



UTE RC NEWSLETTER

July, 2007

Float Fly and Electric Event a Success

AMA Charter #2768

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A Kinder Gentler UTE Way to go guys. Last month was quite a month what with a float fly and the Second Annual Electric event.

The Float Fly was pretty well attended and as usual ended with a great lunch thanks to Steve. There was a bit of carnage, but most planes went home in one piece.

From all I have been told, the Electric Event went pretty well - again thanks to Steve and the club members that stepped up and got the job done. All those that worked at the event should have received a new Ute Shirt. If you were there helping with the event and did not get a shirt, let me know.

It seems like there were plenty of prizes to go around. The only comments that I heard was that there could have been more static display models and that the public was for the most part absent.

Coming up Aug 18 and 19 will be the annual UTE Expo and this year it will be combined with the WarBirds event. This is our first two day event. The reason for two days is that considering all the bad luck we have had in the past with weather; we figure that if one day is bad, there will be a second chance.

We are currently working towards having two TV stations cover the event, so the public attendance should be way up. That will also mean that we will probably have two days that we have to come to the Model Port early in the morning to fly some planes for the TV stations. We will let you know when. Please come and help out.

Thanks to all the local hobby shops that helped out with the prizes for the electric event. Please buy as much as possible from the local guys. They are the ones that make events like this possible. So go BUY LOTS and BUY OFTEN. At least stop by and tell them thanks for all their support.

Now for the "kinder, gentler" part: All too often we all say things in a thoughtless moment that hurts other's feelings. Please make an effort to be positive and not say things that might at the moment seem funny, but that can hurt someone else's feelings or reputation. A thoughtless moment can damage a relationship and create feelings for a lifetime.

Thanks to the guys that are grinding out the training nights at the ModelPort. There are several individuals and several scouts that this year have been given the chance to fly. Some are turning onto prospective members. Thanks guys. Now - go teach a kid to fly - Wade

The Electric Event: The Second Annual All Electric Funfly event that we held at the Modelport was a success. Thanks for this success has got to go to the Sponsors that supplied us with the Prizes, Pat with Some Dudes Hobby Shop, West Valley Hobby Shop, MRS Hobby Shops, Models by John, Model Airplane News, and Tower Hobbies. Jeff Rector also supplied some of the prizes. Even other prizes were supplied by Extreme Power Systems. Lots of thanks go out to all of this year's sponsors. We had plenty of prizes to give away, and we did just that. The Gate was about 34 paying cars, and the entrants to fly numbered about 30. The parking lot was full with about ten cars having to park in the grass.

The weather was better than last year with a steady breeze of about five mph. The temperature made up for the lack of wind though with the temps in the high nineties. The flying was pretty constant all

morning with from one to six planes in the air at any given time. The bleachers did not make an appearance, but then most of the spectators stood by the Chain Link fence where they could eke out some shade. Some of the highlights of the Show were the flights of an 80" P-51, an 82" Cap 232, Some Dudes 767 foam jet, and a very impressive demo flight of a T-Rex 600 Heli. A couple of F-16 Electric Ducted Fans took off at the same time and about five minutes later they both had to make forced landings. One went down about three hundred yards to the South of the runway, and the other went down about three hundred to the North of the runway. Both went down at about the same time. It appears that the high ambient temperature caused the Li-Po batteries to drain faster than usual, and they simply ran out of power. Both planes sustained only minor damage. Other than that it was a fairly accident free day of flying. Of course all types and sizes of Electric Planes were in attendance. There were no real complaints, and a good time was had by all.

Scott Davis kept up with the announcing duties for the whole day and gave away prizes about every twenty minutes or so. Good job Scott. Evan Higginson did the honors at the gate and kept the riffraff out. Mike Ellsworth and Brian Christiansen were in the radio impound. Randy Holt, and Laura Hansel were collecting fees and selling raffle tickets. Tom Winter, Marv Smith, and Jerry Shelledy were cooking up the great hot dogs and hamburgers for all and did a yeoman's job of it. Wade had the honor of giving his daughter away in New York City and could not attend the event but he did the lions share of the preparation work (Thanks Wade!) Thanks to all that helped to make this a successful event.

