



May

Minneapolis, Minnesota U.S.A.

2005

TCRC'ers Trek To Toledo

by Jim Cook

Bright and early Thursday morning, March 31st, five TCRC members boarded their rented 24-foot motor home and headed for Toledo, Ohio and the 51st Annual Toledo R/C Expo.



Jim Cook, Jim Ronhovde, John Dietz, Scott Anderson and Stan Erickson pose before departing for Toledo. (Photo by Jim Cook)

Jim Cook and Scott Anderson had been planning the trip for the last month or so and at the March 8th club meeting Jim Ronhovde, Stan Erickson and John Dietz decided to join them on the trip east. Scott and Jim had been to Toledo several times, but this would be a first trip for the other three.

The five met at Baker's Square in Eden Prairie for a planning session and decided a side trip to Muncie and the AMA National Flying Site would be nice. They even considered bringing small planes to make a flight on the runways at Muncie.

An early morning departure was planned so that they would miss rush hour in Chicago approximately eight hours later. This was partially successful but Chicago still was somewhat congested. Even with the congestion, the motor home arrived in Toledo right on schedule.

Scott had a hotel room reserved in the Seagate Hotel which was right above the Seagate Center where the Expo would be held. Scott and Stan opted for the hotel room while Jim, Jim and John were content to stay in the motor home. The Toledo Weak Signals club, which hosts the Expo, had reserved a parking lot for RV's. It was located several blocks from the Center, but they had furnished a security car that was present 24 hours/day to watch the vehicles. The motor home had all the amenities – heater, generator, kitchen, TV, VCR – and was quite a comfortable place to stay.

Former TCRC member Scott Gerber drove up from St. Louis and joined the guys for dinner on Thursday evening. He also had a room in the Seagate.

After a nice breakfast, Friday morning found the TCRC'ers eager for the Expo to start. Precisely at 9:00 AM the doors opened to the main floor, and it was amazing to see

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From the Left Seat

by Jay Bickford

Flying has become a way of life for me, it seems. And unfortunately, right now the flying I am referring to is not out at the Jordan Field tearing up the sky with one of my R/C planes. Instead, it is on board flying "pop cans" as they make their way across various parts of North America. Oh well, at least it pays the bills and allows me to enjoy the more enjoyable type of flying on the few days I manage to get off. I guess I really need to work on that "folding airplane" idea so I can pack one in my carry on.

As I write this newsletter the spring flooding at the TCRC Model Air Park in Jordan should be just about gone. Let's hope that this is the only flood of the season, and that we have a long and safe flying season out at the field. As many of you know, we have retained use of the Scott County Fairgrounds as an alternate flying site for this season, and that without the need to spend any more money for it this year. Jim Cook, new member Mike Burk, and I met with Jim Luce, the fairgrounds manager, and he agreed to credit us for half of last year's fee due to problems we had when we needed to use the field last season, and also to only charge us the amount credited for the use of the field this year. Net result: no additional outlay for this year. We have also agreed to have a serious look at the Fairgrounds Alternate Flying Site this season and then make a final decision at

the end of the season on whether we continue on with this arrangement. If the Fairgrounds is opened again this season as our alternate flying site, please make sure to go out and give it a try. However, please remember that due to the proximity of the two sites to one another, we can only fly at one site a time. Also, as a side note, Jim Luce is a real aviation buff and is certainly a great ally to have on the Fairground's Board, as well as in the community.

Thanks also to all of you that took the time to fill out a 2005 TCRC Improvement Ideas Questionnaire. I really appreciate it. A total of 16 members responded to my call for your input and ideas. The average score for each question on the survey are as follows, and are listed from high to low. (Questions edited for space.):

1. Airplane assembly benches for pits area: 3.813
2. New Frequency control board: 3.25
3. New picnic tables / benches for field: 3.25
4. New storage shed(s) for tractors / field equipment: 2.563
5. Expand pits area. Raise low area on east side, install drainage, and pave: 2.500
6. Move flight line back to expanded pits area: 2.500
7. Develop a formalized R/C flight training & certification program: 2.438
8. Extend runways and re-pave current runways: 1.938

The TCRC Board is moving ahead with plans for the first 2 items on the list: Airplane assembly benches and a new frequency control board. The rest of the items are being held under consideration. Thanks again for all who responded.

