Next club meeting: April 22, 2013, 7:00 pm, West Side Café, Camp Bowie Blvd

**Presidents Corner: by Ken Knotts**

Be a friend! Welcome visitors to our field and invite them to ask questions about our hobby, aircraft and the Thunderbirds. Most are just curious and like to watch the airplanes fly. Some would like to know how they can get started in flying radio controlled model airplanes and we can be their link to a great hobby. If they seem interested, let them know about our training that happens every Thursday from about 4:40 PM to dark, weather permitting. Visitors appreciate the Thunderbirds’ friendliness and willingness to answer their questions. Fly safe and have a good time.

Community is important for the Thunderbirds. Joe Jopling scheduled a show and tell for students at the Benbrook Middle School through Norman Robbins, (Ft. Worth School Board 2nd Vice President). Mrs. Fisher coordinated the after school event and the gymnasium was setup with everything needed for the demonstration. Joe gave a brief explanation of how airplanes fly followed by flying demonstrations by Tom Blakeney, Gary Nelson and Ken Knotts. Woody Lake brought his beautiful Sopwith Camel for static display and Q & A. Tom Blakeney then let those who wanted have a hand at flying his indoor Vapor. You can see more on our website at www.fwthunderbirds.org/Benbrook_Middle_School.html

2013 SAE workers please plan to attend this month's meeting as Oliver may have some surprises for you.

*Ken Knotts*
*President, Fort Worth Thunderbirds*

**Vice Presidents Corner**

No report this month.

*Will Campbell*
*Vice President, Fort Worth Thunderbirds*

**March Club Meeting Minutes:**

Meeting called to order at 7PM by President Ken Knotts

Ken welcomed all members present and guests. Ken also thanked all Thunderbirds who helped with the SAE event.

**Treasurer:** Gary Alphin stated that the club is in good standing. Gary reported that the club membership was down still approx. 26% from last year. As of the meeting we had 169 members.

**Secretary:** Tab Bowland nothing new to report.

**Safety Officer:** Jimmy Newton reported that safety overall was good at the SAE event with only one minor issue, which was a small Lipo Battery fire in one of the tents. Jimmy also cautioned everyone about going to retrieve a downed aircraft in the woods, to watch out for poison ivy and the large thorns on the trees.

**Newsletter:** Woody Lake asked all members who are not receiving their newsletters to please let him know and verify that he has your proper e-mail address.

Thunderbird member Randy Davis commented on over all how well the SAE event and thanked all who helped. Chip Mull also said big T-bird hats off to event coordinators Tom and Oliver and to flight boss Gene Hodges.
**Up and Coming Events**

**March 27**: Joe, Ken, Woody, Tom and Gary Nelson will present a show&tell to students at Benbrook Middle School.

**April 19-20**: There will be a helicopter expo at Thunderbird field. See Will Campbell for details. Field should be open for flying Sunday the 21st after 1PM.

**April 27-28**: SPA event: Field should be open for flying on Sunday the 28th after 1PM.

**May 4th**: Warbirds event at Thunderbird field. A raffle item of a T-34 will be held at event. This is a Saturday event and field should be open after 4PM.

**May 18th**: Pylon Racing, more details to follow. Field should be available after 5PM.

**June 12th**: Old Farts

**Club Fun Flies**: Dates to be announced. Please contact Dave Dingman if you have any ideals on what events you would like to do on the first one.

A question was asked if the club would like to do a July 4th family picnic and possible night fly. Please give your thoughts to a club officer.

**Area Events:**

June 22-23, CPA event, please see Steve Ehlers or Ken Knotts for details

**Old Business:**

**Bylaws update**: Will Campbell will address the club at the April meeting.

**SAE Event update**: Tom Blakeney thanked all the people who worked the event and a big thank you to the members who manned the Bear Creek entrance gate, as well as those who helped with the parking. Tom did receive complaints from the spectators saying that it was hard to see the event and that he was going to look into it was next year. Chip Mull made a comment about the flight program, as to looking into a possible different format for next year instead of just pass or fail; Tom and Oliver will look into it. Tom also asked members that might have any suggestion as to how to make the event run more efficiently please pass them on.

