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# The Transmitter

Suburban RC Barnstormers - P.O. Box 524, Bloomingdale, IL 60108

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April 2007

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<http://www.suburbanrcbarnstormers.com>

## Coming in April and May

April 7<sup>th</sup>, Swap Shop, Dupage County Fairgrounds

April 9<sup>th</sup>, Club Meeting – Static Contest, 7:00pm, Bloomingdale Library

April 12<sup>th</sup>, Dome Fun Fly, 11:00pm – 1:00am, White Pines Golf Dome

April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Board Meeting, 7:00pm, Bloomingdale Library

May 14<sup>th</sup>, Club Meeting, Club Member Meeting, 7:00pm, Bloomingdale Library

May 20<sup>th</sup>, Fun Fly #1, Pratt's Wayne Woods, 9:00am Trim Flights, 10:00am Start

## April Raffle – 6 Channel FM Radio

Get ready for the outdoor fun flies with a new six-channel FM radio. This month's club raffle will be for a Futaba 6EXAS. This radio includes 3 servos and a dual conversion 6 channel receiver. It sells for \$180, but \$1 could take it home. We will roll until it goes!



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## Barnstormers Hold RC Swap Shop at Dupage Fairgrounds Saturday April 7th

This year our annual Swap Shop will be held at the Dupage County Fairgrounds on Saturday April 7<sup>th</sup>. In the past, we have held our event in the Home Economics building, but this year, the event will be in the large building because of a booking conflict. We will be sharing the building with a cat show, so take your allergy medicine! We will have dozens of vendors and individuals selling both new and used RC and related items. It's a great time to get nuts and bolts, new batteries, radios, engines, or even complete ready to fly aircraft. Don't miss it!

On the flip side, it takes lots of help to make the Swap Shop work. Debbie Howe has spent countless hours making arrangements with the fairgrounds and contacting vendors to

participate at the event. But on Friday before the event and during the event on Saturday, she needs lots of additional help to make the event work. Friday the tables need to be set up, arranged and numbered. If you can help, stop by the fairgrounds between 4:30pm and 6:00pm.

On Saturday, the busiest time is in the morning as the vendors are moving their wares into the building. If you can help on Saturday, please come by around 6:30am to help the vendors between 7:00am and 8:00am. But help is also needed during the event to help with food and raffle sales. And of course, the event is not over until the last table is put away. So please stick around for the event tear down. See you there!

# April Static Model Competition

By Scott Taylor

Our April meeting will once again be host to a hanger full of model airplanes of all sizes and shapes. It is time for the annual Static Model Competition. This event lets members bring in their latest and greatest models to be shown to all. Members get to size up all these great flying machines and then vote for their favorites.

We have had four model categories that past few years, but the hobby is always changing, and so do we! At the last Board meeting we talked about the ARF category as including a significant number of models. So, this year, we will add a fifth category by splitting the ARF category.

So, the categories will include a "Giant" category, consisting of planes with engines larger than approximately .61. We will have an "40 and Over" category with engines from .40 through roughly .60. There will be an "Under 40" category that would include most of the models with engines under .40 or electric. Keep in mind, when it comes to electric power, the new motors come in all sizes, so feel free to enter your model in a category with models of similar size.

Finally, the ARF category will be split into large and small sized models. The break will probably be "Over 60" and "Under 60", but because we will not know what kind of kits will show up, the break may be adjusted the evening of the event.

It is always great to be able to look over the handy work of your fellow modelers, but it is even better to have an entry (or more) of your own. So, please bring out your winters hard labors and share them with the club. We love seeing them all, your model doesn't have to be the best of show.

There are a few rules, but they are simple. Your model must be radio controlled, you must have built 51% of the model yourself, and the model cannot have won a first place in our static contest anytime in the past. This competition is primarily for the enjoyment of our members, so we are not purists when it come to categories. If you have a kit that borders two categories, you may choose the one you wish to participate in.

So don't miss that chance to critic your fellow modelers work, and maybe even learn a few things about building in the process. See you there!

