



The Flight Line

www.alvinrc.org

AMA Leader Club – Gold Level

Newsletter of Alvin RC Model Airplane Association

July - August 2014

A Tribute to Jack Kimbrough

It is the way of things that we must say farewell to absent friends. When I joined the Alvin RC Club in 2002, Jack Kimbrough was the president. He had been in this role for several years. My first impression was that he was rather gruff and opinionated, but as I grew to know him what I saw was a man who truly loved this club and took a very personal interest in its success. As a president, he was decisive in action, and he did not shy away from controversy. These are necessary traits for any leader.



Jack was a builder of aircraft. By that I do not mean that he assembled ARFs. He built from kits, and designed his own aircraft from scratch. There are not many like him left in this hobby. He liked delta-wing crates and built several – most of them flew well.

Jack was a veteran of the Korean War. His passing on or about Memorial Day is in a way appropriate. He had the values of what has been referred to as the greatest American generation. I salute him and his generation for what they fought for and died for. We owe to them so much that so many now take for granted.

Some might say he was resistant to change. I'm here to tell you he embraced electric flight without hesitation and in later years became a proponent for it. He burned up a few ESCs, one LiPo battery pack (in a crash), and struggled (like many of us) with the modern transmitters and their confusing programming menus. In his lifetime he lived through the accelerating technological changes of our hobby. Do you remember tube transmitters and escapement controls? For a man in his late 70s and early 80s, he was quite open to new ideas.

Jack was a man of faith, the faith of our fathers. I know this because (as some will say I have a tendency to do) we talked quite a bit about religious issues. God bless him. Jack was close to his family. I witnessed the love he had for his son, Keith, and the love his son had for his father. May God strengthen his family in the time of their loss.

Newsletter of Alvin RC Model Airplane Association

July - August 2014

It is difficult to imagine an Alvin RC Model Aircraft Association without Jack Kimbrough, but we must go on. He said to me awhile back, "Coming out to the field is the highlight of my day." He meant it. In his last days here on earth he could be found in the clubhouse. He complained about not being able to sleep properly and would drift off to sleep while sitting in his chair. We worried about his driving. Until the last week of his life he could be found at the field.

Here's to Jack Kimbrough. Rest in peace. I expect to see you again! Do they have balsa wood in heaven?

Grady Owens

Past President and Treasurer, Alvin RC Model Aircraft Association

What's happening at the field?

- Flying conditions - Great
- As usual it is mid-summer in Texas and getting hot so use sunscreen and drink lots of water to stay hydrated and have fun.
- Field is in great shape – Several members have been helping keep the field mowed and trimmed. To name a few Carl Butler, Bill Bley, Ralph Hoeting, plus others I am sure I missed.
- No serious safety issues or flying conflicts
- Thanks to John Desmond assisted by Max Marsac, Russell Cox, Greg Henson, Carl Butler and Bill Clark power has been run underground from the canopy area to the pit area. This will eliminate the safety concerns of running extension cords across the grass and at times through standing water...thanks guys!
- AMA's latest version of their Safety Code which is effective January 1, 2014 is posted on the fence just before the pit area along with our Club Safety Rules. Members can also find copies of AMA's on their website www.modelaircraft.org and in the AMA magazine and our club rules are also available at the clubhouse or online at our website www.alvinrc.org.
- Get your airplane(s) and come enjoy!

"Bucket List" (Joe Nall) Report:

In mid-May Bill Bley, Larry Goodwin and I spent the better part of three days at the Joe Nall which is held each year in Woodruff, South Carolina at the Triple Tree Aerodrome. While there we found a couple of our members, Marty Robinson and Jason Cullum who were spending the full week. The Joe Nall has been held annually since 1983 and grows bigger and better each year. This year stats: 1,484 registered pilots (578 Classic,

Newsletter of Alvin RC Model Airplane Association

July - August 2014

314 3D, 355 Electric, 81 Float, 63 Helicopter and 21 Control Line). 45 states and 10 foreign countries were represented.

This is 400+ acres of model aircraft of every type imaginable, 5 flight lines with food vendors near most flight lines, camping facilities and wall to wall RC vendors (94 actually). If you need something for your current or future airplane it should be there!!!!



