



# The Flight Line

NEWSLETTER OF THE ALVIN R/C MODEL AIRPLANE ASSOCIATION

January 2012

## Happy New Year!

Greetings fellow club members,

As the new Secretary and Newsletter Editor for 2012, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year. In addition, I would like to extend many thanks to Tom Stancliff for contributing his time and effort as the club secretary for the past umpteen years. Without volunteers like Tom who have given up their personal time and effort to fulfill club officer duties, it would not be possible to maintain the quality of the Alvin RC Club.

**Speaking of Newsletters!** If you would like to contribute content to the monthly newsletter, please feel free to contact me and we can coordinate our efforts. Any articles directly related to the hobby, safety, a project you are currently working on or the club in general would make great content for the newsletter.

**Email addresses**..... We have several members on the roster with no email address or an outdated email address. As email has become the primary means of communication for club activities, please verify with the club secretary that your email address on file is correct. Your email address is for club business only, we do not sell your information. Once again, it is strictly for Club Business Only.

**AMA Renewal!** If you have not already done so, please renew your AMA membership for 2012. You must have a valid AMA membership to fly at the field. The annual club membership audit will be conducted in the coming weeks to verify flying privileges.

**Club Swagger:** We still have a few T-SHIRTS available. Size, Color and Availability are limited. See Ted Dziedzic or John Desmond for inventory selection. Prices: With Pocket \$17, Without Pocket \$15.

**Club Info:** Club Meetings are held the fourth Saturday of every month at the club house and begin at 9AM sharp. Annotate your calendars and please make an attempt to attend club meetings. This is a club for the members, by the members. The monthly meetings provide the opportunity to have your voice heard.

**We need Your Projects!** If you have a new RC project in the works, please email me a photo and a short description to share with your fellow members. It can be at any stage of construction or assembly. Heck, a box full of balsa wood with a short description of the end product is fine with me. 😊



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**Safety Tip:** This month's "Safety Tip" comes from the desk of the club Vice-President, Steve Leslie.

Engine starting: It is all too easy to get complacent when starting our engines, just a moment of carelessness can lead to a very serious accident.

Some things to keep in mind.

1. Always ensure that your prop / spinner are in good shape and securely fastened using the engine manufacturers recommendations.
2. Always ensure the model is secured either on a flight stand (wings touching the vertical piece of the stand) or tethered to a fixed point (ensuring the tether is at full extension before starting) if the aircraft is too big to fit the flight stands.
3. If hand starting, use a chicken stick for glow engines and leather glove for gas engines, it is highly recommended to use an electric starter whenever possible.
4. Once the engine has started, retreat immediately to behind the prop, do not remove the glow plug driver by reaching over or around the spinning prop, always remove it from behind.
5. When tuning a running engine, do so from behind the prop, never tune the low end needle on a nitro engine (or either needles on a gas engine) with a screw driver while the engine is running.

## Club Officers

President – Tim Haskins	Vice President – Steve Leslie
Treasurer – Grady Owens	Secretary – Ted Dzedzic
Board Member – Louis Mack	Board member – Fred Daniels
Board member – Tom Mattes	

Visit the club web site - [www.alvinrc.org](http://www.alvinrc.org)

**For Sale:** If you have something to buy, sell or trade, contact me @ [Ted.Dzedzic@comcast.net](mailto:Ted.Dzedzic@comcast.net) and I will get it in the newsletter for you.



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**Member Projects:** I'll start the New Year with one of my current projects.



This is a Giant Top-Flite P-51 Mustang ARC. I originally purchased this in 2004. I sold it around 2005 after I had fiberglassed the airframe and had it primed and ready for paint. I reacquired it about 1.5 years ago and have worked on repairing the damage it incurred during storage and molded in a new fiberglass cowling. I have recently begun applying the paint. The plane is being painted with Behr exterior latex paint as well as acrylic air brush paints. It will be sealed with water based polyurethane to protect the finish. Power will come from a DLE 55 engine with a Futaba radio system providing the guidance. The airframe has never been in the air since

removed from the original box back in 2004. With any luck, this bird will make its maiden flight early in the year and see some flight time during the clubs 2012 Big Bird event.

