



Issue # 8

The "Transmitter" our monthly newsletter

Aug 2009

August Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Fannin at 7:02 PM with 21 members present. The minutes from the June meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

Club Operation Reports

Treasurer: The Treasurer's Report was given by President Dave Fannin as Treasurer Ted Ellicott was unable to attend. At the end of July, we had 83 paid members. A motion was passed to accept the report as read.

Field Maintenance: Our Field Maintenance Committee Chairman John Burnworth was unable to attend but Dave reported on his behalf that a new contract has been sent to the individual who provides our field mowing services. The new contract clarifies some misunderstandings between the Club and this person regarding services that are to be provided as well as an amended fee structure. All parties involved are pleased with the new agreement and the field appeared to be in perfect flying condition during this meeting.

Safety: Our Safety Committee Chairman Larry Dawson reported a club member recently discovered a new way to bring his fingers into contact with a turning propeller when he tried to remove a glow plug igniter wire from the front of the airplane. Larry strongly recommends removing said attachment from behind a turning propeller, not from the front. (Larry also reports his fingers are mending well.) Seriously though, if this can happen to someone as experienced as Larry, it can happen to any of us - do not become complacent. RC aircraft are not toys.

Training: Our club instructors present reported there were no students currently in training but Dave Fannin said he always has the buddy box and connections for both JR and Futaba transmitters with him in case anyone would like some help flying an aircraft. Just ask.

Web Page: Web Master Bill Eischeid was unable to attend, however the web site is looking better than ever! Bill has incorporated a new weather screen with current weather conditions and forecast information for the Belleville area. There are also links to club photos and events as well as current and past meeting minutes and some other helpful documents. Check it all out at <http://www.bellevillercflyers.com/>.

Old Business: There was no old business to report.

New Business: Dave suggested we invite the Columbia Flying Club back for a Fun Fly event again this year. The suggestion met with unanimous approval from the membership present and September 12th was decided as the date to host them. Club Member Ray Teliczan was asked to contact the Columbia Club President and invite them.

New Members: No new members were presented for membership nomination this month.

Membership Drawing: Ken Jewell's name was drawn for the free club membership for 2010; unfortunately Ken was not present at the meeting. Members are reminded that you must be present to win this drawing.

Attendance Prize: The attendance prize was won by Gary Luttrell.

Next Meeting. The next club meeting will be held at the flying field on September 3rd at 7:00 PM. Dave also asked Gary Luttrell to contact Eckert's Restaurant Management to make arrangements to meet there starting in October.

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Join us on Saturday, September 12th to host a Fly-in with Members of the Columbia RC Club

Last year we enjoyed a visit from the members of the Columbia RC Club. Great stories and ideas were exchanged with a suggestion to have the event again the following year. In early October last year, the Columbia Club invited us to their field for a similar get together.

So, let's have a good turn out and have a good time. Details on what to bring will be discussed at our September membership meeting.

Belleville RC Flyers Military Model Fun Fly

Fun Fly Photos by Clubmembers



CLUB OFFICERS

Dave Fannin President
Jerry Nevenner Vice President
Robert Craft Jr. Secretary
Ted Ellicott Treasurer
Larry Dawson Safety



Need an Instructor...Call:

Dan Arens 824-6489
Larry Dawson 233-5484
Dave Fannin 401-2450
Marcus Robinson 310-4088

The Prop and The Electric Motor

Tangling with an electric motor's prop is akin to attempting to twirl a barber's straightedge razor between your fingers and hoping not to cut yourself. As every RC modeler knows, today's efficient prop comes with extremely sharp edges. Even manufacturers warn their customers to dull those edges when balancing the prop.

This is particularly true of the electric prop and to make matters worse, battery and speed controllers are usually stowed very close to the motor to support aircraft balance which places one's hands very close to the prop when arming the system for flight. To arm the system, one has to connect the battery to the controller (ESC).

Most of today's reputable ESC's have been designed to reduce prop hazard by unintentional start-up. Some are designed with a delay to allow removal of hands after connection is made. Others require movement of the throttle to full and back to idle for arming and some will not arm unless the throttle is in the idle position.

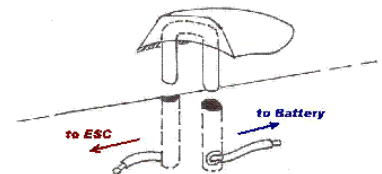
Regardless of these attempts to lessen the danger, when the system is armed, any unintentional bump to the throttle will put the prop into immediate action.

The only fail-safe system is a switch placed between controller and battery. Some model companies such as MPi and electronics stores like Radio Shack, sell micro switches that serve the purpose.

Another good method is to make a link (like a wall plug) that can be removed while the battery is being connected...then

when the link is replaced, the system is armed. This wire link can be disguised as a vent or some other aircraft part and when it is removed, no current passes through the system.

Remember: the time expended to install a safety device may seem like a pain but not like the pain one feels with a badly mangled hand. R. Miller



The Transmitter is the monthly newsletter of the Belleville RC Flyers.

It is published to keep the club members informed of club activities. Materials for publication should be submitted to the editorial staff. Club meetings are held the first Thursday of each month. In Summer, May through September, the meetings are held at the Flying Field. From October through April the meetings are held at Ecker's Restaurant. The standard meeting time is 7 pm. The Flying Field is located on Rentschler Road 1/2 mile South of Rte's 177 and 158, half way between Belleville and Mascoutah. Visitors and spectators are welcome and Club membership is open to all. Yearly dues are \$36.00 and there is an initiation fee of \$15.00. Academy of Model Aeronautics membership is also required. For info or submissions to the Newsletter, contact Curt Morris at cmorris401@aol.com