



Fort Worth Thunderbirds

Radio Control Association Inc.

The Pilot's Log



Issue 4476, October 2020

Next club meeting: October 25th, 2020, 7:00pm at our flying field

Presidents Corner: by *James Meadows*

Greetings to all Thunderbirds.

It finally happened! This last weekend the Thunderbirds hosted an event at the field, The Turbine and EDF event was a success. Seventeen registered pilots, unknown visitors and a great day of flying was enjoyed by all. Shout out to Tom Blakeny for managing the event, Robin for Registration duties, and Tab for doing the heavy lifting and cleanup. Just a reminder that Nominations are due this month for Officer positions, and elections will be held next month.

The club has received several RC items and airframe donations over the last month from non-club and club members alike. Big thanks to Jeff Opel (Tbird Member) for donating several trainers and other airframes to the club for giveaways, auctions, and the training program. The club is still looking for a new venue to host our meetings at, so please stand by for a location and time.

Hope to see you at the field,

Vice Presidents Corner: by *Rob Lowe*

No input this month.

September 28th Club Meeting Minutes: by *Mike Schroeder*

James Meadows opened the meeting at 7 PM. He stated that this would be last meeting held here at the airfield since daylight was ending early, it was getting cold outside, and no suitable alternative indoor site has been identified. Several members suggested holding meetings at the airfield on a Saturday, early to then be followed by flying. James indicated the board would take that up for consideration.

New member introduction centered on Gary (another Gary) Shindler. Welcome Gary.

Events:

Tom Blakeny reported on the EDF/Turban/Jet event scheduled for October 17th. He apologized for being a little behind the power curve but he contracted the Chinese Virus (Covid-19) and was hospitalized for several days. He has put flyers in the hobby shop(s); suggested making it a no fee event; take donations if offered. He also briefed that this weekend would be an unofficial Saturday electric fly-in with 10-12 outside visitors from the Houston area, making it a good opportunity for fellowship. Airfield will not be closed for other flying.

Ken Knotts mentioned that there is an SPA event at Waco this Saturday that some of our flyers would be participating in.

James briefed the Alliance Airshow status (drive-in only and no static displays. Thanked everyone who offered to help out but would not be needed. It is unfortunate since the airshow has been an excellent opportunity to spread the word about the hobby and the club. James will likely be out at Thunderbird Field for our own event.

The Christmas party is not going to be held as it had been previously. Have no success in locating a suitable location for the Christmas party. Board is proposing a one-of-a-kind event on January 1st in combination with the traditional Black Eyed Pea Fly-in. No decision has been made yet on food, etc.

Toys for Tots were brought up and James indicated we would still be supporting this cause.

Reports:

Officer reports were quite shorter than normal. Rob (VP) was at work; Mike (Secretary) was on (another) vacation; and Ed (Safety) just wasn't here.

Treasures Report by Chris Berardi: Chris briefed that he and Mike were working on a promotional video and expect to have it completed in late October. They have spent approximately \$400 of club funds for equipment and are also using Chris' equipment.

Clubs' checking and savings is in good standing. Membership renewal period is upon us so get out your wallets and renew your membership.

Secretary Report by the fantastic back up Bill Lake: Secretary Report was conducted by Mike's less than capable substitute. Tom Blakeney made a motion to defer the reading of the minutes and it was seconded by Mel Well; voted nearly unanimously by the members despite groans from James and Chris.

Show & Tell

Tom Blakeney brought his OV-10 from Motion RC. He built it while recovering from his Chinese virus. He feels it is under-powered (the OV-10 not Virus) but still hopes to maiden flight it on Saturday. He then solicited any jet type donations or giveaways for the event on the 17th.

Gary James talked about build and fly kits for hand gliders. He had his example which he launched for a two second - two feet duration. He indicated \$22.50 to build.

