

PROP KICKS

Cloud Kings R/C Club, Oxford, PA



AMA # 579

Bill Brueckman - President
Dan Crawford - Vice President
Leif Thomson - Secretary
Brian Swarts - Treasurer

2016 March—Prezzies Pontifications

As the cold, gloom and depressing cold disappears, so too will out time at our indoor flying location in MD. The last few meetings have been reasonably poorly attended, I therefore urge any Cloud King member with a suitable plane to attend the remaining 3 meetings – noted in the Events Calendar of this newsletter. Flying indoors presents challenges and perfects skills that one might not acquire with outdoor flying. Come on guys, if you haven't tried it, come to the next event and give it a go.

During the club meeting at the Posthouse on February 6th, it was approved that the field will be grubbed this year. This should prevent grub life, and therefore reduce the nocturnal field visitors from digging huge holes into that very spot where I want to land. Ross Carson agreed to head up the project, but will need volunteer to help with the work. Therefore, Cloud Kings reach heavenly with your right hands and give Ross some help.

Most of us as RC modelers are still confused over the FAA rules. I am anxious to see what comes out of the litigations that has been filed with the court of appeals. Perhaps we will get an AMA update on this.

Otherwise, happy flying.

Fair Maidens of 2016....

Not to be confused with the cursed and the damned...

Richard Jenkins is the first—the one and only, to have maidenized this year. Richard put the first flight on his Telemaster in February, without mishap, and only requiring some small modifications to the elevator.

Excellent work!! Well done.

The Freeze Fly—With Piccies

The Freeze Fly, started off with a bang. Once again Rob-in and Bill went out of their way to provide refreshments, bring planes, get there early, and generally do all the setting up.

Planes were in the air well before the bewitching hour of 10:00, but as expressed by our Prezzie, temperature dropped in line with attendance, and wind speed. Therefore by 10:30 must flight operations had effectively ceased. However, that didn't stop one or two of us taking to the air.



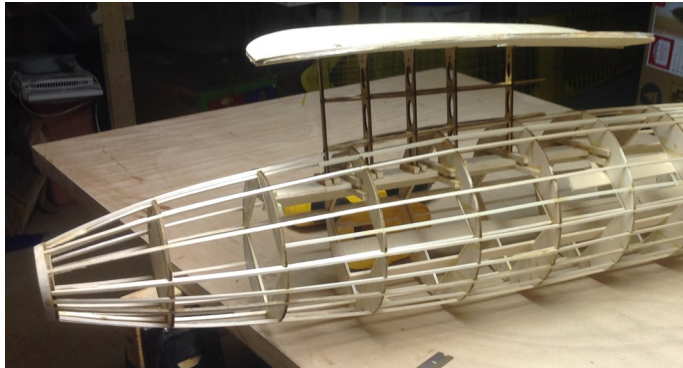
Bill... What was in your donut, next time it's mine....

Submissions to Prop Kicks

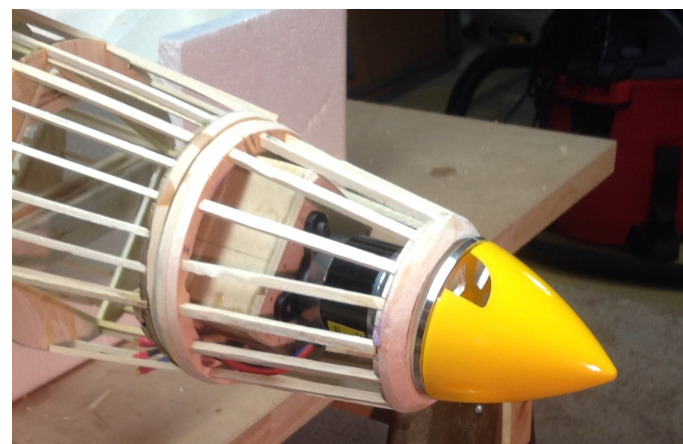
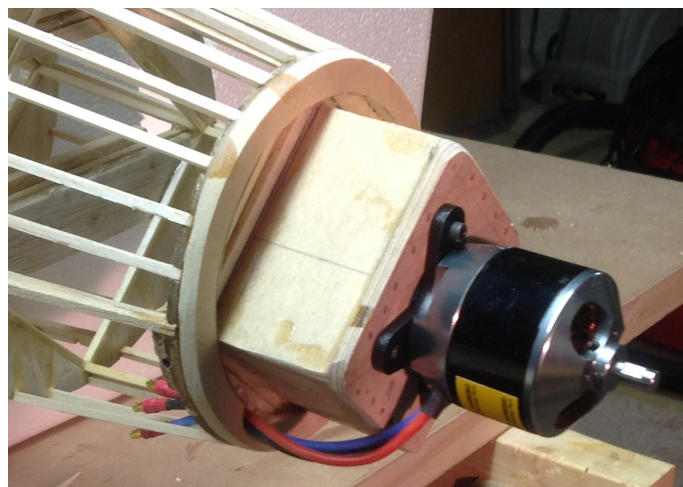
Prop Kicks is a bi-monthly publication of the Cloud Kings RC Club. Your pictures, ideas, articles are needed for publication. Send your submissions to Editor@Cloudkingsrc.org. Please submit your articles and photos in electronic format by e-mail or cd.

