It's Time for Some **Propwash**

SEPT 2012

Since 1978, the voice of the Imperial R/C Club www.ImperialRCClub.com

## THE FLIGHT LINE

By David Raff – President

With both Tropical Storm Isaac and the Republican National Convention having blown over with little to no damage we can now get back to a little sense of normalcy and do what we love to do … **FLY!**

We have a very busy schedule coming up this fall with the FAI USA Team Trials, the "Mulberry 500" Pylon Races, "Monster Planes", "The Mulberry Heli Spectacular" and our first All-Electric Fun Fly event. In last month's newsletter, I focused attention on the fact that we need **everyone** to help pitch in to make these events a success. This not only benefits the club as a whole but helps to ease the individual commitment of each and every member. The more people that participate, the less the individual commitment is for everyone.

At this month's meeting which will be held at the field Saturday 9/8/12 at 9:00AM, I will be giving some time to each of the Contest Directors to talk about their upcoming event and give you a chance to sign up for the event or events that you would like to be a part of. Let's each of us plan to commit to at least a half a day at one or more of these upcoming events. Who knows, you might even enjoy yourself!

Something else that I would like to bring to your attention is that I am getting ready to submit an application to the AMA to accept the ***Imperial Radio Control Club*** as a Silver Level Leader Club for 2012.

In order to recognize the leadership of the best model clubs in the country, the Academy established the AMA Leader Club Awards. These awards are earned by any AMA chartered club, by meeting certain standards of community service and activities. The three levels of AMA Leader Clubs are Bronze, Silver and Gold. Once a club meets the minimum criteria, it qualifies for the different levels based on performance.

The AMA has established 6 goals and nine electives to obtain Leader Club Status. The first level – Bronze is achieved when a minimum of 5 goals and 3 electives are met. Silver is achieved when at least 5 goals plus 6 electives are attained (the IRCC has already met this criteria). The highest achievement – Gold is reserved for those clubs that meet all goals and electives.

The Required Activities (GOALS) are as follows:

1) AMA Charter status for a minimum of 5 years.
2) Club membership is open to all AMA members and not limited to a certain number.
3) Club has developed and posted Safety and Operational Rules at it's flying site.
4) Club has filed a copy of the Safety and Opera tional Rules at AMA Headquarters.
5) Flying Field has separate areas for fliers and spectators, clearly marked as such.
6) The AMA Safety Code is posted and visible at the club field.

Achieved or soon to be achieved Leader Club Electives would include:

1) Club has implemented and enforces a frequency control plan that allows all 50 channels to be used at its flying site where RC is allowed.
2) Club has implemented an AMA Adopt –A-School program or donates a ***Model Aviation*** magazine subscription to school(s) or library.
3) Club Conduct's a review of the AMA Safety Code at a club meeting at least once a year.
4) Club sponsors an annual public event, such as a mall show, flying show or demonstration.
5) Club has created an informal handout and provides it to the general public.
6) Club participates in the AMA Introductory Pilot Program or has its own instruction program.

Three more electives to work on for next year
And we go for

**THE GOLD!**

Until next month –That is all from "The Flight Line"

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P.O. Box 6662
Lakeland, Florida 33807

PRESIDENT
**David Raff**
863-899-6972
raff7113@msn.com

VICE PRESIDENT
**Robert Russ**
813-653-4591
acerc802000@yahoo.com

SECRETARY
**George Nauck**
863-619-2897
gsnauck@aol.com

TREASURER
**Gary Snyder**
863-514-0127
gmsnyder@tampabay.rr.com

DIRECTORS:
**Mason Benfield**
**Rick Ruede**
**Steve Baxley**

FIELD MAINTENANCE OFFICER:
**Ian Clark**

SAFETY OFFICER:
**Allen Sale**

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:
**Bob Curry**

WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
**John King**
shinodavette@gmail.com

WEBSITE:
www.ImperialRCClub.com

***Courtesy and Common Sense Keeps R/C Modeling Fun for Everyone.***

## IRCC Meeting Minutes

August 2, 2012
Recorded by George Nauck, Secretary

President David Raff called meeting to order at 7:30 PM. There were insufficient members present for a quorum. Dedicated members determined to have a meeting regardless.

July meeting minutes accepted.

Financial Report – Finances for year are in excellent shape. Forecast is to end the year with a $XXX surplus.

Now at 101 members. We have 77 full, 1 associate, 19 juniors, and 4 comp members.

Field Maintenance – There was a discussion about looking into the possibility of sealing the runways and taxiways. This will be investigated as to cost and alternative methods. George Nauck was authorized to spend up to $100 to fabricate an awning for the tractor to keep sun off the driver during 7 hours of mowing.

Safety – No safety issues have been reported.

Instructors report – We have some new members that we will be working with. A young lady, Emily White got her orientation flights on Sunday. Doug and Nick (son) Rominello have been given orientation flights after joining.

New business – Steve Baxley volunteered to organize a one-day electric fun-fly. Tentatively set for November 17, a week after the Heli event.