Until next month . . . I'll see you at the field. ☺

Fairgrounds Alternate TCRC Flying Site

The 'Alternate Flying Site' committee met with Jim Luce, the Scott County Fairgrounds manager, and came to an agreement for the 2005 flying season.

The committee, consisting of Jay Bickford, Jim Cook and Mike Burk, was appointed at the March 8th meeting to discuss possible solutions to problems that arose in 2004.

The agreement came none to soon as the very next week the Minnesota River crept out of its banks and put the TCRC Jordan field out of commission for over a week until that field was reopened on April 27th.

Even though it is hoped that the Jordan Field remains high and dry for the balance of the year, it was discussed that the club may schedule a special flying event for the fairgrounds site sometime during the year.

Thanks to the committee for arranging for an acceptable alternate site for 2005. ☺

Toledo Trek

Continued From Page 1

the huge number of displays for absolutely everything that is sold for the R/C hobby. The guys all wore their TCRC 'blue' and Scott Gerber commented that they were easy to spot in a crowd.

Each year at Expo, some form of the hobby seems to be 'hot'. This year it was electrics, with brushless motors, speed controllers and batteries being displayed everywhere. One thing very nice about Expo is that there are lots of bargains to be had. Most booths had great sale prices on products that were less than could be purchased by mail or over the internet.

Lunch found the six across the street at Murphy's for a great meal and a comparison of all the great deals each had made, and then back to the Seagate Center.

In addition to the main floor of the Seagate, the second level has a huge group of hobby stores with booths and also a swap meet. This area is as big as the area on the main floor. Tom and Jeremy Steinmueller had a big display and were doing a great business.

By closing time of 5:00 PM, the tired crew met at Scott and Stan's room to rest, compare deals, and plan dinner.

Saturday morning was gray and rainy and the guys in the motor home had a wet walk to the Expo. Everyone wanted to go back to several booths on the main floor for last minute purchases before their departure for Muncie scheduled for

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TCRC Blue Was Easy To See At The Toledo Expo



John, Jim, Stan and Scott with former TCRC member Scott Gerber on the main floor of Expo. (Photo by Jim Cook)

Lunch At Murphy's



The guys took a welcome break for a great lunch at Murphy's Restaurant in Toledo. (Photo by Jim Cook)

Toledo Trek

Continued From Page 3

11:00 AM. The entire group ultimately ended up at the Century Hobbies booth trying out a helicopter simulator and considering the purchase of several electric copters. When the dust settled, John, Jim, Jim and Scott purchased Hummingbird V3 electric helicopters. Each purchase included an FMS simulator.

The motor home pulled out right on schedule and headed for Muncie. The weather was rainy with high winds, and all felt their decision not to bring any airplanes for flying was a smart one.

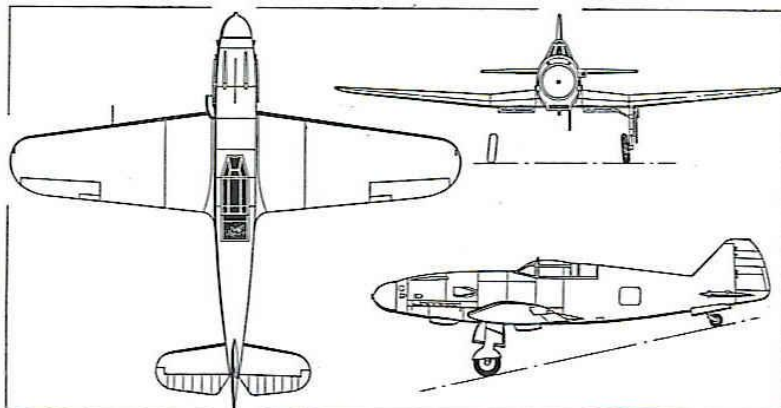
The TCRC'ers arrived at the AMA museum at the scheduled 3:00 PM. Jim Ronhovde brought a plaque to present to AMA so that it could be put with the Walt Billett Trophy the club presented many years before. Tony Beeman of AMA accepted the plaque and it was immediately placed with the trophy.

The museum had lots to see, including a 1950 hobby shop, an interactive display of the Wright Flyer, and lots and lots of R/C airplanes. Following the museum, everyone climbed back aboard the RV for a tour of the grounds. All thought that the AMA facilities in Muncie were great and well worth the side trip.

