

# 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
Ted Karis	281-970-7786
Richard Lewis	281-351-8540
Bill Murad	281-290-8945

\* Advanced Aerobatic Only

Helicopters

Rudy Acherman 281-251-8369

**SPARKS Website:**

[www.sparksrc.com](http://www.sparksrc.com)

## 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 are new editor Russell Johnson is doing. I hope you all enjoy it as much as I do.

Russell's job will be much easier if he gets articles for the newsletter from the members. We appreciate each of your support. 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.

Lee Dillenbeck was our special speaker for March. He talked to us about a couple of night flying events he had in a club he belonged to in Oklahoma. He showed a couple of videos. It looked like quite an experience. If we get our courage up, we might try one in our club.

Lee will also be our special speaker in April. He will talk with us about choosing the right prop for a particular engine and type of plane. It should be interesting.

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.

I hope you will all take part in the fun fly that we plan on the first Saturday in May. Be sure to put it on your calendar.

Separately in this newsletter is a copy of a note I sent out a couple of weeks ago.



We have permission from the Martens to go on their property to retrieve a downed plane if necessary. I want to emphasize that they are still concerned about planes flying over their home and over cattle at the feeding pens south of their home. I have observed when I am at the field that more and more pilots tend to penetrate deeper and deeper into their property. Believe me, this will come back to haunt us if we don't respect the Martens reasonable wishes. Please honor the no fly area and make sure others do as well.

I would like to continue emphasizing 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

## Upcoming Bomber Field Events

Submitted by Ted Karis, Club Member

**06/05/04 - 06/06/04** – Monaville, TX (C) **Bomber Field Annual War Bird Meet.** Site: Bomber Field. CD - Nick Stratos 281-471-6762 E-mail nls@houston.rr.com Any size, any vintage warbird. Scale or stand-off scale. Jets welcome. RV parking on site, no hook-ups. Food and drink concession. Landing fee \$20. We do have fresh water. Hanger available for overnight storage of planes. Don't forget to get your raffle tickets for the B-17 to be raffled off at the B-17 gathering in Sep. The plane is ready to fly. Sponsor: BOMBER FIELD

**09/17/04 - 09/19/04** – Monaville, TX (C) **16th Annual B-17/Big Bird (Scale) Fly-In.** Site: Bomber Field. B-17 Gathering & Scale Big Bird Fly in.. Food and sodas. Souvenirs on site. Caps and T-shirts. \$20.00 landing fee. Campers welcome, no hook ups. We do have fresh water. Hanger on site to store planes for overnight-ers. Don't forget to get your raffle tickets for the ready to fly B-17 to be auctioned off Sun., Sep. 19th. @ 2:00 P.M. Early arrivals welcome to get some early flying in. ALL PLANES will fly the pattern unless authorized before hand to help prevent any mid-air. Thanks for the cooperation. CD-Nick Stratos 281-471-6762 E-mail nls@houston.rr.com Sponsor: BOMBER FIELD

## SPARKS Financials as of 4/1/2004

By Jack Jones, Treasurer

	<u>3/1/04 to 3/31/2004</u>		<u>Balance @ 4/1/2004</u>
<b>INCOME</b>		<b>ASSETS</b>	
Raffle ticket sales	\$ 207	AE Cash Mgt. Fund	\$ 13,266
		Klein Bank Checking	4,458
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>\$ 207</u>	<b>TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts</b>	<u>\$ 17,724</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		<b>Other Assets:</b>	
Annual AMA Carter Dues	105	Crushed Concrete	\$ 3,324
Internet Domain Registration	35	Field Rolling Pin	100
Porta Potty Service	88	Glue Inventory	205
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>\$ 228</u>	Orange Container	100
		SPARKS Shed	3,344
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>\$ (21)</u>	SPARKS Signs	994
		Unamortized Lease Deferral-Balance of \$4500	1,125
		<b>TOTAL Other Assets</b>	<u>\$ 9,192</u>
		<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>\$ 26,917</u>
		<b>EQUITY</b>	<u>\$ 26,917</u>

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## **Very Important! New Flying Restriction (March 2004)**

Submitted by Paul Johnson, President

There is a home about 0.4 miles northwest of the North end of our runway. There have been indications that they are getting increasingly hostile to us. I called them about three weeks ago to introduce myself and see if I could understand their concerns. I spoke with Mrs. Marten. Her husband was not there at the time. She said that she was very glad that I called.

