

TriState Helicopter Club



TRI-STATE HELICOPTER CLUB

The Collective Pitch

From The President's Desk

Well it's hard to believe but, February is almost over and it's time for the March meeting.

I wasn't able to attend the February meeting due to some last minute work demands so I asked Gayle to run the meeting, thanks Gayle!!!! I heard you did a great job in short notice.

I understand that safety has the hot topic, and safety should always be at the top of everyone's priority list. I will just mention one item here, and that is to make sure you allow enough distance between the model, yourself the pits — and most importantly other fliers!! We have a tendency (myself included) to fly on top of ourselves, one sudden glitch and who knows what life or limb could be taken. FLY SAFELY !!!!!

As warmer wettter weather approaches we all need to be careful not to tear up the yards as we go back to the flying area, use some common sense here, if you are uncertain, stop and check with Slim, his neighbor is gracious enough to let us fly on his property let's

not become a nuisance!

I think it's great that we are maintaining a good size club roster, I asked our webmeister to put the club roster on the web site (which he has done—thanks John). If you're online please go to the members area and review the information that is there and email any corrections you may have to John. Keeping this information current helps provide every member with a resource to make their hobby more enjoyable, if you have other ideas please share them with us at the meetings.

I would like to welcome a new advertiser to the newsletter, Al's Hobby Shop in Elmhurst, IL. Al's is managed by Cindy Fuschen-Zanker. This is one place that you have to visit if you are in the Chicago area — you won't regret it. Just ask John Pennell! Al's stocks a huge supply of heli goodies, from kits to accessories, Cindy can be reached at 630/832-4908, or visit their web site at www.alshobbyshop.com. See you Tuesday at Slim's, that means you too, Bob Davis! Bob Belluomini.



PHOTO's to Inspire...

Robbe Royale
Futura Gold Mechanics
Pilot: Gayle Rotching

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
Lowly Scribe:	Dale Mercer	(606) 689-5953

Safety First, Last & Always

Well we got our first real taste of spring the other day, with temps in the 70's and no jacket for a change. Some even broke out the shorts! Excellent! With the nice weather, everyone is starting to think about knocking the cobwebs off the choppers and heading for the field. Last month I discussed things you can do to build a safer heli. This month I'd like to offer some tips on safe flight now that you have that perfect heli ready to go.

As a quick review of preflight checks...make sure that:

- 1) You have the frequency pin for your channel in hand.
- 2) You've got plenty of electrons in the ole batteries.
- 3) Check that you remembered to put some fuel in the tank :-)
- 4) Check that you have the right model selected on your transmitter.
- 5) Double check the servo travels on all channels.
- 6) Double check the gyro direction and finally.
- 7) **ALWAYS** grab a good hold of the rotor head when you start the heli.

Once you have the heli running successfully its time to head on out. Here are some of my personal philosophies on safe flying (and since I'm safety officer they may very well become yours — if you catch my drift)

Rule 1 - Move it on out...please

Don't "taxi" in the pits or near by, carry your heli out a safe distance from other folks in the pits. Resist the temptation to fly back to your prep area at the end of a flight. Shut it down and carry it back. This advice is especially important for testing a repaired or new heli. Make sure there is plenty of distance to the nearest person. You just never know when something is going to go wrong and when that happens there's little time to react and get out of the way.

Rule 2 - Never fly over the pits or, when at Slims Aerodrome, over the neighbors houses and/or yards.

First off it's dangerous to unsuspecting residents and second it really ticks off some of the neighbors. If you are unsure of the legal flying area ask around before you try to find out by trial and error. The last thing we need is a crash in someone's immediate back yard. Remember the police are only a phone call away and so is the loss of a flying field. Besides it's really embarrassing to have to try and sneak in and recover your wounded bird.

Rule 3 - Maintain your spacing.

