

"TURBULATOR"

Newsletter
of the Rio Rancho
Radio Control
Flying Club
AMA Club #2770

WATERMAN FIELD

ELEVATION 5840 FEET

35° 17.2'N 106° 44.8'W



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

"Da Prez Sez"

There was a nice break from the windy, and cold weather of February, but it did not last long enough for me. The cooler, windy weather of March is not welcome around here. Thanks to Steve Schafer the storage unit which is in place, and should work out well for us. We are now ready for the field cleanup, and runway repair that will take place in April. With a little less wind it should be a good summer as we are all looking forward to some trips to Cochiti with many new Float Planes in the club. See U all April 3rd.

Coming Events

1. Next Meeting 3 Apr 7:00pm at the Wallen Clubhouse.
2. Indoor Event on 17 April from 9-Noon at the Star Center.

SAFETY:

BY

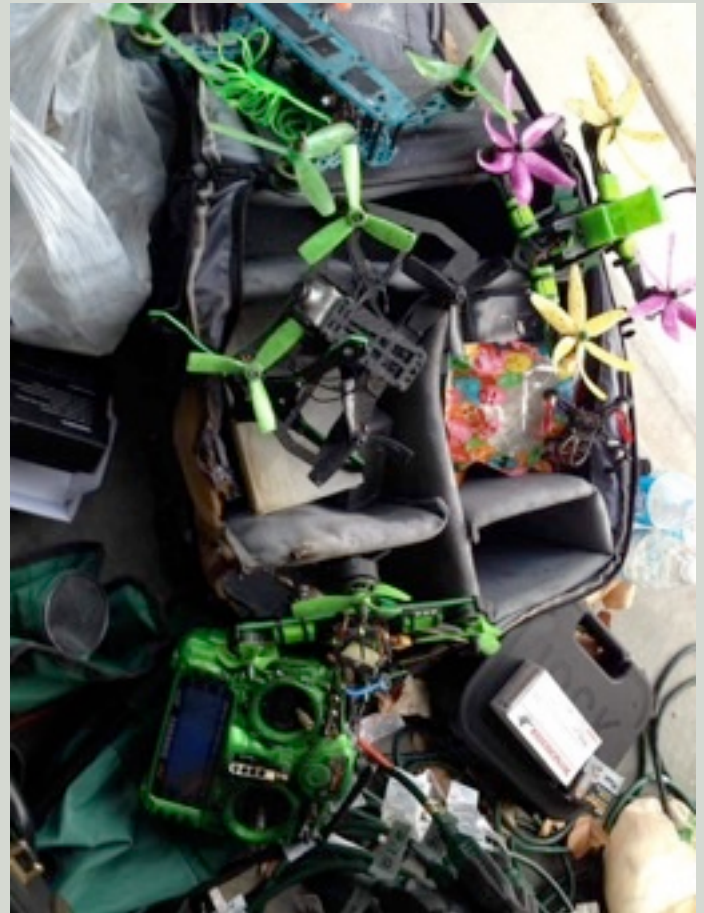
Don McClelland

I was at the Local Hobby Shop about a week ago and was told an interesting story that I felt was worth sharing. One of the Quad Copter guys was charging batteries in his show, a spare room in his home. The pack under charge was in an Ammo Box while charging. He went next door to visit while the battery(s) were charging. When he returned home he found his charging room on fire! The fire got into the wall and burned the studs to the second floor and damaged both the studs and wall board in the room above his charging room. In any case he lost a number of expensive quad copters, his charging equipment and made his house a crispy critter. Pictures are below of some of the damage. The lessons learned from this are to

1. Always charge with the batteries in a safe container, in this case the batteries were only in an ammo box.(Not sure if it was open or not) It wasn't enough and I believe it was open allowing the battery flames to set fire to the room.
2. Be physically present monitoring your batteries ie be in the room. When these batteries fail during charging the battery starts boiling, which you can hear, then re-act to saving your shop and maybe your home.
3. Use only high quality chargers. The charger in use here was one of the car chargers, not sure the brand.

What safeties are on your charger? Will it shut down on an electrical short or open? Does it detect high or low resistance? The two highly

rated chargers are the FMA chargers and iChargers. Each of these chargers have the most safety checks of all chargers on the market. FMA chargers have never had a charger fire! You can buy either of these chargers cost the same as a medium quality charger from one of the hobby shops or less! The FMA chargers are available at FMADirect.com and both chargers are available at BuddyRC.com. One thing to think about is a high quality charger is significantly cheaper than burning down your home. If you have questions about chargers/charger fires please contact me.



Results of a charger fire (note the Winchester Ammo on the table. Lucky !!)

MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the March 2017 Club Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm.

Minutes accepted as Published.

Treasurers Report accepted as presented.

Membership Report; 35 2017 members

Field Report: 1. Crack repairs and field work party need to be discussed as warmer weather comes in.

Safety: When flying announce your intention when going onto the field.

Unfinished Business: 1. Cost of the storage container has risen to \$3100 Delivered. There was a long discussion on the benefits of the extra costs. Steve Shaffer volunteered to pay the costs of the Storage Container. The club then voted unanimously to accept Steve's generous offer. Ken Carpenter, Bill Ryan, and Don will make the arrangements and oversee installation.

New Business: We will hold a club SWAP meet at the April MTG. If you have planes or equipment to trade or sell please bring them to the April Meeting.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm



Crispy House Results of a charger fire

Turbulator:

Editor Don McClelland

We are always looking for articles, pictures and your input!

For comments, or suggestions

Please Email Don at

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RIO RANCHO RC CLUB

AMA Charter #2770

www.rioranchorcflyers.org

Next Club Meeting

April 3rd 7:00pm at the Wallen Club House. 5545 Lilac Pl.