

Crosswinds

Newsletter for SPARKS
Spring Area Radio
Kontrol Society



Message from the President - Terry Foote February 2015



February 2015

SPARKS Members,

Alright all you SPARKS pilots..... Your current board is remiss in their duties of writing a newsletter to all of you. My apologies to all of you but life has taken it's toll on all of us. Seems things are getting in the way of our modeling activities and we aren't covering our bases. I will attempt to steer us in the right direction and we'll be on track soon.

At our February meeting we discussed at length our field situation. Well.... you guys asked for it: Starting in March we will have mandatory work parties from dusk till dawn. (Huh? We have lights at the field?)
CORRECTION: We will have 24 hour work parties, seven days a week for the month of March! (There. That ought to get the old phone ringing off the hook!) Just kidding guys.... That statement was supposed to go in my April Fool's column! Anyway, we'll be talking work parties in the upcoming meeting. Pass the Advil. We're gonna make them old bones creak again!

Mike Levchak came up with a good idea to not only green up the runway and surrounding grass but to build up turf. He picked up a gazillion pounds of winter rye grass and put it on the field toward the end of February. We received our late winter/early spring monsoon season immediately after he put it on and a strange green substance started covering everywhere! Only thing missing is the bluebonnets! Shortly after the monsoon season passed, our fearless instructor pilot, Mike Williams brought out his nuclear powered riding mower and scalped the runway down to next to nuthin' and we are enjoying the smoothness of his efforts. Thanky Mike!

I did have a phone call from our regular mower person, Justin and he is back on track to start mowing after the winter doldrums. He has been told to continue with the short length until otherwise instructed.

SPARKS WEBSITE

www.sparksrc.com

Or mail to:
SPARKS
P.O. Box 1361

SPARKS 2014 - 2015 Officers*

Terry Foote President	936-537-4718
Dale Simcox Vice President/ Safety Officer	832-865-1948
Randy Shewmaker Treasurer	281-300-2899
Paul Gallagher Secretary	281-547-1198
TJ Pisklak Newsletter Editor	214-870-6395

* e-mail address' are on page 3

What else? Any of you been flying lately? I'm hearing stories of earth-shattering crashes lately.... You guys didn't get the memo on crashing? You are supposed to do that sort of activity LATE in the flying season, NOT NOW! I did get a call from TEX-DOT..... They wanted to know if I knew anything about a massive divot in the concrete of the new feeder road to our North..... I said that we knew nothing about it but they might consider renaming the Grand Parkway to Dale Simcox Parkway. Got 'em scratching their heads on that one but at least they hung up!

Membership is climbing like crazy! We have enough money in our treasury to Astro-Turf the runway, install landing lights and charge a landing fee for Lear Jets wanting to visit us! Seems we have a few folks dropping by the shop asking about membership nearly every day.... I have Randy Shewmaker sending daily Brinks Trucks to pick up cash, checks and membership applications. Life is good.

Well folks, I'm gonna shut this party down for this month.... (Yeah, I'm gonna sit and write another installment for the delinquent MARCH newsletter right after I end this one!)
Fearless Leader signing off,
Buh,bye!

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Contact Information for SPARKS Officers:

(This will be in each issue but you may want to print a copy for reference)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email address</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
President	Terry Foote	President@sparksrc.com	936-537-4718
Vice President/ Safety Officer	Dale Simcox	VicePresident@sparksrc.com	832-865-1948
Treasurer	Randy Shewmaker	treasurer@sparksrc.com	281-300-2899
Secretary	Paul Gallagher	secretary@sparksrc.com	281-547-1198
Newsletter Editor	TJ Pisklak	newsletter@sparksrc.com	214-870-6395

Reminders



Don't forget the Wednesday... March 4th Meeting,

Valley Ranch Grill

Hwy 249 & Spring Cypress - 7 pm...

Come early and enjoy a meal with us.

February 4, 2015

SPARKS Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order by our esteemed Club President, Terry Foote, at 7:03 pm.

Terry introduced guests:

Mike McGrew
Donna McGrew
Jesse Kendall
Ryan Kendall

New members were introduced:

Joe Eules
Clancy

The Secretary read the minutes from December, which were approved.

There were 32 members and 4 visitors signed in.

Field Report

Dale Simcox: Sprinklers have been turned on by some anonymous person resulting in a mud hole. Members have been instructed to not turn on the sprinklers. Members were also instructed to get approval to store items in the closet. Gate installation will proceed when it is a little dryer.

Financial Report

69 members have renewed. The Treasurer solicited members who need name tag replacement.

NOTE: Dues MUST be paid by the end of the March meeting. Failure to do so will result in (re)payment of the \$50 initiation fee for reinstatement to full member status.

Safety Report

Co-flying: Quads, helis, and fixed wing. Quads and helis will fly alone; same with the fixed wing. Use common courtesy.

Old Business

New Flying Instructors were appointed:

Mike Williams
Dale Simcox

Fundraiser Group: Jimmy and Karl. Ideas presented were: Poker run, Bean bag drop, Lotto landing, Auction or garage sale of donated items, Dead stick landing targeting.

Fossil Flyer flying time has been moved to Wednesdays.

New Business

Website Committee Members: TJ and Ken Campbell will coordinate on updating the website and YouTube presence.

