

January 2018



... an **AMA Award of Excellence Club!**



Newsletter

Proudly serving the Huntsville community at the
Captain Trey Wilbourn Model Airplane Field.

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P.O. Box 2163
Huntsville, AL 35804

President's Message

Happy New Year

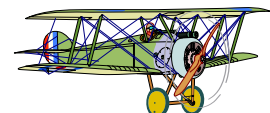
I hope everyone had a great time with their friends and families throughout the holidays this year. Here's to another fun and safe year here at RCRC! I'm looking forward to see what Santa brought everyone at the field soon.

As you can see, we're trying out a new format for the newsletter. If you have any suggestions, we'd love to hear them. Tom Durgin is our 2018 Newsletter editor. His contact information is on the website and at the end of this newsletter (newsletter@rocketcityrc.com).

The board is starting to look at facility repairs and updates for this year. If you are aware of something that needs attention, please contact Wade Sims (field@rocketcityrc.com). *We are aware of the front gate issues and are working on obtaining the parts needed to repair.*

If you have any questions, comments, or issues, please don't hesitate to contact the board (board@rocketcityrc.com). Our contact information is on the website and at the bottom of this newsletter. We do our best to be prompt and responsive. FYI: the club's P.O. Box is only checked once or twice a month, so if you have a pressing topic, please use email or phone for the quickest response.

Fly well, fly safe,
Bob Templeton
President -- RCRC



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Problems with your aircraft?

Get that thing fixed

Rocket City Radio Controllers has over 100 members and hosted 7 major events in 2007. What's that mean to you? If your aircraft is broke or just not flying the way it should, make good use of the valuable resource at hand. Our members have a wide range of experience and skill from nationally competitive 3D heli and pattern pilots to brand new fliers with a fresh perspective on our hobby. That one problem you just can't seem to fix, it is likely one of our members has seen and fixed that already or knows exactly who you should talk with to find the solution.

Besides our members there are other resources almost as valuable:

<http://www.modelaircraft.org/>

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/index.php>

FaceBook, Reddit and other sites can also be a valuable resource, not get it fixed and flying again. Ω



How to improve your skills.

Got to put in the practice time

Plagiarized and adapted from a MultiGP.com article.

<https://www.multigp.com/2017/11/08/putting-laps-improve-drone-racing-skills/>

Flying, pattern, 3D and racing, just like any other sport or martial discipline, requires that the competitor devote time and effort to improving their skill. Whether it

is building the muscle memory for a specific maneuver or practicing a certain section of a challenging track, it is the repetition of practice that turns skills into subconscious actions. The less that a pilot "thinks" about the stick movements, the more accurate their trick or faster their lap time will be. So what are some good ways of turning your movements into muscle memory?

Some pilots say, "First you go fast, then you slow down...". This is not the best way to learn. The classic marksman credo, "Slow is smooth; smooth is fast" better suits all of our flying. You want to slowly build the subconscious muscle memory, then you want to focus on cleaning up and speeding up those maneuvers to make your flying more accurate and shave time off your laps.

One of the best ways of improving your skills is by running drills, either in real life at the airfield, at the track or on a

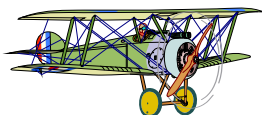
Flying under the FAA Special Rule for Model Aircraft

To fly under the Special Rule for Model Aircraft you must:

- Fly for hobby or recreation ONLY
- Register your model aircraft
- Fly within visual line-of-sight
- Follow community-based safety guidelines and fly within the programming of a nationwide community-based organization
- Fly a drone under 55 lbs, unless certified by a community-based organization
- Never fly near other aircraft
- Notify the airport and air traffic control tower prior to flying within 5 miles of an airport
- Never fly near emergency response efforts

For more information see:

https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/model_aircraft/



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flight simulator. Target a specific skill, section of a routine or track you need to work on and devote a flying session to practicing it. This sort of back to back repetition will teach your hands and your mind to work together. Keep running those drills until you are no longer thinking about how to fly the trick or make the gates. Once you are running the drills without thinking, then you are getting close to having that series of tricks or obstacles conquered Ω



Soaring Sky Presents: Sebring 2018

\$40,000 Total Cash Purse available to be won! The return of the Sebring Drone Race brings an even more exciting race than ever before! Sanctioned by MultiGP Drone Racing League, under the race direction with commentary by Joe Scully and broadcast to the world on FPVLive.tv this event will once again feature some of the world's top drone pilots competing for one of the industry's largest cash purses to date!

