

## The President's Corner

by P.J. Ash



By looking at all the snow we have, it is hard to imagine that we will ever fly again! We will! Rest assured that we are going to have a great flying season and by the looks of things, I think we will have a bunch of new models in the air this year. I know that many of you are in a real “building season” and why not? What else is there to do in this hobby!

I am really excited about this new trainer competition, and Steve and I have been working away in getting things ready for the show. We will need some help once the time comes. We are currently working on a rules manual, and we will hopefully (if the weather ever gets better) have an instructional video that we will post on the website.

Remember, it doesn't matter how good or how bad you “think” you are, this will be designed to show the fun in competition, and maybe even enjoy ourselves a bit. I urge you to start looking, building, or even buying that trainer for this event.

We will be putting together a presentation at the next meeting about the show, and will have some question and answer time after. We will also have a few actual flying workshops in the summer to help you in any area you think you might need.

We have come up with a basic list of what the flight round will look like. We are going to score on a 1-10, ‘10’ being the highest and ‘1’ being the worst. The maneuvers are all required and required in this order.

- |                      |                    |                      |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Takeoff           | 5. Descending 360  | 9. Realism in Flight |
| 2. High Speed Fly-By | 6. Missed Approach | 10. Landing          |
| 3. Low Speed Fly-By  | 7. Power off Stall |                      |
| 4. Figure 8          | 8. Touch & Go      |                      |

As you can see, we have tried to “Level the Playing Field” with these maneuvers. Since we are all going to be flying trainers, we tried to pick maneuvers that would eliminate one plane being better than the other according to power, wing type, etc. We are going to allow scale planes and even high wing tail draggers, but please understand, this will put you at a huge disadvantage. I hope to have to rule book posted this month and as soon as the weather breaks, have some videos and some flying workshops.

( continued on next page)

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**President's Corner** - continued from previous page

I will need at least 4 judges to help. If you have ever judged before or think you would like to judge, please let me know. Anyone can do it. You will be judging from the guidelines of the rule book so there is no guess work.

Here is a list of volunteers we need and remember, if you do volunteer, you CAN still fly!

- Judge(s)
- Flightline Boss (coordinate takeoffs, landings, etc)
- Score Keeper
- Score Sheet Runner
- Cook

Well, I guess that is it for now. Feel free to let me know, if you can help in any way. I look forward to seeing you at the field soon I hope! I think this will be a very fun event anyone can do and enjoy! Keep'em flying! PJ

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## **Meeting Minutes**

by Steve Campanelli



The Club's general membership meetings are being held quarterly. The next meeting will be March 10<sup>th</sup>. Newsletters will continue to be published on a monthly basis to keep members informed on Club business and events.

The following status update is provided on the Club's Federal Tax Exemption issue from the December General Membership meeting.

### Issue as presented at December Meeting:

Since, the club was incorporated, the IRS has made numerous changes in the filing requirements for non-profit organizations. Action needs to be taken immediately to resolve this IRS issue.

-- Dan has researched the options and proposed that the club file for IRS Code Section 507(c)(7) tax-exemption status. The AMA Document # 505-b on the AMA website has guidance and sample forms to help clubs through the documentation and IRS filing process.

-- Steve Campanelli and Curtis Cox will lead the effort to get the club's tax-exempt status updated with the IRS, as soon as possible.

### January Update on IRS issue by Steve Campanelli:

I am not sure what to do about the clubs current filing status. In order to file as a 507c(7), you need to have a new EIN number. The problem is that LMAC already has an EIN number on file with the IRS and it is not tax exempt. This may bring up a red flag and bring the club undue attention. I need to check into our options to see what can be done about this. I will keep you updated. If anyone has any ideas please feel free to contact me.

## FAA Regs Update for Small Unmanned Aircraft

by Dave Mathewson, AMA President



The FAA process to create regulation for the operation of small unmanned aircraft systems (sUAS) in the national airspace continues to move forward. The sUAS proposed rule is scheduled to be released as a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) sometime in June 2011.

AMA is continuing to work with the Unmanned Aircraft Program Office (UAPO) within the FAA.

Representatives from the UAPO will attend the AMA Expo in January and participate in a roundtable discussion, open to the membership that will provide additional insight into the regulatory process. The roundtable will be taped and posted on the AMA Web site.

The February 2011 issue of *Model Aviation* magazine will contain an interview with FAA Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety, Peggy Gilligan, detailing why the FAA feels its needs to create new rules for model aviation and the direction the process is taking.

Model aviation has an impeccable safety record spanning more than seven decades. Overly onerous regulation is not only unnecessary, it has the potential to harm the recreational activity that we all enjoy.

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## Treasurer's Report

by Curtis Cox



Reminder, your membership renewal is due by the end of February. Be sure to mail me your dues payment with the 2011 Membership Renewal form that was previously mailed to you.

The club financial reports are submitted for your review on the following three pages.