Gary then spoke about his RadioMaster (XM-165) Transmitter with full 4.5 in color tough screen; open Tx operating system; voice; USB charger; UART for Geeks (BTSOM); all for \$130 delivered. He got his from Bangood.

New Business:

James brought up the upcoming elections and need for nominations. Reiterated that nominees have to agree to run and that all positions are open for nominations. Also soliciting for Thunderbird of the Year nominations.

Still working on the lease with the Corp. Has been busy at work so not as far along as he wished. Board has discussed a phased approach to constructing a training facility and toilets. Mentioned negotiating \$35-40K for the building.

Chris brought up the high cost of the port-potty and how we could amortize the building costs. Kudos was given to the Airfield maintenance team for how good the field always looks.

Ken Knotts suggested that members adhere to established safety rules and stressed that the "No Engine Run" parameters apply to electricians as well as everyone else. There is always the potential for a system failure or operator error that risks sending an airplane into the covered area.

ATTENDEES:

Bill Lake
Kenneth Killgo
Val Babineaux
Pete Devlin
Edward Moskal
Mel Wells
Ian Waring
Woody Lake
Gary James

Buck Garza
Ron Schwarzkopf
Sam Corlett
Ed Furche
Adam Rush
Tom Blakeney
Tab Bowland
Chip Kielbauch
Ken Knotts

Johnny Hunt
Gary Alphin
Tom Benke
Chris Berardi
James Meadows
Phil Dunlap
Payton Rezaie

From the Treasury: by Chris Berardi

No Report this month

Membership Type	Count
Individual	142
Family	13
Associate	8
Life	12
Service & Gift	3
TOTAL	201

Safety: by Ed Kettler

We are now getting into perfect flying temperatures again, so if you haven't flown your planes in a while, please condition your batteries in both your planes and transmitters and make sure they have survived the summer. Nothing would be more frustrating than to get to the field to find out you have issues, or worse, lose a favorite airplane.

As a reminder, cooler temperatures don't eliminate the need for protecting your skin from harmful solar radiation. Please make sure to goop up! Hydration is still a key factor, so bring along drinks to keep going while aviating.

We are still under COVID restrictions, so please be mindful of your social distancing and masking requirements. Also, please be respectful to member and guests requests during this period.

Stay safe and have fun!

Impromptu Fly-In

Sometimes the best events are held with no planning and we just 'do it'. Such was the impromptu electric fly-in suggested by Tom Blakeney. Lots of pilots with cabin fever attended and all had a great time.





Benbrook Thunder EDF Fly-In

Seventeen registered pilots, countless number of airplanes and spectators. Although the ‘Pooh Bear’ was right, it was a “blustery day” but it did not deter many pilots. No major mishaps that I’m aware of.





Member's New Projects



Woody's VQ Hurricane and Freewing F-86 Sabre. Both Aircraft have flown twice with minor trim changes.

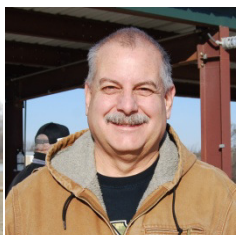
THUNDERBIRD TENTATIVE 2020 CALENDAR

October 24-25 (tentative)	SPA West	Ken Knotts
October 31st	Texas Electric Expo	Tom Blakeney
November	Toys for Tots	
December	Club Christmas Party	CANCELLED

[WWW.FWTHUNDERBIRDS.ORG](http://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



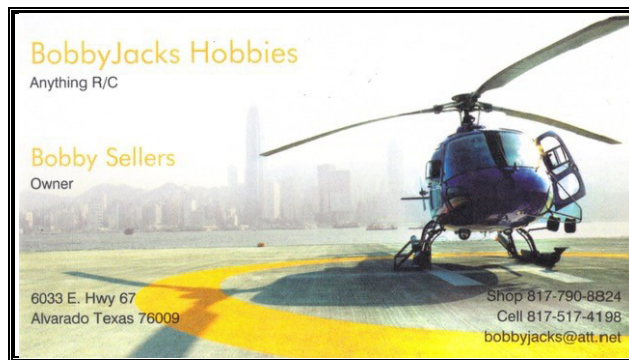
SUPPORT OUR ADVERTIZERS



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



Bobby Jacks Hobbies Shop: 817 790-8824 Cell: 817 517-4198
6033 E. HWY 67 Alvarado TX 76009
bobbyjacks@att.net