Scott navigated the group to the Texas Roadhouse Restaurant in Muncie (a place where his combat group likes to eat at during the NATS in July) for a good beef dinner and then the RV was pointed north heading back to Minnesota. During the trip back, a helicopter simulator was loaded onto Scott's laptop and the guys who bought Hummingbirds tried to learn how to fly them. This really made the return trip fly by.

8:00 AM Sunday morning the weary, broke but happy guys climbed off of the motor home for the last time and returned to their homes. Not including all of the R/C items purchased, the entire trip cost each person \$400. All felt it had been a great adventure and well worth the cost. ☺

May Mystery Plane



Letters

Jim,

I am considering getting back into R/C after a 15 year hiatus. So, I might see you guys at the Park Rapids Fun Fly this year!

I am interested in hearing about whom I knew in TCRC, that is still active. I know many of the guys whom were active when I started out have passed on. John Krekelberg, Jerry Hesse, Don Heywood, etc.

I saw Bruce and Shirley Anthony and Rose Hesse at Bob Taylor's funeral in February of 2004. Hope they are doing well! I also saw a photo of Chris O'Connor on your website. I saw that Dave Andersen is still writing, as he had an article in *RCM*. Bruce told me that Hugo Lung is in California, I hope he is doing well, also.

How about Sherwood Heggen, Jim Miller, Jim Ronhovde, Bud Stitt, Morgan Larson, Jim Taylor, Al Poole, etc. There are many more guys I knew, but their names escapes me at this time

I am sure the old club has many new faces, and likely only 1/4th to 1/3rd are actually active flyers.

Maybe you have a roster you could e-mail me. If not, or you don't want to do that, can you simply tell me who is still active/alive.

Thanks!

Mark DeSchane
deshanedms@wcta.net

Pictures From The 2005 Toledo Trek



The guys traveled in comfort in their 24-foot Spirit motor home that they rented from Brambilla's in Shakopee.



Jim Ronhovde does some serious research on the helicopter simulator at the Century booth on the main floor of the Toledo Expo.



The guys pose on a windy Saturday at the main gate of the AMA in Muncie, Indiana



Scott Gerber and Stan Erickson in a sky full of nice airplanes.

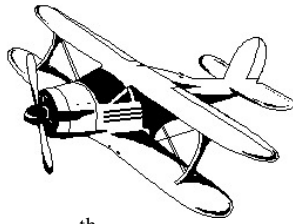


Saturday morning brought rain and some ingenuity in getting to the Seagate Center.



John Dietz gets first-hand experience flying the Wright Flyer mock-up in the AMA museum.

Show & Tell



Lots of neat planes at the April 12th meeting.



Dave Andersen had his beautiful 1/3-scale Grumman Lynx, just back from the Toledo Expo. This plane was scratch-built and the finish coat was white/orange/brown Klass Kote. The pilot was from Axel's in Germany and cost \$300! Dave plans on entering it in the AMA Nats in August.



Jim Cook had his electric Scorpio ThreeDee Stick. This was the plane that his wife Mary gave him for his birthday, and Jim's first venture into electrics. The ARF was done in clear yellow Monokote wings and stab, and red fuse. He had a brushless HiMax 1080 motor with a Phoenix 25 speed controller and a 1250

mAh lithium battery. He flew the plane for the first time on the previous Sunday and said it was a great little airplane with lots of zip.



Jay Bickford had his new electric at the meeting also. This was a Korean Flubber. This ARF was done in clear yellow Monokote on the wings and stab, with a white fuse and wing leading edge. This plane had a HiMax Outrunner with a Phoenix 25 speed controller and a 1,500 mAh lithium battery. As of the meeting the Flubber had not had its maiden flight.



Stan Erickson had his new scratch-built electric called a Homer. He built the plane from plans but did some seat-of-the-pants modifications that he said worked well. This low-wing stick-type plane was powered by a Hacker 20 Outrunner motor and used a lithium battery. It was done in yellow Monokote on the wings, stab and fuse that looked very nice. He has put three flights on the plane so far and said that it flies fast and well. ☺

TCRC Presents Walt Billett Award Plaque To AMA

After visiting the Toledo Expo on April 1st and 2nd, five TCRC'ers journeyed to the AMA Headquarters in Muncie, Indiana.



