



ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS CHARTERED CLUB #1255

## *SERVO CHATTER*

A PUBLICATION OF:

ANOKA COUNTY RADIO CONTROL CLUB, INC.

**MARCH 2025**

***THE MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup> MEETING IS INDOORS AT CRCC!!***

### **PRESIDENT'S CHATTER**

#### **SIMULATORS: YES OR NO**

I have been proved wrong many times in my life. I had a Dave Brown sim back in the day when an airplane looked like an X and field of vision was nonexistent. I know they have come a long way since then but I am one of those real-life guys that would crash a model I built rather than have a monitor tell me what the simulated crash would cost me.

Recently one of our newest members, Steve Boswell contacted me about accompanying him to fly his new Apprentice. With the changing weather patterns, we've been experiencing of late I suggested he get floats or skis for winter flying. As it turned out the day after he installed skis the snow melted. Putting the wheels back on we met at the field.

Steve tells me he had done the ground school for private pilot and spent considerable time on his sim with the Apprentice. He is recently retired as a psych therapist and was looking for a hobby and landed here.

My entire involvement with his first day of flying amounted to trying unsuccessfully to bind my DX8 to his NX10 and some minor adjustments to trim and linkages.

Some of his comments were "this is just like flying the sim". Taking off and landing seemed to come naturally and his throttle control was excellent. I did do the first take off and trim then handed Steve the transmitter for the rest of the first flight. We decided it needed some linkage adjustments so I landed it needing to input down elevator to flare. After the adjustments were made Steve used up two batteries in solo flight.

I may be going on too far when all I wanted to say was Time on a simulator does work for some.

Steve also joined us at the indoor fly and was impressed and got to meet more of our members. Welcome to our club Steve.

Jeff Slater

### **FROM THE VEEP**

It has been a busy building season for me, and while I've yet to finish any of my projects, I'm satisfied with how the progress has been going. Perhaps my attention is too divided between the half-a-dozen aircraft, but each one has provided an opportunity to hone my skills in a different area.

The Aeromaster probably received the most attention, and recently I started making aluminum engine mounts out of 1/4" bar stock, which will then screw to the hardwood beams. Working with metal is probably where I need the most practice, but I was pleased with how they turned out so far. The next step involves cutting some of the width away and I'll need to have use of a band saw for that. Luckily, my wife's physics

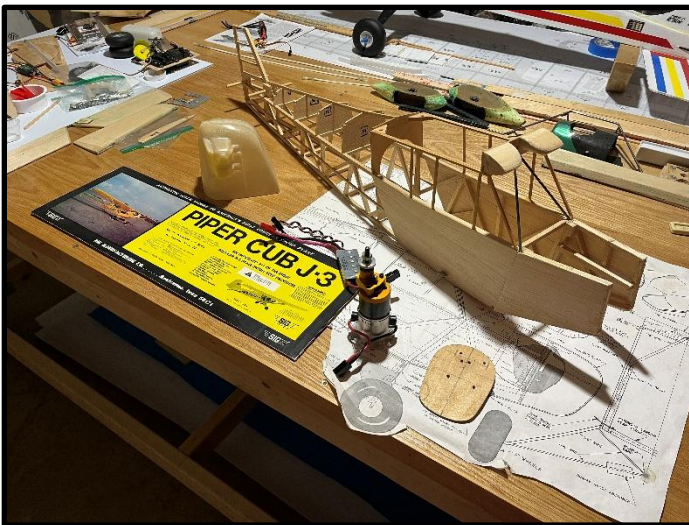


and engineering department has a machine shop, where I can spend some time using the tools that I don't already have.



Aluminum engine mounts

I've also made time to work on my Piper Cub. I started by pulling out the fuselage plans and locating the part of the original box that I saved with the label. From this I learned that the OS 48 Surpass 4-stroke engine that I acquired for it is a bit out of the range suggested by Sig. Add in the fact that the head of the engine would have to stick through the fiberglass cowl that I purchased with molded in dummy engine details, I was less enthusiastic to put this engine on the plane.



The J-3 Cub and components

The clincher was when I read a forum thread where another builder had installed an Astro Flight 25 geared motor on the same Sig Cub that he had. I happen to have the same motor in my stock of goodies, so at this point I plan to use that (yes, she's Okay with going back to electric.) Since I'll have to move the firewall back to accommodate the length of the motor, and since I failed to build the nose straight originally, I chopped off the bottom balsa block with plans to straighten the nose and add a new firewall.

