

Newsletter of The River Valley Flyers

Club #948

October 2018

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From the President and Editor: Fall is really here in Central Wisconsin. It is one of my favorite times of the year with the cooler days and nights, but I hope that we have some nice sunny days yet this year. I'm sure we all want to be able to get in some more outdoor activities before the really cold temps set in just a few months from now.

As things sometimes go, I've had a run of bad luck with my helicopters during the past month. It ended with two wrecked helicopters because of pending mechanical failures that I missed during the preflight check. Parts were loose and then failed in flight, and that ended up wrecking the machines. Just a reminder that a careful check of your aircraft before each flight can help prevent this from happening to you too.

Beside the weekly mowing's at our flying field, we will be doing some maintenance on the turf yet this fall on the west end of the main runway due to the thinning of the grass there. We will be spraying the weeds and applying a root growing fertilizer to try to promote some growth with the hope that it will fill back in. This will be happening in early October.

Even though we still have outdoor flying time left, the indoor flying season will soon begin for the 2018-2019 season. This event will be held on Friday evenings as in previous years, and our

first night is scheduled for October 19th at the East Junior High School. See the fall-winter indoor schedule in this newsletter. Indoor flying will then continue all winter long thru April 2019. Club officer selection for 2019 is happening now, and I would like to encourage members who are interested in the future of the club to be involved. Some of our current officers have been doing this a long time, and new ideas on how to get things accomplished are always welcome from the membership. Please help out with this for 2019. That's all I have for now, see you at the October meeting.

Don

From Our Safety Officer

Hi guys,

I happened to run across the following in the AMA Handbook and thought it appropriate to share with you. This is certainly an area we all can improve on as I have seen every club member, me too, ignoring this. If you are alone at the field I guess the old adage of "what happens at the field, stays at the field" but for the other 90% of the time how 'bout everyone, just for a month, give this Spotter idea a chance. We might even find out it makes flying easier as you don't have to be quite so concerned as to where the other traffic is and are able to concentrate on your own aircraft better. At least we don't have the issue of full-scale aircraft to deal with!

B. Spotters:

1. Before a flight, the pilot must insure that the spotter understands his/her duties and expectations.
2. A spotter should be used to assist in monitoring the surrounding airspace for manned aircraft whenever a flight is expected to exceed 400 feet above the ground and that operation is expected to be in proximity to known manned aircraft traffic such as at a mixed-use facility or within three miles of an airport. The spotter

must have sufficient visual acuity and be mature enough to take this responsibility very seriously.

3. A spotter should also be prepared to assist his/her pilot in the event that another model aircraft or spectators become endangered or in turn are perceived to be a danger to the pilot or the pilot's model aircraft.

4. If a model aircraft pilot experiences what he or she considers a near miss with a manned aircraft, that model aircraft pilot should notify AMA Headquarters with a written report of the incident, including action taken by the model aircraft pilot to avoid the manned aircraft. This report is intended to help the modeler, the club, and the AMA capture as much detail as possible so that it may be used to assist all parties in recalling the particulars of the incident at a later time. Call 1-800-435-9262 (1-800-IFLYAMA) extension 230 or 251 for assistance with this report.

