



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



Issue 4467, January 2020

Next club meeting: January 27th, 2020, 7:00 pm, Buffalo West Restaurant, 7101 Camp Bowie Blvd

Presidents Corner: *by James Meadows*

Welcome to 2020! This year is shaping up to be a busy one and planning has already begun for the SAE event in April. You will see more information on this event and our need to have volunteers. Bill Lake is heading up the coordination for this event. Please bring your ideas and dates for any activities you would like to host at the field in 2020 so we can get them on the schedule.

Thanks to all who came out to the Black-eyed Pea event. Wow! What a turn out, and the weather was for the most part nice until, we were all tired and ready to call it a day. There was only one devastating crash! Condolences to Grant Schroeder on the loss of the P-40, to that Zero that chewed his tail and spat him out! Check your Six!

In the next few months the club will begin discussing the lease with the USACE (US Army Corp of Engineers). We'll be discussing several ideas on future expansion/construction and length of Lease with them. This discussion will include the possible expansion of the Helicopter area, to include flight stations, pits, a pilot training center, and storage expansion and possibly RV parking. These ideas are dependent on several factors such as our ability to cover the cost of construction, Corp Permission, length and terms of the additional leased areas. Simply put its going to take some time to negotiate.

Our Hobby is changing as are the rules that govern it. Change is GOOD! It's the way we handle it that sometimes is bad. The FAA has asked for a public comment on the latest US Air Space Rules Proposals and I would strongly suggest that you provide your comment, not only to them, but also to your elected officials, on the local and National level. Link to AMA site with info: <https://amablog.modelaircraft.org/amagov/2019/12/26/ama-update-on-remote-id-proposal/>. There are multitudes of blogs, Face book comments etc. out there to look at. Recently Horizon hobbies release a face book post with their concern for the Hobbyist flyer. That was refreshing and needed:

<https://www.facebook.com/HorizonHobby/videos/2562422250712259/> Bottom line is that we need to provide a voice and support to the AMA. Change is coming and we need to have a say, don't leave it up to your fellow flyers, to carry the load.

Thanks for being a Thunderbird!

Vice Presidents Corner: *by Rob Lowe*

Happy New Year Thunderbirds! I hope this finds you and your family doing well. I hope you've had a chance to enjoy the nice days we've had and get some flying in! We had a great turn out for the Black Eye Pea event on Jan 1st. You really missed a good one if you were not there. Mark your calendar now for next year - Great Food, Flying and Fellowship!

My fellow officers have provided some great info and links to information on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on Remote ID. Please read those and let me "FOOT STOMP" what they said about this being YOUR opportunity to have a voice and influence the future. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Our amazing hobby needs you step up and provide your input. As James said, "don't leave it up to your fellow modelers, carry the load".

Lastly, as we head into what is shaping up to be a very busy year, don't forget I still need to hear from you! Our monthly meetings normally have a special guest or presentation topic. Now is your chance to let me know about your special project, talent or even an idea you'd like to hear someone else present. Nothing is off the table. Please drop me a note at vicepresident@fwthunderbirds.org

I hope to see you at the field soon and let me hear from you! Here is my virtual "Low Pass Salute" to you Thunderbirds!

December 2019 Meeting: *by Mike Schroeder*

Christmas Party

Welcome by James Meadow to all that attended.

A motion was made to hold a vote for the election for each individual officer. Motion by Pete and second by Ken to hold a vote for officers. A vote by show of hands for each officer:

James Meadows for President: Show of hands, all in favor for 2020. None opposed

Rob Lowe for Vice President: Show of hands, all in favor for 2020. None opposed

Ed Kettler for Safety: Show of hands, all in favor for 2020. None opposed

Chris Berardi Treasurer: Show of hands, all in favor for 2020. None opposed

Treasurer Report: *by Chris Berardi*

See Attachment A (Page 10)

Safety: *by Ed Kettler*

Happy New Year!

2019 was a great year for flying, and I am not aware of any major accidents or injuries (other than to airframes and wallets), so thank you to each member and guest who made that happen.