She said that their biggest concern was models flying over their home which was happening frequently. They were concerned about their personal safety. Their next big concern was for their livestock for which there is a feeding lot just south of their house. This lot is still northwest of the runway. She said there was an incident where her husband found a dead calf at the same time he found parts of a crashed model. She said that she understood that there was no direct connection but it still gave them big concern.

I assured her that we had liability insurance and the chance of a model actually hitting one of their livestock was very small but still possible and that if one did that we would be financially responsible.

I told her that we would try to avoid flying over their property line during normal flying. I told her that making approaches to our runway was important for our safety and that models would need to go over their property line north of our field when doing that. She agreed that takeoff and landing approaches would not be a problem.

I gave her both my home and cell phone number and told her not to hesitate to call if more concerns develop. I have not received any calls yet. I will follow up with them soon to see if their concerns are easing. If she tells me that models are still flying over their property where they have concerns, I will ask her to give me a description of the models.

This is a very serious concern that we all need to watch that we don't violate.

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## **SPARKS Neighbor Update (Martens)**

Submitted by Paul Johnson, President

I spoke this week with our neighbors to the northwest of our field. Last Saturday we had a plane go down on their property and with their property posted (keep out), I wanted to get an understanding with them about retrieving a downed plane.

We have been given permission by the Martens that if we have a plane goes down we can cross the fence and retrieve it as long as we do not damage the fence.

I talked with them about how we are doing on not flying over their home and their cattle feed lot south of their home. Mrs. Marten mentioned that for the most part things are better. She did express concern that some planes flew very close to their home last Saturday. She also has concerns about the safety of their calves in the feed lot.

If an accident occurs (I certainly hope it does not) and some of their livestock are injured, please contact me as soon as possible. I have told the Martens that we would responsible for

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## **SPARKS Neighbor Update (Martens) (Continued)**

Submitted by Paul Johnson, President

damages if something occurred. I also assured them that I didn't think an accident would occur.

**I had to speak with a three people last Saturday morning about flying to far over the fence line in the direction of the Martens home. Please remember that we have agreed as much as possible to keep flying south of the fence line of their property with the exception of a landing approach from directly north of our runway. For the health and survival of our club, please respect this limitation and please remind those who may not be respecting it to please comply.**

Sincerely,

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## **Engine Parts Contact Information**

Submitted by Mike Rose, Club Member

In August 2003, a piston in my Super Tigre S3000 decided to offer up a small chunk of its piston crown and a piece of the piston ring to the exhaust gods. Luckily, none of the debris did any damage to the cylinder liner or cylinder head. So, I contacted Cy Fair Hobbies to see if I could buy any of those parts. Wiley, at Cy Fair informed me that their supplier could not get non-current Super Tigre parts since Super Tigre was sold from Italian interests to a Chinese company. I then contacted Tower Hobbies and ordered the needed parts (that was last August). The various related parts including the piston were placed on back order, then finally sent to me in November. However, there was no piston ring available, and Tower had no idea if the ring would ever be shipped. Without a ring, all of those new parts were useless.

Homer Davis advised me that I should go to the RC Universe Web site and submit a request for a piston ring in one of their forums. After doing so, I was contacted by Bill Baxter, Mgr, Futaba Service Center Champaign, IL. Bill stated:

*We're sorry, but we don't know when a ring for the old SuperTigre S3000 will become available again. You can try contacting Frank Bowman. He manufactures repro and current piston rings for our modeling needs. He can make standard and Dykes type rings. If he doesn't have the ring you need in stock, you send the piston and cylinder and he will make it then.*

I sent Frank an email and advised him of my problem. He had two new Super Tigre S3000 rings in stock! I believe this is a good contact for those of you that have old or non-current engines. He has an inventory of many different engine parts of many engine manufacturers.