Gary Snyder stated that Fantasy of Flight is running a 2 for 1 special, and that this is a truly great facility to visit often. It is proposed to have as many club members and family to visit on Saturday, August 25th.

Future Events - We will hold FAI Qualifying event in September 27-30. Scott Smith will need volunteers.

October 19-21 will be our Mulberry 500 pylon race event for SEMPRA. Scott Smith will again need lots of volunteers to run this event.

November 9-10-11 –IRCC will host a Helicopter Event at the club field.

Frank Tiano donated a flight box with lots of goodies including fuel for us to use in our "new cadet" program of youth beginners who need some help getting equipment together. Also a nice airplane restraint system. Frank has been very generous in providing the club with useful items and aircraft.

The sportsmanship award went to George Nauck for his good looks.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM

**The Next IRCC Club Meeting will be held on Saturday, September 8th, at 9:00 AM at the IRCC Flying Field.**

POLK COUNTY IMPERIAL R/C CLUB Inc. FLA

The IRCC monthly club meeting will be held at IRCC Flying Field.
The next meeting will be on Saturday, September 8th and will start promptly at 9:00 am.

## How to Bend Balsa

By: Paul L. Daniels (pldaniels.com)
Feather River RC Modelers, Oroville CA

Quite frequently in building with balsawood we need to bend balsa into a curved surface. For curves with fairly large radii, this can be done without any problem. When it comes to convincing balsa to bend around complex, varying, and tight curves (such as tail planes or wingtips), balsa has to be assisted into making these curves without crimping or snapping.

The reason why we choose to bend balsa around such curves is for a couple of reasons:

Strength: Balsa is strongest when the grain runs the length of the wood.

Finish: Sanding with the grain produces a smoother surface.

Economy: It's cheaper to make a wingtip out of a strip of balsa than to use up a larger sheet of balsa and having to discard the bulk of it.

The available methods of getting balsa to bend more can be broken down into sections: laminating, one-sided moisture/heat, chemicals, long soak.

With all bending operations it's suggested that you start out with the most flexible piece of balsa that you can obtain, typically this is referred to as A-grain balsa. Do not attempt to use C/quarter-grain balsa as it'll tend to split very quickly.

Stage 1: Getting the wood flexible
Laminating: The process of using laminating to make balsa curve around corners is based on the principle that a thinner sheet of balsa can be curved at a tighter radius. The radius of curvature limit varies between materials, but essentially it represents a percentage of compression (or tension), caused by the difference in curve radii between the inner and outer limits of the balsa. Thinner balsa will be able to be bent tighter before the same critical difference of curvature occurs.

Using the laminating process can be a fairly tedious one, but it does produce an appealing (to some) visual appearance. Laminating produces the strongest, but also heaviest, resulting form.

One-side moisture/heat: If you take a sheet or strip of balsa and dampen one side you'll see that in a few seconds that the balsa starts to curve away from the dampened side. Conversely, if you apply a hot iron to the sheet of balsa, the balsa will curve toward the heated side. The reason why this occurs in both cases is because of a difference in moisture content in the balsa wood cells. The more moisture in the cell, the more it expands.

In the damp application, the damp side of the balsa expands causing the sheet to curve away. With the iron application, the moisture is driven out of the balsa cells on that side to contract and causing the balsa to curl in.

Chemicals: Sometimes you really need to get a piece of balsa around things are already too thin for laminating practically- the solution can sometimes be to chemically adjust balsa to bend. Clouded ammonia (water with ammonia in it) or Windex will make balsa especially flexible. The action by which this occurs is the breaking down of balsa cell walls. Interestingly some people have reported that using vinegar also works, the key appears to be to soak the material in a non-neutral pH substance.

For clouded ammonia, use a 50/50 mix with water. Caution: use this mix in a well-ventilated area. Ammonia can suffocate you. If you would rather not take the potential risk, consider using the long-soak method.

Long soak: If using chemicals such as ammonia or vinegar isn't your idea of a pleasant experience, you can soak the balsa in hot/warm water for an hour or more (depending on the thickness). The heat is useful to accelerate the absorption of the water into the cell structure.

Stage 2: Setting the shape
Once you've made your balsa flexible, you can commence to shape it to your needs. For simple curves, such as cylinders, cones and such, you can simply apply the wood to the formers or suitable shape holder (having a good selection of tins, tubes, and rods help here) and tape/hold the balsa to the required shape and allow to dry.

Even if you're using the framework itself to form the curve, do not attempt to glue the balsa at this stage. Wet balsa and glue do not work together. Wait until the balsa is completely dry. Be forewarned that this sometimes can take a day or two in the cold weather. When you remove the balsa from its former shape holder, you'll notice that it tends to spring back a little bit, that is okay, it's normal. You can now glue your balsa to the airframe.

## Volunteering for Pylon Events

If you would like to volunteer to help out with the F3D Team Trials on September 27th - 30th at the IRCC Flying Field or the 9th Annual Mulberry 50 on October 19th - 21st, please contact Scott Smith at (863) 670-5141 or scottsmith@sempra.org. Flyers with more information on these two events can be found on the last pages of this newsletter.

