

# The Flying Times

The Official Newsletter of the Valley RC Flying Club

February 2006

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Visit our web site at: [www.vrcfc.org](http://www.vrcfc.org)

## January Meeting Discussion

1. Plans for the February Swap Meet and the Jumbo in June were discussed.
2. Thinking about safety and ways to keep the field safe were also discussed.

## From the Pres...

Press's Korner

I want to try and put a small blurb in every month, but coming up with a subject may sometimes prevent that.. January has just about had it but as far as flying it has been pretty good. Last Sunday saw a few of the hardy ones out to fly, myself being one. Did a "4" second maiden foam Electric flight with a model called Typhoon.--- When I started to go and pick up the remains, I glanced down at the TX , I knew what the problem was right away, I *forgot to pull* the antenna up. Just before the flight I did a range check and you will find out that those small light receivers are not very sensitive. I got only 25 feet away when the surfaces started to flutter. The end result is that the plane will crash much closer to you than a conventional 1 mile plus receiver -- if you don't pull up the antenna. Also with the antenna up the range will be shorter. >From what I have read the range is only about 1000 foot. So my advice for operating small foamy planes with shrink wrapped receivers, don't go beyond the south end of the field to be safe.

I did get another maiden flight with the Hurricane 3D plane that my wife won at the Xmas party. Comments are that the recommended settings for throws are far too much for a maiden flight, even at low rate. Also I'm not very much in love with 4 strokes as I had 2 dead stick landings with that plane's two flights.

Regards Pres Dave

## Food for Thought=====

### Food For Thought

Elsewhere in this newsletter there is another "Top Ten" list, intended to be humorous- Then again, maybe not! Point is, if you stay in this hobby long enough, your turn will come to be asked at least a couple of those questions while flying. Personally, I can think of seven right off the bat that I've been asked!

Why do these questions get asked? More often than not, it's because of something that wasn't done, or was overlooked during the pre-flight. In other words, **pilot error!**

How can we overlook such things, in this modern day of computerized radios, gyros, auto pilots, fail safes, etc. Technology is a wonderful thing, and for our hobby, has been mind-boggling the last 10 years. I can remember when there was ONE radio for ONE airplane. Now, you can fly multiple planes from the same transmitter, simply by pushing a few buttons. But, YOU have to remember to PUSH THE BUTTONS!! Along with all this convenience that technology has brought, it also requires more responsibility on the part of the operator.

Technology giveth, and technology can taketh away! Many planes have been lost due to trying to fly "Model 3" with the transmitter set to "Model 5". Again, **pilot error!**

I couldn't imagine having to try to fly some of the models I have without the benefits available from a computer radio. It's just made some aspects of this hobby a lot more pleasurable.

It is the responsibility of each pilot to understand the operation of his/her equipment. READ the manuals that come with the equipment. Read it until you understand it, and if you don't understand something, ASK someone who does. I never fail to ask a question when I don't understand something, and you can be sure that I do not understand everything about this hobby.

Several years ago, one of our former club members lost a beautiful airplane (and a lot of confidence with it) because he had mis-programmed his radio,

and failed to check it out before the flight. About a minute into the flight, he flipped a switch, which effectively turned off his ailerons, and this plane wouldn't fly without them. Of course, he didn't realize what he had done before it was too late. The statement I remember hearing was, "I didn't have the book with me and I tried to program it from my memory! DUH!

And another thing, It is not a sin to develop a "check list", just like our full scale brothers have to use. And the more airplanes you're flying, the more important it is.

Most of us, myself included, do not use "hard" checklists. We like to think we can keep up with it mentally. While I was putting the Giant Telemaster together the other week, I realized just how easy it would be for me to forget to plug in, screw in, or snap on something. In fact, I was so concerned with getting in all the screws, plugs, etc, that I almost forgot to put fuel in the tank!

I think during my spare time this winter I'll resolve to make a checklist for each model, and attach it to the prop, (stealing that idea from my son), just so I'll at least look at it before flying. We should all look at what we can do to improve our flying--and safety!

Safe flying is no accident.

Randy

Elsewhere in this edition, you will find a flyer on the Swap Meet the club will be hosting in February. Tell your friends and fellow modelers about it and plan on attending. This is the first swap meet the club has held in many years. If it goes well, it may become an annual thing if there is enough interest. Start collecting that stuff you'd like to turn into cash and plan on getting a table. Come to the meeting and find out more about this fun event and how you can help out.

### **Buy, Sell or Trade: =====**

Brand New 27% Great Planes Patty Wagstaf Extra 300..Fully assembled With Fujis New 4.3 EI gas engine, and all Hitec Digital Servos. ..Ready to fly, just add receiver and batteries..1200.00 invested...asking 900.00 or will sell airframe alone...Dan Barrick 540-248-3993

Clipped Wing Taylorcraft by ACE. This is a beautiful and precision built plane that has been flown and autographed by Dave Patrick. Complete with an OS 160 Gemini Twin and all servos, just add a radio and it is ready to fly in the Jumbo. Many custom and machined parts. Built by Charlie Knicely. \$750. If not sold it goes to swap meet. Greg at 289-9122 or 568-8156

### **Meeting Notice=====**

The February meeting of the Valley RC Flying Club will be held at the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren, Tuesday, Feb 7, 2005 at 7:30pm.

