

# SMOKE SIGNALS

## NEWSLETTER

### CALENDAR

#### SEPTEMBER 1

Club Meeting  
Show & Tell

#### SEPTEMBER 15

Club Meeting

#### SEPTEMBER 17

Meroke Club Picnic

#### SEPTEMBER 24

**PAINTBALL SHOOTOUT**



Send all suggestions to:  
[newsletter@meroke.com](mailto:newsletter@meroke.com)

### BIRTHDAYS

**Ed Decatrel**  
**Peter Finoccio Sr**  
**Paul Fornuto**  
**Mike Hagens**  
**Mike Loboza**  
**Sal Spallino**  
**Al Weiner**

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS

September 15..TBA

September 17...MEROKE CLUB PICNIC

September 24...PAINTBALL SHOOTOUT - RAIN DATE September 25

October 20.....TBA

November 17...CLUB ELECTIONS

### UPCOMING RAFFLE PRIZES

Roy Southard notes that the raffle prizes will be OS 46, Kaos, Dolphin gp/ep, Avistar gp/ep and a Magnum 70 4 stroke "blue head".

If you can not make a meeting have your buddy buy some raffle tickets for you and support our club.

### HELPFUL HINT

A great non-slip straightedge for balsa stripping is a hacksaw blade. The set of the teeth allows them anchor firmly against the sheet to prevent slippage due to the pressure of the blade.



# SMOKE SIGNALS



## MEETING MINUTES - AUGUST 4, 2016



The meeting was opened at 6:34pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: 32 members attending.

Minutes: Waived. Approved and seconded.

Note: The meeting was convened on a sad note. Russ Rhine had a stroke and at this time details are few.

### Report Of Officers:

**President:** New roster was sent out.

Picnic will be on September 17th and the Paintball Event will follow on September 24th. Everyone knows their job. New members are expected to help out with both events.

Our next meeting on August 18th will be at the field starting at 7pm. Pizza and refreshments will be served.

Ed W. will be picking up the ice and Joe Petrozza will be picking up soda.

**Treasurer:** No report due to Russ's absence due to illness.

**Vice President:** Joe talked about losing a plane on a Spektrum radio in which he felt was possibly interfered with signals emitted from the cell tower on the edge of the field boundary. This is still unconfirmed at this time. He also brought up an article from Newsday stating that the County "Power That Be" are proposing the ban of drones / quad-copters from all Nassau County parks. This is still in the development stage.

**Recording Secretary:** No Report   **Corresponding Secretary:** No Report   **Video Librarian:** No Report

**Web Master:** No Report   **Building Program:** No Report   **Meeting Programs:** No Report

**Flight Instruction:** No Report   **Friends of Lufbery:** No Report

**Field Safety:** Ted reported that we are having problems with the 4X4's again. He took photographs of the culprits. One of them followed Ted back to the impound area and demanded to know why he was photographing them to Ted replied that he wasn't allowed in the field area. Then the guy responded with "It's a free park". Ted told him not in this area. You need a permit to be here and if he returned that the police would be called immediately.

Ted addressed the Spektrum issue stating that as far as he knows no one else had voiced any problems with these radios. He has numerous planes that use this radio and has had no problems. If your flying near that tower you are way out of the fields boundaries.

Ted talked to "The Judge" to see if he could possibly talk to he contacts to speed up the gate installation.

Ted said he would look into a sign stating that a permit is required beyond the gate and also one stating there is video surveillance. Phil added that Dennis Andreas said he could look into possible video equipment.

**Club Archives:** Nothing new to report.

**Membership:** No Report

**Old Business:** Refer to the President's and Vice President's reports.

**New Business:** Refer to the President's report.

**Coffee Break.** (Prepared by: Al Weiner)

**Raffle Winners:** 1st Prize: Charlie P. - Supertigre .74 two stroke engine

2nd Prize: Nick Toto - Digital servo

3rd Prize: Richy B. - CA glue

## SMOKE SIGNALS



### MEETING MINUTES - AUGUST 18

The meeting was opened at 6:34pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. This was an outdoor meeting at the field.

Roll Call: No sign-in but it was a good turn out.

Minutes: Waived. Approved and seconded.



**Note:** We got some good news on Russ. His condition has improved and he is now at North Shore Hospital. On a sad note though, Joe Petrozza's sister-in-law passed away so he will be unable to be at the meeting. Our condolences go out to Joe and his family.

