

Weatherford Aero Modeling Society (WAMS) Newsletter  
May, 2011

[wamsrc.com](http://wamsrc.com)

WAMS Monthly Meeting: May 3rd, 6:30 pm at R&K Restaurant in Hudson Oaks

*PRESIDENT'S CORNER*

*by Bert Spencer*

Somehow April has come and gone, taxes have been sent off to Uncle Sam, and the pain has begun to subside. There also seems to have been a mixup in the weather patterns -- the winds were supposed to calm down after March, but no such luck. What should have been an ideal flying month has been fraught with relentless winds, which have made flying adventurous at times.

The big event coming up this month is our spring Float Fly at Cartwright Park. So mark the date on your calendars for Sunday May 15th. Lots of fun, hot dogs, sodas, and an occasional splashdown to keep Mark busy with his recovery boat. (He's promised to have his motor running flawlessly by then!)

Finally, we'd welcome suggestions from our members regarding any programs you'd like to have at our monthly meetings. We'd really like to continue with programs of interest to all on a regular basis, and would appreciate any suggestions you may have.

Look forward to seeing you on Tuesday at R&K,

Bert

Grandpa's Words of Wisdom;

"Things go a lot smoother when you learn to plow around the stumps"

*VICE PRESIDENT'S BULLETIN*

*by Mark Perkins*

*SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT*

*by Sarge Bell*

We have had 3 checks written this last month.

Quick Print: \$51.06 - Spring & Fall Float Fly Flyers.

Weatherford ISD: \$909.00 - Final on Building Rental

Verne Bell: \$37.43 - Fuel for Generator

To find out the club's exact amounts, please come to our next WAMS Membership Meeting Tuesday, May 3rd.

*SAFETY FIRST*

*by Cliff Hummer*

## *RUNWAY REFLECTIONS*

*by Jim Pope*

Hello WAMS;

By the time you read this newsletter, WAMS will have been represented at the Club 40 race at HOTMAC Field in Waco. At the WAMS monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at R&K Café in Willow Park, I hope to be able to tell you that I did well but I guess we'll see! Don't forget; we eat at 6 pm and the meeting starts at 6:30. We have several very important issues on the agenda and your input and approval is needed. And of course, your attendance assures you of a chance for the valuable attendance drawing at the end of the year.

Can you believe the weather we've experienced? Daily winds of 20 to 30 mph and dry, dry, dry. I have several friends with ranches or property directly in the path of those horrible fires. Fortunately, none have been victimized but they're not out of danger yet. All have experienced the frustration of helplessness. They can't get to their land and even if they could, there's not much that could be done. We should be extremely careful when flying at Zaugg Field. Remember, it's a very dry hay field. If you smoke, use the butt cans; if you crash, check the scene for overheated batteries or spilled fuel. We just can't be too careful. When we completed the Bert Spencer designed sun shade, we bought a fire extinguisher and mounted it. Unfortunately, it was stolen within a month or two. I think we need another extinguisher installed, but how should it be stored? If we put it in the storage container, it won't be much use unless we retrieve it every time we fly. What's your opinion?

Lately and unfortunately, we've experienced several non-WAMS & non-AMA members flying at our field. I'm not sure why anyone would use our private facility without authorization but apparently it's done and done with regularity. Jeopardizing our insurance coverage with liability exposure is important, but the fact that flyers are enjoying the fruits of our hard labor without accepting the responsibility of WAMS membership is difficult to accept. We have both AMA and WAMS membership applications easily accessible in a weatherproof box at the field. And we will soon have a sign posted warning of trespassing. We simply must live up to the terms in our lease with Dan Zaugg and the AMA or risk losing our field.

When you see past president Tom Holman, wish him a happy birthday on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Tom's had some tough going for the past year or so I know he'd appreciate the thought. Why don't you bring a show-and-tell project to the meeting? We'd even ooh and aah about it! And we'll do it again when you fly it.

Now for a little AMA news. As you may know Dave Mathewson, AMA's elected president, has accepted the offer to become the Executive Director, a position held (once again) by Joyce Hager ever since the resignation of Jim Cherry. Dave will move to Muncie this summer. In the interim, Executive Vice President Mark Smith will assume the duties of president until an election can be held. Just to further complicate the organizational changes at AMA, our Executive District VIII VP Jim Rice has accepted the nomination as AMA President. These are all quality people and all will continue to meet the day to day and long term challenges facing AMA. I just can't close this portion of our

newsletter without thanking Joyce Hager for stepping up once again to provide the necessary stewardship during this time of personnel changes. She has always been very able, willing and dedicated to do what is necessary to keep AMA viable and effective. Now, I wonder who will be our District VIII vice president and when will the election be held?

Don't forget our Float Fly on May 15<sup>th</sup> at Cartwright Lake Park. Sec/Tres Sarge Bell is CD and needs your help and support. Set up time is 8 am or so and registration begins at 9 am. We'll fly 'til about 4 pm. Flying boats and pontoon equipped airplanes are fun to watch. It's one of the few aspects of our hobby that requires some genuine engineering and construction skills and I suspect that's the reason our bi-annual (that's twice annually for those of you that are language deficient!) is popular and very well attended. So, come out and have a hot dog. And if you smile, Bud Heath will take your picture and post it at [www.skyshaker.com](http://www.skyshaker.com).

Though the plans are not yet finalized, Gary James is CDing the Cub Scout Day Care Program to be held in the middle of June on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16th. Gary's tentative plans include helping the Scouts build and fly Delta Darts. One of the problems faced is the supervision of these young boys during the assembly phase of our program. We just don't want these little guys using an Xacto knife so we hope to pre-cut the various parts to size, then let the Scouts glue everything together. We will also demo fly and buddy box some of the 60 or so Cub Scouts expected to attend. We'll need a lot of help from our membership. This program should be fun and gain us substantial community recognition. We'll keep you informed as plans develop.

So, that's it for this month. Unfortunately there was no space to include a fictional or semi-historical story this month; BUT if you know the significance of the measurement of 4' 8 1/2", you will earn the admiration of your fellow club members. Just blurt out the answer at our meeting.

#### *FROM THE EDITOR*

*by Michael Leggett*

My hobby shop building is slowly coming along. It's close enough to being completed that I was able to move all my kit projects from the dining room table to the garage for a couple of weeks. This week is the first time we ate at the dining room table in six months, and my wife is grateful.

Hopefully, I can make it to this month's meeting. I look forward to seeing everyone!

See you at the field.....

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

Michael Leggett

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