I understand that Grant re-kitted his P-40 at the Black Eyed Pea event after I left, so I guess that's the first major one for the New Year. Not exactly an award I'd like to win Grant!

Mike Schroeder for Secretary: Show of hands, all in favor for 2020. None opposed

Awards

Lifetime Member: Chris Berardi

Thunderbird of the Year: Rex Anderson

Presidents Award: Mike Schroeder

A motion to raise the pay of the officers by 200%. Second and show of hands, all in favor none opposed. This vote will not cost the club additional funding

Raffle of prizes presented by Bill Lake

76 Thunderbird members and spouses were in attendance. Great time had by all.

Shifting gear, the major safety focus in 2020 is going to be the safety of the RC hobby and retention of our field well into the future. You all have received emails from AMA urging you to write your congressman and senators, and respond to the NPRM. Reading a 350 page Federal document is a sure cure for insomnia (by design), so how do you get to the facts? The following is from my AOPA Drone Pilot newsletter.

"Although it's counterintuitive, this is one instance where I highly recommend you start reading the end of the story first. In the original PDF version, start on page 278 and read the actual proposed amendment, then go back to the beginning of the document. If you don't, chances are you will flame out before you get to the rule. Taking this approach will virtually guarantee that you'll fly (no pun) through the remaining 275 pages, which consist mostly of explanations as to "why" the proposal says what it says.

"Also, if you are a visual learner, the NRPM contains some handy charts that summarize pages upon pages of text. Check out Table 1. Summary of Major Provisions, beginning on page 21, and Table 4. Summary of Differences between Standard Remote Identification UAS and Limited Remote Identification UAS (beginning on page 97). If you can comprehend these two tables, you've essentially mastered the proposed rule. Those who run UAS businesses will also want to deep dive into the costs of operational compliance, outlined in Table 7. Cost Impact of Proposed Operational Compliance Period, Loss of Use quantified as Depreciation Expense (\$ Millions) (beginning on page 213) and the surrounding text."

- Here are some strategies to consider:
- Submit several small/single topic entries, not one massive one
- Submit multiple times
- Provide options and reasons for position in a positive manner.
- Make one submittal the AMA form
- Write your congressman and senators, too. Some have websites.
- Call their offices

My major heartburn is 89.2xx which will have a major impact on AMA fields. Why?
We have to renew every 48 months (what if somebody forgets?)
No new fields after a certain date (this means no new clubs, and if a club has to move, they are dead)

Make your voices heard, contribute early and often. In the NPRM game, volume counts. The FAA has shown what its dream looks like for commercial UAS operations, and we need to make sure it does not become our nightmare.
A recommended read for all members: [EAA Concerned About Drone NPRM](#)

Black Eye Pea Fly-in



First rotary wing and fixed wing to fly in 2020





33rd Annual London Bridge Seaplane Classic: by Gerry Yarrish, Text and Photos: Paul Stenberg

The Desert Hawks RC club of Lake Havasu City has always put on a great show with their annual London Bridge Seaplane Classic and the 33rd event was no exception. When most of the Northern third of the country has seen their first frosts many seaplane fans gather on the shores of Lake Havasu, Arizona for the largest float fly in the country.



(Above) The original London Bridge moved from London, England to Lake Havasu City 50 years ago in 1968. It has become a landmark for the city.

There you will be able to fly your favorite model airplane from the largest water runway you will ever find. It is always a treat, light winds, bright sunshine and 70 to 80 degree temperatures. The 56 pilots that registered were in for an absolute perfect day of flying as Saturday dawned bright and sunny with the temperature running to about 70 degrees and almost no wind. All six flight lines had backup lines waiting to fly all day.



(Above) Monty Welch's Park Scale Albatross in Coast Guard colors. The model is 96" span and is only 10.5 lbs! Electric powered and was built by his wife Lina Welch, truly a family project.