**Congratulations to one of our newest club members, Dennis O'Brien for becoming the 2012 NATS Quickie 500 National Champion!**

**Congratulations Emily!**

Our club now has another young lady who is tremendously excited about becoming an R/C Pilot. Her name is Emily White, and she will be entering 8th grade. Here she is smiling with her Apprentice after making two sucessful orientation flights.

## Coming Area Events:

**Team USA F3D**
**2013 Team Trials**
September 27 - 30

**Mulberry 500 Pylon Racing**
October 19 - 21

**Monster Planes USA**
October 25 - 27

**Mulberry Heli Spectacular**
November 9 - 11

Visit www.ImperialRCClub.com for more details!

**AMA Vision**

We, the members of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, are the pathway to the future of aeromodeling and are committed to making modeling the foremost sport/hobby int eh world. This vision is accomplished through:

- Affiliation with its valued associates, the modeling industry and governments.
- A process of continuous improvement.
- A commitment to leadership, quality, education and scientific/technical development.
- A safe, secure, enjoyable modeling environment.

**AMA Mission**

The Academy of Model Aeronautics is a world-class association of modelers organized for the purpose of promotion, development, education, advancement, and safeguarding of modeling activities. The Academy provides leadership, organization, competition, communication, protection, representation, recognition, education and scientific/technical development to modelers.

FAI

Federation Aeronautique International

# TEAM USA F3D

## 2013 TEAM TRIALS

Imperial R/C Club, Inc.

www.ImperialRCClub.com

**Welcome to 2013 team USA F3D team trials!! This event will be the time trials to select the 3 pilots who will represent the USA in the 2013 World Championships in Deelen Netherlands. This event will be run in strict accordance to the current FAI F3D rule as stated in the current rulebook. ALL contestants are required to use the current approved silencers on your aircraft as well as meet all other current FAI regulations. Please note, we will be flying in the circle per FAI rules for qualification. Entries from other countries not qualifying for the US team are welcome, and we will run you in a separate matrix. However, if time becomes an issue, we may have to limit the non-team qualifiers on the number of rounds. All course workers are experienced and very well qualified and we will be using a well-proven digital lighting, timing and scoring system. Come out and support FAI and have a chance to qualify for your 2013 USA F3D World team.**

**Poles up Test flying all day Thursday (September 27, 2012) and Friday (September 28, 2012).**

**NOTICE: after testing has stopped on Friday night, there will be NO MORE TEST FLYING until the contest is OVER on Sunday.**

You must pay your $50 team trial fees to the AMA prior to arriving to fly
Site Entry fees are $100.00 per entry and are due 30 days prior to the event

CD: Scott Smith (863) 670-5141
ScottSmith@sempra.org
Event coordinator: Gary Freeman Jr. (407) 948-7567
gary.e.freeman@lmco.com

**Please feel free to contact Gary if you have contest related questions, or Scott for all shipping, travel of lodging questions.**

### Local area lodging

Imperial Swan
4141 South Florida Ave.
Lakeland, Fl, 33813
(863) 647-3000

Stay Inn
1035 N. Broadway Ave.
Bartow, Fl. 33830
(800) 424-0711

Holiday Inn
3405 S. Florida Ave.
Lakeland, Fl. 33803
(863) 646-5731

Holiday Inn Express
1565 N. Broadway Ave.
Bartow, Fl. 33860
(863) 533-8070

**September 27th - 30th, 2012**
**Flying Starts At 8:00 am daily!**

F3D World Championship 2013

**FUEL SPONSORED BY:**
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THE WINNER'S CHOICE

Are you ready to **RACE?**

Imperial R/C Club, Inc.

Welcome to the 8th Annual

# MULBERRY 500!

What could make life any better than being in Florida in the Fall? Only one thing, RC Pylon racing in Mulberry Florida! So come on down to the Mulberry 500 race weekend for the 1st 2012 pylon race of the SEMPRA season. We will run AMA 426 class Quickies on October 20th, and AMA 422 class Quarter 40 on October 21 st. SEMPRA 424-sport quickie (*Thunder Tiger Pro40, APC 9-6 prop, and a 17,000 rpm maximum ground launch ready tach reading*) will run both days, each day as a single race. We will run the 3-pole AMA short course on Saturday for 424 & 426, and the AMA L-O-N-G course on Sunday for 424 & 422. Friday practice is open to all classes and there will be plenty of help for anyone interested in getting started in Pylon racing. Come on down and see what you are missing!

Entry fees: $30.00 per day per class(426, 424 & 422).
Current SEMPRA members will receive $5.00 off of one event per day.
CD. Scott Smith (863)670-5141
Co CD Rick Ruede (863) 944-3287

**Practice – October 19, 2012**
**Racing - October 20 - 21, 2012**
Racing Starts At 9:30am daily!

ssmith4710@aol.com
rruede@tampabay.rr.com
Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions

Further information, hotels information and directions can be found at: www.ImperialRCClub.com