



Rocky Mountain Modelers



Smooth Landings
www.modelers.org November, 2004

President's Letter



Dan St. John



You can definitely tell that winter is just around the corner. I went flying last Saturday, and my fingers were once again getting cold half-way through the flight. Time to get the snow skis out and ready to mount on the plane.

This time of year also brings club membership renewals. Let's be proactive this year, and turn in your 2005 renewal in November or December. Think of it as a going away present for Loren, because he will have to process it rather than our new treasurer in January, 2005.

Speaking of the new treasurer, I will be asking for nominations at the November meeting for the positions of president and treasurer. We will then vote for our new officers at the December meeting. These positions are important to the club, and we need someone to lead us in 2005. Please consider stepping up to the plate and volunteering to serve. It is an enlightening experience to serve as a club officer.

Remember our next meeting will be on November 2nd at 7:00 PM in Jax's Conference Room. I hope to see you all there.



Dan

Rocky Mountain Aeromodeling Exhibition

November 20th, 2004

10am - 5pm

Wings over the Rockies Museum - Main Hangar
Join the region's finest modelers, RC enthusiasts, hobbyists and vendors for an awesome display of amazing machines. Small to giant scale.

Editor's Column

A recent accident and some near misses at our field have spurred this writing. I want to remind everyone to be safe when flying, and remember: don't get those hands too close to the prop and/or rotor blades!

It is said that flying commercially is safest after a crash because everyone is on "high alert." The same is true with models. We all know that the prop is dangerous; remember to respect it! NONE of us are immune from accidents, but clear-focused thought and consistent practice of good safety habits can reduce the odds.

Our best wishes are with Don Hoag. We hope he is feeling better.

--Garret

When Props Attack!

You and I should always be aware,
To handle our props with excess care
You may not know a prop can attack,
It'll take off your finger with a "WHACK!"
I tell you a prop can do it all,
It slices; it dices, and makes men bawl
Just be careful and watch out,
It has potential to bite you; do not doubt
When your guard is let down,
You may take an ambulance ride through town
Will you get one stitch or maybe two?
How long will your finger be black and blue?
Always be alert when the prop is nearby
And could you please always try,
To adjust your engine from the rear
For then you should have nothing to fear
So be mindful around those props,
From the time it starts until it stops!

--Clint Hultgren

Next Meeting -- November 2, 7:00 P.M. at Jax's Conf. Room

Minutes of the October Meeting



Minutes of Monthly Meeting

Rocky Mountain Modeleers

October 2, 2004

Modeleers Field, 12000 N County Rd 5, Wellington, CO 80549

Twenty seven members came to order under the thunder of President Dan St. John's gavel at 10:05am.

Guests: Don Hoag (pronounced "Ho-ag") visited from Estes Park and the Longmont club, with an eye toward joining the Modeleers. He is a veteran of glow-fuel and electric r/c.

Announcements: Garret Hultgren (newly appointed newsletter editor) received verbal high-fives and hosannas – not this time for provision of nutrient-dense snack foods or anecdotes about ducks – for the club's first dissemination of the newsletter by email and website-posting.

Treasurer's Report: Loren Deines reported a club balance of \$2262, with \$400 owed to Zig Zag Embroidery for the new ball caps. He has received \$340 from hat sales; has paid out \$350 for the new club lawnmower; and will soon pay back ~\$100 for expenses from the 50th anniversary fly-in. He noted that the Portalet at Modeleers Field will be locked for the winter soon. Loren's report was approved.

Minutes for September were approved.

Old Business:

1. Most of the new ball caps have been sold for \$15 each. In a move of unexpected largesse, members approved giving new hats to club instructors at no cost, although the vote was close, and the muttering thick. The suggestion that instructors could, of their own volition, make a donation to the club for their hats elicited little response, except for one instructor who, when pressed for comment, noted that the elevation appeared to be holding constant.

2. Jim Brink described the club's recent 50th anniversary celebration as a "great event," and thanked members for their collective efforts. Jim made special mention of Loren Deines ("he works all the time") before calling attention to the text of his recent email, reprinted below. Clint Hultgren will show pictures of the event at November club meeting.

"Jim Brink offers his heartfelt thanks to all who helped make our 50th anniversary fly-in such a success. At least one count put the number of pilots and guests at 76 just before noon. With the coming and going, the total for the day was probably near 100. Among those guests were Mayor Ray Martinez, Deputy City Manager Diane Jones, and Park Planning Manager Craig Foreman. These dignitaries and the other guests saw our club at its best — members of all ages and abilities having a great time while safely practicing the hobby we love. This event will go far to foster a positive impression of our hobby and organization within the community. WHAT A BLAST!! Be sure to check our website for the great pictures of this event taken by Dave Mielke and Ryan Korzyniowski.

