



THE FLIGHTLINE



AMA CLUB 668 SINCE 1968
RACINE RADIO CONTROL CLUB INC SINCE 1968

RRCC March Issue
Next Meeting March 16, 2020

WE ARE ON THE WEB
www.racinerclub.com

Club Officers

President

James Litwin
262-637-2787 (Cell 262-939-7926)
president@racinerclub.com

Vice President

Roger Nickolaus
414-761-1907 (Cell 414-405-8004)
vp@racinerclub.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Ed Witt
262-764-6344
secretary@racinerclub.com

Field Chairman

“Hoss” Hossalla
414-651-0968
field@racinerclub.com

Safety Officer

Dan Pozel
262-939-0548
safety@racinerclub.com

Tractor Chairman

Eric Armantrout
262-498-1035
tractor@racinerclub.com

Compost Director

Jerry Rose
262-639-6711
compost@racinerclub.com

Webmaster

Justin Francisco
414-484-4574
web@racinerclub.com

Newsletter Editor

Dennis Vollrath
262-639-6362 (Cell 262-994-6342)
newsletter@racinerclub.com

Racine R/C Club Meeting Minutes

Sunday: February 16, 2020

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: R/C Flying Field

Open Meeting - President Jim Litwin called the meeting to order of the Racine R/C Club.

Welcome - New Members & Guests – None
Minutes - Last Meeting – There were no additions or corrections to last month’s minutes.

Reports

President – Jim started the meeting by again reminding us of our need for taking immediate action regarding the proposed FAA rule changes. He again summarized the rule changes and how they might affect us.

Time was taken to distribute preprinted letters written by Denny and Jim voicing our concerns to the rule changes. The members present were encouraged to sign and send the letters in to the FAA. (Letters and labels provided by Roger.)

Jim also briefly commented on posts found on Facebook and other social media by Frank Tortino, about an organization, Professional Modelers Association, who are offering themselves as an alternate organization to the AMA, concerning the FAA rule changes.

The posts certainly appeared to be soliciting AMA members to shift to them as the hobby’s voice. Jim expressed his concerned about the new organizations recognition with the FAA and financial standing to back required insurance for flying sites.

For those who have not renewed their membership Jim solicited them to do so soon as gate codes will be changed March 1st.

Vice President – Roger reminded everyone of the upcoming club banquet to be held on Saturday March 7th. For those attending please sign up and submit payment.

Secretary / Treasurer – Ed reported that membership was now at 42 broken down as; 10 Regular, 26 Senior, 4 Junior and 2 Non-Flyer.

Safety Officer - Dan had nothing to report.

Field Chairman – Hoss had nothing to report

Newsletter Editor – Denny had extra copies of Newsletter

Tractor Chairman - Eric had nothing to report

Compost Director – A reminder was made to sign up for compost duty if not already done. Please consider a 6 hour shift to help cover the expected short fall in covering our coverage responsibilities.

Web Master- Justin reintroduced the “Band” web app and the benefits to the club as a secure means to communicate a variety of notices, information and messages between members. Since the sign up and start up of the new app was

being problematic Justin mentioned he was making himself available after the meeting to assist.

Old Business – None

New Business – Jim now introduced the sole item of new business to be addressed. This being the nominations and voting on the four club Awards to be presented at the banquet. Before each category was opened for nominations Jim recapped the criteria and some of the past winners.

Craftsmanship nominees- Rich, Buzz, Roger, Hoss, Denny

Sportsmanship nominees- Tryge, Eric, Hoss, Roger

Golden Propeller nominees- Tryge, Hoss, Roger, Denny, Eric

Instructor- elected by instructors amongst themselves

New Pilots – None

Show & Tell – Denny had on display a pair of vortex's he made on his 3d printer to be utilized as cowl air outlets for a plane under construction by Jerry.

Raffle Drawing – none

Close Meeting – Jim closed the meeting at 1:30 with a reminder that the next meeting was on Sunday March 15, 2020 at 1:00PM.

JIM'S CORNER

Warmer weather is starting to pop up, but I am sure the snow is not done yet. The warmer weather sure brings thought of summer flying again.