### Report Of Officers:

**President:** In the spirit of keeping the meeting short Mark touched upon a few items which are coming up. He made the announcement that I (Richy B.) will be taking over the treasurer's position until Russ is able to return. Also he asked for a vote from the membership to allow the two signatories on the checking account to sign checks when one of the signees is also the payee. there is usually three signatories so this wasn't a problem but the bank gave us a hard time about putting my signature on the account that we decided to just have the two for now. Mark mentioned that the Babylon Flyers are having a swap meet on November 6 in which we purchased a wall table. He'll remind the membership as the date approaches. Went over details of the picnic and Paintball. Mark contacted Newsday about putting an add about our Paintball Event and the women he spoke to was really interested and enthusiastic about the detail that Mark hoped it would lead to good coverage in the paper. He decided to scrub the sign idea at the entrance to the park. He discussed way of getting the info out for the Paintball event. Ideas ranged from handing out fliers at the entrance where they check you residents credentials to putting balloons and signs on the Aerodrome Sign. Still debating on what we'll do.

**Treasurer:** Treasury is in excellent health.

**Vice President:** Included in the Presidents report.

**Recording Secretary:** No Report

**Corresponding Secretary:** No Report

**Building Program:** No Report

**Video Librarian:** No Report

**Web Master:** No Report

**Meeting Programs:** No Report

**Flight Instruction:** No Report

**Friends of Lufbery:** No Report

**Field Safety:** No Report

**Membership:** No Report

**Club Archives:** Nothing new to report.

**Old Business:** Refer to the President's report.

**New Business:** Refer to the President's report.

**Coffee Break.** No coffee. Pizza and refreshments instead.

**Raffle Winners:** 1st Prize: Peter Finnicchio Jr. - Avistar Elite ARF

2nd Prize: Ted Evangelatos - Digital servo

3rd Prize: Tom Dutton - Timer

# SMOKE SIGNALS

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I guess there is some truth in the adage "feed them and they will come" or something like that. We had a great turnout at the meeting at the field and it was suggested that we do more meetings at the field but with different types of food. How about French food next? Sure, now I'll have to remind our members which fork to use with the escargot.



The summer went fast and we are already into planning for our picnic, paintball and end of year party with the crowning of a new Mr. Meroke. All these events take hard work to be successful and I'm reminding members to please step up - especially new members (part of the requirement of induction) and thanking in advance our regular group of helpers- we can't do it without you. Also coming soon is the election of new officers and committee chairpersons (PC) so think about how you may contribute.

Katy has been extremely helpful by offering to distribute our fliers at the checkpoints on the weekends. We had several hundred printed and delivered with more on the way thanks to Mr. Maran. (Dennis – I don't know his name) Katy also suggested that we place a nice sized semi-permanent sign by the Aerodrome sign in the park that we may use each year without fees. Special thanks are due to Tony for assisting in CDing the AMA sanctioned event.

We are still in the process of revamping the treasury as the bank continues to throw roadblocks at us. I am now working with a different branch and we will see if that is any better. We don't realize how matters that are taken for granted can become so important until after the fact. However the club has its own checks and balances and probably runs better than the U.S. Government.

If you haven't already done so please make arrangements with Joe Petrozza to pick up your jackets. Also we will be remitting payments due at this meeting.

If you have any suggestions (that can be printed) as to how we may improve the club please forward them to - Santa- no only kidding - or bring them up at a meeting for the board to consider.

Finally, I know you all join me in wishing Russ a speedy recovery. Russ is a very important piece of our club's smooth running with his many years of service in all manners of positions and his presence is sorely missed. Get well soon!!

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## ASK A MEROKE

*A few years ago I asked a Meroke, sending Nelson Ramos the following e-mail*

**TO: NELSON RAMOS**

**SUBJECT: Help**

**Hi Nelson, I have a question...I am replacing my main landing gear with Dubro DUB789 Super Strong Landing Gear/ .25- .50. The package says it can be painted, what paint should I use and how many coats? It needs to resist fuel I assume so what is the process?**



Hi Dennis, Two types of spray paints can be used. First spray can is the Top Flite LusterKote this is made for glow fuel model airplanes or Krylon paint is also fuel proof to 15%. Second spray can is Rustoleum series 7300 which is fuel proof to 15% and can be purchased in any hardware store or Home Depot. With the Rust-Oleum I would use clear coat to make sure the paint lasts.

