



Fort Worth Thunderbirds Radio Control Association Inc. **The Pilot's Log**



Issue, 6312 December 2025

Next club meeting: January 1st - Black Eye Pea Fly-In Club Field

Special Edition – Pictorial Review of 2025

BLACK EYE PEA FLY-IN



DAWN PATROL



JULY FOURTH PICNIC



FLOAT FLY



AT THE FIELD



TEX ELECTRIC FLY-IN



President's Desk: *by Ron Anderson*

The election is over and the online voting went great so that at the November's meeting we were able to announce the new officers. The new officers for 2026 are President Scott Hays, Vice President Mark Johnson, Treasurer Chris Berardi, Secretary Rob Solis, Safety Fred Neal and Airfield Operations Rex Anderson. I have enjoyed serving as your President for 2025. Looking forward to a smooth transition of new board members and I wish you guys well. Good luck and if there is anything I can do to help please let me know and I will try.

Looks like we will have a lot going on next year with eleven events on the schedule which includes SAE again. There is still time to volunteer and help out at an event and there's always a need for help.

See you guys at the field

Secretary's Corner: *by Mike Schroeder*

Thunderbird Meeting at CERA, November 24, 2025

President Ron Anderson called the meeting to Order at 7:01 PM, welcomed all members and asked if there are any new or visiting guests. None were present.

Officers' Reports

Vice President's Report by Mark Johnson. Nothing new to report at this time.

Treasurer's Report by Chris Berardi: Chris informed the attending club members that there was a mistake in the Bylaws that were recently voted on. The Bylaws that were posted and voted on was a very old draft document that should not have been presented. Chris was having computer crashing issues and when he recovered his computer hard drive he did not see the issue of the old document.

A motion was made by James Meadow to rescind the membership vote on the version of Bylaws that had been voted on and to task Bill Lake to thoroughly review the existing (old) Bylaws, review past proposed updates, and make fresh recommendations to the document. This way we can make sure all new updates are in the Bylaws and will give the Thunderbird Club a clear forward-looking framework to follow. The motion was seconded by Fred Neal and a show of hands was made for the motion. The motion passed.

Bill agreed to then present his recommendations to the Board and the club for review and discussion. Once reviewed and discussed, it will be presented to all the club members for a vote.

Checking and saving are in good standing. Lease payment is due in December and the check will go out the first week of December.

Safety Report by Sam Corlett: Wording on Electric Propeller Rule to be put on the updated rules board in the pit areas. "Electric aircraft with an exposed propeller or fans shall NOT BE ARMED in the pit areas unless the propeller is removed."

A motion was made by Sam Corlett and committee to adapt the new safety propeller rule change. Seconded by Rex Anderson. A show of hands and the motion passed.

A motion to make temporary signs stating the new electric propeller safety rule to be posted in the pit area was made by Tom Blakeney, seconded by Rob Solis. A show of hands and the motion passed. Sam will print out several signs and post the revision up and down the pit area.

Secretary Report by Mike Schroeder: Motion to not read the minutes was made by Sam Corlett and seconded by Fred Neal. A show of hands the Motion passed.

Mike did bring up and discuss the schedule of events to be held next year. Looks like a fun filled year.

Event	CD	Date(s)
Black Eye Pea	Board Members	January 1
Cubs & Cousins	Mark Johnson	April 4
SAE	Thunderbird Club	April 16 thru 19
Warbirds	Grant Schroeder	May 16
Turbines	Need a CD	June
July 4th	Board Members	July 4th
Float Fly	Chris Berardi	August 15
EDF Jets	Scott Hays	September
T.E.X eXpo	Tom Blakeney	October 24
Members' Day	Board Members	October 17
IMAC	Need a CD	
Helicopter Fun Fly	Need a CD	November

The main fund raisers for the club are the membership renewal and the SAE event. All the rest of events do raise money and help out. Members' Day event when we had it last time (October) took about three months of planning as it was an all-day event. Started with a free tailgate swap meet and ended with the 'In & Out Burger' tractor trailer rig showing up and cooking burgers for the members.

Airfield Manager Report by Rex Anderson: Last mow is the first week of December as the mowers will be taken to get their annual service for next year.

