



Prop Wash

Web site: www.nfmi.org

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Calendar of Events
CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE FOR CURRENT INFORMATION at www.nfmi.org

DECEMBER
31: End-of-the-year Fly-in at Spencer Field

FEBRUARY
3, 4, 5: Giant Sailplane AEROTOW, Coastal Aviation (NOTE: Fritz Field will be CLOSED these days, due to the close proximity of this event, to remove the possibility of interference)

18th: Annual Swap Meet at Senior Citizen's Center in Myrtle Grove

MAY
6 & 7: Annual Pattern Contest, Fritz Field

JUNE
17 & 18: IMAC Scale Aerobatics contest, Fritz Field

Welcome new officers!



From the Prez...
 By **Bob Yearty**

Greetings and Merry Christmas.

I'm sitting here writing this a couple of days before Christmas on a bright sunny day with a cold, 20mph wind from the north that has relegated my poor piloting skills to a grounded status. Moreover, my desire to be warm and comfortably lazy keeps me inside where I ended up in front of this computer. Now that I'm here I have a choice...I can get the simulator going and virtually crash until my thumbs bleed, or I can give you some information about the next NFMI club meeting on January 3, 2006, and also take this opportunity to introduce myself to most of you.

OK, the simulator can wait for a few minutes! I am Bob Yearty and I fly at Fritz Field (almost exclusively). I want to thank each of you (I think!) for electing me President of our club. The club has a membership over 250 and I know I've only met a very few of you! I attend the monthly meeting regularly, and there I have met the faithful 25-30 or so who also attend. I'm looking forward to meeting many more of you soon.

One of the first things I did as president was reread the charter for our club. If you haven't done that yourself in a while I'll encourage you to do so by visiting our website at www.nfmi.org. There, in part you will find this:

The Northwest Florida Modelers, Inc. was established in 1970 by a small group of dedicated modelers with the following primary purpose:

- To stimulate and promote active interest in the building and flying of radio-controlled (R/C) model aircraft in the Northwest Florida area

NFMI GOALS:

- Promote fellowship among people interested in R/C model aircraft
- Encourage sportsmanlike conduct in R/C modeling activities
- Teach young people in all phases of R/C model aircraft
- Sponsor contests, demonstrations and activities designed to enhance the interests of R/C modelers

Club meetings are held monthly to take care of club business, share modeling tips, present new models and tell a few "war stories." Meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the J. E. Hall Center at 30 East Texar Drive, Pensacola, FL. All club members and anyone interested in radio-control modeling or activities of the Northwest Florida Modelers, Inc. are encouraged to attend.

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Safety Comes First
By Buddy Bradley

This article is a reminder to all of us. The topic can be labeled by many terms: MIND-SET or FOCUS or AWARENESS. Whatever you label it, the end result will be a safer day at the flying field. I would like to summarize the events of my trip to the field a few weeks ago. It started like many trips to the flying field.

I arrived at the field early. After unloading my airplane and field equipment, I started to talk with the other people at the field. A couple of guys started flying. As I put my plane together, I saw that one of the flyers was having trouble controlling his plane on taxi. I went over to see if I could help him solve the problem. We talked about some adjustments and he decided to go home to work on his plane. I walked away to get my transmitter as the other pilot landed dead-stick. I saw him walk out to the runway to get his plane. My back was to the runway. I guess he decided to hand-start his plane on the runway, instead of carrying it back to the starting stands. His brother was helping him by restraining the model as he started the engine.

The next thing I heard was the sound of a high rpm engine then a thump then him yelling "TURN IT OFF!". The prop had injured him. Everyone rushed to his aid. We gathered his stuff so his brother could take him to the emergency room. Of course, this affected everyone at the field and the next immediate arrivals...

After a calming period, we all went back to what we were doing. I made a short trim flight and my engine quit. Another pilot took-off and after a couple minutes, he crashed beside the pilot station I had been using. IT was the first crash he had in along time. I started hooking up a trainer box to help a new student. The trainer switch would not work. Another pilot said he could program his transmitter to the plane. I tried using his transmitter with extended sticks. This proved to be very interesting. Not pretty, but after landing, I had had enough. Another pilot's plane blew off the stand and cracked the tail. Everyone still seemed a little on edge. I know my awareness was a little dull. Two more pilots went out to fly. It did not even register with me that they were at the wrong end of the runway, until someone else mentioned it. That's when I know it was time to go home.