Rise of the Valkyrie... Nose augmentation...

Richard Kline has wowed us with his monster Valkyrie, which is making excellent progress. The motor has now been installed, requiring a nose job, consisting of cutting breaking, rebuilding and resetting. A motor standoff was built and a new nose which is detachable, and held on with 4 magnets—nice job. Below—Before.



And After.



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AMA in the Spotlight...

This month has seen two noteworthy e-mails from the AMA. The first identified that some of the SFR (Special Flight Rules) restrictions imposed on any flying site within 30 miles of an airport could now fly but are limited to a maximum altitude of 400'. Events could be sanctioned to extend this but only under special permission granted by the FAA.

The second e-mail of interest, was one received on Friday Feb 12th, entitled *Protections for model aviation passes T&I Committee in the House*. In this e-mail the AMA announces that: "Last night, the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee in the House of Representatives passed the [Aviation Innovation, Reform, and Reauthorization \(AIRR\) Act](#), which preserves and strengthens the Special Rule for Model Aircraft".

"Among the bill's provisions, it provides a clear definition of a community-based organization (CBO) and tasks the FAA with developing a process for recognizing qualifying CBOs, both long-overdue tasks for the agency. In addition, the bill makes clear that model aircraft can be used as a teaching tool for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), as well as aeronautics."

"The AIRR act is a strong bill that we are proud to support, but Congress isn't done with it yet. The full House of Representatives still needs to vote on the AIRR Act and the Senate still needs to work on its own version of the bill. AMA has been actively advocating for our members' interests on Capitol Hill, and we will continue working with Congress on additional changes that could further protect our hobby."

Events Calendar..

March 6th	Indoor Fly-in—North East High school 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
March 12th	Lebanon 36th Annual Swap RC Flee Market. 80 Rocherty Rd - Lebanon Expo. Todd Lojak CD PH: 717-412-8579 Email: info@cpaa.us . Visit: cpaa.us General Admission \$8 - 8:30AM
March 20th	Indoor Fly-in—North East High school 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
March 20th	Hermitage 22nd Annual Swap Meet. 8281 Oliver Rd. Murray Steinberg CD PH 8144490748 e-mail: msteinberg@coaxpa.com . Visit: thermalgrclub.org . 8281 Oliver Rd. Perry Hi-way Hose Co Station #43. 9am - 3pm
March 26th	Hamburg RC Swap meet. Field House 501 Pine St. Jack Hilbert CD PH: 610-657-5286 Email: pcchilbert@gmail.com . Visit: tcws.org . Located near Cabela's Rt. 78 & 61 Admission \$7 -8:00AM
April 2nd	Club meeting—Saturday Morning Post House, Nottingham, 9:00 o'clock

From the Greatest Country
in the World.... :-)

The English Vernacular...

After being here a few months, I've picked up on a few bits of English slang. For example, if you go into a restaurant and ask for an "Adam's Ale", you'll get a glass of water. "Recce", used in WWI is to perform reconnaissance. "Rubbish", is exactly that when used in a conversation where the facts are disputed.

"Rugger" is a rugby player. My favorite is "Plonker", which can be compared to Messer's Moe, Larry and Curly or if you are in England it's Messer's Clarkson, May and Hammond of the hit British TV show, Top Gear. If you have watched either of these blokes on the telly (television), you'll understand what I'm talking about.

The "roundabout" is organized chaos. Anyone within this circle of death has the right of way until someone decides to leave. It's all in the timing to jump in when there's an open space so you can join in the melee. You realize that you can stay there as long as you like doing a few laps, watching the faces of the other drivers as you go by. What fun! This method of travel was probably adapted from WWI aerial combat tactics known as the Lufbery Circle. If you decided to get off, you usually didn't live to tell about it. *(Ahhh, but, it's actually against the law to go round a roundabout more than twice)...*

