flurries and blustery winds that are not exactly conducive to flying. Along with your building project for the winter, take the opportunity to go out and get your club involved in some community activities that you can do indoors.

Mall shows are a lot of fun and the merchandise stores

love to see you there. A few volunteers, a few airplanes, a kit building display, and a working model that kids can touch are all it takes. Institute a contest that the public can vote on for the best model on display. It also ends up being a great social event for club members.

Many schools welcome a visit to have us display our "toys." Preschool kids love to see the airplanes and get a real charge out of a "crash video." Older kids like the more technical stuff and maybe you can arrange to fly a foamy on the school grounds or in the gym.

Arrange a visit to a local hospital to visit the kids. Watch their eyes light up as you fly a micro heli around in their room!

Don't forget the old folks. Nursing homes and senior citizen centers are always receptive to visitors willing to entertain with a little "dog and pony show."

In addition to promoting your club and our hobby, there is a great deal of personal satisfaction in sharing our experiences with others. Remember how intrigued YOU were when you got your first glimpse of RC? Give it a try!

LEADER TO LEADER

Safety Beyond Members

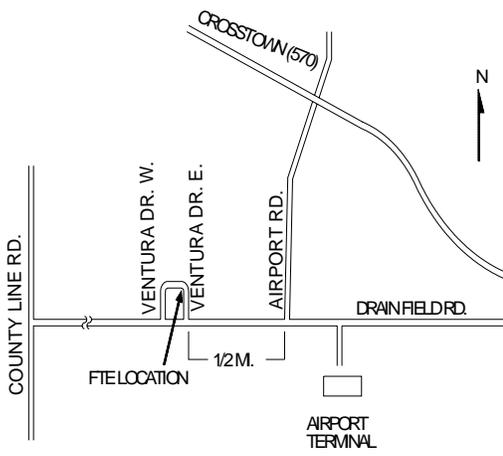
by Jim Rice, Chairman Leader Member Committee

As we start the New Year, it is imperative that we not only keep our excellent safety record intact, we must also make strides toward the goal of ensuring all modelers, AMA or not, fly in a manner to be considered safe by the FAA and other governmental agencies including city, county, and state officials.

We have a difficult enough time enforcing our AMA Safety Code with our own membership, but we need to attempt to educate and encourage safe operation by nonmembers when we see them flying in and around our areas. If we do this properly, we might get the safety issues corrected and develop a friendship that could encourage the newcomer to join our ranks and fly at a chartered club field where more friends and aircraft can be encountered. A reckless act by a nonmember could endanger our future operations, and that should not be taken lightly.

Please familiarize yourself with the new Safety Code and the "See and Avoid" document so you can train the rest of the modelers in your area. You should also try to remain in tune with the ongoing activities of Rich Hanson's work group and any communications between the FAA and the AMA. You are another voice to our membership and communications are crucial to us over the next year or two.

I also encourage you to sign up for the AMA Forum on the AMA Web site at: www.modelaircraft.org/forums/default.aspx. As I write



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

this, we have 267 members on the forum and it has been running for about three months. Many issues discussed are just bantering, and others are quite meaningful.

I do not want to get into censure, but I believe a shot of level headedness from our ranks can help keep the threads from getting too far out of control or off topic. I post periodically when I think I can help get to the bottom of an issue, but I believe all of you can help provide new issues for thread discussion and can offer years of experience and leadership to all of us.

Keep your eyes open for potential new Leader Members because we are always in need of new blood in our volunteer ranks and there are many new modelers whose expertise could be invaluable to our organization.

Coming Area Events

Florida Jets

March 4 - 6
Lakeland Airport
www.franktiano.com

IRCC Spring Pylon Race

Club Field
Date - TBA
www.imperialrclub.com

Sun'n Fun

April 13 - 18
Lakeland Airport
www.sun-n-fun.org

Top Gun

April 28 - May 2
Lakeland Airport
www.franktiano.com

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

Don't forget the stamp

OUR NEXT MEETING IS: January 7th 2010