

# Silver Lining

<http://cloudhoppers.rcclubs.com>

**Be safe, have fun and don't have too many rules!**

Winter 2004

## From The Editor

By Scott Rhoades

If you don't read anything else in this newsletter please read the following paragraph before crumpling it into a ball and launching it in a high arc towards the wastebasket for two points.

**This may be the last paper copy of the "Silver Lining" you receive!** A proposal was presented and voted in at the February 29<sup>th</sup> meeting, that those with e-mail addresses on file with the HCH will only receive newsletters and other club notices electronically from this point on. All others will still get paper copies delivered through the USPS (United States Postal Shredder). What does this mean for the club? Using last year's numbers, it was calculated that it cost the club approx. \$.90 to print and mail just ONE copy of the newsletter. For every member that receives the newsletter electronically, he/she will save the club approximately \$4.00 a year. If you have an e-mail address on file, please check with Larry Pittman to be sure it is correct (Sending him an e-mail is the best way). If you have an e-mail address but Larry doesn't have it, please help the keep membership dues down and get that to him. If you are not computer savvy and never plan to be, you can still support the effort through a family member or friend that would be kind enough receive it electronically and print a copy for you. Just provide their e-mail address. By the way, the e-newsletter will NOT be sent as an attachment. Electronic subscribers will be provided a link to download the newsletter, in pdf, from the HCH web page. Sorry but that hook shot will just have to be perfected with credit card applications and lingerie catalogs.

Still on the subject of the newsletter and club finances, as many of you know, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the landlord of our flying field, raised our rent something like a zillion percent. So we're moving the club to Ohio... Relax, just kidding. Boy, U of M fans sure can get nasty quick! (*Go Blue*) This increase put the club in a bind, given that other expenses and income remained constant, we would have been in a deficit by the end of summer, so it was voted to raise annual dues \$5.00. Keep in mind this increase barely allows us to continue operating in the black. Concerning the newsletter, I would like to explore other income sources and expense trimming avenues. So, the club will gladly accept donations in exchange of a GENEROUS mention in the world famous HCH newsletter. Donations can be in the form of cash (of course), printing the paper copies of the newsletter or paying for the postage. Now, I really don't have

the time to go out and "sell advertising space" (and we're not going to call it that) so I will gladly deputize ANYBODY as an associate editor to locate benefactors to help the cause. Please contact me if you can help.

On to other news. You will see that all the events for the year have been scheduled and the first club event is the Field Prep Party, Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. Last year's event resulted in a spectacular turnout to get the field ready for the flying season. I'm actually looking forward to this year's event because the camaraderie and good-natured ribbing is plentiful. I think this time of year people have cabin fever and are a wee bit stir crazy. Combine that with an overdose of fresh air and some folks get a little silly. Ok, I'll try to contain myself this year, all right? Don't forget, just like last year, we will have a **tail-gate swap meet!** Bring anything you feel is just taking up space in your hangar and no, you can't sell your wife. Be sure to sneak a few extra Ben Franklin's out the door too so you can fill any voids in your arsenal as well. **Side note: the swap meet is not just limited to club members. Invite anybody with an interest in buying or selling R/C stuff.** You can miss your anniversary and you can forget your wife's birthday but missing these club dates.... That's considered blasphemy and you don't want to tick off the R/C gods, now do you? †

## Events for 2004

- † **Toledo R/C Exposition** - April 2,3,4  
[www.toledoshow.com](http://www.toledoshow.com)
- † **Field Prep Party** - April 17<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am  
(Alternate rain date) - April 18<sup>th</sup> 12:00
- † **Fun Fly** - June 19<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am
- † **Crossroads Village** - July 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>  
11:00 am to 5:30 pm each day
- † **Open House** - August 7<sup>th</sup> 12:00 noon
- † **Last Bash Potluck** - Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> 4:00 pm
- † **Chili Fly-In** - Jan 1<sup>st</sup> (2005) 11:00 am

## HCH Meeting Minutes Feb 29, 2004

By Larry Pittman

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Bill Lytle at 2:10 PM.

Approximately 25 members were present. There was also one former member who rejoined after the meeting. Members who brought planes for the "Winter Project" static display contest included Harvey Borchert, Chuck Beach, and Mike Wizynajty.