Thanks go out to: Jim Brink, committee chairman; Fred Damm, committee member and flight director; David Mielke, committee member and food purchaser; Art Mutschler, committee member; Loren Deines, safety officer, who arranged for an extra porta potty and mowed the field; Dan St. John, tables; Mike Harrington, PA system; Carl Cary, electric generator; Ken Gillpatrick, extra flight tables; Bill Tuttle, registration; Marsha Hultgren, cooking; Sylvia Ashley, Dave Sampson and Mike Herbst, cooking; Don Vagge, guest pilot training. A special thanks goes to those pilots who performed so well as demonstration flyers: Don Botteron, Fred Damm, Mike Lohr, Greg St. John and Burt Sutton."

Jim requested feedback from members about the anniversary event, both pro and con. Guy Tritico started by describing the day as "just great" – so good that even his wife enjoyed it. Loren Deines suggested that a moniker of "Little Bird" might be appropriate for future iterations. Bill Tuttle thought we should hold something similar each year. Karl Hill wondered about safety, concerned that too many non-members watched events from east of the spectator fence. Dave Mielke opined that safety was better than normal, as evidenced by the pilots' meeting called by Dan St. John. Fred Damm agreed, noting the presence of a spotter with every airborne pilot. Dave Sampson thought that warning signs on the spectator fence (~"No Visitors Beyond Fence"), which were lacking this year but which we'll install for next, would minimize unauthorized traffic in the pits and pilot stations. Jim Brink thought inclusion of a walkway west of the spectator fence would help control peripatetic visitors. Don Mitchell thanked Jim for his excellent announcing. Dave Mielke felt we had too few flying events. He and Fred agreed that the taxi competition took too much time. Members disagreed about success of frequency control without a radio impound: some felt that frequency control worked well for this event (with 28 pilots registered); others felt that a radio impound minimizes interference problems. Members agreed with Mike Harrington's observations that this event pushed the upper limit of what can be controlled without an impound, and that we should set up for an impound in future events if attendance increases. A member suggested that we should have a list of frequencies in use available as pilots register. If we pursue the big model, we may want to invite vendors to future events. Bob Hultgren noted that this function stood in between a family-centered event and a Big Bird-sized public-centered event. Dan St. John, in step with several others, closed the discussion by suggesting that we keep our next event family-sized, and escalate to something larger in the future.

Minutes continued page 3.....



Minutes -- Continued from page 2

New Business:

1. Members approved ordering name tags from Craft Hobbies. Tags will cost \$8.50 each, after a \$12.50 set-up fee, and can be purchased one-at-a-time by members directly from the store. Thanks go to Vice President Bill Tuttle for expediting this.

2. We postponed until spring the issue of building more tables for Modeleers Field. Materials for the tables cost ~\$100 or ~\$50 for flat-topped or safety-type tables, respectively. (Detailed plans for the safety tables were published in August 2002 *Model Aviation* magazine and are available at: <http://www.meroke.com/beautification/flightbench/RCM%26E/RCM%26E%20Bench%20Article.pdf>)

3. Fred Damm is arranging for cross-braces that were approved last month for the Modeleers Field shade shelter. The braces will strengthen that structure against the coming Chinook winds of winter.

4. Dan St. John reminded members about officer elections in December. Both Dan and Loren Deines will step down from their lofty and powerful positions as president and treasurer, respectively. Dave Sampson would like to hand off the secretarial torch, but is willing to serve another year if the compensation package is enhanced. Bill Tuttle is willing to serve again as VP. Dan noted that Jim Brink may be willing to run for treasurer. Members interested in any of the officer positions should make their interest and intent known soon to the membership. (Secretary's note: As of this writing, Jim Brink may run for President. He reports that Dave Mielke may be willing to stand for Treasurer, although he [Dave] cannot make every club meeting due to family obligations.)

Show & Tell : Jim Brink showed off a new electric Accord from NE Sailplanes. Read more about this good-looking plane at <http://www.nesail.com/index.php>

Meeting Adjourned at 11:10 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Sampson, Secretary

Thank You Thank You *Thank You*

The Rocky Mountain Modeleers would like offer a special thanks to Bob Goehring of Northern Colorado Hydroseed Landscape LLC for donating grass seed that enabled us to improve our field. From all of us at the Modeleers, "thank you!"

Q: How long does it take to build an Ultra Stick ARF?

A: According to our secretary -- ten months and counting!

