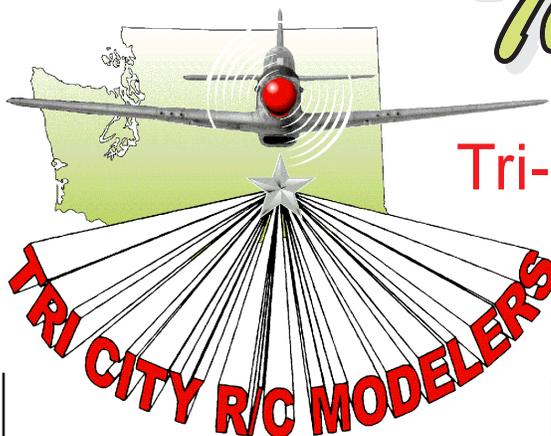


June 2004 issue of...



The Leading Edge

Newsletter of the
Tri-City Radio Controlled Modelers

2004 Heli Fun Fly and Competition Big Success!

Written by Bart Andrist, 2004 CD for Heli Fun Fly

2004 TCRCM Officers

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Reminder!...

Our next meeting will be held at our TCRCM Airfield on June 16th, at 7:00 p.m. Come fly before the meeting.

Mark your calendar for **Gary Weaver's Fun Fly Events**, June 18, 19, 20th and Sept 3, 4 & 5th. For more information, contact Gary Weaver at gweaver@smwireless.net

The **ARC Fun Day** event is planned for the **30th of July**. Bill Greger and Gordon Anderson are starting early planning. We will need help at the field in a number of areas. Please help us again this year. Please, contact **Bill Gregor or Gordon Anderson** and volunteer to help.

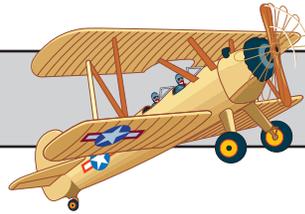
The TCRCM Helicopter Fun Fly went well this year with a slightly smaller than hoped for turnout. The weather was better than the two previous years. We were going to have it a week later, but it's a good thing we didn't because the weather was much worse the next weekend!



Preparation has been made for the TCRCM 2004 Heli Fun Fly and Competition

Thirty registered flyers turned out for the event and all seemed to have a great time...except for one young man who crashed (OUCH!) after doing several inverted blade touches on the runway....! Oh well, I guess that's to be expected when you're on the edge of the flight envelope! We also got to see several electric helicopters fly, ranging in size from micro to .90 powered size! The electrics are really coming along. They were very nice machines!

The competitions on Saturday went well also, with winners of all trophies in all classes including Bill Pierce taking first in expert class, second in the drag races and third in the auto contest. Pat O'Neill took first in advanced class, and Shawn Rose took first in the drag races and second in the auto contest. Congratulations to all the winners, you did a great job! *(continued next page)*



Man's two best friends: his dog, and his heli. It doesn't get any better than this.

I'd like to take this chance to say thanks to everyone who helped out, you all made the whole thing go very smoothly. Also, all the sponsors without which we would have nothing to give away in the pilots drawings, or the excellent (\$850.00) Miniature Aircraft Fury Extreme kit we were able to raffle off. The helpers and the sponsors are probably the two most important things that make it possible to pull these events off, because as I've learned in the past three years it takes a serious amount of both preparation work and on field work to have the super nice heli events that we've had here these past three years. Thanks again to everyone!!!!!!

Tri-City R/C Modelers Club

April 2004 Club Minutes

EMSL Meeting Room 1075, 05/19/2004

Minutes by Secretary Doug Larson

Welcome - President Dennis Cone welcomed the attendees. Treasury report by Fred Fisher, total club assets are \$2271.52 in the checking account, \$5000 in a money management account and \$2700 in a CD and \$647 in the checking account.

