



Issue 4438, July 2017

Next club meeting: July 24th, 2017, 7:00 pm, Buffalo West Restaurant, 7101 Camp Bowie Blvd

Presidents Corner: *by James Meadows*

Big thanks to all the members and family members who came out to the field on the 4th of July. The weather was wonderful, hotdogs plentiful, and the flying challenging. Thank you to the officers and volunteers who made the event possible. As events go, get your float planes ready, the Aug floats fly is fast approaching! Under the leadership of Woody Lake it promises to be a good time and a chance to get your feet wet.

The Corp of Engineers have asked, me to remind members that the orange pass is only good for access to Thunderbird Field and not the rest of the park. Several cars sporting a Thunderbird pass have been seen at the swim area. Violators are subject to a ticket and or removal from the parks. The Sherriff's Dept. has also stepped up patrols in the park, so watch your speed and obey the traffic signs. Plans for improvement of the ramp area and the addition of a helipad have been submitted to the Corp for approval. I am hopeful that the review process will be wrapped up shortly and we can get this project started.

Last membership meeting we had discussed having the July meeting at the field, but after some conversation and a check of the weather and specifically the thermostat, we will have the monthly meeting at Buffalo West as scheduled. Look for a fall meeting at the field

Have a great month

Vice Presidents Corner: *by Gary Cummings*

June Meeting Minutes: *by Bill Lake*

James Meadows (President) opened the meeting and welcomed new members, guests and visitors.

Ken Knotts briefed the recent Old Farts Fly-In event which had nine participants with awards given in several categories.

James then addressed the upcoming events which included the 4th of July Fun Fly and Swap Meet hosted by the club officers; the July 15th SPA event with Pat Ensign as CD; and the Alliance Air Show at which the FW Thunderbirds will, as was done last year, be showcasing various static display aircraft. The club will not be doing a flight demonstration.

Bill Lake (Secretary) offered to read the minutes from last month's meeting but a motion was made by Ken Knotts to suspend the reading, seconded by Gerry Stanford and approved by voice vote. Bill thanked them all for their support.

Chris Berardi (Treasurer) discussed shirt and hat sales and was busy selling items and collecting proceeds. The shirts are quite attractive and cool - in a temperature sense as well as stylish. Membership is at 175 total. Resources were briefed and several recent expenditures were discussed. A suggestion was made to conduct the July meeting out at the airfield and add some flying to

the gathering. Bring a pizza or brown bag for your dinner.

Mel Wells (Safety) gave a thorough briefing on the importance of wearing proper eye protection. A small investment in safety glasses can prevent disastrous complications when working around the home, in the workshop, or at the airfield.

Show & Tell:

James Meadows showed off his Artec STOL foam airplane with spoilers, leading edge slats and recovery parachute. It is from Dynam ready to go for around \$110.



John Ebert brought in his twin engine Air Commander that was a scratch design and build effort with Paul Stelly. They used a Mitsubishi U2 foundation to create an all blue foam, sanded to shape. The airplane successfully flew four times earlier in the day.



Gerry Stanford showed off his F8F Bearcat. As you probably know, the Bearcat was built in 1945-63 to replace the venerable Spitfire. Gerry's airplane boasts a Moki 150cc five cylinder engine, powered fuel system, electronic ignition, variable pitch propeller (ground), Demon Vortex stabilizer, 1226 JR receiver, smoke

system, and a maneuvering pilot's head. Not exactly our everyday RC flying machine. Editorial note: the Bearcat maiden flight was on Sunday and flew several more times during the July 4th Fun Fly.



Tom Blakeney showed off his very unique flying parachute hauling around two minions. It can be powered by .15 - .25 gas, has two controls – throttle and ailerons, and Tom says it is the easiest RC model he has flown. And he has flown quite a few. Tom flew the minions around the field during the July 4th Fun Fly.



Ed Kettler took the challenge to come in with something even more unique than Tom's parachute airplane. He had a plane-in-a-box. A 3D printed flying wing in several pieces and despite having no build instruction, it will hopefully be seen in the skies over Thunderbird Field.

Gary Cummings (Vice President) introduced our guest speaker, Mr. Bill Morris, the Director of the Fort Worth Aviation Museum at Meacham Airport. Bill gave an intriguing slide show and briefing about the Camp Taliaferro airfields and the Canadian Air Force flying training here in Fort Worth in 1917.

James Meadows reviewed the club's current project list and updated the status of each. Ed Kettler presented several options for starting posts. James sent a letter to the Corp of Engineers advising them our intentions to add concrete ramp extensions.

James also discussed the pros and cons of Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) and the highly burdensome regulations required in order to have one at the field.

Woody Lake talked about the August 5th Float Fly at Camp Joy Park. Woody needs some volunteers to help him. He needs a volunteer to man the rescue kayak and another to get the cold drinks and coolers. More info at the July meeting. Please contact Woody at: (at6pilot@att.net) if you are willing to help out.

