

CROSSWINDS

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SPARKS 2003/2004 Officers

Paul Johnson President	281-353-7930
Kenny Manchester Vice President	281-376-0469
Jack Jones Treasurer	281-252-3159
Diane Marson Secretary	281-374-8915
Russell Johnson Newsletter Editor	281-537-9516

SPARKS Flight Instructors

Jim Greer-Chief Instructor
281-370-5615

Airplanes

Bob Allen	281-443-8779
Vic Baney	281-357-1357
Brian Bange	281-290-0068
Ian Bange	281-290-0068
J.R. Carpenter	281-363-1927
Lee Dillenbeck	281-350-1649
Jack Jones	281-252-3159
Howard Lincoln*	409-321-2721
Chris Lloyd	281-379-1884
Pep Peperone	281-367-8248

* Advanced Aerobatic Only

Helicopters

Rudy Acherman	281-251-8369
Walter Laich	281-251-5212
Greg Riede	281-376-5259

FROM THE COCKPIT

BY PAUL JOHNSON, PRESIDENT

Dear Sparks Members:

I would like to welcome you to this issue of our SPARKS newsletter – Crosswinds. We really appreciate the fine job our new editor, Russell Johnson, is doing.

We plan to continue our monthly newsletter and I hope you will all take the opportunity to contribute articles that you think would be of interest to the club. Remember the incentive for submitting articles to the newsletter is a free ticket for the next month's raffle.

We would like to thank Randy Patchett for his excellent special presentation on building and flying sailplanes. It was really enjoyed by all. Randy has a tremendous amount of experience in this field. I marveled as I heard him talk about being able to see thermals. I am going to have to get my glider out and start flying it more.

Our next business meeting will be at Valley Ranch Barbeque on Wednesday August 6. Our special speaker will be Nick Marson. He is going to discuss 3-D aerobatics. Nick is very skilled in this area, so it should be very interesting. Please come and participate.

Please let me know of other special



presentations, displays, etc. that you would like to have at our monthly meetings. I'll try to get it set up.

Keep in mind that our September Club Meeting will be on the second Wednesday because of Labor Day.

I would like to emphasize again that we must think Safety, Safety, Safety at the site. Please be aware of your actions at all times. If you see unsafe acts by others, either call it to their attention or bring it to the attention of the officers.

Wishing you the very best in enjoyable and safe RC flying.

Paul Johnson

2003/2004 New Club Members

By Jack Jones, Treasurer

The SPARKS Officers would like to welcome 20 new members to the club. If any of our new members have any questions about anything, feel free to ask any club officer or member (page 1). Everyone is usually very friendly and helpful. **WELCOME**. The new members are:

Richard Aikman	Ron Hendrick	Ed Hawes	Jonathan Hawes
Craig Patterson	Rod Kuntz	Roderick Kuntz	John Braziel
Devin Greer	Jake Parks	Ron Kapavik	Paul Kapavik
Stephen Kapavik	Al Loveman	Brent Hughes	Wes Watkins
Roy Southern	Jeffrey Grice	James Laskoskie	Curt Bennett

New Starter Stands

By Jack Jones, Treasurer

The club recently had several starter stands built for the field and member use. The new stands were built by members Paul Luetzen and Troy Verot. Paul and Troy redesigned the stands to include wheels so that the stands can be easily moved and a larger front surface area to accommodate starter gear. Thanks Paul and Troy for a great job!

