

January Newsletter

President's Comments

I went to the swap meet in Columbia earlier this month and was happy to see a good number of M.P.R.C.F. members present. I also did something I thought I would never do; I bought a helicopter. It's not one of the little helicopters that are so popular today but a nitro-powered Raptor 30. This is the kind I couldn't fly if Curtis Youngblood was standing next to me. So, I have a new mission, learn to fly a helicopter. What the heck am I thinking? I do have a partner in this venture no other than our own Vice President, Jeremy Woodside. Jeremy goes right to his simulator and starts to practice. By the time we get the heli ready to fly, he can already hover. I just stand there watching and thinking I can do that, but it isn't as easy as it looks. Now I'm working on the simulator with hopes it will help. I can't believe how popular helicopters have become. Every time I go to PAC Hobbies, there is someone there with a heli for Mike to work on. Mike has really become the "go to guy" for helicopter problems. He knows them inside out, electrics or nitro-powered. Everyone of the heli fliers I've talked to say if you have a helicopter problem take it to PACs and talk to Mike. Mike was at the Columbia swap meet where Jeremy and I found our helicopter. We asked Mike's opinion before we bought ours, and I'm happy we did. It seems as though we got a good deal. PACs also has a complete line of parts for helicopters. If they don't have what you need, Maureen will find it on the computer. In most cases, they will have it in a few days. We are very lucky to have a hobby shop of this caliber so close. I just read about a fellow flier that doesn't have a hobby store within 200 miles of his house. He has to order everything from fuel to glow plugs...the little things that we take for granted. So, remember to support your local hobby shop in these tough times, or the next time you need something, they may not be there.

Okay, so it's January, and the weather sucks! I've been trying to get my fingers unstuck, and get the CA off my hands. I have been working on my new plane and hope to have it ready to fly by the time the weather warms up and the wind slows down. For the last three weeks I've gone to the church in Smyrna for the indoor flying and had a really good time. There are some very good fliers that go there. If you haven't tried your hand at flying indoors, come by. It's a ton of fun! The location is the Church of Christ in Smyrna on Murfreesboro Rd.... just beyond the underpasses by Nissan. Go to the building behind the church.

Scott Patton (our new event coordinator) and I went to the association board meeting. The association voted to have their annual fellowship fly-in at our site in Murfreesboro. This will take place on April 25th. We are honored to have been asked to host this event and will need to do some work to make our field the best it can be. As suggested by Paul Allen at the last club meeting, we are going to have a club work day when the weather warms up. We will be serving breakfast to everyone that shows up to help. Scott will be getting a list of volunteers together. If you will be able to help, please let Scott or one of the officers know. Larry Jenks (our new field maintenance officer) has plans for making starting stations. We will be replacing the ones we now have and doing some other general improvements. The fellowship fly-in is restricted to members of clubs that belong to the association. It will be a chance to show fliers of local clubs who we are, so let's all put our best foot forward to make a good impression.

Paul Allen informed me that he had a new JR Rx come up missing from his table at the Columbia swap meet. He has been to many swap meets over the years, and this is the first time he has ever had something come up missing. If

anyone knows what happened to his receiver or has any information at all, please contact Paul. I don't know what else to say. I hope whoever has the receiver has better luck than Paul did. I hope when their plane crashes, they have to walk a long way to retrieve it!

Mike Young is not doing the website anymore. John Lake will be doing it alone. Mike has been very busy and will be out of town a lot this summer. We all owe Mike a big THANK YOU for all he has done with the website. He took it over when we were in trouble and did a great job of making it one of the best sites around. John has been working on it for the past year and has continued to keep it in tip-top shape. THANK YOU John for all you have done and continue to do.

The gate combo will be changed February 1st. The new combination will be on the back of your 2009 membership card. If you haven't got your new card yet, you can send your dues to our post office box (M.P.R.C.F. PO Box 11532 Murfreesboro, TN 37130), or see Dan Wandell at the monthly meeting. Remember, your 2009 AMA dues must be paid before you will get your new membership card. AMA dues can be renewed online, or see Maureen at PAC Hobbies. They are an official AMA renewal site. You can also pay your club dues at PACs. New members can sign-up to join our club there. Applications and temporary membership cards are also available there.

That's all I have for this month. Let's get back to work on our planes, and I'll see ya at the meeting on Feb. 5th 7 p.m. at the Murfreesboro airport. Oh, just one more thing, Jeremy has made reservations at Legend's Steakhouse in Symrna for our March meeting. The March meeting will be the second Thursday of the month because of the swap meet in Perry, GA., which is the first week. Because the airport will not be available on that date, members voted at the January meeting to have the March meeting at Legends.

Jim Powers

President M.P.R.C.F.

Meeting Minutes

President Jim Powers called the January 2009 meeting to order on Thursday the 8th at 7:00 p.m.

Vice President Jeremy Woodside read the minutes from the December 2008 meeting. Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as read.

Treasurer Dan Wandell presented the treasurer's report. Motion was made and seconded to accept the report as read.

In old business, positive feedback was received concerning the December meeting at Legends.

In new business, Scott Patton solicited volunteers for the swap meet in March. Jim Powers reported that Matt McKnight secured the National Guard Armory, and event flyers are available for distribution. Scott Patton and Jim Powers reported to the club that Middle Point will host the first association fly-in this year. In preparation for the event, a field maintenance day was discussed. Redesign and construction of new starting tables along with new paint for the building were the two major points of discussion. **In other new business**, a motion was made to postpone the March meeting one week and relocate (to Legend's Steakhouse, upon availability). The motion was seconded and passed. Finally, President Powers appointed Jeremy Woodside as contact for the field search committee. Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned.