

TriState Helicopter Club



TRI-STATE HELICOPTER CLUB

The Collective Pitch

From The President's Desk

It was fantastic to have so many attend the January meeting. I hope this kind of participation is indicative of the entire year and not just the meetings. It was great to see the different interests everyone is enjoying, it seems as if R/C flying just keeps getting better every year. There were a few of us that stayed latter and ran the Porsche Challenge, our mild mannered and quiet member Brady Pack raced the socks off of all of us, way to go Brady!

I am going ask our web master, who does a tireless job of maintaining the best club web site I've come across, if we could have a member directory with a listing of current models and R/C equipment. This would be in the interest of providing an information resource especially for our newer members. (I'll buy you a large chocolate malt)

One of our newer members and flyers was at Slim's recently asking about building a rocket launcher for his new model, great aspiration - however, the AMA typically prohibits these type of activities (and will not insure them either) so please proceed with caution. I can hardly wait for the warmer flying weather to appear so as usual the three amigo's are headed for Ernie Hubers funfly in florida the second weekend in March and the I have made plans to attend the Birmingham , Alabama funfly two weeks later. I enjoy these trips because of the friends I've made in the hobby over the years.

Speaking of past memories I think it would be great to publish old photos in our newsletter, they always bring back great memories and remind us of just how far we've come. Bob Belluomini.

Pictures to inspire...



WHIO Ch 7 Bell Jet Ranger

News You Can Use Dept
AMA will not cover your accident if you do not have your AMA membership ID# marked Somewhere on your aircraft. Write it on the inside of your canopy with a permanent marker if you must, just beware that many folks miss this clause.

AMA Chartered Club #3373

See us on-line at www.tshc.org

CLUB OFFICERS

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| President: | Bob Belluomini | (513) 245-0590 |
| Vice President: | Gayl Rotsching | (513) 761-1266 |
| Treasurer: | Al Drees | (513) 791-5412 |
| Safety Officer: | John Anast | (513) 829-3950 |
| Secretary: | Brady Pack | (513) 831-4900 |
| Lowely Scribe: | Dale Mercer | (606) 689-5953 |

Safety First, Last & Always

This, the first of my columns on safety, is brought to you by our ever vigilant newsletter editor who gently reminded me for the last 4 issues that I am indeed the safety officer and perhaps might I say something in the newsletter. **OKAY, I get the hint!**

The title is probably kind of a weird way to start a safety column but it is a philosophy that has served me well over the years as a scientist and a heli pilot. Scientists and economists and lawyers and doctors and pilots etc etc constantly ask themselves “What if something occurs... what outcomes could follow, how probable are they and can I live with the consequences?” If I sink all my spare chopper funds in AOL-Time Warner stock, will I be bumming used glow plugs at the flying field next week or buying a full size Jet Ranger??

(continued on page 2)

Can I live without that By Golly burger?? Well I hope you get the idea. The same principles apply to RC choppers!

When you build/rebuild a set of mechanics ask yourself at each step, If I assemble it this way, will it stay together? Could it cause a wreck where someone could get hurt or at a minimum put a healthy dent in your pocket book?? Lets look at some examples.

1) LOCKTITE...if a bolt doesn't have a nut with a nylon locking insert you probably need to “locktite it”. Ask yourself what could happen if it came loose. Loose nuts can cause more than parts falling off, metal to metal vibrations have been suggested to cause radio noise and loss of radio control...yup you guessed it...BLAM! Chopper Two to base, Chopper One just wrote a check he couldn't cash. Remember, a little locktite goes a long way and it is not very friendly to plastic.

2) BENT PUSHRODS...if you've had an unfortunate meeting with terra firma and some of the control rods have gotten bent...resist the temptation to bend em back and reuse em. Go ahead, ask your self the question...What if?? they break in flight? Be especially nervous about ANY bends in threaded areas. Is a \$1 pushrod worth risking your pride and joy?

