

Weatherford Aero Modeling Society (WAMS) Newsletter

July, 2010

wamsrc.com

WAMS Monthly Meeting: July 6th, 6:30 pm at R&K Restaurant in Hudson Oaks

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Bert Spencer

Well, summer is here with a vengeance, and we're into the 100 degree days of July but it's only June. We've had some beautiful flying weather, but not many folks taking advantage of it at our field. Our booth at First Monday attracted quite a bit of attention, and a number of folks seemed genuinely interested, but only a few newcomers showed up for our Fun Fly and picnic on the 19th at Zaugg Field. Tom Holman did his usual great job of mowing the field and grilling hot dogs, and some of the youngsters got to try their hand at flying the club trainer provided by Sarge. A light breeze kept it comfortable in the shade of the pavilion roof, and a good time was had by all. When you're out there flying this summer, don't forget the dark glasses, sunscreen, and plenty of water to stay hydrated. Next meeting is on July 6th at the R&K Café. See you there!

VICE PRESIDENT'S BULLETIN

By Mark Perkins

RC aircraft magazines distributed in waiting rooms of local businesses can be a beneficial recruiting tool. If you would like to donate your magazines to this cause, you may bring them to our monthly meetings or e-mail me at guitardaddyman@aol.com and I will be glad to come pick them up from your house. Our club card will be attached to each magazine so that interested persons can contact someone.

The program for July meeting is "Covering " by Jacque Parker of the 114th club in Grapevine.

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

by Sarge Bell

- We spent \$48.71 for Dave Thomas' flowers, \$2500 to Dan Zaugg for extension of Land Agreement.
- We also received a Bldg usage adjustment from WISD \$120.
- We also received our first Swap Meet Table Reservation for 2011.

SAFETY FIRST

by Cliff Hummer

SAFETY FIRST: We've all heard this saying but how often do we comply? Safety begins at home. It's so easy to get distracted and let bad things happen. I can attest to that as I'm sporting a black and blue thumbnail for not paying attention to what I was doing. Not only that I was using the wrong tool. Shame, shame. I'm sure we all realize that we not only have to pay attention to our own driving but the driving of everyone else around us. Graveyards are full of innocent drivers who let themselves get caught in a situation they could not avoid. I am glad that AMA places a great concern on safety. We are in a great sport that could have dire consequences if we get careless. AMA safety rules are on the back of the membership application in "MODEL AVIATION". Take some time once in a while to review these rules. I will have them posted on a bulletin board at the field when I get it completed. In the meantime fly safe and enjoy.

WE'RE ON THE WEB

by Gary James, AMA Contest Director

WAMS on Facebook:

At the request of the board, I have set up a "group" for WAMS on Facebook. For those of you who might not be familiar, Facebook is an online social networking site. To join Facebook, just go to www.facebook.com and follow the sign up instructions. Once registered, you will be able to link up with friends and family who are there and exchange "chat" and info with them. You can join the WAMS group simply by typing "WAMS" or "Weatherford Aero Modeling Society" into the search window and then clicking "join this group" when you are on the WAMS page. Thus far, only a few WAMS have signed up, but it is the intent to use this site to communicate and pass along messages and announcements to the group. Sign up today!

Fun Fly Events:

It is the intent of the club to hold informal monthly Fun Flies to enhance our enjoyment of our hobby. Tentatively, the first Saturday of the month has been selected to be our fun fly day. There has been some criticism in the past, mostly from non-participants, about the selection of events used in past fun flies. To that end, I am directly asking the membership for input on event selection. Send me a list of your requested events along with a description of how they are to be conducted and they will be considered for inclusion. The basic guidelines are: 1) Only one airplane (any airplane) per contestant, so that different "special purpose" airplanes are not used for different events. 2) The event should be such that there is no advantage/disadvantage to using glow vs. electric power. 3) The event should not require any advanced skills on the part of the pilot. i.e. anyone who can successfully solo, should be able to complete the task.

A set of rules for the fun fly will be published and made available both prior to the events and a printed version will be available at each event. There will be 3 "tasks" per contest. The events to be used will be selected by the CD from a pre-screened group of events. The events will be announced prior to the fun fly. In the event that input from club members is not received, the contest director will select the tasks based on his experience and judgment. I have a large list of potential events to choose from, some are acceptable for use at the average skill level of our members, others are not.

Now is the time to make your input heard. If you do not provide input, then you have no cause to complain about the results.

RUNWAY REFLECTIONS

by Jim Pope

Is There Anything Better Than Getting Off Work?

Most of our WAMS members are retired, but we can all remember the pleasures we experienced when we "got off work".

We worked all day and looked forward to whatever activities were coming our way when we got off work. Some were planned, but many just happened and all had in common the specific time frame of when we got off work.

It was a real pleasure to visit a hobby shop when we got off work and sometimes we'd meet a friend with similar interests at a local watering hole for a cold beer. Today, I suspect that such a place would be a modern, well furnished establishment specializing in chicken wings, cold beer and big eyed owls. But our

friends remain the same; usually with model airplanes as the common interest and often enjoyed when we got off work.

Sometimes we'd suggest to a fellow modeler that we meet at the field after we got off work. Those were really special times. Unfortunately, once in a while flying had to be postponed because batteries weren't charged but the bull sessions were still fun.

When we retire, the clock becomes less and less important. At work, we had specific duties to accomplish within a defined time frame. It was easy to plan activities after we got off work. Without such a rigid framework we just let time happen and often miss planned activity because "the time just got away from me".

So, maybe we need a renewed effort to meet at the field "when we get off work". How 'bout meeting at Zaugg Field on Wednesday after we get off work? Call a friend, What time you ask? Why, when we get off work. There's no better time of day.

FROM THE EDITOR

by Michael Leggett

Let me introduce myself. I am an enthusiastic beginner of the hobby of RC airplanes. I have been welcomed by a great group of RC experts at WAMS and enjoy being a part of this club. I have learned a plethora of information since becoming a member. All of the club members' time and effort attribute to the success and growth that I have experienced.

I live in Mineral Wells with my wonderful wife, Dianna. We have a sixteen year-old daughter (McKenzie) and a ten year-old son (Hayden-he can already do take-offs and fly rectangle pattern). My current occupation is welding and fabrication which I have done off and on for 20 years. I am also a certified firefighter/paramedic which was my profession for several years.

Before RC airplanes, I engaged in the hobby of high-powered rocketry. It involved air frame design and building, telemetry and electronic recovery systems, and my favorite: the chemistry of making motors. I strayed away from rocketry, because I took a joy flight with my wife's uncle in his Cessna and fell in love with flight which led me to become a student pilot with a local instructor here in Mineral Wells. Sadly, he was the only local instructor and became ill and had to move away to live with family. Someday, I will complete my flight training and hopefully at the same time as my son.

I have met and flown with many members and look forward to meeting everyone else soon!

See you at the field.....

Don't forget about the attendance drawing - the prize will be grand!

Michael Leggett

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