



Fort Worth Thunderbirds

Radio Control Association Inc.

The Pilot's Log



Issue, 6209 September 2024

Next club meeting: September 23rd - 7:00 pm - Location - CERA, 3300 Bryant Irvin Road

Presidents Corner: by *James Meadows*

Greetings Thunderbirds, don't you just love the September weather a little cool and wet, mixed with a little heat and sun. Sun and Fun that's just what happened during the 2024 Warbird Over Benbrook event this past weekend. The weather was nearly perfect and the variety of aircraft spectacular! Thirty plus pilots representing more than three clubs participated in the event. Special shout out to Dave Williams (CD) and the many volunteers who made the event a success!

Over the last two weeks we lost a valued member of the Thunderbirds and the RC community at large. Thanks for the support and love that you expressed at the visitation of Joey Tamez. He will truly be missed by the Thunderbirds and the RC world!

Membership has its privileges and also its responsibilities. I wish that I could talk more about the privileges of membership, but recent reports or notifications dictate that I mention responsibilities. Over that last few weeks I have been notified of several individuals who choose to violate the field rules. This includes landing, taking off from the parking lot, overflying the parking lot, Pit area, violating our no start or taxi in the Pit areas. Flying outside of the designated flight areas and there have even been a few instances of folks not being respectful to one another. Responsibility of membership is to follow the established rules even when no one else is present and if able to correct or inform members/ guest who violate the rules. If you're not comfortable with that then reach out to a board member and provide information so that we can make contact to correct or educate the individual or group of the infraction(s). Our rules are in place to promote a safe, friendly and fun venue based on AMA guideline's and our own requirements based on our location and some common lessons learned over our 60 year existence.

The reports of violation are increasing and I would direct all members to review the safety rules located at the field and on our web site. If you don't agree with a rule, then you have a responsibility to seek a change by bringing the matter before the board and membership for discussion, consideration and vote! But simply violating the established rules has to stop!

Under our By-laws a member may be removed from membership for cause under Section 5, item 7 and sub items.

<https://fwthunderbirds.org/Thunderbirds%20Bylaws%202017%20November.pdf#>

Future reported and verifiable violations will be handled in an appropriate manner based on the severity of the infraction and contributing factors. But in general members will receive a verbal warning first, followed by a written warning upon a second reported and verifiable violation. A third violation of the same offense or a combination of violations in a 6 month period will result in a member being recommended for expulsion as outlined in section 5 item 7 above. No one in

leadership and I hope membership wants to reach or have to enforce a third time violation. Let's all be responsible members and follow the rules. I am sure that this will prompt some discussion at the next meeting.

Hope to see you at our next meeting at the CERA center. Happy flying

James

Vice Presidents Corner: *by Rob Lowe*

For the VP section this month, nothing of significance to report except a HUGE FOOTSTOMP of James article.

Rob.

Secretaries Corner: *by Mike Schroeder*

Thunderbird Meeting Minutes by Mike Schroeder
August 26, 2024 Meeting at CERA

Meeting starts at 7:00 pm

James Welcomes everyone and asked if there any guest or new members. Mark Davenport is a new member and this is his first meeting.

Events

Float Fly: Event was held on August 10th with the CD being Mel Wells. There were sixteen pilots and almost perfect weather. The protected cove of Camp Joy Park on Lake Worth gave us a glass mirror finish lake to take-off and land from. Only one major crash and it was due to pilot error. Great raffle of a piper cub almost ready to fly won by a dad and his son who stopped by to watch and bought a few raffle tickets. Hopefully we will see them again. Mel reported that the club made a few dollars and it was given the treasurer.

Warbirds Over Thunderbird field: September 14, 2024. CD is Dave Williams. Pilot briefing at 9:00am, still looking for a few volunteers. Sending out invites to other clubs. The raffle has several airplanes: P-40, F-86, T-33, Hurricane, and a Hellcat. Flyer is on the website and our Face book page.

