

Next Club Meeting

Oct 28th, 2006 @ 12:00pm

Nov 25th, 2006 @ 12:00pm

THE WRIGHT STUFF

www.gastonrcflyers.org

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VERNON HAYNES OLD TIMERS FLY-IN

That's right! It's that time of year again. Start making your plans now to attend. Each year the old timers fly-in gets larger. This year will be no different. You'll get to see some of the most unique and gorgeous flying models around.

With the approach of the Old Timers Fly-In also comes the need to spruce up the field. So whatever you can do to help us out, lets cut grass, fix the flight stations, and get ready to host our premiere event of the year.

You can also start digging through your stash and see what items you might want to sell. We always have a great swap meet at the Fly-In as well. So get that kit you thought you really wanted to build, or that ARF that just

doesn't put the spark in your eyes it once did and bring it out to the field with everyone else's stuff and let it spark in someone else's eyes. Got any old engines? Maybe some building equipment you no longer need or want. Bring it

out and let's have a great time wheeling and dealing.

So mark November 4th on your calendar. This will be the day! We're all looking forward to seeing you there!



Club Officers

President / Editor:

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Vice President:

Steve Quinn
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Mitchell Robinson
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Tam Splawn
704-629-3518

THE FLIGHT SIMULATOR

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

Well, after training many R/C pilots, and hear their glowing reviews of Great Planes Real Flight G3 flight simulator, I finally took the plunge. After recently beginning my own training as a helicopter pilot, I thought this was the perfect time to invest.

After installing it on my system I began my investigations. Picking the Nextstar trainer, I took off and flew it around. I was pretty sur-

prised at how true to flight it is. The responses to flight controls were the same as I'd expect to see at our own flying field. I moved up to a Big Stik, then an Extra 300 and finally to the Yak 54 with full 3D setups. Each change represented a completely new experience on the sticks. Some very familiar, since I fly a stik, it was very much like my own. So I have to assume that the other aircraft are also

as true to flight as the genuine model.

Of course there are some limitations you just can't get past. The view of the plane is something to consider. It will fly out of sight in the blink of an eye. A marginal video card will give you some hideous orientation problems when flying at distance. But the software has accounted for that by providing "Gadgets". One of those



David May's Helicopter..



John Bloom's Helicopter..

Don't forget, November is our month for electing club officers. Be sure to let your voice be heard.



Gerry Davis's 40% Yak 54



Tam and Brice's scratch built Manta Minor!

RECENT HAPPENINGS

Tam and Brice have seen the Manta Minor fly, as well as the rest of us. If you haven't seen the pictures on the website, check them out. David Mays reports that the aircraft is very stable and a great flyer!

Rodney Absher has joined the club and is progressing amazingly fast. I think he'll solo very soon. He's flying a Hobbyco Avistar.

John Bloom has been working to hone his skills as a helicopter pilot. However, there was a set back on October 14th. Following a gravity event,

John's helicopter is in need of repairs. But hopefully it won't be long.

Speaking of helicopters, David Mays has rejoined the ranks of the chopper pilot. He's been seen at the field with his new Zenoah powered bird. Man, it looks good; complete with nicely painted carbon fiber rotor blades.

Gerry Davis returned to the field with his 40% Yak 54. This is a nice looking and flying aircraft!

The county has been mowing the field every other week for

a while now. That's a big help. And it's looking pretty decent. Thankfully, we coming into the time of year we won't have to worry with the grass.

The Gaston County Police paid us a visit with their GPS controlled UAV. It unfortunately didn't get to fly that day, but was quite interesting watching them setup and seeing the control boxes. It's reported to cost about \$75,000.00 !!

AREA R/C EVENTS

Southern Air Fall Fly In

11/04/06 - Vanceboro, NC (C) Southern Air Fall Fly In. Site: Club Field. David Jones CD, 194 Cedar Lane Newport NC 28570 PH:252-727-4750 email: rcflyer@coastalplanes.com. Landing fee \$5, fly from 9am til dar, 600x100 grass runway, food and sanitary facilities on site, all types of aircraft welcome. Sponsor: SOUTHERN AIR RC