### **Dues Notice=====**

Club members who have not paid their dues by the February meeting will be subject to a \$5.00 late fee in addition to their dues.

### **Calender of Events=====**

Local swap meet at Weyers Cave - Feb. 18, 2006

Burlington, NC - Jan. 28, 2006

Newport News, Va. - Feb. 11, 2006

Perry, Ga. - March 4, 2006

Lebanon, Pa. - March 11, 2006

Mechanicsville, (Richmond) Va. March 18, 2006

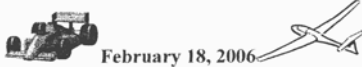
Lexington, NC - March 18, 2006

Joe Nall Event - May 17-20th, 2006

Expo Mall Show at the Staunton Mall March 4,2006

**VALLEY R/C  
FLYING CLUB**  
Harrisonburg, VA

**SWAP MEET**



February 18, 2006

Weyer's Cave Community Center  
Located at Exit 235 off Interstate 81  
Between Harrisonburg and Staunton, VA

100 tables available  
Seller's Set Up - 7:00AM  
Doors Open to Public - 8:30AM  
Tables \$10.00



Admission \$3.00  
Free Parking

Food Served, Door Prizes,  
Raffles

Located in the Shenandoah Valley, 2 hours south of DC, 1 1/2 hours west of Richmond,  
1 1/2 hrs north of Roanoke



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Visit our website: [www.vrcfc.org](http://www.vrcfc.org)

**Model of the Month=====**

**Telemaster Report**

I am pleased to announce that the maiden flight of the Giant Telemaster, for those who were not there to witness it, was absolutely textbook! The first of 4 flights occurred January 1. I couldn't have asked for any better performance. I think it is probably one of the few, if not only plane I have ever flown initially that required NO TRIM ADJUSTMENTS after take off. I'd say it flies very much like the Senior Telemaster, although maybe just a little less responsive, but this was just the first flights on it, and I may change some throws as I start experimenting. In any event, I highly recommend it. Randy Ryman

**Flying Humor=====**

**Top 10 Questions you DO NOT want to be asked while Flying!**

10. Why is your transmitter antenna still down?
9. You did check the CG, didn't you?
8. Did you intend to do that?  
(Sometimes getting the immediate reply of, "I ain't got it!!)
7. How many rubber bands did you put on the wing?
6. When's the last time you charged your batteries?
5. Did you do a range check?
4. Doesn't that airplane require the struts to be on to fly?
3. Is your transmitter set to the right model?
2. What just fell off?  
  
.....And the Number 1 question you do not want to be asked while flying.....  
.....
1. Will you be needing more than one trash bag????

**Upcoming Events=====**

The RC Swap Meet will be Saturday, Feb 18th at the Weyers Cave Community Center. Doors open at 7am for vendors/set up, 8:30am for general admission/public. Local clubs have been invited to set up a display and have representatives present. They may also have a one item raffle to help their club. We will coordinate this so each club will be raffeling off something different. We will have our tables near the entrance and can raffle off as much as we desire, plus hope to have door prizes to give away all day. So far, 5 tables have been spoken for with just word of mouth advertising and info on our clubs website. Ads will appear in Model Airplane News, (AMA) beginning in the Dec issue, and will also be in the Jan. and Feb. issues. If anyone needs flyers, see Dan Barrick or Rob at Hitech Hobbies, Linville Hobbies, or go to our website. Flyers can also be emailed if needed.

## **Extended Opportunities=====**

Want to see real (ie full scale) airplanes up close and personal? Go to Shenandoah Valley Airport between 8:30 and 3:00 in hanger number 2 at Classic Aviation and ask for Charlie Munneke. Charlie will provide a guided tour. On any given day there may be Lockheed 12, a Cessna 182, a King Air, a WACO bi-plane, a 300 L Extra, a T-6 Texan or some combination of five or six airplanes. Call in advance if you want to. 540-234-0226.

# **FIFTH ANNUAL**

**RICHMOND SWAP MEET**

**DOOR PRIZES AND RAFFLE**

**DATE: MARCH 18th 2006**

**TIMES: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM**

**SETUP AT 8:00 AM**

**LOCATION: NEW LOCATION**

**FAIRMOUNT CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

**6502 CREIGHTON ROAD**

**MECHANICSVILLE, VA**

**FEES: TABLES \$8:00, 2 for \$14:00**

**includes 1 admission**

**ADMISSION \$5:00**

**LADIES,**

**CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE**

**CONTACT: DONALD PUETZ**

**(804) 737-4749**

**[dmp1mp@aol.com](mailto:dmp1mp@aol.com)**

**DIRECTIONS: From the East and West take I-64 to I-295**

**North. From the North and South take I-295 to exit 34-A Creighton Road East. Go 1/2 mile from I-295, and look for the direction signs.**

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