Rex is going to break up the new pilot training this coming spring into three segments. There will be Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced groups. This way they can work on different areas of flying. Rex also discussed buying a few new electric trainer airplanes to use as the old planes we have now are in the need of retirement. A little discussion took place and Rex informed that he has flown the new style trainer and believes they will fit the club's need plus they are on sale right now. Fred Neal made a motion to buy three trainers and was seconded by Rex Anderson. A show of hands and the motion passed.

New Business

First event of the year is hosted by the Board and is the Black Eye Pea on January 1 from 10 AM to 1 PM. Good time to meet your new board officers and get to know them. Bring your favorite dish to share and also renew your membership. Renew on or before January 1st to get one raffle ticket for a chance to win a brand new plane. One ticket per member. You have to renew to get a ticket. You will also get your new gate key once you renew as the lock will be changed out on January 1. So, if you come out to the field after January 1 and your key will not work, it is time to renew. Takes about three weeks to get a key mailed out if you renew online. Again, the lock will be changed on January 1, so don't be upset if your old key does not work. Renew now and there will be no surprises.

Another little discussion about the list of events took place as several of them do not have a CD yet. It was discussed and decided to leave those events without a CD on the calendar as of now.

Announcement of the newly elected board members:

President	Scott Hays
Vice President	Mark Johnson
Treasurer	Chris Berardi
Secretary	Robert Solis
Safety	Fred Neal
Airfield Manager	Rex Anderson

Congrats guys

Old Business

Discussion about rebuilding or building new starter stands. TREX material is twice as high in price and does not stand up well to fuel oil and glow fuel, so it is not a feasible option. A motion was made to build four starter stands for each end of the runway out of treated material and to use an oil stain to preserve the end cuts. The motion was made by Fred Neal and seconded by Bill Lake. Show of hands and the motion passed.

A motion was made to end the meeting by Bill Lake and seconded by Mark Johnson. A show of hands and the motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Members in Attendance

Scott Hays	Kenneth Kilgo	Robin Blakeney	Johnny Hunt
Tab Bowland	Fred Neal	Rex Anderson	Mark Johnson
Shawn Mc David	Robert Solis	Roy Thottam	Tom Blakeney
Gary Nelson	Mel Wells	Allen Trefger	Phil Dunlap
Chris Berardi	Steve Ehlers	Mark Ehlers	James Meadows
Peter Devlin	Mike Schroeder	Ron Anderson	Sam Corlett

From the Treasury: *by Chris Berardi*

December Club Meeting

We generally don't have a December club meeting and we won't be doing so this year! Have a festive time with your family and friends.

Thunderbirds will be getting together informally on January 1st for our Black Eyed Pea event. Bring a dish if you can, otherwise come out and get your first flight of the year completed as an oracle of how you'd like the rest of the year to go.

Don't forget, 2026 members will be entered in a raffle for a couple of decent prize items held after lunch on New Year's Day. You can renew in the morning, at the field before the raffle is drawn. Don't stay home wasting your day in front of the telly while you fiddle with your aglets - come out, rain or shine and fly!

January Club Meeting

Our first club meeting of 2026 will be at CERA on the fourth Monday of the month, in this case, January, 26th. See you there.

2026 Board

Voting was completed electronically and the results are shown below. Thanks to all of you who participated.

The 2026 board members are:

ROLE	OFFICER
President	Scott Hays
Vice President	Mark Johnson
Secretary	Robert Solis
Treasurer	Chris Berardi
Safety	Fred Neal
Airfield Manager	Rex Anderson

The 2026 board members will officially run the club at the first club meeting of the year, January 26th.

Below are the tabulated results for our electronically held vote:

Election Results	
President	Votes tallied: 87
Candidate	Percentage
Ron Anderson	39.08%
Scott Hays	60.92%
Vice President	Votes tallied: 87
Candidate	Percentage
Mark Johnson	70.11%
Kraig Rogers	29.89%
Safety Officer	Votes tallied: 87
Candidate	Percentage
Fred Neal	59.77%
Derek Gregory	40.23%
Secretary - Unopposed	Votes tallied: 87
Robert Solis	Percentage
APPROVE	96.55%
REJECT	3.45%
Bylaws	Votes tallied: 87
Option	Percentage
APPROVE	90.80%
REJECT	9.20%

That's about it for this month - Happy holidays and I hope to see you at the Black Eyed Pea member event.

Membership Update: Here is the final 2025 Membership count as of 11/20/2025.