As usual the rookie took the lions share of the prizes. We got tired of pulling Laura's name out of the barrel. What is really sad is we pulled out her name for two prizes in a row! Go figure. This seems to always happen at our raffles. The grand prize of the Futaba radio went to Scott of Extreme Power Systems.

June Float Fly: This June's Float Fly began with blue skies and a slight breeze and continued that way until after lunch. People were packing up to go home when the wind picked up a bit. There were many members and some wives as well as a couple members from Davis County. The flying was great and there were only a couple minor accidents. Brian Christiansen and Dave Keachie had trouble trying to get their new Great Planes Seawinds off the water. We had an excellent Pot-luck Lunch, and as usual, Steve Wilson and Wade Joos did a fine job as the cooks, our thanks to them for a job well done. For those who didn't attend, you missed a fun day in the sun. Don't think there will be a Fun Fly in July. - Mike E



June Meeting Notes: Matt's Align screwdriver was found. Thanks Stu! **Field news:** Everyone has noticed turbulence near the edges of the berms, watch out for the downdrafts and updrafts. Keep your speed up over the berms. We've had several birds lost due to misjudging the effect of the turbulence over the berm. We are waiting on the culvert replacement before getting tractors to the field. Clean up the field after yourself regardless of what's left over.

Spektrum/2.4GHz tagging: You see 6 guys flying and only 1 tag on the board, it makes people rightfully nervous. There are now more hooks on the board, and we expect the 2.4GHz flyers to tag in even though they aren't on a particular controlled frequency (DX6/DX7/Futaba 2.4/JR)

Training night: Special thanks to Randy for going out of his way to help spectators learn to fly.

Evan showed off his float-fly airplane, and discussed water rudders (make sure they can swing out of the way if they hit something!), extra vertical stabilizer area, and building your receiver off the floor. We had some reminiscing on old float fly events. Evan plans to bring 3 airplanes to the float fly!

Show and tells: Ken showed his Ultra-fly Outrage, which he won at the Christmas party. First time he flew it, the bolt came loose on the motor. The second time, it ejected the battery. Next up: Stan! He showed off the pizza cutter tool for builders. Cuts through Monokote like a dream. You can pick up the pizza cutters at craft stores and quilt shops. Or steal it from your wife's sewing kit. Tom showed off his Ultra Sport 40 + from Great Planes. Inverted motor. retracts. Was looking for Monokote tips. Bruce Starp Venture 60 airplane showed off by Rick. It's about \$160 for a kit. Rick's put together five kits so far. Matt showed off his Ultrafly Ultimate. Turns out it's a very common model, with several flyers in the club talking about how to make it better.

Matt B. won the show and tell raffle. No prizes this week due to Mike P's absence, but they wrote it down. Tom won the door prize. Same story. Karl won Wade's Cap 232. Including motor, ESC, receiver battery pack, and servos. It's a really beautiful .40-sized sport flyer. - Matt B.



The Care and Feeding of LiPo Batteries: Lithium battery lifetime is based on several factors:

1. Temperature and voltage in use, charging, and storage. Higher temps reduce life.
2. Rate of charge and discharge. Higher rates result in less cycle life.
3. Age. All LiPos degrade over time whether used or stored.

My guidelines for LiPo longevity follow. The C-rating of a battery refers to its discharge ability. For

instance, a 2000mAh battery rated at 6C can discharge at a maximum rate of 12 amps; a 20C battery of the same size can discharge at 40 amps.

