

Weatherford Aero Modeling Society (WAMS) Newsletter

May, 2010

By Jim Pope, Editor

WWW.wamsrc.com

WAMS Monthly Meeting: May 4th, 6:30 pm at R&K Restaurant in Hudson Oaks.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Bert Spencer

Well, we can now look back on our very successful Swap Meet, and look forward to the prospect of sunny weather and clear skies for some perfect flying weather. Regarding the Swap Meet, I'd like to again thank each WAMS member who showed up to help make the event such an outstanding success. The raffle was well supported, attendance was up, the food concession sold out completely, and we had more dealers and sellers than available tables. All of this resulted from our members giving of their time and effort to make things run smoothly and on time. You all helped to make a major effort look seamless & professional. THANKS !!

Looking ahead, our main goal this summer is to get everyone out flying and having fun, because that's really what the club is all about. Pilot or not, be sure to show up for our Float Fly on May 16th for a day of fun and companionship -- and possibly a few spectacular plane dunkings! Beyond that, we'd like to have a monthly special get-together & fly-together at Zaugg Field, and would like to have your ideas about how to make it something attractive and enjoyable for each of you. What would help to bring each of you out to be part of a fun day?? Whatever your ideas, share them at our next meeting or with any one of your officers. It's your club, and we want to make it the best for all of us!

We're again going to have a special year-end raffle for a major prize, based on your attendance at monthly meetings. So be sure to show up every month and get your ticket for the drawing. The prize will remain a mystery for the moment, but it will be at least the equal of last year's \$100 gift certificate -- and possibly more!

Fly safely and have fun, Bert

SAFETY FIRST

by Cliff Hummer

With the Spring Float Fly coming up, we need to be mindful of the safety issues that can affect a water event. We always have a lot of visitors with small children. Kids, fun and water can create an unsafe environment so we need to keep an eye on our guests. The launch area is reserved for pilots and crews but it often gets crowded with guests. A polite reminder is always appropriate. We should all be alert of the dangers of being

around water and the distractions caused by model airplanes. The Float Fly is fun but it must be safe fun and that is up to us.

FROM THE EDITOR

by Jim Pope

It seems as though we complete one major club event just in time to work on another! I'm not complaining, mind you, but the Spring WAMS Float Fly is May 16th. Sec/Treas **Sarge Bell** is CD and I've attached his flyer for your information. Please contact Sarge if you want to help. There's always plenty to do or just come out and admire the beautiful airplanes and the skill required to fly and land on water.

Vice President **Mark Perkins** has distributed dozens of modeling magazines to waiting rooms throughout our area. Each magazine has a couple of our business cards attached and is rubber stamped several places with our contact information. Please give your unwanted magazines to Mark or bring them to our next membership meeting and he will make sure that they are appropriately distributed. Before we leave this subject about Mark's efforts to make our club better, I'm sorry to say that he has yet to locate his misplaced/lost/stolen Super Tigre 61 that he bought at the Swap Meet.

Can you handle a corny anecdote? It's a true story. When I was in primary pilot training at Reese AFB, we flew the side by side twin jet T-37 made by Cessna with a red line speed of 417 knots. One day when I was solo, I wondered what it would be like to fly from the right seat. Being young and dumb, I managed to un-belt, crawl and twist myself over the center console and strapped myself in the right seat. It was difficult especially with a back pack parachute attached. Flying the airplane from the right side didn't seem to be too difficult so I headed for our auxiliary field (named Deadwood) to shoot a touch and go. This runway was out in the boondocks and only manned by a couple of officers in a temporary Runway Supervisory Unit (RSU). I entered the pattern, pitched out, turned final and lined up for my touch and go. I made a perfect landing! The officers in the RSU never noticed or if they did, they didn't believe what they saw! I climbed out at 100% and headed back to Reese AFB and fought the urge to stay in the right seat for the full stop landing. If I did so, I was certain that the crew chief would've reported it and I wasn't sure of just how much trouble I would encounter, so I climbed back to the left seat. A daring move? Maybe, but not necessarily dangerous, but certainly silly. The USAF was never an organization that had much patience with silliness. So, in my declining years, I've decided to be a bit more daring, just as I was in 1962. Just this morning I bravely shaved the left side of my face first. A daring move? You make the call, but try it first! Better yet, get out that airplane that you constructed several years ago, bring it out to Zaugg Field and launch it. A daring move? No, not with our two AMA certified instructors, **Gary James** and **Sarge Bell**. Anyway, what's the worse thing that could happen? Some damage due to a crash? That's just part of our great hobby. Put on your Nikes, come out to the field and just "Do It"! Weather permitting; we gather every Saturday/Sunday afternoon.