Every registered pilot received a T-shirt, commemorative event plaque and two tickets for the pilot's raffle. The site

is Windsor beach State Park. The parking lot serves as the camp ground for many of the pilots that arrive in RVs. The Desert Hawks provide trailer shuttle service to carry all pilots, planes and support equipment from the RV compound to the beach. They also man two recovery boats all day long on the lake for those few unfortunate incidents or dead stick landings away from the shore. At the end of the day, they return everyone to the compound, what more could you ask for?



(Above) The beach was full on Saturday. Everyone having a great time.

At night there is night flying in the grass area of the park. In addition, there are always great scents coming from the BBQ dinners in the RV compound. There are always groups gathering to tell stories from the past and sharing modeling ideas. For those interested, there is a Casino shuttle that runs until late at night to take the people feeling really lucky, from the base of the London Bridge across the lake to a Casino on the California side of the lake.



(Above) A Sopwith Schneider Baby built by Marjoe Bunney comes in for a landing. 108-inch span, 46lbs. and Quadra Q-100 for power.

The variety of aircraft is always great. Most common are Cubs and Beavers. There are also many flying boats, either scale like the Grumman Albatross or one of the many different sport scale designs. There was even a Schneider Cup racer that made one flight.



(Above) One of the Schneider cup racers. This one is a Curtiss R3C-2. The full-scale was flown by Jimmy Doolittle in the 1925 Schneider cup race. This model was built by the team of Larry Tate, Jerry Lieche, John Hanks and Bob Martin in 1988. 88-inch wingspan, 39 lbs. and powered by a Sachs 4.2ci engine.

The Desert Hawks have been supporters of the historic Schneider Cup racers, and have held four Schneider Cup re-enactment races in the past. 2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the first of these events and a 30th reunion is planned. The hope is to have enough aircraft to allow several race heats throughout the weekend.

As November 2019 approaches and you are feeling the early effects of winter, gather up your favorite aircraft, add a set of floats and travel to Lake Havasu City for the 34th edition of the London Bridge Seaplane Classic. You will not be disappointed while being treated to great hospitality and the world of float flying. What better way to spend a weekend combining the beach, flying and friends.



(Above) Tim Hanstine of Northwest RC put on a great show with his DA 70 powered 120-inch Turbo Bushmaster.



(Above) Aeroworks Cessna 195 flown by Larry Ayotte of Mesa Arizona. 90 inch wingspan, 21lbs. and powered by a DLE 35.



(Above) More Cubs!



(Above) One of the many J-3 Cubs at the event. This one is 1/4-scale.



(Above) Carlos Rangel of Tucson brought his Top Model Beaver. Electric power using an E-Flite 150 and 10 cell Li Po battery pack. 1/5 Scale model has a 90" wingspan.

THUNDERBIRD TENTATIVE 2020 CALENDAR

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>POINT OF CONTACT</u>
April	SAE	Bill Lake
April	AMA Pattern	Chris Berardi/Sam Corlett
May	Warbird	Ed Kettler
July	Club Picnic	Club Officers
August 2	Summer Float Fly	Woody Lake
September	Senior Pattern	Wichita Falls TX
September	Pylon Race	Golden Triangle
September	Senior Pattern	Valley Mills TX
September	B-17 Fly-In	Monaville TX
October	Alliance Airshow	
October	Senior Pattern	Gary Alphin
October	Texas Electric Expo	Tom Blakeney
October	Senior Pattern	Ken Knotts
November	Toys for Tots	
December	Club Christmas Party	Officers

WWW.FWTHUNDERBIRDS.ORG

POSITION	BOARD MEMBER	CONTACT EMAIL
President	James Meadows	president@fwthunderbirds.org
Vice President	Rob Lowe	vicepresident@fwthunderbirds.org
Secretary	Mike Schroeder	secretary@fwthunderbirds.org
Treasurer	Chris Berardi	treasurer@fwthunderbirds.org
Safety Officer	Ed Kettler	safetycoordinator@fwthunderbirds.org