3) NOTCHY BEARINGS...this ones a little tougher but again bad bearings can cause radio noise, generate bad vibrations (thus flinging parts at innocent friendlies) and in some cases can result in poor control behavior (or worse no control at all). I know they are expensive, but if they feel like they've been to the beach and have sand in their undies, toss em. To test a bearing try to put a load on it with a shaft and slowly rotate it feeling for any roughness or binding. Sometimes a new dose of grease will revive a bearing but be careful you are not covering up the problem.

4) DAMAGED ROTOR BLADES...this one is a **no brainer**. If you see any physical damage or notice weird noises when applying a twisting force on a composite blade that has made contact with anything, please don't fly it. A blade departing an up-to-speed rotor head is a pretty scary thought...a helicopter with one blade may be a bit more fun to watch (at a distance of course) as it beats itself to death. I've seen it, it's not pretty.

5) REVERSED SERVOS...ouch...starting a heli up at full throttle can get your heart going faster than that smoking clutch. It's a real good idea to check all your servo travels BEFORE trying to start your heli. I carry a spare carburetor in my toolbox to make sure I get the travel direction correct on a new setup. That's also why I ALWAYS recommend getting a good hold on the rotor head when you put the starter to your heli. A reversed tail rotor or gyro can also cause a considerable amount of damage as it pirouettes like Tim Knott on steroids.

6) BAD BATTERIES...I think I've seen way too many wrecks due to poor battery maintenance. There are lots of theories on how to maintain batteries and hopefully President Belluomini will share his wisdom at the next meeting, but the bottom line it...be very concerned about running out of electrons. It's dangerous for everyone and no good for your budget. Battery checkers are inexpensive these days. Most indicate if the battery has sufficient voltage left when a load

Club Meeting schedule — etcetera, etcetera, etcetera. . .

Our next club meeting will be on Tuesday, February 8th. It will be held at the usual place – SLIM'S MAGNIFICENT AERODOME !

Since it gets dark so early now, the only flying that we can do before the club meeting is on a simulator or the Playstation “R/C Sim Chopper” game that Bob brought to our last Club Meeting!!

The last club meeting ended with the addition of two new members Dennis Roysdon and Bob Wiebold! Both of them are from the Cincinnati area. When you see their new faces at

the flying field or at the next Club Meeting, please give both of them a hearty TSHC “Welcome”.

The February Club Meeting will feature a discussion about Battery Maintenance. As John mentioned in his column. Lack of electrons in an electron dependant circuit can spell disaster for Chopper, Pilot and anything (or *anyone*) else in its way.

Just a thought—but why not take the time now to mark your calendars for all of the club meetings for the remainder of the year? **2nd Tuesday of EVERY month**. Do it while your thinking about it and you won't miss our exciting meetings!

Safety—continued...

is applied to run your gear for one more flight. If the battery checker says your pack is marginal, best to put the juice to it before that "last" flight. Also remember NiCads don't perform as well in the cold. Just ask ole Yeller. As a rule of thumb I replace my batteries once every 3-4 years, or when cycling them does not bring back the full capacity. I've posted some frequently asked questions (FAQ) on the club web site under the Electric Helis link...read and heed.

Next episode I'll cover some of the safety aspects of flying but for now I'll leave you with this thought: The next time you go for the switch on your transmitter think, What if? someone else is using your frequency. Take a look around first...if someone is on your channel, DON'T TURN THAT SWITCH ON. I guarantee at least three people will be happy, you, the flyer and me...your safety officer!

John Anast.

Treasurer's Report — By Al Drees

We now have 26 members!!!

The coffer still has money in it (the Red Hots at the last Club Meeting didn't cost too much) and the following is the accounting for the January club meeting:

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ 724.18 |
| Due's Received | \$ 240.00 |
| <u>Expenditure's</u> | <u>\$ 75.00</u> |
| New Balance | \$ 889.18 |

Please check the attached Membership Roster to confirm if all of your information is correct. Dale has added a column (to the Membership Roster that is included with your monthly newsletter) to show the Club Dues payment status of each of the members. Please be sure to pay me as soon as possible.