### Savings Account Balance on 2/3/2010

BALANCE 2/3/2011	851.87
TOTAL INFLOWS	851.87
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	0.00
NET TOTAL	851.87

( Continued on next page )

Income & Expense Report - page 1 of 3

Date	Account	Num	Description	Memo	Category	Tag	Clr	Amount
<b>BALANCE 11/12/2009</b>								<b>0.00</b>
11/13/2009	LMAC CHEC...	2035	CARDINAL ...	DONATION			R	-1,000.00
11/21/2009	LMAC CHEC...	2043	GALE YARN...	2010 DUES...			R	-20.00
11/21/2009	LMAC CHEC...	2040	MICHAEL B...	2010 DUES...			R	-10.00
11/21/2009	LMAC CHEC...	2037	CURTIS COX	ENVELOPS			R	-31.79
11/21/2009	LMAC CHEC...	2039	P.J. ASH	FOOD SW...			R	-264.12
11/29/2009	LMAC CHEC...	2045	JOE WOODS	PRINTING ...			R	-40.24
11/30/2009	LMAC CHEC...		Opening Bal...		[LMAC CHE...		R	13,506.57
12/2/2009	LMAC CHEC...	2046	ROBERTO ...	STAMPS 2...			R	-158.40
12/10/2009	LMAC CHEC...	2047	LEN GREAT...	INSURANC...			R	-20.00
12/13/2009	LMAC CHEC...	2048	CHARLES B...	GO DADDY...			R	-29.64
12/17/2009	LMAC CHEC...	2049	KU	ELECTRIC			R	-12.68
1/4/2010	LMAC CHEC...						R	5,670.00
1/10/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2050	ROBERTO ...	ENVELOP...			R	-31.64
1/11/2010	LMAC CHEC...						R	125.00
1/14/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2051	CHARLES B...	STAMPS			R	-17.60
1/14/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2052	JENNIFER ...	NUMB THU...			R	-35.77
1/29/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2053	KU	ELECTRIC			R	-13.07
1/29/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2054	JOHN ROYA...	PRINTING-...			R	-42.09
1/29/2010	LMAC CHEC...			PJ sent che...	Dues Jennings		R	75.00
2/11/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2055	Charles Broo...	Newsletter ...	Newsletter		R	-20.29
2/11/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2056	PJ Ash	Flowers			R	-15.89
2/23/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2057	KU	Electric			R	-12.62
2/25/2010	LMAC CHEC...						R	346.00
3/7/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2058	A1 Portables	Toilet Rental			R	-75.00
3/11/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2059	AMA	Club Santion			R	-90.00
3/11/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2060	AMA	GiantScale ...			R	-20.00
3/11/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2061	AMA	Cub Event ...			R	-20.00
3/11/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2062	Charles Broo...	Stamps			R	-8.80
3/20/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2063	Enrique Castro	Labor Fenc...			R	-240.00
3/25/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2064	Dan Considine	Oak Planks...			R	-120.00
3/25/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2065	KU	Electric			R	-12.42
3/25/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2066	Roberto Mun...	Supplis E...			R	-448.68
3/26/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Deposit		Membership ...		R	316.82
4/4/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2067	A1 Portables	Toilet Rental			R	-75.00
4/4/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2068	Roberto Mun...	Stamps-Tre...			R	-31.47
4/12/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2069	Matt Hanson	LMAC cards			R	-37.70
4/26/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2070	KU	Electric			R	-11.20
4/27/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2071	CURTIS COX	Stamps	Reimburse...	Stamps	R	-7.92
4/27/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2072	Steve Camp...	Sanction Fee	Reimburse...	Sancti...	R	-29.00
4/27/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2073	Intercession...	Web Hosting	Interest Exp	Web ...	R	-59.40
4/27/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2074	Jim Jackson	Mowing LM...	Mowing	Mowin...	R	-600.00
4/27/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2075	a1 Portables	Toilet Rental	Utilities:Port...		R	-75.00
4/27/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Deposit		Membership ...		R	413.00
5/10/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Deposit		Membership ...		R	299.00
5/13/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2076	A1 Portables	Toilet Rental	Utilities:Port...		R	-75.00
5/13/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2077	Bob Belluomin		Membership	Over p...	R	-10.00
5/28/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2078	P.J. ASH	FOOD SW...	Dining	Meetin...	R	-57.22
5/28/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2079	Matt Hanson	LMAC cards	Reimburse...	Shippl...	R	-4.77
5/30/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2080	Jim Jackson		Mowing	Mowin...	R	-600.00
5/30/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2081	KU	Electric	Utilities:Gas ...		R	-12.25

