



# Hangar Rat

*Spillway Radio Control Club, Inc.*

**AMA Chapter 979**

**Founded 1972**

## Officers:

President: Nathan Bivalaqua.....985-764-8427  
 Vice-President: Cary Armand.....985-307-0508  
 Treasurer: Loren Bailey.....504-738-1602  
 Secretary: Joe Simon.....504-483-0428

## Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Spillway Radio Control Club will be July 8, 2004 at 7:30 PM at the P.A.C.E 750 Union Hall in Norco at 601 Good Hope Street.

## Spillway Park Ranger:

Keith C. Chasteen  
 Park Ranger Bonnet Carre Spillway  
 P.O. Box 216 Norco, LA 70079  
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## Meeting June 10, 2004

Nathan called the meeting to order at 7:34. It was announced that Loren was out of town but an e-mail sent by his wife states that there were no changes to the club treasury and that he would pay any grass cutting fees next week.

**Old Business** The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted.

Nathan asked if there were any new occurrences of the fence poles being left down. Barry reported there have been no new occurrences. Nathan made the suggestion that when we take down the poles we should lay the poles down parallel to the runway and on top of the concrete pole footings. This will provide a visual reference for the far edge of the runway Nathan also reported that a small work detail repaired the field netting and support wires.

**New Business** Glenn Dowling was voted in by the membership.



*Big Al's Sea Hawk*

Nathan announced that we are out of fuel. There was a discussion of how much we should order and where we would store it. Several members volunteered to hold the fuel including Nathan, Cary, Al, and Bill Smith. Cary volunteered to be the delivery point for the fuel since the vendor requires that the fuel be delivered to a business. We will alert Loran that he should order the fuel.

Justin Strauss and Don Guidry received recognition for their first solo flights.

There was a discussion about several loss-of-control incidents at the recent Crescent City fun-fly. Nathan talked about a large 40% model that crashed and the potential threat to spectators posed by the incident. Nathan stressed that we must all remain vigilant about safety – that we should have spotters during flight and think of ways to make field operations safer for spectators.

Joe inquired about fail-safe systems in digital receivers. Several club members endorsed their use and suggested ideas for the failure settings. Other club members do not regard them as being very effective in reducing the consequences of a radio failure. One mentioned that they would not help during a battery failure – but protect only in the case of a signal loss.

Al discussed his new Sea Hawk. It is made by Gee Bee Products and is powered by a Fox 35. Al said that on his first "taxi" run the plane got up on the pontoon steps and then abruptly turned. He had to modify the pontoons and that corrected the problem. He has not yet flown the Sea Hawk.

Nathan brought his Slow Poke by Great Planes and announced that it is for sale. A Saito 80 powers it. The plane was purchased at the meeting!



The meeting was then adjourned.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Nathan Bivalacqua  
Cary Armand  
Barry Bleakley  
Allen Smith

Garland Trepagnier  
Bill Chapman  
Glenn Dowling  
Joe Simon

Dutch O'Neal  
Bill Smith  
Justin Strauss

Dutch O'Neal IV  
Tim Dabdoub  
Harold Strauss