The way it was

Written and Edited By Karl Hill
(Historian)

Sometime in the 19th Century a really aggravated person said to himself ,Ok this is enough. So he set to the task of inventing a tool to relive his aggravation. After many prototypes, trials, and errors he finally struck upon the perfect model. Proudly he held his new invention high in the air, and with a crisp and confident voice he declared it to be the manually operated wrist activated pest eliminator. Known today as the humble Fly-swatter. In thoes days it was uless to print out an operators manual, tho it was an opiton to thoes who were literate. For the rest, instructions were relayed by word of mouth. Let me for an example explain to you how that might have taken place. You would grasp the pest eliminator in your most prominent hand, that would be your left or your right. Then explaining to that student swatter they must identify their quarry which would be (the none latin name of unscientific discription) Romanus Flyus Pester-Us. Today known as the common house fly. With the quarry located and identified, with your new found tool raised, you would cautiously approach the unexpecting quarry, being mindfull not to alert the bugger as to your presents. Sneak-ing up on him stillfully as you can to achieve the most effective range of fire. you stand with total confendence and turn your new found invention into action by flexing your wrist. swiftly your actions would thurst the eliminator to the target. There by crushing the sucker. Now if you are in dought of the survial of the pest, repeat the actions above. Once satisfied that the agravator has been eliminated, with out ceremony, with the edge of the pest eliminator tool, rake the deceased aside. Then with total pride and perhaps with some arrogance you would return your eliminator to the 8 penny nail behind the kitchen door. This is what happened sometime in the 19th century. Now you might ask, what dose this have to do with flying? I say nothen.



"ONCE WE GET 'ER AIRBORNE, WIND WON'T BE A PROBLEM."

Meet the Member



Daniel St. John
Club President

Born/ raised: Born in Rochester, N.Y.; moved to Fort Collins in 1971. I was 12 years old when my father was transferred here by Kodak.

Married: 22 years to Rita.
Children: Greg (20) & Jenny (12)

Occupation: Manufacturing Engineer for Eastman Kodak in Windsor, CO.

Years in hobby: 32 years. Started flying planes in 1972. Started helis in 1984.

Member Since: 2001

Planes/ helis owned: Too many to count. We currently have over 20 helis and our airplane collection is growing too!

Favorite plane/ heli: Vario Evolution S. -- Flying it since 1997 with only 1 crash. Very smooth and predictable.

Worst crash: Hey, I fly helis; they all look bad! Helis don't just crash -- after they hit the ground, they do the "dying chicken" routine. They flop around until they really beat themselves to death!

Something you may not know about me: I also have N scale trains in my basement, but the layout is covered with airplanes and helis right now.

Classified Ads



Zagi XT twin electric powered flying wing for sale. It is new in the box. This Zagi will do 70 mph in a straight line flight. The kit comes with the twin motors, which are designed to be pusher motors, speed control, and battery pack. New street price is \$125.00, and I am asking \$100.00 or best offer. **Call Greg, 223-0849**

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



On Sunday, September 26th, Mike Lohr races his "Shoestring" against Fred Damm's "Little Toni" as Jim Brink looks on.

Fred Damm demonstrates the "serious flyer" stance!

New Members:

Efrain Duran
Rolfer Manecha
Welcome to the club!

Thought for the day:

**The early bird gets the worm, but
the second mouse gets the cheese!**



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AMA Charter # 1824
Annual Dues:
 Adult: \$50
 Junior: \$30
 Family: \$60
Half price after July*
*(*Only for new members!)*
One-time runway fee: \$50

Membership is open to all RC model airplane enthusiasts who are members of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA). Activities of the club include all phases of RC modeling: instruction, sport flying, contests, etc. A monthly newsletter is sent to each member.

Current membership is required for flying at any club field. A nonmember who is an AMA member may fly two days as a guest.

New members are welcome!
 Ask any member for information.

Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. at Jax's in Fort Collins.
 (Call an officer for directions if necessary.)

Officers:

President	Dan St. John	223-0849
Vice Pres.	Bill Tuttle	484-8378
Secretary	Dave Sampson	223-9088
Treasurer	Loren Deines	494-1117
Editor	Garret Hultgren	224-4350
Webmaster	Ryan Korzyniowski	231-1857
Club Historian	Karl Hill	224-5276
Weather Station		568-3203

Flight instruction is offered during Daylight Savings Time at no charge to members. The flying field east of Jax is reserved for beginners each Thursday evening after 5:00 PM. Other instruction times may be arranged by appointment with an instructor.



Instructors:

Mike Lohr	221-52
Fred Damm	221-4457
Loren Deines	494-1117
Larry Grover	224-5124
Dan St. John	223-0849 (Helicopters)
Greg St. John	223-0849 (Helicopters)
Don Botteron	223-8050 (Adv., by Apmt. only)
Don Vagge	223-1169

Next meeting: 7:00 PM, November 2nd at Jax's Conf. Room

Rocky Mountain Modelers
 c/o Garret Hultgren
 1630 Sagewood Dr.
 Ft. Collins, CO 80525