

THE FLIGHTLINE





AMA CLUB 668 SINCE 1968 RACINE RADIO CONTROL CLUB INC SINCE 1968

RRCC August Issue September 17, 2023 Newsletter

WE ARE ON THE WEB www.racinercclub.com

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Racine R/C Club Meeting Minutes

August 20, 2023

Time: 1:00 PM Location: R/C Flying Field

Open Meeting - Jim opened the meeting at 1:00PM. 18 members were present.

Welcome - New Members & Guests – Kevin Leslie from Kenosha was present as a guest. Kevin flies out of the Bong Recreation field. Kevin is a new member as of this newsletter. Jim Furby, a past member for many years, was visiting on vacation. Jim flew and reminded us of what a great pilot he is.

Minutes - Last Meeting – Nothing to report Reports

President-Jim Litwin – Fond Du Lac warbird and classic plane event was held these past few days ends today. A very impressive club and some great flying was displayed.

Vice President- Roger Nickolaus had nothing new to report.

Secretary/Treasurer-Bob Johnson

The current membership as of this newsletter.

Senior Members	41
Open Members	15
Junior Members	2
Total	58

The general Fund-Continues to be healthy. We are well positioned to deal with any expenses (planned or otherwise) for the balance of 2023.

I called the AMA to check on the status of our FRIA application. Holly told me the FAA has not yet approved our application. The FAA is moving slowly

on these and there are other clubs in the US that are in the same position we are. She said not to worry and that we'll be notified as soon as the FFA responds.

Newsletter Editor-Dennis Vollrath had nothing new to report.

Field Chairman- Trygve Smalley reported everything is going smoothly and thank you to the members that helped with mowing. Preparations for the Fun Fly will start this week.

Tractor Chairman- Eric Armantrout was not present.

Web Master-Ron Hayes had nothing new to report

Safety Officer-Darrell Hossalla reported everything is going smoothly.

Compost Director- Chuck Roberts reported there is no dumping allowed on the back side of the center pile. This is to help us watch items that people are bringing are within the guidelines.

Blair, at the village, informed us they found unspent 9mm rounds around the dump site. No one knows where these came from but just wanted to give us a heads up. The club has enough logs for the upcoming cold season. There are to

be no additional logs left on the pile at this time.

Old Business- Nothing to discuss.

New Business — Preparation for open house-Next Sunday. Free food for pilots (there are 25 burgers and some hot dogs. When they're done, they're done). Need pilots to attend. The whole purpose is to have planes in the air!

RRCC members are invited to the Sky Ranch club in West Bend next Saturday 8/26. We won \$100.00 for having the most members present last year which will be spent on pizza for our members at a date to be announced.

New Pilots - None

Show & Tell – Chuck Roberts has NX8 Spektrum radio, DLE 30 and 80mm ducted fan for sale.

Raffle Drawing – Darrel Hossalla won the Raffle. The total was \$25.00 and Hoss donated \$12.00 to the club. Thank you, Hoss!

Close Meeting – Jim closed the meeting with a reminder that the next club meeting will be Sunday August 20th at

Dennys Stuff

We got a few things to cover this month. Your editor has been a bit busy, ordering various things from Amazon.

Starting off, I've picked up a couple of those "USB meters" from Amazon. OK, just what is a "USB Meter"? Many of our RRCC members who fly electric models may have one of those Wattmeters that can be used to measure the voltage, current, Watts, and Ampere Hours that are pulled by our high powered electric motors.

Well, one of those USB meters does the same thing for the USB chargers that we

all use for our cellphones, and a few other electronic devices.

You simply insert this meter between your wall charger and your cellphone. And, you can monitor the chargers voltage, amps, watts and milliampere hours going into the battery in your cellphone. Now, if you run your cellphone battery nearly dead, this USB meter will show how much it takes to fully charge your cellphones battery. With it, I've found that Ona May's two year old I-phone battery only has 70% of its rated milliampere hour capacity.

Note that your Spektrum nX10 also uses

the same cellphone charging connector, so the USB meter can also monitor how many milliampere hours you put back into your Spektrum nX10 transmitter.

As an added note, this unit showed me that those various USB cables are not equal in performance while charging your cellphone and similar items. The USB meter showed that one of those cheap dollar tree USB cables only charged at 1/3 Amp, while a quality USB cable charged at 0.9 Amps on the same cellphone.

Add to that, I found one of my USB chargers was intermittent. It worked fine, but after a half hour of charging, its charging output dropped from 1.2 Amps down to 0.05 Amps, before the cellphone battery was fully charged. That wall wart cellphone charger wound up in the trash.

Here is one of the USB meters I've got. Amazon has it as "MakerHawk USB 3.0 Tester" for \$12.99. (Cheap enough!)



SPEKTRUM GPS MODULE SPMA 95871

Next on the Amazon list is something I've sent to the RRCC membership a few days ago. The unit is a Spektrum GPS module that plugs into the X-bus of your Spektrum receiver that has telemetry.

I was looking at extra on board Spektrum airspeed indicators for my model airplanes, but found out that Spektrum farmed their on board airspeed indicators out to Eagle Tree.

Unfortunately, Eagle Tree closed their doors without warning several years ago, and the Spektrum Airspeed unit went out with it.

So, last week, I spotted information on the Spektrum GPS module that will provide GPS ground speed, altitude, and GPS location of your model while in flight. GPS ground speed isn't as good as actual Pitot tube airspeed, but it is something.