Club Officers 2020



Pres: James Meadows

VP: Rob Lowe

Sec: Mike Schroeder

Safety: Ed Kettler

Treas: Chris Berardi

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTIZERS



Roy's Hobby Shop 817 268-0210
 1309 Norwood Dr. Hurst TX 76053
www.royshobby.com



JT's Hobby Shop 817 244-6171
 8808 Camp Bowie Blvd. Fort Worth TX 76116
jtshobby@yahoo.com

Project #	Proposed Project	Summary of Project	TYPE	EXPENSE	POC	Status	Notes
1	HELIPAD	10X10 Concrete flush with ground, Could be Self help or contracted	Self /Contract	\$1,000.00	Officers	APPROVED 2016-17	Will require new Lease /or wait for expiration of 2018 Lease to negotiate Less \$\$
2	Line control Area	Develop area for line control modelers	Self /Contract	\$1,000.00	Officers	APPROVED 2017	wait for expiration of Lease
3	Shed Update	Cross Ventilation fan	Contract				Suggest to member ship for Purchase
4	Larger shed/addon	Larger shed to store more stuff	self/contract				Will require new Lease /or wait for expiration of 2018 Lease to negotiate Less \$\$
5	Enclose some of the covered shelter area	utilizing rollup doors that can be pulled down when needed	Self /Contract	\$Unknown			
6	Extend current runway	More stopping distance for models	contract	\$ Unknown			Lease Renewel/cost
7	Tree Removal	Remove trees at approach end of runways. Requires root removal and new plantings	Contract	\$15-\$20,0000		IN WORK	requires Corp Approval will request Corp permission and requirements
8	Solar power lights in PIT Area	Allow for some visibility	Self /Contract	\$400.00	James Meadows	testing in Aug	
9	Weather Station , with wind velocity	post on web site for real field conditions	Self	\$\$	Chris Berardi		
10	Taller Flag Pole	the old one needs replaced	Self /Contract	\$500.00	Mike Schroeder	Getting Pricing	
11	Quad GATES	Members Request	SELF	\$\$	UNK		used in Heli,quadand CL area

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.

1. Neither the Thunderbirds nor the Corps of Engineers is responsible for accident or injury.
2. Place your AMA card in the proper slot above before turning transmitter on.
3. All engines must have effective mufflers.
5. 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.
6. Aircraft must follow the takeoff and landing pattern in effect.
7. Landing aircraft have the right-of-way over aircraft taking off.
8. Running aircraft shall not be left unattended.
9. No more than 5 pilots shall fly in each designated zone at one time.
10. 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

ATTACHMENT A

From the Treasury: *By Chris Berardi*

2020 Thunderbird Board of Officers: The following is being published in the “Pilot’s Log” newsletter for public record.

The officers serving in the capacity as the board of directors for the Fort Worth Thunderbirds Radio Control Association, Inc in 2020 are:

<i>ROLE</i>	<i>BOARD MEMBER</i>	<i>EMAIL</i>
President	James Meadows	president@fwthunderbirds.org
Vice President	Rob Lowe	vicepresident@fwthunderbirds.org
Secretary	Mike Schroeder	secretary@fwthunderbirds.org
Treasurer	Chris Berardi	treasurer@fwthunderbirds.org
Safety Officer	Ed Kettler	safety@fwthunderbirds.org

The board members noted above are effective 1/27/2020. All new and renewing club members are provided additional contact information in their “Welcome 2020” letter.

Membership Renewals for 2020

Over 110 members have renewed between the Christmas Party and 17 January. This is truly great for all of us as we prepare for a major event and maintain and improve our flying site. It also helps me send out keys and letters because I can do them in bulk versus stringing it out over weeks and months.

Every new and renewing member will be getting decals to stick on field boxes, models and whatever. I’ll have those shortly and will hand them out at the field and club events.

If you are reading this and have not yet renewed, please consider doing it sooner rather than later. There is a lot to do before the real flying season gets going when the clocks go forward and our training program on Thursday afternoon restarts.

