

The Seminole Flyer

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Aeronautics
AMA Charter #216, 1969-2006



"The Seminole Flyer" is a publication of the Seminole Radio Control Club of Tallahassee, Florida

JULY 2006

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Mike Atkinson shares some flight time with a future pilot at the Open House June 3rd.

Letter from the Editor- Stephen Warmath

After much debate and study, the Club has chosen a new SRCC logo. This month's Newsletter banner has the new logo and will be the new look for the newsletter in the future. I look forward to getting my new hat, t-shirts, coffee mug and stickers.

The Open House was a great success. Some inspiring photos are included in this month's offerings. Also included are short articles on **Building a razor hole saw** and **Flying and flight adjustment tips**. Check out the updated Flight Instructor list and contact information.

Happy Building & Flying- Steve

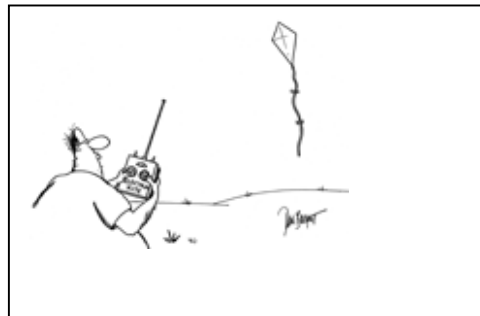


Photo Gallery- Open House June 3, 2006

What rain? It turned out to be a great day for flying. It is unusual to have the winds still coming out of the Northwest in June. We got to practice a right hand pattern and crosswind landings. The food was great, and we had a lot of fun with the younger generation on the buddy box.



Chief Pilot- Mike Atkinson

Things have been a little quiet since the Open House, June 3, 2006. We had forecasts for rain as high as 70%, but were able to proceed without any precipitation. Of course, around 4:00, we would have probably welcomed a shower to cool things off. Because of the forecasts, our crowd was a little lighter than previous events, but all in all, everyone was pleased with the turnout. Thanks to everyone who helped out with flight demonstrations, beginner instructing, cooking, or simply showing up and supporting a club event. We manned the concession stand ourselves and realized about \$70 profit, which will go to renovations under the pavilion.

I reported in a previous newsletter about the passing of a former member, Gordon Schick. Gordon had stopped flying but was continuing in RC driving powered boats. One of his boating friends, Cy Todaro, has asked me to get the word out that he is looking for others to boat with. His number is 850-539-7706. Cy has access to a pond, but since the passing of Gordon, has no boating partners. If you are interested, give him a call. Don't let his mild manner fool you, however. I hear he's a terror on the water!

After the heat of summer passes, we'll get back on schedule for upcoming events. Of course, we'll continue with the monthly "Eating Meeting" the first Thursday of the month thru the summer. We'd like to line up a fun-fly, float-fly, warbird, and possibly electric fly-in by the end of the year.

The June Apalachee Parkway Planning Committee meeting was cancelled due to the survey results not being totaled. The next meeting will be July 20, 2006. I'll keep everyone updated as information becomes available.

That's all for this month....See you at the meeting next week,

Michael Atkinson

Chief Copilot- Geoff Lawrence

Upcoming Local Events:

July 6, 2006- Monthly Meeting 7:00 at the Field

Upcoming Regional Events-

Dixie NATS

FL
7/1/06-7/2/06 - Palm Bay, FL (A) Dixie NATS for CAT III 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 101C, 102-103C, 104-105C, 120, 124, 128, 153, 154, 160, 161 (JSO). Site: Club Field. R. Ray Combs CD, 6747 Sugarbush Dr Orlando FL 32819 PH:407-351-2209 email: rcombsjr@cfl.rr.com. This is a National Cup contest sponsored by the Florida Modelers Association. They flying site maintenance is costly, please contribute. Sponsor: FL MODELERS ASSOC

Gateway RC 4th of July Picnic

FL
7/4/06 - Jacksonville, FL (C) Gateway R/C 4th of July Picnic. Site: Lannie Rd Flying Field. Patrick Lanfri CD, 2305 Cedar Shores Circle Jacksonville FL 32210 PH:904-781-1146 email: lanpc@bellsouth.net. Gateway R/C 4th of July Picnic and Giant Scale Piper Cub raffle, for ticket information to go www.gatewayrc.org. (J-3 cub raffle). Sponsor: GATEWAY R/C CLUB



RC Duck with missile launcher.