Income & Expense Report - page 2 of 3

Date	Account	Num	Description	Memo	Category	Tag	Clr	Amount
5/30/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2082	A1 Portables	Toilet Rental	Utilities:Port...		R	-75.00
6/3/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Deposit		Membership ...		R	211.00
6/7/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Deposit	R. Chambe...	Membership ...		R	68.00
6/11/2010	LMAC CHEC...	DEP	Deposit	Vintage Fly-In	Other Inc	Event ...	R	173.30
6/11/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2083	CURTIS COX	Bird Repell...	Reimbursen...		R	-457.00
6/29/2010	LMAC CHEC...	debit	Beaumont St...	Stamps	Stamps		R	-15.84
6/29/2010	LMAC CHEC...	debit	Staples	File Folders	Office Suppl...		R	-16.73
6/29/2010	LMAC CHEC...	DEP	Deposit	J Davis	Membership ...	Event ...	R	78.00
7/1/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2084	A1 Portables	Toilet Rental	Utilities:Port...		R	-75.00
7/1/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2085	Jim Jackson	Mowing LM...	Mowing	Mowin...	R	-760.00
7/16/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2086	David Estes	Food for pic...	Groceries	Meetin...	R	-12.70
7/16/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2087	Terry Booth	Food for pic...	Groceries	Meetin...	R	-60.58
7/16/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2088	Jim Jackson	Food for pic...	Groceries	Meetin...	R	-25.17
7/16/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2089	Curtis Adams	Door lock f...	Hardware	Field u...	R	-41.11
7/16/2010	LMAC CHEC...	debit	Sunbelt Rent...	Rent water ...	Hardware	Field u...	R	-88.41
7/16/2010	LMAC CHEC...	debit	Circle K	Gas for pu...	Hardware	Field u...	R	-9.15
7/16/2010	LMAC CHEC...	debit	Speed Way ...	Diesel for tr...	Auto:Gas	Field u...	R	-50.00
7/16/2010	LMAC CHEC...	debit	AMA	AMA solo c...	Education	Educa...	R	-58.00
7/17/2010	LMAC CHEC...	debit	Walmart	Food for wa...	Groceries	Event ...	R	-107.02
7/19/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Balance Adj...				R	-88.41
7/19/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2090	KU	Electric	Utilities:Gas ...		R	-12.52
7/22/2010	LMAC CHEC...	DEP	Deposit	War bird ev...	Other Inc	Event ...	R	67.00
7/26/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Ultimate Re...		Bank Charge	Debit ...	R	-25.00
7/30/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2091	A1 Portables	Toilet Rental	Utilities:Port...		R	-75.00
7/31/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2092	Jim Jackson	Mowing & S...	Mowing	Field u...	R	-665.00
8/6/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2093	A1 Portables	Toilet Rental	Utilities:Port...	Event ...	R	-185.50
8/13/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2094	Chris Woycke		IMAC	Event ...	R	-670.30
8/13/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Deposit	Line Contor...	Line Contori ...		R	120.00
8/13/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Deposit	Imac Event	Imac Event	Event ...	R	522.00
8/16/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Balance Adj...				R	286.41
8/20/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Deposit	War bird ev...	Other Inc	Event ...	R	75.00
8/23/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2095	Jim Jackson	Electric Ev...	Groceries	Event ...	R	-174.36
8/23/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Deposit	Electric ev...	Electric Event	Event ...	R	148.00
8/31/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2096	A1 Portables	Toilet Rental	Utilities:Port...		R	-89.04
8/31/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2097	KU	Electric	Utilities:Gas ...		R	-25.85
9/1/2010	LMAC CHEC...	debit	Office Depot	Folder and ...	Office Suppl...		R	-24.98
9/1/2010	LMAC CHEC...	DEP	Deposit	E Millard	Membership ...		R	68.00
9/1/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2098	CURTIS COX	Membershi...	Reimbursen...		R	-65.00
9/2/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2099	Jim Jackson	Mowing	Mowing	Field u...	R	-600.00
9/6/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2100	BCTC	Room Rent...	Rent	Room ...	R	-125.00
9/9/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2101	Bob Stewart	Repayment...	Gifts	Over p...	R	-18.00
9/10/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2102	Patric Eldson	Gravel for L...	Reimbursen...	Field u...	R	-730.10
9/10/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2103	Steve Camp...	Insurance f...	Reimbursen...	Sancti...	R	-20.00
9/13/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Deposit	E Millard	Membership ...		R	10.00
9/20/2010	LMAC CHEC...	debit	U R* Bushs's...	Food for flyin	Groceries	Event ...	R	-100.23
9/20/2010	LMAC CHEC...	debit	U R* Winche...	Food for Flyin	Groceries	Event ...	R	-41.33
9/20/2010	LMAC CHEC...	debit	Kroger Winc...	Food for flyin	Groceries	Event ...	R	-73.24
9/23/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2104	A1 Portables	Toilet Rental	Utilities:Port...	Field u...	R	-370.74
9/24/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2105	KU	Electric	Utilities:Gas ...	Field u...	R	-22.56
9/24/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2106	Mid AM Dist	Raffel	Swap Meet	Event ...	R	-121.90
10/5/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Balance Adj...				R	-223.00
10/14/2010	LMAC CHEC...	2107	Jim Jackson	Mowing	Mowing	Field u...	R	-160.00