ROTC 2/10/2015. Flying will be in the commons 6:30 – 9:00. Pizza will be supplied. The cadets will be selling popcorn bags for \$1.

Swap meet report: Dale, Randy, Terry attended Georgetown swap meet. Everything was cheap.

Jimmy: Suggested to sand cover the runway. Must wait for better weather.

Program

Terry presented a session on his favorite transmitter. The program covered:

Transmitter binding, Servo throws, Servo reversal, Dual rates, Kill switch, Batteries

Next month's program will be on batteries and fuel.

Model of the Month

Marcelo won model of the month.

Name Tag Raffle

Pot was \$71. The winner of the raffle was not present to collect the prize. Pot will roll over into the March meeting.

Gift Certificate Raffle

Gift Certificates to Randy's Hobbies Shop were raffled. Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

C. Paul Gallagher,
Secretary

**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**

Randy's Hobbies
Remote Control Airplanes, Boats & Cars
Sales and Service



Randy Ritch
18706 Tomball Pkwy
Houston, TX 77070
281-469-7000



**REMOTE CONTROL
HOBBIES**

8190 Barker-Cypress Rd. # 300
Cypress, TX. 77433

Woody Lee 281-855-9154
Www.rc-hobbies.com



whobbies
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ANGELO LOMELI
3730 FM 2920 Suite 102
Spring, Tx 77388
(281) 456-3655

whobbies@att.net
www.whobbiesrc.com

Kirk Massey

New Creations
R/C Electric Flight

9735 County Line Road 936 856-4630
Willis, TX 77378 newcreations-rc.com

SPARKS New Member Application - Feb 1st, 2015 - Jan 31, 2016

Please Print

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (H): _____ (W): _____ (Cell): _____

E-mail address: _____ Age: _____ **AMA#:** _____

Aircraft: Fixed Wing ___ Helicopter ___ Quad ___ TX / Rx Channels: 2.4MHz ___ 72 MHz ___ Years in Hobby: _____

Emergency contact: Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (H): _____ (Cell): _____ Referred By: _____

Parent Signature if Junior membership: _____

Membership type	Yearly dues	Initiation Fee <u>For new members only</u>
Full Membership: Adult—Outdoor & Indoor Adult - Indoor Only	\$150.00 30.00	\$50 None
2nd Adult in family or full time student over 19	50.00	None
Temporary Membership 6 month time period (Outdoor & Indoor) (see notes below)	1/2 of full membership yearly dues—\$75	\$25
Junior (Under 19) - Outdoor & Indoor	45.00	None
Junior (With adult member) - Outdoor & Indoor	15.00	None

Regular Membership: The applicant is required to be an AMA member and follow all club and AMA rules. The AMA's phone is 1-800-435-9262 and web address is <http://modelaircraft.org>. A member will be required to participate in work days (typically 2-3 per year). Member will also be able to hold office and vote.

Temporary Membership: The applicant is required to be an AMA member and follow all club and AMA rules. See AMA information above. Membership is valid for six months from date of application. Member must pay 1/2 of full membership dues and 1/2 of initiation fee to join club as temporary member (please see rates above under temporary membership) and pay the remainder of both dues and initiation fee to become a full member. A member will be required to participate in work days but will not be able to hold office or vote.

Junior Membership: The applicant is classified as a Junior for AMA purposes (19 yrs and under) and must be an AMA member. A junior who joins with an adult does not pay an initiation fee and pays lower annual dues. Juniors are expected to perform workday duties commensurate with their age. Member will not be able to hold office or vote.

Payments: Mail: Make checks payable to: SPARKS, Inc. and mail to P.O. Box 1361, Tomball TX 77377-1361, bring to monthly club meeting, or drop off to Terry Foote (Club President) at Randy's Hobbies.

For additional information contact our Treasurer, Randy Shewmaker at (281) 300-2899 or via email at treasurer@sparksrc.com or visit our website at <http://www.sparksrc.com>.

SPARKS Member Renewal Form - Feb 1st, 2015 - Jan 31, 2016

Please Print

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (H): _____ (W): _____ (Cell): _____

E-mail address: _____ Age: _____ AMA#: _____

Aircraft: Fixed Wing ___ Rotary ___ (Check one or both) Tx Rx Channels: 2.4MHz ___ 72 MHz ___ (Check one or both)

Power Preference: Glow ___ Electric ___ (Check one or both) Volunteer as Instructor: Yes ___ No ___

Emergency contact: Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Emergency Phone: (H) _____ (Cell) _____ Do you need a replacement name tag? _____

Membership type	Yearly dues
Full Membership:	
Adult—Outdoor & Indoor	\$150.00
Adult - Indoor Only	\$30.00
2nd Adult in family or full time student over 19	\$50.00
Temporary Membership: 6 month time period (Outdoor & Indoor) - may become a full member by paying the remaining 50% of dues.	1/2 of full membership yearly dues—\$75
Junior (Under 19) - Outdoor & Indoor	\$45.00
Junior (With adult member) - Outdoor & Indoor	\$15.00

Make checks payable to: SPARKS, Inc. and mail to P.O. Box 1361, Tomball TX 77377-1361.

If you have questions contact your Treasurer, Randy Shewmaker at treasurer@sparksrc.com or visit our website at <http://www.sparksrc.com>.

rev. December 2014 rs