Summer Sizzler

FL
7/08/06-7/09/06 - Palmetto, FL (C) Summer Sizzler. Site: Club Field. Raymond Thompson, 3307 5th Drive West Palmetto FL 34221 PH:941-753-9381 email: rbt420@msn.com. From I-75 exit 224 then north on US 301 to Erie Road, turn left (north) to 69th Street (2 miles) turn left field on right about 1 mile. Map on website at www.manateerc.com. Three events each day and time for just flying and having fun. Food available on site. Registration at 8am, pilots meeting at 9am. Landing fee is \$10 including all events you want to enter. Sponsor: MANATEE CO RC

No regional IMAA events listed for July.

Chief Treasurer- Sam Varn

Editor's Note: The Treasurer's report is published for Members only. The public version of the Newsletter does not include this information.

This month's financial report:

Well, we've officially moved SRCC's dues collecting into the digital age. After FINALLY getting a PayPal account set up for us, I sent the first round of e-dues notices on June 15. I was probably a little quick on the trigger, but I sent reminder notices on the 21st. It's a lot easier to send group invoices than reminders, believe me. There are still many members yet to pay their dues so I will be sending another reminder e-notice out next week. Please remember that DUES ARE DUE no later than July 1st.

If you get another notice via email and you've mailed your check, please reply to the notice and let me know. That way I can be on the lookout for your payment.

So far we've had over \$1100 in dues payments come in through PayPal, representing 20 different members. Our PayPal fees so far have come to a total of \$40.52. PayPal collects \$2.04 from each \$60.00 membership, \$2.48 from each \$75 family membership and \$.88 from each \$20 student membership. If you haven't paid your dues yet, PayPal makes it very easy. Give it a try!

However, you are always more than welcome to mail a check if that is your preference. Please send any dues payments to:

Seminole RC Club
c/o Sam Varn
2668 Wharton Circle
Tallahassee, FL 32312

Please make your check payable to Seminole RC Club

Also, in accordance with the membership vote at our last "Meet & Eat", I have transferred \$ into a new CD at SunTrust. This CD will earn us 5.15% APR interest, which is considerably more than we were getting at Capital City Bank. Now our money will be able to work for us a little bit.

Here are our current account balances:

Cash –
Checking –
Savings -
CD - \$
Total funds - \$

That's it for now! Sam



Chief Scribe- Steve Warmath

Visitor/ New member introductions- New Members Present- **Myron Bryant , Sam Jacks (Renewed member)**
Guests- Colby McClam, Doug McCoy

The Treasurer's Report- Sam summarized the Club's assets. The Money Market was maturing on the 14th of June. Sam said he was looking at two alternates for a new account. SunTrust @ 5.1%, Amsouth @ 5.0%. Both with 12-month maturity. Dues are due by the end of June. Sam suggested we move \$5,000 out of checking and increase the Money Market to around \$21-22,000. One comment was we didn't want to get too low in the savings account in case of some emergency that needed funding. Sam said if we had to, we would lose some principal for early withdrawal. Sam added that the Club would be realizing around \$4,500 - \$5,000 income in the next month or so from dues. Mike asked for a motion offered by Theo Titus to increase the Money Market to \$20,000. Sam recommended it be raised to \$22,000. The motioned was seconded and passed.

Sam mentioned that our web site, previously hosted for free, was going to start incurring a \$15.00 per month charge. He suggested moving the site to a new ISP to lower the rate and possibly establish Seminole member or Officers e-mail accounts. Sam was going to talk to Network Tallahassee about hosting the web site and setting up 100 e-mail accounts. The discussion was tabled for further investigation. Sam was also investigating setting up a PayPal account for members to pay their dues on-line. The service charge would be about 3.5%. He would send e-mail invoices for dues statement. Sam said he would prefer PayPal because it would make things easier for him. Mike Atkinson made a motion to set up a PayPal account for paying dues. Motion was seconded and passed.

Old Business-

- Jeff Owens said that AIRFEST 2006 went very well. Saturday was a great day. The Club did 3 demos on Saturday and Sunday was electric flying. For EAA/Airfest, it was a big success and they appreciated SRCC's participation. The Tower Chief was happy with the way things went, as there were no issues. Theo Titus noted that almost all of the volunteers for set-up and take down were mostly the older guys in the Club. Theo suggested that the younger members of the Club participate in events and give something back to the Club. It is the same few group of members that show up for events. Jeff asked the members present if the Club should participate next year and the consensus was "yes". Jeff suggested that a subcommittee be established to organize participation at events. Frank Bastos also suggested a time block log sign-up sheet so we would know who will

participate at any given time. Sam asked if the Airfest Organizers were pleased with the event. Jeff said yes and that they were taking about contacting different groups to get more military participation. He mentioned there was a big military event in D.C. that weekend and that took a lot of military participation away from other events.

