



Modeling the Right Things

March 2010

Winter Flying

by Jim Booker

Well I guess if a guy wants to fly in Illinois during the winter he has to tough it out! The 2010 E-Fest was a great break and a good chance to both see what people are doing, (and they are doing lots of “non-traditional” RC stuff) as well as meet old friends or acquaintances.

But, I have been breaking trail into the field lately after the snow storms we have had. The last couple Sundays have actually been very nice out there! No wind, the field itself is about 60% clear of snow (not so much in the pits) and the sunshine made it pretty reasonable for flying. The one thing that was missing was other people! Keep your eyes open, get some warm clothes on and come on out there!

Seems like I have been stuck doing helicopter things during this cold spell. The new T-Rex 450 Pro is basically a night and day difference from previous belt driven tail rotor helis and it shows the first time you lift off in a hover! Batteries have gotten better than ever as well as the new chargers for Li-Po users. It just makes everything simple, especially on a cold day at the flying field. Jump out of the car, connect the battery and fly away. Now you don't have as many excuses!

Anybody building anything this winter? I sure haven't heard from anyone about new projects. Bring it to the Builders Contest on May 8.

Swap meet a couple weeks ago was a blast, didn't see any other club members there but had a great time and came home with as much stuff as I started with.

If anybody has some subject they would like to talk about in the next month let me know, I'll try to help out or get things together. Or if you want to go flying on the weekend send me a note:

jbooker@flycontrolline.com will get it there.

Upcoming Events

We have a busy summer on tap, with at least one event every month of the flying season. As a club, we need to promote these events. Participation by members, non-members, and spectators helps the club raise the funds needed for field maintenance and improvements, insurance, and taxes. But aside from those very real financial concerns,

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participation in these events helps bring us together as friends and makes us visible to the community in a positive light.

May 8 – **M3 Builders Contest** – Eli Field. This low-key event gives our members an opportunity to showcase their building (and buying) efforts for the past year. A flyer is included with this newsletter. Event Director: Andy Kunz.

May 9 – **Second Sunday Club Fly & Barbecue**. And Mothers Day! Bring Mom for fun, food, and flying!

June 3-6 – **JR AeroTow** – Piatt County Airport. Pilots from across the nation come out for 4 days of intense model glider flying. See gliders up to 8m spans towed by 80-100cc tow planes. Event Director: Pete Goldsmith.

June 13 – **Second Sunday Club Fly & Barbecue**.

July 3 – **Open House & Fireworks** – Eli Field. Open to all AMA members to join us for a day/night of flying, food, fun, music – AND a great view of the Monticello Fireworks at 9:30. Bring the entire family! Event Director: Pete Bergstrom.

July 11 – **Second Sunday Club Fly & Barbecue**.

August 4 – **Horizon Dealer Day** – Eli Field. This is a closed event for Horizon invited dealers only. The field will be closed for open flying after 12pm until dark.

August 7-8, 2010 – **Eli Field Giant Scale Fly-In** – Eli Field. This is open to all AMA members and will follow IMAA Guidelines for aircraft size (minimum 80” monoplane, 60” Biplane, or ¼ scale aircraft only). IMAA membership is not required but will be available at the field. Come out, see some great airplanes, and enjoy the fun and camaraderie. Event Director: Pete Bergstrom.

August 26-29 – **Illini SuperJets** – Eli Field. Our second annual jet fly-in is now in August so we can enjoy warmer weather. See turbine-powered models traveling up to 200MPH! Event Director: John Redman.

