

Kankakee Valley Model Fliers

March 2018 newsletter

Spring time is here so now is the time to get ready for some flying at the KVMF field. The windsock hasn't been put up yet for the year but I'm sure it will be before the weather gets really warm. If you want you can take a ride out to the Great Lakes Eagles flying field out by the state park. Some of us belong to both clubs and have the opportunity to fly at both places. Each field has its different features and requires different flying skills. Everyone is welcome to come out to the Great Lakes Eagles field and check it out. If interested in joining that club also please see me. Either way I hope everyone has a great year flying, staying safe and enjoy the upcoming warm spring and summer months.

Safety

Safety is our number 1 priority for this year and should be everyday. A lot of us have switched over to all electric RC models and they are not forgiving when it comes to propeller accidents. Motors can start in an instance and do a lot of damage to you or a fellow flyer. With most of the new digital radios a motor kill switch can be programmed onto an unused switch on the radio. This is usually the switch on the very top right back corner of the radios. Very easy to do and will not let the motor start without turning on. I have seen many modelers' not use any kind of kill switch on the RC transmitters and have bumped the throttle lever and get cut by the propeller or the plane takes off uncontrolled. Don't let this happen to you. If you need help in setting this up on your radio please see one of us that use it all the time.

Now is the time to check out your flying models from last year or your new ones and make sure everything is good to go for spring. Control surface connections, pushrods, fuel lines, glow plugs, servo connectors, batteries, flight box accessories, and range checking the equipment. Last thing you want to do is lose you model because you forgot to check it. A simple check list can be made to help remind you before you fly.

Many of us have been flying at the KVMF field for years and have seen many changes to the field. Years ago when I started in the club it was just an open flying site in the middle of corn or bean fields with a locked gate. No one was there except you as a flyer. Trees were very small and you could land from just about any way you wanted. Now we have a road just west of the field and have lots of traffic now that Ice Valley stays open all year round. We have a few light poles that line the road on the west side also. Trees have grown much bigger in the last 47 year I have been flying at that field and now everyone is pretty much limited to taking off over the road to the west when the winds are out of the west or southwest or to the north or northeast to avoid the trees on the east and south. Please remember that safety is our goal for us as flyers and also to anyone passing by the field. The AMA has been working with the Federal Aviation Administration over the last few years trying to protect our rights to keep flying our RC models as we do now. I have read of many fields losing their ability to continue flying at their present field and some clubs have had a very hard time acquiring a new place to fly. So please be aware that we could lose our field just as easy as the others have.

It's been a few months sense we had our last meeting back in December 2017 so I have lots of information to pass on. The club voted to stop the meetings for 2 months in the winter because of weather conditions that are sometimes are not very good for traveling. This seems to be working out pretty good for everyone. A lot of us fly indoor so we get to see each other and continue to fly all through the winter. It is a great way to stay proficient at flying so you won't be rusty when spring time flying gets here. Don Gallian sends out a very nice weekly e-mail about what the flying hours are and the different venues we fly indoors. If you haven't seen his e-mails I encourage you to check them out.

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Also if you have anything you would like to list to sell please send the information to Don and he will include it in his weekly e-mail. You will be responsible for all information and the selling. If you would like to be on the mailing list please contact Don G. and I'm sure he will get you on the list.

Dave Boudreau has a You Tube channel that he posts videos to of flying indoors and outdoors and of different RC fly-ins that he goes to throughout the year. If interested in the videos you can check out the channel at: 3D Dave on You tube. Here is a link to get started. If you want to continue to see the videos as they are published please subscribe to my channel and you will be notified when a new one is available. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi9JSH59GfuWKGffEdD8sDA>

Lanny S. and Dave B. have been out to the KVMF field already this year 03-02-2018 for some great flying. We had a beautiful day to be out. A little cool but all in all great flying. Below is a video of Lanny S. doing some practice flying with his Park Zone Sport Cub S. Nice to have someone out at the field also?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tA0qN93lpjA>

The next day 03-03-2018 I went out to the Great lakes Eagles field to fly and enjoy the spring weather. A little windy but the flying was great. Don G. stopped by to see me flying and visit for a while. He didn't have anything charged so he couldn't fly. Below are a couple pictures of the beautiful day and planes. The Park Zone Cub S and a Durafly Junior from Hobby King flew great in the windy conditions.