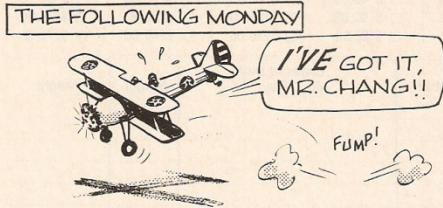
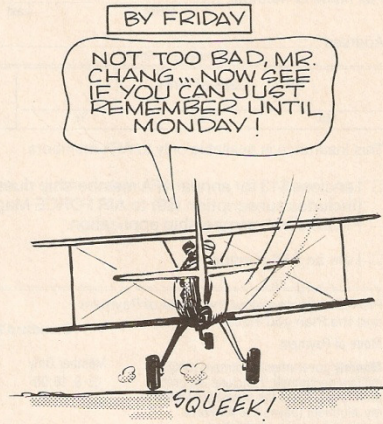
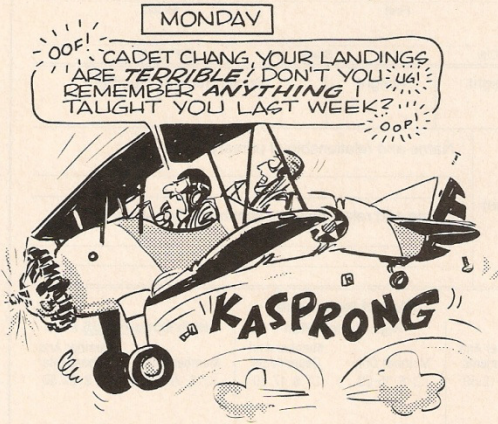


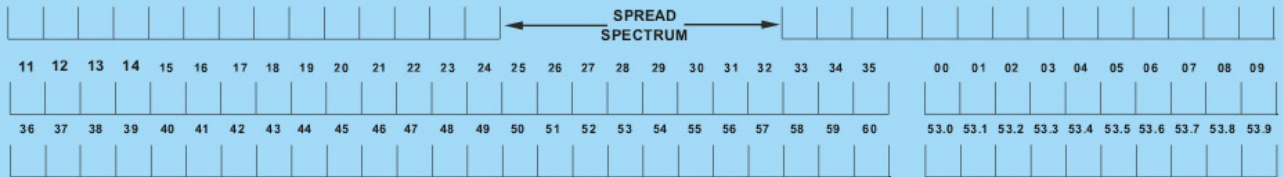
Electric Fly-in 2019

HUMOR

Bob Stevens'
"There I was ..."

BACK IN "THE BIG ONE," THE U.S. ARMY AIR FORCES, *nee* AIR CORPS, TRAINED A LOT OF CHINESE CADETS (THEN THERE WAS JUST *ONE* CHINA). TO SAY THERE WAS A COMMUNICATIONS GAP WOULD BE THE UNDERSTATEMENT OF THE AGE!

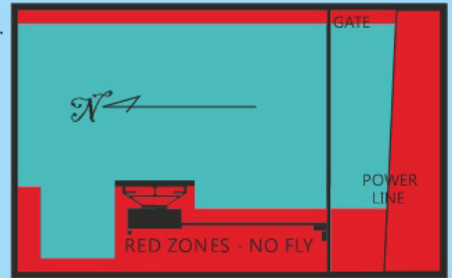




CURRENT AMA CARDS ONLY. NO OTHER CARD IS ACCEPTABLE.

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