Electric Fly: October 26, 2024. CD is Tom Blakeney. Flyer on the website and we will get it posted on Face book. Pilot Safety briefing at 9:00. Several airplanes for the raffle. Still need donations of electric items.

Members Party: October 13. CD is James Meadows. Making plans for an airshow, still working on the details.

Elections: are coming up. James and Rob are retiring. The need for members to step up and nominate. Nominations are for the next several months and should be turned in to a board member along with a short bio of the person you are nominating.

Donations: A lots of members have donated items and the club will auction as we get them.

Report

Treasurers Report by Chris Berardi: Chris is going to start working on a new shirt order and will have details soon. Hats are for sale get with Chris to buy a new hat. The checking and savings accounts are in good standing. Mailing out one badge at a time is very costly so it is done in batches. Best way to get a badge is to pick it up at club meeting or club event.

Motion to not mail out badges and keys by Bill Lake and second by Pete Lucas.

Discussion of the motion and Mark Johnson brought up that the mailing of keys is a club convince for members.

Bill Lake withdraws his motion.

New motion to mail out keys and new members will have to pick up their badge at a club meeting or club event. Motion by Phil Dunlap, second Mark Johnson. Show of hands the motion passes.

Vice Presidents report by Rob Lowe: Elections are coming and if you are running for a position then you should write a short bio on the person that is getting nominated and what direction they want the club to go.

Safety Report by Sam Corlett: Recommends that you take the time to know your radio. The ability to set up the logs and be able to go back and see data. That way you can look for heat issues with the battery, voltage spikes, and holes. That way you can set up alarms for different items.

Secretary Report by Mike Schroeder: Tom Blakeney makes motion not to read the minutes and second by Rob Lowe. Show of hands the motion passes.

Discussion with the issue of a fire with Glenn Cashion about an accident. A jet crashed into the grass by the runway and caught the grass on fire. Talked about the operation of the fire equipment.

Pete Lucas brought up issues of taxiing past the engine kill notice on the walkway. This is a reoccurring safety issue. The club needs to remind people about the rule. It is everyone's job for safety.

Show and Tell

Woody Lake showed his Fliteline Spitfire that he has repainted. Really nice job on the details and paint. Planning to convert to a three bladed prop electric.

Ron Anderson made the suggestion to use nylon bolts in the landing gear mount so they shear off instead of ripping the landing gear out the fuselage. Less damage.

Mike Schroeder brought up a new app for locating a field "Modelairfields DB". This is a very complete app.

Old Business

Last meeting there was talked about the field and meeting with the CORP. Follow up: James met with the CORP rep and the CORP would try and fix the road pot holes. Talked about events at the field and overnight stays. The club will need a parking plan and there will be no RV campers on the grass. Overnight stays will need a permit for the event and any overnight stays. There is the option to have available overnight at Bear Creek for a fee.

CORP Youth Deer Hunt: will be the first weekend in December. Field will be closed for the hunt.

SAE update: Glen Cashion briefed that Zeke is in Houston now and SAE is looking for a new coordinator. James Meadows volunteer to be the Thunderbird SAE rep.

New Member Mark Davenport and his first meeting. Has several planes and is still learning how to do it all.

New Business None at this time

Motion to close the meeting by Rob Lowe, Second by Chris Berardi.

Meeting adjourns at 8:25

Thunderbird Members Present

Tab Bowland
Johnny Hunt
Ron Anderson
Rob Lowe
Scott Hays

Dave Williams
Mel Wells
Rex Anderson
Sam Corlett
Tom Blakeney

Pete Lucas
Woody Lake
Mark Johnson
Grant Schroeder
Phil Dunlap

Bill Lake
Mike Schroeder
Chris Berardi
James Meadow
Mark Davenport

From the Treasury: By Chris Berardi

No Report this month.

