

Crosswinds

Newsletter for SPARKS - Spring Area Radio Kontrol Society

Message from the President - Alan Buckner

JUNE 2011



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Though flying time has been limited for many in May, there's lots of activity in SPARKS that I'd like to update you on.

The last time I was able to make it to our Dyess Park field was a few weeks ago on a beautiful Saturday morning. To my (pleasant) surprise, there were so many pilots at the field that every table along the fence-line was utilized! It reminded me a lot of the activity we used to have at our Telge Rd field. If you haven't been out recently, I encourage you to at least stop by one Saturday or Sunday morning. Flying is much nicer now that the field in front of us has been cleared and mowed.

With us being in a public park and some recent newspaper recognition, we are having many more visitors. This is great and a number of them have become members. At the same time, I have heard that some people are flying at the field without a membership or being someone's guest. With this in mind, I would like to ask two things. First, please wear your badges so we can quickly identify you as a member. If you don't have your badge, please contact George Terry. Second, if you see someone you don't know flying, introduce yourself and get their name. If they are not a member, point them to our website and mention that the initiation fee is still being waived.

This month, we had two planes crash behind the flight line. This is a rare occurrence but what concerned me most was that no one yelled out. In the future, if you see or are piloting a plane that is about to fly behind the flight line, please yell out "Heads up!". This means that we now have 4 call outs at our field: "On the field!", "Taking off!", "Landing!", and "Heads up!".

We had another fun and successful indoor fly-together with the Cy-Falls ROTC. We had a good turnout, especially from the ROTC flying club. Multiple cadets got to fly for the very first time which was exciting for both them and their instructor.

Have fun flying and stay safe!!

Alan



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Vic Baney	281-357-1357
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They Did Their Share - a tribute for Memorial Day

On Veteran's Day we honor
Soldiers who protect our nation.
For their service as our warriors,
They deserve our admiration.

Some of them were drafted;
Some were volunteers;
For some it was just yesterday;
For some it's been many years;
In the jungle or the desert,
On land or on the sea,
They did whatever was assigned
To produce a victory.

Some came back; some didn't.
They defended us everywhere.
Some saw combat; some rode a
desk;
All of them did their share.

No matter what the duty,
For low pay and little glory,
These soldiers gave up normal lives,
For duties mundane and gory.
Let every veteran be honored;
Don't let politics get in the way.
Without them, freedom would have
died;
What they did, we can't repay.
We owe so much to them,
Who kept us safe from terror,
So when we see a uniform,
Let's say "thank you" to every wearer.

By Joanna Fuchs



Contact information for SPARKS Officers - this will be in each issue, but you might want to print it out for easy reference

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A note of thanks to the following contributors.....

Victor Baney, Lee Dillenbeck,
Rob Jasken, Nick Marson, and Mike Rose

Please send your contributions for next month's issue to me at:

dgmarson@earthlink.net

Last year we added a "For Sale / Want Ad" section in our Newsletter, called "Ad Corner". A reminder is sent mid month and you can submit a description of your items, pictures, price, etc. and it will be included in the newsletter. To help keep this section current and manageable, the ads will be for one month only and to repeat one, it will need to be resubmitted with a lower price. Also, it will be for club members only.

Please send articles, photos, tips, websites or any info about items to sell to me **by the DEADLINE of the 24th of each month.** Please include the contact info you want for the ad.....

Thanks, Diane Marson

May 4th, 2011 – Meeting Highlights

The meeting was called to order by President Alan Buckner at 7:08pm. Minutes were approved as read. Treasurer George Terry gave the detailed finance report which was also approved as read.

Alan Buckner attended the Awards Ceremony at Cy-Falls High School and reported several of the ROTC Students received awards and their solo wings. There will be one more indoor fly together in May.

Field Chairman Vic Baney announced increased watering and mowing is scheduled for the field. The mowing pattern was changed to avoid buildup of cut grass on the field. No word yet from the County about a possible date for the removal of additional trees and brush. Though approved, we must wait for the paperwork and scheduling. Dyess Park is open to 8 pm except on Friday afternoon when it closes at 3:30 pm unless there is a scheduled softball or soccer tournament.

The Secretary will contact the AMA about the published newspaper article featuring SPARKS. Someone thought there was an AMA program which presented cash awards to Clubs who gained community recognition.

Ken Campbell, who joined recently, completed the FPE and earned his solo status on April 30th.

Members voted to support Club members Mark and Adam Mendonca at the FAI World Championships held in Muncie this Summer. Father and son will represent their homeland of Trinidad - Tobago. A check for \$100.00 to defray expenses will be presented to them.

Upcoming events include:

- **Monaville - Bomber Field:**
 - ◇ Saturday, May 7th - Dawn patrol
 - ◇ Friday & Saturday, May 13 & 14th Float Plane Fly in
 - ◇ Thursday - Saturday - June 2 - 4th War bird Fly in

As required by Club Bylaws, nominations for the 2011-2012 Club Year were made. Voting will be done at the June 1st. Meeting.