Jim Ronhovde presents the Walt Billett Plaque to Tony Beeman. Below the plaque with the trophy. (Photos by Scott Anderson)

In addition to their desire to see the AMA flying site and visit the museum, the TCRC members also had another reason for the visit. Jim Ronhovde had the current plaque showing the most recent winners of the Walt Billett Award, and he presented this plaque to Tony Beeman of the AMA, so it could be placed with the original Walt Billett trophy. ☺



TCRC Building Contest May 7th

The TCRC annual Building Contest is scheduled for Saturday, May 7th at the Jordan Field.

CD for the Building Contest is Jim Ronhovde and the start time will be 10:00 AM. There is a short clean-up of the grounds planned for 9:00 AM prior to the BC.

There will be prizes for four categories again this year: Trainer; Scale; Sport/Pattern; and ARF. First place in each category will get a prize of \$25. In addition there will also be a 'Best of Show' award. This winner will also get a prize of \$25. Judging will be based on construction, modifications, originality, quality of work, and overall craftsmanship. In addition, the plane must be airworthy, although it is not required that it flies at the Building Contest.

During the day, the runways will be open for flight for all with a plane, and Jim is planning a nice hot lunch for all in attendance after the judging.

So get those finishing touches on your winter projects and have them at the Jordan Field on Saturday, May 7th for the 2005 edition of the TCRC Building Contest. ☺

**Be A Participant In
The TCRC Building
Contest May 7th**

From The Co-Pilot's Seat

by Gerry Dunne

Hi TCRC'ers!

Well, we are into one of our busiest months of the year. By the time this goes to print we will have done our Fairgrounds flying site clean-up on April 30th.

The next week brings the TCRC Building Contest at the Jordan Field. Prior to the BC we are having a tree branch clean-up starting at 9:00 AM on that Saturday. We want to pick up all the wood on the ground that is mainly to the north of the runways that could damage our mowers.

The Building Contest starts at 10:00 AM that same day. I believe that Jim Ronhovde is the CD and that we will have prizes in several categories.

The next weekend brings the Spring Float Fly starting at 11:00 AM on Saturday, May 14th. This

is at Bush Lake with the CD being Jim Cook. Anyone with a 2005 AMA card and a float plane is welcome to fly. Even if you don't have the plane, you can always be a spectator.

And I always save the best 'til last, and that's the first ever TCRC NIGHT FLIGHT FRIGHT scheduled for Saturday, May 21st. I am the CD for this, and all you need is an AMA card and a plane to fly – if you dare! If you haven't flown in the dark before, it is quite an experience. I can give you some pointers on trying this if you need the help. Plan on coming to Jordan and enjoying the fun on the 21st.

So, we have a really big month planned. Come to all the events and have a great time.

Well, that is all for now. So fly fast, fly safe, and try to land on the wheels. ☺

**Enjoy The Month
Of May At The
Jordan Field**

Jordan Field Branch Removal

by Pat Dziuk

There will be a tree branch removal clean-up session starting at 9:00 AM on May 7th just prior to the Building Contest start.

Gerry Dunne and Pat Dziuk will provide snowmobile trailers and we are asking for volunteers to walk a line from one end of the field to the other picking up the trees left behind in last fall's burying of the piles.

We need to get these cleaned up prior to the start of mowing season to prevent damage to our mowers. If we have enough people this should go very quickly. ☺

TCRC meets every month on the 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall of CrossPoint Church located on the southeastern corner of the intersection of 98th Street and France Avenue in Bloomington. Guests are welcome to attend these meetings.

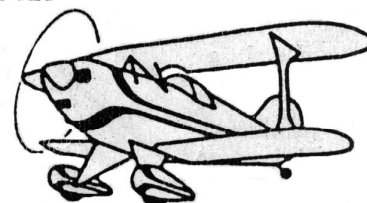
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New Members

Two more new members joined TCRC at the April 12th meeting.



Ken Smith and Steve Stevenson joined TCRC at the April 12th meeting. (Photo by Jim Cook)

Ken Smith lives at 16581 Five Hawks Avenue in Prior Lake, 55372. His phone number is 612-201-3523 and his e-mail address is wildfan@mchsi.com. He is currently flying a 60-size Sukhoi and an Extra 300 that has an 80-inch wingspan. His interests are in warbirds, 3D flying and electric planes. He learned about TCRC from the web.