- Store LiPos partially discharged if possible. They tolerate large temperature variances this way.
- Lipos are fully-charged at 4.235v/cell. Store fully-charged LiPos cool. I use the fridge.
- Don't charge LiPos below 50 degrees Fahrenheit. Get them to room temperature first.
- Keep it cool in flight. The battery is damaged above 140 degrees Fahrenheit, and ruined at 180.
- For cold-weather flying, warm the packs to 70 degrees to prevent damage due to over-discharge.
- Manufacturers fib about C-ratings. Plan on 6-8C discharges, or 8-10 minute flights. If you discharge a 25C battery at maximum, it will last only a few dozen flights before sagging.
- Use the C-rating to figure out your voltage cutoff (6C = 2.6v/cell, 12C=3.0v/cell, 20C=3.3v/cell), and how much ventilation you need (high-rated packs stay cooler under load).
- Partially charge and partially discharge. Full charges and discharges reduce longevity.
- Fly to a timer, not to low-voltage cutoff.
- Invest in a watt-meter or in-flight data logger and a small notebook. Log your flights, and analyze your discharges periodically to adjust your flight timer.
- Don't expect more than two seasons from a pack. They degrade even without use. I plan on a single year for a pack, and try to get my 200-400 cycles done before the year is over. I average less due to crashes!

There are safer, easier alternatives to Lithium Polymer batteries. In all cases, you sacrifice some power-to-weight for the improved safety and longevity. A123 Racing batteries, for instance, can take more charge and discharge abuse, a greater temperature range, and far more cycles than LiPo without diminishing capacity, but weigh just a bit less than NiMH for comparable voltage and capacity. Many people salvage these batteries from DeWalt power tool 36v battery packs. At a cost of only \$13 a cell when purchased this way, and a cycle lifetime approaching 2000 cycles without a measurable difference in discharge ability, these batteries may be the Holy Grail for sport flyers who are less concerned about weight and more concerned about stretching their flying dollar.

New lithium-manganese batteries represent a substantial leap forward in battery safety at minimal weight gain. Regardless of abuse, these new batteries do not tend to ignite. While you still must exercise care in charging, storage, and discharging for good battery longevity, you're not going to burn your garage down if you make a mistake with them.

Whatever your power source, have a fun and safe flying season! Regards - Matthew P. Barnson

Special Thanks: Thanks to Ron B for mowing the field! Rumor has it that Ron was the one who took the time to cut down the ground cover that was forming on our runway. I don't know what that plant is but anything that can grow on a salt flat has got to be tough! Thanks go to Evan for a complex "shack surgery" that removed the mushy floor beams and replaced them with hardy telephone poles. Thanks to Richard for the photos this month. Thanks to Matt B for all the articles this month. Thanks guys!

Club Air Show: The Desert Wings R/C Club's annual Five Star Fun Fly and R/C Air Show is scheduled for Saturday August 11, 2007 at the Carbon County R/C Flying club in Price, Utah. Flying begins at 8:00am. It's a n AMA Sanctioned Event so bring your AMA card. There is an air show from 11:00am to 1:00pm. For more information call Chris Rigert at (435) 613-1882 or see www.desertwings.org.

Club Fuel: [Evan Higginson \(266-8010\)](mailto:Evan.Higginson@desertwings.org) and [Mike Ellsworth \(966-7706\)](mailto:Mike.Ellsworth@desertwings.org) may still have fuel for sale.

Support Your Local Hobby Shops

M.R.S. Hobby Shop http://www.mrshobby.com/	9445 South 690 East (801) 572-6082	<p>Club Officers for 2007</p> <p>President: Wade Joos - wade@joos.com</p> <p>V-P: Steve Wilson - steve.wilson@crsengineers.com</p> <p>Treasurer: Mike Passey - mike@passey.com</p> <p>Safety Officer: John Klugiwitze - Klugie2@comcast.net</p> <p>Fun Fly Coordinator: Mike Walkenhorst</p> <p>Newsletter: Jon Bertrand – jonb@cirris.com</p> <p>Club Meetings: The second Tuesday of each month at Spring Meadows Apartments (in the clubhouse) at 4115 S 430 East. Meets start at 7:00pm</p>
Some Dudes Hobby Shop http://www.somedudeshobbyshop.com/	7664 South Redwood Road (801) 233-6565	
West Valley Hobbies http://www.wvhobbies.com/	1765 West 5400 South (801) 964-1700	
Ultimate Hobbies	588 West 800 South, Bountiful (801) 298-5664	