

Silver Lining

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Radio Control Flying Club
AMA Charter #3117



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Flying Field GPS location N42 48.596 W83 34.642

www.hollycloudhoppers.org

Be Safe, Have Fun and Don't Have Too Many Rules!

Behind The Flight Line

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Let's start this edition off with some exciting news. Larry Pittman, webmaster for the *HCH* website, has developed a classified section for *HCH* members!

Any member can, for free, list any R/C related items he/she would like to sell. Ads may also be listed for items wanted, lost or found at the field or even R/C services such as building, repair, covering or even tree climbing for airplane recovery.

But wait that's not all! Those that act on this offer can include a picture in their ad at no additional cost. Does that put this classified thing into a whole new category of cool or what?

Now keep in mind, if you never intend to post a single entry to the classifieds you will certainly want to check it often, as you never know when somebody will find the canopy you lost flying over the woods or when the deal of the century will pop up. You will miss both if you can't spare a few occasional minutes from looking up god knows what on the internet.

Listing an ad is super easy. Just go to the classified page and follow the guidelines Larry has established. Once you email your information to him, all you need to do is sit back and wait to be contacted by a buyer, seller, finder, loser or whatever. It doesn't get any easier or cheaper to go wild and turn stuff in your shop that hasn't seen daylight in a couple decades into cash for new stuff.

So let's recap... For the amazing low cost of free you get not one, not two, not three, but FOUR amazing categories of which you can list an ad. And not for a limited time each ad comes with the incredible gift of picture capability. Don't delay and be sure to check out the classified section as soon as you're done reading this edition of the newsletter. [Classifieds link](#)

Enough for now about the website. Let's switch to things I know about... Newsletters and rambling. The rambling part will just happen, so let's dig right in to newsletters, shall we?

As this club's newsletter editor I occasionally read the newsletters of other clubs for ideas, inspiration and just to be nosey. This is a practice I started upon reassuming editor duties back in 2003.

Before my reassignment of this position, a previous editor established a newsletter exchange with a few local clubs, which I dutifully continued. Within the little group that I exchanged with, we (the *HCH*) were the first ones to go with electronic newsletter distribution.

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On the Cover:

Jeff Hooker's Kadet Seinor at the 2010 Chili Fly. See more pictures on page 5

Photo by Scott Rhoades

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After going completely digital, I tried to continue my end of the exchange; however it was becoming increasingly difficult because I was dealing with email instead of the Postal Service. Unlike old school mail, email does not get forwarded when a person changes addresses. As most know, you just get a return to sender or "Invalid address" reply instead.

One day I finally gave up because I had more invalid addresses than valid. I justified stopping my end of the exchange because our newsletters are open to anybody with an internet connection. It's no big secret where to find every issue of the Silver Lining from the past few years.

Not sure if any local club editors still check in but I hope they do, even though the personal invites stopped.

Nowadays with a vast number of clubs posting their newsletters on the web, like we do, it's easy to read newsletters from all corners of the country. So a few years ago I started visiting clubs, electronically.

When it comes to R/C club newsletters, I've seen everything from publications with dozens of pages that nearly rival national magazines, to those with just a couple pages containing not much more than a photo collage of guys acting silly at club events.

Then there is the occasional newsletter that falls into the category of what I like to call "the corporate report". This type of newsletter contains nothing but monthly meeting minutes, various committee reports, declarations, proclamations and a

bylaw update or two. It's so antiseptic and void of anything remotely considered a personality. I think to myself, "Where is the fun in this club?"

Sure that info needs to get out to the membership, but the image I have of a club with such a newsletter is that they've gotten so caught up in being an organization they've forgotten the purpose of getting together in the first place.... To fly friggen model airplanes!

My main goal when putting together a newsletter is to entertain and provide information in a light hearted manner. I always keep in mind too that ANYBODY with an internet connection is free to read it too. So I hope when anybody does read an edition of the Silver Lining he/she gets the impression we're just a bunch of guys playing with airplanes that don't take ourselves too seriously.

When you get right down to it, it's the actions of the club that say we don't take things, other than safety, very serious. For example, the club basically functions as laidback as an organization can be, accomplishes a lot with very little and holds an unprecedented one meeting a year. When you consider all of that, I do wonder how the outside world views our little happy go lucky club.

I say this because when checking website statistics one time I was surprised by what I found. I may not understand the several different counts of web traffic being recorded but it doesn't take a Steve Wozinak to figure out there are a lot more than *HCH* members visiting.

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Last year I was curious to see how many members actually read the newsletter once Jim sends out the email notification. When I checked stats for the Fall newsletter, it had received over 900 hits (yes, that is a nine with two zeros as in Hundred) within two weeks after being posted.

I have no clue how "hits" rate as far as traffic but 900 of anything is a big number for a club of 55 members.