The area is great and the entire experience is family and Model Airplane oriented. Southwest flies nonstop to Greenville/Spartanburg and Woodruff is an easy 20 mile drive from the airport area. Hotels near the airport are reasonably priced or there is plenty of camping areas available at the event with quality showers and restroom facilities. Attendance is limited to AMA members with their families and guests which means essentially everyone at the event is truly into or interested in model aviation.



After being there my current plans are to return next year and bring an airplane. What we found is there is plenty of opportunities to fly and it really doesn't matter that you might not be flying the biggest or best – just go and have fun. It is back in my Bucket List.

Newsletter of Alvin RC Model Airplane Association

July - August 2014

Reminder

Our membership renewal has been in full swing with our membership year beginning June 1st. Open and family membership dues remain at \$150 per year and can be paid to any club officer and Grady Owens will issue you your new membership card. Remember your membership must be current to fly at our field. To date we have 74 members that have renewed. The club roster, Facebook Group Members and email distribution list will be updated July 1st to reflect the membership as of that date.

Crash Reports

Bill Bley tried for a new distance record (he also holds old one) with his Fong on the other side of the “lake”. This was the first I knew of a “lake” in the area but as it turns out the “lake” was a little added drama to describe the little pond across the way where the race track was. Bill still did not beat his old distance record though so good luck next time. If I remember correctly the plane went down due to equipment failure (or lose “nut” on the sticks)!

Facebook Group - Alvin RC Flight Line

Remember our Facebook group for our club called Alvin RC Flight Line (same as the newsletter) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1008524842621885/> It is set up as an open group which means it is limited to use by club members only but anyone can see the posting and photos. It is a great informal communication tool and we encourage our members to give it a try. Just go to the group page and there is a “button” that says Join. Click the button and it will send Larry and me your request and one of us will authorize you (if you are a current member) and you will be in – give it a try – even some of us old guys are doing it!!! We currently have 39 members that have joined and over 140 photographs posted. In addition there has been many event announcements posted on our Facebook Group.

New Members:

Introduce yourself and welcome our new members – if you happen to introduce yourself and welcome an old member now you know them and if you do it twice you will know them better and be getting near my age!!!!!!!!!!

For Sale or Wanted:

Nothing submitted – guess everyone wants to keep what they have.....

Newsletter of Alvin RC Model Airplane Association

July - August 2014

Projects

Steve Leslie submitted the following. What a great way to setup for spray painting a fuselage or anything that needs to be rotated....Thanks Steve

Rotating Fuselage Holder

Pat Pending (actually, Steve Leslie, Not Patrick Pending)

Spray painting isn't my greatest skill; I find that painting anything that isn't flat and laying horizontal results in runs, uneven coats and generally poor results. The vertical (curved) surfaces of fuselages are particularly prone to this issue, in addition, as the fuselage has to sit on something while it's being painted I find I can't paint the whole thing at one time and have to wait on paint drying then rotate to a different position before painting the rest of the item.

I had a brain wave a couple of years ago that if I could suspend the fuselage between two points and be able to rotate it, I could paint the whole thing, and, rotate it while it dried to eliminate runs (well most of them).

I saw a battery operated Rotisserie kit on line (@ \$30 on Amazon and other sites) made for the "Son of Hibachi" grills which I purchased then modified to hold and rotate a fuselage. The first picture shows the contraption as you get it, the orange piece is the battery housing and small gearbox which is the end I use on the firewall with a round plywood plate screwed on, the other end is a handle with a wood screw brazed onto the square shaft that is screwed into the rudder post of the fuselage (may modify that to be a "Tee" bracket that can have two screws to make it stronger).

The two black flat steel pieces (which would be what you clamp to your BBQ to hold the rotating assembly) were then clamped to a car axle stand on one end and on the other end just bent then screwed to a wooden box I had which the driven and non-driven ends of my rotator then slot into.

The fuselage can then be painted, rotated slowly, stopped at a given position etc. as you paint or wait for paint to dry.