Field Report – The watering has been generally good but a dry spot persists toward the southwest end of the runway. A proposal to relocate an existing sprinkler was discussed and will be done as soon as practicable.

New Business – The ARC voted TCRCM as the “Support Organization of the Year”. Club President Dennis Cone will attend a ARC Banquet to receive the award. The Heli Event was attended by 35 pilots who enjoyed good flying weather and good food. Financial outcome of the event was about a break even. Dennis Cone will deliver the funds to the City of Richland which are due them from the Heli Event. Conducting another CD training class was discussed and will be scheduled in the near future. The lease agreement with the City of Richland has been signed and will be sent back to the city officials. The lease agreement is basically the same as the previous. The portable restroom at the field was discussed in that it may need replacing and the city is suggesting an ADA compliant unit may be considered. The merits of an ADA restroom at our facility seemed low to those in attendance. A pattern contest is coming to Weaver Field on Memorial Day Weekend. Gordon Anderson asked about borrowing the chairs from the field and a table. Tacit permission was extended. The TCRCM Pattern Contest is scheduled for August 7th & 8th.

Old Business – Bob Julian is still recovering from his near miss. The club members plan to provide some kind of building project to keep him from getting bored at home.

Meeting adjourned at 2010 hrs.

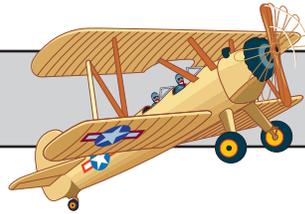
Show'n'tell: Bill Bowen brought some nifty gimbal sticks that he had made.

05/19/2004 Tri-City R/C Modelers Club

Presidents Corner

Written by TCRCM President, Dennis Cone

The Helicopter Fun Fly for 2004 is history. George Vargo and Bart Andrist put on a great contest. There were 30 contestants doing maneuvers I didn't know could be done with a Helicopter. Unless you have seen some of these events you have missed out on some great flying. I saw rolling maneuvers just a few feet off the ground done with total control. From small miniatures to all electric these machines are phenomenal. I saw a 12-year-old young man do an autorotation and I understand he only soloed a month ago. He has a great future flying and is very excited.



TCRCM was voted the volunteer group of the year by the ARC association and I attended by invitation their annual meeting to accept the award. Bill Greger and Gordon Anderson were not able to attend, so I attended in their stead. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their selfless time spent putting on a day of enjoyment for Partners and Pals Summer Day Camp. As I understand this is the "Highlight of the summer for the children with special needs". Thanks Guys, you make a difference.

Fred Fisher and I moved one of the small sprinklers to try to cover the area of the runway that is not getting enough water.

By the time you read this I will have finished the Olympian Medal, flown its maiden flight and completed a pattern contest in Othello. It was a long journey (6 months) to complete this bird but it will be worth it. Now just have to finish the Carbon Fiber Aries. Hope to have it finished before the end of summer.

Remember, wings Level.

David Armstrong Memorial Pattern Contest

Written by Gordon Anderson,
NSRCA District 8 Vice President

We just returned home after the David Armstrong Memorial contest held at Fry's corner in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada held May 22nd and 23rd, 2004. The field is about 8 miles north of the border, we crossed the border at the I-5 commercial truck crossing and continued north on 176th until we hit highway 1A, took a left on 1A and we were there in another 100 yards!

We arrived Friday about noon, the drive is about 350 miles so it took about 6 hours. The field is a pretty nice with a large grass runway. Lots of practice activity Friday with around 15 guys flying. I got in a couple of so-so test flights and spend a lot of time chatting with the other pilots.

Fridays weather was overcast but it did not rain, a little

bit of cross wind but not bad. The flight direction was left to right all weekend. We stayed in Surrey at the Ramada Inn, a very nice place to stay and only about 3 miles from the field. All the motels were full due to a rodeo that was held on the same weekend.