Crowded skies are asking for a mid air. Give yourself some room to operate safely or wait for someone to finish flying. Its okay to stack flying, that is if someone's flying way upstairs, you can fly under or vice versa, just make sure that you communicate that's what you are up to. When you are upstairs watch for folks hovering or flying low when you come back down to the deck. Also it's important to respect flyers that may want to fly circles around themselves out past the flight line. Don't fly over their head or behind their back. If something happens they are in big trouble because they won't see it com-

ing. Finally, try to respect a person's flight envelope. I had a particularly bad experience on a road trip one time with a pilot who was some 50 yards or more from me and just HAD to fly right in front of ME and do nearly uncontrollable maneuvers as well...yikes...what a dork.

Rule 4 - Maintain situational awareness.

Look around and see where folks are and who's flying. Understand your flight path and its consequences. I always try to think to myself "if I lose control right now where will my heli wind up". While it is rare for in air failures to occur (not rare enough unfortunately) it does happen. If you are flying at or over a house, highway or people, your flight path could put the heli into a personal or property damage situation. Avoid these situations if you can. Another tip I like, and is recommended and judged in contests, is to not hover with the blades at eye level. If the blade separates you can take a high-speed projectile right in the noggin...hover a little higher and it goes right over your head...simple and easy. If you need to track your blades, minimize the time at eye level. One particular pet peeve of mine includes low, high-speed approaches directly at the flight line (usually right at the pilot). I don't have a problem with most folks flying skills handling this maneuver but frankly mechanical and electronic failures occur and that means trouble for folks on the flight line (and the pilot!) This maneuver is technically okay as long as the turn away from the flight line occurs at a safe distance (like 50 feet) however a hobbled chopper on hot approach could make it to scrambling spectators...personally I just like to avoid that and I hope you will too.

Rule 5 - Practice flight line etiquette.

Try not to sneak up on someone flying. They are concentrating very hard and can easily be startled...not good. Find out before hand if someone can/wants to talk while they are flying and respect that. Take a hint if the person doesn't want to talk as well. It can be very distracting and frankly can interrupt the pilots desire to focus on their flying to have someone walk up and start a conversation while in mid-flight. Don't get in the pilots line of sight either. Helis are hard enough to fly as it is without having your vision blocked. I like to stand right off and a little behind the pilots shoulder. If he/she rotates during a turn just step back and around with the pilot. It's easy but you'd be amazed at how many folks don't think of this. Just seeing someone in my peripheral vision moving around is very distracting. I'm usually blunt about it "hey putz wanna step back a bit". Remember peripheral vision is very sensitive to movement so no dancing around while checking out the latest and greatest at the field.

Rule 6 - Have fun.

Rules 1-5 sound like a lot of doom and gloom but really, problems are rare and with a little common sense and everyone policing each other, we should have a fun and safe 2000 flying season.

Personally I'm planning on it.

John Anast.

Treasurer's Report

We now have 27 members! Welcome to Dave Barrow, our newest member from Independence Kentucky!

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	\$ 889.18
Due's Received	\$ 120.00
<u>Expenditure's</u>	<u>\$ 45.00</u>
New Balance	\$ 964.18

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 31st. NO EXCEPTIONS!

AMA Information Corner

- 1) The AMA flying site at Muncie is OPEN to ALL members and their guests from daylight—dark. 7 days per week!!! (call ahead for weekends in case there is a scheduled event)
- 2) If your license has an expiration date of 2000 or later—your membership is current!
- 3) Chartered club renewals have been mailed. Each club must submit a current list of officers, charter fee of \$20 and confirm site insurance records.
- 4) Joyce Hagar, Exec. Dir. Can be contacted at (800) 435-9262

This is your LAST issue if.....

NOTICE: There have been many discussions about this topic. This is your last issue if :

- 1) You have not paid your club dues by the end of this month to Al Drees. (513) 791-5412
- 2) You have not signed up with the AMA and have a valid number to provide to Brady Pack (513) 831-4900 or to Dale Mercer (606) 689-5953.

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. JR Vigor - upgrade swashplate, built but new and never flown \$750
2. Vario Viper - low hours (maybe 4 tanks) OS61SXWC , Zimmerman steel tuned muffler, NHP 680 blades, Carbon fiber fins \$1275.
3. Schluter Scout II 60 - tons of Futura updates - carbon tube drive - OS61SX - \$450 obo
4. Robbe CSC-4 Helicopter Speed Control - \$75 obo
5. Ace Digipace II - autocyclus 4 and 8 cell packs simultaneously 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. (over \$1100.00 invested. New low price for the start of the flying season!!!)

