

Rio Grande



R/C Flyers

The Fly Paper

November 2009
A.M.A. Chapter # 3723

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

Editor: Bill Robinson: bill@rgflyers.org

Meeting Minutes November 4, 2009

Art Ratley

Meeting Minutes November 4, 2009

The November 2009 meeting of the Rio Grande flyers was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by club President Bill Robinson. There were 20 members plus 13 Spouses and children present at Rudy's BBQ in Pharr.

Minutes of the October meeting were approved as published in the Newsletter.

Roger Bell passed out the raffle tickets and stated that the financial report was at the auditor's office and would be available at a later date. He also gave a report on the Field improvements project. The plan is for a 40 x 60 foot extension of the runway with an additional flight station and Heli Pad.

Fred Mentzer was appointed to head up the Super Fund campaign for the project. He reported that 6 people have each committed one hundred dollar donations. The Art Brock donation to the club will also be used for this project. Brad Wood was selected to chair the committee for a fund raising project. Volunteers on the committee are: Randy Ashley, Roy Richmond, John Bearden, and Roger Bell.

Safety Officer John Bearden reported no safety issues at the field.

Old Business: Bill passed out flyers for the Art Brock Memorial Annual Fly, Food, and fun Fly-In

December Meeting Notice

The December meeting will be held on Wednesday December 2nd at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be at Rudy's restaurant, located at 209 W. Nolana In Pharr. The club usually arrives at 6 PM for dinner with the meeting beginning at 7 PM.



scheduled for Sunday November 22, 2009. 10:00 A.M. flying - 4:00 P.M. Food. Landing fee donation of \$20.00 includes flyer and one guest meal. Monies collected will be used for the runway project. Roger asked for a vote on the meal. Hamburgers with trimmings were the choice. Brad will assist Roger with the food. Bob Barry, special events coordinator, will take care of the flight operations. Fred Mentzer will be in charge of the cleanup crew at 10:00 A.M. on Friday the 20th. Roy Richmond will need volunteers for the cleanup crew on Sunday after the event.

The raffle will be held at the December meeting. Drawing will be for three gift certificates in the amount of \$200.00 each from two different hobby stores.

New business: Bill announced that the SMASH club Fun Fly will be Saturday, November 14th from 9 to 5. Landing fee of \$15.00 includes lunch.

Roger Bell was chosen to take nominations for the election of club officers for the coming year. Those nominees are:

Newsletter Editor: Bill Robinson

Safety Officer: John Bearden, and Roy Richmond

Field Marshall/Treasurer: Roger Bell

Secretary: Art Ratley, and Bob Barry

Vice-President: Roger Bell, Rick Martinez, and Brad Wood.

President: Bill Robinson, and Bob Barry

Attending the meeting for the first time since returning to the Valley, Winter Texan club members, Jim Schroeder, George Glendenning, Dick Ware, Bob Sonne, Carl Bevers, and Jim Jamieson. Welcome back.

Next meeting December 2nd at Rudy's. Meeting adjourned 7:34 P.M.



Calendar of Events



- Nov 14 S.M.A.S.H. Fun Fly Rio Hondo
- Nov 20 Field Clean-Up @10 AM
- Nov 22 Annual Fly-In
- Dec 2 Club Meeting @ Rudy's
- Dec 6th Club FunFly

Club Shirts & Custom Items

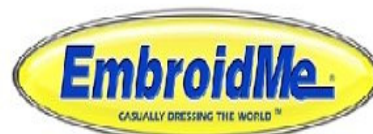
The club has contracted with EmbroidMe for club related graphics and Logos. You can take your shirts to the store and they will embroider them for you. It takes about a week.

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

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ON THE SAFE SIDE

The Lighter Side of Safety

by Don Nix, Insider Safety Column Editor

My last column about self-appointed, rude, and dangerous hotdogs in RC drew more mail than any previous one. With one exception, all the letters were not only in agreement, but most gave examples of similar incidents at their own fields and how they had dealt with it.

The lone dissenter was not only indignant (“Nobody is going to tell me what I can and can’t do”), but at the end of his e-mail stated he could tell I was probably pro gun control and a few other unspeakable sins, none of which were true or had anything to do with flying model airplanes. Oh, well.

As I was debating subject matter for this issue, it occurred to me that funny things related to safety do happen from time to time. They are only funny when no person is injured or no property is damaged. The following incidents took place years ago at a very popular RC flying field in Southern California.

Late one Saturday afternoon, one of our most regular and experienced pilots was flying an Ugly Stik and began yelling, “I don’t have it! I don’t have it! No control!” then watched open-mouthed as “his” model gracefully climbed into the pattern, turned downwind, turned again and passed in front of everyone, continuing on around again, seemingly on its own. This field was a very busy one with 12 pilot stations, and most had models in the air at the moment.

Gradually he realized what had happened. This particular fellow liked to fly low and in the weeds (literally), but was always careful to do so well past the far side of the runway, at least a hundred feet from the flightline. As he made one of his low and slow passes into the afternoon sun, an almost identical Stik was taking off at the far end of the pit area and starting to climb into the pattern. At that time of day, at that particular point and general altitude, models tended to become silhouettes briefly.

Ah, you can see it coming. Just as our friend was approximately abreast of the model taking off, his eyes picked up the other Stik as his own. In the meantime (as we discovered an hour or so later), his model had continued unhampered and uncontrolled straight ahead, crashing into a golf course several hundred yards to the west. I might mention the golfers were not amused.

On another occasion, one of my friends who did a lot of training of newbies was helping a beginner with his brand new trainer, checking everything, starting the engine, tuning it, and explaining what he was doing at every step. After getting the engine tuned and idling properly, he told the proud owner that he wanted to check the engine at full power with the nose up to be sure it wasn’t too lean. The owner, eager to please, held the airplane vertical while the engine test was made, and was still holding it in that position when the instructor reduced the power to idle.

Yes, the fellow was a beginner, but he had been at the park for a couple of hours, and certainly must have seen what others were doing all around him. No doubt nerves pickled his brain at that moment, because when the instructor nodded at him, assuming the fellow would put it down at the edge of the runway, the poor guy simply tossed it straight up into the air, nose pointed skyward, engine at idle.

Incredibly, the stunned instructor, having more skill and presence of mind than most of us, punched the throttle full forward, managed to get the thing wallowing into the air and flew it out into the pattern. Another fine example of what happens when we assume something.

After getting into this subject, I realized I have some more funny ones that ended up safely, but they’ll have to wait until next issue. In the meantime, if you care to add to the list, or suggest another safety subject, I’m always available: flyerdon@aol.com.

Rio Grande



R/C Flyers

Art Brock Memorial Fun Fly

Sunday November 22

**Where: Rio Grande Flyer Field—Bell
Farms Property
Penitas TX.**

**When: Sunday November 22
10 AM Flying Starts
4 PM Dinner**

Aircraft restrictions—None

Flying demonstrations—None

Landing Fee—\$20.00

**Dinner—Registered Flyers and 1
Guest Included in Landing Fee
Covered Dishes & Desserts
Welcome**

Bring your own beverages.

Public Address system — Talk Louder

**Spectators: This is a non-advertised event no spectators
are expected to attend.**

Contacts : Roger Bell 686-4297 Bill Robinson 687-4624