Steve Stevenson lives with his wife Brandi at 16895 Westbury Avenue SW in Prior Lake, 55372. His phone number is 952-447-6747 and his e-mail address is steve.stevenson@dowjones.com. Steve currently has a Sig Kadet LT-40 and will be learning to fly Mode 2.

If you see Ken or Steve at a meeting or the field, be sure and introduce yourself and welcome them to TCRC. ☺

Jordan Field Now Open

On Wednesday, April 27th, the Jordan flying site was reopened following about a week of closure because of high water.

Pat Dziuk checked the field that evening and noted that the water had receded nicely with only a slight amount on the far east side. He said the road is stable and there is only minor silt on the runways.

Pat changed the signs to show that the Fairgrounds flying site is now closed and the Jordan field is now open. ☺

Spring Float Fly May 14th

The Annual TCRC Spring Float Fly is scheduled for 11:00 AM at Bush Lake on Saturday, May 14th.

The Float Fly will be in its normal location in Bush Lake Park on the east side of the lake. The event is for any pilot that has a plane on floats and a valid 2005 AMA membership card. The weatherman is again promising great weather and there are always some very nice float planes to see being put through their paces. This event always attracts lots of pilots from other area clubs, and the spectators are always very appreciative of the show the flyers put on.

Jim Cook is the CD for the event and the TCRC retrieval boat will be arriving at the lake at 11:00 AM.

Bush Lake is part of the Hennepin County Park System and either a daily parking sticker or a season parking sticker is required. A box with stickers or season applications will be available at the entry gate. Be sure and get a sticker. Un-stickered cars will be ticketed.

Plan on being a part of the 2005 Spring Float Fly at Bush Lake as a pilot, a spectator, or both. ☺

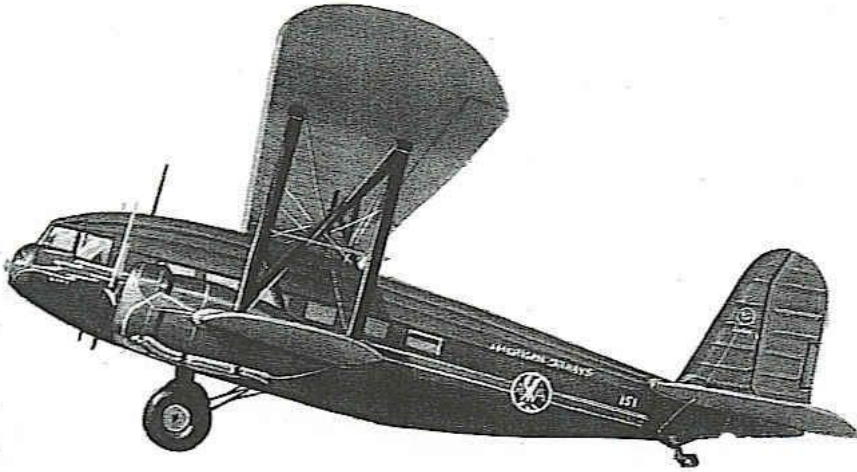
TCRCOnline.com

TCRC's website gets better every day and has become the club's primary tool for communicating with its membership. Thanks to webmaster Pat Dziuk for maintaining such a professional site. ☺

Curtiss T-32 Condor II

by Conrad Naegele

The April Mystery Plane was the Curtiss T-32 Condor II.



This airplane, developed as a civil transport, was co-developed as a heavy bomber as well. A rarity in the 1930's, the Condor was a large twin-engined fabric-covered biplane with retractable main gear. It was designed in 1932. The bomber version, the BT-32, was developed for sale to China. Powered by 2-760 hp Wright 1820 radial engines, the bomber version carried 1,450 pounds of bombs. It was armed with 5-30 cal. Machine guns, in 5 locations – nose, one each in two top turrets, one in a ventral location, and one in a side location ala the B-25. Only the prototype bomber was sold to China, and was the personal transport for General Shinnng Kai Shek.

Columbia bought three, Peru bought one, three rigged as cargo planes went to Argentina, and the U.S. Army and Navy took four. One was rigged for twin floats, or skis, and was used by Admiral Byrd for his Antarctic expedition.

This plane never had much of a chance, as it was brought out just in time to compete with the new Boeing 247, and the queen of the air, the Douglas DC-1, DC-2 and the DC-3.

The Condor had a wing span of 82 feet, a top speed of 180 mph and a range of 716 miles.