Next is how to prepare the landing gear for paint. Clean the work with alcohol make sure to wear latex gloves. The Gloves will prevent the skin oil from transferring onto the work. Next figure out how to support the landing gears without you holding it. Protect the area around so as not to get the over spray onto the surrounding area. To spray the work I like to spray one pass, then wait three minutes and spray again. Also I start to spray just before I hit the work and stop the spraying just as I pass the work. I don't start and stop the spraying in front of the work. The technique I use is to make



sure the spray nozzle is parallel to the work and not in an arch type of circular configuration. The Idea is to start and stop in a parallel motion and light mist on each spray. It might take ten to twelve passes before you see the finish you want. Now for the clear coat , the finish paint must be dry this should take one or more days. The clear coat is two passes. This should do it. How is your parallel technique with the spray can. Maybe a practice run might be in order to perfect your technique.

That's it !

Nelson

## SMOKE SIGNALS

### SHOW & TELL

Nelson showed us his newly finished Top Flite giant scale P-51. It came in at 26.5lbs. dry. It was two years in the making with many innovations that Nelsons famous for including a complete Buss radio system, canopy robotic actuator that opens and closes it and 2 5000mah lipo batteries to run everything. Beautiful job.



Jerry Koenig also showed a 1/5th scale P-51. It was a Hanger 9 ARF. It took him 8 months to build. It came in at 29 lbs. It's controlled by a JR 12 channel radio system in which all 12 channels were utilized. Another beautiful plane.

Bob Henken showed a rubber powered free flight plane which utilized a folding prop. It was built from Art Reiner plans. A beautiful vintage plane. Nice job Bob.



# SMOKE SIGNALS

Here's another How-To Article by Mike Buzzeo (MinnFlyer) article from [RCUNIVERSE.COM](http://RCUNIVERSE.COM)

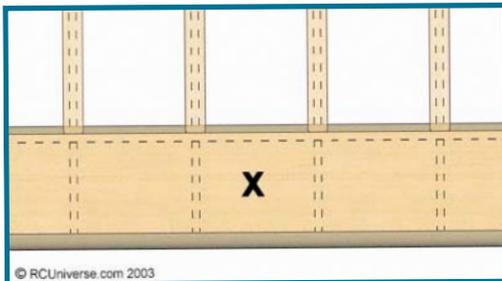
## INTRODUCTION

### Sheeting Repair

If you've never had to cut into a sheeted area of your airplane, consider yourself lucky. But at some point in time, you will probably find it necessary to do so. You may have damaged a piece that needs replacing, or maybe you've just finished sheeting your wing and then realized you have just entombed your wedding ring inside the leading edge. Don't feel bad, that's one of those bonehead things that almost all of us have done at some time or other (Okay, it wasn't my wedding ring, it was a razor blade, but it still had to come out!). Whatever your individual predicament, here's a step-by-step procedure for Balsa Surgery.

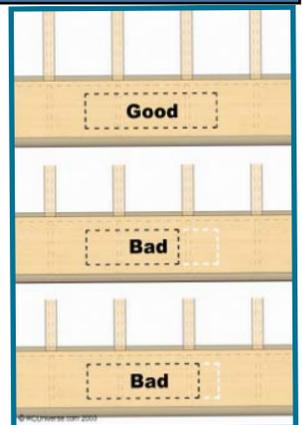
## HOW MUCH TO CUT?

Let's say that you need to remove a section of sheeting at the "X".



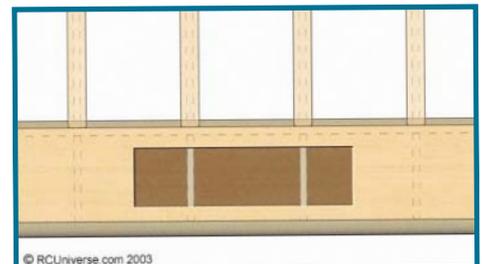
The first thing to do is to locate the ribs. Plan your cut so that it will cross over at least 1 rib, if you need to cut very close to a second rib, you would be better off cutting past that one also so that you have ample room to get at the underside of the remaining sheeting.

