



The Transmitter

Suburban RC Barnstormers - P.O. Box 524, Bloomingdale, IL 60108

AMA CHAPTER 640

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April 2009

<http://www.suburbanrcbarnstormers.com>

Coming in April and May

April 11th, Swap Shop, Dupage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton, 8:00am – 12:00pm

April 13th, Member Meeting (STATIC CONTEST), Bloomingdale Public Library, 7:00pm

April 16th, Dome Fun Fly, White Pines Golf Course, Bensenville, 11:00pm-1:00am

April 27th, Board Meeting, Bloomingdale Public Library, 7:00pm

May 11th, Member Meeting, Bloomingdale Public Library, 7:00pm

May 17th, Fun Fly #1, Pratt's Wayne Woods, 9:00am trim flights, 10:00am First Pilot

May 31st, Club Members, Non-competitive Open Fly

Swap Shop – April 11th

By Scott Taylor

If you get your newsletter electronically, you should see this in time so you don't miss out on our upcoming swap. If you get the snail mail version, we had a great event, hope you didn't miss it!

This Saturday April 11th is our annual Suburban RC Barnstormers Swap Shop. This event has changed in size and location over the many years we have held this event, but one thing that hasn't changed are the great deals you can find on both new and used RC hobby related items.

Looking for an old kit or set of plans, needs some new servos or radio? How about a fully finished plane ready to fly with radio and engine, or are helicopters your preference? Maybe you just need the engine, some new wheels, or one of the thousands of little hardware items that you always seem to need just one more of when you are finishing a project. You could even win the cash to take home your stash! Just pick up a couple of raffle tickets and it may be your lucky day.

Our Swap Shop has it all. Where can you find us, you say? At the Dupage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton. The doors officially open at 8:00am and remain open until 12:00pm.



By the way, we would love your help as well. Early in the morning we help to move vendors in, during the event we need help with admission, security, and food sales, and toward the end of the event, move out and clean up. If you can spare some time during the event, please speak up!

See you there!

Notes of the Suburban RC Barnstormers

Membership Meeting

March 9, 2009

ATTENDANCE

There were 42 members present.

OFFICER REPORTS

President: Mert Mischnick presided over the meeting. He reminded everyone that the dome eNiter was this weekend. Get your batteries charged.

Vice President: Mike Maciejewski said the rollover raffle prize would be an Electric Cub. We had two door prizes, a Barnstormer cap and a LiPo battery monitor donated by TrueRC!

Treasurer: Bob Elsner reported all was under control. The Club Charter has been renewed, the insurance is paid and forms received, and we are on budget!

Secretary: Scott Taylor said the membership lists have been switched to 2009. So, if you don't see your name on the attendance sheet, he doesn't have a record of payment. If you think you paid, you're probably right, please let him know.

COMMITTEES

Fun Fly – Ron Hilger said that the next dome fun fly would be a combat event. Planes with 10 foot streamers would take off 8 at a time. If your streamer gets cut, you are done. Survivors will be grouped in subsequent rounds to find a winner (or winners). For those of you flying helicopters, try the hopscotch event!

Flight Instruction – John Howe is our new Flight Instruction chairperson and will be working on plans for training.

Safety – Tom Lyons took a few minutes to talk about flying safety and etiquette in the dome. For example, if you are out of control, yell! Let others know so they can react. If there are too many planes flying (25 plane limit please, just kidding!), wait a few minutes. If you are flying a 3D model, please try to stay clear of the aircraft in the pattern.

Mert added that the outdoor flying will be heating up soon, and we are expecting to see more

helicopters. We need to find a way to keep both the planes and helicopters safe.

OTHER BUSINESS

eNiter Dome Event – Stan Warden said final preparations are being made for the eNiter. Tickets are being sold briskly for the DX6i, Vapor and Microhelicopter. Volunteers should arrive around 9:00pm on Saturday.

Swap Shop – Debbie Howe encouraged everyone to buy or sell their Raffle ticket. The date was wrong, the prize listed was wrong, but the price was right! There will be three cash prizes awarded, not a 50/50 as stated on the ticket.

Debbie said they would need help with setup on Friday starting around 4:00pm.

April Static – Scott Taylor said he was looking for suggestions for the April static contest. We can run this the same as last year, but if anyone has a suggestion, please let him know. We will discuss this at the next Board meeting and finalize our plans.

TIPS AND KINKS

Mert Mischnick reported on a recall of the Spektrum DX-6i radio. If the serial number starts with a number between 807 and 812 your radio is probably affected. The pots on the control sticks need to be replaced.

Venture Hobbies customer rewards program began March 1st.

PLANES

Ron Hilger brought in a Bugatti scratch built electric airplane. His first attempt to fly it revealed the tailerons did not provide enough control. So, he added ailerons to the plan and it now flies great. He built another version of an electric that was similar but less true to scale using an inverted Sky Raider foam plane.

Mike Cannata also built a Bugatti. His version was fully balsa sheeted with all controls concealed inside. He added landing gear after beefing up the wing. Total weight is about 20 ounces.

Scott Hurley had a flying Snoopy Doghouse to show the club. All up weight is about 23 ounces with battery.

Steve Dietrich had an EPP Airboat to show the club. He has powered his boat with a .60 size engine. Everything is bolted together with fender bolts and washers and the radio is protected with a Glade box. Once he gets it started, stand back!