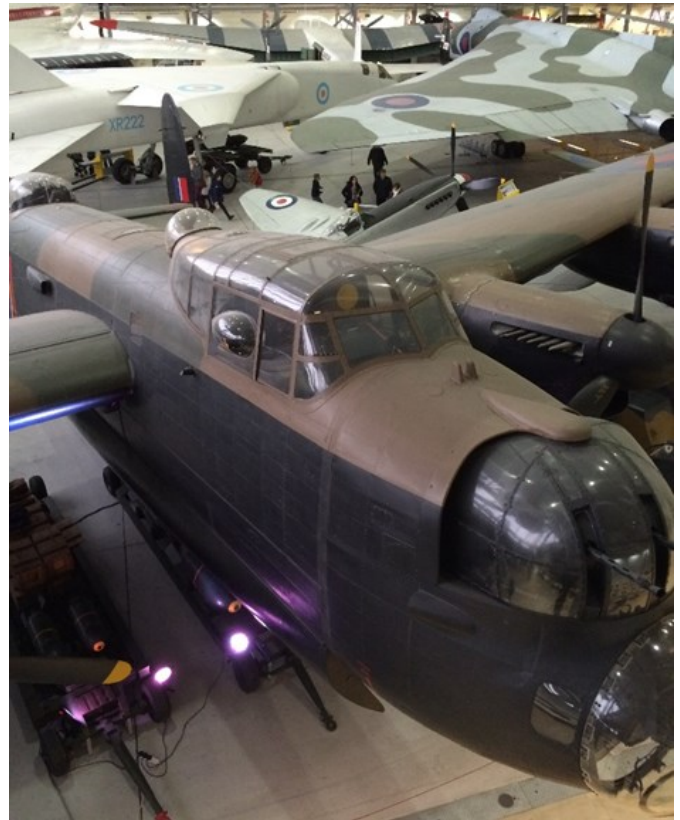
I found a flying field! The local club, the Salisbury Model Flying Club, has a field not too far outside of Salisbury.



Even their flying fields have roundabouts! It looks nice and green but the ground is saturated and unusable and little flying takes place during the winter.

England is a land of tradition and ceremony. Travel anywhere around America and you will find something that an Englishman brought to this country such as giving names to towns such as Reading, Newark and Oxford as examples. Everywhere you look, you will see British influence.

Some of these traditions are the Spitfire, the Hurricane and the Lancaster. These aircraft saved Britain during the Battle and brought the war to the enemy. Each year at Duxford, these aircraft are celebrated and admired not so much for the aircraft but the men who flew them at a critical time in history. While it is not yet airshow season, I took a day trip to Duxford, one of the facilities of the Imperial War Museum.



Avro Lancaster and Friends.



Avro Vulcan 1/3 of Britain's "V" Bomber force—*My fave*



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A letter home.... Ahhhh...



Handley Page Victor, 2/3 of Britain's "V" Bomber force. Although I didn't see one, I'm sure that they have a Valiant somewhere.



Concorde



Royal Aircraft Factory RE-8, more commonly known as "Arry Tate".

Nice, huh? It's a fake. Rather than place a priceless airframe in the elements as a gate guard, these near realistic fiber-glass replicas are placed on a plinth.



Spitfire Mk. 1A. Yup, this one's the real thing.



This Bf-109E was shot down and belly landed in August, 1940. It was placed on a War Bond tour to the USA then returned to England. It's in pretty much the same shape as they got it.

That's it for this month, I'll be back in the USA in March. See you at the field.

And did you know.....

Bomber Facts	Bomb Load	Unit Cost
Avro Lancaster	22,000Lbs	\$75K
Boeing B17	4,800Lbs	\$100K
Boeing B29	20,000Lbs	\$639K



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Li-Po Talk....

Ok, they say a picture is worth a thousand words. So we'll start with a cool picture and then go from there.



This Li-po battery is made up of three cells connector in series to produce 11.2 volts @ 1000 mAh.

The red and black leads are called the “discharge wires”, the **red wire** is the positive lead and the **black wire** is the negative lead. They are terminated here in a red Dean style connector. The battery is discharged through these leads, and can also be recharged through them.

The smaller leads form the “balance wires”. They terminated in a plug which is also known as the “node connector”, and is usually white in color. This connector can be used to balance the battery while being charged through the discharge leads, or it can be used to charge and balance the battery independently while the discharge leads are left unconnected.

One last point of consideration is the rate of charge. In a previous article we talked about C-Rating and how it applied to the charge and discharge ratings of Li-Po batteries. Without rehashing that discussion, let's just point out that many cells are marked with a 1C only charge rating. Does this mean that we can only recharge at 1C? Yes and no. This warning is provided as the balance wires are usually a much smaller size wire than the discharge wires, and will not safely carry charging currents greater than that specified, in this case 1C, so when charging through the node connector we are advised to charge at no greater rate than 1C. However, if the battery is charged through the much larger discharge wires it can be safely charged at 1c, 2c or even 3c, triple what which the battery has been rated at. But only do this if you will be fully monitoring the battery temperature during the charging cycle, as hot batteries can not only combust, but will reduce the overall life of the battery in general.

Thanks Sparky— Clearly size matters.

Insulation Matters...

I may have mentioned once or twice, that over the last year I built a CNC foam cutter. If you did miss this memo and have even a moderate interest mention it to me, and I guarantee that after an hour you will be bored enough to find the Pressies opening speech exciting.

But at long last, it is starting to pay dividends. As you can see from the pictures below. When I have time, I am starting to cut stuff which looks remarkably flyable—even if to date nothing has been tested against the throwing arm of any Cloud King Member. Of course if it crashes—it is then all their fault, and nothing to do with me.



Above are two creations which are almost finished. Note that one has a rudder while the other does not. Just a couple of push rods a prop and spinner are left to add. Below is my extreme Forward Swept machine which was a mare to cut, and resulted in a complete machine redesign.



The unfinished model may look similar. But has a much more pronounced sweep. As a point of reference the fuselages are the same on both models.



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