Attendees:

Jimmy Nelson
Charles Weaver
Ed Kettler
Rob Lowe
Ken Knotts
Carl Rivers
Ian Waring
Woody Lake
Tracy Kobs

Don Ventura
Kenneth Harman
Paul Stelly (new)
John Ebert (new)
James Meadows
Chris Berardi
James McCasland
Tom Blakeney
Roger Spencer

Mel Wells
Tab Bowland
Robert Morris
Len Minco
Steve Ehlers
JC Dean
Bill Lake
Gary Cummings
Gerry Stanford

Treasurers Report: *by Chris Berardi*

Shirts and Hats

Shirts and hats are now available - many have already gone out to members. If you have ordered a shirt and hat, please come to the club meeting to pick them up. Or, I will be at the field after 6:30pm on Thursday (training night). The costs are: Shirt: \$35, Hat: \$13. If you pay via Paypal/Credit Card it will be slightly more to account for fees. I will be sending invoices via PayPal for those of you that have yet to pay - though you can provide a check or cash at the meeting or by mail.

Club Meeting Raffle

This month's club meeting we will have a great raffle prize. On the block will be a new Graupner 12MZ (6 channel) radio. If you haven't checked out the Graupner line of radios, you will know that quite a few club members, including myself, have moved to the brand. There are many reasons for this. For me, I have been flying JR Propo since I was 16 years old; recently, JR has had a change of hands here in the U.S., while at home they have moved to new facilities curtailing supply around the world. JR also made a few marketing missteps including the move from DSM2/X to DMSS (lost compatibility with the popular Spektrum brand) and

replacement for the 12X radio with the unaffordable 28X.

Graupner have a line of radios that are affordable and have some of the most flexible, comprehensive and simple programming on the market. The receivers have built-in telemetry and have serial digital output that can tie the receiver to popular drone flight controllers, helicopter flybarless systems, and jet/large-scale redundant power supplies and gyros such as those by Power box Systems.

The 12MZ we are including in the raffle is a capable radio - to find out more, surf over to www.graupnerusa.com.

Membership

Are newest members are joining after experiencing our training night. If you need to brush up your skills, or need help with setting up a model, or if you simply want to hang out as just cause for going out to eat with a bunch of modelers, then training night is for you! We fly everything on Thursday evenings, including helicopters, drones, gliders, foamies and much more. This month, our membership is up by seven from my last report in May.

Membership Type	Count
Individual	151
Family	15
Associate	2
Life	10
Service	0
TOTAL	178

Club Meeting Presentations

Last month's club meeting we were fortunate to have a guest speaker who spoke of the aeronautical history of the Benbrook area. I already knew some of the history because it is noted in several displays in the museum on Montgomery Street. One thing that I learned about is that the house that sits at the crest of the hill off Hwy. 377 was once part of a ranch that sat adjacent to the WWI flight training facility - Camp Taliaferro. Our guest speaker gave us a fascinating walkthrough of our aviation history at a site that is not far from either our old and new flying fields. You can read more about the area here:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camp_Taliaferro

Several years ago, I drove around the Benbrook neighborhood and took a few pictures of the monument. I've included them here so you know what to look for.

If you have other ideas for presentations, or would like to give one yourself on any aspect of the hobby, please inform our Vice President, Gary Cummings.



Model Scale Size: by Callie Graphics

Not sure what scale your model is? It is easy to figure out! All you'll need to do is find the wingspan of the plane you are modeling. Typically a quick internet search will provide you with that information. Let's do an example, the P-51 Mustang.

A quick internet search brought me to Wikipedia and tells me the full scale P-51 Mustang has a wingspan of 37'. To convert that to inches, just multiply 37x12. That will give us a full scale wingspan of 444". Now, all you need to do is divide that number by the wingspan of your model. Let's say the wingspan of your model is 55".

$$444 \text{ divided by } 55'' = 8.0727$$

This means your model is 1/8th scale

Not all models have an even scale though. Many times they will fall in-between a scale. Let's try the P-47 next.

The full scale P-47 has a wingspan of 40' 9". This time we'll take 40 x12 and then add the extra 9" to get our full scale P-47 wingspan, 489". Now let's say our P-47 model also has a wingspan of 55"

$$489 \text{ divided by } 55'' = 8.890$$

This means your model is 1/8.89 scale

This is of course close to 1/9th scale, but not exact. If your model is in-between scales like this, we can easily size any of our graphics sets to your models exact specifications. In the case above, you can just order the 1/9th scale set, and then leave us a note that it needs to be adjusted to your models exact measurements. There is no extra charge for this!

