

Silver Lining

Winter 2008
Published Quarterly

*Official Newsletter of the Holly Cloud Hoppers
Radio Control Flying Club
AMA Charter #3117*



Inside this issue:

From the Editor

Events Calendar

Misc. Club News

Safety officer report

Still Getting Young People Involved

www.hollycloudhoppers.org

Flying Field GPS location N42 48.596 W83 34.642

Be Safe. Have Fun and Don't Have Too Many Rules!

From the Editor

Scott Rhoades



Wish I had a light hearted personal story or a bit of jest humor which I typically like to share for the opening article. Honestly, I've got nothing. Michigan's economy stinks and the recent meeting wasn't exactly packed full of jolly news. For those that did not attend the annual meeting February 24th, heck even if you did attend but left a wee bit confused as to what's happening, I'll give a brief overview. I'll start off with the worst of the news and hopefully end with something you can smile at. Ok, can't sugar coat this one...The Department of Natural Resources (our landlord) raised our lease rate by a factor of five. Yes, you read that right, take what we paid last year and multiply it by FIVE and you have our new yearly lease rate. Well they have the right to do that because our lease is based on the market value of the land we use. So some number crunchers at the state say's the 1.8 acres we lease went from a value of \$9,000 per acre to \$55,000. Only our state government would think that property values in Michigan have gone up in the last couple years. I'm glad to see somebody is being optimistic.

Now don't think for a moment that the club is just going to roll over and say, "oh well, that's the hand we've been dealt". After much deliberation, and trust me it was MUCH... Wait, I don't think that horse is dead enough, beat it again... Anyhow like I said, after mucho deliberation it was concluded (by a few of us anyhow) that someone at the state just doesn't have their facts straight. Our fearless club president, Doug Pickett, and Secretary/Treasurer, Jim Finch, will present the rest of those factors to dispute this increase

and prove to our landlord that the market value is not near what they think it is. You may be wondering how the state came up with that figure in the first place and how in the %*# are these guys going to dispute it? Well, market value is based on the value of neighboring properties and look at what has gone near us in the past couple years, a truck stop and a medical supplier. Even though these properties are not directly on the borders of our flying field they are adjacent to the larger chunk of state land of which we are located. Well commercial property on a paved road with busy interstate access goes for a pretty penny these days. Armed with a stack of papers and twenty-seven 8x10 glossy photographs with circles and arrows and a paragraph on the back of each one, Jim and Doug will show that the parcel we use is a friggen swamp fronted by a narrow dirt road and our toilet doesn't flush!

Along with this new and improved rate on our lease, there were a few new and improved bylaws that the club must adopt. Jim, armed with the stack of papers and twenty-seven 8x10 glossy photographs with circles and arrows and a paragraph on the back of each one, will also plead a case against some of these must adopt rules too. These new pending bylaw changes are paraphrased as follows:

1. There must be a responsible adult, spotter (over the age of 16) to look for full scale aircraft while model airplanes are flying. Yes, this would mean no more solo flying.
2. The club must contact any local airport control tower in advance of any planned events.
3. Each pilot must sign in on a log sheet prior to flying for the day.
4. Schedule routine inspection by the state of the premises, and provide a written safety report to be submitted by 10/31 of each year.
5. Maximum flying height is not to exceed 400 feet and shall be indicated by safety signs, etc.
6. Ok, there isn't a six, but they way things are going don't be surprised if one comes up before all is said and done.

Until these are sorted out, we do not have a lease agreement with the state. Stay tuned.

► Editor, 3

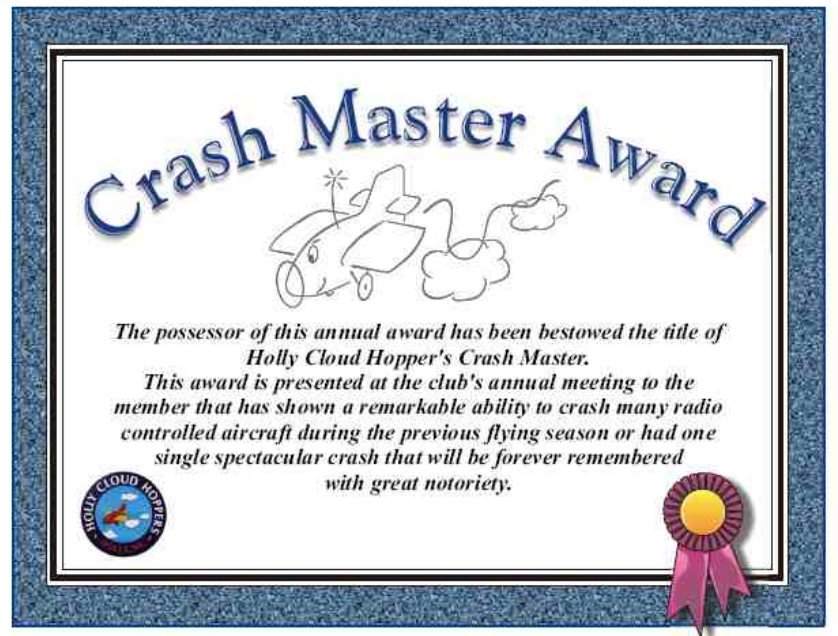
On the Cover:

Frank Robinson's new and improved wind vane for the flying field.