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## Dome Fun Fly Report – Plus Next Event Thursday April 12<sup>th</sup>

By Ron Hilger

The March Cat and Mouse event was a blast. Of the thirty two in attendance, fifteen pilots took the challenge. We had three groups of five and flew two rounds. Each group was made up of four cats and one mouse. Your's truly missed the ribbons and pounced directly on the back of mouse PJ bringing both planes to the deck. In spite of this, the mice still came out on top, nineteen to six.

The April fun fly will be "Balloon Bust" combat. Trying to break a gyrating balloon that is being towed from the end of a ten-foot string should be quite a challenge.

There will be five planes in the air for two minutes trying to break each other's balloon. One point will be awarded for each "kill". We will try for two rounds. As usual, there will be plenty of hot pizza and soft drinks for all.

The grab table will include three mystery prizes, one will be a Spektrum DSM2 6-channel receiver. All you have to do is guess which one.

Five Cox War birds, two Flatan's, an Electrify M6 Zero, and a bunch of other great grabs will also adorn the table. Don't miss this one, it's the last indoor fun fly of the season!

# Notes of the Suburban RC Barnstormers Membership Meeting

March 12, 2007

## ATTENDANCE

There were 45 members, one returning member and several visitors.

## OFFICER REPORTS

**President: Mert Mischnick** presided over the proceedings of the meeting.

**Vice President: Steve Dietrich** said the door prize for the evening was a micro infrared controlled helicopter. The rollover prize for the evening was a Mini Ultra Stick PNP (Plug and Play). This plane is ready to fly with the engine and servos mounted and adjusted. The only thing that needs to be added is the receiver.

Steve also added that he had picked up the club scanner from Hugo. This scanner was purchased before the RC frequencies were blocked as on later models. This will be useful for monitoring the FM frequencies at events.

**Treasurer: Bob Elsner** discussed a number of items that are noted elsewhere in this report.

**Secretary: Scott Taylor** sent around and asked members to review the 2007 membership list to make sure no one was missed. Scott also said there were extra copies of the last newsletter.

## COMMITTEES

**Fun-Fly: Ron Hilger** said the event for the next dome Fun Fly would be a Tom and Jerry event. With the cats chasing the mouse. The mouse would have two streamers on the wingtips and all cats would be in pursuit. Ron said there would be 5 Cox Warbirds as prizes among other things. The last event for the season would be Crazy 8's. Tune in for details.

**Safety: Tom Lyons** had printed some of our club Safety Flyers for members to pick up. This flyer deals with more than just safety and has some great tip on flying and operating at our field. If you would like an electronic version of the flyer, let Tom know.

Tom had some comments for those flying in the dome. First and foremost, if you're not comfortable flying in the traffic, wait until things slow down (they always do). Also, follow the same rules you would outside. Call your take offs and landings and observe the general pattern around the patch. If you are "hot-dogging", keep your activity high and in the center of the dome where you are clearly visible. There is a shadow line on the "turf" created by the lights behind the upper golf decks. Everything behind this line should be considered the non-flying area.

Another thing to consider as flyers move from indoors to outdoors. Be sure to carefully check your airplanes, radios, and batteries before the first flights of Spring!

**Spektrum Radios: Glen LaRocco** talked about the recent article by the AMA that raised concerns about frequency controls and Spektrum brand radios. Because the Spektrum does not have channels associated with it, there is no reason to put up a frequency pin, or is there? The AMA was concerned members would get out of the habit of posting pins, which could lead to forgetting to place a pin when switching back to an FM radio. Our club is strongly recommending posting pins by flyers using Spektrum radios in either the instructor or HAM frequency spots on the stand.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

**Meeting Location Change: Bob Elsner** said the Library had informed us, that the months the meeting room will be unavailable had changed. Instead of July and August, it will now be August and September. It is currently planned to hold the meetings at the field for those two months. However, because it will be getting dark sooner in September, the meeting time will be moved up to 6:30p. In the event of bad weather, the meetings would be held at the shelter on the west side of the preserve.

**Fuel Purchase: Bob Elsner** said the bulk fuel order information and prices were printed in the last newsletter. He passed an order sheet around and said fuel would be delivered in May.

