

# Carrier Wave

**Newsletter of the Phantom Flyers R/C Club**

<http://phantomflyersrc.com>

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Board of Directors:	Work	Home	Send Membership Renewals to:
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## February 2006

### Upcoming Events/Important Notices

**February 15, Club Meeting at Senior Center**

**March 15, Club Meeting at Senior Center**

**March 25, Swap Meet**

### Notes from the Editor

Articles, pictures, and tech notes for publishing in the Carrier Wave are always appreciated. Since I try to get the Carrier Wave out a week before the meeting, please submit items a week and a half before the monthly meetings. Please send pictures, preferably in JPEG format, in separate files from text files. Text should be in MS Word format, a simple text file or some format that MS Word can read. Indicate where pictures should be in the text with a note in parentheses such as (Picture ABCDC001.jpg goes here). I will integrate text and pictures in my page layout program.

Thanks,  
Dave Evans



AMA Club # 393  
*Phantom Flyers*  
St. Charles, Mo RC Club



Minutes 1-18-06

Meeting was called to order at 7pm by President Ed White. There were 27 members present with Clark Green was the only new member

Minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer report was approved as directed.

Activities: Dan gave a report about the snow fly. Pack 30 would like to move the rocket shoot off date up one week than what was originally published. Upcoming activities include the swap meet. Herb finished out the awards for the Christmas party to those that could not attend the party in December.

Swap Meet: need help contacting the other clubs (car, boat, model rocketry) if you like to volunteer contact Larry Leuschke for details. Herb Johnson has volunteered for advertising. He has a contact to try and get some TV adverting this year. Spirits have a new pa system to use this year. The raffle was not as successful last year as in years past; there was some discussion about getting gift certificates for the raffle this year instead of a radio or kit. There will be a club table if you would like to sell anything contact Jan Jensen. If you sell items make sure that someone would always be at the table at all times. Food may not be available due to the need of getting permits; however we will most likely have soda, chips, and candy.

GISMA: minutes approved as written.

Field report: Ed White made up a form to help keep track of when the field is damage that will be in the John. Keep the comments short and simple. Be sure to put date and time on it.

Safety: Be sure to have your card on the frequency board when flying

Recreation: Need an alternate in case Larry Leuschke can't be available. Mitch Galatioto volunteered to be the alternate.

Old Business: None

New Business: There was a motion to continue the raffle as currently being done after the meetings. It was seconded and approved.

Herb Johnson has been appointed to be the point of contact for UCAV program to keep the club informed about the times the project will be using the field (see the following memo). The Maule will be flying low from time to time. If you see it flying please land and give the full scale the right a way.

Ed Henry is doing well but Mitch Galatioto is thinking about trying to use the Micro Henry's to set up a scholarship fund through the AMA.

Tim Wortkoetter

23 January 2006  
Informal Memo

To: Tim Bischof , Guy Clayton, Peter Drain

CC: Jeff Brundt, Mitch Galatioto, Herb Johnson, Larry Leuschke, Linda M. Watson RC Club files

**Subject: RC Club Support of Boeing UAV Flight Test Operations**

1. Increasingly Flight Test (FT) has been leading UAV flight testing and the Boeing RC Model Airplane Club has been providing support. Some of the flight testing has occurred at the club flying field in St. Charles. I think we all expect this effort to continue and quite probably expand.
2. In order to ensure that the RC Club provides the full support that the Flight Test organization requires, the club has formally designated a point of contact as the lead interface between the club and FT. The primary goal is to make sure FT knows where to go when they need RC support. But I also request that the point of contact be informed about any planned usage of the RC Club field, both for the purposes of notifying the club and for providing any needed assistance.
3. We anticipate that this will be a semi-permanent position within the club to provide a level of continuity. Currently, I am envisioning this as primarily consulting requiring no budget from FT. One exception would be that we request that when flight test readiness reviews are conducted which specifically involve flight test operations at the Phantom Flyers RC field, that the liaison be notified and that they or their designee, be invited and provided budget to participate in the review as a non-voting member.
4. The primary tasks of the club liaison to FT will be to:
  - Be the primary point of contact between the club and FT
  - Notify the club of field closures when FT is using the club flying field
  - Provide consulting services to FT on use of the RC field
  - Identify FT needs to the club for consulting in RC for pilots, RC equipment purchase, installation and other support as requested by FT or projects.
  - Be aware of and keep a full record of the club support provided to FT
5. Within the club this will be an appointed position and will be filled only by a current Boeing employee. I have appointed Herb Johnson as the current club liaison to Flight Test. We will also maintain back-up points of contact for times when Herb is not available. The liaison contact list with back-up is then:

