

THE WRIGHT STUFF

www.gastonrcflyers.org

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FLIGHT TRAINING

Lately we've seen a lot of people coming to us to learn how to fly R/C aircraft. That's an exciting time for them. The process of learning how to make that aircraft obey them, instead of them reacting to something it does.

So how should we approach this? It's not too difficult to get someone off the ground and help them learn to keep the airplane from impacting the earth. But that isn't always enough. The flight training should consist of specified maneuvers. Sure, the first few flights or even weekends will be just keeping the aircraft off the ground and flying our pattern. But soon after we'll start making the dreaded right handed turns. Then we can mix it up with figure 8's. One of my methods is to

have the student fly straight down the runway. Not just in the direction, but over the paved surface. This will help with perspective and help them in setting up for landing. And I will on occasion give a small thrill to the student and talk them through a loop or a roll. Seems a little levity and fun is necessary to keep the interest high.

Flight training needs to move past the solo for the student as well. While they have made great success in getting to the point of a solo, it's also important to be there for them as they increase in proficiency. Another of the methods I like to use is to put the airplane into an unusual attitude without warning the student and let them recover from it. This helps them to think

quickly and respond to unexpected events. It's also good for a laugh or two. Instructors need to have some fun too!

Then of course the fateful day that we unhook the trainer cord and let them take the airplane up all on their own. Let's remember to stand by them the first few times as they take command of the airplane. Soon enough we'll be able to sit back and watch as they take their turn impressing the tough crowds who sit under the shelter. And when they do well, it's a good feeling for the instructor too.

So you see, the rewards are on both sides. So if you have the chance, teach someone to fly!



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THE FUN FLY IS COMING!

That's right, don't forget that this coming June 24th is our "If it flies, fly it" fun fly.

We're still working out the details such as what events, what demonstrations, meals and the such. But stay tuned as we may task you to help or at least help us brain storm as to what we want to do. We'd like for this to become

an annual fun fly like our signature event the Vernon Haynes Old Timers Fly In. We're thinking of things like a bomb drop, the limbo, and the such.



Another visitor by the field!

RECENT HAPPENINGS

Well, April 2nd brought an end to John Bloom's new/old thrush. After just HAVING to get one more spin in, the plane tip stalled while recovering and impacted what had to be a mammoth oak tree and separated the wing from the fuse then broke the engine off and tore the wing in half. Can it be repaired? Let's wait and see!

Matt Stroupe flew his PTS P-51 trainer on 5 successive solo flights! I think we're close to cutting the trainer cord! Good job Matt!

George has shown up at the

field again with his helicopter! It's always good to see old friends! Welcome back to the field George!

Jeff Wells showed up at the field with his Saito 80 powered Bristol M1. While he claims it's a handful to fly, it sure looks good.

Roger Nix picked up a good deal on a Hanger 9 Alpha trainer and JR radio. He's back in the business again!

Ronnie Adams is a new member. He's purchased a new Hobbico Nextstar trainer and is gearing up for a lifetime of

flying R/C airplanes.

Brandon Berckman has been doing some grass cutting for us. Thank you Brandon! Your efforts are appreciated!



The Thrush after a hard landing

ANNUAL AMA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The AMA will hold its Annual Membership Meeting in conjunction with the Joe Nall Fly-In in Greenville, South Carolina, on Thursday, May 18, 2006. The decision to hold the meeting at this event was made at the January 28, 2006, AMA Executive Council meeting.

The annual meeting is an opportunity for members to express their viewpoints and concerns to AMA officials and learn more about what their national organization is doing about a variety of issues.



CLUB WORK DAY

June 3rd has been designated the club work day. We're going to put the new flight stations up and get the field prepared for our fun fly on the 24th of June. The May club meeting has been moved to this date as well. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending. The more we have the faster we'll get the work done and the quicker we can get into the air! We'll try to do some

sprucing up as well. If anyone has some plastic chairs they can donate to the club, we can always use some additional seating for visitors. We hope to see everyone there!



Lee Allen's Funtana 90



AREA R/C EVENTS

ECRC RC Aircraft Fly In

5/13/06 - Goldsboro, NC (C) ECRC RC Aircraft Fly In. Site: Randy Webber Field. Glenn Elam CD, 404 Shelley Pl Goldsboro NC 27534 PH:919-751-2768. All scales welcome, \$5 landing fee, food, facilities, drawings, 50/50, candy drop for kids, swap meet. See website for directions www.ecrcflyers.com. 8am - 5pm. Sponsor: EAST CAROLINA RC

Midsouth Vintage RC Society Fly In

5/13/06-5/14/06 - Holly Springs, NC (C) Midsouth Vintage RC Society Fly-In. Site: SWAMPS Flying Field. Dick Pettit CD. For Info: Bob Harris PH:919-363-2211 email: bharrisus3@cs.com. Awards given for youngest/oldest pilot, concours, best finished mode, best old timer design (SAMS) Class III pattern event. Huge trophies awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Flying, judging, pattern events on Saturday May 13th, banquet Saturday night, general flying Sunday May 14th. Everyone is welcome! Bring your vintage model and fly. Go to www.vintagersociety.org for info. Sponsor: SWAMPS

Firetown Flyers Warbird Fly In

5/13/06 - Piedmont, SC (C) Firetown Flyers Warbird Fly In. Site: Club field. Tim Murrell CD, 257 Boundary Dr Pickens SC 29671 PH:864-313-4957. Any size warbird fly in, camping okay - no hookups, power available for charging, no channel 20, restrooms available, concessions, 800 ft grass runway, landing fee \$10, fly 9:00 a.m. - until? Sponsor: FIRETOWN FLYERS

Balsa Busters Spring Fly In

5/13/06 - Darlington, SC (C) Balsa Busters Spring Fly In. Site: Club Field. Warren Baker CD, 1002 3rd Loop Rd Florence SC 29505 PH:843-413-0909 email: wabakeriii@msn.com. \$10 landing fee, lunch includes prizes and raffle. All classes welcome including helicopters. Sponsor: DARLINGTON BALSA BUSTER

Joe Nall Giant Scale

5/17/05-5/20/05 - Woodruff, SC (C-Restricted to IMAA) Joe Nall Giant Scale. Site: Triple Tree Aerodrome. Michael Gregory CD, 28 Rocky Point Way Greenville SC 29615 PH:864-297-1201 email: mikegregory@charter.net. Early registration \$35. After April 15th \$40. BBQ Friday Night May 19th \$25. Float Flyers - must be on Ch's 22, 23, 24. Must be IMAA member. Sponsor: CONFEDERATE AIR FORCE

Open House

5/28/06 - High Point, NC (C) Open House. Site: Club Field. Robert Still CD, 470 Fallgrove Rd Thomasville NC 27360 PH:336-687-6158 email: fiat840@yahoo.com. Public is cordially invited to a day long event of flying demonstrations, hand on participation and prizes. All pilots are invited to participate. No landing fee. Concessions & facilities on site. Sponsor: CENTRAL CAROLINA R/C MODLERS

2nd IMAA Memorial Day Fly In

5/27/06-5/29/06 - Eutawville, SC (C-Restricted to IMAA) 2nd IMAA Memorial Day Fly In. Site: Club Field. Robert Johnson CD, 432 Fountain Lake Dr Eutawville SC 29048 PH:803-492-3650 email: bjohn2@tri-countyelectric.net. RV's welcome no hookups. Camping on site ok. Concession stand open; swap shop. Landing fee \$10 all three days. Sponsor: EUTAWVILLE FLIERS



George prepares to fly his helicopter.



A frequent flyer at the field!