- Mike Atkinson said the Float Fly was a great event. The lake was perfect for flying. There is a small beach area where one can wade out and launch your plane. The Club had insurance for the event. Mike recommended going ahead and purchasing a one-year insurance policy for \$20.00. The motion was seconded and passed. Mike also mentioned the possibility of hosting a Regional Float-Fly event.
- Mike reminded those present not to cut the corner on the entrance drive turning into the Club gate. It is killing the grass. The County wants the Club to use the main landfill entrance and keep the Apalachee Pkwy. Gate closed. Mike was planning to meet with the County the following week about grading the roadway back to the field.
- Mike noted there were some comments received about the new club logo that Steve had proposed. Two revised versions were prepared for the meeting. All of the proposed versions of the logo were on display. The membership voted on each version. The consensus was to have "Radio Control Club" spelled out vs. "RC Club". The new logo was adopted as the official emblem of the Club. Mike said old T-shirts were on clearance.

New Business-

- Steve Warmath asked about updating the Instructor list for the Newsletter and web site. Mike asked for volunteers to be instructors and that some new blood was needed. Right now, Mike, Geoff and Tristan were AMA certified Flight Instructors. Jeff and Steve volunteered as Ground School/ Airworthiness Instructors. Any other volunteers would be appreciated. Contact Mike A.

Announcements-

- Sam stated that if anyone needed reimbursement for anything, get a receipt to him for payment.
- Frank said that the summer was a slow time for the shop and that he would be taking fewer hours at the shop, letting his employees get more hours. Generally he would be there 10-4 or 5.
- Open House was the next weekend and would not be postponed due to weather.
- Geoff stated that there were no scheduled events for the rest of the year at the present time. Geoff, Francis and Mike would pick a date for the next Float-Fly. Consideration is being given to hosting a sanctioned Fall Fly-In inviting other area clubs October 14th.

With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 pm. Flying resumed after the meeting.

How to Make a Razor Hole Saw

Cutting a clean hole in a soft wood is a challenge. As far as I know, no tools are made commercially that can do this — particularly in all the odd sizes we need.

Brad point drill bits work very well in a drill press as long as the bit is sharp and you work very slowly. Unfortunately, my drill press can only handle bits up to 1/4". The other problem is that brad point bits come in limited sizes.

I have been making punches and hole saws for a long time. They work well but sometimes require a bit of tweaking before they work properly.

If you are working with balsa 1/16" thick or thinner or 1/64" plywood then you can make a twist punch. A twist punch is simply a piece of tubing sharpened on the inside or outside depending on the application. In either case the punch has no teeth.

A twist punch doesn't work well for thicker woods because the plug jams the punch and prevents it from cutting deeper. I use brass tubing because it's what I have on hand. It doesn't stay sharp very long — even when cutting [balsa](#).

I haven't subjected this tool to the kind of use that would warrant buying better quality metal.

Square the ends and clean off whatever that hard crud is on the tube using solvent or steel wool. Use an emery wheel in a [moto tool](#) to cut shallow slots around the perimeter. Use your judgment to determine how close they can be while not having teeth that are too weak.

The length of the teeth depends on the depth you will be sawing to.

If you use the hole saw in a drill press then you usually will not have to sharpen the tube. Use an appropriate stone in a moto tool to deburr the inside.

If you use an unsharpened tube free hand or in a hand held drill or pin vise then the saw will tend to walk.

Use a tapered stone to sharpen the inside of the tube. It does not have to be razor thin. You just need it to be sharp enough to cut into the wood quickly so that it won't walk.

Don't jam the stone into the end. That will cause the end of the tube to bulge or bend teeth. Work slowly.

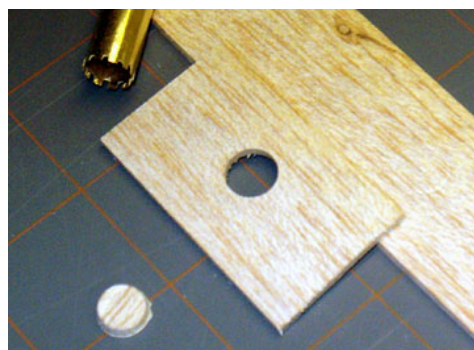
Also, do not sharpen all the way to the base of the teeth. You want the teeth to shave the edges of the plug so it doesn't jam in the saw. Use a flat file to clean up the outside of the saw.

If you use the saw in a drill press then it's a good idea to drill a hole in the side of the saw so that you can feed a wire into the saw to knock plugs out. A sharpened saw creates tapered plugs. If you want plugs that aren't tapered then don't sharpen the inside and use the saw in a drill press.

In use, be sure to back the saw out so dust can clear from the teeth and help prevent clogging.

