

## Pilot Profile: Chuck Bucci

by Russell Knetzger

Chuck Bucci, 55, of Hales Corners in southwestern Milwaukee County, merged two life events to reach his contented success, with his own electrical contracting business, and several hobbies: ham radio, home metal working shop, and R/C aeromodeling.

The first life event was at age 13 when his parents moved out of Milwaukee to buy a resort north of Merton and Hartland on Lake Keesus. Helping his mother, Alice, and father, Orville, in that business meant dealing with vacationers, a great training for human relations.

The second event was attending Arrowhead High School on Hartland's NW edge, at a time when it offered a wide range of shop courses. Those courses are dwindling as parents think "college" is the only ticket to a secure future for their children. By the time Chuck graduated Arrowhead in 1973, he had completed 4 years of metals shop, 4 years of woodworking shop, and 3 years of electronics study. His steamfitter father, Orville, supported such hands-on learning.



**Above: Chuck Bucci holding his .50 cu. in. engine radio controlled Raptor helicopter, - 26 inch blades.**



**Above: Chuck Bucci in his ham radio room with US and world wall maps for ham contacts, and his 30" all foam, rear electric motor prop powered FunJet.**

The electronics work opened doors for Chuck to work with various electrical contractors, and then into electrical union apprenticeships, including night school. He worked at such large firms as Staff Electric and Pieper Power. After a two year stint in Long Beach, California, he and wife Andrea came back to Milwaukee and in 1980 Chuck opened his own business in Hales Corners. There they have raised their two girls, Katie and Maria, now grown and on their own. Chuck's ability to work with people has led him to represent municipalities as their electrical inspector on a contract basis. Currently, he inspects for the City of Franklin, and the Towns of Norway, Raymond, and Rochester.

Now at the Oakwood Rd. field for 3 years, Chuck knew the late R/Cer Viktor Zernikel from their ham radio club. Chuck belongs to both our fixed wing club, the RAMS, and the helicopter club, SWARM - SE Wisconsin Area Rotary Modelers. Chuck is Safety Officer for SWARM..

**RAMS HORN**, December, 2008, Russell Knetzger Editor  
Rainbow Aero Modelers Society, Franklin, Wisconsin