Contact Information Updates

If you have a new physical address, phone number or email address please send it on to me. I’ve received a half dozen returns or non-delivery of keys because members have moved. Although it’s a hassle for me, it’s even more so for members who have paid but can’t open the gate till I get a key out. The easiest way to provide your new info is via the contact form on membership page at www.fwthunderbirds.org. Or, simply email your changes to me at treasurer@fwthunderbirds.org.

If you want your club email to go somewhere else - you can easily change this yourself as well as updating your email/contact preferences. The link to do this is in the footer of every club email. When you click on this link, a secure link is provided in return so that only you can update your email preferences and subscription information.

How to Renew

The easiest way to renew is via our web site using the PayPal links. You can still send in a check made payable to “Fort Worth Thunderbirds” - my contact information is on our site under the “membership” tab.

Membership dues are unchanged: Individual membership is \$100; a family membership is \$110 and covers every member of the family. On behalf of the board - thank you for your support!

New Car Track

Many of you are like me in that you enjoy anything to do with Radio Control. A long time ago I raced off-road buggies though I always preferred on-road type racing. Here in Fort Worth, there hasn't been a track close enough that would have been convenient to race at; that was, until November. On-road car racing in an air conditioned race track is now possible. It is held in one of the empty business suites at the Ridgmar Mall: *RC Car Club of America* has opened an impressive 1/10 & 1/12 scale race track. Check out their FaceBook page for more information but what I know so far is that practice is on Wednesdays and Sundays with race day being Saturday. It is inexpensive too with practice being just \$10 all day.

For Sale

If you are looking for a new radio, I have a very lightly used, like new condition Spektrum iX12 radio for sale. It comes with a very nice Spektrum case and at least 1 new receiver and new neck strap. I'm asking \$500 or best offer. Contact me offline if you are interested.

That's it for my report this month - see you at the field.

Andy Reynolds' Vought XF5U: Designed by Andy Reynolds, Free plans from Winter 2013 Park Pilot.



The XF5U was an experimental design by Vought during World War II. The flat, round-shaped body led to the nickname "Flying Flapjack." The entire body is the lifting surface, and its design resulted in low takeoff and landing speeds, but a high top speed.

After some "interesting" prototypes, the final version of the XF5U flies well. It's fairly quick and maneuverable, yet can slow down nicely. I set the elevons for as much throw as I could manage. This isn't really needed for normal flying, but it does allow for some tight maneuvering.

One of my favorite moves is to pull vertical, and apply full throttle and full aileron at the same time. The XF5U keeps going up for as long as I like, rolling all the way. Land it

under power; it doesn't have much of a glide, but will settle to the ground nicely with a touch of throttle.

If you have any questions or comments, or would like to see additional images of the build, please visit my RCGroups blog at:

rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=1761066.

Read the entire build article inside the Winter 2013 issue of *Park Pilot*.

If anyone is interested in building one of these let me know as I have a copy of the full sized plans.

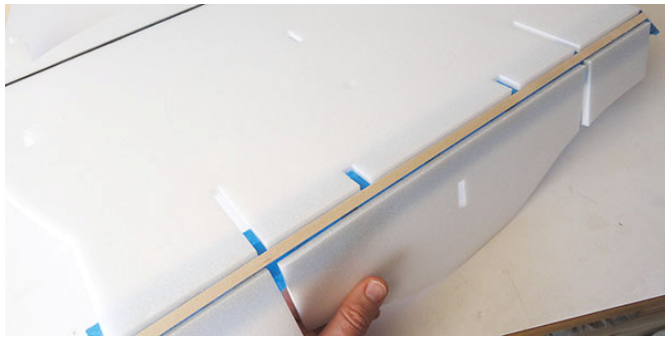
Woody at: wdylake@yahoo.com



From any angle, the Flying Flapjack's unique appearance commands the attention of everyone who sees it. The best part is that the model flies well, so the attention has its reward.



Andy's XF5U is on the wing. Care to guess how the "Flying Flapjack" nickname came to be?



The length of 1/4-inch bass or 4mm carbon-fiber tube runs from nacelle to nacelle, providing rigidity.