It looks like our club is beginning to grow a little. We now have 32 paid up members. We traditionally have had about 45 or 55 members and to reach that figure, we must continue efforts to find others that are interested in R/C flying. We can thank the leadership of President **Bert Spencer** and our Executive Committee for continuing and even accelerating the effort to make our club responsive and active. Our membership drive has been intensified and expanded. More "drive-by" show-and-tell events are planned and we're even considering a booth at the June 5th First Monday. We'll take names and addresses of those showing an interest, then follow up with an invitation to a hands-on flight demonstration on June 12th at Zaugg Field. We are planning several Fun Fly

events and routine cook-outs to be held throughout the summer. Your ideas and considerations for such are always welcomed and needed. Of course you really should attend our monthly meetings to make your voice heard and your vote counted.

There's another attendance grand prize in the making. The prize will be even better than the \$100 gift certificate prize last year. The only way you can participate in this contest is by coming to our meetings. Each member earns an entry every time a meeting is attended. I hope you earn your first entry at our next meeting on May 4th. If that's not reason enough, then come to learn about float flying in a symposium. Sarge is the presenter and his program is based on the common sense approach to flying off the water as developed by the late Chuck Cunningham.

There is a lot of flying activity planned for this year. We have a good field, excellent instructors, fun events and even good food. We are a flying club so come out have a good time and fly!

We're also planning a May 8th static display at the Compass Bank in Willow Park and are considering a WAMS picnic/flying session on the first Saturday of each month with (read that as more food than just a **Tom Holman** hot dog). What suggestions do you have that would expand our menu beyond hot dogs?" And what's your opinion about routine weekend flying sessions? Saturdays or Sundays? Or both?

We all want to see your show-and-tell items and they are always welcome at our monthly meetings, so bring something!

Is it possible that one of you would like to become newsletter editor? I've been doing this for some time and would like to give someone else a chance to take on this responsibility. I've been WAMS newsletter letter many times but, unfortunately and not of my own making, I've been very busy for the past couple of months. The actual act of writing and emailing is not at all difficult; but editing, proofreading, and especially idea formulating can be quite time consuming, while extremely satisfying and gratifying; a pride of authorship sort of thing. I would, of course, help anyone with semi-professional assistance and maybe even write an editorial column each month.

And when you see **Tom Holman** and **James Copley**, wish them a happy May birthday!

Remember, spend your hobby money at home and use that excellent mail order catalog as a reference tool!

See you at the field.....

Jim Pope

A Founding and Charter WAMS Member

AMA L-85, NMPRA 85 I

jimpope3@charter.net

P.O. Box 642

Weatherford, TX 76086

817.594.3997, Cell: 817.313.0803

WWW.wamsrc.com

WAMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President: Bert Spencer: bertandcol@msn.com

Vice President: Mark Perkins: guitardaddyman@aol.com

Sec/Treas: Sarge: vernebell2@netscape.net

Safety Officer: Cliff Hummer: cshummer@att.net

Newsletter Editor: Jim Pope: jimpope3@charter.net

Web Master: Gary James: gsjames@earthlink.net

Field Maintenance: Tom Holman: wizbang6942@yahoo.com