The contest had a great turnout. I'm not sure of the exact numbers but as I recall we had the following number of contestants in each class: 4 Sportsman, 5 Intermediate, 11 Advanced, 6 Expert and 4 FAI

A total of 30 contestants! A fantastic turnout. Chad Northeast and other young man from the Canadian worlds team were at the contest flying FAI. Chad was the best pilot I have ever seen. The P05 FAI routine is very complex and Chad did a beautiful job flying with his Enigma.

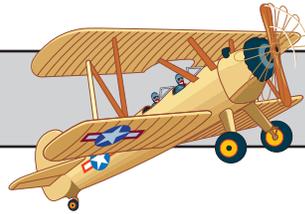
We woke up Saturday morning to a down pour! It rained hard till around 10AM and starting tapering off. We were able to start flying around 11:30 or so. Amar Shan was the CD and he did a very good job. The entry fee was only \$15 and he even feed us lunch both days. We got in three full rounds on Saturday with a lot of the local guys helping organize the judging and generally helping Amar run the event.

We had three D8 fliers at this contest, Brett Bowen, John Foglesong (Saturday only), and myself. We did OK, Brett won Expert and I won Advanced. Brett is going to be un-stoppable this year so all you Masters fliers better look out!

Sunday was a very nice day, mostly clear skies with a little wind kicking up in the afternoon. Both Brett and I stopped flying after the 5th round and packed up so we could get on the road a little early, we made it home about 9:00PM on Sunday.

The Canadians run great contests and always make you feel welcome. It was great to see our old friends and make a lot of new friends at this event. We intend to attend this event every year assuming our schedule will permit.

Lots of interest in John Foglesong's Can-Am challenge contest to be held in Concrete this year! This event should have a large number of the Canadian guys and I hope we get a good D8 turnout as well.



Hail, hail, the gangs all here...wait, where's Steve and Ted?

Basin Pattern Contest

Gary Weaver's Field, Othello, WA

Written by Gordon Anderson,
Event CD and NSRCA District 8 Vice President

The first District 8 2004 pattern contest was held over the Memorial Day weekend, May 29th and 30th. The Spring Time Opening Pattern (STOP) contest was my first attempt as a contest CD. With lots of help we held a pretty successful event. It did however have a few challenges!

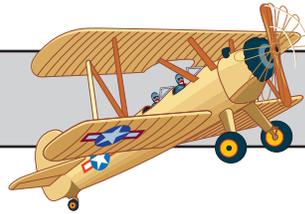
The field we were flying from is a private flying field owned by Gary Weaver in Othello Washington. Gary allows us to use this field a couple of times a year for pattern events plus a lot of the Washington guys will travel to his field for practice. The field is very nice, about 50 or 60 feet wide and 500 feet long grass field. Lots of parking and a big shop in the pit area with power. We are very fortunate to have this site.

About half of the pilots showed up Friday to get some practice and get reacquainted after the winter hiatus. We

had a great time flying and chatting about the hobby. This is one of the greatest parts of a contest for me.

We had one depressing event happen on Friday, Gary McClellan lost his Angle's Shadow due to combination of events. It went in pretty hard behind a small hill into a gravel pile. Everyone was pretty sure it was totaled; I gave Gary Pugh a garbage bag to help collect the remains. After about 10 minutes someone (can't remember who) returned with the aircraft intact! It was absolutely amazing!! Gary did a careful inspection of the airframe and concluded it needed some repair work that was better done at home. The Angle will defiantly fly again! The composite design of the Angle's Shadow is no dough responsible for its amazing strength. Gary's dad Ray also attended the contest and Ray convinced Gary to stay and fly Ray's Hydeout. We were all glad to have Gary fly the contest!

Dave Villwock was flying his Double Vision on Friday. I had been waiting all winter to see this biplane. It was pretty impressive to watch, Dave did an outstanding job of flying the biplane through the Masters routine. Some



Dave Villwock's Double Vision

minor undercarriage damage and the lack of supplies to do a little minor repair work kept Dave from flying the Double Vision in the contest. Its too bad because I would have loved to see how it compared with the monoplanes, of course Dave could fly just about anything and win!

