

Pilot Briefing

Volume 1, Issue 3

April 2009



Upcoming Events!!!

Next meeting: April 6, 2009

Field work parties:

Hopewell April 18th at 8am rain date of 4/19

Walkkill May 2nd at 9am rain date of 5/3

Officers:

President :
Warren Batson

Vice President:
Vic Horton

Secretary:
Flavio Ambrosini

Treasurer
Whitney Philbrick

Membership:
Rob Stubbs

Field Director-Hopewell
Mark Monroe

Flight Instructor
Walt Ericson

Safety Officer
Jerry Rohling

News Editor
Bob Magee

Directors at Large
Bob Allen
Rick Knight
Bob Magee

Pilot Briefing Editor
Ron Revelle



President's Corner

Hi everyone,

Well the good weather is finally here. Hope everyone is looking to get some flying in. I have been to Hopewell a few time already and had a good day of flying. The Hopewell field is in good shape. The road will need some work. We will be holding off of spending any money on the road this spring until the club can confirm that we will have the field for the season. So please be patient. Jack Robinson has been on the phone with the present owners 3-5 time a week and we have nothing concrete yet. The last update was that Toll Brothers has pushed out the April 1st closing until May 1st. We have had no direct contact with Toll Brothers so we do not know what our status will be with them. The moment we get something it will be passed along to the Club.

President's Corner Continued

Monday April 6th will be a regular meeting and we plan on talking about the Red Wing Field. A presentation of the layout of the field and surrounding properties will be discussed. The club will be presented with recommended usage and restrictions. In the end the members will have a chance to vote if we should proceed with taking on this new field.

If you would like to understand everything about the Red Wing field First hand, you owe it to yourself to attend this next meeting.

Hope to see everyone there.

Warren Batson

Help needed.

Our summer meetings will be held at the Hopewell field (if we still have it) or the new Red Wing field. Summer meetings are June, July and August and usually start about 5:30 to 6pm. We usually have a cook out at these Friday meetings.

The club is in need of someone to be the chairperson for these summer meeting cookouts. This person would need to coordinate people to do the cooking at each meeting and purchase the necessary food.

2nd item

Now that we have a monthly newsletter the club is in need of a person to print the newsletter and mail to about 6-8 members that do not have computers.

If you are interested in helping with either of these items please contact Me or any member of the board.

Thanks

Warren Batson

Exceptional People by the Editor



Pilot Jonathan Elie with his "back seater" instructor, Warren Botson



Jonathan flying solo on a breezy and cool March day

Exceptional People continued

On March 16th, 13 year old Jonathan was flying his first flight of the 2009 season. He put in a number of very nice flights that day. His flying was impressive. Had they been at the field, Whitney Philbrik and Walt Ericson would have been very proud. They along with Warren have played a part in Jonathan's success as flight instructors. But besides instructors, most pilots also have a ground crew that plays a major role in his or her successful flights.



Jonathan with his ground crew!



The plot and his plane

Jonathan's ground crew consists of a couple of wonderfully supportive parents, Lynda and Jonathan Sr. Neither of Jonathan's parents fly yet! But who knows if that is in the future. Right now, they are doing such a commendable job of facilitating their son's interest in flying.

Also at the field that day was the editor's guest and long time friend, Neil Hunt, who was recently awarded the NSRCA District 1 Sportsman Championship trophy. Neil and Jonathan struck up a friendship right away and have been corresponding via e-mail since then. Neil and his son Mark are a couple of those exceptional people! They always go way out of their way to help others!



Neil Hunt with his winning Pentathalon, designed and built by his son Mark who is the NSRCA District 6 Vice President and owner of Insight RC.

Exceptional People

Watching Jonathan's success, caused me to remember the many exceptional people that played a large role in my own RC experience. There was Maj. Frank Jepson, USAF F-105 pilot who found time to serve as my instructor and save my plane a time or two. And there were a few others who would always be on hand to back many of us up.....



Joe Miller at Hopewell and not shown here but always with him, his lovely wife, and our friend, Ellen



George Buso flying at Hopewell

The list goes on and on.....too many to mention here.....maybe later.....

A Cheap and Easy Transmitter Stand by Ron Revelle

Ok who has enough gadgets? Nobody, right? Well, here is one that is useful and can be made in about ten minutes for about three dollars. In February I managed to get to the Hopewell field for some flying and found things pretty wet and muddy from an early morning rain. Before taxiing out for takeoff, as usual, I had to lay my transmitter on the ground to make a couple of last minutes adjustments to my plane. By the end of the day the transmitter case had picked up some mud and moisture. Regardless of whether or not there are starting benches, there will be times when you will be working on your plane down on the ground! But, besides keeping your expensive transmitter out of the mud and moisture, most owner's manuals warn that transmitters on the ground may tipping over by wind or by yourself resulting in having the throttle stick moved to a higher engine speed. So, there is a safety reason for this gadget! Not to mention it might keep you from accidentally stepping on a transmitter left on the ground....ask big foot how I know!

I had seen plane stands constructed out of PVC pipe. Why not make a light weight transmitter stand from plumbing pipe? I expect I am not the first to try this, but this is what I came up with from the following materials:

- (2) 1/2" SCH40 TEES, (2) 1/2" SCH40 45DEG ELBOWS,(2) 1/2" SCH40 90DEG ELBOWS, (1) 1/2x5' Pipe

For a stand to hold a Futaba 9 or 10 C, I cut the following lengths from the 5' pipe and slid them into the joints.

- 2 pieces at 8"
- 2 pieces at 1 1/4"
- 2 pieces at 4"
- 2 pieces at 5"

I left the joints on my stand unglued so that I can adjust the stand for use on uneven ground.

Wishing you CAVU!