TSHC will remove your name from the club roster and the update sent to AMA HQ, if the club dues have not been received by March 1st.

Classified Ads

Bob Belluomini 513-245-0590

1. Robbe CSC-4 Helicopter Speed Control - \$75 obo
2. Hitec 325 Fast Field Charger - \$35

John Anast 513-829-3950 –

1. Vario Extreme, OS61SXWC, Hatori tuned pipe, Beautiful custom painted canopy, spare canopy and assorted spare parts \$875
2. Schluter Scout II 60 - tons of Futura updates - carbon tube drive - OS61SX - \$450 obo
3. **GMP Cobra Jet Ranger** - Fuse finished only needs paint, Pro head, Enya 60 motor - \$450 obo pictures available (warning this page is 1MB in size - hires images)
4. Robbe CSC-4 Helicopter Speed Control - \$75 obo
5. Ace Digipace II - autcycles 4 and 8 cell packs simulataneously then autotrickle charges. Great for checking out your pack capacity...\$80
6. Hitec CG-320 fast delta peak charger - 4-5 cells at 4.5A, 8 cells at 1.8A - \$40 obo

Dale Mercer 606.689-5953

1. Hattori #777 Tuned Pipe and #778 Header (60HTS-3) \$100 obo.
2. TSK MyStar 60. Built – but never flown – with the new YS 61 ST2 motor, Robbe battery monitor switch and NHP 680 blades. \$900. (new low price for the start of the season!!!)

John Pennell 513-754-1577 before 10:00pm

1. B.H. Hanson Tuned Pipe for a Gasser - \$60.
2. Chapman V-Tech mufflers (3) - \$25 each

Greg Gologowski 513.248.1864

1. Kyosho Concept Hughes 500. Webra 32. \$395 ready to fly with Futaba SkySport radio and gyro included!!!

Jesse Shaw 513-722-8335

1. C.S.M. V10 Computer simulator. Brand new, never used. Includes JR radio adapter. Includes fixed wing models as well. Retail \$179, asking \$100 obo
2. Novarossi pipe and header from Moskito XXL, complete with mounting bracket \$25 obo

January Club Meeting

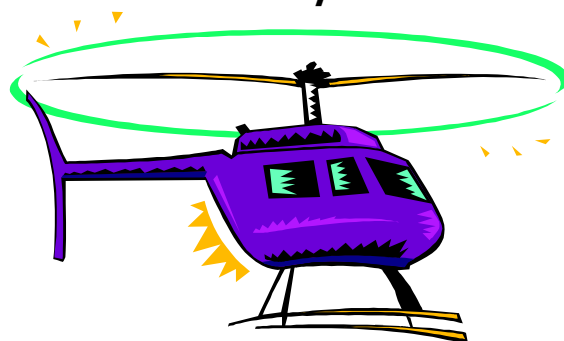
"Keep them rotors

WHEN: February 8th, 2000

TIME: 7:30 PM

WHERE: Slim Helson's Aerodrome

See You There!



Services and Such

Slim's Chopper Repair *"IF YOU CAN DRAW IT, HE CAN MAKE IT!"*

Machine shop services are available from Slim Helson, call him at 831-3173. He offers a full range of machining services and custom fabrication. Slim also has an extensive Robbe/Schluter parts supply. Slim's shop is conveniently located at 1033 St. Rt 131 in Milford.