**Income & Expense Report - page 3 of 3**

Date	Account	Num	Description	Memo	Category	Tag	Clr	Amount
10/17/2010	LMAC CHEC...debit		Staples	Envelopes	Office Suppl...	Memb...	R	-30.60
10/17/2010	LMAC CHEC...debit		Beaumont St...	Stamps	Stamps	Memb...	R	-39.60
10/17/2010	LMAC CHEC...debit		PtouchDirect...	Lable printe...	Office Suppl...	Memb...	R	-32.16
10/18/2010	LMAC CHEC...2108		KU	Electric	Utilities:Gas ...	Field u...	R	-33.25
10/18/2010	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Cash	Fall Classic	Cash	Event ...	R	706.00
10/18/2010	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...		Membership ...		R	130.00
10/18/2010	LMAC CHEC...debit		Beaumont St...	Stamps	Stamps	Memb...	R	-96.80
10/24/2010	LMAC CHEC...2109		A1 Portables	Toilet Rental	Utilities:Port...	Field u...	R	-89.04
10/25/2010	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...		Membership ...		R	1,228.00
10/26/2010	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...		Membership ...		R	295.00
10/29/2010	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...		Membership ...		R	525.00
11/4/2010	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...		Membership ...		R	305.00
11/5/2010	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...		Membership ...		R	195.00
11/10/2010	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...		Membership ...		R	348.00
11/12/2010	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...		Membership ...		R	305.00
11/12/2010	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...		Membership ...		R	110.00
11/12/2010	LMAC CHEC...Cash		Cash	Swap Meet	Cash	Event ...	R	-700.00
11/16/2010	LMAC CHEC...2110		KU	Electric	Utilities:Gas ...	Field u...	R	-20.69
11/18/2010	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...		Membership ...		R	110.00
11/18/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Deposit	Swap Meet	Event	Swap ...	R	2,201.75
11/21/2010	LMAC CHEC...2111		JOE WOODS	Swap meet ...	Swap Meet	Event ...	R	-44.60
11/22/2010	LMAC CHEC...2112		A1 Portables	Toilet Rental	Utilities:Port...	Field u...	R	-89.04
11/22/2010	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...		Membership ...		R	370.00
11/29/2010	LMAC CHEC...		Deposit	Membership	Membership ...		R	315.00
12/10/2010	LMAC CHEC...2113		CARDINAL ...	DONATION	Charity		R	-500.00
12/10/2010	LMAC CHEC...2114		Roberto Mun...	He paid the...	Reimbursem...		R	-12.73
12/10/2010	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...		Membership ...		R	643.00
12/16/2010	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...		Membership ...		R	260.00
12/16/2010	LMAC CHEC...2115		A1 Portables	Toilet Rental	Utilities:Port...	Field u...	R	-89.04
12/16/2010	LMAC CHEC...2116		KU	Electric	Utilities:Gas ...	Field u...	R	-20.67
12/27/2010	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...	Membership	Membership		R	520.00
1/12/2011	LMAC CHEC...2117		Intercession...	Web Hosting	Interest Exp	Web ...		-59.40
1/12/2011	LMAC CHEC...2118		JENNIFER ...	NUMB THU...	Event	Event ...		-46.47
1/12/2011	LMAC CHEC...2119		A1 Portables	Toilet Rental	Utilities:Port...	Field u...		-89.04
1/12/2011	LMAC CHEC...2120		Dan Thomps...	Dues Refun...	Membership	Over p...		-55.00
1/12/2011	LMAC CHEC...2121		AMA	Vintage Ev...	Event	Event ...		-20.00
1/12/2011	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...		Membership ...			688.00
1/17/2011	LMAC CHEC...2122		AMA	AMA Club ...	Club Charter	Sancti...		-90.00
1/28/2011	LMAC CHEC...DEP		Membership ...	Membership	Membership ...			75.00
11/13/2009 - 2/3/2011								18,694.28
<b>BALANCE 2/3/2011</b>								<b>18,694.28</b>

<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>31,907.85</b>
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<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>	<b>-13,213.57</b>
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<b>NET TOTAL</b>	<b>18,694.28</b>
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# Editor's Note

by Bob Cooper



I hope you enjoy this newsletter. You will find a number of interesting articles on Indoor flying, LiPo battery maintenance and airfield safety.

As I have said before, this is a great club with a long history. However, I wish our club history was recorded somewhere for us newcomers to learn how it got started. Well, I guess there no time like the present to kick off a project to collect the LMAC Club history.

As I do this, I am looking for:

- How the club got started in the 1960's
- Who was involved in the early days
- Where the original airfield were located
- Original officers and members names
- List of all past club presidents
- Evolution of the club flying sites
- Old photos of pilots and their planes
- Old newsletters to scan and archive



Dan Thompson has given me a great start on collecting information with some of his old newsletters and photos. To date, I have contacted other original members like Lew McFarland and Dave Pratt for information, and would like to interview all of our most senior members as opportunities arise over the coming months. Hopefully, they will have some old photos and newsletters that I can scan and return to them. I would really appreciate everyone's help this project.

