

THE WRIGHT STUFF

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SPRING IS IN THE AIR

If you've paid attention the last few times at the field you might have seen a few new faces, or even a few that you haven't seen in a while.

As Winter blows her last wind and Spring starts to take it's place the desire to be outside grabs a hold of us. And that's one of the nice things about this hobby. It takes us outside. And there is no better time than spring! Soon enough Summer will arrive and we'll be clambering to get under the shelter to stay cool. But for now, it's Spring time! Yup, on Monday, March 20th at 1:26pm Spring officially began here in North Carolina.

Recently we've seen several new folks show up at the

field, Matt Stroupe, Andrew Shuford, Roger Nix, Dana Bryant and Jerry Pruitt to name just a few of the new faces that have come out to learn to fly RC.

Along with Spring comes the "Spring Cleaning". For us, this means some sprucing up of the field, building our new flight stations, and just the basic tidying up of our area. So if you have a good back and would like to help out, be sure to David Mays know so when the call for a field work day comes, you'll be ready!

Some of the things on our wish list would be a couple more engine run tables, getting rid of the unneeded or wanted items under the trans-

mitter control board, perhaps a few more plastic chairs for our guests. Another thing that would be nice is a trash container. Rather than just hanging a bag from the nail. So, if you have any of these items that you can donate to the club, it would sure be appreciated.

There is also the need to finalize the grass cutting plan. I know we're going to try to get the county to come in and take care of that, but in the mean time, we need a back up plan. There are already some clumps of grass growing pretty fast .

So let the fun (and some work) begin! Let's have a great 2006!



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THE FLY ZONE

This is just a reminder. We are still getting some complaints about over flying some of our neighbors. David and I have conducted some flying tests and have determined that if we stay with the cut area of our field we will be fine. However, as a safety margin, we're asking that no one fly over the pits or in any area that side of the runway. Please take a moment to look online or at the signage at the

field that shows the fly zone. We must adhere to this strictly or we risk loosing the privilege of flying at this site. So please don't take it personally if a member calls to your attention that you've flown your plane in a restricted area. We must all police ourselves to ensure the continued use of our field. Our neighbors have not been unreasonable in their requests, but are firm in their



stance that they don't want us to over fly their property. This includes wide turns to line up on the runway. As brief as it may seem, it's still a nuisance and shouldn't occur. It's a lot easier to turn short and then bring yourself in line with the runway as your approach.



Matt Stroupe getting some training.

RECENT HAPPENTINGS

Matt Stroupe successfully landed his Hanger 9 PTS P-51 on Saturday! Congrats Matt!

Roger Nix got his T-34 done and the engine, a Super Tigre G51 has the break-in procedures from the manual behind it. Now, for about two gallons of flying to finish the

break in!

Jerry Pruitt showed up at the field with what we think is a Sig MidStar .40 that was given to him. We literally to blow the dust off of it. But with some borrowed parts we got it's K&B .50 engine fired up and even got the p lane in the air.

So let's look for Jerry to come back and join our club and start his flying career!

John Bloom finished up his new / old Thrush. It's pearl red and yellow with blue stripes make it a colorful one. It's also powered with a Super Tigre G51



Jerry Pruitt and his plane!



John Bloom's new/old Thrush



David May's Extral

GREATPLANES PIPER CUB ARF

The Adventures of building and flying a GreatPlanes Piper Cub ARF

This was a Christmas present that was intended to go together quickly, be in the air even faster and be my first quarter scale plane, 81" wingspan. Reading through the instruction book I noticed in the pictures that the decals seemed to be installed first but there were no instructions or positioning dimensions given. A little research was done and when installed they seem to be pretty close to the scale position. The O.S. FS-70 4-stroke was the recommended engine (first choice). Not wanting to put that much money on a trainer engine the O.S. .46AX was chosen (second choice).

Installing the decals was a learning experience, I'm used to the old "soak and slide decals". After spending at least 10 minutes soaking and rubbing the backing off a small decal for practice it just wouldn't stick... After pondering awhile I tried just peeling the backing off and low and behold it worked just fine, it turns out these new decals are "peel and stick". What an amazing world we live in!

Mounting the engine was a challenge too. The engine mount is for a 60-sized engine and the O.S. 46 has a 40-sized crankcase. No big deal, a little fanigling here and there and it fit just fine; it did require a muffler extension though.

The wing was a concern in that the center section is not reinforced with fiberglass. Even though the struts are functional and the instructions very clearly state that the plane is not to be flown without them I was tempted to fiberglass the center section anyway but decided to trust the struts. Time will tell on that one.

Everything was put together per the instructions, I'm one of those oddballs that reads them, and the plane turned out very well.

Came the day for the first flight. It was Wednesday, no body around but me, chilly, and a light breeze. That is until I was ready to take off. The wind suddenly picked up to about 20mph, gusting even higher and I ignored the old rule "My own impatience is my worst enemy" and took off anyway. Well... it was indeed

a "Learning Experience". First, the Piper Cub is nothing more than a powered glider as far as wing loading is concerned, the wind was turbulent and it was all over the place. Second, every time I cut the throttle back it seemed to go nose-up and down-wind like a leaf. I was able to keep it over the field but then the engine quit and it decided to land in a pine tree across the runway. I must say now, and this is no lie, I've never crashed an airplane, they just decide on their own to land in peculiar ways...

Lessons learned: Don't fly a new airplane on its first flight, especially one as light as a Piper Cub on a windy, gusty day. Do take the transmitter with you to retrieve the airplane. It had made it to the ground but was hiding in the underbrush. By operating the controls I was able to find it by the sound of the servos.

