

Newsletter of The River Valley Flyers

Club #948

March 2018

President.....	Don Danczyk
Vice President/Secretary.....	Bob Barclay
Treasurer.....	Bob O'Connor
Safety Officer.....	Larry Chamberlin
Web Master.....	Bob O'Connor
Newsletter Editor.....	Don Danczyk
Indoor Flying Coordinator.....	Roger Denne'e
Turf Technician [Field Maintenance Coordinator]	Bob O'Connor
RVF E-Mail.....	rivervalleyflyers@yahoo.com



From the President and Editor: It's March already, the point in the year that we turn the corner on winter and head into spring. It's also time to start dusting off the outdoor flying equipment and get that ready to use as soon as the weather turns warm. If you haven't done so already, it might be a good idea to check over your flying machines for anything that could cause a problem when you do finally make it out to fly them this spring. Since I have done this already, I am just waiting for some non-finger numbing weather so I can head to the field.

Speaking of going to the flying field, if you do get out to the flying field early before the spring melt is done, please be mindful of the entrance road as it may be soft. We don't want anyone to get stuck out there and driving on it also could rut up the entrance road. Once the frost comes out and the ground settles, the road will firm up unless it stays excessively wet this spring. Please be careful when you go there in the early spring.

The indoor flying continues on through mid-April at the East Junior High fieldhouse in Wisconsin Rapids on Friday evenings. It has been a great winter activity for those of us who do not want numb fingers and still enjoy flying during the winter months. If you have not come out

on Friday evenings to get in some flying, you may consider doing this before the season comes to an end in April. See the schedule in this newsletter for dates and times.

In the upcoming months, we will be planning our summer activities for the club. These activities include possible flying events and club fundraisers like we have done in years past. We have discussed these events in the past few months, and we need to get these decisions made so we can have a summer schedule to follow. We also need to talk about continuing on with the summertime club nights and pilot training this season. These are the things we will discuss at the next monthly meeting.

The March club meeting will be held on the first Wednesday in March, which is March 7th at Hardees in Wisconsin Rapids. We will start the meeting around 6:30 pm. We will be discussing these topics, as well as anything else that needs to be covered.

That is all I have for now, see you at the indoor flying and the meeting.

Don

Indoor Flying 2018

The Indoor Flying is here again for 2017-2018. It will be at the same place as in the past, The East Jr. High School Fieldhouse, 311 Lincoln Street, Wisconsin Rapids. 54494. Enter in on the East side of the field house. Time will be from 7PM to 10:30PM. To fly, you have to be an AMA member, but not a member of "River Valley Flyers Airplane & Helicopter" Club. **Cost is \$5.00 per pilot or \$10.00 for flying family, Spectators free.** For those of you that flew last year, nothing has really changed. This flying season is the last season that we will have at this field house, as the school will be closing down. Here are the remaining dates for the 2017-2018 seasons.

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 2018

April 6, 13, 20, 2018

Roger Denne'e
RVF Indoor Flying Coordinator
715-572-4880
dennee@wctc.net

2018 RVF Club Membership Renewal

It's a new year and time to renew your club membership for 2018 if you have not yet done that. 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. Please see attached membership form in this newsletter.

A Bit from our Safety Officer

Hello fellow flyers,

With any luck at all I'm looking forward to a bunch of Winter project airplanes showing up at the field as the weather improves. Along those lines I ran across the following thoughts about things to consider before that maiden flight breaks ground and hopefully returns to earth in one piece! Most everything that follows is common sense but

a quick once over just might be what saves your first flight from being the last flight. I will be one of you doing the first flight after the building project this past Winter and yes, I will be using this as a guideline before that flight! Good Luck to all of you and I will see you at the field, and read on!

Larry

Preflight Checklist

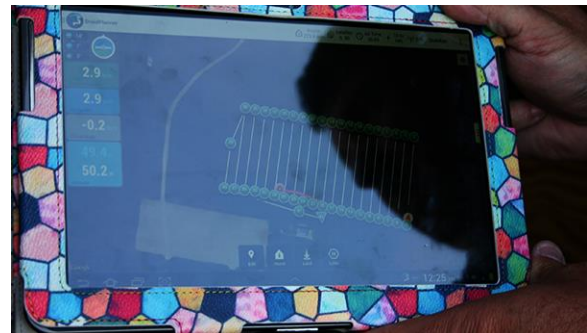
Before you take off, you should complete a number of preflight checks. You don't want something to unexpectedly go wrong, causing you to shed a tear or two [or maybe not] when it suddenly takes a nosedive in the mud.

There are a number of components that need to be inspected before your aircraft takes its first outdoor flight of the year. Some could mean the difference between a nice easy flight and, well, picking up a bunch of foam pieces and balsa wood and lecturing yourself for not carefully reading and following these tips.

If you are new to the sport, the term preflight may be foreign to you. If you are an experienced pilot, I hope that doing a preflight isn't something that you occasionally do when you feel like it. All pilots should do a preflight before each flight!