If, I can find enough information, I would like to:

1. Prepare a presentation for a future Club meeting.
2. Publish the Club History in the newsletter.
3. Wrap up the project by posting all of the materials on the LMAC website and the AMA website in the National Aeromodeling Heritage section.

<http://www.modelaircraft.org/museum/clublist.aspx>

Keep in touch to find out the story behind our club logo.....



See you at the airfield and in the newsletter....

Bob Cooper 859-272-6460

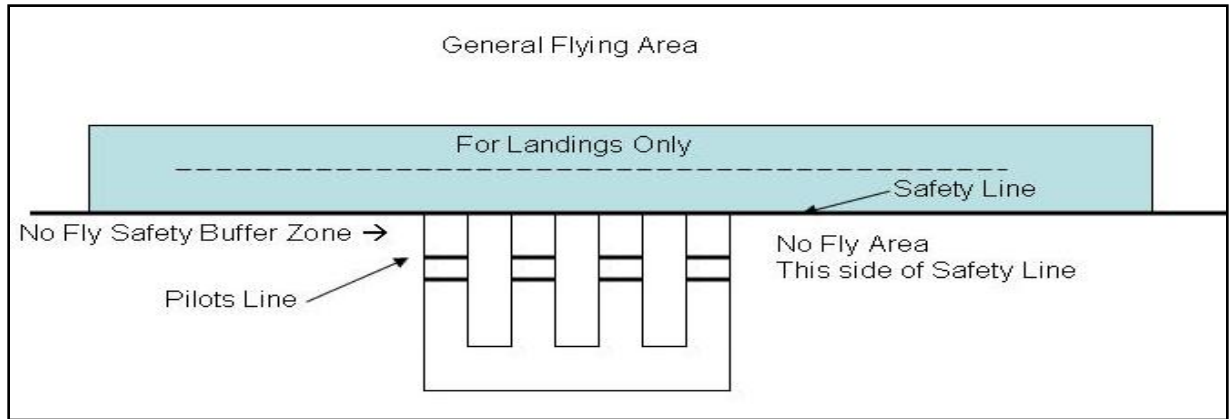
# Airfield Safety

by Butch Krebs & Bob Cooper



This is the second in a series of newsletter articles written on safety at the airfield. The purpose of these articles is to increase your safety awareness so as to avoid injuries at the airfield. With the advent of electric aircraft, they are now the largest source of injuries.

Last month we highlighted the ‘AMA Safety Code’. This month we will review the local ‘LMAC Airfield Safety Rules’. It is important to point out that every airfield user has the responsibility to know and follow these safety rules. When a fellow flying buddy gets injured, everyone at the airfield has a bad day. So, if you see someone who has forgotten a safety rule, please graciously remind them of a safer way to do things so everyone can enjoy their day at the airfield.

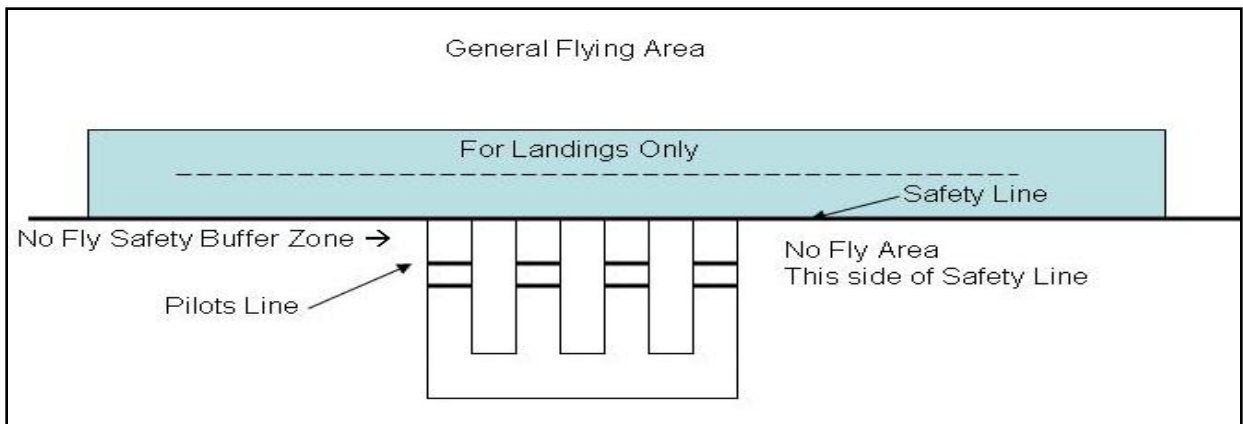


Due to space considerations, we will select a few pertinent local airfield rules to highlight in this article. The complete list of rules and guidelines are posted at the airfield bulletin board and on the club website. [www.lmacky.org](http://www.lmacky.org)

## LMAC Airfield Safety Rules

- All glow, gas and electric aircraft must be started or energized for flight in the starting pits area near the pilot’s position, not in the shelter area.
- Aircraft must point toward the runway when starting or energizing. No one should stand in front of the aircraft when testing engines. Aircraft too large for the starting stand must be held securely by a spotter when readied for flight.

