

The Official Publication of the Remote Control Association of Central Florida



From the catbird seat...

Here we are in the throws of summer heat and the days are getting longer. This is a great time to fly. Those who are still working have time to fly in the afternoons and also have time to rest during the weekend and still get some air time.

We have initiated talks on doing a "Build & Fly" contest. In this team event, you get a certain "stash" of materials and you have two hours to put together an aircraft and fly a certain flight pattern. The winner of the contest is the team that finishes and completes the flight schedule the quickest. The materials usually consist of foam board, tape, some pieces of wood and a mystery material that MUST be used in the construction of the model. Team participants must bring their radio gear, and power-plant. Usually the model that wins is simple, two channel and electric. I'll keep you posted!

As you well know the R/C community is global, and we have had a fatality in Spain, where an individual was struck in the head by a landing jet and killed instantly. The member that was killed was a long time friend of the pilot flying the jet. After landing his glider, he crossed the runway to retrieve and did not see the landing jet. It can happen anywhere, be aware of your surroundings at all times.

There are 34 events scheduled in Florida this month, check them out at the AMA website

https://www.modelaircraft.org/event-

calendar?field_event_type_target_id=All&field_address_administrative_area=FL&field_addres s_district=SC%2CAL%2CMS%2CFL%2CGA%2CPuerto+Rico%2CTN%2CVirgin+Islands&field_eve nt_category_target_id=All&field_event_end_date_value=&field_event_start_date_value=





When I started in the model airplane hobby in 1970, I had to learn, from a mentor, how to build a model. First I started with plastic models, then control line and free flight and then I built my first R/C model. I washed a Taxi everyday for 2.00 bucks a day and save enough to buy a three channel, used, radio and a high wing, SIG model called a "Colt". I did not have to build the wing as it was foam, but the skills began to take shape and lead to a life-long love of building model aircraft. When I first came to RCACF, I built two "Wild Things" as part of my membership dues. Everyone at our field built their models and every weekend you were able to see "new" models that were a personal as the person who made it.

We all saw the progression of ARF models and began to see the changes in the hobby. Tower Hobbies was the place to buy everything, Graves R/C was the local provider of all things R/C and the clubs in the area thrived. As this occurred, we started seeing an increase in ARF models, as we called them "foamies" and more and more modelers came to the hobby, but lacked the building skills and knowledge required to build or repair balsa wood models and the art and craftsmanship of model building started to erode.

Fast forward to today, the model builder is a fairly rare individual, but if you see or know one, you will see models that are very different and personal as it relates to ARF models that are all the same. Some folks personalize their ARF aircraft and spend time detailing them and some of the airplanes look amazing. The advent of the ARF model has opened the hobby of model aviation to more and more people and it is an 11 billion dollar industry world-wide.

Electrics have made models much more acceptable in some areas but it also brought on the "drone" industry which threatened to make modeling obsolete by the use of these aircraft by some unscrupulous folks, in a manner that made the FAA look at our activities and try to stop or regulate it.

We need to keep our hobby alive. I do not want to replace it with anything else and I bet you don't either. Let's train those who are trying to get into model aviation, not only to fly, but also to build, repair and innovate so we can continue to enjoy flying our models!

RCACF Happenings

Folks the Don Lowe Field is amongst the top R/C fields in all of Florida. This is due to the thankless jobs that are done, by active members everyday at the field. The grass is cut and manicured, the garbage is removed, things are painted and cleaned.

We recognized some of these folks at the last meeting and now, there is a system in place for those that provide work for the RCACF to be recognized for their labor. As a part of the grass cutting crew, William Pierce and his guys have set a training for those interested in helping with the grass cutting. It involves taking a look at the mower parts, oil and general appearance for broken or loose items and the most important, how to load and unload the mower from the connex box without breaking it.

Please come out and help maintain the field. It keeps our cost down and allows us to keep our dues very reasonable.

On another note, we have been finding our new chairs, kindly and generously donated by a member, out in the weather. This means that they are in the sun and rain and they will deteriorate and will be damaged.

PLEASE PUT THE CHAIRS UNDER THE ROOF AT THE PITS WHEN YOU ARE DONE WITH THEM.

We are setting up for a swap meet and fly on Saturday, October 28. Flyer will be coming soon.

The RCACF is looking for a freezer / refrigerator in working order if you have one that you would like to donate.

Stay refreshed and hydrated in this heat, it can kill you. Drink plenty of water and recognize the symptoms of overheating.

Know where you are!

Folks, I believe you should be aware of where you are at all times, it is necessary for emergencies. We have had members not know the address to the field or how to get a hold of EMS, POLICE, FIRE. Please learn the address, put in your wallet, phone or anywhere you may find it when needed. The info is located in the Information / impound area.

FIELD ADDRESS 203 W. Keene Rd. Apopka

EMS, POLICE,

911

Stay informed

KNOW THE SYMPTOMS

HEAT	HEAT
EXHAUSTION	Stroke
HEAVY SWEATING COLD, PALE, OR CLAMMY SKIN FAST, WEAK PULSE MUSCLE CRAMPS TIREDNESS FAINTING NAUSEA HEADACHE DIZZINESS	HIGH BODY TEMP HOT, DRY, OR DAMP SKIN FAST, STRONG PULSE CONFUSION LOSING CONSCIOUSNESS NAUSEA HEADACHE DIZZINESS

COOL DOWN. LOOSEN CLOTHES. SIP WATER. WHAT CALL 911. COOL DOWN. DON'T DRINK ANYTHING.



BUILD & FLY

We are looking for participants in the RCACF build and fly. The rules are:

3 person teams

You will get: 2 sheets of foam board.

2 rubber bands

A few pieces of balsa sticks, a roll of tape

2 sided tape a mystery item that must be incorporated into the design.

You will have access to epoxy and Cya.

Each team will have 2 hours to put together a flying machine. After the two hours, one member of the team will pilot said machine through a series of maneuvers that must be completed in order to win the event.

You will be fed hamburgers and hot dogs and it promises to be a good time.

We will only do this if we get 6 teams of three, minimum.

Target date is September. If you get a team ready, forward me the information so we can start making the necessary arrangements to get the event going.