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

1. B.H. Hanson Tuned Pipe for a Gasser - \$60.

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

John Harrison 513- 232-8833

1. Morley electronic CCPM mixer. Compatible with JR receivers (PPM/PCM) and Futaba (PPM only). \$50.00

March Club Meeting

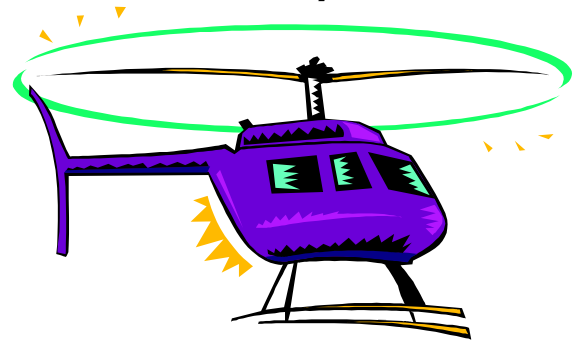
"Keep them rotors

WHEN: March 14th, 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 (Authorized Robbe Field Representative)

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!*** You can also e-mail John at: jmanast@worldnet.att.net or visit his website at Vector Helicopters <http://home.att.net/~jmanast/vh.html>

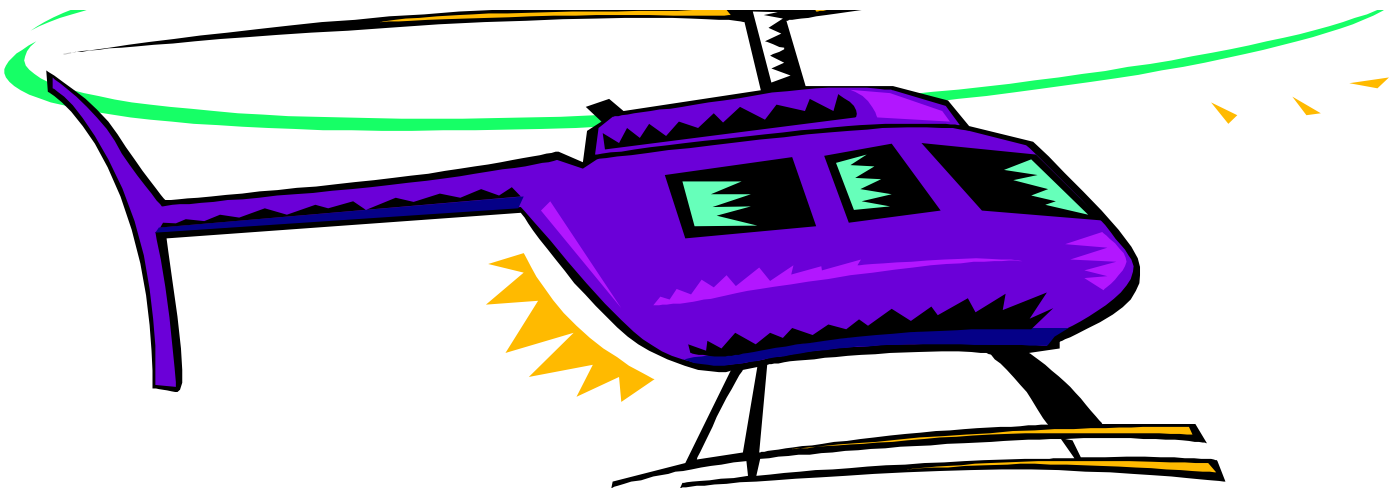
Web Sites

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

Hobby Shops

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>City / Area</u>
Al's Hobby Shop	630.832.4908	Elmhurst, Il.
Flight Zone	746-0015	Boone Co.
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
March 2000 Meeting
Tuesday the 14th
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
Barrow	Dave	5236 Madison Pike	Independence	KY	45051	(606) 357-1258	002534	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
Gaerttner	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 Cypressree	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	YES
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	YES
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	YES
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.tbh.org