

THRUSTLINES

Indianapolis R/C Modelers Chapter 288

WWW.INDYRCMODELERS.COM

November 2008

The Editors Corner

Yes it is getting colder but that does not mean we put away the planes for the winter and forget about them. Now is the time to give you aircraft a close look for any wear and tear. Do glue joints need reinforced, covering reshunk or edges glued down? Check for loose or missing screws and nuts. Are the servos working smoothly—is the linkage free of any slop. How about the fuel system—does the fuel line need replaced? In gas-line systems the tubing often gets very stiff after a year or two and the clunk does not clunk any more. Give everything a good cleaning to get the years worth of dirt and grime off of all surfaces. You should also fire up that engine then run it dry and use an after-run oil to prevent rusting of the bearings and other internal engine surfaces. How about the batteries (both receiver and transmitter) Have you cycled them? Don't have a cycler—see Barb at Hobby RC—it will cost you a few bucks but much cheaper than replace the aircraft. If they are not at least 80% of there rated capacity **re-place** them. Do you know how old they are? If they are more than 3 years old it is probably a good idea to **replace them**. Much better to spend a few dollars now on new batteries rather than lots of dollars later on a new aircraft **and** new batteries. Remember, we will still have some very nice flying days throughout the fall and winter so keep a plane ready to fly—also—don't forget to attend our **Freeze Flyin** on New Year's Day!!

Till next month

Ted Brindle, Editor



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Prez Sez

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Event Announcements

The December Meeting will be held on Monday Dec 1st at 7 pm.

The Prez Sez

First order of business is to announce that the club's Annual Dinner has been scheduled for Saturday evening December 13th, and will be held at the New Palestine United Church at our regular meeting place. We'll open the doors at 5pm and sit down to eat at 6pm. Norm Warfield has retained the same caterer for this year's event, guaranteeing great food and great fellowship. In addition to our usual presenting of awards to outstanding members, I'm also going to put together a presentation with pictures and video that will highlight the tremendous year we've had. Fee will be the usual \$10 per person, and you can mail a check to Ron Cassell, or pay at the December meeting (since it's before the dinner). Hope to see you there!

Winter is upon us, and the shelter is wrapped and buttoned up to shield hardy outdoor flyers from the elements. Attention is turning to indoor activities. Indoor flying is one activity that's happening in north Indy at Westfield, and in Anderson at the airport. I understand there may be a location on Indy's south-side soon. There also are swap meets like the one last weekend in Southern Indiana that Jack, Terry, Steve and I attended. Lots of traffic, 95 tables filled. There will be a swap meet at the Anderson Airport on November 29th starting at 9am. I'll update the calendar page on the club web site with events I hear about. This is also the building season, and if you'll email me photos of your latest project, I'll post them for everyone's enjoyment. Keep us posted on what you're doing. It's also a great time to use the Flight Simulator to keep your thumbs nimble. I'll be putting up a new Flight Simulator page on the club web site with setups, flight recordings, etc. Let me know what you'd like to see. Between now and then, make sure you have the latest version of your simulator. If you have Real Flight G3, grab the FREE update to version 3.5 . If you have Real Flight G4, grab the FREE update to version 4.5 . When you launch the program, you'll see a screen on the launcher that allows you to Update to the latest version. I'll keep you posted on progress.

Last, but certainly not least, most of you know that our current club officers have been honored (?) with another tour of duty. We haven't yet decided whether it's due to satisfactory job performance or (much more likely) nobody else wants the job <G>. In any case, we'll be working on plans to continue our usual pattern of ABUSE in hopes that someone will finally say "I've had enough, it's time for CHANGE!!!". Don't be weighed down with thoughts of procedure, hurt feelings, or waiting until the next voting cycle. Our management team stands ready and willing to be IMPEACHED at a moment's notice! If someone doesn't step up to the plate and STOP us, we'll continue to work on a goal of making 2009 the BEST year EVER for this club!!! YOU'VE BEEN WARNED!!

Tim Mills says:

A BAD day at the field still beats a GREAT day at work!!

IRCM Meeting Minutes for November 3, 2008

Meeting Called to order at 7:00pm.

Secretary meeting minutes for month of October: Minutes Read and Accepted.

Treasurers Report was read and accepted.

Old Business:

Indy Admirals Swap meet did better traffic wise. Our Club and the Screaming Eagles were the two r/c airplane clubs represented.

The show consisted about ½ airplane, 1/3 boats, and little bit of everything else. Good displays, vendors, all of the tables were sold.

Club picnic was cancelled. Last Sunday held an impromptu picnic at the field.

New Business:

Club Dinner: January and February has been the traditional club dinner. This year's dinner will be held Saturday night November 13th, 6:00 pm. Price is \$10 dollars per person (fixed price.)