Membership Update

Here is our latest membership count as of 04/15/2024.

| Membership Type | Count |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Individual | 104 |
| Family | 5 |
| Associate | 2 |
| Life | 15 |
| Service & Gift | 1 |
| TOTAL | 127 |

Safety Officer submission: by Sam Corlett

Instead of writing an article this month, I'm going to throw out some words to spark some ideas and let you, the reader come up with "the rest of the story". (I'm not a very good writer anyway.) Here you go, not in a particular order to let you rearrange your thoughts as they might work out:

Intentionality

Objective

Community

Rules

Safety

As the saying goes, "a seat belt only works if you use it".

I do have a few questions.

- 1) How do rules create freedom?
- 2) How do you know if the failsafe on your throttle works (or still works)?
- 3) How many ways can a model airplane hurt you?
- 4) How many years do most of your planes last?

Look forward to seeing you at the field! Come to the club meeting, we'll talk more!

Sam Corlett

In Memoriam



Joe Edward Tamez IV, 'Joey', 52, passed away on September 2, 2024. He was a beloved father, husband and friend who will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

He was born February 14, 1972 in Corpus Christi, TX to Joe Tamez III and Mary Tamez. He spent his most formative years in Fort Worth, TX. Joe graduated from Boswell High School and went on to attend ITT Technical Institute where he became a machine technician. Joe worked for various companies throughout the DFW metroplex and ended his career working for Bell and Howell. Throughout his career, he was known for his hard work, dedication and passion for helping others.

Joe devoted most of his free time to travel baseball, several bowling leagues, and was a staple in the RC community. He established JT's Hobby Shop with his father, was a member of the Fort Worth Thunderbirds RC Flying Club, one of many pilots for Horizon Hobby Team and an integral part of Elite Aerosports Flying Team. His final and biggest accomplishment was earning his pilot's license.



Achtung Spitfire

The Greater Southwest Club hosted a Spitfire Fly-In on the 31st of August. Bob Mueller was the Squadron Leader and thirteen Spitfires scrambled on station not to mention various other warbirds.





Warbirds Over Thunderbird Field

Thirty-one registered pilots, great weather, good food, super raffle, and fellowship. The turbine pilots requested a memorial turbine fly-by honoring Joey Tamaz. Four turbines took to the air in tribute.

In addition to all registered pilots, guests, and spectators we were also visited by a movie celebrity many will recognize. He also graciously took time for 'photo opts' with some members and guests.





Members Projects

The following are before and after photos of Woody's' Spitfire



2024 CALENDAR

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>EVENT</u> | <u>POINT OF CONTACT</u> |
|-------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| October 12. | Fun Fly and Demo | Club Officers |
| October 26 | Tx Electric Expo | Tom Blakeney |
| October 31 | Halloween Fly in | |

First weekend in December is the CORP youth deer hunt

December Christmas Party

www.fwthunderbirds.org

| POSITION | BOARD MEMBE | EMAIL |
|----------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| President | James Meadows | president@fwthunderbirds.org |
| Vice President | Rob Lowe | vicepresident@fwthunderbirds.org |
| Secretary | Mike Schroeder | secretary@fwthunderbirds.org |
| Treasurer | Chris Berardi | treasurer@fwthunderbirds.org |
| Safety Officer | Sam Corlett | safetyofficer@fwthunderbirds.org |



Pres: James Meadows VP: Rob Lowe Sec: Mike Schroeder Safety: Sam Corlett Treas: Chris Berardi



