

Rio Grande R/C Flyers



The Fly Paper

June 2009
A.M.A. Chapter # 3723

News Letter
I.M.A.A. Chapter # 480

Editor: Bill Robinson: bill@rgflyers.org

Meeting Minutes June 3, 2009

Art Ratley

The June 2009 meeting of the Rio Grande R/C Flyers was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by club President Bill Robinson. There were 18 people present at Rudy's BBQ in Pharr.

Motion made to approve the minutes of the May meeting as published in the Newsletter. Motion carried.

Roger Bell reported that we have a balance of \$1652.00 in the treasury. Tickets were distributed for the Grand Raffle to be held in December.

No safety issues have been reported in the past month.

Bob Barry (Special Events coordinator) reported a detailed plan for the upcoming June 7th, "Bob Barry's Birthday Bash Hot Dogs on a Bun Fun fly." Two events are planned.

Event # 1 - Loops, Rolls, and Touch and Go's. Pilot will take off, execute a loop followed by a roll. Do this three times followed by a touch and go. Repeat procedure three times, followed by a full stop landing. This is a timed event. Shortest time wins.

Event # 2 - Pilot will take off and try to touch down on the marked off areas of the runway. Each area is marked with a number of points. This is a timed event. The pilot has two minutes to see how many points he can record. Most points wins.

Old business: The water will be turned off when the field is not in use during the month of June.

July Meeting Notice

**The July meeting
will be held on Wednesday
July 1st at
7:00 PM. The meeting
will be at Rudy's restau-
rant, located at 209 W.
Nolana In Pharr.
The club usually arrives
at 6 PM for dinner with
the meeting beginning
at 7 PM.**



The sticker burr eradication program is under way. The field was mowed on Friday, the first spraying was done on Saturday, and it rained on Sunday. The timing was good. It is recommended that spraying should be done three times at a four month interval. Bob Barry gave a detailed report on how this process works. Thanks Bob.

Bill reported that special AMA cards for the instructor program have been received by Bill, Rick Martinez, and Dave Hanson.

New business: The Laredo RC club is sponsoring a Fly-In on Saturday June 6th at the Zapata airport. This is a non-competitive event from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. All clubs have been invited to participate. for more information, check the Laredo R/C club website.

A trip to Bennack field is scheduled for Sunday July 12th.

June 7th Fun fly cookout will be Hot Dogs w/side dishes welcomed, chips, cake and bring your own beverage.

Motion made and passed to present a gift certificate of \$200.00 to the Bell family and staff to show the club's appreciation for use of the field.

Roy Richmond gave an update on Art Brock. Art has had a long period of time trying to recover from a fall and surgery in March. He is presently at the "Village Care Center"

It was also noted that Darrell Strandberg is home after an extended stay at Rio Grande Regional Hospital, and Renaissance Rehab Center. Darrell suffered a severe stroke on April 11th.

These club members can be contacted at the following Addresses:

Art Brock - Village Care Center, Room 208, 615 N. ware Rd. McAllen, 78501, Phone - 664 8900.

Darrell Strandberg - At home, 700 FM 2062, Mission, Tx. 78572, Phone - 584 3599.

Next meeting, Rudy's BBQ July 1st, 2009

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 P.M.

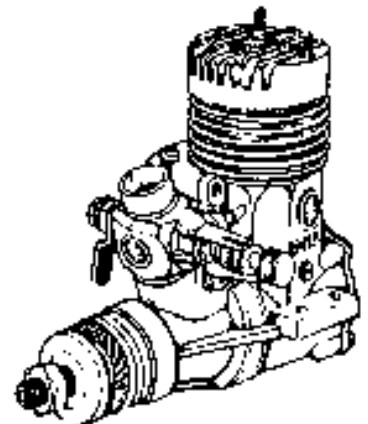
101 Ways to Stop a Spinning Propeller

by Don Nix, Insider Safety Column Editor

Unfortunately, we are limited to only a single safe one: Stopping the engine.

Yeah, yeah. Everyone knows that. Right? Well, if so, then why are more than half of all model accidents caused by model propellers—while turning? Because we do very stupid things sometimes. Because we get careless. Because we get too casual. Because we are inexperienced. Because we are so experienced we think common sense safety is for beginners. Because, because, because.

Well, that be the cause!



K&B engines might not be very familiar to newcomers to the hobby, but oldsters will remember that K&B was the leading American manufacturer of model engines for decades, having been started by Johnny Brodbeck back in 1946.

About 20 years ago, I was flying at the pilot's station next to one occupied by my good friend, John Brodbeck; the "B" of K&B engines, and son of Johnny, the founder. John was test flying an engine sent in by a customer seeking a solution to a puzzling problem. (Yes, company owners really used to do such things.) John had made a couple of laps around the field, but felt the engine was too lean, so he landed and taxied to the front of the pit to change the needle setting.

Now here's a fellow who is the owner of a model engine company, who had probably been weaned from Mama Brodbeck to a baby bottle filled with glow fuel, and had been around and using model engines since the earth cooled. One would think he would be extra careful; be sure the model was secure and tune the engine from behind. Instead, wanting to get on with the test, he reached across the propeller from the front. I can tell you it stopped the engine. However, flying was over for the day for both of us because I had to drive him to the emergency room to have a deep 3-inch gash in his forearm neatly stitched.

Yes, he was hurt, but said the worst pain was the embarrassment of being an engine manufacturer who would do such a dumb stunt (his words, not mine) at Southern California's busiest flying field in front of about 60 modelers.

My guess is, there are very few modelers who have been flying more than a couple of years who have not donated a little blood and possibly flesh to carelessness with propellers. For some of us, once is enough. Others have a little slower learning curve. It would be bad enough if their carelessness just injured themselves, but all too frequently an innocent person is hurt; sometimes more than just stitches.

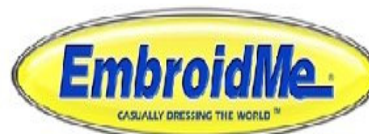
I think I'll cut this column shorter than I had planned to allow you faithful readers (all six) to submit some of your own experiences that might quite possibly make others think twice before doing something stupid, ill-advised. Always glad to hear from you: flyerdon@aol.com or flyerdon@yahoo.com. You will get a reply.

Club Shirts & Custom Items

The club has contracted with EmbroidMe for club related graphics and Logos. You can take your shirts to the store and they will embroider them for you. It takes about a week.

Price List :

- Option 1 Large logo on back Name on right chest \$23.00
- Option 2 Opt1 + Small logo on Left Chest \$30.00
- Option 3 Opt 1 & 2 + American & Texas flags 1 on each sleeve \$40.00



EmbroidMe-McAllen

Phone: 956-683-8006 Fax: 956-683-8306

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Calendar of Events



- June 7 Funfly & BBQ
- June 12—14 Lake Jackson
- July 1st Club Meeting
7PM Rudy's BBQ
- July 12 Trip to Auxiliary Field
- August 9th Club Fun Fly