So I'm taking a moment to put a shout out to readers that are NOT members and have suffered through this newsletter so far. I would love to hear from you. Please send me an email to sdrhoades25@hotmail.com. It doesn't have to be much of a message, just put in your city/state or country if you're outside the U.S. Although I would like to learn how you came across the *HCH* site, if you check in on a regular basis, etc.

Before anybody gets some big ideas, I'm not falling gags like Jessica Alba being an avid reader or Burt Rutan gets his inspiration from the Silver Lining. So save your time creating a bogus email account.

To shift gears a bit, (hey, you were warned about the rambling), this newsletter is ever evolving and changes take place without any fanfare. Some of those changes are a result of reader input (which I appreciate) while most are little things like upgrading to an easier to read typeface.

Many of the bigger changes happened due to the fact that Larry has a ton of info on the general website. As Larry makes

upgrades and increases the information base, stuff once a staple in this newsletter is deemed redundant and therefore given the boot. Let's face it; some things are better off on the general website as it would take sometimes four months for me to pass the update along. Larry on the other hand can update the moment a change happens. Click, Click, Enter and boom it's done!

I realize many of you connect directly to these newsletters from the link emailed to you, never visiting the general website. In an effort to make the information there more united with what you get here, I've added a new element featuring links to key *HCH* web pages and I will be using links more often through out the newsletter.

Now getting back to where I started with all of this... Reading newsletters of other clubs.

Taking a peek inside other clubs really puts things into perspective for me. I'm thankful that as club we haven't fallen into the trap of feeling the need to have monthly meetings, various committees, a pilot ranking system, rigid membership requirements or designated days of the week for special interests, etc. etc.

So I would like to thank the membership for keeping things simple. Not only is there no fun in making every newsletter full of monthly meeting minutes, various committee reports, declarations, proclamations and a bylaw update or two, but too much of that junk would really zap all the fun out of just being an *HCH* member. Don't you agree? †

Chili Fly 2010

Group Photo by Joe Savine
Others by Scott Rhoades



Did you know?

By Scott Rhoades

- Balsa is classified as a hardwood. It falls into this classification because the tree is deciduous, broadleaved and slow growing, (even though the tree grows to 90 feet high in seven years). www.informationgenius.com
- Six to nine years old, is the age range at which a balsa tree is harvested.
- The word hangar is derived from the French word meaning, open shed.
- 2.4 GHz is the frequency a microwave oven uses to cook food.
- The word Aileron is French for "little wing".
- Nitromethane was developed by the 3rd Reich during WWII as a rocket propellant.
- A Material Safety Data Sheet for Cyanoacrylate (CA glue) states: *"It is almost impossible to swallow Cyanoacrylate as adhesive solidifies upon contact with saliva and may adhere to inside of mouth. Saliva will lift adhesive in 1-2 days, avoid ingesting adhesive after detachment."* It also states *"DO NOT PULL LIPS APART."* (OSU College of biological sciences MSDS file)

Tips and Techniques

The best way I am aware of to prevent your landing gear wheels from falling off the axles is to thread the axle and fix the wheel with an aircraft (self-locking) nut. It will not fall off!

—From Flightplan, Flight Masters Model Airplane Club, Fort Smith Arkansas

Links to key HCH web pages

Home page

<http://hollycloudhoppers.org>

Officer contacts, Announcements, Weather, Club Dates, Etc

Members Only (password protected) <http://hollycloudhoppers.org/members.html>

Financial report, Meeting minutes, Club roster, Gate code

Classifieds

<http://hollycloudhoppers.org/classifieds.html>

Field Operation Rules

<http://hollycloudhoppers.org/documents/Field%20Operational%20Rules.pdf>

Newsletter Archives

<http://hollycloudhoppers.org/newsletters.html>

Club Frequency Usage

<http://hollycloudhoppers.org/documents/clubfreq.pdf>

Web page help

http://hollycloudhoppers.org/help_faq.html

In The Know

By Scott Rhoades



- There is a new combination for the lock on the front gate, effective April 17th (Field Prep Party). The new combination is posted in the [Members Only](#) section of the *HCH* website.
- Much was accomplished during the annual *HCH* meeting held on February 28th. If you were unable to make it, minutes from the meeting are posted in the [Members Only](#) section.
- This is a good time to bring up the 'Members Only' section because obviously a lot of pertinent information is posted there. Apparently there are plenty of members that have never visited it and there are reports of several trying that can't get past the password log in. If you fall into either of these categories, don't fret. The following information is for you! However, if you've accumulated a couple frequent flyer miles on that page and have no trouble logging in, you might want to jump to the next bulleted item on this page.

