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Black Hawk R/C Pilots Newsletter

October 2011

Notes From The President

Club Calendar

Fall Cleanup Day at the Field	Oct. 22 nd 9:00 am
Club Meeting at the Smoke Shack	Oct. 25 th 7:00 pm
e/xpo planning meeting	To be held after club meeting
Club Meeting at the Smoke Shack	Nov. 22 nd 7:00 pm
e/xpo in the UNI-Dome	Jan. 7 th & 8 th

The club field day is coming up on Saturday, October 22nd at 9AM.

We'll be cleaning things up and putting all the equipment away in the garage. If we have a good turnout, it won't take long and we'll be done before noon.

The next club meeting is on Tuesday, October 25th at the Smoke Shack at 5th and Washington Streets in Cedar Falls. [This is a new location for the winter meetings.] We'll get together for dinner at 6PM and the meeting will begin at 7PM. We'll be nominating officers for next year and planning for the "E/xpo in the UNI Dome".

The indoor flying season has already started. The first indoor flying session was at Hudson High School on October 7th. Future dates will be published in the newsletter and on the club web site (www.bhrcp.org). Contact Bob Seeger (bobs@mcchsi.com) to get on the mailing list for the Hudson flying dates.

The weather has definitely taken a change for the worse; at least the flying weather is worse than it was a couple of weeks ago. It's time to prepare for winter. The first thing to think about is "winterizing" your outdoor aircraft.

1. Make a list of repairs that need to be done over the winter. I don't need to tell you how many times I've gotten a plane out in the Spring and found things that I'd intended to do on one of those long winter days, but forgot to do it. Repair covering nicks and cuts. Thoroughly clean up areas exposed to fuel and exhaust.
2. NiCad and NiMH batteries do not need to be charged before storage. Before using the batteries again in the spring, the battery packs should be slow charged. (Slow charging will balance a NiCad or NiMH battery pack. Fast charging will not!) LiPo batteries should be stored at 40% to 60% of full capacity (3.8v to 3.9v per cell). If your charger does not allow for a partial charge, fully charge your LiPo batteries and then discharge them to 3.9 volts per cell. Lead-Acid and A123 batteries should be stored fully charged. All batteries

Club meetings

Beginning in October, our meetings will be held at 7:00pm at the Smoke Shack on Washington and 5th St. in Cedar Falls. Feel free to come early and enjoy the delicious food.



Visit us on the web at : www.bhrcp.org

slowly self-discharge over time, some more than others. Lead-Acid batteries have the highest self-discharge rates and should be recharged once every other month while in storage. All batteries should be stored indoors in a cool, dry location. Do not store them near a furnace or other hot area.

3. Completely drain the fuel tanks. Replace fuel lines as necessary.
4. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for engine storage. Most engines should be run dry and the plug pulled. Flood after-run oil into the cylinder, engine intake and crankcase. If you don't have after-run oil, you can make some with a 50/50 mix of "Marvel Mystery Oil" and Automatic Transmission Fluid.
5. Take inventory of spare parts, props, glow plugs, wing bolts, nuts and other "consumable" stuff. Buy replacements the next time you're at a Hobby Store or watch for online sales of these items.
6. Get ready for the indoor flying season!

Don't forget to renew your AMA membership and vote for AMA Officers.

Neal Leeper

President - Black Hawk R/C Pilots

Meeting Minutes for September 27, 2011

Meeting was called to order by Neal

August minutes approved

Treasurer Report

- ◆ Property taxes have been paid for the year.
- ◆ Mowing and Expo sanction and deposit paid for.

Motion to pay Stan difference for buzz box and carried.

Old Business

- ◆ Swap meet and fun fly was a good event with decent turnout.
- ◆ Neal dragged the road and took care of some more gophers.
- ◆ End of October will have Port O Pot pumped dry and brought into garage

New Business

- ◆ Fall clean up is set for Oct. 22 at 9:00 am (Saturday)
- ◆ Next meeting will be 7p.m. at the Smoke Shack at 5th & Washington in downtown Cedar Falls. One block west of downtown. Come early eat and socialize with club members.
- ◆ Officer slate
 - ◆ Al will get officer slate
- ◆ E/xpo in the UNIDome
 - ◆ Due to a date conflict the event will now be January 7 & 8
 - ◆ Need to get a committee going
 - ◆ Get into visitor bureau calendar
- ◆ Committee to discuss the ins and outs of replace the petro-mat in 1 to 2 years.

