

***THE CVRCA FLYER***

**Evan Cowden – Editor  
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# The CVRCA Flyer

A PUBLICATION OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA RADIO CONTROL ASSOCIATION

April 2007 News letter

CVRCA Website: <http://www.virginny.com/cvrca>

## Club Officers

President:	Gene Patzsch
Vice President:	Gary Cowden
Sec/Treasurer:	Randy Krotke
Field Marshall:	Mark Gryder
Board Member:	Sam Richardson
Board Member:	Jimmy Booth
Board Member:	Mike Dinu
Newsletter Editor:	Evan Cowden
Webmaster:	Glenn Burroughs

## Next Meeting

**Date:** 4/11/2007

**Meeting Time:** 7:00 PM

**Meeting Place:** Parks and Rec building

## CVRCA Fight Instruction Team

**Team Leader:** Jimmy Booth

**Team Airplane:** Todd Beard, Gary Cowden

**Team Helicopter:** Sam Richardson, John Clark

## For Sale

Glow Fuel by the gallon. Top Flight Contender, OS 46 engine, all servos, center flap, excellent condition, Nexstar RTF with radio, ready to go. Call Gary Cowden

## Calendar

4/21 – Teaff and Dinu mow

4/28 – Hunnicutt and Gryder mow

5/5 – Richardson and Breeden mow

5/9 – Club meeting

5/12 – Current and Thibodeau mow

5/12 – Richmond Swap Meet. **Cancelled**

5/19 – Field cleanup

5/26 – Special Needs Scouts event at the field.

6/2 – Spring Air Show

6/15 – 6/17 - 23rd Annual Ray Gordon Memorial Jumbo Fly-In, Harrisonburg.

<http://www.vrcfc.org/> for details.

7/21 – “Fun Fly” contests at the field.

## A note From the Prez

We have an exciting year ahead of us. The club has many events scheduled for the year, we are exploring a program that may help bring new people into the sport, the sign is up, and we still have our field. I look forward to seeing many of you at the field. I would like to remind everybody though that, as members, we all carry some responsibility for the club. One of those responsibilities is mowing. Last year, the membership decided that rather than raise dues to cover the cost of hired lawn care people, we would hold dues steady and perform lawn care ourselves. And indeed, if you look at other clubs, many charge membership dues in excess of \$100 per year so that they can pay people to mow. Last year, with a few exceptions, the system worked reasonably well with club officers filling in when a few members elected not to mow, a situation that was hardly fair for them. Please do not put the club in a position where we must raise dues. When it is your turn to mow, please arrange to do so or to have someone else mow for you. We have already had one member this year that did not mow when he as assigned

and did not arrange for someone to fill in, resulting in another member having to pick up the slack. If you can not mow and can not find someone to mow for you, contact me, Gary, or Mark and we will find a way to work things out. Thanks, and happy flying!

## The Jimmy Booth airplane cradle

Working on airplanes is a fine way to occupy yourself on a rainy Saturday. However, we frequently found it difficult to find a good way to hold an assembled or partially assembled airplane while you are working on. Especially difficult was hold an airplane upside down, the stabilizer really messes things up. So what to do? Switch to helicopters? Surely not. We were about ready to give up airplanes altogether in favor of training poodles to be attack dogs when, during a visit to Jimmy's airplane shop, we came across the Jimmy Booth airplane cradle. Life has not been the same since. The cradle easily holds most airplanes and wings in about any position that you could want. It is



easy to build, materials are inexpensive, it folds for storage, and is at a nice height. We added a small sheet of wood on the crossbars of ours to hold tools and such. PVC works nicely for this job and is easy to cut with just about any kind of saw. In building ours, we found that two 10' lengths of PVC, if cut with a bit of planning, resulted in almost no waste.