Photo by Frank Robinson

◀ 2 Editor:

On to lighter news from the meeting. Just before the meeting was adjourned, a new annual award was presented to Doug Pickett. Doug was presented the Crash Master Award by Frank Robinson. Taking an idea from Jeff Lambert's club in Arizona, Frank thought it would be fun to have our own rendition of what the AZ club calls Crash Gordon. Some of you may remember seeing a picture of the little whimsical statue in the [Winter 2007 issue](#) of the Silver Lining. Crash Gordon is presented at their annual banquet to the member who was known for crashing during the previous flying season. Well we don't have a one of a kind, artistic trophy to present but we do have a handsomely framed certificate that will be handed over next year to another Crash Master chosen from the HCH membership. Who knows? That just might be Doug again, and as far as I'm concerned he can have it.



Update: Well instead of rewriting the preceding article I'm taking the lazy person's way out and just adding an update to the dilemma with the lease. Nothing at printing time has been resolved with the lease amount. However it looks as though Jim has succeeded in removing the spotter requirement and the need to call the local ATC when we have an event. Hopefully we'll have a new lease agreement by the Spring Field Prep Party. So expect another club meeting at the work party, to vote on bylaw changes that, worded one way or another, may include some of the topics listed in one thru five. †

A photographer for a national magazine was assigned to take pictures of a great forest fire. He was advised that a small airplane would be waiting to fly him over the fire.

The photographer arrived at the airstrip just an hour before sundown. Sure enough a small Cessna airplane was waiting.

He jumped in with his equipment and shouted, "Let's go!"

The tense man sitting in the pilot's seat swung the airplane into the wind and soon they were in the air, though flying erratically.

"Fly over the north side of the fire," said the photographer, "and make several low-level passes."

"Why?" asked the nervous pilot.

"Because I'm going to take pictures," yelled the photographer.

After a long pause, the pilot replied, "You mean, you're not my instructor?"

From the Windom Eagles. Windom, Minnesota

Misc News

By Scott Rhoades

- The next scheduled event on the *HCH* calendar is the Spring Field Prep Party. Last year great strides were made at the spring and fall work parties in reclaiming ground lost to those nasty, thorny and fast growing Russian Autumn Olive bushes. Calling these bushes, in my opinion, is some what of a misnomer, as some in just a few years, have grown to rival trees in the area. Anyhow, a lot more warfare still needs to take place in this arena so be sure to bring battle gear of leather work gloves (gloves are a must, trust me) and chainsaws to the Spring Field Prep Party April 19th @ 10:00am. To happily keep with the wishes of a past park superintendent, we'll likely turn Chuck loose again with the brush hog on areas surrounding the field.
- Another task on the agenda at the Spring Field Prep Party is redoing the patio blocks under the pavilion. As Lauren Wenger pointed out at the meeting the blocks along the outer edges have become unstable making it very unsafe to walk. In short, the whole thing will be redone and a border will be added to keep all the blocks in place. So we'll need a couple guys to bring shovels, hoes, wheelbarrows and strong backs. The only question that lingers now is who's bringing coffee, water and doughnuts?
- During the annual meeting in February some new faces were voted in to office while others appear to be indentured forever.
Here are your 2008 club officers and act as if you care.

President	Doug Pickett
Vice President	Noah Hampton
Secretary / Treasurer	Jim Finch
Safety Officer	Tory Showek
Newsletter Editor	Scott Rhoades
- Minutes from the meeting, club financial report and club roster can all be found in the "members only" section of the *HCH* web site <http://hollycloudhoppers.org/members.html> To enter this section of the web site, type your last name in the username box and your AMA number in the password box. If you have trouble logging in, just email Larry at Larrypit@chartermi.net
- Its official, the *HCH* has entered the new millennium. The Silver Lining will no longer have a mailed version and will be distributed 100% electronically. By majority vote, a motion was passed at the meeting to make this happen. To give you an idea what this means, when I first took over doing the newsletter again in 2003, newsletter expenses for the year was \$310.17. Now starting in 2008, NL expenses will be zilch and if we can find an advertiser or two the NL could in fact reduce the burden of other expenses from membership dues.
- The club will once again have a plane, radio and engine to raffle off at the August Open House. To maximize monies from this raffle, tickets to sell will be made available to the membership at the Spring Prep Party. If you can't make it to the spring party, be sure to see Frank Robinson to get tickets to sell on behalf of the club.
- Remember the hat you received when you joined the club? Well those hat supplies ran out recently and have been replaced by a much better option at just a slight increase in cost. These new hats are embroidered instead of screen printed and by overwhelming opinion, much nicer looking too. So if you would like a nicer hat to represent the club, Jim Finch has them available for \$10 each. Keep in mind too our supplier, Blackhorse Enterprises at 810-750-9315, has the club logo (to the right) on file and can embroider it on anything you desire. Several members have also purchased polo shirts to show club affiliation. †