Membership Type	Count
Individual	157
Family	11
Associate	9
Life	16
Service & Gift	0
TOTAL	193

From the Editor's Desk: by Woody



Greetings to all. Just a reminder that our newsletter is a member's document. If you have an aviation related article you would like to share please get it to me for inclusion in the newsletter.

wdylake@yahoo.com

2026 CALENDAR

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>POINT OF CONTACT</u>
January 1	Black eye Pea	Board Members
April 4	Cubs & Cousins	Mark Johnson
April 16 thru 19	SAE	Thunderbird Club
May 16	War Bird	Grant Schroeder
June	Turbine	Need a CD
July 4th	Picnic	Board Members
August 15	Float Fly	Chris Berardi
September	EDF Jet	Scott Hayes
October 3	T.E.X eXpo	Tom Blakeney
October 17	Members Day	Board Members
IMAC	Need a CD	?
Helicopter Fun Fly	Need a CD	November

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POSITION	BOARD MEMBER	EMAIL
President	Ron Anderson	president@fwthunderbirds.org
Vice President	Mark Johnson	vicepresident@fwthunderbirds.org
Secretary	Mike Schroeder	secretary@fwthunderbirds.org
Treasurer	Chris Berardi	treasurer@fwthunderbirds.org
Safety Officer	Sam Corlett	safetyofficer@fwthunderbirds.org
Field Manager	Rex Anderson	



Pres: Ron Anderson



VP: Mark Johnson



Sec: Mike Schroeder



Safety: Sam Corlett



Treas: Chris Berardi



Field Manager: Rex Anderson

Season's Greetings



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Flying Field Rules

CURRENT AMA CARDS ONLY. NO OTHER CARD IS ACCEPTABLE.
THIS FIELD IS LEASED BY, MAINTAINED BY, AND ITS CONSTRUCTION FUNDING WAS SECURED BY
THE FORT WORTH THUNDERBIRDS RADIO CONTROL ASSOCIATION
ALL AMA, CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND THE FOLLOWING RULES APPLY TO EVERYONE FLYING HERE.

- Neither the Thunderbirds nor the Corps of Engineers is responsible for accident or injury.
- Place your AMA card in the proper slot above before turning transmitter on.
- All engines must have effective mufflers.
- Fly from the station nearest the downwind end of the runway. In case of a crosswind the first pilot to fly will select the station.
- Aircraft must follow the takeoff and landing pattern in effect.
- Landing aircraft have the right-of-way over aircraft taking off.
- Running aircraft shall not be left unattended.
- No more than 5 pilots shall fly in each designated zone at one time.
- LMA rules are posted in the bulletin board

**Academy of Model Aeronautics
National Model Aircraft Safety Code**
Effective January 1, 2018

A model aircraft is a non-human-carrying device capable of sustained flight within visual line of sight of the pilot or spotter(s). It may not exceed limitations of this code and is intended exclusively for sport, recreation, education and/or competition. All model flights must be conducted in accordance with this safety code and related AMA guidelines, any additional rules specific to the flying site, as well as all applicable laws and regulations.

As an AMA member I agree:

- I will not fly a model aircraft in a careless or reckless manner.
- I will not interfere with and will yield the right of way to all human-carrying aircraft using AMA's See and Avoid Guidance and a spotter when appropriate.
- I will not operate any model aircraft while I am under the influence of alcohol or any drug that could adversely affect my ability to safely control the model.
- I will avoid flying directly over unprotected people, moving vehicles, and occupied structures.
- I will fly Free Flight (FF) and Control Line (CL) models in compliance with AMA's safety programming.
- I will maintain visual contact of an RC model aircraft without enhancement other than corrective lenses prescribed to me. When using an advanced flight system, such as an autopilot, or flying First-Person View (FPV), I will comply with AMA's Advanced Flight System programming.
- I will only fly models weighing more than 55 pounds, including fuel, if certified through AMA's Large Model Airplane Program.
- I will only fly a turbine-powered model aircraft in compliance with AMA's Gas Turbine Program.
- I will not fly a powered model outdoors closer than 25 feet to any individual, except for myself or my helper(s) located at the flightline, unless I am taking off and landing, or as otherwise provided in AMA's Competition Regulation.
- I will use an established safety line to separate all model aircraft operations from spectators and bystanders.

For a complete copy of AMA's Safety Handbook please visit:
www.modelaircraft.org/files/100.pdf

Black Eye Pea 2016 -2017