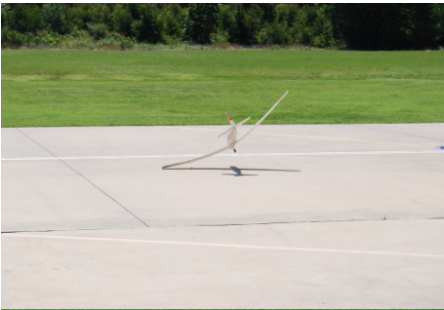
Let's say your model came in at 1/8.4 scale. Then you'd want to order the 1/8th scale option instead. Basically, just round up or down accordingly.

www.calliegraphics.com

Happy Flying *Callie Graphics*

Club July 4th Picnic 2017





SPA Event



Safety

It is hard to believe the end of July is almost here. That means there is only a little more than 5 months left of the year 2017. By now, we have discussed many various safety rules, regulations, the "should do stuff", and the "should not do stuff". The subject gets kind of repetitious and maybe even boring. This month, I would like to discuss one rule that is always with us in our everyday life. That is, the rule of "Common Sense". If driving under less than desirable road conditions, and "common sense" says "slow down", then slow down. You will probably help guarantee safe arrival to your destination. If "common sense" says "don't stand in front of your model" when working with the propulsion system, don't do it. That way, more than likely, you will not meet up with Murphy's Law. If "common sense" says "don't support a soldering iron between your legs" when soldering, listen to that suggestion. It could save you from a painful burn. If, while flying your model, "common sense" says "get help", then get help. There is a good chance the results of that decision will be highly positive. The bottom line is: that the rule of "Common Sense" is a pretty fantastic rule. Follow it. Safe flying everybody. *Mel Wells Safety Officer*



Aeronca Champion (U.S.)
two-place tandem light-
plane. 65- & 85-hp Con-
tinental.



Stinson 105 (U.S.). Prede-
cessor of Stinson Voyager &
Station Wagon. 80-hp
Continental.

Summer Float Fly: by Woody Lake

Our Summer Float Fly will be held August 5th at Camp Joy Park. Chris and I will be needing help from club members to support this event. In particular we'll need someone to pick up the two ice chests, in our storage shed, loaded with water and soft drinks. Terry Thorpe will be getting lunch sandwiches, Mel Wells will be getting bags of ice. We will need a recovery craft and a captain to man it.

The site has been reserved and raffle items secured.

Please plan to attend for a great fly-in. If you don't have a float plane you're missing a lot of fun. Come visit us and see what all the hoop-la is about. I plan to brief members at our July meeting and finalize tasks. Attached are some photos from past Float Flies:



THUNDERBIRD 2016 CALENDAR

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>POINT OF CONTACT</u>
August 5	Summer Float Fly	Woody Lake
August 12	Try RC Day	Ed Kettler
September 23-24	SPA	Gary Alphin
September 30 Oct 1	Pylon Race	Gary James, Sarge Bell
October 21 -22	Alliance AirShow & Benbrook Heritage Fest	
October 21	Electric Fly-In	Tom Blakeney
November 5	Winter Float Fly	
November 25	Toys for Tots	Steve Ehlers
December 9	Club Christmas Party	Club Officers

WWW.FWTHUNDERBIRDS.ORG

President: James Meadows E-Mail: jamslam1099@gmail.com	Vice President: Gary Cummings E-Mail: gary.a.cummings@sbcglobal.net	Secretary: Bill Lake E-Mail: wjl728@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Chris Berardi E-Mail: mikadopilot@gmail.com	Safety Officer: Mel Wells E-Mail: malekat@sbcglobal.net	Pilot's Log: Woody Lake E-Mail: at6pilot@att.net

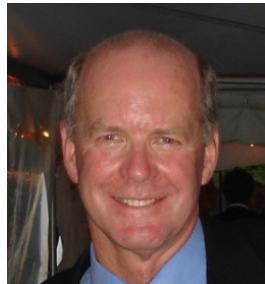
Club Officers 2017



Pres: James Meadows



VP: Gary Cummings



Sec: Bill Lake



Safety: Mel Wells



Treas: Chris Berardi

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTIZERS



Roy's Hobby Shop 817 268-0210
1309 Norwood Dr. Hurst TX 76053
www.royshobby.com



JT's Hobby Shop 817 244-6171
8808 Camp Bowie Blvd. Fort Worth TX 76116
jtshobby@yahoo.com

Name the Thunderbird

This month's Mystery Thunderbird has been flying for at least 30 years. This photo was taken in 1985.
First correct answer wins a \$10.00 gift card from J.T.s Hobbies. Submit your guess to Woody at: at6pilot@att.net



Up Coming Events



FW THUNDERBIRDS AUGUST FLOAT FLY



DATE: AUGUST 5th, 0900-1500

LOCATION: CAMP JOY PARK (LAKE WORTH)

Open to all types of R/C seaplane and float plane models (fixed or rotary wing). Come join us at beautiful Camp Joy Park on Watercress Drive in Lake Worth, TX for a great float fly.

Raffle items include a Dynam PBV, Fuel, Gift Cards, and Miscellaneous RC items

GPS Coordinates: 32.8145, -97.4905

AMA required. This is an AMA sanctioned event (17-885). Landing fee is \$20.00. Pilot lunch included.

Contact: Woody Lake: at6pilot@att.net 817 675-7613

Chris Berardi: mikadopilot@gmail.com