Invite Pastor and wife to club dinner.

Elections: Nominations

Jack Sallade – is vacating the VP position. Everyone else is staying put.

Nominations:

Nominations will be the same as current officers. Jack will remain as VP until January, and then resign.

Field Winterizing: This Saturday at 10 AM.

Wrap the shelter. Pump the port o lets and antifreeze them.

Other Business:

There is a new Realflight version upgrade 4 to 4.5

Tim M is getting a RealFlight page on the website for training and able to get together with others for a virtual fly in. one for 3.5 and one for 4.x flyers.

Indianapolis Air Show for 2009 will be held June 5-7 at Mount Comfort Airport, There is a very good chance the Blue Angels will be the featured act—this will be confirmed in early Dec 2008

Wing tube to tight???

By Jack Sallade

I just purchased a new Edge 540 ARF that uses a wing tube attachment system to secure the wing. It consists of a carbon fiber tube that is inserted into a cardboard tube that passes through the body of the plane. Cardboard tubes in each wing are used as sockets and nylon bolts are used to hold the wings securely against the body, trapping the tube inside. This sort of construction makes for very easy assembly and disassembly and provides great strength. Unfortunately, even after nicely clearing out the covering over the openings in the body and cleaning the tube thoroughly, the CF tube was such a tight fit in the cardboard tube in the body that it was a major effort to insert or remove the tube.

You definitely want this to be a no slop connection but this was ridiculously tight. Clearly I needed to create just the smallest fraction more clearance if I was going to remove the wing tube on a regular basis (a necessity with this size plane). The issue was how to do it?? I didn't want to sand on the CF tube for many reasons... CF dust is not very friendly to the lungs; the tube is thin already so I didn't want to risk weakening it and besides how would I get a nice even reduction in size?? Clearly I needed to open up the cardboard tube. But of course the same issue of keeping the hole perfectly round comes into play. Certainly I didn't have a drill bit the right size, nor was I sure it would work if I did.

As I pondered this, a friend who was working with me in my shop related how he had overcome this issue on a previous project. Here is the tool we "created" to do the job. It's inexpensive; you probably already own all the necessary parts and it's very adaptable to whatever size is needed.



Assembly is fairly simple. Take a ¼" dowel rod (or something similar, mine is made from a fiberglass rod that is left over from a driveway marking reflector) and attach a half

sheet or so of sandpaper using box tape or something similar. Here's a picture to give you an idea of the construction.



Where the pen is pointing is clear box tape wrapped around the rod and overlapping the sandpaper on both sides for an inch or so. Now wrap the sandpaper tightly around the rod with the grit facing out.



As you can see I have also sandwiched a paper towel (or at least part of one) under the sandpaper for the last turn or so. This helps to space out the sandpaper to the proper size. You want to end up with a roll that, when wound nice and tight, can be inserted into the tube. The amount of paper towel you include can be varied so that the result is a close fit inside the tube. It doesn't need to even touch when you insert it, but when you release it you want a small amount of pressure so that the sandpaper will be pushed out against the tube enough to do the job. It doesn't take a lot of pressure to make this work.

Finally, attach a hand drill to the rod end away from the sandpaper and run it for just a few seconds. My advice is to keep the drill moving a bit so that you don't sand any

grooves in the tube. In all likelihood you will only need to do this for just a couple seconds to get the clearance you want. Putting material back in is going to be tough so don't overdue it! This works well and took me all of about 4 minutes to accomplish my task once the basic idea was explained to me. As my building buddy would say there is "no doubt about it". This works very well!

Annual Club Dinner

We will be having our annual Awards dinner a little early this year. We will have it on Saturday, December 13th at 6pm. It will be at the same location as our club meetings with the Copper Kettle providing the great dinner. The cost is \$10 per person. Please call or email Tim Mills 629-9743 or Ron Cassell 861-6053 to make your reservation ASAP. You can pay at the December club meeting on 1 Dec or at the dinner but **you need to make your reservation NOW!**

Your AMA and Club Membership Renewal

Check and make sure your AMA membership is still good for 2009—remember you can't fly at the field after 31 Dec 2008 if you have not renewed your AMA membership for 2009. Also, if you have not yet paid your club dues for 2009, (single \$75, family \$100) bring your check or cash to the club meeting on 1 December or if you can't make it to the meeting mail your check to Ron Cassell, 4592 Mohr Estates S. Drive, New Palestine, IN 46163



If we are very very very very lucky we just might see Tim's "new" Sukhoi at the flying field sometime in 2009 or maybe 2010 but if not then surely by 2011



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Coming Events

Madison County RC Swap Meet and Indoor flyin—Saturday 29 Nov—Anderson Airport