*(Continued on page 5)*

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## Engine Parts Contact Information (Continued)

Submitted by Mike Rose, Club Member

Frank will reproduce nearly any model engine ring. If not available, he'll need a good piston and cylinder to measure, or send him the engine. Send return postage, insurance extra. Regular Production Ring Price up to 1" bore, approximately .65 size \$11 shipped for 1 & \$19.50 for 2 shipped in US. Dykes rings up to 1" bore \$12 shipped for 1 & \$21.50 for 2 shipped. From 1" to 2" bore standard ring \$12 shipped for 1 & \$21.50 for 2 shipped. Dykes from 1" to 2" \$13 shipped for 1 & \$22.50 for 2 shipped. Foreign orders ask for shipping costs? Priority postage is extra! Order of 10 rings or more, \$1.00 off each ring, mixed ring orders are fine!

You can contact Frank using one of the following:

Frank Bowman  
1211 N. Allen  
Farmington, NM. 87401

505-327-0696 (6 pm to 9pm MST weekdays)

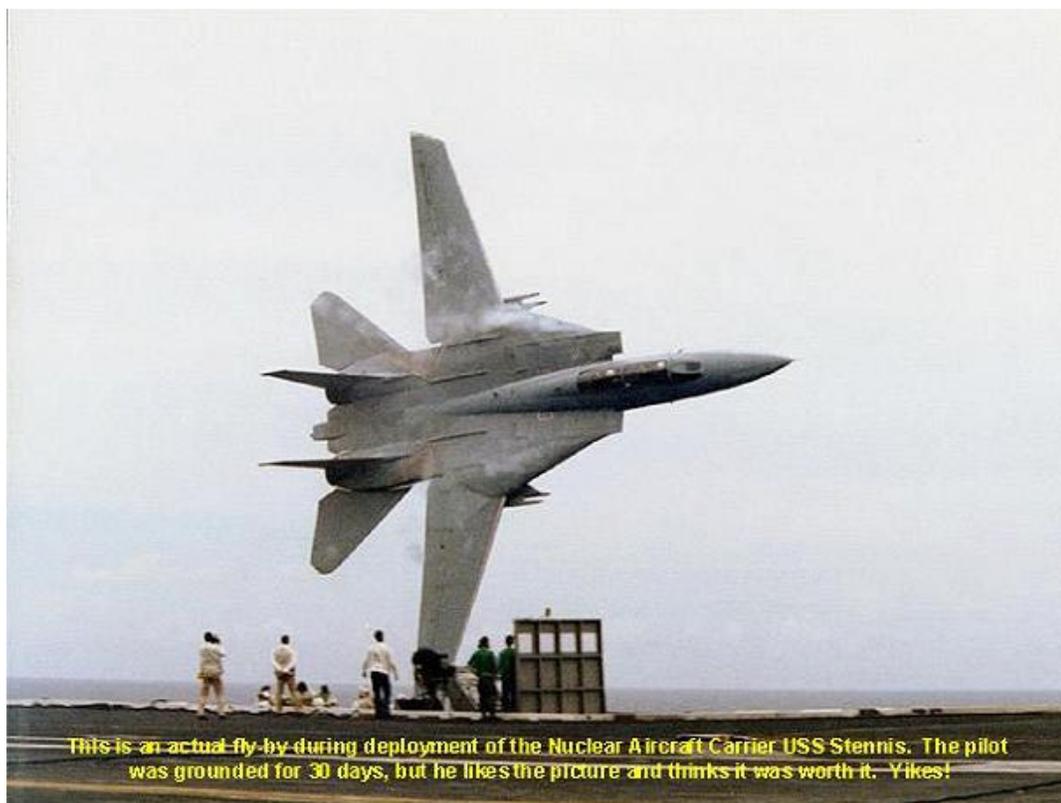
Email: frankbowman@mylifeline.net

Hope this information helps someone else in need of old (non-current) engine parts.

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## Cool and Not So Smart Flyby (Knife-Edge)

Submitted by Ted Karis, Club Member



This is an actual fly-by during deployment of the Nuclear Aircraft Carrier USS Stennis. The pilot was grounded for 30 days, but he likes the picture and thinks it was worth it. Yikes!

Probably not the best approach to becoming a navy Admiral. Cool and Scary at the same time!

I am sure he is not as close to the aircraft carrier as this camera angle makes it appear?

