

Presidents Corner

By Chris Berardi

As June sneaks by us, July brings with it our yearly membership renewal. What value we get for our \$45. If you look at the going membership rate is at other clubs in the metroplex, you will agree that we have one of the lowest membership costs. Additionally, we have a fabulous flying site that is suitable for just about any aeronautical activity. To make it even better, no initiation fee exists for new members; some clubs are charging \$150 just to sign up.

With that in mind, could everyone please be as prompt as possible in sending in their renewals? If you know of someone flying without a membership, gentle prod them to buy into the club. This is important as membership fees pay for maintaining the facility and promoting events. You may simply give your new or renewal membership to a club officer, the editor, or you can send it to the clubs post office box:

Fort Worth Thunderbirds
PO Box 100172
Fort Worth, TX 76185

Should your old badge need replacing, include an additional \$3.50 for a new one. One last thing about memberships: if you are currently certified to administer CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation), you can obtain a year's membership free. Just present your certificate to an officer for your membership to be renewed automatically.

Upcoming Events

June and July are busy months. First up is Helmer's Old Farts Fly-In. This takes place on Wednesday, 19th June. This event becomes larger every year as people catch on to the relaxed atmosphere and the fact that flying during a working day means no work.

The Lazy Ace Fly-In occurs on 22nd June and honors our own Chuck Cunningham. I'm sure that most of you know a little of the history of our club and the significant part that Chuck plays in it. We want to show our appreciation for his contribution and this fun fly is part of that. A small landing fee of \$10 is required and there is an opportunity to win several great prizes that are being raffled. Contact Oscar Slaughter for additional details.

The 4th July picnic is being held on 6th July, a Saturday. While I am not quite sure what time the actual picnic part will start, I'll stick my neck out by saying that food items will be cooking around noon. The details will be finalized at this month's club meeting and posted on the Thunderbirds web site.

The Heli Heat Wave 2002 enters its 4th year. In total, this event has raised about \$3,500 in past years. Over \$2000 was raised in last year's event though I'm sure that this can be beaten next month judging by the interest shown. Contact Chris Berardi if you need further information or would like to help out.

Springtown Intermediate School a Success

Several pictures are already on the web site documenting our day at Springtown. Thank you to everyone who showed up; in fact, it was quite surprising just how many people did show up considering this was a Friday event. The children had a great time learning about modeling and aeronautics, as did we in presenting it to them. With a little luck and the help of Dean Smith, the officers hope to make this event a regular one for the club.

Shirts and Caps

Shirts and caps are available in a variety of sizes and a couple of different styles. You may choose from either a t-shirt or polo shirt design. Both are all white in top quality cotton with a logo on the breast and back. There are two cap styles; one is all cloth in beige with a great looking embroidered logo. The other is a red foam and mesh cap like the ones we have had previously with a printed logo. If you would like one and don't regularly show up at the field, please telephone or e-mail a club officer. You can also view some of the items on the Thunderbird web site.

Contact

My list of club members e-mail addresses is growing, but it still represents only about 15% of the club. If you would like to be part of the network, please send your e-mail address to me. I promise, this isn't for spam, direct marketing, or anything other than keeping you informed of important club news.

Club Meeting

The club meeting this month is on Monday, 24 June. We will have a full selection of raffle items and a VCR setup for your entertainment. This is the first meeting of the summer and a full moon evening.

Do you have a new model you want to show off or a technical issue you would like to resolve? Bring it all to the club meeting, after all, it isn't just club business we are there to discuss. If you know of potential new members, personally invite them to the meeting. They will then have an opportunity to mingle, socialize, and arrange some instruction if needed.

That's it for this month. Happy flying and I hope to see you at the field.