### Bill of materials

\*(2) 10' lengths of 1 1/2" PVC. Cut as follows:

- 4 upper legs @ 11" each
- 4 lower legs @ 20" each
- 2 crossbars @ 27" each
- 8 cradle bars @ 4 1/2" each

\* (8) 1 1/2" PVC caps

\* (8) 1 1/2" PVC 45 degree elbows

\* (4) 1 1/2" PVC T joints

\* (2) 1/4" X 3 1/2" bolts

\* (4) flat washers to fit the bolts

\* (2) nuts to fit the bolts

\* 4 feet of nylon rope

\* a handful of zip ties

\* 4 feet of pipe insulation of sufficient size to cover the pipe

You will need a drill and bits, PVC cement, and a tool sufficient to cut the pipe.

1. Glue one cap onto the end of each of the 4 lower legs.
2. Glue the remaining caps to the ends of 4 of the cradle bars
3. Glue an upper leg and a lower leg into a T such that the leg sections are parallel. Repeat for the remaining Ts and leg sections.
4. Place (do not glue) a crossbar in the remaining end of the T.
5. Lay a leg section flat on a work surface such that the crossbar that you just installed is perpendicular to the work surface.
6. Locate the center of the upper leg 2 1/2" from the top. Check again that the crossbar is parallel to the work surface and mark the spot that you located.
7. Drill a 3/8" hole through both sides of the pipe such that the hole is parallel to the crossbar.
8. Remove the crossbar
9. Repeat 4 through 9 for the remaining leg sections
10. Place a washer on a bolt, slide it through the holes on two leg sections. Place a washer and nut on the other end to secure. Finger tighten and repeat using the remaining hardware and leg sections.
11. In each leg section where 1" from where the lower leg section is connected to the T, drill a hole through all the way through the pipe such that the hole will be perpendicular to the crossbar. The hole should be just large enough for your rope to easily pass through.
12. Cut two lengths of rope, 24" each. Make a knot in one end of each length of rope. Install the rope as you see in the picture. Knot the other end such that the inside distance between the legs is 11". Trim the remaining rope.
13. Use each of the crossbars to join the T joints. We chose to not glue our crossbars in place, using screws instead, this allows the crossbars to be removed for easy storage.
14. Install an elbow at the top of each leg section. Don't glue in place yet. Install an uncapped cradle bar, then another elbow, then the capped cradle bar. Adjust the elbows such that you get the desired "U" shape. Once you are satisfied, glue in place.

15. Add the insulation to protect your plane and you are done.

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### **A bit of color in your flying day**

We recently read an article that was so wild, we just have to try it. It seems that the dye used to tie-die cloths dissolves very nicely in alcohol. So if you are bored with the way your fuel is colored, you can change it by adding tie-die. From what I have read, it will not bother your engine or fuel system, but will make your exposed fuel tank look ever so customized.

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### **The Meeting Minutes (abridged)**

The April meeting was conducted at the club field despite the less than ideal weather conditions. It was cold, windy and rainy.

Gene welcomed the club members that were present and the visitor. Gene had the visitor introduce himself (Will Jenkins). Will said he is a long time Lynchburg resident. He spoke briefly saying he was a CVRCA club member way back when the flying field was at Timberlake. He said he is anxious to get back into flying including sail planes and small glow.

Gene asked everyone if they received their March newsletter. All members present responded that they had. Gene asked if we should accept the minutes as posted in the newsletter. They were accepted with no comments.

Gene opened the floor for discussion of old business.

### **AMA TAG Program:**

Gary reported that we were the only Virginia club approved for the program. He briefly explained the TAG program for the benefit of the visitor. Gary stated that AMA will soon be sending trainers, equipment, simulators, and ideas on how to successfully implement the TAG program. The following action item was developed:

1. Gary is to report back what materials and ideas the AMA sends.

### **Special Needs Scouts:**

Mark said that there is nothing new to report on this and that a date has been set (May 26). Randy

reminded Gene that he had stated he wanted to run some basic concessions for the event.