Herb Johnson	314-777-7974	<a href="mailto:herbert.f.johnson@boeing.com">herbert.f.johnson@boeing.com</a>
Jeff Brundt	314-232-3534	<a href="mailto:jeffrey.j.brundt@boeing.com">jeffrey.j.brundt@boeing.com</a>
Ed White	314-232-1479	<a href="mailto:edward.v.white@boeing.com">edward.v.white@boeing.com</a>

We will keep this contact list up to date as changes occur.
6. Again the primary purpose would be to ensure that the club provides all needed RC support to company Flight Test operations in a timely manner. Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions or we can be of assistance.

Signature on file

Edward V. White  
President, Phantom Flyers RC Club  
314-232-1479  
[edward.v.white@boeing.com](mailto:edward.v.white@boeing.com)

## Cheapest Digital Camera Money Can Buy - Ed White

Hope Santa was good to everyone. Here's what I did over the holiday break. I was inspired by something I found on the internet. Someone had modified a cheap digital camera to trigger it by a servo signal. I decided to do the same to a \$14.95 "keychain" digital camera I found at Wal-Mart. Probably the toughest part was getting the camera opened up. I ended up with four new wires coming out of the camera to connect to a small microcontroller that I programmed. Total weight is 1.3 ounces. I mounted this all on my profile fun fly airplane as you can see in the picture below.



The camera is velcro'ed and taped onto the wing. The square in the middle of the camera is the mode display. On the right is the lens and in the upper left is the servo interface circuit. The camera will hold up to 60 "high resolution" pictures – for the definition of high resolution, I refer you to the title of this article. The camera is triggered by a switch on my transmitter and can take a picture about every three seconds. Again remember, cheapest digital camera money can buy.

I flew it for the first time on New Year's day and took about 40 pictures in two flights. Out of that, I got one actually looking at the field. I'm in the red circle. Guess I need to work on aiming it. The waviness in the image is due the fact that the camera is slow to capture an image and so is affected by engine vibration - cheapest digital camera etc.

Flying with the camera is interesting. Granted it was kinda breezy, but the airplane was noticeably more squirrely than usual and was very difficult to fly inverted. Normally it flies inverted about the same as upright. With the camera it was way out of trim inverted and very unstable. I wouldn't have thought the aerodynamics of a profile airplane could get more screwed up than they already are, but they can. Next I'll mount it differently, perhaps between the landing gear, and try to vibration isolate it.





That's what I love about this hobby, there's always something different to try.

Another gratuitous picture of some great airplanes!



# If Your Spouses Read the Carrier Wave, They Will Probably Relate.

From: Jeffrey Brundt

A member's girlfriend posted this on her Blog  
I think many of our significant others can relate:

Wednesday, January 25, 2006

## A day in the life of me & my RC-loving boyfriend.

Radio control (RC) is the use of radio signals to remotely control another device. The term is used frequently to refer to the control of model cars, boats, airplanes, and helicopters from a user-held control box (radio.).

Airplane

Pronunciation: 'ar-'plAn, 'er-

Function: noun

Etymology: alteration of aeroplane

: a powered heavier-than-air aircraft that has fixed wings from which it derives most of its lift.

My boyfriend sits at his worktable in his RC Room for HOURS upon hours building these toy planes. (He freaks out if I call them toys but whatever...they're toys.)