( Continued on next page )

**Airfield Safety - continued from previous page**

- Aircraft may be taxied out of the starting area toward the runway, but must not be taxied back toward the pit or shelter area.
- All aircraft must takeoff and be flown from the asphalt or grass runway – not from the grassy area on the pit side of either runway. No flying is permitted over the grassy safety zone beside the runway, pits area, shelter area or parking lot.
- All fliers are to stand at the pilot's flying positions located 25 feet back from the asphalt or grass runway on the pits side when flying. A pilot may stand on or adjacent to the runway only for takeoff or landing.
- Pilots must alert other fliers of their intentions to use runway for takeoff, landing, low speed pass, touch-and-go, dead stick landing and retrieval of a down aircraft. No high speed passes or aerobatics are permitted over the asphalt runway.



The intent of these rules is to keep aircraft being readied for flight or aircraft in flight a safe distance away from others by relying on a no-fly safety zone. When an accidental fly-away situations arises, the safety zone will provide space to recover control of an aircraft before hits someone in the shelter area. Small electric airplanes and helicopters must comply with these safety rules.

With your help, we can always have a nice, enjoyable day at the airfield.

Fly Safe....Butch & Bob

## NightVapor Squadron

by Bob Cooper



This winter weather has been exceptionally harsh which has prevented many modelers from getting flying time, even the “once-a-month” winter fliers are having a hard time getting flights in January. However, one creative group of fliers in Winchester have found a unique way of getting to fly every Thursday during the Winter months.

I got wind of this activity during this past flying season. Then again, at the January LMAC meeting, I overheard more talk about this activity, and my curiosity got the best of me. This event appeared to be the only game in town so I decided to investigate and file a report.

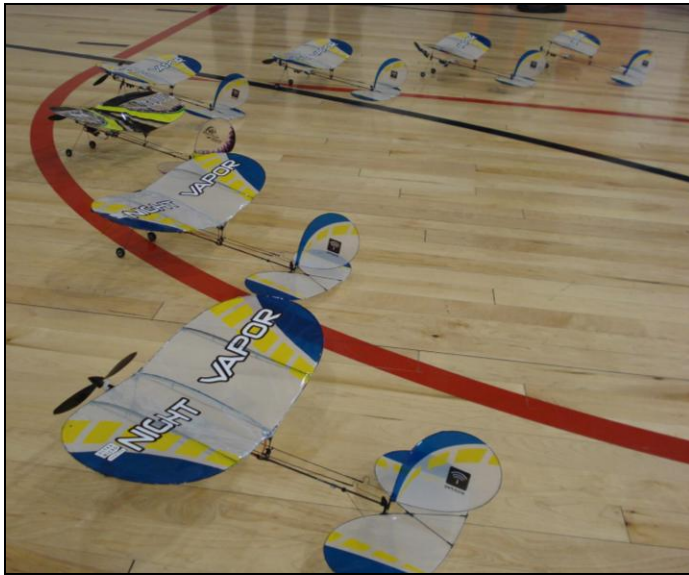
So, on Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, I infiltrated the Winchester Barnstormers group at their weekly rendezvous location - Frisch’s Restaurant in Winchester at 8:45am. Most everyone enjoys a tasty breakfast before a hard day of flying. It was obvious to me that they had been running the same routine for a long time, because the restaurant server knew everyone’s “usual” order without asking.

After a little breakfast and a lot of talk, the group headed over the local YMCA gymnasium. They rolled in to the building with boxes and boxes of indoor electric aircraft. It seemed that everyone has at least one fixed wing aircraft and one helicopter. Without much talk or delay, everyone unboxed their planes and did a mass launch with their little NightVapor aircraft. The airspace in the gym was full of the little craft with churning propellers. Everyone flew in a somewhat orderly left hand circuit around the perimeter of the gym. I was taken back with all those little planes quietly floating around, somehow avoiding mid-air collisions. It was like I had just arrived from Mars, because I have never experienced such slow paced, high energy excitement before. Wow, that is neat !!



( continued on next page )

After each group of craft completed their sorties, I was starting to calm down from all of the excitement. Just then, Dan, said, "Here, You try it" and graciously handed me his transmitter with his NightVapor poised for flight at our feet. So, with a really big smile, I carefully grabbed his transmitter and pushed the throttle up to 50%. The little propeller started beating the air. With a puff of thrust, it was quickly airborne. That was the neatest little plane I have ever seen. The little Saran Wrap wings were shimmering in the ceiling lights. I cautiously flew it in a rectangular pattern around the gym trying to stay away from damaging obstructions. The motion of the planes, reminded me of roller skaters slowly moving around a roller rink.



