

Carrier Wave

Newsletter of the Phantom Flyers R/C Club

<http://phantomflyersrc.com>

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May 2005

Upcoming Events/Important Notices

May 18, Club Meeting at Flying Field

May 28, Float Fly, Innsbrook

June 4, Pattern Seminar

June 12, Family BBQ and Build-a-Plane

June 15, Club Meeting at Flying Field

Notes from the New Carrier Wave editor

I, Dave Evans, have volunteered to edit the Carrier Wave. With your help, I will maintain the high standards set by previous editors. OK, I promise to do my best to get it out in a reasonable amount of time anyway. Constructive comments, suggestions, and contributions are always appreciated.

Thanks,
Dave



Meeting Minutes, April 20, 2005

Phantom Flyers RC Model Airplane Club Minutes – 20 April 2005

The meeting was brought to order at 7:03 by club President Herb Johnson. There were 21 members in attendance, including 2 new members [Rod Londers and son Keith (not present), old member returning Randy Dick, and new folks test driving flying [Bill and Chris Schultize].

Secretaries Report: The Secretaries report was approved as written for March 2005.

Treasurer's Report: The report for March was approved. Income included the Expo and Expenditures for Expo and insurance replacement items. A motion was made and approved to accept the report. The treasury audit has not occurred yet, however Dan will get it done soon. George Dauble offered to provide assistance. Thanks George!

Recreation Report: Larry Leuschke reported via e-mail that the insurance money has been approved and will be issued soon. The club needs to be more proactive on creating articles/pictures for the Boeing news to advertise the club.

GSLMA Report: There was no report provided this month.

Field Manager's Report: George Dauble reported that the Green mower blades and the mower has been tuned up and is ready to go for the season. The Red mower has been tuned up, but the cutting deck has been removed as the bearings were shot so it will only be able to be used to pull the roller. Both mowers are in need of carburetor work. Emery Kattleman reported that the grass build up under the decks causes extra unnecessary wear and tear on the mower blades. We need to be more careful about ensuring the deck is cleaned out prior to mowing, during mowing, and after mowing. Please help prevent extra mower wear by helping take care of the mowers. To clean the deck, back the mower up onto the metal trailer ramps located in the storage shed over the grass or and scrape the grass off with a stick. Be careful as the blades are sharp and can cut your hands. The club will look into buying a flat crowbar to assist with the cleaning. There will be a work party at the field on 23 April to spread gravel and clean the port-a-john, sand and stain the tables, and train people on the new mower. Phil is working on acquiring some concrete barriers to put down the side of the storage facility.

No vehicles should be driven on the farmer's field EVER!!!! We are not allowed to be anywhere on the farmer's property EVER! If an airplane goes down, we can WALK onto the field, but you are not to under any circumstances damage his crops. Please be respectful as we do not want to loose our field!

Safety Report: Please keep control of your aircraft until it is past the pilot's line. All members, new and old, please read up on the Safety rules. Please be safe at all times at the field!

Activities Report: The Pack 30 rocket launch was tremendous success with a huge turnout. Great job Gary and thanks to all that showed up to help. Upcoming events include the May 1 Carrier fun fly, the float fly starring Don Vetrone as CD and a pattern seminar in June to be given by Ed White. Mitch Galatioto mentioned that the SIG 31st annual Father's Day RC Fun Fly is on Jun 18 and 19. Also, the KC RC Pattern contest is on the same weekend. The Model Expo was a big success. We're learning more each year on how to run it in the new facility and next year promises to be even better. Some post meetings have already been held to discuss lessons learned.

Old Business: Dave Evans agreed to be Carrier Wave editor. Thanks Dave! The field lease has been signed so we have another 4 years with an option for an additional 4 years. So get out there and fly!

New Business: Bill Ahrens did a great job landing his aircraft after the 3-bladed prop through a blade and the engine vibrated off the mounts. Great job flying Bill! No other new business was presented. There's another BAT training session at the field on Monday 25 April. An e-mail will be issued to the club when it firms up. Mitch will be unavailable to fly with the BAT program until after August, so Dan Sundman and Jim Greenwood will take over flying in the back seat of the Maule.

Tech Session: Dan Herron a paramedic/firefighter for the City of Olivette provided a nice presentation on first aid and safety. He provided many safety tips such as: fertilizer on the farmer's field can be absorbed into the skin and cause you problems, if you cut your finger off, do not put in ice, place in bag and take to hospital do not put in ice or water, keep hydrated at the field during the summer months, the first aid kit should be properly stored in a good controlled environment, we should have some surgical gloves for treating someone that's bleeding, treat burns with ice or cold water and place a clean, sterile, dry bandage over it (no aloe), we as a club should look into CPR training, and use baby aspirin for heart attacks or stroke. Thanks Dan for the presentation and Dan Abel for setting it up....very informative!!!

The club meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m. and a raffle ensued. Next months meeting will be on 18 May at the FLYING FIELD. Bring and airplane and we'll see you there!