Please try it, you might like it,

Larry Chamberlin

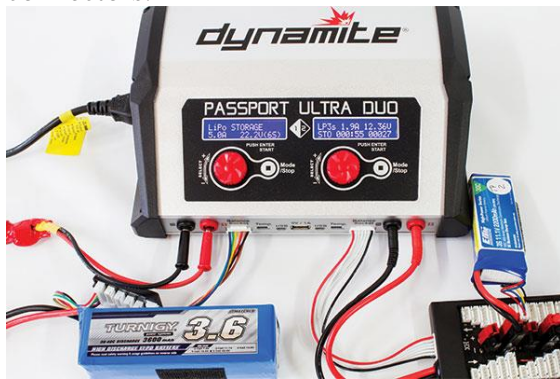
Safety Officer

RVFRC

Lipo Battery Basics

Storing and Disposing of Your Batteries

Battery storage: If storing a LiPo battery longer than one week, batteries should be stored at 3.8 to 3.9 volts per cell (approximately 50% charged). Storing a fully charged LiPo battery can affect its capacity loss over time. Many chargers on the market today have a built-in storage charge/discharge function. Select this option on the charger, input the battery parameters, and let the charger do all of the work! According to Thunder Power RC, the optimum temperature to store batteries is between 40° and 70° and they should not be exposed to direct sunlight for an extended period of time. It is also a good idea to cover the connectors or ensure that multiple connectors cannot come in contact with one another and possibly cause a short. Caps can be purchased to cover many popular connectors.



Batteries should be stored at 3.8 to 3.9 volts per cell—approximately 50% charged. The optimum temperature to store batteries is between 40° and 70° and out of direct sunlight.



Caps can be purchased to fit and cover many popular connectors and prevent a short. Commercially available products that can be used to store your batteries include items such as the LiPoSack, the LiPo Battery Bunker, or even an ammunition can. If you are using an ammunition can, you can remove part of the seal or drill small holes in the top to allow for venting in the event of a LiPo battery discharge or fire.



Many products, such as the LipoSack, can be used to safely charge and store your batteries.

Recycle It

If your LiPo batteries have reached the point where they have lost 20% or more of their capacity, or have puffed, it's time to say your goodbyes and recycle them.

Call2Recycle, a battery collection program that has accumulated more than 5.7 million pounds of rechargeable batteries, will recycle your NiMH, Lithium Ion (Li-Ion), LiPo, and Ni-Cd batteries weighing up to 11

pounds (New York's weight limit is 25 pounds) for free. There are approximately 30,000 participating public collection sites across the US and Canada.

The collection sites are conveniently located at retail stores, small businesses, and municipalities. In Indiana, where AMA Headquarters is located, drop-off sites include Sears, Lowe's, Best Buy, Ace Hardware, Staples, Home Depot, Office Max, HobbyTown USA, Office Depot, and solid waste districts.

Finding a drop-off center located near you is simple. All you need to do is visit www.call2recycle.org and type in your ZIP code. This action opens a map showing the closest drop-off locations. If you don't have Internet access, you can call (877) 273-2925 in the US or Canada.

Call2Recycle provides free battery collection at many popular retailers. Drop-off locations can be found on the organization's website. Best of all, the batteries are recycled.

There is a collection box for the batteries at each drop-off site. All batteries intended to be recycled must be individually bagged to ensure that the terminals cannot touch. Puffed battery packs can also be recycled as long as the structural integrity has been maintained, they are bagged, and the terminals are protected.

You may be wondering why you should recycle your aircraft's batteries when it's more convenient to throw them in the trash. Before you toss them, you should know that some states have passed laws making it illegal to dispose of certain types of rechargeable batteries and cellular phones in the regular trash. New York, North Carolina, New Mexico, and California have such laws in place. You can find more information on each state through the Call2Recycle website.

After the batteries are collected, the chemicals in them are used to make new ones. The cadmium in Ni-Cd batteries can be used as a stiffening agent in materials such as cement, and the nickel is used in stainless steel products.

In its more than 20 years of existence, Call2Recycle has diverted millions of pounds of rechargeable batteries from landfills. In 2014 alone, 12 million pounds of batteries were recycled instead of being tossed into landfills. In California, more than 1 million pounds of batteries were recycled, and collections in Canada climbed to an all-time high of 4.4 million pounds.

Call2Recycle is funded by major product and battery manufacturers that want to ensure that the batteries and cellphones they sell are recycled.

Call2Recycle does not accept single-use/disposable or automotive batteries. A detailed list of what batteries can be accepted is found on the Call2Recycle website.