Slate includes : President - Alan Buckner (incumbents offered to continue, no one else volunteered)
 Treasurer - George Terry
 Secretary - Diane Marson
 Newsletter - Diane Marson



Vice President/Safety Officer - Chris Cavanaugh (Current VP Rob Jasken asked to retire due to his current work schedule which makes it impossible to attend meetings.) Thank you Rob for a job well done this last year and thanks to Chris for stepping up.

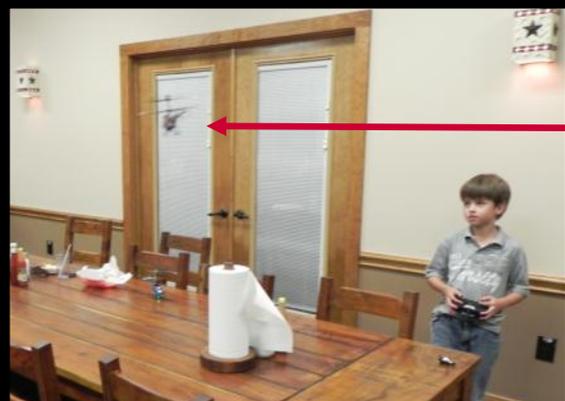
Featured speaker was W-hobbies owner, Angelo Lomeli, who brought several new electric helicopters mainly designed for indoor flying. He and his son Sebastian demonstrated the ease of flying these lightweight and very maneuverable craft. He features a variety of sizes and price ranges in his shop.

Wally Warren won Model of the Month with his new Eflite Habu. Wally reported it flies and lands very smoothly. Lucky members won the Randy's Hobbies gift certificates in the raffle. Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Please see next page

May 4th, 2011— Meeting Highlights, cont.

Angelo Lomeli of **W** hobbies presented new helicopter models available at his shop



Look carefully to see craft in action

Angelo's son, Sebastian, is following in Dad's footsteps



Not a heli, but also of much interest was the E-flite Corsair

Got an idea for a presentation, topic or video at our monthly meetings ??

Do you have tips or a subject you can speak on??? Got a new craft with lots of mods ??

Please send your suggestions for Alan.



May Model of the Month

Won by Wally Warren with his E-Flite Habu

Say, didn't Wally win last month with a brand new craft ???

Some guys have lots of new toys 😊



A glimpse into history....65 years later

submitted by Mike Rose

FILM FOUND OF B-29 CREW RESCUED BY SUBMARINE

This is an amazing story..

<http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid34762914001?bctid=672454611001>

This is worth watching.... about 2.5 mins. An entire crew of a B-29 (12 aviators) was rescued by a US submarine after their plane was shot down in ~1945, 70 miles off the coast of Japan. The entire rescue was filmed in color film but then sat in a guy's closet until now. This is a story from a Denver TV station of one of those rescued aviators to whom the video was delivered. It also shows their transfer to another submarine that is likely headed back to port before the one that accomplished the rescue."

Can you imagine 65 years AFTER your rescue you get to watch it on film?

Coverage from Joe Nall Week in Woodruff S.C. "World's largest outdoor RC event" submitted by Rob Jasken



This annual event attracts thousands of visitors, pilots and hundreds of planes. There are lots of links covering this year's event held in May...Here are a few....

<http://www.joenall.com/index.htm>

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=1440129>

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=1439993>

I found this link on RC Groups. Some nice tandem impromptu 3d Flying. If you get a little bored, skip to the final 2 minutes when they are over the water. Amazing!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RprTihNyusc>

How's this for a pitching deck?

submitted by VicBaney



Ride 'em cowboy! Lynx on final!

Imagine catching up to a ship moving into the wind at 20kts with a gusty 30 knot headwind and gusts moving over the cabin at 50+ gusting to 0 or stopping and pitching up and down 15' or more, these pilots have their work cut out for them, syncing these movements is just about impossible, and this is just a test to see if the machine is capable. VIDEO ONLY: NO SOUND!

<http://www.prismdefence.com.au/index.htm>

Not RC, but works of model art submitted by Mike Rose

A Miniature Duesenberg.....

Just when you think you've seen it all. This is a 1/6 scale, RUNNING Duesenberg. Everything on this miniature works just like on the real car. The engine runs, the transmission shifts gears, all the gauges work, etc. All of it was handmade and took thousands and thousands of hours to complete. Check the links on the bottom for more info.

This is so incredible, it seems impossible.

<http://www.craftsmanshipmuseum.com/chenot.htm>

More unbelievable models

<http://www.craftsmanshipmuseum.com/>

<http://www.jalopyjournal.com/forum/showthread.php?t=551010>



The bodywork is all metal, not fiberglass. Here is the car in Lou 's shop before the brass coachwork was primed or painted. Lou is not averse to remaking a part that doesn't meet his standards. He started over on the especially difficult brass radiator shell nine times.



Here is the engine removed from the model and sitting on its test stand. The transmission is in the foreground.