Larry Pittman reviewed the club's income and expenses for 2003. The club had a negative cash flow for the year of \$19.89. We started the year with a balance of \$1,239.74 and ended the year with a balance of \$1,219.85. Major expenses for the year were the newsletter cost, installation of the frequency board, and field / equipment maintenance.

The new DNR requirement that all RC clubs on state land have a lease was then reviewed. Impacts of the lease to club operations included: an increase in lease fees from \$35 to \$200, elimination of restricted hour days and most no-fly days, automatic lease renewal for four additional years, requirement for locking of the gate in the open position when the field is in use, requirement for a comprehensive safety program, and requirements for posting of additional signs / rules.

Club finances were then discussed further due to the DNR lease impact. Larry reviewed projected impacts to club finances for the next five years under three scenarios: with no dues increase, with a \$5 dues increase, and with a \$10 dues increase. After discussion of the finances, a motion was made and seconded to raise the dues by \$10 with \$5 of the increase being allocated to a reserve fund. During the discussion, the possibility was raised that there may be discussion later in the meeting that could improve the cash flow. As a result, a motion was made and seconded to table the original motion. That motion passed.

Larry then discussed proposed by-law changes. A motion was made and seconded to adopt each of the following proposed by-law changes:

- Change membership categories to replace the handicapped member with the associate member category, add the lifetime member category, and add a family membership category.
- Change the dates for late joiners.
- Add a penalty fee for members who do not renew on time
- Combine the offices of secretary and treasurer.

All the proposals passed except the combining of the secretary and treasurer offices. The date for the imposition of the penalty fee addition was changed from the original March 1 proposal to April 15.

With the addition of the associate member and lifetime member categories as well as the addition of the penalty for late renewal, there was concern over how to handle the membership count due to various situations that could arise if the membership cap was reached. As a result, a motion was made and seconded to remove the membership cap from the bylaws. The motion passed.

Scott Rhoades then recommended that we begin sending our newsletters electronically to all members with email addresses. This is similar to what AMA does with their national newsletter. Members without email addresses would continue to receive paper copies. Scott had estimated that the newsletter costs could be reduced by approximately \$4 / member on an annual basis if we began to use the electronic format. It was also agreed that members whose email addresses were no longer valid would be notified to determine whether a new email address existed or a paper copy needed to be sent. The details of this process will have to be worked out. A motion was made and seconded to implement the electronic newsletter process. The motion passed.

Following this discussion, a motion was made and seconded to raise the annual dues by \$5. The motion passed. The previously tabled \$10 dues increase motion was left tabled.

Scott presented a hat design to the membership. It had a different logo on it than the existing club logo. He was not proposing a change to the logo, but offered the hat as one of the door prizes. He also offered to take orders for anyone that might be interested in hat like the one shown.

The proposed dates for the various club events for the coming year were presented. There were no objections to the proposals. Therefore the club events for the year will be:

- Work Party – April 17<sup>th</sup> (Probable start time – 10 am)
- Fun Fly – June 19<sup>th</sup> (Probable start time – 10 am)
- Crossroads Village – July 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> (Last years times 11:00 am to 5:30 pm each day)
- Picnic / Open House – August 7<sup>th</sup> (Probable start time – 12 noon)
- Last Bash Potluck – Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> (Probable start time – 4 pm)
- Chili Fly-In – Jan 1<sup>st</sup> (2005) (Probable start time – 11 am)

[Times added by Secretary based on last year's start times]

There was a request for a larger tent for the Crossroads Village event. That request will be made to Crossroads Village.

(Continued on page 3)



## From the Contest Director

By Ed Kincer

### Inter Club Fun Fly

WHAT IS AN INTER-CLUB FUN FLY? The *HCH* will fly against other clubs in the area. Each club will fly as a team for team points & bragging rights. Teams will be made up of several club members, from as little as one to as many as we can take. There will be several flying events. Each team will select one member from their team to fly in each event. Points will be added at the end of the day and the winning club will be announced.