Move to adjourn - Ayes have it!

Field Marshall's Report

- ◆ The porta-pottie is pumped out and will be put in the garage for the winter as of Saturday.
- ◆ I Will try to spray for weeds yet this fall, weather permitting. If not, it will have to wait till spring.

Keith Johnston

Field Marshall - Black Hawk R/C Pilots

AMA and aero modelers everywhere outraged at terrorist's plan to attack Pentagon, Capitol with RC model converted into a UAV

Date: September 29, 2011
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M U N C I E - The Academy of Model Aeronautics is shocked and outraged by the actions of a 26-year-old Massachusetts man arrested this week on federal charges for his intent to use an RC model airplane reconfigured as a UAV, similar to a military drone, for an explosive-laden attack on the U.S. Capitol and Pentagon. The suspect is not an AMA member nor has he been confirmed as being a model aviation enthusiast.

"When an otherwise safe and wholesome hobby becomes the focal point in a planned terrorist attack, we are as outraged as all citizens," said AMA Interim President Mark Smith. "Like all Americans, we appreciate the professionalism of the FBI in this case. The AMA's 143,000 aero modelers throughout the country pledge to keep a vigilant eye in their communities on any suspicious activity involving RC aircraft."

To read the FBI's affidavit on the case, go [here](#). To read the media release from the Department of Justice, go [here](#).

Rezwan Ferdous, a U.S. citizen from Ashland MA, and a physics graduate from Northeastern University, was arrested after lengthy monitoring and a sting operation by the FBI this week. Ferdous had acquired three RC jets, an F-86 Sabre and two F-4 Phantoms, plus explosives and cell phones wired like IEDs. He kept them in a storage facility to work on. It isn't known at this time if Ferdous was able to fly the airplanes or if he had assistance. The public, according to the bureau, was never in danger.

Though Ferdous' plan was to convert a commercially available model aircraft into a GPS-guided unmanned aerial vehicle, there is a strong distinction between a hobbyist's model aircraft and UAVs designed for commercial or military use. "Modelers everywhere are outraged by the literal hijacking of model aircraft for such a nefarious purpose," said Rich Hanson, AMA's Government Relations and Regulatory Affairs representative and former Vietnam helicopter pilot. "Our 143,000 members follow a strict safety code, always fly within sight, and remain clear of frangible property or people. When we hear this sort of item and activity labeled as a 'model' we are concerned that our recreational and educational hobby is being misrepresented."



To date, the FBI has not released photos of the actual RC airplanes, only photos such as

below of models that are "similar." "The public will see these photos and think 'model' when it is the internal configuration, capabilities, and use of the plane that defines it," continued Hanson.

This subversive plot has also been condemned by the [National Aeronautic Association](#). "The Academy of Model Aeronautics and its 143,000 members are the embodiment of education, professionalism, hobby pursuit, and friendly competition in the United States," said Jonathan Gaffney, president and CEO. "While this individual has never been associated with the AMA or modeling, we have the utmost confidence in AMA to work with the authorities in any way possible to assist in this investigation."

The Academy of Model Aeronautics is celebrating its 75th year in 2011. For generations it has posted what is arguably the safest record in all of aeronautics while providing a hobby and sport which has been the incubator of numerous luminaries in aviation and aerospace.

The previous article has been reprinted from the AMA website. The hyperlinks don't work, but if you would like to read more, go to the AMA website at www.modelaircraft.org/news/RCPlot.aspx



From the Editor

- ◆ HAVE AN IDEA! Maybe you have a new plane you'd like to show off with some pictures & possibly even your personal review for the newsletter.
- ◆ Send me a picture of your favorite plane and I will put it in the newsletter.

Paul Johnston

Editor - Black Hawk R/C Pilots Newsletter

Upcoming Event

e!XPO
IN THE UNIDOME