There are great flying opportunities throughout the winter month indoors at Adventure Church, Bradley, IL. Sparta Dome, Crown Point, In. and the KVMF field. Some of the club members head to warmer climates to enjoy flying through the winter months. The rest of us just stick it out here and fly indoors or outdoors and brave the cold and snow. Winter flying is a little challenging compared to summer months, with Li Po batteries not performing like they do in the warm weather. Batteries can be kept warm in the car or you can purchase a bag that has a heater built in so that they will be ready to go

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when it's extremely cold outside. Also there is a radio transmitter cover that can be purchase for a few dollars that will keep your hands warm when flying. See pictures below:

The transmitter cover was ordered from Banggood.com but can be ordered from other RC suppliers; it is water resistant and is lined with a soft material to keep you hands nice and warm. This will protect the transmitter from all the elements. It has adjustable arm holes to keep the wind out and a clear panel on the front to see the transmitter if it's not snowing hard like it was the day I flew. Flying can be done year round if you want to get out and enjoy the winter months.

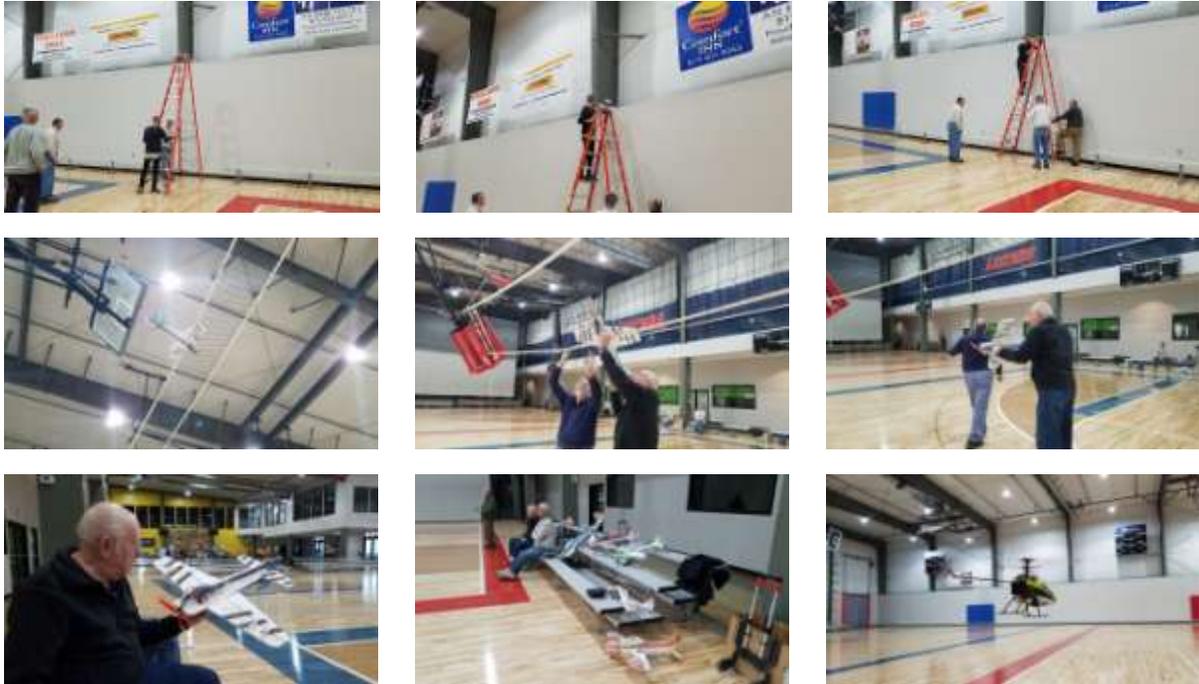
https://www.banggood.com/Upgraded-Transmitter-Warm-Hand-Glove-Cover-Shield-Winter-Outdoor-Flying-For-Flysky-Frsky-DJI-p-1119505.html?rmmds=search&cur_warehouse=CN



Below are some indoor flying photos from Adventure church In Bradley, used to be called Legends Sportsplex. Some of us fly every week throughout the winter. Stop by and check it out, you might be interested in trying some indoor flying.