Oliver Alvarado Oliver reported that overall the event was a big success and that he greatly appreciated all Thunderbirds who help. There were 65 teams and 540 students present at this year’s event. Oliver is also going to look into the complaints and see how we can correct them. He also announced that we would host the event (aero west) next year with dates to be determined. Lastly Oliver reported that overall there were 7 injuries to participants, all were minor with no hospital visits required.

**New Business:**

Joe Joplin reminded all people that will be putting information into magazines or other listings that we are the Ft. Worth Thunderbirds, Fort Worth, Texas not Benbrook TX.

Woody Lake was contacted by Patti Bissey, P.R. director for the City of Benbrook about the Thundbirds having a booth for show&tell at the upcoming heritage fest in October. A motion was made by Gene Lord to participate with a second by Tom Blakeney. Motion passed.

**Program:**

Joe Joplin did a video presentation and tutorial on how to navigate the new Thunderbird website. Thanks Joe and Ken for all your hard work on this.

**Show and Tell:**

Ed Furch: Showed his Hobby King kit of a DeHaviland Comet.

Woody Lake: Showed a nice E-flite Hurricane: 53” wing span, retracts, flaps, also enhanced with a scale pilot and weathering.
Dennis Niles: Showed a Stingray made from foam board, plans are available on the Internet and is scratch built.

Thanks to all who brought a show&tell item.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Raffle Drawings:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soldering Iron: Sarge Bell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cover sock for sealing gun: Terry Thorpe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand crank fuel pump: Clarence Konkle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 minute epoxy: Joe Joplin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adhesive backed sandpaper: Woody Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red JT hobbies T-shirt: Gary Cummings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glow driver: Monty</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tab Bowlin  
Secretary, Fort Worth Thunderbirds

Treasure Report: by Gary Alphin

Membership is down approximately 24% from last year. We received 6 new memberships since last newsletter.

Gary Alphin  
Treasurer, Fort Worth Thunderbirds
Civic Events
WarBird Flyin

Dust off that warbird it’s that time of year again. Saturday May 4th will be the 17th year of our Warbird Flyin. Registered pilots have grown in number from the original 13 to a maximum of 72. This is a low key, no pressure event that welcomes all types of warbirds, both fixed and rotary winged, from WWI thru the present. Fly if you want, or just visit with other modelers that share your interests. Free lunch, pilot give-a-ways, great “Big Band” music, and as always “promotions”. Gary Alphin donated a T-34 ready to fly. Just add your receiver and battery pack and take to the sky.
Looking forward to another great warbird event.
By far the most common injuries we encounter in our hobby are cuts from spinning props or trying to start an engine by hand. Plastic and nylon props have extremely sharp trailing edges and that makes it almost impossible to ‘flip start’ the engine without receiving a cut finger. Fortunately, this is easily prevented. A common 5/8” dowel and a short piece of 5/8” I.D. garden hose make a cheap and effective “Chicken stick”. Unfortunately, fingers have a way of finding their way into the prop arc of a running engine. This usually occurs while trying to adjust the engine. We get complacent because we’ve adjusted the engine so many times and not been injured that we think we have everything under control. That’s when the prop usually gets you. This has been discussed before in model magazines and everyone is aware of the danger yet it continues to happen. As Safety Officer I feel helpless to prevent this from happening; it seems that this type of injury is inevitable. Therefore, the best that everyone can do is be prepared for it. Question; “Do you have a band-aid in your car or toolbox?”
If someone sustained a serious cut, could you treat it? I guess what I’m getting at is: do you have access to a first-aid kit? If not I urge everyone to get one or at least carry a “zip-lock” baggie with some anti-bacterial ointment and a couple of band-aids, a gauze pad and some tape. A bottle of hand sanitizer would also come in handy. The Boy Scouts of America got it right when they penned the motto; “Be prepared”.
Are you prepared?