If the sheeting is already covered, you will want to remove an area of covering slightly larger than the hole you plane to cut (Note: If you're not too particular, you could just leave the covering on and skip the wood filler step near the end).



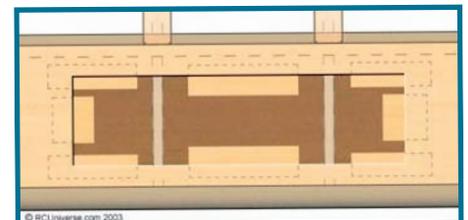
## START CUTTING

The next step is to get out your trusty razor blade or hobby knife, and slice through the sheeting (Be brave!). Then, carefully remove the sheeting from the rib(s) and either: 1.) Remove the foreign object (i.e., Wedding Ring, Razor Blade, Dentures, or whatever else you may have left in there) or, 2.) If you are replacing a damaged section, make a copy of the removed piece from a new piece of sheeting.



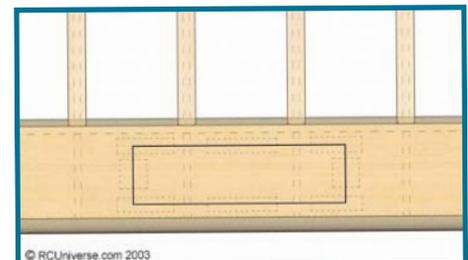
## MAKE YOUR BED

Now comes the fun part. Get some scraps of sheeting and cut them to whatever sizes you need, and glue them UNDER the original sheeting to make a "bed" for the patch. These scraps will align the patch to the existing sheeting, and the ribs will conform the sheeting to its original shape.



## FINISHING

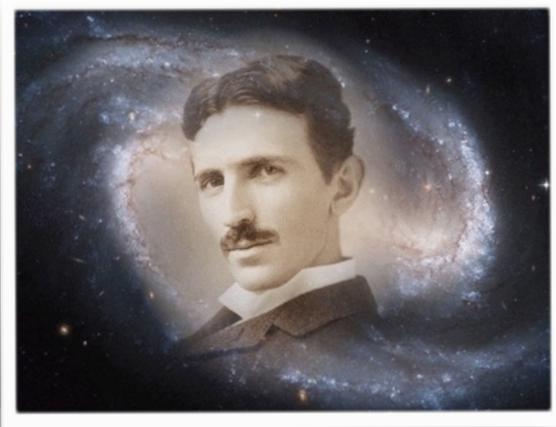
Now you can glue the sheet to its new bed, and fill the cracks with balsa filler. Once the filler has dried, just sand, and add a patch of covering. Good luck!



## SMOKE SIGNALS

*At our last meeting Mark Klein presented me with a number of articles to share with you in the Newsletter, one of them from Model Aviation titled TELSA - the Father of RC. I remembered that a few years back I had compiled from about.com, De[construct].net Dec 1st,2008 and Model Aviation Magazine this story and posted it in "SMOKE SIGNALS". So with the renewed interest TELSA - the Father of RC will rerun in the next two issues of the Newsletter.*

### **NIKOLA TESLA - The Father of RC**



Nikola Tesla was born in 1856 in Smiljan Lika, Croatia. He was the son of a Serbian Orthodox clergyman. Tesla studied engineering at the Austrian Polytechnic School. He worked as an electrical engineer in Budapest and later emigrated to the United States in 1884 to work at the Edison Machine Works. He died in New York City on January 7, 1943.

During his lifetime, Tesla invented fluorescent lighting, the Tesla induction motor, the Tesla coil, and developed the alternating current (AC) electrical supply system that included a motor and transformer, and 3-phase electricity.

The Tesla coil, invented in 1891, is still used in radio and television sets and other electronic equipment.

### **Nikola Tesla - Mystery Invention**

Ten years after patenting a successful method for producing alternating current, Nikola Tesla claimed the invention of an electrical generator that would not consume any fuel. This invention has been lost to the public. Tesla stated about his invention that he had harnessed the cosmic rays and caused them to operate a motive device.

In total, Nikola Tesla was granted more than one hundred patents and invented countless unpatented inventions.

### **Nikola Tesla and George Westinghouse**

In 1885, [George Westinghouse](#), head of the Westinghouse Electric Company, bought the patent rights to Tesla's system of dynamos, transformers and motors. Westinghouse used Tesla's alternating current system to light the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago.