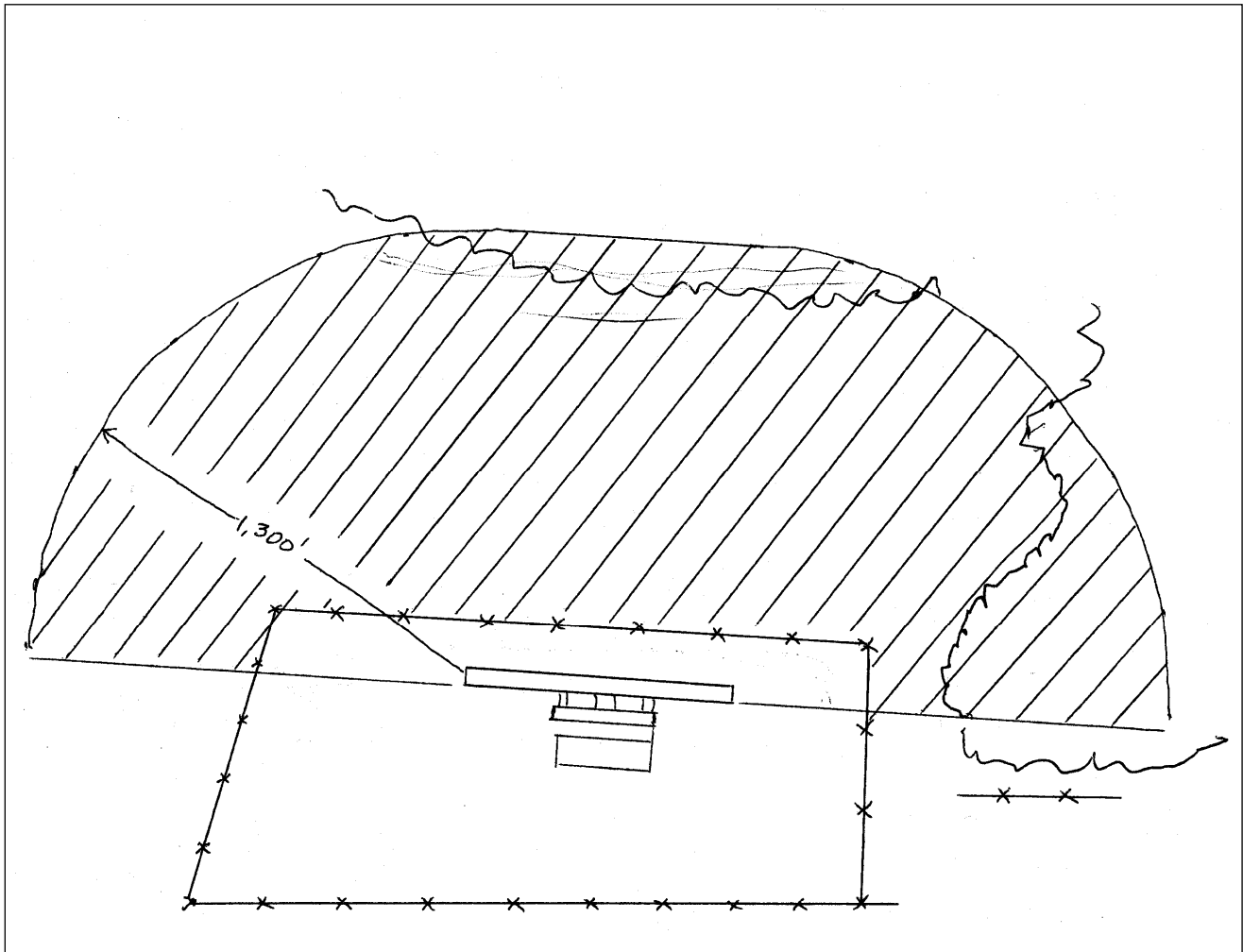
September 12 – **Second Sunday Club Fly & Barbecue**.

September 17-19 – **JR Challenge NC Region IMAC Championships** – Eli Field. Come watch the best pilots in the region compete with planes up to 200cc engines for year-end honors! This will be the duel of the year! Event Directors: Mike McConville and Mike Hilderbrandt.