SPARKS Financials as of 7/29/2003

By Jack Jones, Treasurer

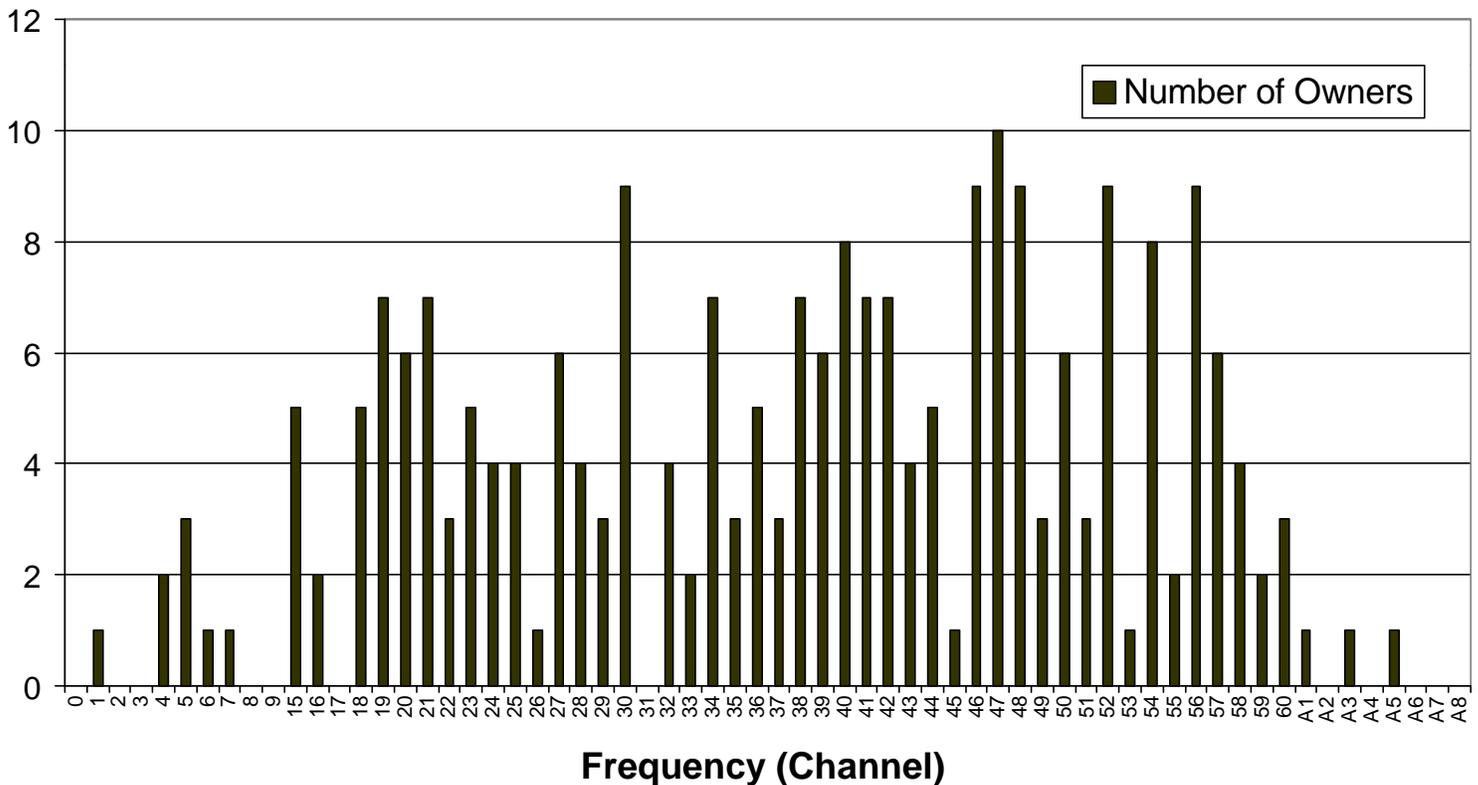
	<u>6/25/03 to</u> <u>7/29/2003</u>		<u>Balance @</u> <u>7/29/2003</u>
INCOME		ASSETS	
CA Glue Sales	\$ 21	AE Cash Mgt. FD-A-Checking Account	\$ 13,243
AE Dividend	5		
New Membership	2,500		
2003-2004 Annual Dues	3,330	Klein Bank Checking	9,551
Raffel ticket sales	195		
		TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	\$ 22,794
Total Income	\$ 6,051		
EXPENSES		Other Assets	
Starter Stands	\$510.03	Crushed Concrete	\$ 2,974
Crosswinds Newsletter	52	Field Rolling Pin	\$ 100
Sod & Levelization		Glue Inventory	\$ 115
Mowing Service	450	Orange Container	\$ 100
Porta Potty Service	81	SPARKS Shed	\$ 3,344
Raffel Merchandise	137	SPARKS Signs	\$ 994
Member Badges - replacements		Unamortized Lease Deferral-Balance of \$4500	\$ 2,250
		TOTAL Other Assets	\$ 9,877
Total Expenses	\$ 1,230	TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 32,672
Net Income	\$ 4,821	EQUITY	\$ 32,672

Channel Ownership

Submitted by Kenny Manchester, Vice President and Safety Officer

Folks, here is the latest and greatest channel ownership activity at SPARKS based on current membership at the field. Quite a few members didn't provide channel info on their renewals, so I checked my last years records and filled in many that were missing. We're still missing 10 members' channel information, but I think this should prove very useful for new members (and some existing ones!). This is posted on the web site along with the updated roster information. Also, instructors might find this information helpful for their students.

SPARKS Channel Ownership



“A wise man learns from his mistakes, a brilliant man learns from the mistakes of others.”

