



The Transmitter

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

AMA CHAPTER 640

February 2021

<http://www.suburbanrcbarnstormers.com>

Coming in February and March

February 1st, Monday, Member Meeting, ZOOM, 6:45pm login, 7:00pm meeting start.

February 15th, Monday, Board Meeting, ZOOM, 6:45pm login, 7:00pm meeting start.

March 1st, Monday, Member Meeting, ZOOM, 6:45pm login, 7:00pm meeting start.

March 15th, Monday, Board Meeting, ZOOM, 6:45pm login, 7:00pm meeting start.

“SAFE” Technology Explained

Larry Amiot has offered to explain the differences between several of the new “SAFE” technologies to help keep your plane from becoming a lawn dart.

Larry will be presenting information on AS3X, Safe, Safe Select, and Safe+. “Zoom” in and learn!

Join the “Postal” Fun Fly Challenge

Ernie Blenkle has proposed conducting a “postal” fun fly. This involves build small similar gliders by all the participants. Then everyone would fly their gliders independently recording the flight times. Then the results are “mailed” to the event coordinator. All the times are compiled, and the winner determined.

This is an opportunity to test your skill at fine tuning a glider to give you the longest flight times. It should be both fun and educational! Read more details in the article on page 3.

“Zoom” Meetings Continue in 2021

Topic: SRCB February Members Meeting
Time: Feb 1, 2021 06:45 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88525711953?pwd=Y1dOQVRTWm4yRjlrVDFBYTRIUWhpQT09>

Meeting ID: 885 2571 1953
Passcode: 863128

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Passcode: 863128

Time to Renew!

We need your support more than ever. Please renew TODAY!

Meeting Notes for Membership Meeting

January 4, 2021

Membership Meeting was called to order on January 4, 2021 at 7:10 PM.

Attendance: There were 15 members present at the meeting held on-line using zoom. New member Kurt Krempetz joined the meeting. Kurt is a flyer at the Manville field.



OFFICER REPORTS

President: Hector Rivera mentioned we will have a Board meeting on January 18th this month and Monday February 1st is our next membership meeting. COVID is still an issue so we will continue the Zoom meetings until further notice.

Hector also mentioned there is no chance for us to have a Swap in April, but we will continue to assess our options for a summer or fall swap if the COVID issues subside. Even indoor flying has been very limited due to the virus.

Vice President: Paul Kramer reported on some of the new FAA ID news. In short, there will be ID requirements that have not yet been fully defined for those flying “drones”. However, if you are flying at a designated flying site like ours, it is currently expected no ID will be required.

Secretary: Scott Taylor said he will be mailing membership cards as renewals are received. The first batch was sent, and others will be sent roughly monthly. Please mail your applications and renewals to our post office box.

Treasurer: Larry Amiot reported a bank balance of \$5,369.

COMMITTEES

Safety Officer: Ron Wolflick was welcomed as our new Safety Officer. There was some discussion about increasing the visibility of Safety information on our website.

NEW BUSINESS

Resuming On-Site Meetings: Some suggestions were given on where we may want to meet once we are able to resume meetings in person. One suggestion was DuPage Airport. They have some very good facilities, but we need to investigate cost and availability.

“Postal” Fun Fly Competition: Ernie Blenkle suggested that given the difficulty getting together as a group to conduct a fun fly, we consider what is known as a “postal” fun fly. For this type of event, members will build a rubber band launched glider confirming to the design rules. Then individuals would go to a flying field, backyard, or wherever they can fly their glider and record their flight time. Then everyone would send their flight results to an event coordinator who would document and review the data to determine the winners. It sounded like an interesting idea and the plan was to include the glider plans in the newsletter and hopefully get people flying when the weather improves.

SHOW AND TELL

Marty Schrader showed members his Max Swift flying wing. He has had this kit for 10 years and finally built it!



DOOR PRIZES

Scott Taylor won the door prize and **Ernie Blenkle** won the Turkey!

“Postal” Fun Fly Using Whipper Wiz

By Ernie Blenkle

I was thinking that with Covid-19 still raging that Fun Flys might be difficult at best, however I may have a solution that just might encourage members to build and compete again in a very entertaining manner. Since Field #1 and Field #2 use different models where Field #1 is mostly gas and nitro and Field #2 is electric and gliders, this becomes difficult to coordinate however I may have found a solution.