Calendar Events

March 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

HCH dates

Events around the area

* 2008 HCH Membership dues due to avoid late fee

April 15th

Toledo R/C Exposition

Seagate Center, Toledo OH

April 4,5,6

HCH Field Prep Party

HCH Club Field.

10:00 am

April 19th

Bald Mountain Float Fly

Skymasters, Bald Mountain Rec. Area, Trout lake.

10:00 am

May 18th

Giant Scale Fly In

Pontiac Miniature Aircraft Club

11:00 - 5:00

June 22nd

Club Fun Fly

HCH Club Field

10:00 am

June 14th

Fathers Day Airshow

Flint Aero Club, Baker Field

June 15th

HCH Open House

HCH Club Field

12:00 am

August 2nd

Big Bird Fun Fly

Flint Aero Club, Baker Field

August 2-3

Safety Report

By Tory Showek
HCH Safety officer

Wow, "Safety Officer". That has a nice ring to it. If anyone is actually reading this, yes, it's true, your long tenured club Safety Officer, Frank Robinson, has been replaced by yours truly. For the last couple of years Frank has been trying to get me into office one way or another. Last year he tried to nominate me for treasurer I graciously declined. This year, he cornered me at the Lake Fenton swap meet just hours before the annual club meeting and asked if he could nominate me for V.P. Again, I declined. So when it came time for the elections and no one nominated me for V.P., I sat back and expelled the breath that I had been holding for at least 7 seconds. But I was caught off guard the way a linebacker catches a wideout coming across the middle, when I was nominated for S.O. by the incumbent himself, Frank. Of course, it was a unanimous vote, and looking back I probably should have gone with V.P. But nonetheless, I'll try my best to keep everyone safe at the field this season by giving important reminders like "Don't stick your fingers in a spinning prop" and "Make sure you wear your safety goggles while dousing your Chili-Fly chili with Tabasco"

Anyway, here's a little about me. I've been involved in modeling, be it R/C airplanes or cars, since I can remember. My Dad was an avid modeler when I was little and I'm positive that the dope and Hobby-Poxy fumes are the reason that I'm still a nut about model airplanes 30+ years later. I've been married to my beautiful wife, Lisa, for 8 1/2 years. We have 3 kids and a dog. To support my habits, I work as a strength and durability technician for Toyota at the tech center in Ann Arbor. Most of you probably know me as "the guy with the electrics". In addition to R/C, I enjoy torturing myself on off-road motorcycles.

Now, on to the important stuff. As many of you probably already know, there was an alleged incident with a full scale at another local field last summer. This has brought about a few changes to our field as well from the State. The first change isn't really a change at all. It's the 400ft ceiling that we're supposed to maintain. This rule has been in effect for 25 yrs, by the AMA but until recently wasn't really enforced, (At least not at our club). Although according to Ed

Kincer this only applies if you are within 3 miles of a local airport. The ultimate result is keep all flying at a reasonable level and get our planes to at least tree top level or on the ground when a full scale aircraft is within sight distance of our field. Should we land if we see an airliner leaving contrails at 34,000 feet? Realistically, no but for aircraft below an altitude of a few thousand feet we need to take action, regardless of the aircraft's position and heading. It's far better to be safe than sorry.

Did anyone catch the "required, responsible adult, spotter" that was presented at the meeting as one of the rule changes required by the state? Well it turns out this requirement has been dropped. However my feeling is this is a good idea, for the sake of safety, if you are one of those people that tend to fly alone. If your heading out to the field and it's likely you will be the only one there, consider this as an opportunity to introduce a new person to our hobby. I'm sure that most of us have a neighbor or relative that has shown an interest in our addiction at some point. I know I have.

Well, that's all I have for now. Remember, be safe and THINK SPRING! †



Photo by Frank Robinson

Editor Note: Here is a picture of Tory in borrowed overalls ready to do some dirty work at the flying field.

Tory, bet you didn't expect this picture to show up in the NL?