### **Skills Database:**

Our club is composed of individuals with a wide variety of skills and talents. Randy has offered to try to capture these skills into a database so people can find out who to confer with on projects and/or problems they may have (ideally related to R/C, but not necessarily). In addition, in light of the fact that Gene is trying to promote club activities and demo's, the database could help individuals who may have ideas but lacks the skills to make the demo happen. Randy would like to start the process by asking each member to voluntarily submit any special skills or talents they may have. Gene stated that to make this easier he will include a talent/skills section in the questionnaire he is developing.

Gene took this opportunity to talk briefly about the club's wants and needs. He understands that the majority just wants a place to fly and only about 10% routinely contribute. He spoke about the Memphis club and how they have shrunk from 200 to 60 members. He talked about their fees and how they handle mowing and non-contributing members. Gene said he plans to get a questionnaire put together this summer so he may gauge member's feelings on various issues.

### **Membership Status:**

Randy was not prepared to talk about membership status in detail. He did say that Jeremiah recently joined and answered (yes/no) questions from members about who has or has not re-joined.

### **Fun Fly Event:**

Since Pete was not present, Todd Beard went over a few items related to the upcoming Fun Fly event. He talked about several planned events and that Pete has the AMA Sanction paperwork in-progress. The scheduled date of the event is July 21.

### **Sunday Morning Flying:**

Gary reported he and his sons have run some noise tests. Even though the testing was limited the results were encouraging. A 60-sized 4-stroke (properly muffled) could not be heard at the speed limit sign. Ms. Twiddy's house (our closest residential neighbor) is a good 2 times further away.

The following action items were developed:

1. Gary/Gene are to run some more tests/experiments (if deemed necessary) and report back final conclusions and recommendations during the April meeting.
2. If recommended by the team, we are to vote on this issue during the May meeting.

### **Field Search:**

Gary reported that due to the terrible weather there was no progress to report on this issue. Since this is an on-going project Gary does not have a specific action item. He will report back when something materializes.

### **Spring Cleanup / Mowing Schedule:**

It was determined no discussion was warranted on this since the dates and schedule has been put out.

This concluded old business.

### **Gene opened the floor for discussion of new business.**

#### **Late Fee**

The question was posed: What is the usefulness and fairness of the late fee. The current bylaw is:

**Article V, item 3: Members who have not paid their dues by the March club meeting will be dropped from the club until a full years dues are paid plus a \$5.00 late charge.**

Gary stated that maybe the current policy is a little unfair since there is no initiation fee (for new members). It does not seem fair that it costs more for an existing member to join late than it does for a new member to join. After some discussion it was concluded that the purpose of the late fee is to compel members to rejoin in a timely fashion. Gene concluded that we will not consider changing this policy during 2007, but may for 2008.

#### **Web site**

Randy reported that two guys that were interested in joining the club (they were both present at the March meeting) have worked on a potential new club web site (at no cost to CVRCA). The link to the web site is <http://cvrc.dmgtoday.com/>  
The guys asked to provide web services in exchange for free club membership. Randy said he told the

guys that there are no provisions for free membership in our bylaws, and that the best approach for now is for them to join, get to know us and the club and then proceed with the website (with guidance from the board). Gary stated it is important that the website is owned and operated by CVRCA. Randy agreed to contact the individuals and see where we stand on this.

### **No Mowers**

The question was posed: What do we do with people who don't show up nor make arrangements for their mowing duty. Several ideas were discussed. Do we have a "pay at the front-end" arrangement whereby an additional payment is collected with annual dues and then reimbursed when the individual mows? Gene said if we do this it won't start until 2008. Todd suggested we publish the offenders name in the news letter. It was decided that, for now at least, Gary is to print up in BIG BOLD LETTERS in the news letter that it is each person's personal responsibility to mow or make other arrangements. Gene also asked that his name be put by the statement.

### **Demonstration:**

The prop balancing demo was postponed due to wind.

### **Solo Certificates:**

Jimmy Booth was proud to announce that he had 2 solo certificates to turn over to Randy. **Evan Cowden** and **David Kirby** have soloed. Congratulations to Evan and David!!!

SAD Patch nominations: None

End of Minutes