First - I propose a postal contest...what is a postal contest? This is where members compete over a given period of time (usually a month) with **similar builds** and **any location**. they are **on their honor** to report the results of their flight(s) **correctly** to a fun fly coordinator.

Second - A simple competition using simple aircraft that anyone can make like the Whipper Whiz constructed of balsa wood.

Note: - The Whipper Whiz is a tiny free flight model.

I'll attach a link to the PDF of the minimal materials list and requirements.

<http://www.charlesriverrc.org/articles/whipperwhiz/WhipperWhiz2plan.pdf>

Third - Running the contest, I suggest an entry be three consecutive flights, recording the length of each flight, the sum of the three is reported to the coordinator. You may make one entry per day during the running of the contest.

- The top 3 entries over the course of the month of the contest place 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. (Contestant Placing)
- The highest 3 entries for each field are added, the winner is the Field either #1 or #2 with the highest entries. (Field #1 vs. Field #2 Placing)

Four - A mention should also be for the 'best looking' Whipper Whiz.

Five - A mention for 'most innovative' Whipper Whiz.

Note: - The contest should allow only balsa, no carbon. Overhand launch, no sidearm launch or catapult style launches. The wing must be no more than 6 inches and the wing chord at the root no more than 1 inch. Fuselage modifications such as lengthening, or tapers and tail modifications are fine.

Regards
Ernie



Thinking about Purchasing a RC Transmitter?

Kurt Krempetz -1/2021

In 2021 choices seem to be endless. The same is true for RC Transmitters. There are the tried and true ones, like Spektrum and Futaba. I have an old Spektrum DX7 which has been a great, reliable transmitter for me. Then there is FrSky and specifically the Taranis transmitter which in the past few years is shown to be very competitive with the big names. The Taranis is slightly less expensive and does telemetry very well.

For those that are unfamiliar with telemetry, it is basically information or data sent back from the model's receiver. Common data sent back is signal strength, and receiver battery voltage. Other data like model's altitude and the model's velocity can be obtained if you purchase a sensor that connects to the receiver to send this data back. You must have a transmitter and a receiver capable of telemetry to get data back from your model.

Another big difference between FrSky transmitters and the big name ones is that the software that is running the FrSky transmitter is public open source software called Open Tx. If you do a web search on Open Tx will find many great written articles/videos and information about it. Many of the new less expensive transmitters like FrSky use Open Tx. There are some advantages to Open Tx, one is that it can make your transmitter do almost anything. The disadvantage is that you will need to learn to use Open Tx which will require you to learn some basic programming skills. Transmitters using Open TX are typically less "user friendly" as most of the big name transmitters.

It's good to understand before purchasing a transmitter, what protocol it uses. I think of a protocol as the language the transmitter and receiver use to communicate to one another, it's initiated when you bind your transmitter to your receiver. Most big name transmitter have developed their own protocol and therefore you're encouraged to

use the same brand receiver as your transmitter. There are after market receivers that are equipped with protocols that are the same as the big name transmitters. There are also some transmitters that have incorporated what is referred to as multi-protocol modules. These modules allow you to bind your transmitter to many different receiver protocols. Two companies, Jumper and RadioMaster have come up with transmitters, (some examples are Jumper T16 and T18 and the RadioMaster 16TXS) that come with built in multi-protocol modules, that allows you to bind these transmitters to any receiver. These transmitters are very inexpensive, allowing you to bind to any receiver.

In January 2020 I purchased a Jumper T16. It's been an amazing transmitter, being able to do telemetry very easily and inexpensively. I have bound it to many receivers that use different protocols, Spektrums, Frsky, and FlySky.

I have had issues with my Jumper T16 transmitter and that is related to the ribbon cables inside the transmitter. The ribbon cable connectors are intermediate and at random times my Jumper T16 stopped working correctly. Luckily these failures (about 6 of them over the course of a year) occurred when the model was still on the ground, so I did not crash any model due to a cable ribbon connection failure. Jumper has come out with new ribbon cables to correct the problem, but I am still hesitant to use this transmitter with a good model. Also Jumper's newest model transmitters have gone back to conventional cable system.

So if you're thinking about purchasing a transmitter in the near future, I thought this information might be helpful in making your decision. There are a lot of choices available today. If you have questions or would like further details please let me know.

The Transmitter

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Articles must be received by the 3th Saturday of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

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