Most running models are built at larger scales like 1/3 or 1/4. Working in the smaller 1/6 scale magnifies the problems caused by miniaturizing certain parts. Remember that these scale parts are 1/6 as long, 1/6 as high and 1/6 as deep as real parts, making them 1/6 x 1/6 x 1/6 or 1/216th the volume of the original part. By comparison, a 1/3 scale model is 1/27th the volume and a 1/4 scale model is 1/64th the volume. Further complicating the prospect of building a running engine at that size is the fact that fuel molecules and electricity don't scale. It is very difficult to get tiny carburetors and little spark plugs to work like the big ones. A video of Lou starting and running the engine for the first time can be seen at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f6TetkMpFlc>

Maybe we should have performed a ground check !!! submitted by Lee Dillenbeck

TU-154 Almost Loses Control in Flight

I will warn you in advance that this amateur video is very poor quality and they have a lot of trouble keeping the plane in view a lot of the time. However, as my friend Dmitry explained, this old Russian bird (circa 1982) had not been flown in over 10 years and then for some reason last Friday they decided to roll it out and fly it again.



As you will see in the video, something went terribly wrong with the flight controls. My hat is off to those Russian pilots when you see what a mess they had to deal with. One thing that can be said is that they never gave up! With no ejection seats, that fought that bucking bronc all the way back to the ground using differential engine thrust for (limited) control !

I suspect much Vodka was consumed after getting that thing down !!!

Rumor is aileron feedback problem - system treated any aileron motion as external force, and attempted to "correct".

Rudder was the only fully functional control.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1383739/YouTube-video-Russian-plane-began-dancing-sky-steered-safety.html>

Best Crashes on YouTube !!!!!....Submitted by Nick Marson Is there such a thing as a "good" crash???? Guess if it's not yours...

Here's almost 5 minutes of video....several jets bite the dust.....

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZL7upK2kUqQ>

Here's a REALLY bad crash and burn.....it just explodes

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aajp-A43glA&NR=1&feature=fwp>

Guess third time was not the charm.....

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0SMP5c5P6bM&feature=related>

This is the reason you must have a fire extinguisher, guy loses his craft, coat and uses all available water to douse the fire...check out the wonderful field facilities ...

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xAVMJBLy-UU&feature=related>

Propeller Safety - Reprinted from the AMA Insider, May 2011 issue From the Rouge Eagles R.C. Club, Medford, Oregon

Respect and alertness are mandatory if you want to keep all your fingers. If you continually ignore safety, you or someone close to you will be injured eventually. By adopting good safety practices we can minimize risk and enjoy our wonderful sport for many years.

The most destructive type of propeller injury, aside from being struck by a flying aircraft, is when the engine is operating at or near full throttle. At full speed, a .40-size, two-stroke engine with an 11 x 6 propeller can generate as much power as a 10-inch table saw. Just as a table saw demands your respect and attention, so does an aircraft propeller.

Before you mount your propeller or even start your engine, you should take a moment to review some basic pre-flight recommendations for propeller safety.

General Propeller/Rotor Blade Inspection and Preparation:

1. Look over for obvious nicks or gouges.
2. Flex it gently back and forth along its length and look for cracks.
3. If you find any damage, other than some minor scuffs at the tip, discard/destroy immediately.
4. Wood propellers cause less damage than composite propellers.
5. Remove the sharp edges from composite propellers using fine sandpaper. Just take off the edge. Do not alter airfoil.
6. Always use a balanced propeller. Vibration is the enemy.
7. Make sure the propeller arc is visible by painting the tips a contrasting color.

Ground Safety:

1. Always have someone hold the airplane while starting.
2. Use some form of eye protection, like safety glasses.
3. After starting, move around behind the propeller to remove the glow plug igniter and to make other engine adjustments.
4. Never ever reach over a spinning propeller.
5. Be conscious of the propeller arc. Do not let spectators stand in line with, or in front of, the spinning propeller and don't you stand there any longer than necessary.
6. If starting by hand, use a thick glove or chicken stick.
7. Use an approved spinner or propeller hub.
8. Before starting, be sure the propeller is on tight. If the engine came with backup safety nuts, use them.
9. Have a first aid kit stocked and available.



It's easy to forget these safety items when at the field and some say it's just too much trouble. But safety is everyone's responsibility!

Please support our local RC Shops...they are vital to our hobby.

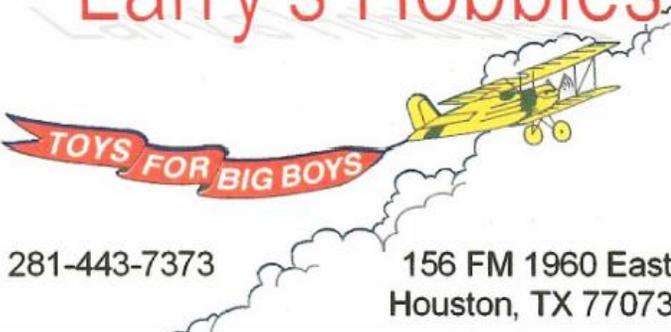
Many special thanks to Randy Ritch of Randy's Hobbies for his continued support of SPARKS

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