The lock codes were changed on Sunday, March 1st, and those who did not renew their membership yet will be dropped from the regular mailings of the Newsletter.

At the February meeting, the membership voted on the recipients of the club annual awards, which were presented at the clubs annual banquet on Saturday,

March 7th at the Roma Lodge. The winners for the 2019 awards were:

Craftsmanship Award - Darrell Hossalla

Instructors Award - Darrell Hossalla

Sportsmanship Award - Trygve Smalley

Golden Propeller Award -Trygve Smalley

Congratulations to our winners.

I met with Mt. Pleasant DPW Foremen, Mark Benish, and “AT THIS TIME”, there are no plans for a Monday compost site drop off for residents.

A big thank you goes out to all the members who sent in a letter or a communication of some kind to the FAA concerning their proposed plan to regulate our RC hobby. At least we can say we tried. We will have to see what happens now!

We can't say it often enough, but start checking out your flying equipment. How

old are your batteries. That means transmitter and receiver batteries. New ones are cheap compared to the loss of a plane due to battery failure.

Our next club meeting is Sunday, March 15th at 1 PM at the field.

Fly Safe & Have Fun
Jim Litwin President

Denny's Stuff

Well, the snow is mostly gone from our field lately. So far, so good. Your editor managed to get a few flights on his ski equipped "Flex" model, along with a few more flights on his ski equipped Kantana model.

That Kantana model is 7 years old, still flying quite well, still flying on its original 6S2P 5000 mah A123 battery pack. That 7 year old pack still flies like a brand new battery pack.

FYI, just about everyone in our RC club has gone to these two cell A123 2500 mah battery packs for receiver power. They are using a single 2 cell 2500 Mah A123 receiver battery along with a high quality receiver switch for gas models of 15 and 20 cc. And, they are using a pair of 2500 mah A123 battery packs for gasers of 30 to 80 cc, finally, a pair of 2S2P A123 battery packs for models over 80 cc.

For two battery packs, they are each wired to a high quality receiver switch, and each switch is plugged into the receiver as primary/backup battery packs. **DO NOT SCRIMP ON THOSE SWITCHES!** I've done enough testing that I won't use any slide switch for receiver power in any of my models.

I build up my receiver switches using this switch from www.digikey.com. These are locking type toggle switches that are rat-

ed for use in high vibration locations. They also have spring loaded pure silver contacts.

Double Pole, Double Throw Locking Type

<https://www.digikey.com/product-detail...834-ND/1006913>

Four Pole, Double Throw Locking Type

<https://www.digikey.com/product-detail...871-ND/1006949>

These cells are designed to be fully charged at the end of the flying day, ready to go next day, next week, next month. I just topped off a 7S2P 5000 mah A123 pack used for electric motor power in my TurboBushmaster. That battery pack was last charged in October 2019. It took 115 mah to top it off last Sunday. That's 2.3% over five months on the shelf.

These A123 packs last many many years with little loss of performance.

If you want to build up your own pack, you absolutely need to buy a high powered temperature regulated 100 Watt soldering iron with a 3/8 inch diameter iron plated tip. I've built up hundreds of cells over the years, and this iron is the only one that does the job reliably.

Weller Iron Mouser

<https://www.mouser.com/Search/Refine...Keyword=w100pg>

And, below are photos of how I build up those two cell A123 packs. A123 systems sells those cells for under \$8.00 each minimum order of 5 pieces, plus shipping.

A123 cell supplier (Order soon, A123 systems is down to 29,000 cells) <https://a123batteries.com/anr26650m1...phate-battery/>

FYI, don't ever dead short these cells. They will happily turn the #20 servo wires red hot, melting the insulation off of the wires. And be non the worse for wear if you don't run the cells completely flat.

Happened three times in our RC club over the past couple of years. Yeah, one of them was your editor.

Dennys stuff

More on those receiver battery packs.

As many members of our RC club are aware, your editor has purchased one of those \$180.00 West Mountain CBA4 battery analyzers.