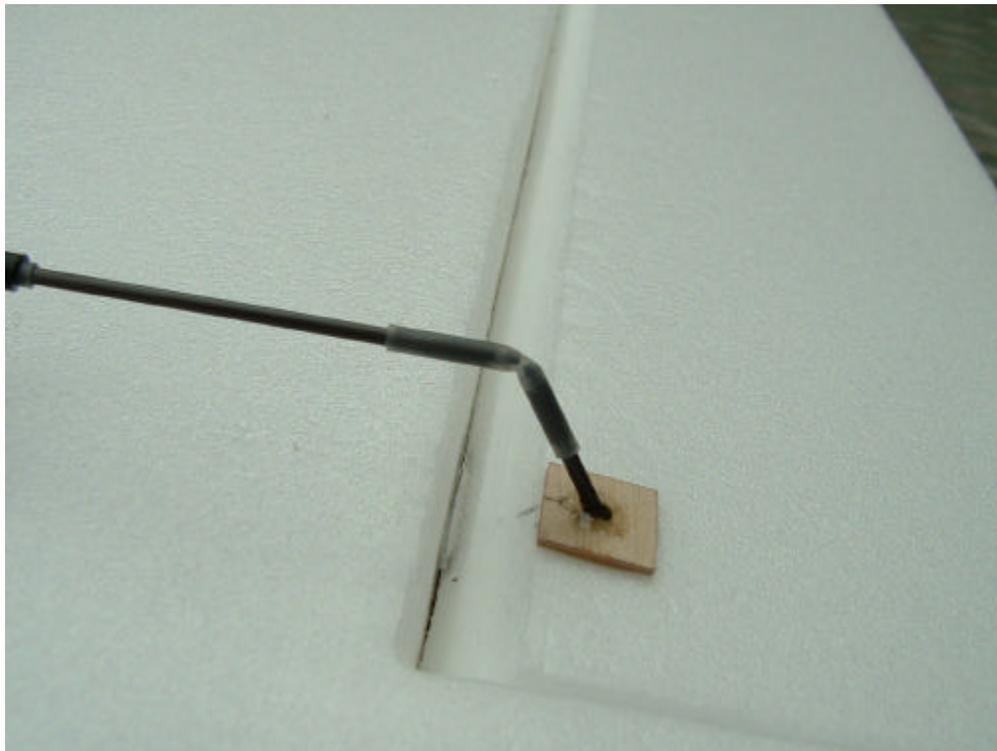
Ted found this picture on [www.RCbay.net](http://www.RCbay.net)

## Lightweight, Cheap, No-slop Control Horns

Submitted by Nick Marson, Club Member



Having recently got into electric flight, where weight is important, take a look at this very light weight pushrod / control horn assembly that I have installed on my Genie. Both the control rod and horn are made from 0.060" carbon fiber rod. The ends of the rod are rounded and connected together with heat-shrink tubing.



Even the connection to the servo control horn is made with heat-shrink tubing. Be sure to add a small drop of CA to the tubing/ rod interface, for security. This technique won't work on the big gas-glers but is fine on the small park fly type of planes:

## And Still More Upcoming Events

Submitted by Ted Karis, Club Member

# 2004 TEXAS SCALE CHAMPIONSHIPS U.S. SCALE MASTERS QUALIFIER

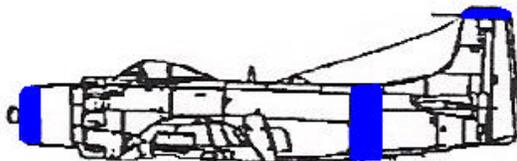
**DATE:** May 22-23, 2004

**SITE :** BENBROOK LAKE FLYING SITE

### **EVENTS**

TEXAS CHAMPION  
EXPERT  
SPORTSMAN  
TEAM  
FUN SCALE

Hosted by the Fort Worth Thunderbirds



### **REGISTRATION**

\$20 1<sup>st</sup> Entry  
\$10 Additional Entry

### **EXPERT TEXAS CHAMPION TEAM SCALE**

For the more experience builder-flyer. 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place awards in Expert and Sportsman. Top Expert finishers are also awarded positions at the U.S. Scale Masters Championships in Kansas. Texas Champion highest total score in the contest.