Mitch's Flight total for the year = 10

New Airplane Count = 0 :(

Respectfully submitted - *Mitch*

Carrier Fun Fly

May 1, 2005

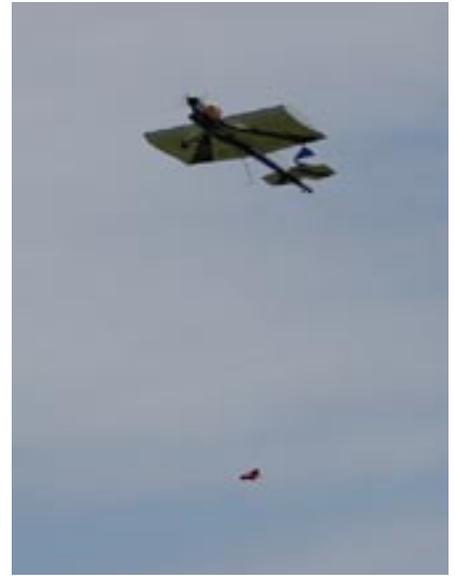
The Carrier Fun Fly took place in spite of 15 to 20 mile per hour winds, gusting to who knows what, and cool temperatures. The winds undoubtedly discouraged some perspective contestants, but five brave souls rose to the task. Bill Ahrens won the contest with 181 points, followed by Emery Kattleman (147 pts), Ed White (101 pts), Jan Jansen (99 pts) and, last but not least, Tim Wortkoetter (45 pts).

Contest Director, Al Bone, set up the equipment with help from many of those present and gave pilot's briefings shortly after 10:00 am. Each contestant flew two missions to prove their prowess. Surprisingly, given the gusting wind conditions, all aircraft survived the day with no visible damage. This is not to say that every takeoff and landing was totally smooth and graceful.



The contest was not without excitement. Jan Jansen arrived early for a test flight during which the bomb drop mechanism separated from his airplane out over the farmer's field. Jan quickly decided there was no chance to find the mechanism so he made another one from scratch before the contest started. Bill Ahrens took off for his first flight without loading the bomb and had to return to add armament. Bill tried to blame it on Ed White, who had graciously offered to hold Bill's airplane so that it wouldn't blow off the runway before takeoff, but no one bought that. Once the bomb was attached, the mission was completed without incident. Tim Wortkoetter couldn't get the engine adjusted quite right and had to make two dead stick landings. Had it not been for the wind he may have made the carrier deck on one attempt. Ed White's airplane had a balance weight bouncing

around inside which led to some interesting flying. Emory was the only contestant with relatively uneventful flights.



Several people showed up to encourage and cheer for the contestants. A good time was had by all, however, when the last flight was completed and the equipment put away, everyone was happy to escape the ever increasing wind and cool weather. Weather notwithstanding, folks are already thinking about what to do for next year's contest.





Subject: Woops, don't do this

by Ben Lanterman

OK I have a big ego so writing this is against all normal tendencies. I thought I knew better - but one battery in my many dozens was not labeled right and caused this mess!

I was getting ready to go flying today and noticed one of the small (what I thought was a 6 cell pack of 250mah nicads) was swelling on the charger - at least the shrink wrap was swelling. I thought interesting - I have seen it happen before with nicads that got hot and leaked gasses. It was completely covered with the blue heat shrink I use for nicads. The pack wasn't hot, just barely warm. I was going to toss it in the trash can but decided to let out the gases. I had done this once before with an old nicad pack several years ago. It just went pfffff and nothing else.

I touched the point of my knife into the shrink wrap and firey gasses and sparks began to spew out about a foot (luckily not toward me). It reminded me of a really good 4th of July event. I tossed the battery on the kitchen floor (not going to hold a possible bomb and linoleum was cheap compared to skin) and thought - hummmm, must not be a nicad. Then thought - I wonder how long this will go on and why didn't I have a bucket of sand! We threw a real heavy cloth kitchen rug/carpet (one of those kind made of cloth scraps) over the flaming mass and several pans of water over that. It was a lot of cold wet soggy mass which should help cool it off and constrain the whole mess.

The wet rug did work really effectively in constraining the flames - but after the floor was cleaned up we have the mess shown in the photo left.! It was apparently a two cell Lipoly of about 700mah size. Luckily we have extra floor stuff and can just cut it out and replace it.

Now as to why it happened. I think I had replaced the outer heat shrink wrap last year and got distracted and didn't write on the outside what kind of battery it was. I always use blue heat shrink on nicads and nimh and since the pack was blue I assumed it was a nicad when charging this year for the first time. All the lipoly I have are pink, silver or red. I didn't notice the difference in cell structural shape in the real small pack probably due to the thick heat shrink.

Bottom line, never charge any battery unattended and if they swell, no matter what the type, get it out of the house. I was attending the charging but made a wrong assumption in cell type. Oh yeah, don't poke the swollen pack with a knife.