Katie Howe showed the club her giant Midwest Sweet and Low. It looked great in black with

orange, yellow and green markings. A G-38 engine will power the plane and the plane stands about a foot taller than Katie!

RAFFLES

Willie Janisch was the winner of the Thanksgiving turkey. **Tom Lyons** won the battery monitor and **Will Cowgill** took home the cap.

There was no winner in the rollover.

Annual Static Aircraft Contest at the April Meeting

By Scott Taylor

In addition to our annual Swap Shop, we have another annual event that has been a tradition for many years in our club. It is the Annual April Static Aircraft contest.

If you are new to the hobby and our club, you might just be scratching your head and saying "exactly what is a 'static aircraft'?" "Will I get a shock if I touch it?" Of course, the answer is "No", and it you won't get hit by one flying around the room either. That's because they are just standing still, there for you to admire and get a close look.

I have always enjoyed this event because everyone has their own idea what is fun and great looking in this hobby. You will get to see a wide variety aircraft of different kinds and different finishes.

Okay, now I probably have you thinking, "just where do all the aircraft come from?" The answer to that one is you! Everyone is invited to bring one or more of their favorite aircraft to be entered in the contest. This year we are changing the categories to better reflect modeling changes the past few years. We are only going to have two categories this year, **ARF/RTF** and **Kit/Scratch Built**.

We are also going to change how winners are scored and the types of winners. In each of the two categories there will be a Grand Champion winner and 5 Reserve Champion winners and we will not be distinguishing the Reserve Champions from one another. This greatly simplifies scoring which will be based on a simple count of the number of votes. You will vote for six of your favorite planes in each category and the plane with the greatest number of votes is the Grand Champion while the five with the

next highest vote count will be Reserve Champions. Certificates will be awarded that evening and winners will have their pictures taken with the planes and receive a framed reminder of their participation.

**Photos from the 2008
Static Model Contest**



There are a few simple rules.

1. Your aircraft should not have one First Place in any previous SRCB static contests.
2. Your entry must be radio controlled (or infrared).
3. If not an ARF or RTF, then you should have completed 51% of the model yourself.

That's it, everyone qualifies! So bring in your entries and enjoy the evening! There will be a prize drawing for participants only.

Think Again—Blink Again!

by Don Nix, *Insider Safety Column Editor*
(Courtesy National AMA Newsletter)

In my last column (In the Blink of an Eye), I told of a personal mishap with CA adhesive. Shortly after that issue went online, reader Darwin Hawkins of Kansas responded with his own personal incident:

“A few years back I put some CA on a rather involved joint. Hit it with the kicker and the joint exploded in my face. I had not noticed that a pool of it had formed in a corner. Lucky for me, I had my reading glasses on, as the CA splattered right into the line of vision in the center of my right lens and actually etched the plastic in several places. I still have those glasses. They hang on the end of the pull cord I use to turn on the light over my work bench. I can never turn on that light without being reminded that safety glasses can save your eyes. Who would have ever thought you need safety glasses when working with CA?”

Thanks, Darwin. Personal experiences from you readers out there are usually more interesting—and likely to be taken seriously—than anything I can preach about. Keep ‘em coming on any subject related to safety.

Since writing the previous column, I remembered a second personal experience with CA that threatened to be more serious than just getting my face spattered. I can’t imagine any modeler who hasn’t read the warnings on CA bottles about minimizing the inhalation of fumes, using with plenty of ventilation, etc. However, I have to admit that I sometimes become pretty casual about such warnings, especially after using a particular product for a while without incident.

These days, we are inundated with a virtual Niagara of warnings. So much so that they become like wallpaper, and our eyes glaze over when reading them. Because of the litigious society we live in these days, lawyers insist manufacturers warn about every possible hazard, however slight the likelihood or how silly it might seem. For example, some manufacturers of model propellers are putting stickers on them

saying something like “Do not put fingers in spinning propellers.” Uhhh ... yeah. As the old saying goes, “It’s impossible to make anything foolproof, because fools are so ingenious!”

After using CA for years with no problems, I had assumed I was immune to any adverse effects. Well, we all know what happens when we assume something.

Staying up late one Friday night, I was doing a lot of sheeting on the leading edges of a pair of wings so I could cover them the next day. I spent a couple of hours using copious amounts of CA, with my face up very close so I could see in all the nooks and crannies.

Near the end of the task, I noticed I was beginning to wheeze a little, and by the time I cleaned up and made it to bed, I sounded like someone in the last stages of emphysema. Having had a daughter with severe asthma, I began to realize what she must have gone through in many of her attacks.

I spent the next two nights propped up about 30° in my bed so I could breathe. The first thing I did the next day was to order one of those masks that control such problems. I think the one I bought was made by 3M and cost perhaps ten bucks. Yeah, it was a bit of a nuisance to wear the thing, but a couple of days wheezing around the house made a believer out of me. And my wife thought the Darth Vader look improved my appearance.

Now might be a good time to review the precautionary information on the various products you use—household materials as well as hobby products. They are there for a purpose, and usually because somebody somewhere has suffered ill effects.

I’m always happy to answer reader questions (if I can) at FLYERDON@aol.com. Until next time, happy modeling and flying ... safely. Q

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This newsletter is published monthly by the Suburban RC Barnstormers, Inc.

We reserve the right to edit all information forwarded to us. Permission is hereby given to reprint any article that we publish as long as proper credit is given.

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Articles must be received by the 4th Saturday of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

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