Airtronics RD8000 Radio  
Will be awarded to the  
Winner of the Sportsman  
Class



### **SPORTSMAN -- FUN FLY**

1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place awards in each class. If this is your first scale contest this is the one to enter, help will be available, Fun Scale requires no documentation, (if it resembles the original in shape, it's close enough to win), builder of the model rule does not apply.

### **SATURDAY May 22**

REGISTRATION 8:00 A.M.  
STATIC 8:30 A.M.  
FLYING STARTS 9:00A.M.



### **SUNDAY May 23**

REGISTRATION 8:00 A.M.  
STATIC 8:00 A.M.  
FLYING STARTS 8:00A.M.  
**TROPHY PRESENTATION 1 P.M.**

### **2004 TEXAS SCALE CHAMPION GLENN REILLY-AUSTIN**

Contest sponsored by the Forth Worth Thunderbirds and Airtronics Radio Systems  
For additional information and pre-registration contact the Contest Directors.

### **CONTEST DIRECTOR**

Lawrence Harville  
932 Calloway Ct.  
Hurst, Texas 76053  
Ph 817-589-2636  
Lawharv@yahoo.com

### **CONTEST DIRECTOR**

Max Ficken  
8216 Hallmark Drive  
N. Richland Hills, Texas, 76180  
Ph. 817-498-4744  
Triplane@charter.net

## Pilot Truisms

Submitted by Mike Rose, Club Member

No matter what else happens, fly the airplane. Forget all that stuff about thrust and drag, lift and gravity; an aeroplane flies because of money.

If God meant man to fly, He'd have given him more money.

Try to keep the number of your landings equal to the number of your takeoffs.

The last thing every pilot does before leaving the aircraft after making a gear up landing is to put the gear selection lever in the 'down' position.

Speed is life, altitude is life insurance. No one has ever collided with the sky.

Helicopters can't really fly - they're just so ugly that the earth immediately repels them.

Flying is not dangerous; crashing is dangerous.

## Interested in Batteries?

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

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

## February 2004 Model of the Month

Congratulations to Gabe Virene for winning model of the month for February! This is a picture of him holding his electric powered “Yak” was built with plans downloaded from the internet, using Depron foam. A Himax 2015-4100 brushless electric motor and 1200mAh LiPo batteries enable it to do “3D” maneuvers with ease. Testor's model spray paint provided excellent coverage. In addition to the “Yak”, an experimental model was also shown by Gabe. It's best description might be an “electric powered kite/plane”

As always, the model of the month winner will receive a \$5 raffle ticket for sharing their model with the club at the monthly meeting. Everyone is welcome to bring their models to share with the club.



## THE CLASSIFIEDS

**For Sale: \$50 PRICE REDUCTION!** 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. **\$150 OBO** 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.

**For Sale:** Red and White kit built Sig Four Star .40. O.S. Surpass .70 Four stroke engine and Futaba 4 channel PCM radio. Flies great and obviously has great power for it's size.....just add fuel and go fly. As mild or as wild as you want to make it fly!  
**\$295.00**

Lee Dillenbeck 281-288-7661 (evenings); ldillenbeck@hotmail.com

**For Sale: \$50 PRICE REDUCTION! Very Motivated to Sell!** Joey Bed cargo roll-out drawer for a pickups and vans. Fits in full size truck short or long beds. Great for model airplanes, contractors etc. Sells new for approx \$650, sell for \$200 OBO and will consider RC trades. In good shape and very handy. See www.joeybed.com for more info. Call Ted Karis 832-298-7310.

**For Sale:** \$ 95. Forty type trainer (like new) has Futaba servos. Set up for Magnum 46. It needs 40 engine, airborne battery, receiver and share a transmitter. You make the Maiden flight. \$ 75 less servos. J. R. Carpenter (281)-363-1927 jrcarpenter3570@sbcglobal.net

### 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.

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

Toys For Big Boys!



**LARRY'S HOBBIES**

156-F FM 1960E Houston, TX (281) 443-7373

**Cy-Fair HOBBIES**

9501 West Sam Houston Pkwy N #800  
Houston, Texas 77064

**281-469-7000**

Hours:

Mon. - Sat. 9:30 - 7:00

Sunday: 12:00 - 5:00

- Airplanes - Cars - Helicopters - Boats -

www.cyfairhobbies.com



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

Since the December Meeting is canceled, see you at the February 5th Meeting.