Currently, plans are still coming together, but here is what we know so far. At least four area clubs have indicated they want to have some inter club fun by competing in this friendly event. In addition to the *HCH*, Skymasters, RCCD and Pontiac have indicated interest. The first event will be May 16<sup>th</sup> at the Skymasters Scripps Rd. Field starting at 11:00 am. Additional events will occur every month or so. The location will move to the various clubs, at some point expect Holly to host a meet. The specific flying events will be announced, but expect a theme much like our club fun fly where we mix-up “skill” events with

“luck” events along with just a few “daredevil” events.

**What we now need are pilots!** It does not matter what skill level you are, if you would like to join the fun, just contact Ed Kincer or Jim Shipman at the contact information listed in the club officers section. ✚

## A Special Thanks To..

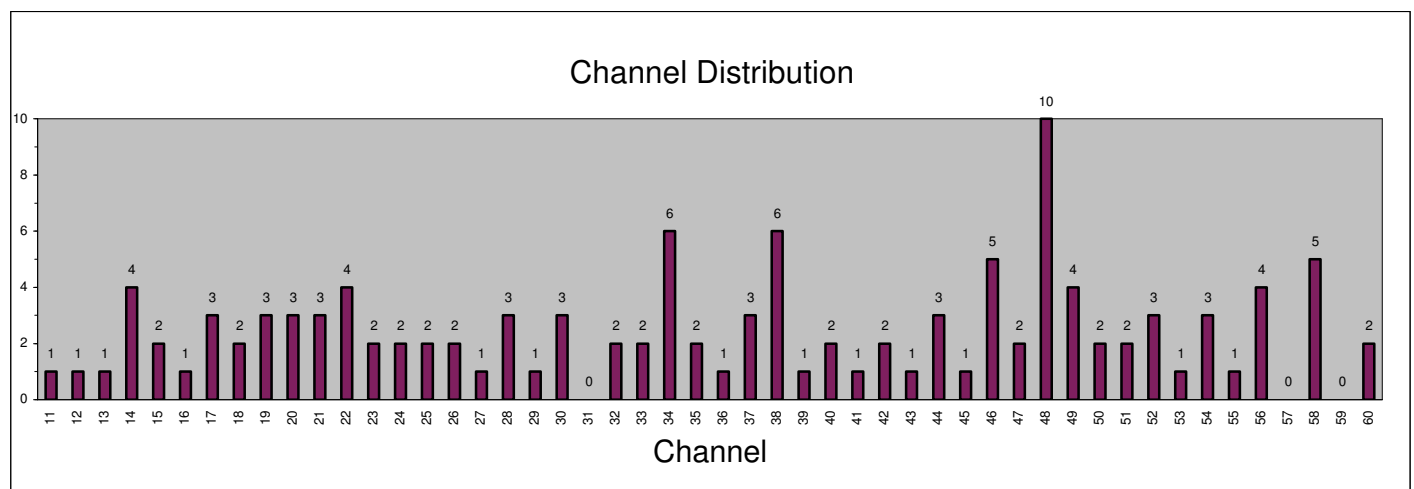
### The Holly Chapter of the VFW for providing use of their hall for this year's *HCH* meeting!

#### 2004 HCH Club Officers

<b>President / Contest Director</b>	Ed Kincer	12007 Jeffers Ln.	Fenton, MI	48430	810-629-0928	ERKincer@aol.com
<b>Vice President</b>	Jim Shipman	14459 Ripley Rd.	Linden MI	48451	810-735-9113	Shipman830@cs.com
<b>Secretary / Treasurer</b>	Larry Pittman	11406 Majorca Pl.	Fenton, MI	48530	810-750-0047	larrypit@chartermi.net
<b>Safety Officer</b>	Don Campbell	807 Mary Ann Dr.	Holly, MI	48442	248-634-4977	shirlcampbell40@hotmail.com
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Scott Rhoades	9022 Parshallville Rd.	Fenton, MI	48430	810-923-3799	sdrhoades@comcast.net

## Frequency Distribution

Here is the most recent graph showing a breakdown of what frequencies *HCH* members are using. Currently, we have a **participation rate of 63%**. Please be sure to forward any changes or additions you've made to your frequencies, keeping this chart current.