Field Rules

With the flying season about to hit full swing, it's a good time to review the club rules. Of course, all AMA rules are always in effect, so know the Safety Code and follow it. Aside from those, here are a few of the special things to remember (this is not the complete list):

- a) The Gate – if you're the last one out, be sure to lock the gate as you go. If you have difficulty closing it, call one of the officers.
- b) Overflight Area – we have a wonderful site, but we need to be good neighbors. Our agreed-to overflight zone is according to the map below. Note that there are NO houses under it – if you're over a house, you're too far out!



- c) Noise – part of being good neighbors is keeping the noise down. AMA decibel limits are in effect. The field is open for flying 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM, but internal combustion engines can NOT be run before 9:00 AM on weekends or holidays.
- d) Guests – Guests are welcome. All pilots must be AMA members, and be accompanied by their (flying access) member. Out of town guests may use the facilities a total of 3 visits per 6 months.
- e) Although there is no altitude limit, pilots should be aware of full scale aircraft, as Monticello Community Airport is 3.5 miles south of Eli Field. Full scale aircraft are not to be interfered with or harassed in any manner.

The Last Word

A message from President Pete Bergstrom

Newsletter. What a great way to start out our year with a newly designed and revamped Newsletter. Thanks go out to Andy Kunz for volunteering to take on the task of monthly communication. If you haven't had a chance to meet Andy yet the next time you see him at the field take the time to introduce yourself ... you'll meet one of the nicest guys in the club.

Hangar Building. Mike Hilderbrandt has been working since last fall trying to pull bids together to

start the construction of our building. Mike told me it has been like pulling teeth to get contractors to call him or complete the bid process but we are almost complete with that process now. We had to back away from a Metal Structure/Metal sided building due to the labor costs to erect it and went to a Wood structure/Metal sided building; the cost are more in line with what we had hoped for. Mike has pulled all the bids together and we hope that ground breaking will be as soon as the weather will allow. Plans are still to have the Hangar up by June.

E-Fest Booth. Hobbico was good enough to provide the club free booth space for an 8 ft table so we could promote our activities for the coming year. Thanks go out to Jim Booker, Vic Audo, Andy Kunz and John Hammond for their all day support on Saturday. We passed out flyers and club event information to over 35 interested parties ... I hope they will join us for the fun at the field this year.

Events Schedule. See attached schedule

March meeting notes:

Field Preparation and Hangar were big topics. There is a lot of work needed to repair the ruts on the south and west side of the runway for the safety of our airplanes. Work parties will be needed on a few future Saturday's to fill these in and reseed the areas. Unfortunately in the immediate future the ground is still too soft to accomplish much because of the thaw and the rains we have been having. Please plan to make yourself available for a couple of these Saturdays over the coming months to help with this. If anyone has access to dirt or knows someone who does please give me a call to discuss and make arrangements. (Pete Bergstrom 217-840-3400)

Fundraising efforts. Quite a few ideas were tossed out at the meeting to help in our fundraising efforts. While these were discussed nothing solid was decided upon:

- Swap Meet
- Donate Old RC Equipment to the club for use in training and or to sell through eBay to benefit the clubs.
- Birthday parties (RC Themed – cars and/or airplanes)

Summertime Weekly Racing Series. We talked about a weekly two pole racing series to be held throughout the summer months on a weeknight. This would be a fun opportunity to get to know other club members and improve your skills. The airframes will most likely be electric but the final specs have not been decided upon. If you are interested in participating talk to one of the officers. We'll keep everyone posted but we expect this will start in June when the light is available after work.

Flight Training. We get inquiries all the time from new people about learning to fly. An organized weekly training series throughout the summer is needed to support this effort. Equipment is either on hand or will be provided so we have club trainers available for the new people or the visitor to our field. What we need is someone to come forward and head up the effort. Organizational skills are the biggest necessity for this. If you would like to help with this please contact Pete B.

Monthly Meeting Schedule

Don't forget to put these dates on your schedule. The monthly meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Monticello Municipal Building (210 N. Hamilton).