—Jay Smith

jays@modelaircraft.org

—Rachelle Haughn

rachelleh@modelaircraft.org

Indoor Flying 2018-2019

Indoor flying begins again this season on October 19th at the East Junior High gym. Flying will be on these dates, and will be from 7PM - 10:30PM. You must be a member of the AMA, but not a member of RVF to use the gym. The cost to fly will be \$5.00 per pilot, or \$10.00 per flying family. Rules are the same as in previous years. Here are the dates:

Oct. 19, 26, 2018
Nov. 2, 9, 16, 30, 2018
Dec. 7, 14, 21, 2018
Jan. 11, 18, 25, 2019
Feb. 1, 8, 22, 2019
March. 1, 8, 15, 22, 2019
April. 4, 12, 2019

Roger Denne'e
RVF Indoor Flying Coordinator

2019 RVF Club Membership Renewal

It's not too early to start thinking about renewing your club membership for 2019.

Club membership runs from January 1st through December 31st of each year, and getting your renewal in early will avoid a lapse in membership. Memberships may be renewed at our monthly meetings or mailed to our club treasurer. See attached form in this newsletter.

River Valley Flyers October Meeting Notice:

**When: Wednesday, October
3rd at 6:30 P.M.**

**Where:
At Hardees in 1821 Eighth
Street in Wisconsin Rapids.**

Upcoming Area Events

October

10/7/2018 -- Oshkosh, WI (E)
WINNEBAGO RC FLYERS ANNUAL
SWAP MEET. Site: EAA Nature Center
Pavilion. Dave Hable CD PH: 920-267-1920
Email: dhable@new.rr.com.

Visit: wrcf1269.com. Starts at 8am. Drive to
EAA Museum then follow RC event signs.
Admission \$5. Lots of raffle prizes. No table
fees. Contact Dave for info. Sponsor:
WINNEBAGO RC FLYERS

10/28/2018 -- Wausau, WI (E) SWAP &
AUCTION. Site: 228 S 28th Ave. Robert
Weller CD PH: 715.842.1755
Email: bweller@wellertechnology.com.
Visit: wausaurcsportsmen.org/. 24th annual
Swap & Auction at St. Matt/Faith
Academy's School Gym. Doors open 8 am
to Noon. Auction 9am - 11:15 am. Vendors,
sales, swap, food & refreshments. Raffle at
11:30 am. \$5 admission, 12 & under FREE.
No table fees. Sponsor: WAUSAU RC
SPORTSMEN CLUB

River Valley Flyers Model Aircraft Club

2019 Membership Form

The "River Valley Flyers" are a model aircraft flying group interested in all aspects of Model Aviation and are located in Central Wisconsin. We are a chartered Academy of Model Aeronautics [AMA] club. All club members must also be AMA Members. We maintain a flying site in southern Portage County in the Township of Grant in the Central Wisconsin area.

Membership Categories and Dues

Full Adult Membership....\$40

Age eighteen years and older by January 1st of the year of application. Includes voting rights and club field usage rights.

Family/Group Membership....\$45

All members covered by a Family/Group Membership must have a direct spouse or offspring relationship, Father-Son, Husband –Wife and or Junior Member. Includes voting rights [except for junior members] and club field usage rights.

Junior Membership....\$15

Under age eighteen years old by January 1st of year of application. All junior members need to be sponsored by a Full Adult Member even though they are not related by an offspring relationship. Includes field usage rights but no voting rights.

Guest Membership:....\$20 For someone who belongs to another local club but wishes to access our field for flying as well. Includes field usage rights but no voting rights. Must send a copy of current AMA and Local Club Membership Cards with application.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Please bring completed application form below with proof of AMA to RVF meeting or mail to:

Bob O'Connor 2220 Lovewood Drive Wisconsin Rapids Wisconsin 54494

Make checks payable to **River Valley Flyers**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail _____

AMA# _____ Membership Category: _____

Dues Enclosed: _____