Yes, this unit is expensive, but I've had one of these units for 10 years now, and have used it to conduct countless discharge tests on a wide variety of the batteries used in our RC models.

That includes the NiMH cells, LiFe's LiPo's, A123's, even those AA sized al-

kaline cells.

These discharge tests involves placing a battery load current on the battery pack, and monitoring the battery voltage as the pack slowly discharges to the minimum value specified by the person conducting the test.

The CBA battery analyzer can discharge currents up to 40 Amps, up to a maximum discharge power of 150 Watts.

The analyzer then provides a graph of the voltage versus time of the battery under test per a sample below.

NOW FOR THE GOOD STUFF!

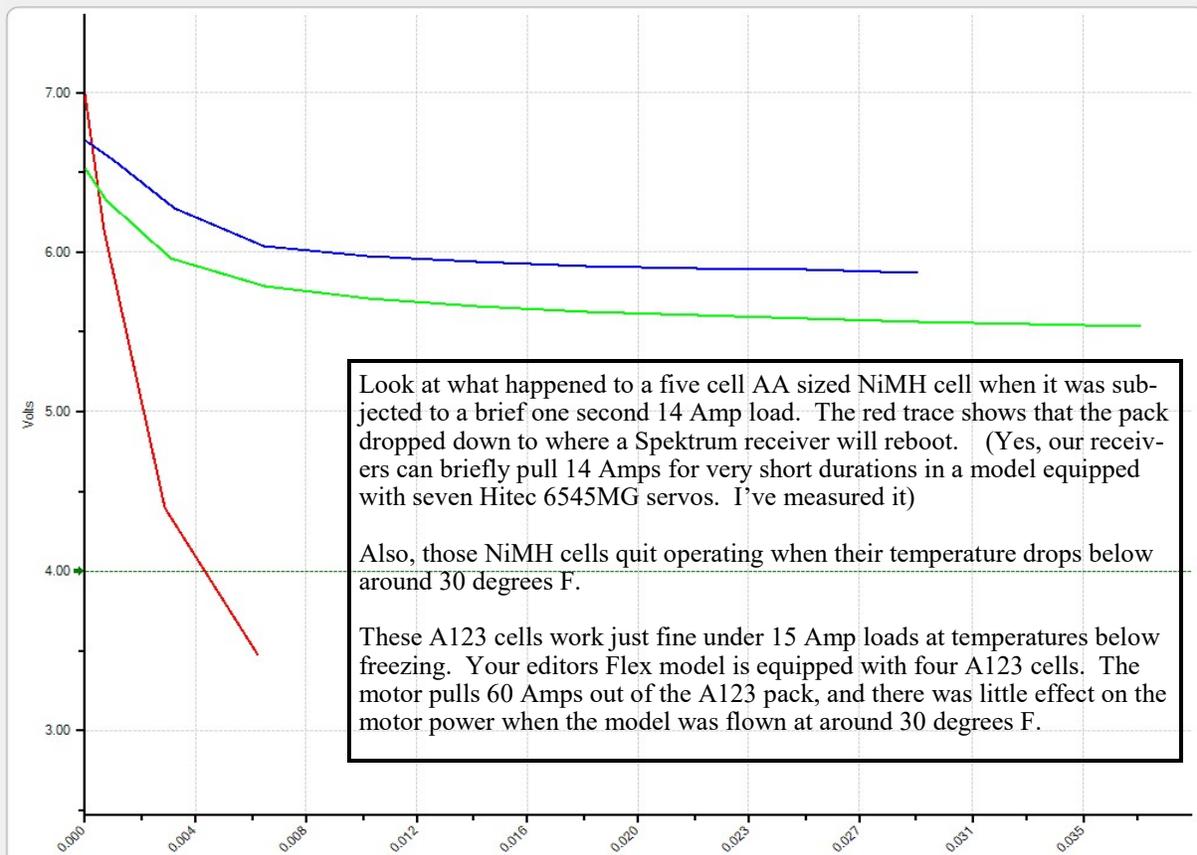
Your editor will provide a free receiver battery test of the receiver battery packs for the RRCC members only. Just bring your pack to the field, with your name and contact information attached to the battery pack.

