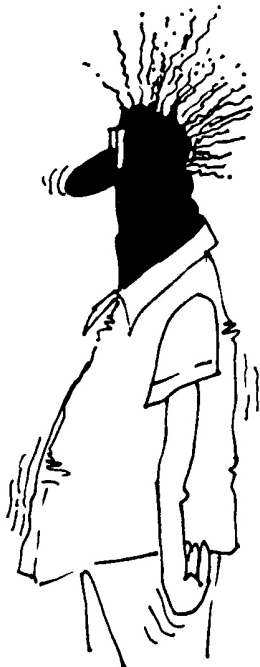


Received another e-mail/article from Ken "ace reporter" McDaniel.

O.k. Here is a "kennyisum," "TREAT LI-POs LIKE A 4-YEAR OLD CHILD BY A SWIMMING POOL. NEVER TAKE YOUR EYES OFF OF EITHER ONE. YES, MORE NEWSLETTER JUNK--IF--YOU SO DESIRE.

WARNING!

RECENTLY, I WAS CHARGING A 3 CELL LI-PO ON MY "ASTRO-FLIGHT DELUXE LI-POLY" CHARGER. IT IS TOTALLY AUTOMATIC, JUST DIAL IN THE MA/AMP CHARGING RATE. I DID PUTTING IN 2200 MA FOR MY 2200 MA RATED LI-PO 3 CELL ZIPPY BATTERY. AT FULL CHARGE THE CHARGER AUTOMATICALLY SHUTS OFF AT 12.6 VOLTS. LATER, HALF HOUR OR SO, I CHECKED THE STATE OF CHARGE. "OMG"!!!! IT READ 13.9 VOLTS. WITH OUT THINKING I QUICKLY SHUT OFF THE CHARGER, THUS LOSING THE INFO ON ITS SCREEN. LATER AT HOME IT SHOWED OVER 13 VOLTS ON A VERY ACCURATE VOLT METER. I RAN THE BATTERY DOWN TO 11.1 VOLTS THEN RECHARGED IT WITH NO PROBLEM. I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT WENT WRONG! I HAVE REUSED THE BATTERY AND CHARGER A DOZEN TIMES WITH NO PROBLEMS. I DREAD TO THINK WHAT WOULD'VE / COULD'VE HAPPENED HAD I NOT CAUGHT THIS. "YES" THE BATTERY WAS HOT. WHAT DID I LEARN? CHARGE LI-POs ONLY OUT DOORS AND WATCH VERY CLOSELY.
KEN "THAT WAS CLOSE" MCDANIEL



"How's that new LiPo charger workin Ken?"



Get over your disposable attitude, "repair airplanes"

By KEN REED

from *Hi-Flyer*, Arvada Associated Modelers, Eric Gropp, editor, Golden CO

I have seen a lot of changes in my lifetime. Some are good, and some are not so good. One fairly recent change is that almost everything is disposable. I remember in the not so distant past, when something quit working, we would take it to the repair shop. Now we just throw it away and buy a replacement. When was the last time you called a repairman for a TV, washing machine, or another appliance? In today's society, it is just easier to go buy a new one rather than dealing with the hassles and expenses of repairs.

I think this disposable attitude has gotten into our hobby. Most of the time when a crash occurs, we just remove the engine and radio and crush the rest of the model into the dumpster.

Several years ago in Texas, a friend of mine kept a \$100 bill in his pocket. When he saw a crash, he would offer the owner the \$100 bill (for the engine, radio, and everything). You would be surprised at how many models he bought. It takes so many hours to build a model, but when a crash occurs, we are all too eager to dispose of it and start over, building a whole new airframe. However, it is almost always quicker to rebuild the crash. The trouble is that emotions get in the way, and we just don't want to mess with repairing a crash.

Several years ago, someone at one of our monthly meetings suggested that when a crash occurs, we should take it home and put it on the workbench for two days. Then, we should start gluing together pieces every time we walked by the workbench. Soon, we would have the model repaired. I think he made a good point, particularly from the psychological aspect of our fragile egos.

A few weeks ago, I had a major crash, and the airplane normally would have ended up in the dumpster. However, I took my poor, crashed airplane home. I dutifully waited the two days, and then I started working on it a little every time I walked by. Soon, it was finished, and now it looks good and flies as well as it ever did.

I think the lesson I learned is a good one for all of us. We need to get past this disposable mentality and fix our models when crashes occur. It is easy and saves a lot of money!

The roundest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.