12 Rules of Model Aviation

Submitted by Diane Marson, Secretary

Written by Rock Valley RC Flyers

1. Perfection in model building is a desirable goal, unless completion of the airplane within your lifetime is important.
2. Airspeed is life to your model, altitude is life insurance. No airplane ever collided with the sky.
3. Always fly your airplane with your head, not just your hands. Never let your model go somewhere your brain didn't get to five seconds earlier.
4. The probability of model survival is equal to the angle of arrival.
5. Flying a model airplane is not dangerous; crashing it is dangerous.
6. Good judgment comes from experience and experience comes from bad judgment.
7. There are three simple rules for making a smooth landing. Unfortunately, no one knows what they are.
8. It's a good landing if you can still bend the landing gear back to its normal position.
9. A fool and his money are soon flying a more aerobatic model than he can handle.
10. The nicer an airplane looks, the more likely it is to crash.
11. A model airplane may disappoint a good pilot, but it won't surprise him.
12. If God meant for man to fly model jets, He'd have given him more money.

Interested in Batteries?

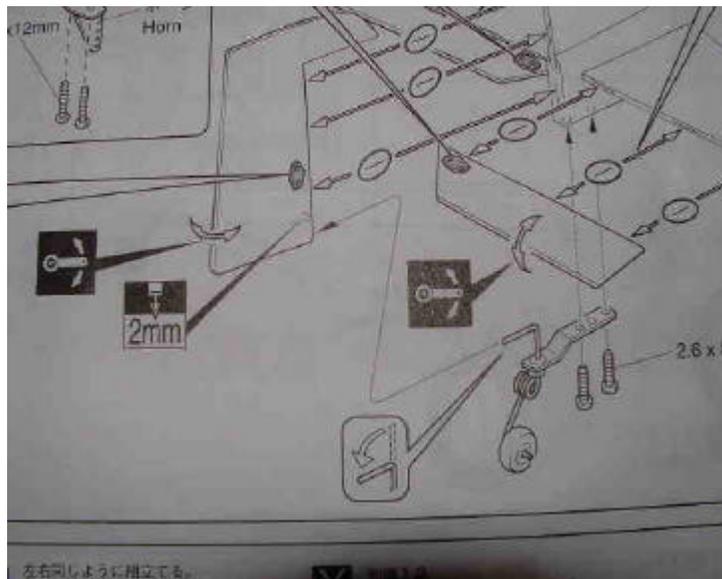
Anyone interested in learning about Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cad) batteries can reference SR Batteries website at www.srbatteries.com. They have information concerning Ni-Cad and how they compare to Nickel Metal Hydride (NIHM) . Thanks Vic Baney for informing us of the website and the battery comparison.

Model Building Tip: Upgrading an ARF Tail Dragger Tail Wheel Assembly by Nick Marson

Many tail dragger ARFs feature an inexpensive tail wheel assembly. This usually entails attaching the wheel directly to the rudder. On more up market planes, the wire to the wheel may go through a support, offering some strain relief. The idea of attaching the wheel directly to the rudder is not good, for at least 2 reasons:

- 1) It is easy to stall the servo, especially when the plane is on the ground. This can overload the servo motor.
- 2) In an enthusiastic landing the tail wheel wire can bust straight out of the rudder, requiring CA to fix it.

Even the Kyosho Majestic that I recently built, has this unacceptable arrangement :



This **Sullivan** offering is far better, since the rudder is decoupled from the tail wheel by a spring arrangement: (note the rudder is on the top left side of the picture)

This tail wheel comes in a variety of sizes to suit various sizes of airplanes.



77th Aeromodeling Championships 2003

Submitted by Kenny Manchester, Vice President and Safety Officer

Glen Watson, a SPARKS member, achieved 3rd place overall in the 404 Masters Class of the Pattern Competition at the Nationals in Muncie, TN. Kenny noticed the article on the AMA website. Thanks Kenny and congratulations Glen!

Model Building Tip: Installing Difficult to Reach Screws

By J.R. Carpenter

And to think that I have been troubled with this problem for twenty years. Those screws that are so hard to place in the servo tray or in the servo tray in the wing. They always fall in the wing. A magnetic screw driver never works. You don't have the screw driver that has the clip that holds the screws. Here is an idea to make screw installation easier. Take an ice pick and make a hole for the screw in servo tray. Place the screw in a straw, the head will fit tightly in the straw with the threads sticking out. This set up can be used to insert the screw in the hole. Turn the straw to start the screw and pull the straw from the screw. Surgeons would marvel at your technique. Aren't you the smart one?