You may ask why I would put an old, heavy electric motor in my Cub, and I would answer that the model probably needs the nose weight anyhow. Plus, I would prefer that she flies more scale-like without throttling too far back. Finally, there was nothing wrong with these old motors. The limitations were in the batteries of the time. Today, I can hook it up to a 5 cell LiPo and obtain much longer flight times out of the setup.



My always busy workbench

I do have one project that will leave my shop in a completed state prior to flying season, but it is not meant to fly. My wife recently expressed an interest in having a raised planter so that she can grow flowers to fresh cut and arrange for her friends and family. She was willing to help with the build, so I had no arguments. We picked up the cedar boards and supplies last weekend and got around to building it in the past two days. It came together pretty well, even though the wider boards were cupped badly. My wife was good about reminding me that it didn't have to be perfect,



especially since she was just going to fill it with dirt. I feel blessed to have a spouse who will participate in some projects like this around the house and yard and I'm taking this moment to mention how much I appreciate her.



The finished planter

Well, that about wraps it up for the month. If you're tired of hearing me blab about my projects, perhaps you have something you would like to have featured in the newsletter. I'm always open to ideas and sharing your photos. Go ahead and send your submissions to the newsletter editor email.

Ryan Kontak

**MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

- Welcome new members: Steve Boswell & Earl Hendricks
- Current 2025-member count: 63
- Runway Donations: Mike Reinert, Marc Tellevik, Joe Boettcher, Ryan Kontak, Larry Dingmann, Duane Orson, Joe Mrkvicka, Bud Durant, Dennis Jones.

The next meeting will be at the Coon Rapids Community Center March 20th at 7:00pm.

Scott Oleson

**EVENT COORDINATOR**

I don't have much to report on for new event business. Indoor flying is still in full swing and you can check

the ACRC website for dates and times. Spring is around the corner. Today certainly felt like it was here already and gave me a good reminder to start looking over the fleet to be sure joints are still tight, bolts haven't come loose and surfaces still move freely. If you are like me and haven't started your pre-season checks, then now is the time.

Mike Reinert

**A LOOK BACK**

**MARCH 2007**

18 YEARS AGO

"Get your planes ready for spring" was the leading article this month, by Al Spearbecker. Check and test the batteries, and make sure all the wiggly bits are secure.

New member, Zack Geragi, soloed on his 3rd R/C flight. Two trainer box flights on an Astro Hog Bipe, and LOTS of simulator time, made him a hero.

72 members have signed up for 2007, however there are 28 non-renewals from 2006.

There was considerable discussion of the new Spread Spectrum radios at the February meeting.

Safety Officer Kevin Carlson, reminded everyone of the dangers we have when near those spinning propellers. Not only from the prop itself, but any loose item that may be flung outward.

Vise-Grips: Generally used after pliers to completely round off a bolt head.

**MARCH 1997**

28 YEARS AGO

On March 11, 1997, the ACRC Board met with Bobby Hoffman and his son Scott. The meeting lasted for several hours to cover all issues between our club and the Hoffmans. Bobby and June Johnson wish to continue our club's relationship. Since the sod field is a business, we can expect more workers on the 80 acres.

Bobby also requested that no trash be left behind and should any of his equipment be damaged by an accident, to please advise him.

9 brave souls conducted the February Fun-Fly.

The club fuel order has been placed at National Hobby Co and should arrive after April 1st.

Tim Karash

## **ACRC MINUTES**

### **Board members present:**

Jeff Slater, Marc Tellevik, Tim Karash, Ryan Kontak, Mike Reinert.

6 Member present plus board

Guest: 3 from SPRC

### **Membership Report:**

59 Members as of today's date

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Income: \$2839.00

Expenses: \$416.00

### **Safety Officer Report:**

Not present

### **Event Coordinator:**

ACRC events will be sanctioned with the AMA.

Sanction cost has risen \$10 over last year.

A motion by Jeff Slater to sanction the events despite the increased cost. 2nd by Marc Tellevik. Motion carried.

### **Training Report:**

To be continued in the spring.

### **Old Business:**

None

### **New Business:**

ACRC Club Charter is in place for 2025

SPRC has held combat contests over the years and has proposed to hold such an event at ACRC. Details to be worked out.