**Dome Flying: Jeff Peca** said the last dome flights would be on Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup>. Jeff also reported on the all night dome fly in. There were 62 pilots registered. Big thanks go to the volunteers that keep things running smooth and the many supporters including Pit Pros, Strictly RC, Hobby Town, and True RC. The evening was also very profitable for the club with about \$900 added to our treasury.

**April 7<sup>th</sup> Swap at Fairgrounds: Debbie Howe** went over some of the final details for the event. Help will be needed both Friday and Saturday. On Friday afternoon, tables need to be set up and numbered. Saturday, help will be needed throughout the day, but particularly early in the morning (between 7a and 8a), when help is needed moving items in for vendors. Help is needed starting around 6:00am on Saturday until everything is torn down after Noon. The Swap hours are from 8am until 12pm.

Debbie said she was also looking for anyone that might have "A" frame style signs that could be put up at key locations on the day of the event.

**April Static Contest: Scott Taylor** said the next meeting would be the annual static airplane contest. The event would be similar to last years event with categories for large, medium, and small remotely controlled aircraft, and another category for ARFs (please note that at the Board meeting prior to the event, it was decided to split the ARF category into "Giant" and others

**New Logo:** Everyone was in agreement that **Dan Naumowicz's** logo was really on track. **Keith Egging** offered to produce a couple of variations for the next meeting so we could pick a final version.

### HINTS AND KINKS

**Keith Egging** did another silent demonstration (well almost silent) showing that before you throw out that

old broken mouse, monitor cable, or keyboard. It can be a great source of high quality wire that is just the right size for use on RC aircraft. Just strip away the outer jacket and separate the inner wires. Best of all, its FREE!

### PLANES

**Tom Lyons** showed off a SPAD made from a single sheet of coroplast. This wide arrow shaped plane was built by Tom for the upcoming SPAD Fest in Iowa. It looks pretty neat, but hasn't flown yet.

**Jerry Jeske** brought in an old "Easybuilt" Hornet. It was covered in silkspan and powered by an Olsen .23 motor.

### PRIZES

**Glen LaRocco** was the winner of a Thanksgiving turkey. **Dave West** took home the micro helicopter door prize. **Jeff Mrachek** took home the Mini Ultra Stick raffle prize!

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## Work Stands Installed at the Flying Field

By Mert Mischnick

On Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, a few good men from the Suburban R/C Barnstormers danced between the raindrops and installed the Run-Up stands at our field in Pratts-Wayne Woods.

Skip Carino made these stands and donated them to the club some time ago. It took a while to get Forest Preserve authorization, then more time to get a crew together at a time which suited the busy schedules of the construction crew. All the material was gathered, and the crew assembled, and the DuPage Forest Preserve Rep. was satisfied that we were in compliance with the regulations and so the stands are up!

A big thanks to all who participated in the tasks at hand. The members who were at the field to fly Sat. A.M. eagerly volunteered to help and the work went smoothly. Scott Hurley, Jim Scahill, and Mert volunteered their vehicles, tools, and talents, then enlisted the services of all the flyers who came out to the field to enjoy a day of flying. It was a major change in the plans of the flyers, but they really helped a LOT. Digging out the sod was probably the most exhausting of the jobs, and took the energy of a few of the 'younger set'. The talent of our Landscaper (Scott) and Carpenter (Jim)

and Retard (Mert), and got the whole job done in a first class manner.

A few pix show the work in progress and the finished product. Get out to the field and see for yourself how well this job turned out.



# The Transmitter

This newsletter is published monthly by the Suburban RC Barnstormers, Inc.

We reserve the right to edit all information forwarded to us. Permission is hereby given to reprint any article that we publish as long as proper credit is given.

Material can be submitted for publication: (1) at a meeting, (2) by mailing to Suburban RC Barnstormers, Inc., P.O. Box 524, Bloomingdale, IL 60108, (3) sending it to the email of the editor, Scott Taylor, at [taylorstr@core.com](mailto:taylorstr@core.com)

Articles must be received by the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

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