I'll run a test on your battery pack(s), and return it with the test result curves just like the one below.

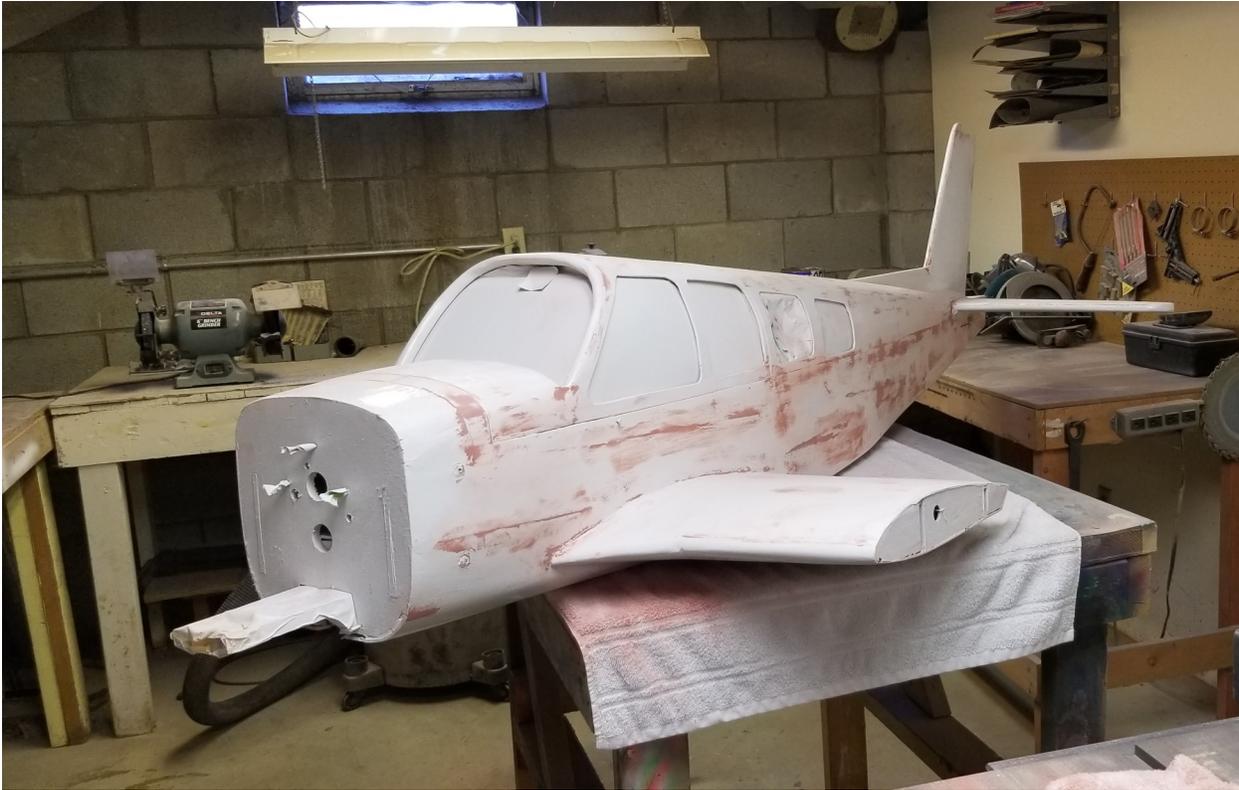
FYI, very few A123 packs will have issues, but I have run across four LiFe battery packs that have had severe loss of their milliampere capacity, something that can cost a model airplane during a flight.