After a number of passes around the room, my slower craft got passed by a flight of faster moving identical NightVapors at the far corner of the gym. The light was dancing off of the cloud of little vibrating wings. As the passing formation climbed for higher altitude, my eyes followed upward to what I thought was my aircraft in the distance. Since, I did not want to risk any ceiling flying, just yet, I throttled back a bit, but the plane I was watching kept climbing. I throttled back a bit further. Just then, the little plane that I had my eye on started a bank to the left. At that point, I realized the plane I was watching, was not the plane I was "flying". I thought, now, I am in trouble! My arms holding the transmitter went limp. How is it possible to lose a slow flying plane in a gymnasium? I quickly started looking high and low for my plane. All planes in the air looked like they were well under control. Then, I spotted a lone plane sitting on the floor with the prop idling just about where the formation came through. I gave it a burst of throttle and the plane started taxiing. Wow! I found my plane! Boy, was I relieved that my borrowed plane was not stuck in the rafters or worse. I took off again and continued to fly, carefully avoiding any further encounter with those rogue formations of NightVapors. What great fun!! Many thanks to Dan for kindly sharing his plane.

( continued on next page )

After the second NightVapor sorties were completed, the event continued at a more furious pace with a variety of other planes.

Butch Krebs and Bob “Crash” Goodan put on a thrill show with some high speed flying with their matching T-28’s.



Dan Thompson flew his hotrod Mini Dakota biplane to a perfect spot landing in the basketball goal. What impressive flying skills!!



Dave Sublette flew a new type of miniature sailplane that had only rudder and throttle controls ! Heads up !! Here it comes again !!



( continued on next page )



Keith Hollifield put on a skillful aerobatic demonstration with his hot new Extra 300. It's power to weight ratio allowed it to easily hang on the prop, at will.



After two hours of flying and all batteries were discharged, we called it a day. I was able to assemble the pilots of the NightVapor Squadron for a group photo. The aviators who regularly fly these indoor missions are Dan Thompson, Butch Krebs, Bob Strosnider, Keith Hollifield, Dave Sublette, Dave Cox, Mike Lambert, Bob Goodan, Roy Foushee and George Bubnar. See more photos at.....

<http://www.lmacky.org/photovault/2011IndoorFly/2011IndoorFly.htm>

I can honestly say, we really had a great time. Since, that first rendezvous, I have been back each Thursday, and now have my own plane to fly. I am hooked !!

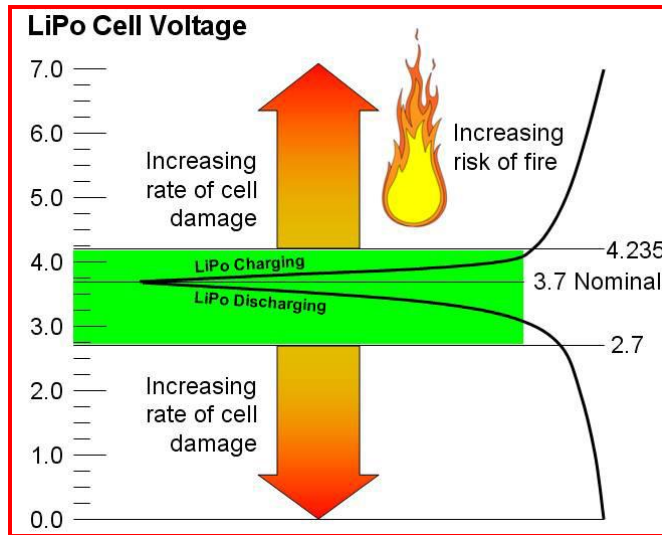
# Importance of Balancing Lithium Polymer Batteries

by Dave Buxton, the Clark County Radio Control Society, Washington



It is important to understand the many reasons to use a balancer when charging Lithium-polymer (Li-Po) batteries. Balancing will greatly reduce the risk of your batteries going bad prematurely.

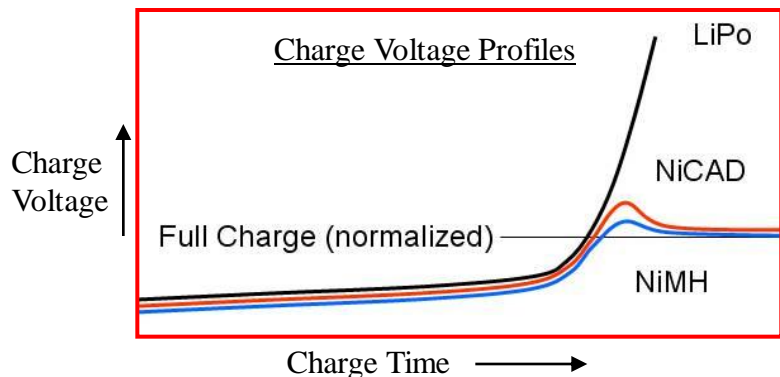
Li-Poly chemistry accumulates a charge over a fairly narrow voltage range with rapidly diminishing capacity exhibited above and below this range. This explains why the voltage rises or falls more rapidly above or below this chemistry range as shown on diagram below.