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It's been a great winter flying indoors and now it's time to get outdoors and enjoy unlimited skies to fly in. I'm hoping everyone has the opportunity to fly s much as they want. See you at the field.

If anyone is interested in a nice small battery checker on the left for small 1 cell batteries you can purchase it on EBay for less the \$9.00. It fits JST (2.54Mm), MOLEX (2.0Mm), Mctx (2.0Mm), MCX (1.25Mm)

Here is a link to it. <https://www.ebay.com/itm/AOKoda-AOK-041-1S-Lithium-Battery-Voltage-Detector-Tester-Checker-For-JST-MOLEX/253210779856?hash=item3af489e0d0:g:2WUAAOSw-cNZ5E1n>



Here is a very nice new battery checker above right for outdoor flyers; it's about \$12 from Amazon, it will check up to 8 cell LiPo's and also has a servo tester built in. RC Digital Battery Capacity Checker Tester, Cell Meter 8 LiPo Battery Discharger Balancer, RC Servo Tester LCD Backlight Updated Version

Here is a link to it. https://www.amazon.com/Capacity-CellMeter-Discharger-Backlight-Exclusively/dp/B01L9HB1KK/ref=sr_1_1_sspa?ie=UTF8&qid=1520941544&sr=8-1-spons&keywords=rc+battery+tester&psc=1

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Below are photos from some flying at the Sparta dome and a couple videos from the winter months of flying?



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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gad-hg8rJWE&t=30s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Og9wMt6IAo>

I have included a few photos of some of my winter flying the last few months so you can see that it can be fun and enjoyable for those who venture out in the cold winters. A lot of clubs support winter flying, one of those clubs is the SAC club (Suburban Aero Club of Chicago). They had an early bird flight on New Year's Day starting at 6am this year and Ron W. was one of the 1st ones up for a flight. It was Very very cold that day. The SAC field is located on the west side of [Cicero Ave, Just North of Vollmer Rd.](#)



Our 1st club meeting of the year was held Tuesday the 13th 2018 and Don G was the cookie man. Thanks Don. President Ken L. and Secretary Lanny S. conducted the meeting going over last year's old business, collecting dues for this year and Joe K. reviewed our audit for last year. Rent to the park district and AMA charter dues and insurance have all been paid for this year. We had a few new planes and a new helicopter for show and tell. Fred S. had a beautiful FMS Sky Trainer 182 1400mm 3s battery that he has done the maiden flight on the other day at our field. Fred said the he was a little nervous after it was in the air, can't blame him on a new plane. Glad it went well and I hope to see it flying this summer. Fred S also brought an Eflite UMX Waco with AS3X[®] Stabilization. It uses a 200-280mAh 2S

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7.4V Li-Po flight battery. Bind and fly with any Spectrum radio. This is a very nice flying biplane and I have seen many fly at the Sparta dome.

One of our full time RC helicopter pilot's Hank B. brought his new Synergy 516 6s powered flybarless battery helicopter for everyone to see. Very nice and is a top of the line helicopter. Full CNC machined 6061-T6 aluminum found throughout the head. It is very nice and I will love to see it flying this summer. Joe K. brought his new Escapade MX 80" 1184 sq in Balsa and ply construction weighting in at 13lbs. This is a big airplane and no one will have any problems seeing it in the air. Good luck Joe on the maiden flight. Pretty good attendance for all the snow showers we had throughout the day before the meeting. Butch J. and Joe K. will be getting the wind sock up at the field in the near future for some of us that just can't wait to get out and fly. Below are a few pictures of this month's meeting.



That's it for this month, looking forward to a great year of flying and attending several different fields that I have been invited to.

DRB