



# PILOT TALK



Colonial Virginia Aeromodelers Chapter 1474

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Visit the CVA Web Site at: [www.homestead.com/cvarc/](http://www.homestead.com/cvarc/)

## President's Column

### 2008 Meeting Schedule

All meetings (except for the Christmas Dinner) in 2008 will be held at the Williamsburg Christian Church on the second Thursday of the month, starting at 7 PM. The next meetings will be 13 March and 10 April.

### Directions to Williamsburg Christian Church

The building is at 200 John Tyler Lane. At the intersection of Route 199 and Route 5, turn the OPPOSITE direction that you would turn to go to the field. Go 50 yards and turn right (left is Strawberry Plains Rd.). You can't miss the Church; it is on the right just past the Professional Park that you can see from Route 199. Everyone needs to be warned that there is an additional fine of \$200 for going over 25 MPH and the cops are there a lot.

### MEETING LOCATION

**Williamsburg Christian Church**

**200 John Tyler Lane**

**7PM Thursday**

**13 March 2008**

### Mall Show

We will be holding our Mall Show on March 15 & 16. Please plan on participating. If you can not come out for the entire weekend, please stop by for a visit. There will be plenty of expert advice to help with your project or just watch and learn some new technique.

### **CVA Website**

The website needs input from the member in order to be successful. Dexter Klock (dklock@klockwork.com) has agreed to take over as webmaster so items that you submit should be included in a more timely manner. The website has a new section titled "Videos/Slide Show" which contains links to videos and slide show files that members have submitted. If you have something that you think is interesting, please send an email to Dexter with the information.

### **Pilot Accomplishment Program**

Last month I talked about goals. If your goal is to become a better pilot, consider participating in the pilot accomplishment program, which is modeled after the League of Silent Flight (LSF) Soaring Accomplishment Program. The goal is to recognize individual proficiency and accomplishment in RC flying through a set of successively harder tasks that measure the pilot's skills. This program gives the pilots who are interested a challenge.

Participation in the CVA Pilot Accomplishment Program is strictly voluntary. Each participating pilot is responsible for obtaining signatures of a witness for each task on the appropriate Accomplishment Level Form. The pilot should practice the individual tasks until he is comfortable and then ask another CVA member to witness the attempt and to sign if the task is successful completed. The CVA Pilot Accomplishment forms can be downloaded from the CVA web page.

### **Fun Fly**

NNPRC is holding their annual Frost Bite Fun Fly on 8 March with pilot registration beginning at 0900 and the first flight at 1000. The entry fee is \$5.00 with 3 events, all involving bomb drop with supplied equipment.

### **Swap Meets and Auctions**

Hanover RC club swap meet will be at the Fairmont Christian Church, 6502 Creighton Road, Mechanicsville, VA. on March 22. Here is the link <http://www.hanoverrc.org/swapmeet.htm>.

### **Show and Tell**

We are going to have a short show and tell at the end of each meeting. Did you get anything neat for Christmas? Bring it and show us!

### **Contact Me**

Phone: 566-1403

Email: [jb753@cox.net](mailto:jb753@cox.net)

Address: 8630 Diascund Road, Lanexa, Va. 23089

## **Minutes**

### **CVA MINUTES – FEBRUARY 14, 2008**

The President called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. at the Williamsburg Christian Church. Twenty two members were present. The president asked if there were any changes or

corrections of the minutes for the January 10, 2008 meeting. Ken Howard, Sr. moved the minutes of the January 10 meeting as published in the Newsletter be approved. The motion was second by Tom Treese, a vote taken and approved unanimously. The Treasurer not being present, the President reported on the club's finances. John also announced that he could write checks for those members who had bills for club expenses.

### **Site Improvements**

Tom Treese reported that the field was in good shape, the only maintenances required was rolling the runway every two or three weeks. Tom asked members to be careful where they parked after a rain. The north east end of the parking area is soft after a rain and it is easy to cut ruts. Tom says that he has some parking cones and Bill Coad has some additional cones that he will donate to the club and with these he hopes to mark off the areas that are not safe to park. When these cones are in place, he asked that members not park beyond them. Tom also reported that the porta potty has been blown over during high winds with only minor damage. But to reduce the possibility of damage if it should happen again he asked that the last member leaving the field make sure that the door to the porta potty is secured.

### **Activities**

Joe Musika announced that the Events for 2008 at CVA had been firmed up. He passed out a handout to the members listing the events and said that it would also be published in the Newsletter. The Mall Show was discussed. Bill Van Cleave explained that this year he had not been able to take care of any of the details required to get ready for the show, but Joe has taken over and had everything lined up. The additional insurance had been purchased, tables had been laid on and coordination with the mall officials had been accomplished. The president encouraged all members to participate in the mall show. There is always a lot of interest in the show by the people visiting the mall and some of them come to the mall just to see the show. It gives the members a chance to show their planes and a lot of building and covering can be done and there is always a lot of advice available. The club usually picks up a few new members as a result of the show. Bill went over the schedule for the show. After the mall closes on Friday March 14, we will hang the planes and set up the tables and get as much done before the mall security runs us out, anything that can't be done Friday night will be finished before the mall opens on Saturday morning. The Mall Show will be on March 15 & 16. After the mall closes on Sunday, everything will be taken down and the mall cleaned. Bill emphasized that for safety reasons we wait until after the mall closed and customers are out of the mall before we start taking things down. He said that it only takes about half hour to take down what it took three hours to put up on Friday. Buck Morning suggested that on July 12 we have an Air Cover Fun Fly at which at least one aircraft would be kept in the air for six hours. The proposal was discussed. Tom Treese announced that this year there would be a \$5.00 landing fee at the Warbirds over Williamsburg Fly-In and that the Pilots Choice Award would be the only award given out. Also, this year we have two A/C for the raffle, a Spitfire and a Raptor. Joe Musika discussed the electric fly-in and said that he would try to get some of the up-to-date larger models at the fly-in. Sanctioning the event was discussed but no decision was made.