Jimmy Newton
Safety Officer

More Safety

The following photo is graphic in nature. Please use parental discretion when viewing. The scar is pretty frightening as well.
All, I can’t begin to stress the importance of Sun Screen. After 41 stitches I’m on the road to recovery. If you forget to use it and I’m at the field let me know as I carry it in my First Aid Kit. Use it faithfully, trust me!
(Judy’s new nick name for me is “ole zipper head”).
Cheers

Woody
Scale From Down Under

The following photos were received from a friend I correspond with in Australia. I receive their newsletter every month containing great articles and photos. If anyone is interested let me know and I’ll forward his correspondence.

Woody

THUNDERBIRD 2012 CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>POINT OF CONTACT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 20 – 21</td>
<td>Helicopter Expo</td>
<td>Will Campbell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 27-28</td>
<td>SPA (Senior Pattern)</td>
<td>Ken Knotts, Gary Alphin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Warbird Fly-in</td>
<td>Terry Thorpe/Woody Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Q-25 Race (Rain Date June 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Old Farts Fly-in</td>
<td>Chuck McLeroy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 20&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Boy Scout Training</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Summer Float Fly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12-13</td>
<td>Sr. Pattern (SPA)</td>
<td>Ken Knotts, Gary Alphin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 26-27</td>
<td>IMAC Event</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
November 2nd         Electric Fly In         Tom Blakeney
November 9th        Winter Float Fly
November 16th       Q-25 Race (Rain date: November 30)

WWW.FWTHUNDERBIRDS.ORG

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>President: Ken Knotts</th>
<th>Vice President: Will Campbell</th>
<th>Secretary: Tab Bowland</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:kenknotts826@gmail.com">kenknotts826@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:wcampbell@maseratiusa.com">wcampbell@maseratiusa.com</a></td>
<td>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:glasstron175@hotmail.com">glasstron175@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer: Gary Alphin</td>
<td>Safety Officer: Jimmy Newton</td>
<td>Pilot’s Log: Woody Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:gary.alphin@gbx.com">gary.alphin@gbx.com</a></td>
<td>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:jim-newton@att.net">jim-newton@att.net</a></td>
<td>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:at6pilot@att.net">at6pilot@att.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Area Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Hawk Flyers Scale      | May 25     | cliffharrel@tx.rr.com  
                        |            | www.hawkfield.org                             |
| 114th Float Fly        | June 2     | hubbardwendell@hotmail.com                   |
| Scale Masters Qualifier| June 8 - 9 | lawhary@yahoo.com                            |
| Warbirds Over North Texas| June 14 – 15| ed.kettler3@verizon.net                      |
|                        |            | www.warbirdsovertexas.com                   |
SUPPORT OUR ADVERTIZERS

PAT & ROY CRAIG

ROY’S HOBBY SHOP
Specializing In Radio Control
1309 NORWOOD HURST, TEXAS 76053 METRO (617) 285-0210
www.royshobby.com

YOUR LOGO HERE

Promotional Products
BUSINESS • GROUPS • SCHOOLS
CALL US FOR OUR WEEKLY SPECIALS
SPECIALIZE IN SMALL QUANTITIES
682.472.5282 • SASSYFIBER@GMAIL.COM
WWW.SASSYTHREADWORKS.COM

$3.00 OFF
Full Service Oil Change for Fort Worth Thunderbirds

2850 Fort Worth Highway
Hudson Oaks, TX 76087
(817) 594-2602

Coupons must be presented at time of service. Offers cannot be combined with any other offer. One coupon per visit.
SPA West Open Championship
SENIOR PATTERN 2 DAY EVENT
FORT WORTH THUNDERBIRDS

Saturday – Sunday April 27–28, 2013 Thunderbird Field, Fort Worth, Texas
Field Gate Entrance use address: 4300 Winscott Plover Rd, Fort Worth, TX 76126,
GPS Coordinates: 32.592909, -97.479741

Airplane – Senior Pattern competition is done with an RC airplane designed and
flown before 1976. The engine can be a maximum .61 two stroke or .91 four
stroke. Pilots can be any age. First time SPA Novice-B event entrants can fly any
airplane that has a qualifying engine. All other entrants must fly “True to Plan”
built or as sold ARF aircraft which are on SPA approved list of Aircraft.