Masking Painted Areas

Ever had paint run under masking tape, giving your model a jagged edge? Me too. Then, I discovered a method of masking off those lines. First, use good quality masking tape. Go to the paint department of a home improvement store and look for high grade painters' masking tape. This is a plastic backed tape with excellent edges that produce a very sharp color demarcation line.

Next, clean the area to be painted with rubbing alcohol to remove any fingerprints, fuel residue, banana pudding, etc., that may be stuck on your model. Mask off the area to be painted. Make sure the edges of the tape are stuck firmly.

Then, spray the area with the same color you have hidden with the masking tape. The paint seals the edges to prevent paint from creeping under them. In the unlikely event that paint does seep under the edge, it will be the same color as the masked area and virtually invisible.

When that has dried, continue painting with the desired color of the stripe or panel you have chosen. When dry, remove the tape by pulling it back against itself to lessen the chance of damaging the finish. Clean any tape residue off with alcohol and you're finished.

(Reprinted from *WIRCS Touch & Go*, newsletter of the Whidbey Island Radio Control Society, Oak Harbor, Washington, Mike Mosbrooker, Editor.)

TCRC Building Contest
Saturday, May 7th

CrossPoint Church A Great Meeting Site

TCRC has now held its March and April regular membership meetings at CrossPoint Church in Bloomington.

At both meetings, there were several comments about the nice facilities in Fellowship Hall where the meeting is held. The room is very spacious and has a complete set of audio-visual equipment for programs. This equipment was used at the April meeting when the Toledo group did a slide show of their trip.

CrossPoint Church is located on the southeast corner of the intersection of 98th Street and France Avenue in Bloomington.

Thanks to TCRC member Scott Johnson, who is a member of the church, for arranging for this location. ☺



Jim Ronhovde demonstrates his new helicopter at the membership meeting at CrossPoint Church. (Photo by Jim Cook)

Calendar

- May 7 **Jordan Field
Tree Branch Removal
9:00 AM**
- May 7 **Building Contest &
Fun Fly 10:00 AM**
- May 10 **TCRC Membership
Meeting, 7:00 PM
Fellowship Hall
CrossPoint Church
Bloomington**
- May 14 **Spring Float Fly
Bush Lake Park
11:00 AM, Jim Cook**
- May 21 **Night Flight Fright
Jordan Field
Time TBD
CD- Gerry Dunne**
- May 22 **Hobby Warehouse
Swap Meet, Noon
Parking Lot
Richfield**
- June 4 **Jordan Field Clean Up
and Fun Fly**
- June 18 **Electric Fly and
Camp Out
Jordan Field
Gerry Dunne**

Another Cleaner?

I didn't believe it when I first read it. Maybe I'm just too suspicious. What I read was just another modeler's brew for cleaning airplanes. What made me skeptical was the fact that it didn't match MINE! For years I've been using a mixture of Windex, non-sudsing ammonia and just a touch of clear dishwashing detergent. This has always worked for me and really came in handy when my son stuck my daughter's shoes in the broiler. My poor unsuspecting wife turned on the stove and covered everything with greasy black soot that all her household cleaners wouldn't cut. But MY cleaner went right through it, so of course I was suspicious of this guy's stuff. He called out for mostly windshield washer fluid and a touch of granular automatic dishwasher detergent. I used too much detergent the first time and none of my squirt bottles would suck it up. It appears that about ¼ teaspoon in a 20 ounce squirt bottle filled with regular automobile windshield washer fluid works well. I sprayed this stuff on my greasy, slimy airplane, then walked back to my car for a paper towel. I was only gone a few moments but when I got back ALL of the grease and slime had broken up and easily wiped off. My old stuff isn't that good because you had to wipe really hard. I usually tried wiping off the thick goo before applying the cleaner, not necessary with this stuff. Spray it on and wait a second.

(Reprinted from Northland Flyer, Parkville, Missouri, William Crane, Editor.) ☺

Editor, Jim Cook
1075 Miller Street
Shakopee, Minnesota 55379

Teaching Old Dogs New Tricks?



Jim Ronhovde, Scott Anderson, John Dietz and Jim Cook show their new Hummingbird helicopters they bought while at Toledo Expo. All are working hard with simulators and the choppers trying to become adept. When will we see them all at Jordan? ☺

THE TCRC FLARE-OUT Monthly Newsletter



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