The President reviewed some other activities of interest which included: March 8 the NNPRCC Frost Bite Fun Fly – three events with registration starting at 9:00 AM., March 22, The Hanover Swap Meet – Mechanicsville, VA. and February 22, 23 & 24 the WRAM Show 2008 at the

Westchester County Center, White Planes, N.Y., one of the largest hobby trade shows in the United States.

### **Safety**

No Report. A new poster containing the AMA Safety Rules has been received and will be posted on the bulletin board at the field.

### **Training**

Steve Klute reported no new students had entered the training program.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

The Vice-President reported that CVA had met the requirements to be classed as a Leader Club Gold for the year 2008. Bill noted that for the passed five years CVA has been a Leader Club and each year the club had accomplished the required 14 items to obtain this status.

The new AMA Park Flyer Membership was discussed. This membership allows park flyers to join the AMA at reduced dues and it also provides these members with less insurance coverage. The President asked if the club wanted to accept this membership category and allow park flyers to join CVA. Several questions were raised as to just how the club would handle the park flyer and their smaller aircraft. After much discussion the president tabled the question until more information is available.

### **Show and Tell**

Pete Rawlings went over a list of A/C kits and equipment he has for sale.

John Backes explained the system he uses to test and recharge the Sub C cell batteries for his electric starter. John went over some data charts showing the performance of several batteries.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:10PM

## **Activities**

Once again, its Mall Show time!!! Let's make it the focus of the club this month, to put on another successful Mall show. First of all, we need a lot of help. We will meet at noon on Friday the 14th, at Trainor Rental, 4385 Ironbound Rd to pickup the tables and chairs. Please make a serious effort to be there to help with the loading and unloading. The tables and chairs will be stored at the staging area in the Mall until closing time. You can also

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**15 & 16 Mar 08**  
**CVA Annual Mall Show**

**26 Apr 08**  
**Electric Fly-in**

pre-stage your display models in the staging area. At 9pm, we'll begin putting up the displays. So lots of help is vital! On Sat. morning at 7am we can get into the Mall to finish the set-up. You will also be able to bring your planes and other items in at that time. The show hours will be Mall hours on Saturday and Sunday. The show breakdown will begin, Sunday at 6pm. We'll move the tables and chairs to the pre-stage area for the night, and then everyone can remove their models. On Monday the 17th, we will load the tables and chairs for the return to Trainor's.

Please bring your electric models for show. Need demos of model building. We would like to have a Flight Simulator with a TV to make it possible so interested spectators can use the simulator. Please attend the Club's meeting, on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March for more discussion on what we need to do for the show. Let's make this our best show yet!

**JOE MUSIKA**  
**Activities Coordinator**

## Training Corner

In last month's column we began talking about **communication** and **field etiquette** as it applies to revving an engine and taxiing out to take off. Once we are airborne, the need for communication and etiquette continues.

At this time, we will not discuss any issues about how to *use* the airspace, or where to fly what kind of planes, etc. other than to say it is important to use common sense and courtesy at all times when in the air. What we want to discuss this time is how to communicate about landing.

One key factor that differentiates landing from taking off, is that you can't easily look around to see what the other pilots and planes are doing when you are flying your plane. In some cases you might take a quick glance, but you may either not see another plane when you glance, or you can get yourself into trouble in the short time you look away from your plane. This is the reason that talking to (communicating with) the other pilots is so important. Under normal circumstances it is a good idea to alert the other pilots that you are planning to land shortly before you actually commence your approach. You can simply say "going to go around once and land", or "getting ready to land" or even just "landing". As with the other communications, this should be said ***loudly*** so the other pilots are sure to hear it. The other pilots may then answer "OK" or they may object for some reason such as they are stopped on the field, or they have just encountered a "dead-stick" situation or some other unique situation has occurred. It is important for this response to also be loud and clear so as not to be missed. While it is helpful and desirable for the other pilots to answer, you can't really count on it as they may be concentrating, or may just not hear you. If you don't get an answer, and you know who is flying with you, you can call their name and say again that you are landing. This may get their attention and get you a positive response. At this point though, you can be pretty sure there are no objections and you are free to land.

Once you have landed, it is always helpful to let the other pilots know when you have actually cleared the runway and are out of the way on the taxiway. This way, if another pilot has to land quickly, at least he will know you are out of the way.

One last thing to know about landing; always shut off your engine and stop your plane before you get to the opening in the first fence line from the runway. Never taxi back into the pit area!

Another “fine point” to add to this discussion is that when you are getting ready to land, you may want to also listen to see if any other pilots are starting their engines or actually starting to taxi out. Then if you have the option, you can delay your landing until they have taxied out and taken off. By doing this you may keep the other pilot from having to sit on the taxiway with his engine idling for an extended period of time while you land (or perhaps even have to go around for a second attempt). It may also take a little pressure off of your landing!

Now that we have “talked this topic to death”.....

Remember to try something new each time you fly!

*Steve Klute*  
**Training Coordinator**

**The official CVA FREQUENCY CONTROL POLICY is to place a pin in the frequency control board prior to turning on your transmitter, and to remove the pin from the board after each use.**

**FLY SAFELY**