Operating outside this range of voltages will at best accelerate the aging process and can result in serious cell damage and even smoke and flame. A battery that could have lasted three years might fade away in less than a week if one cell has a significantly reduced cell capacity relative to it's mates.

Nicad and NiMH cells self-limit at full-charge voltage. At that point, they start getting hot, which is why it is very important that Nicad and NiMH chargers detect full charge and switch to a trickle charge rate.

Li-Poly cell voltage is not self limiting, which is why you should never use a Nicad style trickle charger. The diagram on the next page shows the three charging voltage curves.



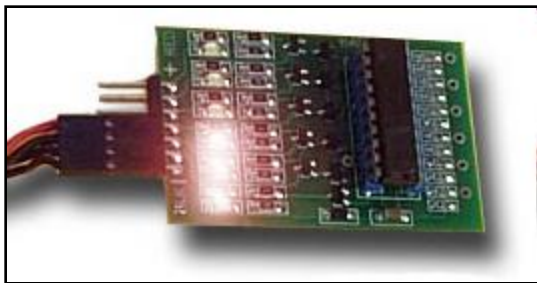
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You may be a newcomer to RC flying of indoor or park flyer airplanes on a very limited budget. This article need not scare you out of the hobby or into purchasing an expensive charging system. The smaller, simpler Li-Poly chargers do not charge batteries all the way to the top, allowing some margin for a cell being out of balance.

At least, do the following if you don't use a balancer:

- Make sure the charger is charging to an adequately conservative voltage that is less than 4.2 volts times the cell count.
- Check the cell count each time you use the charger. Wrong cell count is one of the leading reasons for smoke and fire, which has lead to car fires and houses burning down.
- Once in awhile, at full charge, use a voltmeter to confirm that none of the cells are being charged to more than 4.2 volts. If a trend is developing in that direction then its time purchase a balancer.

If the above guidelines are stretching it a bit for you to do, then you should at least add an external balancer (e.g. Astro Flight Blinky Balancer shown below).



However, consider the following limitations of an external balancer:

- May not be aggressive enough, especially for larger batteries or any battery with cells more seriously out of balance.
- An integrated balancer can easily produce an alarm if you dial in the wrong cell count. An external balancer won't do that.
- A charger with an integrated balancer will slow down or even stop the charging process whenever the balancer is not keeping up.

If your flying practice sounds anything like the following, then you should (must) use a charger with an integrated balancing system:

- Cell counts greater than three.
- High stress style of flying (e.g. lots of full throttle, hot weather, flying until the battery fades, outdoor helicopters).
- Cell capacity greater than 2100 mAh. You should at least use a Blinky external balancer.

Remember for safety and reliability reasons plan to use a balancer when charging Lithium-polymer (Li-Po) batteries.

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## ***Flight Training Program Report***

*by Bob Cooper*



At this point in the year, I am happy to report that we now have 2 new members who are eager to launch their aircraft and begin the LMAC RC flight training program, as soon as weather permits. This will be an exciting, educational and memorable experience for them.

On the instructor side, we have a total of four of us who have signed up to share our model aviation skills with the new club members.

Any member is welcome to participate by formally signing up with an email to Bob Cooper. If you don't formally sign up, I will assume you don't have interest in this activity.

If anyone has 'used' trainer airplanes and equipment that they would like to sell or donate to the training effort, then let me know. As new people join the club, this equipment would certainly make it financially easier for a young person to get started in model aviation.

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### **Next Meeting:**

***Thursday, March 10th at 7:00 PM  
VA Hospital Conference Room,  
Leestown Rd, Lexington, Ky***

**Program: "Getting To Know Your Buddy Box"  
By Bob Cooper**

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### **2011 Meeting Calendar**

***March 10, June 9, September 8, December 8  
at VA Hospital***

Regular General Club Membership meetings will be held at the VA Hospital on a quarterly basis, normally on the second Thursday of the month, unless there is a need for an additional special meeting. Newsletters will continue to be published on a monthly basis.

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**Lexington Model Airplane Club**  
**2011 Events**

Vintage Radio Control Society.....May 28,29  
 Cubs & Classics Fly-In.....June 11  
 LMAC Club Picnic.....July 9  
 LMAC 'Trainer' Top Gun Competition.....July 16,17  
 IMAC Meet/Fly-In.....July 30,31  
 U-Control.....Aug 1  
 Electric Fly-In.....August 13  
 Helicopter Fly-In.....September 9,10,11  
 Kentucky Fall Classic.....September 16,17,18  
 Swap Meet.....November 12

**Winchester Barnstormer**  
**2011 Events**

(exact dates available soon)

Harold Brown Memorial Eat .... June 5th  
 Glider Fun Fly..... July 24th  
 Barnstormer Fall Fun Fly.....October 2nd  
 Fall Indoor fun fly..... November 6th

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