If you've never tried to access this section, logging in requires you to type in two bits of information: your last name in the top box and your AMA number in the second box. Now if you are of the group that has tried to log in before and couldn't, there are a couple of minor things that could be keeping you from doing so. First, the box for entering your name is case sensitive. In other words not capitalizing the first letter of your name is the leading cause of failure to log in. By the same token, adding caps where they don't belong can be a problem too, so make sure the caps lock on your keyboard is OFF. Just remember any letters entered with the wrong case will be recognized by the computer as a wrong letter entirely.

The second part likely to cause a problem is entering your AMA number. Just like most computer password boxes each digit, as it's typed, is represented by an asterisk (*). This is a default that keeps people from looking over your shoulder and stealing your password as you type. (Its part of the programming that Larry can't bypass) So you need to be very conscious of what you type as you could easily be hitting the four when it needs to be a five and never know it because you can't actually see what you type.

If you still have trouble getting in and you're absolutely certain you are entering everything correctly, email webmaster Larry for help. He can be contacted through the 'contact webmaster' link at the bottom of the log in page. If you do email him don't be a doofus and just say "I can't get in." Give Larry something work with, like give him an example of the EXACT way(s) you're typing your name, along with the AMA number you are entering.

- With the exception of last year, the *HCH* has participated in either the Holly Carry Nation Festival Parade or Fenton's Freedom Festival Parade for a few years now with a crowd pleasing float. Some positives have resulted from these participations, one notable item being an article in the Tri-County Times. It was agreed at the meeting that the club will only be putting a float in the Fenton parade on July 3rd for the 2010 season. It takes more than

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just a few contributors to making these appearances a go. There are many ways for members to help on parade day and most ways don't require actually being in the parade if you don't want to. The area of participation always needed is planes/helicopters to put on the float and help putting it all together. Guys have been know to just bring a plane or two, put them on the float, then go watch the parade to hear all the oohs and ahhs as our float passes. When the parade is done they simply get their plane(s) off the float at the parade stopping point. Although if you do want to dress up like a clown and hand out candy that is fine too, as long as you act like you're with the float in front of us.

As it gets closer to July, more information will come available regarding the specifics, like where and when to meet. In the meantime, please be thinking of what plane you want to show off to thousands of people. If you would like to see some pictures from previous parades and learn more about what this is all about, here are some links to past newsletters with parade related articles: [Fall 2006 newsletter](#) [Fall 2007 newsletter](#) [Summer 2008 Newsletter](#)

- Membership renewals for '10 are still being accepted by *HCH* secretary, Jim Finch. Remember renewals were due March 1st and those paid after April 15th will be assessed a late fee of \$15. Some of you may be thinking the renewal really isn't due until April when the late fee gets added on. Since nobody is really doing any flying right now, I guess that's true. [Membership Renewal Form](#)
- This year the *HCH* will play host to the [Mid Michigan Fun Fly](#) on July 10th. Mucho grande membership participation will be needed to make us look good to our guests. Several members have already volunteered during the annual meeting to head up various duties. I call dibs on the job of standing around looking important. We still need a few guys to sit at picnic tables on standby. More information is coming in emails and the next newsletter.
- The raffle plane to be given away at the 2010 *HCH* Open House has already been purchased and tickets are available. The airplane raffle has been a factor for keeping your *HCH* dues low the past couple years, so be sure to connect with President Doug Pickett to get tickets to sell on behalf of the club. Ticket stubs, money from the sale and any unsold tickets must absolutely be turned in prior to the start of the Open House August 7th, 2010.
- There will be some official club business to take care of at the spring work party on April 17th and that would be membership voting on a bylaw change. The bylaw change proposed at the annual meeting is to add the position of webmaster to the *HCH* board of officers. What this addition will do is simply make the webmaster an official position in the club (just like the Newsletter Editor). Below is the proposed change to the [HCH Bylaws](#):

Article 4, Section A (Officers and Elections) - Adding "Webmaster" to the officer list.

Article 5 (Officers and their Duties) - Adding the following title and definition:

Webmaster: The webmaster shall maintain the club's web presence. The website will be updated as necessary to maintain accurate public and private club information, including events, activities, members, and other worthwhile club information. †

Events Calendar



April							May							June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3							1			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	★9	★10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
★11	12	13	14	15	16	★17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	★19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	★20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
							30	31												

July							August							September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	★3	1	2	3	4	5	6	★7				1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	★10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		

HCH dates

Events around the area

Toledo R/C Exposition	Seagate Center, Toledo OH	April 9,10,11
Field Prep Party	HCH Club Field	10:00 am April 17 th
HCH Fun Fly	HCH Club Field	10:00 am June 19 th
Fathers Day Airshow	Flint Aero R/C Club	10:00 am June 20 th
Fenton Freedom Festival Parade	Meeting time and location TBA	July 3 rd
Mid Michigan Fun Fly	HCH Club Field	10:00 am July 10 th
HCH Open House	HCH Club Field	12:00 pm August 7 th

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