### **Show and Tell:**

Ryan Kontak brought a K&B Sportster 45 engine on a test stand. Due to its large upper crankcase dimensions, it has been confused as a 60-size engine.

Ryan also brought his coroplast trainer that was damaged during the Freeze-Fly. He engineered an internal 3D printed, 3-piece, tray of carbon fiber. This will hold the motor and reinforce the damaged fuselage. The added weight may require components to be moved for CG balance.

Cameron DeVries brought photos of his jet style aircraft that was lost in a LiPo battery fire while charging. The battery had balanced cells and had never been an issue as well as the charger. This is a reminder to us all to charge, store, and transport batteries safely.

### **Raffle:**

1) Multi Screwdriver

Mike Rienert

2) Grab Bag

Gary Smith

3) Digital Caliper

Earl Hendrichs

4) Snap Knife

Jeff Slater

Submitted by Tim Karash

### **NEW RUN-UP STANDS**

Lumber was donated, thanks Jeff Smith. A few hours of carpentry, a trip to Menards for hardware, roll on some waterproofing, and we have them ready for use. I will deliver them to the field this week.



Jeff Slater

# SERVO CHATTER

204 WOODRIDGE LANE  
LINO LAKES, MN 55014



**KING KONG HOBBIES** (763) 390-0490  
455 59th Ave. NW Site 130  
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

www.kingkonghobbies.com sales@kingkonghobbies.com

**BIG SKY HOBBY** 651-905-8909  
Great products, expert advice.  
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Monday - Saturday

Jeremy Steinmueller  
Owner  
3402 Federal Drive  
Eagan, MN 55122  
www.bigskyhobby.com  
jeremy@bigskyhobby.com  
**We buy used equipment!**

**BLACK JACKS**  
Sealcoating & Asphalt Repair  
Serving the Greater Twin Cities Area

Barry (952) 992-0243  
blackjackssealcoating.com

**RIVARD COMPANIES**  
"FINDING A BETTER WAY"  
19801 Highway 65 NE • East Bethel, MN 55011

Mike Rivard  
Chief Imaginer  
mike@gronomics.com  
Office: (763) 753-7888  
Fax: (763) 753-1314  
Cell: (612) 919-5680

GRONOMICS  
Dine Golf & Adventure Park  
rivardcompanies.com gronomics.com dinegolf.com



## ACRC BOARD MEMBERS

**PRESIDENT**  
Jeff Slater

[president@anoka-rc.org](mailto:president@anoka-rc.org)

**TREASURER**  
Marc Tellevik

[treasurer@anoka-rc.org](mailto:treasurer@anoka-rc.org)

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Ryan Kontak

[vicepresident@anoka-rc.org](mailto:vicepresident@anoka-rc.org)

**INSTRUCTION COORDINATOR**  
Jim Van Norman

[instruction@anoka-rc.org](mailto:instruction@anoka-rc.org)

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**  
Scott Oleson

[membership@anoka-rc.org](mailto:membership@anoka-rc.org)

**FIELD SAFETY OFFICER**  
Jeff Flander

[fieldsafety@anoka-rc.org](mailto:fieldsafety@anoka-rc.org)

**RECORDING SECRETARY**  
Tim Karash

[secretary@anoka-rc.org](mailto:secretary@anoka-rc.org)

**EVENT COORDINATOR**  
Mike Reinert

[events@anoka-rc.org](mailto:events@anoka-rc.org)

ACRC Website - <http://www.anoka-rc.org>

## SERVO CHATTER EDITOR

Ryan Kontak  
[newsletter@anoka-rc.org](mailto:newsletter@anoka-rc.org)

## CONTRIBUTORS THIS MONTH

*Tim Karash  
Ryan Kontak  
Scott Oleson  
Mike Reinert  
Jeff Slater*

## ACRC SPONSORS

King Kong Hobbies  
Woodworking Plus  
Blackjacks Asphalt  
Rivard Companies

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday – March 20

- ACRC Meeting-At CRCC

Thursday – April 17

- ACRC Meeting-At CRCC

Thursday – May 15

- ACRC Meeting-At the Field

Saturday – May 17

- ACRC Spring Fly-In

Saturday – May 24

- ACRC Fun Fly

CRCC - Coon Rapids Civic Center

