# **PROP KICKS**

The Cloud KingsR/C Club, Oxford, PA

AMA # 579

From the President's Bench



Now that our out door flying season is drawing to a close, our thoughts turn to In-Door Flying. We are currently negotiating with the Cecil County School Board to procure the North East High School gym.

This year we will we required to pay \$5.00 or \$10.00 an hour depending on if we are considered as Cecil County residents. Also we will be required to pay a custodian \$35.00 an hour for custodial services. Club member Danny Crawford, who is the custodian at North East High School has waived the fee. There will be more information on In-Door Flying at the next club meeting.

Our Octoberfest event is Oct. 3rd. Mike Denest has put a great deal of effort into making it a success and I hope we have more club participation than we did for the club picnic.

The next club meeting is Saturday Oct. 17th. 9:00 A.M. At the Post House.

That's all for now.

Bill



The Editor's Desk - Mike Denest Editor@Cloudkingsrc.org

Bill Brueckman - President

Brian Swarts - Treasurer

Leif Thomson - Secretary

Dan Crawford - Vice President

Our club meeting will be held at The Post House 9:00AM October 10th. Stop in for a good breakfast, model airplane talk, some club business and head for the field after the meeting.

Regretfully, I must announce that I will not be producing a newsletter after the November—December 2015 issue. I'll be on a short term temporary assignment for my employer that will take me out of the country for a few months. On the plus side, I might be able to take some time observing what our fellow modelers in the United Kingdom are up to. Yup, I'm heading off to Merry Olde England for a few months. Hopefully, I'll have a chance to see the modelling scene up close and personal across the pond. I hope you have enjoyed each issue of Prop Kicks and met your expectations for the newsletter.

Don't forget to come to the field October 3rd for our Octoberfest event. It's going to be a nice one with lots of vintage airplanes (and pilots) enjoying a day at the field. We have awards to give away and we're also going to raffle off some nice vintage items. As usual, we will have a tailgate sale so clean out your shop.

See you at Octoberfest.

Mike



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## Scene at the Field - Club Picnic

Photos by Rich Kline and Rick Greenawalt



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### Vintage Thoughts by Mike Denest

I picked up this Ambroid Charger from Ebay a few year ago. The Charger is a 1959 Milt Boone design that was a dominate force in rudder only competition at the time. Using single channel gear (rubber band driven escapements), the Charger was a very competitive airplane, able to perform everything on the rudder only schedule.

It looked pretty good in the ad; other than holes punched in the silk, it looked to be structurally sound. However, shipping it was another matter. The seller didn't do a great job of packing so when I received it, I found the wing trailing edge to be trashed. I thought, "No big deal, I can repair

it" so I tossed it in the corner with all the other relics in my stash. I figured I'd get to it one day.

Recently, with the focus in VR/CS on rudder only airplanes, I decided to get started on restoration. The first order of business was to remove all of the old covering. This is the messy part where you literally soak a rag with acetone until

the covering loosens up. Once the silk is loose, all you have to do is lift the rag and peel the silk off. When completed, lightly sand the surfaces to get it ready for recovering. Repairing the wing trailing was a fairly easy affair, I made replacement ribs where needed then added the trailing edge and new center section sheet-

ing. I also needed to clean up the engine area and nose gear strut so I removed some of the original kit construction parts. Once the nose was cleaned up, it was time to replace the structure using 1/4 inch balsa laminated together as originally designed.

When the structural repairs were completed, it was time for the radio and engine installation. I made a replacement aluminum engine mount and installed a two channel Futaba radio for throttle and rudder control.

I figured that since this was a simple airplane, a programmable super radio was not necessary. I installed the rudder servo to use a rotary output for a torque rod as it was originally intended. Once that was complete, it was time to recover the airframe. An iron on covering would not be appropriate for a 1959 airplane so

the only option was silk and dope. Using SIG products, I brushed sanding sealer onto all the surfaces that would be touched by the covering then sanded as required to remove most all of the filler. For covering, I usually apply silkspan on all of the solid areas, like the

fuselage and silk on the open areas. I brushed on clear dope until the covering was filled then started the final finishing with a spray coat of silver. I use silver as it reflects UV rays which will, over time, cause natural fabrics like silk to be-

come brittle. After that, it was time to apply a pigmented base coat then mask off all the areas to be color striped. Once that was done, I sprayed a final coat of clear and retarter thinned to a 70% - 30% consistency. The end result is a nice smooth finish that will be easy to clean after a flying session.

With an OS .15 and two channel radio, the ready to fly weight is 2 lbs., 15 ounces, which is not bad for an old model like this. I would have liked it to be a few ounces lighter but the repairs and covering bumped up the weight. Regardless, I think the Charger will be a nice rudder only flyer capable of doing loops, rolls and anying else I can think of. I just have to learn how to fly it first. Head for the trenches.











## The Last Word

Rich Kline mentioned that he was going to build this airplane and he wasn't kidding! Anyone care to guess what it is? The first correct response to this editor wins the admiration of your peers. Hint: the fuselage is in the background.



#### Calendar of Events

Octoberfest October 3 West Field

Club Meeting - October 17 9:00AM breakfast meeting at The Post House

December 19 - Christmas Lunch 1:00PM Dutch Way Restaurant.

#### Submissions to Prop Kicks

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



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