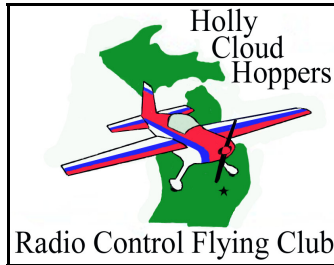
**M**any club members like our current logo and mascot "Hoppy", you know the little smiling airplane hopping from cloud to cloud? I appreciate the support for the drawing I did many years ago. There are some that like "Hoppy" but don't want to wear it on a shirt or hat because it's just not their style. That's ok because I happen to be one of those people. So for those that wish to show their affiliation with the HCH in a more contemporary manner, I created a new logo design. Now this new design is not intended in any way to replace "Hoppy"; it's just an alternative. Members that attended the meeting got a look at the new design, known as the *Extra 300* logo, embroidered onto a hat and shirt. The feedback received was very positive and at the end of the meeting I took a few orders for shirts/hats and had promises for future orders. Thanks to the generosity of some friends in the embroidery business they took the new design and digitized to make the embroidery. I also had a couple inquiries about getting "Hoppy" embroidered on shirts and hats too. Considering myself lucky getting the one logo digitized gratis, I figured asking them to do another was really stretching my good fortune. Well, I have good news for "Hoppy" fans; "Hoppy" is available for order too. Below is a price list of items available. Myself, nor the club, are profiting from these sales. However, if we can generate enough purchases, on any item in a single group order, we will receive a quantity discount and the balance will be deposited into the HCH operating fund. Whichever logo you prefer, these shirts and hats are great way to show you club affiliation at public events such as the upcoming Crossroads Village show or the Open house.

**Orders received before April 3rd will be delivered to the Field Prep on Party April 17th.**

Special thanks to Al and Amy March, owners of **Black Horse Enterprises** for their donation of over \$200.00 worth of digitizing for the two logos and the hat that was given away at the club meeting.

The logos are roughly 3"x 4" and will be placed on the left breast of shirts. For an additional \$5.00 you can have your name, embroidered on the opposite side. Both of these logos can be resized, colors changed or placed on any garment you desire. Just contact **Black Horse Enterprises at 810-750-9315** for these special orders.

For a color picture of these logos, Log on to the HCH web site and access this newsletter.



"Extra 300" Logo



"Hoppy" Logo

- Items are Navy color and 50/50 cotton/polyester
- Polo shirt \$20.00
- Sweatshirt \$25.00
- Hooded SS \$32.50
- Cap (high Profile) \$12.50
- Cap (low Profile) \$15.00

**Order deadline for delivery to the HCH Field Prep Party is April, 3 2004**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my order mailed to me for and an additional \$5.00 to:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Item	Logo style Hoppy or Extra	Name for Monogram (add \$5.00 ea item)	Size	Price	Qty	Price Total
<b>Total Price of items</b>					\$	
<b>Shipping (only if requested. limit 3 shirts/hats or one sweatshirt)</b>				<b>(add \$5.00)</b>		
<b>Total</b>					\$	

**Make Checks Payable to: Black Horse Enterprises**  
 Send orders to: Scott Rhoades  
 9022 Parshallville Rd.  
 Fenton, MI 48430      810-923-3799

# ***Holly Cloud Hoppers***

***Radio Control Flying Club  
AMA Charter club #3117***

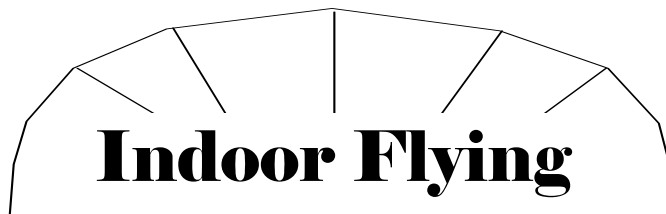


**HCH Member**

***Flying Field located on Mackey Rd. 1/4 mile  
south of Grange Hall near I-75 Holly, MI***

***GPS location N42 48.596 W83 34.342***

***Visitors always welcome!***



**For electric R/C and free flight  
is now happening at the Genesee Field House**

Next scheduled dates are:

- **March 20th 9:00 pm to 12:00 midnight**
- **March 27th 9:00 pm to 12:00 midnight**

The Genesee Field House is very large sports dome located at 7383 Grand Parkway  
(Near the intersection of Grand Blanc Rd. and US-23, exit 88)

\$15 for flyers \$1 for spectators

For more information Call 810-655-2200