We had a new pattern pilot at this event, Jerry Green. This is a direct result of Gary McClellan's Pattern Primer event held in April. Jerry made the trip from central Oregon with Ray to fly Sportsman. Welcome Jerry and I hope we see you at a lot more events this year. Unfortunately Jerry had no one else in his class but I think he still had a good time and learned a lot.

The weather was a bit of a challenge! Saturday started off rough and got rougher as the day wore on. Gary Pugh had an anemometer and he kept an eye on the wind speed, it hit a high of about 20 mph Saturday afternoon. It would not have been so bad if the wind was steady, what we were dealing with was a very gusty cross wind situation. This made landing a real challenge. We decided to score the landings and takeoffs 0 or 10 to reduce the possibility of damage due to trying to get a perfect position. We got

started about 10:00AM on Saturday and flew two rounds by about 2:00PM. After the second round we held a pilots meeting and decided to call it a day and hope for better conditions on Sunday. Landing was a challenge all day, the gusty conditions made it very difficult to land. John Foglesong lost his Mantis on landing at the end of his first round. All in all a pretty brutal day.

Sunday was a much better day! I was surprised, it started a bit windy but by the time we started the contest, 9:00AM, the wind was pretty calm. We worked fast; with a lot of cooperation we were able to complete 3 rounds by 2:00PM. This gave us a total of 5 rounds for the contest. By the time we finished the wind was kicking back up so we were pretty lucky to pull this one off!

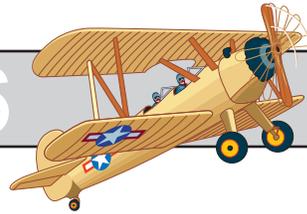
Our good friends from Canada, Mark Byrne and Hartley Hughson made the trip to help us start the 2004 season. We really enjoy flying with these fellas! They make most of the D8 events, real pattern animals!

Rex, Gary, Ray, and Jerry all made the 350 mile trip from central Oregon. Rex and I started flying pattern together in the 2001 season and we have been calling and helping each other every since. He and are and pretty much matched in skill level, Rex does a bit better job of calling for me than I do calling for him and that resulted in me slighting edging him out! We had a great time and I can't wait for the RAMS contest to do it again, I'll work on my calling skills!

Most of the population was in Masters, it kept the Advanced guys in the judges seat most of the weekend. I think Rex spent the most time in the chair, thanks Rex! Dave Villwock dominated, he is an amazing pilot! Brett



Gary Weaver's Field



Bowen moved up late last season after he took 4th in Advanced at the NATS. Brett took second in this contest in a very close battle with Gary Pugh.

We had a total of 13 pilots in the contest and setup a single flight line. Below are the standings and the points for this contest:

Sportsman

1 Jerry Green 4000.0

Advanced

1 Gordon Anderson 4000.0

2 Rex Leshner 3955.2

3 Hartley Hughson 3527.1

4 John Foglesong 1509.3

Masters

1 Dave Villwock 4000.0

2 Brett Bowen 3867.3

3 Gary Pugh 3851.1

4 Gary McClellan 3599.6

5 Dennis Cone 3351.5
6 Bill Bowen 3247.0
7 Ray McClellan 3220.4
8 Mark Byrne 2208.2

It takes a lot of effort to organize and execute a contest, I learned that this weekend. I could not have done this with out the help of my wife Meri. She was the score keeper and she feed everyone lunch both days! This was a heroic effort! I think everyone had a great time and I look forward to a very active season with 7 events in D8 this year, I think this is a record! We are also planning on attending two Canadian events so we will be busy!

Next contest is Dave Villwock's event at the RAMS field in Auburn, can't wait to mix it up again!

The Leading Edge

c/o Ted Tanasse, Editor
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