6th Annual Vernon Haynes Old Timer Fly In

11/04/06 - Gastonia, NC (C) 6th Annual Vernon Haynes Old Timer Fly In. Site: Lewis Brooks site. David Mays CD, 3233 Timothy Lane Lincolnton NC 28092 PH:704-735-3347 email: mays@stilesmachinery.com. Registration begins at 9am with a \$10 landing fee. Concessions and lunch will be sold. Prizes will be awarded for judged event. Cubs and Pre-1936 warbirds are welcome. Visit www.gastonrcflyers.org. Sponsor: GASTON RC FLYERS

Giant Scale Fly In

11/04/06 - Lumberton, NC (C-Restricted to IMAA) Giant Scale Fly In. Site: Mac Britt Field. Jack Johnson CD, 8877 Hwy 72 E Lumberton NC 28358 PH:910-739-0078 email: toothman-jack@nc.rr.com. IMAA rules apply. No landing fee, food, camper parking. Go I95 to Lumberton exit 14, Hwy 74E, 13.1 miles, Hwy 72W, 2.5 miles on right, follow signs. Sponsor: MT ELIM RC

FOX 8 WGHP Gifts for Kid Fun Fly

11/18/06 - High Point, NC (C) Fox 8 WGHP Gifts for Kid Fun Fly. Site: Club Field. Dale Still CD, 34 Ranchor Dr Thomasville NC 27360 PH:476-8307. Traditional fun fly with a twist. Pilots help Santa by bringing a new unwrapped child's gift for the landing fee. Public is free. Full concessions and facilities. Prizes for Pilots and Spectators. Map and full info at www.crcm.com. Sponsor: CENTRAL CATOLINA MODELERS

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello everyone,

It appears that we have all survived the sweltering summer. I have greatly enjoyed spending my Sunday afternoons with you guys. Whether training new pilots, burning holes in the sky with the 300L, or just kicking back hanger fly (yapping), I feel quite privileged to spend my spare time with you all. I appreciate John Blooms efforts in keeping us all connected via the Newsletter or our web-site. I want to thank Lee and Kyle Allen for their efforts and support they have provided to the club over the years.

Now onto club happenings, Gaston County has agreed to cut and trim the airfield every two (2)weeks. The

county also brought in and spread a few dump truck loads of gravel to help with our eroding driveway and parking lot. We have our 6th Annual Old Timer Fly-in coming up November 4th. The AMA has granted our sanction and should be in the next Aviation Modeler magazine. I have notified all clubs in a 175 mile radius of our fly-in. We have been fortunate enough to grow a little more for each event. I know this is specific to Old Timers but I hope that you will all come and enjoy. I will bring 3 or 4 planes to the event so that everyone will have the opportunity to participate. I ask that the club members keep John Bloom informed of

current projects, pictures and general stuff that will keep the web-site and newsletter active and informative for us all. I hope to see you all at the field.

Happy Flying
David Mays



Gaston County's UAV

...THE FLIGHT SIMULATOR

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

gadgets are "binoculars". They put a small screen on your monitor that shows you a close up view of the orientation of the plane, and always from your view point.

Other fun things you can do is to place yourself in the cockpit of the plane and fly it around. How many of us haven't wanted to do that! There is also a "chase" view in which your plane is followed by a chase plane that you're sitting in controlling your model. It's interesting too. But over all, I prefer the fixed view point of standing there on the flight-line.

So after determining that the simulation is very true, it was time for me to switch gears and bring up the helicopters. Finding the Impala .30 trainer complete

with the training gear installed, I took off and tried my skill at hovering. Here again, I found the controls to "feel" very much like they do when I'm hovering my model. There were some minor differences, such as how far to move the sticks to get a certain response, like the tail rotor was a bit more responsive than my own. However, I believe the software has functions to allow me to change that, I just haven't experimented with that at all.

Knowing that the "nose in" hover was a bit tricky, I turned the helicopter to face me, and in about 3 seconds, looked at the many pieces, and then pressed the red "reset" button. I tried again with the same result. But through perseverance I can now keep the helicopter

flying nose in or out. With some unattractive maneuvers I can usually get a squirrely flight recovered.

The purpose of the flight simulator is to remove the fear factor when flying. Since a crash is fixed with the press of a red button, you're really not afraid to try anything. This is of course a two edged sword. When you come back to the flying field, that fear is still there. So be wary when you gain your confidence. That fear will interfere with logic and cost you precious seconds of thought.

However, the simulator is an excellent tool for knowing what to do to get a response from your model. You will build confidence in your ability, and that confidence is what creates a good pilot!