Always test on scraps before instead of chewing up your masterpiece.

The best way to use this tool is to place the work over a piece of end grain scrap that is sanded flat. The end grain helps prevent the plug from breaking out too early and ripping away grain with it.



Flying and Flight Adjustment Tips

- It is commonly said that a nose-heavy plane is better than a tail-heavy plane. For whatever reason, a lot of flyers take that to mean that nose-heaviness is a good thing. It is not.

A nose heavy airplane will not trim properly and tends to run out of elevator on landing. This means either the plane [stalls](#) in or a higher than necessary landing speed is maintained to keep the elevator effective.

The best thing to do is balance the plane so that it is neither nose heavy nor tail heavy. I usually start at around 33% [Mean Aerodynamic Chord MAC](#) and adjust from there until I achieve the best balance point. I use stick on weights temporarily and once the balance point is located, I use lead shot mixed with epoxy glued inside the airframe to make it permanent.

- [Finding the MAC](#)

- The night before you go flying, do a pre-pre-flight inspection of your models at home. You will not be distracted by your friends talking to you and you may find a problem that needs to be fixed at home or remember something you planned to change or adjust before you took the model again.

Your time at the field should not be consumed by tinkering with your model other than to make [trim](#) adjustments between flights. When you get to the field, you should be able to assemble your plane, do a [pre-flight](#) and then fly.

- Whenever you crash a plane and think it is totaled, do not get so upset that you do not think clearly. Nothing is more annoying than having someone else show up at the field a few weeks later with a plane you threw away and seeing them have a lot of fun with it.

At the very least, take the plane home and wipe the oil from it. Then set it aside until you are able to look it over objectively. If you still decide to toss it then salvage any useable hardware from it before putting it by the curb.

Do not keep any of the hardware that may be questionable though. It is not worth saving a dollar or two and losing another plane because a critical piece of hardware failed.

- Any time you go to the field, try to take at least two planes. Especially if you are taking a finicky airplane or a new one. Make sure one of the planes is a reliable every-day type. If one of the planes has problems, you will not be as tempted to fly when its flight worthiness is questionable because you will have another plane to put in the air.

In the same vein, if the plane has a problem, such as intermittent radio problems, do not fly until you find out what is going on. "Well, I guess the problem is gone now," is the wrong answer.

- One way to have good public relations is to have an easy flying model with you that you can let visitors try when they come to the field. Not long before losing her, I let a dozen or so Boy Scouts try their hand with [Great Gonzo](#). None of them had ever flown R/C before and all did a fair job of steering her around the sky.

Seminole Radio Control Club Tallahassee, FL

AMA Charter #216, 1969-2006

SRCC Officers

President – Mike Atkinson
Vice President – Geoff Lawrence
Secretary/ Newsletter Editor – Steve Warmath
Treasurer - Sam Varn
Field Marshall – John Hall
Field Safety Officer- Gordie Meade

Field Hours

12 Noon till Dark- These hours apply to **all** aircraft, gas **and** electric.

Training Notes

To schedule a training time contact Mike Atkinson.

Flight Instructors

Mike Atkinson- Primary/ Advanced Flight Instructor (Coordinator)	926-4692
Geoff Lawrence- Primary/ Advanced Flight Instructor	942-9807
John Hall- Primary/ Advanced Helicopter Flight Instructor	893-6457
Jay Leudecke- Primary/ Advanced Helicopter Flight Instructor	508-7135
Jeff Owens- Ground School/ Airworthiness Instructor (Fixed Wing)	894-2504
Steve Warmath- Ground School/ Airworthiness Instructor (Fixed Wing)	906-0989
Frank Bastos- Hobby Town Flight Demonstrator	671-2030
Don Coon- Leon High Aerospace Club Instructor	488-1971 x 2750

Club Meeting Location and Time

Please Note: Club meetings from April 2006 though September 2006 will be at the Flying Field at 7:00 pm. A cookout is planned for every meeting.

The regular club meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Grace Lutheran Church on Miccosukee Rd. Head out Miccosukee Rd., cross Capital Circle NE, and the entrance will be the first one on your right. Once you park, follow the sidewalk around the left side of the building and go down the hill. We meet in a room on the first level.

Submissions- Submissions are requested to be in M.S. Word format. Photos should be in .jpg or .tif format. Vector art accepted in Corel, Illustrator and AUTOCAD format. We will, however, accept anything to make it easier for those who wish to contribute. Submissions are due no later than the 23rd of the month. Send your submissions to ssw@nettally.com or by phone, Steve at 509-0672.

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Newsletter provided by Apogee
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ap-o-gee (n) - The farthest or highest point; the apex.

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