I told John that this would be a multi-installment article so you will just have to wait for the next one to find out how the next flight/flights turn out. Just remember, kick the tires, light the fires, first one up's the leader.

Jim Billups

AREA RC EVENTS FOR APRIL

Piedmont Aeromodelers Spring Big Bird Fun Fly: Fayetteville, NC

3/31/06-4/02/06 - (C-Restricted to IMAA) Piedmont Aeromodelers Spring Big Bird Fun Fly. Site: Club Field. Robert Porter CD, 1022 Dupree Rd Willow Springs NC 27592 PH:919-369-3481 email: kjemcee@aol.com. Primitive RV parking, sanitary facilities, food and beverages sat only. 90'x700' grass runway with 200 acre flat grass overfly area. Open flying on Fri and Sun IMAA rules on Sat. Directions: take exit 58 off I-95, go north toward Newton Grove 2.3 mi, turn right on Hayfield Rd go 1.3 mile to stop sign. Cross over. Field is ¼ mi on left. Sponsor: PIEDMONT AEROMODELERS

10th Annual Grand Strand Pattern Classic: Green Sea, SC

4/01/06-4/02/06 - (AA) 10th Annual Grand Strand Pattern Classic for 401, 402, 403, 404, 406(JSO). Site: Green Sea Airport. Forrest "Buff" Miller CD, 190 Chickasaw Lane Myrtle Beach SC 29579 PH:843-236-2991 email: fmliller2@sc.rr.com. Lunch concessions provided. Saturday evening pig pickin all you can eat \$5. Contest fee \$25. Campers welcomed, no hookups. Any AMA legal airplanes in Sportsman class only. Sponsor: COASTAL AERO MODELERS

Spartanburg Sky Knights Helicopter Fly In: Spartanburg, SC

4/01/06 - (C) Spartanburg Sky Knights Helicopter Fly In. Site: Club Field. R Neal Hayes CD, 294 Canaan Church Rd Spartanburg SC 29306 PH:864-978-8860 email: rc4stroker@aol.com. No landing fee. Restrooms and concessions available. Visit <http://members.aol.com/skyknightsrc/index.html> for map. Sponsor: SPARTANBURG SKY KNIGHTS

Jackson Flyers Spring Fly In: Columbia, SC

4/08/06 - (C) Jackson Flyers Spring Fly In. Site: Club Field. Michael Gill CD, 2 Cape Flattery Ct Irmo SC 29063 PH:803-781-9531 email: msgill@sc.rr.com. Check special instructions on web site for directions. Landing fee \$10 that includes lunch. Pilots meeting 9am. Will include some fun fly events. Visit www.jfa-rc.com. Sponsor: JACKSON FLYERS ASSOCIATION

GMA Spring Pattern Challenge: Cummings, GA

4/8/06-4/9/06 - (AA) GMA Spring Pattern Challenge for 401, 402, 403, 404, 406 (SJO). Site: Club Field. Lou Melancon CD, 105 Morton Walk Dr Alpharetta GA 30022 PH:770-521-1889 email: LMelancon@ikon.com; Georgia-combat@yahoo.com. Sponsor: GEORGIA MODEL AVIATORS

DESS Spring Soaring: Wilson, NC

4/22/06-4/23/06 - (A) DESS Spring Soaring for 441, 442, 444(O). Site: Club Field. Brady Baggs CD, 2005 Missy Lane Clayton NC 27520 PH:919-553-6274 email: brady301@yahoo.com. We will fly TD Open Class 2 meter and an HLG event that is non traditional. Tasks will be announced 9am at the Pilots meeting. Lunch will be served both days. Sponsor: DESS

Tad Dietrich Memorial Fly In: Rocky Mount, NC

4/22/06 - (C-Restricted to IMAA) Tad Dietrich Memorial Fly In. Site: Town Creek Field. A B Gentry Jr CD, 2942 Avalon Rd Rocky Mount NC 27801 PH:252-977-3740 email: wn4z@earthlink.com. From the crossroads of US 64 Bypass (west-east) & US 301(north-south) travel south 12.2 miles to Elm City exit, turn left 1 mile to stop sign, left, East Langley Rd 4.8 miles, right on Orchard Rd 1.1 mile. Right on White Bridge Rd, Field on the right. Sponsor: TARHEEL RC FLYERS

Apple Corps Spring Fun Fly and Swap Meet: Etowah, NC

4/28/06-4/30/06 - (C) Apple Corps Spring Fun Fly and Swap Meet. Site: Club Field. Will Hicks CD, 25 Blessing Court Hendersonville, NC 28739 PH:828-553-8116 email: cd@applecorpsrc.org. \$10 landing fee. Lunch available Saturday and Sunday. Night flying (electrics only) tailgate swap meet. Rustic camping. Sanitation facility on site. Check website for flyer www.applecorps.org. Sponsor: APPLE CORPS

AT-6 Pylon Race: High Point, NC

4/29/06 - (C) AT-6 Pylon Race. Site: Club Field. Jay Marsh CD, 3227 Pine Needles Rd High Point NC 27265 PH:336-869-4844 email: events@ccrcm.com. Pylon race for .25 size AT-6 Texans. \$5 landing fee. Registration 10am. Visit our website for rules www.crcm.com. Gold Leader Club Field. 700'x70' grass ¼ mile, 2 pylon course. Full concessions and facilities. Sponsor: CENTRAL CAROLINA RC MODELERS