— 5 Cell Nih test 14 Amps: 5 NiMH cells, 1.0 Ah @ 14.00A (0.00 Ah, 0.3%) — 6 Year Old two cell A123 Pack: 2 LiFePO4 cells, 2.3 Ah @ 14.00A
— two cell A123: 2 LiFePO4 cells, 2.3 Ah @ 14.00A



How your editor
builds a two cell
A123 receiver pack





**GREAT JOB
HOSS!**

COMPOST ROSTER 2020

Date	Time	Worker	Date	Time	Worker	Date	Time	Worker
04/08/20	12-2	Darrel (Hoss) Hossalla	06/24/20	12-2	Carl Bergquist	09/09/20	4-6	
04/08/20	2-4	Darrel (Hoss) Hossalla	06/24/20	2-4	Ray Fisher	09/16/20	12-2	
04/08/20	4-6	Eric Armantrout	06/24/20	4-6	Ray Fisher	09/16/20	2-4	
04/15/20	12-2	Roger Nickolaus	07/01/20	12-2	William Wampler	09/16/20	4-6	
04/15/20	2-4	Roger Nickolaus	07/01/20	2-4	William Wampler	09/23/20	12-2	
04/15/20	4-6	Eric Armantrout	07/01/20	4-6		09/23/20	2-4	
04/22/20	12-2	Stephen Knackert	07/08/20	12-2		09/23/20	4-6	
04/22/20	2-4	Rich Smentek	07/08/20	2-4	Tim Hady	09/30/20	12-2	Bill Flannery
04/22/20	4-6	Raymond Redlin Sr	07/08/20	4-6	Trygve Smalley	09/30/20	2-4	Bill Flannery
04/29/20	12-2	Stephen Knackert	07/15/20	12-2		09/30/20	4-6	Bill Flannery
04/29/20	2-4	Rich Smentek	07/15/20	2-4	Justin Francisco	10/07/20	12-2	
04/29/20	4-6	Raymond Redlin Sr	07/15/20	4-6	Justin Francisco	10/07/20	2-4	
05/06/20	12-2	Jim Hiett	07/22/20	12-2	Roger E Olsen	10/07/20	4-6	
05/06/20	2-4	Jim Hiett	07/22/20	2-4	Roger E Olsen	10/14/20	12-2	
05/06/20	4-6	Dan Pozel	07/22/20	4-6		10/14/20	2-4	
05/13/20	12-2	Edward Witt	07/29/20	12-2	Dennis Vollrath	10/14/20	4-6	
05/13/20	2-4	Edward Witt	07/29/20	2-4	Dennis Vollrath	10/21/20	12-2	
05/13/20	4-6	Edward Witt	07/29/20	4-6	Trygve Smalley	10/21/20	2-4	
05/20/20	12-2	Tim Hady	08/05/20	12-2		10/21/20	4-6	
05/20/20	2-4	Rich Smentek	08/05/20	2-4	Charlie Reich	10/28/20	12-2	
05/20/20	4-6	Dan Pozel	08/05/20	4-6		10/28/20	2-4	
05/27/20	12-2	Jim Litwin	08/12/20	12-2		10/28/20	4-6	
05/27/20	2-4	Jim Litwin	08/12/20	2-4	Charlie Reich	11/04/20	12-2	
05/27/20	4-6	Jim Litwin	08/12/20	4-6		11/04/20	2-4	
06/03/20	12-2	Carl Bergquist	08/19/20	12-2		11/04/20	4-6	
06/03/20	2-4		08/19/20	2-4	Charlie Reich	11/11/20	12-2	
06/03/20	4-6	Trygve Smalley	08/19/20	4-6		11/11/20	2-4	
06/10/20	12-2	Buzz Paricka	08/26/20	12-2		11/11/20	4-6	
06/10/20	12-2	Helmut Schmidtke	08/26/20	2-4		11/25/20	12-2	James Strelitzer
06/10/20	2-4	Buzz Paricka	08/26/20	4-6		11/25/20	2-4	James Strelitzer
06/10/20	2-4	Helmut Schmidtke	09/02/20	12-2		11/25/20	4-6	James Strelitzer
06/10/20	4-6	Roman Kirykowicz	09/02/20	2-4		12/02/20	12-2	
06/17/20	12-2	Jerry Rose	09/02/20	4-6		12/02/20	2-4	Steven Navone
06/17/20	2-4	Jerry Rose	09/09/20	12-2		12/02/20	4-6	Steven Navone
06/17/20	4-6	Roman Kirykowicz	09/09/20	2-4				