Vector Helicopters

Building, setup or repair services for all makes of helicopters is now available. You can also get your wood rotor blades professionally built, weighted and covered to your specifications. Prices range from \$15-\$35 depending on size and complexity. Call John Anast at 829-3950 for an estimate. *Remember - **No job is too BIG!***

Authorized Robbe Field Representative

Contact John Anast at 513-829-3950, e-mail jmanast@worldnet.att.net or visit his website at Vector Helicopters <http://home.att.net/~jmanast/vh.html>

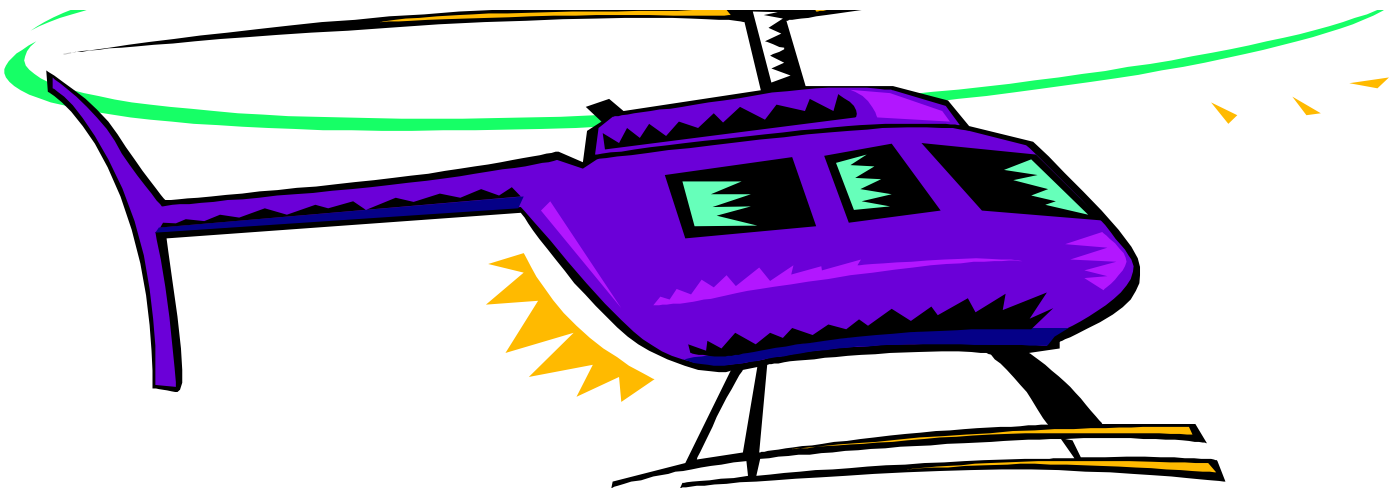
Web Sites

This area of the newsletter will be dedicated to interesting heli-related Web Sites. I have included some of the ones that I frequent – but since this is essentially YOUR newsletter, please send me your additions and I will add them to the list.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Bryce's R/C Heli Page | http://www.byelectric.com/~fribab/ |
| East Coast Model center | http://www.ecmc.com/#rc |
| Heli-fever Web Page | http://helifever.com |
| Leisure Tech | http://24.113.44.156!/heli/ |
| Netscape Heli Page | http://www.metareality.com/~nathan/visit.cgi/heli/ |
| Rick's RC Heli | http://www.rcheli.com |
| Tailrtr's R/C Heli Links | http://www.pcez.com/%7etailrtr/links.htm |

Area Hobby Shops

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Phone Number</u> | <u>City / Area</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| House of Hobbies | 248-9220 | Milford |
| Northern KY Hobbies | 283-1110 | Florence (YA'LL) |
| Phil's Hobbies | 385-8616 | Cincinnati |
| Pit Row | 891-7487 | Kenwood |
| Slim's Chopper Repair | 831-3173 | Milford |
| Starfleet Hobbies | 984-9889 | Blue Ash |



Tri-State Helicopter Club
c/o Dale Mercer
6132 Woodcrest Drive
Burlington, Ky 41005

Mark your calendar now for the
February 2000 Meeting
Tuesday the 8th
Slim's Aerodome