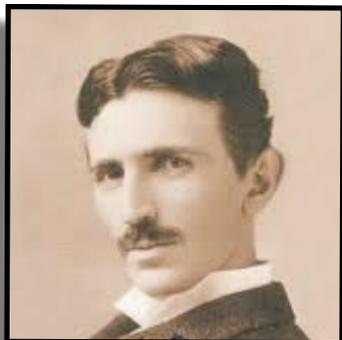
### **Nikola Tesla and Thomas Edison**

Nikola Tesla was [Thomas Edison's](#) rival at the end of the 19th century. In fact, he was more famous than Edison throughout the 1890's. His invention of polyphase electric power earned him worldwide fame and fortune. At his zenith he was an intimate of poets and scientists, industrialists and financiers. Yet Tesla died destitute, having lost both his fortune and scientific reputation. During his fall from notoriety to obscurity, Tesla created a legacy of genuine invention and prophecy that still fascinates today.



## SMOKE SIGNALS

### NIKOLA TESLA - The Father of RC



It is ironic that Tesla never did get any subsidies from the U.S. government because even minor engineers and inventors in our time work on defense projects. He failed to sell a modification of his 20-year-old radar system in 1917, which he claimed would bounce signals off the hulls of the deadly World War I German submarines. Mysteriously, the Navy didn't even offer to finance a demonstration. Tesla once again enlisted the press and magazines help, and they responded because they knew that their friends and relatives would be exposed to these U-boats on their way to France. Once again, the Navy brass buried their heads in the sand.

Shortly before the end of World War I (in 1918), Tesla's RC system was employed in an Army Air Corps biplane by the Sperry Gyroscope Company to fly a pre-programmed mission to prove the feasibility of warfare without risk of life and limb. It made its take-off by ground-operated transmitter, then flew automatically for a hundred miles where it dropped its bombs on an imaginary target, made a 180-degree turn, and returned to its take-off point where the landing was made by RC transmitter. It had analog proportional closed-loop servos throughout. The Sperry gyroscopes were equipped with the same potentiometers as the ground transmitter for automatic pilot control after take-off. The war ended before a defense contract was awarded. This happened in World War I.

It wasn't until 20 years later that the Army Air Corps revived Tesla's RC when they issued a master contract for a 10-foot wingspan RC model with a two-cylinder two-cycle engine for use as a target drone for machine gunners to practice anti-aircraft fire. The left and right wing panels were alike and interchangeable. They were made of spruce with fabric covering. The fuselage was of thin-walled 4130 chrome moly tubing. Three longitudinal tubes formed a triangular cross section with two parallel tubes at the top and a single tube at the bottom. The RC unit was an analog feedback potentiometer proportional on three channels with no ailerons. This writer witnessed many of their flights while I was in the Army Air Corps in World War II. They had such robust turn response that I couldn't believe that they flew without ailerons until I noticed a large movable rudder area in the design. (Three channel fliers take note of this.)

In our day, Tesla's RC is everywhere. Thousands of modelers in each state use it for fun and pleasure. It has orbited other planets and has been to the moon many times with and without a crew. It carries out combat missions automatically with accuracy in the form of guided missiles.

Tesla's inventions and discoveries are too numerous to mention. They number in the thousands. Most of them were invented in his head and filed away in a corner of his brain until he had enough money to make a working model. He hated to waste time on lecture tours but he was always in demand as a lecturer on his own developments, both here and abroad. He was well paid for them and he desperately needed the money to support his laboratory at the Tesla Electric Company.

Tesla's favorite invention was the electromagnetic pendulum known as the Tesla coil. It is the heart of radio, electronics, and automobile ignition systems. He was forced to invent it because his high frequency alternators with hundreds of poles for his early radio research work were not satisfactory for a man of Tesla's caliber. He got as high as 30,000 cycles from them but he wanted much more. He credits the coil for his rapid development of radio, radar, radio control, and electronic automation. His drive was motivated by a strong desire to keep his creative mind occupied. His most quoted statement was, "the worst criminals in the world are the voluntarily idle."

This statement aptly describes one of the prime motivations of the average RC modeler.

**NEXT ISSUE - TESLA'S MIRACLE BOAT**