Patriotic Lady

Submitted by Nick Marson

Plane built by Homer Davis

Homer Davis' "Patriotic Lady" was featured in the September 2003 issue of Model Aviation, Official Publication of the Academy of Model Aeronautics. The caption on page 11 featured Homer kneeling behind his beautiful red, white and blue model plane. Unfortunately, the picture did not scan very well (thanks anyway nick), so it is not displayed here. The caption read:

Homer Davis' colorful and patriotic ModelTech Dragon Lady is finished with MonoKote and LustreKote. This was his "first attempt to do anything out of the ordinary with MonoKote". The model weighs 9.25 pounds and is powered by an OS 1.08 FSR two-stroke engine fitted with an APC 16 x 8 propeller. Control is provided via a Futaba 8UAF radio. "It flies very well, but is a bit difficult to slow down and land on my club's short runway, even with flaperons," wrote Homer.

Congratulations to Homer for getting his airplane featured in the September 2003 issue!

June 2003 Model of the Month

by Russell Johnson, Newsletter Editor

Congratulations to Richard for winning model of the month for July. This is a picture of him holding his beautiful P38 war bird. It is electric 40 series plane that he built.

Richard won a \$5 raffle ticket for sharing his model with the club at the monthly meeting. Everyone is welcome to bring their models to share with the club. I have observed that when members bring their models to the meeting, there seems to be more information and knowledge swapping after the meeting business is concluded. Keep them coming.



THE CLASSIFIEDS

New AD! For Sale Top Flite Cessna 182 Skylane, Gold Edition, 81" Wingspan, IMAA-Legal, Five channel radio required, Eight Futaba servos included, Needs radio and engine, Ready to fly. \$385 Call Len Kingsbury 281-373-5959

For Sale Super Kaos, O.S. .61 SF, Futaba 4 channel FM Radio Ready to Fly \$300 Contact Dean Nistettter 281-370-3422

For Sale Scorpio Super Soft Fly—Motor Glider 84" wing span, .40 K&B engine, Futaba Conquest 4 channel radio channel 50 w/FPS38 servos. Never been flown and has been hanging up for a few years. **\$200 Negotiable** Contact Joan Thorkelsen 281-469-2876 Note: One of my neighbors is selling this plane and I have digital photos I can email you if your interested in getting an idea of what it looks like, just contact Ted Karis at tkaris@hotmail.com for the photos.

Reminder: The Club has high quality CA available for sale in Thick, Medium and Thin. Call Jack Jones for details.

To place a free classified/wanted ad in the newsletter notify the newsletter editor by the 15th of each month..

Reminder:

The trash cans at the field are for airplane related trash like dirty paper towels, broken props, fuel jugs. Lately there has been a lot of food and food containers left in the trash cans. Dogs and other animals are getting into the trash and making a mess of our field. Please do not discard anything food related in the trash. A couple members including myself have spent 10-15 minutes on a separate occasions picking up the trash that the animals have dug out. Taking home your food trash will help solve our problem. Thank you for your cooperation.

Upcoming Area Events



October 3-4, 2003

Convention Center Arlington TX

Seminars, Auction, Swap Meet,
Static Display, Trade Show
and the Largest Indoor Flying Event in the Southwest

Contact: Dr. Sandy Frank, AMA District VIII Vice President
105 North Brazos St., Weatherford TX 76086-3207
Ph./Fax (817) 599-7131 sfrank69@airmail.net
www.AMA-Dist-8.org

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Newsletter Editor
4011 Sablerun Ct.
Houston, Texas 77014

What's your latest creation? Share it with the club by submitting a photo for the next newsletter.

Prop-Nuts and Rotor-Heads Wanted!



Join The Crosswinds Newsletter Now!

- ◆ Do you want to buy or sell something?
- ◆ Have you learned a neat building trick?
- ◆ Are aerobatics your specialty?
- ◆ Are you into engines?
- ◆ Share your knowledge with the club.
- ◆ Newsletter contributions are due by the 15th of each month.

Don't just read the NEW Crosswinds, Be a part of it!

Your **NEXT** issue of the Crosswinds Newsletter is coming soon. I am looking for anyone interested in contributing to the Newsletter. If you have something of interest to share like, maybe a flying acrobatic, building tip, or safety tip, something to sell or anything you may have learned enjoying our hobby, please contact Russell Johnson, the Newsletter Editor.

Also, writers who would like to contribute a regular column or write on occasion are welcome to contact me at:

(281) 537-9516
mopar@pdq.net

See you at the Aug 6th Meeting.