Each time he starts to build a new one, he tells me "this one will be done fast, honey." So far, the fastest has been about 3 nights during which he spent at least 5 hours/night. He builds the plane, and right when I think he's done, he takes it apart and uses some stinky glue to put it all back together. I don't get that. THEN, he'll take apart a perfectly good plane that just days ago was his favorite plane, gut it, use the parts for the new plane he's building, sell what's left of the former favorite plane, then take the newer plan on its maiden voyage, get sick of it, see another new plane on the RC sites, order it, build it, take apart the plane from yesterday, and then complain about having nothing to fly.

When he's not doing that, he's at his computer with about 5 RC sites open, chatting with fellow RC fanatics and exchanging info about brushless motors, servos, and whatever else RC people talk about (those are the only words I remember). He stares at spreadsheets full of what he calls "specifications." To me, they look like impossible to solve equations. He uses these "specifications" to figure out how to make his planes go as fast as they can. (He's made it clear that it's not important how HIGH it goes, but how FAST...and this method MUST NOT work b/c a few of his planes have "folded" mid-air... so seriously, they need a new technique.) AND GOD FORBID his plane "folds" (by the way, this means it BREAKs while it's in the air) and crashes. That boy took me to a field once to find his missing plane and its missing parts, and I was in the car for an HOUR as he combed the field looking for anything he could salvage....ugh!! We went home empty-handed, by the way.

He takes pictures of his newly put-together planes and posts them on his RC forums (yes, they have forums)... and shows off his planes, kind of how new moms send out like 97 pictures of their newborn babies and ALL the pictures look the same. Yea, its like that.

The worst is when he is ALMOST done and he is ready to "test the bad boys out." (His words, not mine.) I always get a warning first...if I touch the propellers, my finger(s) will get chopped off. I've heard that about 600

times. Then he turns on the motor and the little plastic propeller spins fast and makes a loud annoying noise and seeing the smile on his face, you'd think he just built a new United Airlines passenger jet. But nope...it's just a toy. And for the price that he pays to put together this little plane that will only fly in circles in a field, I could fly in a REAL plane to and from Hawaii once a week AND have plennnttyyy of spending money for lots of shopping.

It's more of an obsession than a hobby and I don't get it.

It sucks sometimes because our weekend plans are based on how windy the day is. Windy means no flying time and a beautiful day means we'll be at the field for a long time. It's a catch 22...I love pretty days but, do I have to wish for wind to do the things I want to do? L

When he says he'll only fly for ten minutes, that's like an NFL game having 10 minutes left. Somehow, it turns into an hour.

Sometimes dinner plans get pushed out an hour or three, because he has to fix something on the same plane he supposedly finished two nights prior.

Sometimes we have to watch the midnight showing of a movie instead of the 9pm show for the same reason. ANDDDDI don't even get to pick the movie!

Sometimes a trip to the mall somehow detours and brings us to the hobby store to buy more RC stuff. A few nights ago, I wanted to buy a Belgian waffle maker. He WAS driving me to Lowes to pick it up, but we ended up at a hobby store to buy some plastic tube things. Not sure where that hobby store came.

He did make me a plane though, and I decorated it with cute stickers and he added some sparkly, colorful lights to it so its illuminated when I fly at it night. So far, I've destroyed it a number of times between crashing into trees, pavement, etc., but with scotch tape and wooden sticks, he always fixes it. I'm TRYING to learn to fly my plane so we can have something to do together that he likes.

I care about the little booger and if it makes him happy...well, I can't lie and say then it makes me happy because it definitely doesn't, but...somehow, even though I complain, I think he knows I don't mind as long as he remembers I'm there, too.

I love him...what can I say?

## News From Ben Lanterman

This is the latest version of the book cover using my photo. The photograph is one of mine from a scale contest recently. The bomb, etc. is exactly as I took it at the contest. Neat! I get an autographed copy for my payment. Next time I'll charge money and get rich.