For more info see: <https://www.multigp.com/event/sebring-drone-zone-2018/> Ω



Planned repairs and facility improvements

- Front gate
- Lights on poles and clubhouse
- Walls on quad area
- Extend quad pavilion
- Clubhouse door



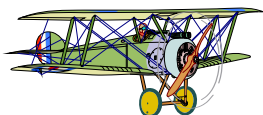
Call to members for newsletter content.

This newsletter is for you, the members. It is meant to inform you of what is going on at RCRC, help you plan your flying activities and help you catch up on what you have missed.

We would love to have your help in created content to interest every member. Do you have helpful hints? Do you have pictures from events at RCRC? How about other events you attended that we should all know about? What about that new build you are ready to fly and show off to all of us?

Send your content to: newsletter@rocketcityrc.com

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Events Coming In 2018

Tuesday 16 Jan, 6pm
Next Club Meeting

5 May
US Space & Rocket Center
International Drone Day
Need to set up a booth, more discussion needed.

19 May
Club Day
More info coming soon.

9 Jun
Airfield & Clubhouse
Swap Meet
Tentative date, coordinating with other area clubs to avoid conflicted dates.

7 Jul
Main Airfield
MultiGP Regional Qualifier
Tentative date, 8 Jun rain date. Awaiting MultiGP schedule.

11 Aug
Main Airfield
National Model Aviation Day
More info coming soon.

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Date TBD
Main Airfield
Pattern Competition
More info coming soon.
Other events?

December Meeting Minutes

Board members present - All
Quorum Present - Yes
Old Business

- 6:00 pm meeting called to order
- AI- No safety issues reported
 - Report was made about a nitro spinner exploding sending shrapnel towards pilot.
- Newsletter discussed
 - Reminder about Peter Wicks Estate Sale
- Field Regulations
 - Change to allow high starts and winch use
 - Vote taken to allow club to have a demonstration of the equipment involved. Club members to be notified.
 - Passed unanimously
- Grissom High Gym
 - No contact made yet
 - Will follow up in January
- Pete Wick items for sale are in the December newsletter.

New Business

- FAA registration is back
 - Pilots are responsible for this. In following with AMA we (the club) will not be policing or enforcing this policy.
- Club PO Box was illegally accessed by club member(s) without authorization.
 - Post office provided detailed information/verification of this event.
 - Certified mail items addressed to club were taken.
 - Club paid to rekey locks
 - Following actions voted on by club
 - Police report should be filed.
 - Report to postal inspector will be made once police report is complete.
 - Vote for above actions passed.
 - Club to discuss further disciplinary action in the near future.
- Issue of rocks on runway brought up

Repair of existing leaf blower or purchase of new to replace broken one in shed, research in work

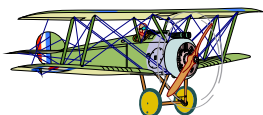
Board Meeting 1-2-18

All board members present
Police report filed for mail theft at clubs PO box.
Postal Inspector report filed.

Repairs and facilities Improvement
Left Gate needs repair
Lights on poles and clubhouse need replacement
Install walls on quad area
Extend quad area by one section
Repair leaf blower
Club house door

Board Meeting (cont.)

Dates for events
May 19th - Club Day
August 11th - National Model Aviation Day
Pattern event TBA
June 9th - Swap Meet ???
May 5th - Drone day - We need to attend this



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RCRC Officers

President: Bob Templeton
256-479-7378

Vice-President: Al Blair
269-277-0879

Treasurer: John Tubb
401-450-9669

Secretary: Wade Sims
205-310-4846

Newsletter Editor: Tom Durgin
505-688-1369

Committee Chairs

Field/Facilities: Wade Sims
205-310-4846

Programs: Al Blair
269-277-0879

Publicity: Bob Templeton
256-479-7378

Safety: Al Blair
269-277-0879

Web Admin: Bob Templeton
256-479-7378

Flight Instructors

All Flight Instructors are by
appointment only:

John Pieczynski
256-651-6487

John Tubb
401-450-9669

Mike Duncan
256-509-8801