What was really interesting was the ability of the GPS module to show the GPS location live on the LCD screen of your Spektrum nX10 transmitter, using the common GPS coordinates that can be entered into your cellphone mapping App.

So, on a windy day a few days ago, I did a trial run with the GPS module. My old reliable Escapade model was taxied out to the far East end of the RRCC field 10 feet from the corn while the transmitter stayed in the pit area.

And, the LCD screen on the nX10 transmitter showed the distance to the Escapade, and the GPS coordinates.

Next, I manually copied those coordinates over to google in my cellphone, and hit "Enter" The google map showed the exact location of the model, along with where my transmitter was located. The tear drop Icon is the model location, the circle is the cellphone location.

Today, September 8, 2023, I checked what happens when the model is located at the East end of our field, after the receiver is

completely powered down.

The results showed that the Spektrum nX10 transmitter showed the last location of the model, even though its receiver was turned off. (As in crash!)

I also checked what happens when you go into the corn field with your cellphone while locating the model via the cellphone GPS map. Results, the corn field had no effect on the cellphone map.

As for the range of the AR8360T receiver transmitting back to the nX10 transmitter, ľve posted this auestion RCGroups.com. Andy Kunz out of Horizon Hobbies responded by indicating that the range of the receiver to transmitter signal strength is nearly the same as the range from the transmitter to the receiver range. In other words, way beyond the range of sight.

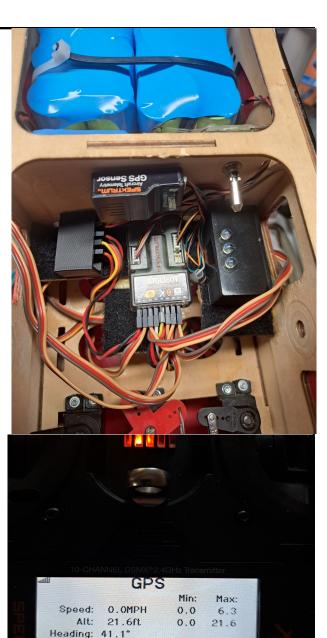
What is important to note: The GPS location can be set to update every 5 seconds, 10 seconds and so on. If the update time is set to 20 seconds, and you crash just before the next update, the model can travel several hundred feet or more in the mean time. (Turn the vocal sound off)

So, that GPS location update should be set to as short as possible. I believe it's 5 seconds.

To check your cellphone capability, enter 42.72943 N, 8791329 W into google on your cellphone. It should show the middle of our Racine flying field when you are at our flying field.

Their should be a tear drop icon and a cir- walk toward your model! (I now have cle icon on your cellphone. The tear drop is the model location, circle is the cellphone location. Just walk toward the tear- I blanked out the coordinates of my home drop to find your model.

The circle on your phone will move as you



three of these GPS monitors. never need them!)

29ft 348°

N

Function Bar

Sats: 19

in the photo.

DennyV RRCC Editor.

Distance:

Lat: 42.8

Lon: 87.8

Time: 09:50:00

JIM'S CORNER

The weather has really been on a roller coaster lately. High in the 90°s and then in the 60°s. Guess fall is around the corner. Lot's of windy days!

With the coming of Fall, comes the annual issues pertaining to the club. That is Proposed Field Rule and By-Law changes, and the election of club officers.

With regard to proposed Field Rule and/or By-Law changes, club members must: Submit their proposed changes, in writing (or email message), to the club Secretary. The club Secretary must receive your proposed change by noon of Sunday, October 1st.

The proposed changes shall be as you want the change to read. It would also indicate what you want eliminated if that is the case. The proposed change cannot be amended, nor changed after submission.

The proposed change will be published in the October & November newsletters, and voted on at the November meeting. The club officers will meet, as per club bylaws after all submissions have been received, to discuss, and possible submit proposals of their own as a collective body.

Also note, that at the November meeting, club officers for 2024 will be elected. Nominations can be made up to the time of the election vote is taken. This is your chance to get involved in the club activities.

If there is something you would like to see run differently, this is your chance to submit your name, and run for an officers position. I would encourage anyone interested in running for a club officer position to review the job descriptions for these positions as published in the club handbook, pages 14-15, Section 4.08 "Duties of Officers". Let the campaigning begin!

I have not, as of the printing of this Newsletter, polled the current officers as to who is willing to stand for office again.

We have not seen the "Drone Company, Menet Aero, people out in probably a month or so. Really not much of a hindrance to our flying.

As I write this article (Thursday, September 7th) a lot of internet traffic is indicating that the September 16th deadline set by the FAA to have a remote transponder in your plane, unless you are flying at a FRIA site, is staying in effect, but due to the lack of available transponder units and the delay in processing club FRIA requests, enforcement by the FAA will be delayed. Hopefully we will have more information by the time of our upcoming meeting.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, September 17th, at the field at 1PM. Hope to see you there.

Fly Safe & Have Fun Jim Litwin President

(Editors Note:

I've been trying to find out just what the range of the RC transponder is supposed to be.

Andy Kunz, out of Horizon Hobbies has indicated to me that these transponders do NOT transmit very far. It's much less than a half mile. The RC transponders have power outputs on the order of 20 MilliWatts or so.

As a comparison, the airline transponders have transmitting power on the order of around 100 Watts for very short periods of time.

Andy Kunz is a software design engineer at Horizon Hobbies. He has worked on those RC transponders.

Andy indicated the only thing these transponders are capable of is to allow the police or other agent to track a model (via cellphone APP) flying in a forbidden place, and identify who the pilot is, and where he is located.)





COMPOST SCHEDULE 2023

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