



OCTOBER 2010

RAMMPAGE

Official Publication of the Radio Aero Modelers of Montgomery

Online @ www.RammRCClub.com

Please send articles, photographs and other materials to George Demuth at

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For those who have not been to the club web site lately, you are in for a real treat. Many thanks to Earl for the redesign. The new site has a lot of great information.

October
Fun Fly
Saturday

October 16
Food, Fellowship, Fun stuff

All clubs welcome

Program for October

Conclusion of vacuum bagging

Tuesday, October 5, 7PM

Crump Center



Come join us for great outdoor fun at one of the finest fields in the south ! Get directions @ www.RammRCClub.com

Guests are Welcome!!

Our flying site encompasses approximately 10 acres situated 5 miles south of Montgomery. We have been told we have one of the best sites in the Southeast. Our runway is approximately 800' long by 100' wide, planted with Bermuda grass cut to 1" so it looks like a golf course. We have a covered pavilion with AMA rules, frequency pins, tables, chairs and first aid kits.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

It is cooler now than it was. It will get colder

Current Officers:

President – Jack Dismukes 334-288-1198

Vice President – George DeMuth

Treasurer – Jim Windham 334-567-6937

Secretary – Bill Stuart

Safety Officer -

Next meeting is Tuesday September 7th at 7:00pm.

Please support the club by attending !!

Guests are welcome to attend.

Drink water until your teeth swim

Stay out of the sun

Keep your fingers out of moving propellers

Fly Safe & Be Safe !

Seventy Two Will Have To Do or My Wife Won't Let Me Buy a New Radio

Every month I eagerly await the arrival of Model Airplane News. I started reading it when I was about ten years old and have never looked back. Imagine my excitement when this year's November issue arrived with not one, but two, count them, one, two covers. Sort of. Careful inspection revealed that the front cover was actually an advertisement pasted on to the real cover. My euphoria peaked when I read the title of the ad:

World's Most Advanced 8-Channel Radio

Boy, oh boy, I gotta have one of these. I got so excited my heart almost exploded out of my chest when I saw, 'New Spektrun Airware Software, Remarkably Easy to Use. I especially liked the easy to use part. I had been trying to program my Ultra Stick wing with four servos, ailerons, flaps, airbrake and all. I followed the lebenty leben steps in the Futaba web site faq , with seven program mixes and multiple upon multiple settings and steps with the result that only half the surfaces moved the way they were supposed to. Would this world's most advanced 8-channel radio be the solution to my frustration?

So I ripped back the pages to 38 to dig into the 'key features.' And yes, by gum, there the little bodacious item sat, right there in the first sentence, and I quote: "key features of this radio include **enhanced wing-type programming that has a screen that graphically depicts the type of wing you are selecting and will then configure the necessary mixes.** *Yes, yes yes! Here it is! Just what the you know who ordered. I just gotta have one of these. And in 2.4 GHz, so I will never crash again. Where's my wife?*

Honey, look at this, just what I need. I know you won't mind if I buy one, will you?

But then my blood ran cold as she slammed her hands onto her hips and gave me an evil stare, "What?! You've got at least a half dozen of those things in the garage. You don't need this."

"But this is more advanced, I said, and what about all those shoes you buy?"

"Well, that's different. They're not silly radios. They're shoes."

So I gave up and went back to my Futaba 9C instruction manual. I reviewed about auxillary channels, which I can't spell let alone use, offsets, masters, slaves, linking and so on. Slightly less ignorant, but only slightly, I decided I'd go back and try coming up with my own programming. After much bumbling about, here is what I did.

I set up the channels as follows:

- Channel 1 R aileron servo
- Channel 2 elevator servo
- Channel 3 throttle servo
- Channel 4 rudder servo
- Channel 5 empty
- Channel 6 L flap servo
- Channel 7 L aileron servo
- Channel 8 R flap servo

I activated the aileron differential function which is well explained in the manual. You may have to reverse servo 1 or 7.

I assigned the flap function to switch C, then designated channel 8 as aux1 and assigned it to switch C. I may have had to reverse a servo, frankly I don't remember. Much to my amazement, both flaps went down when I flipped up switch C and everything else worked as it should. So I decided to rest a bit.

But what about airbrake and flaperons you ask. Can I make the flaps move with the ailerons , function separately as just flaps or behave appropriately in airbrake? I'm too tired to even think about it. Some day soon I'll copy the above set up into another transmitter model slot and experiment. What I have will rest safely in its current model slot. And I'll go on dreaming about the World's greatest 8-channel transmitter which I'm sure I will someday own. Of course, by then, it too will be obsolete.

Some ideas for new features

As your new editor I want to assure that the newsletter helps to foster interest and ideas in the life of our club. I feel most comfortable writing in an informal, conversational tone interspersed with occasional flashes of what I hope will pass as humor. Our nation is one founded on the power of the pen. I'm sure I am not as inspirational as Thomas Jefferson and all those other powdered wig dudes, but I will do my best.

I think we should continue with our traditional monthly offering of wisdom from the president. Anyone else who wishes to write a column is welcome to give it a shot. Some of the thoughts that have come to me include the following:

Construction site – Photos of projects, tips on any model building topic

A sale or swap section – items people want to dump on the unsuspecting or requests for items needed. Eg: I need a 2 oz tank. Anybody got one? I would be tankful.

Photo op section – Pictures of wives or sweethearts, may they never meet
Or pictures of planes, models, crashes, wreckage, etc.

It occurs to me that a true Editorial page, to which all can write letters exposing the genius or idiocy of their friends – as relates to club policy or anything pertaining in some way to things that fly – email letters, of course. I refuse, for the most part, to type up snail mail. Although I have high regard for hand written letters. They are an art form that have a more personal, emotional touch.

It is past my bedtime, so I will finish this page with some meandering notions that have passed through my brain as I have been cutting, covering and slaving glue in my air conditioned garage during these terribly hot weeks.

I am using a lot of yellow, wood glue. It tacks quickly, sets up strong enough to hold in about a half hour. Of course, overnight is required before stress is applied. It doesn't smell bad. It cleans easily with water. It sands like wood. Sanding over a seam held together with CA or epoxy is difficult and balsa may sand away more quickly than those two stinking substances, leaving a ridge of adhesive.

It's been too hot to enjoy flying. Soon it will be too cold to enjoy flying. The life of the aero modeler is harsh, indeed.

President's Ponderings

Recently, some members have remarked that Rcers from other communities seem to think that RAMM is strictly a "war bird" club. It was thought this might be because we have only sponsored the War Bird Fly-In in the past. Maybe next month's Fun Fly will help dispel that misconception.

Another thought was that the club emblem was misleading. Maybe the addition of a sport flyer would better reflect our varied flying interests.

Anyone else have any opinions or ideas? It's something to ponder.

Editorial

Another point to ponder. The Board thought that extending an olive branch by granting amnesty to those who felt they were unable to pay the assessment. Olive branches are peace offerings to people we want to be friends with and have nothing to do with whether they are, or were in the right or the wrong of past issues. What does our unwillingness to extend an olive branch to those who have been our friends say about us. Does it show that we are who people say we are? I am happy with the membership as is, but I miss a couple of guys who are no longer with us. What do we care about most? Absent companions or our opinions?

Please respond to the President's ponderings and other editorials.