Tri-State Helicopter Club

Membership Roster

| Last Name | First Name | Street Address | City | State | Zip | Telephone | AMA | Paid /owe |
|-------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------|-------|-------|----------------|--------|-----------|
| Anast | John | 5752 Lake Michigan Drive | Fairfield | OH | 45014 | (513) 829-3950 | 167274 | YES |
| Belluomini | Bob | 8872 Colrain Ave. | Cincinnati | OH | 45251 | (513) 245-9580 | 077207 | NO |
| Bridges | Milt | 5319 Bonnell Road | Guilford | IN | 47022 | (812) 487-2100 | 208151 | YES |
| Davis | Bob | 3935 Montgomery Road | Norwood | OH | 45212 | (513) 531-4765 | ?????? | YES |
| Drees | Al | 7810 Hartford Hill Lane | Cincinnati | OH | 45242 | (513) 791-5412 | 523403 | YES |
| Dustrude | Ray | 8555 Lynnehaven Drive | Cincinnati | OH | 45236 | (513) 793-3982 | 042260 | YES |
| Gaertner | Bob | 8311 Weller Road | Cincinnati | OH | 45242 | (513) 530-9676 | 000321 | YES |
| Golgowski | Craig | 5845 Price Road | Milford | OH | 45150 | (513) 248-1864 | 439037 | YES |
| Harrison | John W | 1757 Marquette Avenue | Cincinnati | OH | 45230 | (513) 232-8833 | 609808 | YES |
| Harrison | John C | 1757 Marquette Avenue | Cincinnati | OH | 45230 | (513) 232-8833 | 607543 | YES |
| Helson | Slim | 1033 St. Route 131 | Milford | OH | 45150 | (513) 831-3173 | 183940 | YES |
| Huber | Brian | 8006 Cypressstree | West Chester | OH | 45069 | (513) 874-5652 | ?????? | NO |
| Koschnitzke | Kurt | 3906 East Street | Cincinnati | OH | 45227 | (513) 271-2541 | ?????? | NO |
| Knott | Tim | 7757 Thomas Road | Middletown | OH | 45042 | (513) 423-5747 | 159321 | NO |
| Noel | Daryl | 3811 Locke Street | Covington | KY | 41015 | (606) 491-2613 | 616833 | YES |
| Kosar | Richard | 1336 St. Route 131 | Milford | OH | 45150 | (513) 831-1641 | 420322 | NO |
| Mercer | Dale | 6132 Woodcrest Drive | Burlington | KY | 41005 | (606) 689-5953 | 629712 | YES |
| Milligan | Rod | 4169 Heritage Glen | Cincinnati | OH | 45245 | (513) 752-9032 | 457808 | YES |
| Pack | Brady | 5917 Price Road | Milford | OH | 45150 | (513) 831-4900 | 577629 | YES |
| Pennell | John | 6512 Turtle Point Place | Mason | OH | 45040 | (513) 754-1577 | 427502 | YES |
| Rotsching | Gayl | 263 Lux Avenue | Cincinnati | OH | 45216 | (513) 761-1266 | 097474 | NO |
| Roysdon | Daniel | 2649 Thomasville #1603 | Cincinnati | OH | 45238 | (513) 481-5757 | 665017 | YES |
| Shaw | Jesse | 6685 Oakland Road | Loveland | OH | 45140 | (513) 722-8335 | 660435 | YES |
| Stephens | Dwayne | 9193 Sunderkand Way | West Chester | OH | 45069 | (513) 755-9193 | 006571 | NO |
| Walker | Steve | 6923-1/2 Cambridge Ave. | Cincinnati | OH | 45227 | (513) 561-5711 | 331811 | NO |
| Wiebold | Bill | 5950 Park Road | Cincinnati | OH | 45043 | (513) 831-3731 | ?????? | YES |
| | | | | | | | | |

Don't forget to visit us on the web at:
www.tshc.org