**Area Events:** The events listed are an excerpt from the AMA website and club flyers we may have received from area clubs.

**1/20/2012** – Georgetown Swap Meet

Date and Time: Sales hours are: Friday January 20th: ~1:00pm to 8:00pm

Saturday, January 21st: 8:00am to 2:00pm

Setup starts at: Friday: ~12:00pm and Saturday: ~7:30am.

Location: San Gabriel Community Center in Georgetown's San Gabriel Park.

Entry: \$5.00 each day admission. Spouses or children under 12 with adult are free.

**2/17/2012 - 2/18/2012** -- Garden Ridge, TX (E) TRI CITY FLYERS SWAP MEET. Site: Garden Ridge Community Center. Louis Belcher CD PH: 830-660-6679      830-660-6679      Email: [rcbldrwb@gmail.com](mailto:rcbldrwb@gmail.com). Doors open 4PM to 9PM Friday, 9AM to 2PM Sat. \$5 admission per day, tables \$5 each day, reservations highly recommended. For table reservations contact Rusty Koehler at [rusty@destinationsa.com](mailto:rusty@destinationsa.com) or PH:210-654-3313      210-654-3313      . Food and beverages available. Raffle prizes, door prizes, auction. Sponsor: TRI CITY FLYERS



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**2/25/2012** -- Huffman, TX (A) ANNUAL FROZEN FICKLE FINGER OF FATE FUN FLY. Site: Club Field. Horrace Cain CD PH: 281-399-5627 281-399-5627 Email: [cainhd@aol.com](mailto:cainhd@aol.com). Visit: [www.jetero.com](http://www.jetero.com). Event 705(JSO). Awards 80 percent of total entry fee. Entry fee \$20. Free lunch for pilots and workers. 4 two easy task rounds. ROG required. Pilot drawings. Tasks: 01-15-2012. Special: top Jr and Sr each get \$50 gift certificate to local hobby shop. Sponsor: JETERO RC CLUB INC

**3/3/2012** -- Texas City, TX (C) TEXAS CITY RC HELI FUN FLY. Site: Holland Park. James Grassmuck CD PH: 409-789-6009 409-789-6009 Email: [grassmuck@verizon.net](mailto:grassmuck@verizon.net). Visit: [www.tcrcc.org](http://www.tcrcc.org). All helis welcome. \$20 landing fee includes lunch. Fun and relaxed event. Normally throw together a drag race and auto contest. We will take the input of the pilots to put contests together. Sponsor: TEXAS CITY RC CLUB

**3/17/2012** -- Huffman, TX (C) 16TH ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY FLY IN. Site: Club Field. Horrace Cain CD PH: 281-399-5627 281-399-5627 Email: [cainhd@aol.com](mailto:cainhd@aol.com). Visit: [www.jetero.com](http://www.jetero.com). Come join Jetero RC Club to celebrate their 16th anniversary on March 17. Wheels up 9AM until the last pilot drops. Free food and drinks, no landing fees, this is a totally free event! Sponsor: JETERO RC CLUB INC

**3/31/2012** -- Alvin, TX (C) 22ND ANNUAL ALVIN BIG BIRD FLY IN & SWAP MEET. Site: Club Field. Fred Daniels CD PH: 281-488-8371 281-488-8371 Email: [fdaniels51@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fdaniels51@sbcglobal.net). Visit: [www.alvinrc.org](http://www.alvinrc.org). Come join us for a great day of flying and swapping. Swap meet is open to all RC items and is free. 40x400' paved and 100x800' grass runways. Indoor restroom. Best burgers in town will be available at the concession stand. RVs ok, no hook ups. 14x100' covered area. Raffle. Sponsor: ALVIN RC MODELERS ASSN