Classes – Novice-B, Novice, Sportsman and Expert. Go to seniorpattern.com for
complete rules and pattern sequences. Awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each event.
Classes may be combined if there are fewer than three contestants per class.

Prizes – Prizes for pilots and a raffle

AMA membership is required for pilots in all classes.

Lunch - Lunch to all registered pilots.

Registration – 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM Saturday - Flying starts – 9:30AM Saturday & Sunday
Entry fee - $30.00

Contacts for questions and registration: Email: president@fwthunderbitds.org
Or go to http://www.seniorpattern.com/contests.htm to pre-register

Ken Knotts     Gary Alphin     Dave Dingman
469-441-6761     817-239-7023     817-319-9342
Membership Application and Renewal Form

This form is the approved application form for all existing and new members. There is no initiation fee for new members. Your membership is valid from 1 January to 31 December each year. After July 1st New Individual and Family memberships are @ 50% of rates shown below:

1. A current Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) membership card is required to fly at the flying site.
2. Only an AMA membership card may be placed in the frequency board.
3. All members except Honorary, Junior, Family and Associate are eligible to vote in club business.
4. Family Membership dues are $10 higher than individual,
5. Note: Partial Payments cannot be accepted
6. All members should also purchase the Association Membership Badge at a cost of $ 13.00

**Membership Types** *(Circle Membership Requested)*

**Individual Member ---- $100.00  Membership Badge ---- $13.00 each  Total $________**
The individual member is a single membership. An individual has all rights and privileges. New Members joining after July 1st will pay a minimum of $50.00 for the remainder of the year.

**Family Member ---- $110.00  Membership Badge ---- $13.00 each  Total $________**
Family membership consists of a primary member, spouse and children. A child is defined as an individual 18 years of age or younger residing in the same household as the primary member. Family members are eligible to participate in all association functions. Only the primary members are eligible to vote and hold an association officer position.

Additional Family Member names please list here with phone numbers:

**Associate Member -- $50.00  Membership Badge ---- $13.00 each  Total $________**
Associate membership is ½ the individual dues rate at $50.00 per calendar year. To be eligible for an associate membership you must reside greater than 50 miles from the flying site at Benbrook Lake. Associate members may not vote.

**Junior Member---- $10.00  Membership Badge ---- $13.00 each  Total $________**
Membership offered/limited to 16 years of age or less must always be accompanied by a guardian or Parent and never be left at the field alone. Membership has no voting rights. The annual dues are $10 per calendar year. If other family member holds an individual membership then this will be added to that membership.

**Constitution and Bylaws**
The association’s most current rules and regulations are posted on the web site at [www.fwthunderbirds.org](http://www.fwthunderbirds.org). By signing this application, you acknowledge that you will abide by the rules as posted at the flying field and on the association’s web site.

**First Name:** ______________________________________  **Last Name:** ______________________________________

**Street Address:** ________________________________________________________________________________

**City:** ____________________________  **State:** ____________________________  **Zip:** ____________________________

**Phone Number:** ____________________________  **AMA Membership #** ____________________________

**Email Address:** ______________________________________  **Club News letter will be emailed unless stated otherwise**
Emergency Contact Info: Name____________________________ Ph# ___________________________

Mail completed application and check to:

Fort Worth Thunderbirds,  Attn: Gary Alphin, Treasurer, 917 Herby Del Trail,  Azle, TX 76020

Your signature indicates that you agree to and will abide by the rules and regulations of the Fort Worth Thunderbirds

PLEASE SIGN HERE: ___________________________________________________  DATE: _________________________ __________