

PROPWASH

St. Peters Propnuts
An AMA Chartered Club

Propnuts Monthly Newsletter

May 13, 2004

Visit our Web Site www.propnuts.net

Volume 26 Issue 5



**President's
Plug**

**By
John Bolesta**

If there's anything you want to add to the agenda, call or write:
jbolesta@hotmail.com or
(636) 561-2111.

May is here and with it comes warmer weather, Friday cookouts at the field and our fifth meeting of the year. Let's show off some new models, share some new stories and be ready to decide on whether to have indoor or outdoor meetings this summer. See you on May 20.

**See you at the meeting Thursday
May 20, 2004 at 7:00 PM!!**

Next Meeting

Thursday

May 20, 2004

7:00 PM

**St. Peters
Senior Citizens Center**

Open Topics

See You There!



The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by the Club President John Bolesta with 4 Officers and 14 Members present.

The minutes of the March meeting were accepted as published in the April newsletter.

The Treasurers Report was accepted as read.

Field Report: The Field is in good shape. Leo Jones filled in some of the low spots in the pit area.

Safety Report - use tie downs when starting and running engines.

Guest: Steve Read He is building a stinger 40.

Old Business: None

New Business -Friday night is club get together night at the field. Christy BBQ first Friday in May.

Training night is going to be on Tuesday's.

Looking for speaker at a special needs school. Gary Frost volunteered.

Tech Talk- John Bolesta gave a demonstration on making and using water slide decals. Can be made using either deskjet or laser printers. Material can be found at [Bell Decals](#).

Joe Harris had his Japanese Zero Pictured in the AMA Magazine.

Show and Tell: Greg Weseman Twin Something Extra [Pictures](#)

John Rawlings UC 78 [Pictures](#)

50/50 Drawing- Sam Piazza.

Attendance Prizes 2 \$10.00 Gift Certificates compliments Mark Twain Hobby:

Greg Weseman

John Rawlings

Announcements - Wright Flyers

Float Fly May 29

See attached Flyers for more information.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM

Door Prizes compliments

**MARK TWAIN
HOBBY**

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Emergency Safety Alert: Lithium Battery Fires **(Added 4/23/04)**

Lithium batteries are becoming very popular for powering the control and power systems in our models. This is true because of their very high energy density (amp-hrs/wt. ratio) compared to Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cds) or other batteries. With high energy comes increased risk in their use.

The principal risk is fire which can result from improper charging, crash damage, or shorting the batteries. All vendors of these batteries warn their customers of this danger and recommend extreme caution in their use. In spite of this many fires have occurred as a result of the use of Lithium Polymer (Li-Poly) batteries, resulting in loss of models, automobiles, and other property. Homes and garages and workshops have also burned. A lithium battery fire is very hot (several thousand degrees) and is an excellent initiator for ancillary (resulting) fires. Fire occurs due to contact between lithium and oxygen in the air. It does not need any other source of ignition or fuel to start, and burns almost explosively.

These batteries must be used in a manner that precludes ancillary fire.

The following is recommended:

1. Store and charge in a fireproof container, never in your model.
2. Charge in a protected area devoid of combustibles. Always stand watch over the charging process. Never leave the charging process unattended.
3. In the event of damage from crashes, etc., carefully remove to a safe place for at least a half hour to

observe. Physically damaged cells could erupt into flame. After sufficient time to ensure safety, damaged cells should be discarded in accordance with the instructions which came with the batteries. Never attempt to charge a cell with physical damage regardless of how slight.

4. Always use chargers designed for the specific purpose, preferably having a fixed setting for your particular pack. Many fires occur in using selectable/adjustable chargers improperly set. Never attempt to charge lithium cells with a charger that is not specifically designed for charging lithium cells. Never use chargers designed for Ni-Cd batteries.
5. Use charging systems that monitor and control the charge state of each cell in the pack. Unbalanced cells can lead to disaster if it permits overcharge of a single cell in the pack. If the batteries show any sign of swelling, discontinue charging and remove them to a safe place—outside—as they could erupt into flames.
6. Most important: NEVER PLUG IN A BATTERY AND LEAVE IT TO CHARGE UNATTENDED OVERNIGHT. Serious fires have resulted from this practice.
7. Do not attempt to make your own battery packs from individual cells. These batteries cannot be handled and charged casually such as has been the practice for years with other types of batteries. The consequence of this practice can be very serious and result in major property damage and/ or personal harm.
—AMA Safety Committee

Reprinted from the AMA Site

Thought for the Day

"Time is the coin of your life. It is the only coin you have, and only you can determine how it will be spent. Be careful lest you let other people spend it for you."

- Carl Sandburg

School Demonstration

Gary Frost with assistance of John Bolesta gave a presentation at Independence Elementary School at the request of the teacher.

After a brief classroom session showing the fundamentals of model airplane flight everyone moved outdoors. John brought an electric rc model to show rc functions and Gary showed a control line model. Outside, John briefly flew the electric (in too strong a wind) while Gary readied his demo. Gary gave an excellent control line aerobatic demonstration. then, about 15 students were allowed to fly with Gary on his dual control setup. John commented, The kids were very attentive, interested, and seemed to enjoy and appreciate all that we did.

We answered questions from the students.

The following is a letter from the Teacher:

To the PROPNUITS Aviation Club,

I wanted to let you know what a wonderful presentation we had today at Independence Elementary from Gary Frost and John Bolesta. My students had a great

time and were introduced to an exciting hobby! How kind of these two gentlemen to give us the gift of their time and expertise. I'm attaching a couple of photographs that the students took today. Thanks again.

Sincerely,
Linda Cokley
Spectra facilitator
Independence Elementary



Greg Weseman and his Twin Something Extra. Dual Receiver/Battery 9 Servos Wt. 9 Lbs Wing span: 53" Power two OS 46 AX.



John Rawlings and his UC 78 under Construction. Power: Two OS 25 LA Wingspan 68" Wt. About 3 Lbs. As it sits. Covered with silk and dope.

The Swap Shop



FOR SALE

RealFlight G2 Flight Simulator

8 Months Old in Box

USB Interlink Controller

Add-Ons Volumes 3 and 4

JR and Futaba Transmitter Adapter Cords

\$175.00

(Frank) Jimmy Douglas 636-528-3811

FOR SALE

Hobbico Superstar Select Trainer RTF

60" wing Span

OS .40 LA Engine

4 Channel Futaba Radio System

New In The Box

\$200.00

Clint Spivey (cspivey@eden.edu)

If you have anything in the area of R/C Aircraft or Accessories you want to sell submit them to me at propnuts@propnuts.net or regular mail:

Propnuts

710 Barbara Dr.

O'Fallon, Mo. 63366

and I will put them in the newsletter. Pictures are encouraged.

I can also put them on the WEB Site.