If you were never taught this, shame on your teacher. If you were taught to do a preflight check but don't, shame on you. Not only do preflight's help keep your aircraft intact for many years of enjoyment, they also protect you and anyone in the vicinity when you takeoff. Preflight checks make flying safe. Foamies, multirotors, FF aircraft, helicopters, and even airplanes that are not considered park flyers need preflight inspections. Some of the inspections I am

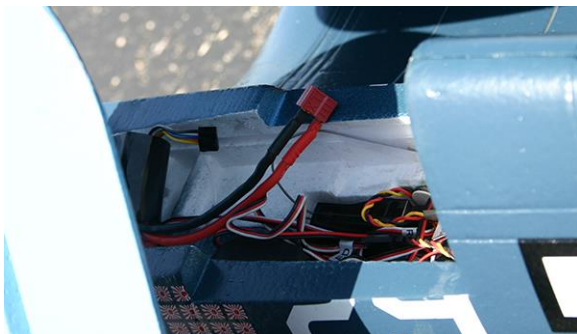
about to suggest that you conduct will not apply to all of the aforementioned aircraft, but most will.



The first thing you need to do is consider the weather conditions. Because park flyers weigh 2 pounds or less, flying them in 30 mph wind is not ideal. You could try it, but you may never see that baby again. In addition to wind speed, wind direction and sun's position should be pondered. If the sun is shining directly into your eyes, it will be easy to lose sight of your model. Also, aircraft with dark paint schemes may be difficult to see if the sun is low in the sky. Brightly painted airplanes and ones with lights are typically the easiest to see in the sky.

You should also elevate the field or park at which you want to fly. Is there sufficient space for your model to take off, fly around, and land without bumping into a tree, building, or person? If the answer is no, look for a new flying site. If your airplane has trouble taking off or landing in grass, find another location with an adequate concrete surface.

After you have checked the weather and decided where to fly, it's time to inspect a number of your aircrafts components. One of the most important things to check is the motor/engine. Make sure that it runs well in all throttle positions.



All of the power system components should be inspected. The battery should be fully charged and in good shape. The transmitter and receiver batteries need to be fully charged and need to hold that charge. The ESCs and BEC must operate within their stated limits.



The control surfaces should be inspected and tested before flight. Make sure they are moving in the correct direction.



Inspecting the propellers/blades is essential. Cracks or chips could lead to disaster. Replace any that show signs of wear, and make sure you have extras available.



All of the model's components should be properly mounted and attached so they can't fall off or jiggle loose during flight. The control surface hinges, wing/tail/hatch, and all servo extensions need to be secured. Make sure the servo extensions are correctly plugged in, and that all servos operate without binding and center accurately. It is important to make sure the CG is in an acceptable location. An off-balance model may not move the way you would like it to. The wheels and ground steering system must be inspected for the same reason. A disobedient aircraft is frustrating, and could be downright scary.

So, you have thoroughly inspected your helicopter, foamie, multirotor or whatever it is you choose to fly. It must be time to take off, right? Nope! It won't fly unless you tell it to through your transmitter. It's time to head out to the field, but make sure you bring tools, spare batteries and parts, or other equipment that you might need.



There are a few inspections that you need to complete in relation to the transmitter/radio.

The dual rates and exponential must be set for the appropriate channels. If you wish to add any mixes-such as rudder-aileron, flap-elevator, etc.-do that now. Obtain the correct frequency pin for the radio [if applicable] and make sure the correct model memory is selected. Conduct a thorough radio-range check.

Before the first flight, have a plan in your mind for what you would like to accomplish. Are there certain maneuvers that you want to try? Know roughly how long your battery will last so you can determine if you have enough time to accomplish your goals.

If you have any questions about how to get your model ready for its first flight of the year, you can always consult it's manual. There are also some tips, learning tools, and videos available on AMA's flight school website. You can find it at www.amaflightschool.org Enjoy the skies!

Click here to download your own maiden flight checklist.

[http://www.theparkpilot.org/images/article/cchecklist.pdf](http://www.theparkpilot.org/images/article/checklist.pdf)

**River Valley Flyers March
Meeting Notice:
When: March 7th 2018
Where:
Hardees at 1821 Eighth
Street in Wisconsin Rapids.
Meeting starts at 6:30 P.M.**

March

3/4/2018 -- Appleton, WI (E) 34TH ANNUAL R/C SHOW & AUCTION. Site: 2311 W Spencer St. Tim Stadler CD PH: 920.757.9238 Email: timflight1@aol.com. Visit: flyvam.com. Location; Monarch Gardens. Doors open @ 8am sharp \$5 (7am early admission fee \$20 - 2 table maximum) 120+ free tables. Food & drinks available. Large raffle, auction and bring models for static model display. Flight simulators and more. Sponsor: VALLEY AERO MODELERS, INC

3/9/2018 - 3/11/2018 -- Oshkosh, WI (AA) EAA FAMILY FLIGHT FEST CONTEST & FUN FLY. Site: Eaa Airventure Museum. Jeffrey Annis CD PH: 262-542-0105 Email: jeannis@aol.com. Visit: bongeagles.org. Sanction #18/526. Events; 203, 206, 208, 212, 217, 218, 220, 505. Fly in the Eagle Hangar Venue amidst WW II Aircraft Events: HLG/CLG, F1D, F1L, LPP, EZB, Dime & Peanut, RTP Speed, NOCAL, Phantom Flash, Mashup, Double Whammy, Foam Plate Electric Contact: HG Frautschy scaleflyer at mac.com EAA lodging also available. Sponsor: BONG EAGLES

River Valley Flyers Model Aircraft Club

2018 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: _____