First plane I painted with this device was my Great Planes Ultra Sport 60, next one was my Giant Yellow Aircraft P-40 (sadly no longer with us). Most recent use of the device was painting my Mid West AT-6 which is glassed over sheeted balsa and painted with Warbird Colors Orange Yellow paint. It is 84" span 1/6 scale and has the NGH 38cc Four stroke Gas engine for power, should fly in a few weeks (I hope).

Good luck Steve!

Newsletter of Alvin RC Model Airplane Association

July - August 2014



Lost and Found: If you have lost or found an item at the field that you do not know who it belongs to please let us know so we can post the description. Most items found at the field are placed on the counter by the row of windows in the clubhouse.

Smiles:

Texas Humor:

One day, a very gentle Texas lady was driving across a high bridge in Austin. As she neared the top of the bridge, she noticed a young man fixin' to jump. ("Fixin'" in Texas means: has the means or abilities to take action.)

She stopped her car, rolled down the window and said, "Please don't jump! Think of your dear mother and father."

He replied, "My mom and dad are both dead; I'm going to jump."

She said, "Well, think of your sweet wife and precious children." He replied, "I'm not married, and I don't have any kids."

She said, "Well, then you just remember the Alamo."

He replied, "What's the Alamo?"

She replied, "Well, bless your heart! You just go ahead and jump, you low-life, you're holding up traffic!"

Newsletter of Alvin RC Model Airplane Association

July - August 2014



Well said?



Really???

Upcoming Events:

- Events both flying and non-flying are listed on AMA's website under Competition/Calendar and also listed in AMA's magazine Model Aviation. Local club events are also listed by RC Hobby Shop at www.rchouston.com and as I receive flyers from the clubs I will distribute to the membership and they will also be posted on our Facebook page.

It should be noted that Bucky (Matt Keller) along with the other hobby shop owners do a great job of supporting our events and their efforts really help bring the Houston Area RC community together.

- Alvin RC has registered with AMA to participate in the celebration of National Model Aviation Day in support of our hobby and the Wounded Warrior Project. Tentative plans for this year include an open Fun Scale (Rough) Fly In and Fun Fly. The idea behind the nature of the event is to have as large a cross section of the types of airplanes that are used in our hobby as possible. There will be no stringent rules to be met to qualify as "scale". If it looks like it is kinda scale of a real airplane then it is!!!! It is all in fun! Event is scheduled for August 16, 2014 nationwide. Last year there were over 170 clubs participating with \$72,000 being donated to the Wounded Warrior Project. Chris Wisby, Richard Collins, Justin Wallace and Mike Vawters are leading this event and additional information will be distributed as available....stay tuned

Newsletter of Alvin RC Model Airplane Association

July - August 2014

Information from the Club Executive Committee (EC)

- Recently a copy of the proposed updates to the Club Bylaws were distributed to all open members. June 10th ballots were distributed to the open membership of record at the time to vote in favor of accepting the updates or vote against the updates. We are pleased to announce that based on the ballots received a considerable majority of the open members have voted in favor of the updates. The updated version will be published as appropriate over the next month or so.

Club Officers and Board Members

President – Tim Haskins	Vice President & Safety Coordinator– Mike Vawters
Treasurer – Grady Owens	Secretary – Benny Behrens
Board Member – Lewis Mack	Board Member – Ken White
Board Member – Bill Bley	

Any comments, suggestions, corrections may be submitted to Benny Behrens at cbbehrens@comcast.net

Local Sponsors: The following local Hobby Shops are loyal supporters of our events and club and we hope you will support them and tell them thanks.



WWW.RCHOBBYSHOP.COM

RCHS1@HOTMAIL.COM

281-265-4844

206 BRAND LANE

STAFFORD, TX 77477

SB Hobbies

2002 N. Main St.

Pearland, TX 77581

281-485-8860

info@pearlandhobbyshop.com

Odyssey Hobbies

100 E. NASA Rd 1, Suite 45

Webster, TX 77598

281-557-1424

Samano Hobbies

Mike Samano

651-C Egret Bay

League City, TX

832-632-2206

Cell: 281-827-7148