



# Propwash

Official newsletter of the Propnuts Radio Control Model Airplane Club  
Highlands, Texas

www.propnuts.com

Editor: Paul Shaffer

December 2008

## Using your head

By Lloyd Sullivan

We, as modelers, are in a hobby that is what I think most of us consider the greatest hobby in the world. It involves and requires knowledge of many different crafts such as wood-working, electronics, mechanical skills, aerodynamics, fluid mechanics, pneumatics, hydraulics, mathematics, ironing and covering, and probably a few more I cannot think of right now. You also have to possess and be able to utilize skills in responsibility, discipline, good judgement, patience, and organization just to name a few more. You have to be the kind of person who can enjoy, celebrate and learn from your successes as well as accept, deal with, and learn from your mistakes and failures. You should always be considerate of others and helpful when asked by someone who need some help or advice. All of us make mistakes at one time or another. All of us do or say things we wish we hadn't said or done. All of us have been a little too hasty or have been in just a little too big of a hurry at one time or another and the results were less than becoming. One of the most important tools we have is mounted (and usually centered) between our shoulders and makes a pretty good hat rack. I submit that, when used properly, it can cause more successes than failures and keep us from doing the things we all wind up regretting doing. Consider what effect your actions or words may have on others. Determine if what you are about to do is safe for you and all around you. Stop for just a few seconds and access

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Last months silhouette was Vann Duke.  
Who is this?

## Club Officers:

**President:** Allan Smith  
**V. President:** Marty Mankinen  
**Secretary:** Tas Crowson  
**Treasurer:** Mike Irwin  
**Safety Officer:** Charles Stevens  
**Directors:** Bill Stevens  
David Peterson  
Blake Shelly

## Coming Events

**Christmas Party**  
December 16, 2008  
7:00 pm  
Monument Inn  
4406 Battleground Rd.  
Houston TX

## NEW PRODUCTS / HOT ITEMS:

**SANYO eneloop AA -  
READY-TO-USE RE-  
CHARGEABLE BATTERIES !!**  
**Brand new Ni-MH formula-  
tion - 1.2 volt 2000mAh ca-  
pacity. THEY RETAIN 80% OF  
THEIR CHARGE FOR UP TO  
A YEAR, AND CAN BE RE-  
CHARGED IN NI-MH CHARG-  
ERS !**

**Happy Birthday**  
**To these members in**  
**December**  
**Ron Etzel**  
**Marilyn Stevens**

## PROP-NUTS R/C CLUB, INC. Minutes of the Meeting Held

**November 18, 2008**  
**Highlands Community Center,**  
**Highlands, Texas**

The meeting was called to order at 7:37PM.  
Thirteen members signed the attendance log.

**Minutes:** As published in the newsletter.  
**MOTION:** By Marty Mankinen, second by Bill Blakeney to approve the October minutes as published, Approved by a show of hands.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Mike Irwin gave the treasurers report.  
**MOTION:** By Marty Mankinen to approve the treasurers report, Second by David Schmidt. Motion approved by a show of hands.

**OLD BUSINESS:**  
Membership matters were discussed.

The Christmas party will be at the Monument Inn again this year. The date is December 16 at 7 pm. Allen will mail out invitations and RSVP for a head count will be appreciated.  
**MOTION:** By Marty Mankinen to approve the expenditure of \$250 for door prizes, motion seconded by Bill Blakeney. Motion passed by a show of hands.

President Smith presented Marty Mankinen with the raffle prize from the October Big Bird event.

**Field Maint.**  
Field upgrade and maintenance work will be deferred until after the first of the year. The dirt work and ditch cleanout may be a possible exception.

**Safety:**  
**NEW BUSINESS:**  
The possibility of providing a secure lost

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and found box at the field was discussed.

David Schmidt proposed purchasing a brick on AMA's walk of fame to honor Charles Stevens. This was discussed and other ideas were also proposed. It was decided to continue the idea next year.

**Board Election:** The ballots for next years Board were counted and the results were: Allen Smith, Taswall Crowson, Michael Irwin, David Peterson, Blake Shelley, Marty Mankinen, Martin McCoy, and Dan Jenkins.

**ENTERTAINMENT:**

**MODEL OF THE MONTH:**

Bill Blakeney presented a Goldberg Gentle Lady with a OS LA10 for power.

Marty Mankinen brought a Goldberg SU 31 with Hitec and JR

digital servos, Futaba PCM radio for guidance and will be home for the BME 50 engine he won at the Big Bird event.

Bill was declared the winner.

**AIRCRAFTUS FRAGMENTUM:**

Mike Irwin lost his Pacific Planes YAK inverted, no wind, no altitude, no airspeed, and no ideas.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Taswall G. Crowson, Jr.  
Secretary



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the situation and **THINK** about it. Something as simple as stopping for a second or two to check the wind direction before you just jam the throttle and take off. Check to make sure the runway is completely clear before you take off. Maybe consider the fact that other pilots cannot hear you announce your intentions. We all have to use our head if we are to be successful in our hobby. Anything less will only get you a lot of broken airplanes and reduces your credibility and respect from your peers to zero. All of us are guilty of doing dumb stuff, all of us are guilty of saying dumb or hurtful things. I do not believe that any one of us would do it on purpose but we, as humans, still do it. Use your head, it is one of the most important assets you have. Our hobby depends on it.

**Always:**

- Check that the engine is **NOT** running **before** you stick your hand through the prop arc.
- Check that you **are** about to take off or land **into** the wind.
- Check that the runway is clear **before** you take off or land.
- Think about how to do a crosswind takeoff or landing **before** you do either.
- Check that you have the **correct** frequency pin **before** you turn on your transmitter.
- Check that you have the **right transmitter** for the pin you have.
- Check that your computer radio is set to the **correct** plane.
- Check that your controls **are** going the right direction.
- Check The direction of the pattern **before** you take off.
- Check to ensure that the big emblem on your sweatshirt is on the back **before** you come out of your motel room on a fly-in trip.
- Check to make sure someone you are considering to be a friend has never left **his** friends stranded in a hotel room without keys while **HE** went to eat free Gumbo in someone else's vehicle.

Ok, you get the idea. There are many more you could list if you **USE YOUR HEAD**.



Marty Mankinen brought a Goldberg SU 31 with Hitec and JR digital servos, Futaba PCM radio for guidance and will be home for the BME 50 engine he won at the Big Bird event.

Bill Blakeney presented a Goldberg Gentle Lady with a OS LA10 for power.

Helicopters can't fly; they're just so ugly the earth repels them.

Every takeoff is optional. Every landing is mandatory.

You know you've landed with the wheels up if it takes full power to taxi to the ramp.

Good judgment comes from experience. Unfortunately, the experience usually comes from bad judgment.



# Odyssey R/C Hobbies



- \*R/C Airplanes
- \*Cars
- \*Boats
- \*Rockets
- \*Plastics
- \*HO & N Scale Trains
- \*Educational/Science Kits
- \*Paints and Glues
- \*Tools & Wood Supplies

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 281-557-1424  
 at I-45 and Nasa Parkway

M-Sat 10:00am to 7:00pm  
 Sun 12:00pm to 5:00pm