Still Getting Young People Involved

By Scott Rhoades

Technical advisor Emily Rhoades

In the Fall 2003 issue of The Silver Lining, an article titled *Getting Young People Involved* was published. I wrote that article as a tutorial intended to close the generation gap with today's youth by introducing HCH members to current slang terms. With all the fogies in the club speaking the current lingo, youngsters will feel more comfortable hanging out at the flying field and will be more likely to get involved with R/C.

It's been a few years since the first article appeared and I'm confident those that read it have firmly incorporated those slang's into their everyday conversation, Fo-shizzle, know what I'm sayin'? However, since slang is ever evolving it is necessary to update to keep in style. Below is a list of new terms, with a description and a brief example of their use. Let's get right to the lesson, shall we?

Yo: This appeared in the first edition as a greeting and it still holds true but it is now also used as an imperative exclamation.

Example: *"What you doin' with that plane yo?"*

Oh snap: Oops, shucks, darn.

Example: *As the airplane leaves the ground. "OH SNAP! My ailerons are reversed."*

In da house: A somewhat egotistical announcement of arrival or display of ability.

Example: *After a particularly good flying session "(Insert name) is in da hooooouuse!"*

Tight: Stylish, nice.

Example: *"I like your airplane, it's tight, yo!"*

Sick: Crazy, cool, great

Example: *"That maneuver was sick, yo!"*

Represent: Show no disrespect.

Example: *"This is my flying club yo... Represent!"*

Old School: Anything from an earlier era often looked upon with high regard or respect

Example: *Designing and building your own plane from scratch is definitely old school.*

411: Information. Hence dialing 411 on the phone for information. (Note: Pronounced four-one-one. NOT four-eleven)

Example: *"Yo what's the 411 on that plane?"*

Hook up: Providing someone with an item, assistance or information.

Example: *"Bob got me the hook up on this new plane."*

Shut up: Disbelief, find hard to believe. (Replaces old term: No Way) Caution: *shut up* is still also used for; *stop talking idiot.*

Example: *"You got that engine for twenty five bucks? Shut Up!"*

► Slang, 7

◀ 6 Slang

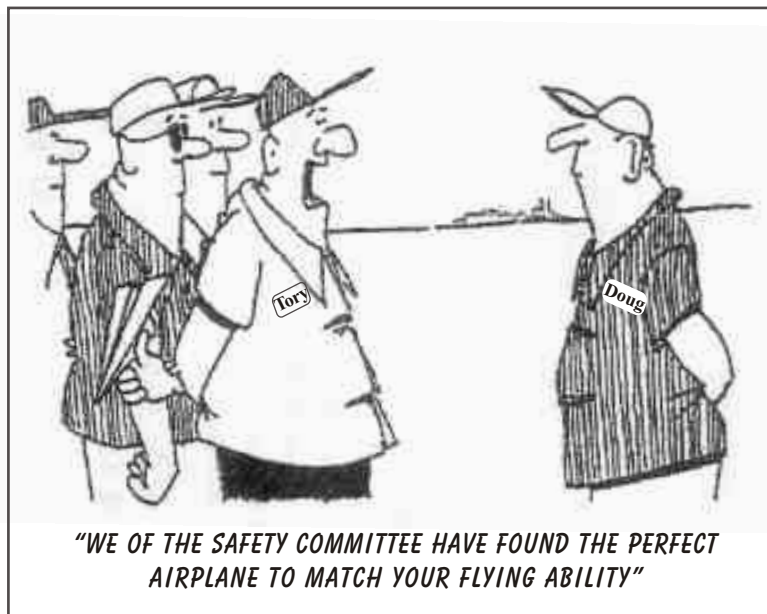
There was one detail that, in hindsight, should have been included in the first article and that's a list of slang that should have been dropped from your dialogue decades ago. Nothing creates a generation gap more than outdated slang. Some terms withstand the test of time such as: "Cool", and sometimes one will make a come back. But let's face it, some are not returning and for good reason. So if any of the following vernaculars are part of your every day speech... Knock it off!

Daddy O	Groovy	Gag me
Swell	Right on	Radical
Nifty	Jive turkey	To the max
Neat-o	Can you dig it?	Gnarly
Hi-de-ho	Gimme some skin	Wicked
Hip	Funky	Bogus
Heavy	Bitchin'	
Far out	Totally Awesome	

Incorporating the new and doing away with the old will take plenty of practice as to sound natural. So I expect all members, especially the retirees, to use this new slang, especially in conversation amongst ourselves *Yo!*

Even though the HCH web site no longer archives the 2003 newsletters, A slightly edited version of the first "Getting Young People Involved" can be found in the AMA National newsletter at <http://www.modelaircraft.org/insider/nnl/0304.pdf> †

FLYING ABILITY



From the Central Arizona Modelers, Inc., Sedona, Arizona

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