The point I'm trying to make is, when at the field, think about where you are and why you are there. If you get distracted, step back and focus. IF someone needs help, don't wait to be asked. Offer your help. If you need help, ask someone for help. If someone does not follow site rules, politely mention they should and explain it's a "SAFETY THING". Sometimes it's good to watch a few minutes before you start flying. Hopefully these reminders will prevent at least one accident, even if it's just for me!

Due to the Sailplane Tow Event at Costal Airport, Fritz Field will be CLOSED on FEB. 3, 4 & 5! NO R/C FLYING DURING THESE THREE DAYS. Please go to one of the other fields such as Spencer, Santa Rosa, or Holley to fly!

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As a club, I believe we are pretty good at meeting those goals and I'm proud to be a member. Now, with that in mind, I'm putting together a tentative January meeting agenda with a couple of additions that I hope will be enticing and informative to everyone.

We will have a business meeting that we will try to keep as short as possible. We will cover past minutes, treasury report and other club business including reports about the status of projects and events from the activity spokesperson. For instance, Rich Hermann should report on the swap meet scheduled for Feb at this meeting. And, since we have the unique luxury of having Tony as a member, I'll ask him to give us a few minutes about AMA activities that are pertinent to us.

I've asked Buddy Bradley, our Safety Officer, to begin what will be a permanent part of every meeting. He will pick something from the area of safety to present to the group. Anything goes - building, flying, operations, equipment, storage, preparations, etc., it's up to Buddy. We may have presentations or open discussions but I'm sure he will welcome your input both as a participant and with your ideas and questions for future safety spots.

Additionally for January, I've asked Al Burton to give us a few minutes about some of the things he encounters as an instructor from beginners and how he deals with correcting some of them. I know most of you have not been under the tutelage of an instructor for many years, but I hope Al, (and others) can share some techniques that can make us all better and safer flyers.

At future meetings I hope to line up some of our club experts to share some of the knowledge they have. Sometimes it might be about programming your computer radio, sometimes about applying/repairing monocote, adjusting carburetors or trimming for smooth flying, sometimes about what all those numbers on batteries and electric motors mean and how they apply for your situation, or maybe even a period about simulator tips, tricks and techniques. (I know that mine will do much more than I am using it for.) This hobby is very multi-faceted with lots of crossover similarities and the point here is to share our cumulative knowledge with the membership. I hope you get the idea. You can help! We need ideas for this segment. Let me (or any board member) know if you would be interested in hearing about a particular area or if you can contribute some of your own expertise.

By the way, part of our on going business is membership renewal. Ron Bullard has asked me to remind everyone that we really do need you to fill out the paperwork as a record for us to keep. It is not only a document we use for auditing purposes but your signature on the form also pledges that you will comply with all AMA safety rules, as well as all applicable club rules and regulations.

As for me personally, I'm actually closer to beginner than any other status! As a child, I flew control line craft that my Dad and I designed and built together. My Dad is mostly responsible for my entry into RC and he is still my primary builder. Just over two years ago, we purchased our first airplane, an Ugly Stick, from a cousin who had stored it for many years. The hook was set and I've been crashing more than he can fix since then!

I'm a 31-year Navy veteran Aviation Electricians Mate. For most of my Navy career I was either a Flight Engineer on P-3 aircraft or maintenance control. I retired in 2000 as a Master Chief. Since then, and until recently, I worked for a contractor that changed Navy instructor-led classroom materials into materials designed to be computer delivered. Contract work being what it is, I'm currently unemployed. (does anybody have a job for me?)

My simulator awaits! I hope to see you at the next club meeting or at the flying field soon! **Our next club meeting is Tuesday, Feb. 7th at 7PM at the J.E. Hall Center!**

Bob

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We have a huge selection, from Foamies to you enjoy small-field have some great in-



blast to fly inside the gym on Tuesday and Thursday nights at Pine Forest High School! It might be cold and windy outside, but everything is nice inside! Come by RADIO SOUTH and check out what you are missing! Of course, we still have a great selection of glow-powered models, accessories and tools to help you enjoy that new aircraft. We have expanded our line of propellers, and continue to strive to provide you with the latest equipment for your models.

tion of electric powered model-WWII Scale models to help flying this winter. We even door models that are just a

Featured this month is the new SPEKTRUM DSS system for park fliers. These are in stock, and with operation on 2.4 GHz, they will not interfere with any 72 MHz systems out there! Even if you are not in the market, drop by and we will show you this new system.

We appreciate your support of Radio South for the past 30 years, and we hope to continue serving your model aircraft needs in Pensacola for a long time to come!

Our store hours are Monday—Friday from 8 AM until 5:30 PM.