

Prop Kicks



The Official Publication of the Cloud King R/C Club

Presidents Corner

A Dynamic and Growing Club

February is probably the worst month to be an R/C pilot in Pennsylvania, with the fields covered with snow and slush and plenty of winter yet to come. That's why winter events like the Southern Keystone Sale & Auction and other winter activities, such as aircraft building and planning for summer, are a welcome diversion. Just being around all those aircraft at the sale made me want to go out and fly...

The sale and auction, which will be covered elsewhere in this issue by Dick Plyler, was a great success for the club and promises to be even better in the coming years. We have a new newsletter editor and plans in the works to launch a new club website, www.cloudkingsrc.org. We plan on an open fun-fly at Harris field this summer that will include food and a tailgate sale, as well as a club-only picnic or two at West. All this comes after a summer season that saw two great events as well as a new pavilion and transmitter impound.

All of this will make the Cloud Kings R/C club a growing presence in the region, and we will continue to need volunteers from the membership in order to make it a reality. In addition we will need your continued support to make sure we have good relations with our fellow pilots at the fields, our neighbors, and the local community. Finally, we will have to keep safety in mind at all times, which I'll address in a separate article.

Sale & Auction

On Jan. 29th, 2005 the Cloud Kings sponsored the 1st annual Southeastern Keystone State Sale and Auction. It was held at the Senior Center in Kennett Square, PA. To say that it was a success would be putting it mildly. There were over 150 people who attended the sale and 75 who took part in the auction. Blue Sky Hobbies, Lynn Lee (MPI Products) and a vendor from Long Island, NY were on hand to display and sell their wares. The general consensus was that everyone had a great time and would be looking forward to it next year. The event raised over \$570 for the Cloud Kings.

Dick Plyler was the motivating force behind this event. He has dedicated his talents and resources into making the Southeastern Keystone State Sale & Auction an annual event that will attract R/C hobbyists from all over the tri-state area for many years to come. Dick would like to thank all of the club members who contributed of their time and talents, making the event a huge success.

Mark your calendars now for Saturday January 28, 2006.

April, 2005

Volume 1, Issue 1

Inside this issue:

Presidents Corner	1
Sale and Auction	1
Club Forum	2
Winter Projects	3

Sale & Auction Photos



More Pictures From the Sale & Auction



"I 27. Do we have a winner?" Along with running a little Bingo on the side, Eric and Dunk handled the raffle for the Airtronics radio.



Bill Losey and John Andrews swap some stories



Tom Lauletta manned the front gate and admissions.



Mack Graham, Bob Taylor and Emily (Bohe) Milmont handled the auction registration and bookkeeping duties in fine manner.

Forum

Editor's note: In the coming issues of Prop Kicks we will try to have more club member involvement within the newsletter. This may take the form of opinions, shared experiences or just a different slant on old practices. Don't be surprised if I ask you to contribute an idea or thought. Everyone has something of value to share with the club.

Ex-Editor Comes Out of Retirement

I have been asked to contribute some thoughts to the newsletter and, coincidentally, I had been thinking about doing just that. It has been 5 years since I have had the opportunity to put my thoughts to paper and my subject is one that bewilders me when I look into the radio compartments of many r/c aircraft.

According to r/c manufactures and service experts, all radio

gear, within the aircraft, should be wrapped in a minimum of 1/4" of quality foam rubber to absorb engine vibration. This vibration can cause damage to solder joints, printed circuit boards and delicate electronic components. I have seen receives tie-wrapped to cross members or attached only with Velcro without first being wrapped in foam rubber. Almost as bad, batteries anchored in place with only plywood plate and 2 screws. Again, no foam rubber. With engines transmitting over 14,000 beats per minute, how long these components will continue to function is anybody's guess.

Please follow the rules of accepted r/c practices. Safety is no accident.

Al Johnson AMA # 17781

Field Safety

I would imagine that the most frequent injury that occurs seen in our hobby is flyers getting their fingers in a spinning propeller. Other safety risks occur when airplanes are taxied / flown unsafely or not maintained properly, causing them to run into people or property. Safety at the flying field needs to be a top priority and on everyone's mind every time they fly. Following are some tips to help prevent injuries and keep our AMA insurance costs low:

- Use a chicken stick or electric starter. Make it a policy to never have your fingers in the prop arc – take my word for it! Paint the tips of your propellers red or white and consciously move your hand in a wide arc around the spinning prop. People often just forget in their haste and try to reach through a running prop to get at the needle valve or glow starter. Throw out any damaged props.
- Restrain your plane with one of the benches at West field or have someone hold it. Don't taxi in the pits – hold onto your plane until it's on the runway. When a motor is running, stay out of the prop arc in case a blade is thrown.
- Maintain your plane. Aircraft with loose parts or that are obviously under-maintained will not be permitted at the field until they're repaired.
- Keep your transmitter in the impound unless you are in possession of the frequency pin.
- Never fly behind the runway, except for the far left side at West field. Don't fly in such a way that the momentum of the plane is toward the flight line – fly side to side.

Mark McQuaide

Member Projects



Do you have a pet project you would like to share with the club members? Or maybe a new radical prototype that is just too hot to keep secret. Even if you have a few things that you don't need any longer and want to sell. This is the place for it. Please call or email Henry Bohe at 610-857-5669 or hmbuhe@comcast.net with any items you would like to see listed here.

Club Meeting

April 12, 2005

West Grove Fire Hall

7:30