SUPPORT OUR ADVERTIZERS

jtshobby@yahoo.com



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



www.ventrexcollectibles.com

817-615-4080
304 THOMAS PLACE
EVERMAN, TX 76140







Ventrex Collectibles
& R/C Hobbies



VENTREXCOLLECTIBLES

Project List

FW THUNDERBIRDS
 2022 PROJECT LIST
 2/27/2024 7:23 PM

| Project # | Proposed Project | Summary of Project | TYPE | EXPENSE | POC | Status | Notes |
|-----------|-------------------------|--|---------------|-------------|------------|-------------------|--|
| 1 | Update Freq Board | Update signage a use or Freq. board | self | \$100.00 | BOARD | AWAITING ACTION | Update Boundaries and rules |
| 2 | Lost Aircraft Security | Provide a means to secure lost aircraft found and returned | self | \$100.00 | MEADOWS | Purchase approved | |
| 3 | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Additional Storage AREA | Utilize Cargo container | self/contract | \$20,000.00 | Chris | Hold | Would it require Lease mod? |
| 5 | Weather Station | complete with camera and Data port | Self | 5 | Chris/Mike | Discussion | Allow member or guest to see and look at actual Field conditions |
| 6 | | | | | | | |
| 7 | Members Walkway | Personal engraved brick pathway from Pit area to Flagpole | Everyone | | meadows | Discussion | Membership due details |
| 8 | Toilet | Real Toilet | combo | 7 | Meadows | Discussion | asked the Corp about co-op agreement |
| 9 | | | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | | |

Flying Field Rules

Academy of Model Aeronautics National Model Aircraft Safety Code

Effective January 1, 2018

A model aircraft is a non-human-carrying device capable of sustained flight within visual line of sight of the pilot or spotter(s). It may not exceed limitations of this code and is intended exclusively for sport, recreation, education and/or competition. All model flights must be conducted in accordance with this safety code and related AMA guidelines, any additional rules specific to the flying site, as well as all applicable laws and regulations.

As an AMA member I agree:

- I will not fly a model aircraft in a careless or reckless manner.
- I will not interfere with and will yield the right of way to all human-carrying aircraft using AMA's *See and Avoid Guidance* and a spotter when appropriate.
- I will not operate any model aircraft while I am under the influence of alcohol or any drug that could adversely affect my ability to safely control the model.
- I will avoid flying directly over unprotected people, moving vehicles, and occupied structures.
- I will fly Free Flight (FF) and Control Line (CL) models in compliance with AMA's safety programming.
- I will maintain visual contact of an RC model aircraft without enhancement other than corrective lenses prescribed to me. When using an advanced flight system, such as an autopilot, or flying First-Person View (FPV), I will comply with AMA's Advanced Flight System programming.
- I will only fly models weighing more than 55 pounds, including fuel, if certified through AMA's Large Model Airplane Program.
- I will only fly a turbine-powered model aircraft in compliance with AMA's Gas Turbine Program.
- I will not fly a powered model outdoors closer than 25 feet to any individual, except for myself or my helper(s) located at the flightline, unless I am taking off and landing, or as otherwise provided in AMA's *Competition Regulation*.
- I will use an established safety line to separate all model aircraft operations from spectators and bystanders.

For a complete copy of AMA's Safety Handbook please visit:
www.modelaircraft.org/files/100.pdf

SPREAD SPECTRUM

CURRENT AMA CARDS ONLY. NO OTHER CARD IS ACCEPTABLE.

THIS FIELD IS LEASED BY, MAINTAINED BY, AND ITS CONSTRUCTION FUNDING WAS SECURED BY

THE FORT WORTH THUNDERBIRDS RADIO CONTROL ASSOCIATION

ALL AMA, CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND THE FOLLOWING RULES APPLY TO EVERYONE FLYING HERE.

1. Neither the Thunderbirds nor the Corps of Engineers is responsible for accident or injury.
2. Place your AMA card in the proper slot above before turning transmitter on.
3. All engines must have effective mufflers.
5. Fly from the station nearest the downwind end of the runway. In case of a crosswind the first pilot to fly will select the station.
6. Aircraft must follow the takeoff and landing pattern in effect.
7. Landing aircraft have the right-of-way over aircraft taking off.
8. Running aircraft shall not be left unattended.
9. No more than 5 pilots shall fly in each designated zone at one time.
10. LMA rules are posted in the bulletin board

RED ZONES - NO FLY



A Boeing B-52H Stratofortress (61-023) flying with its vertical stabilizer sheared off. The aircraft was being used as a test bed to identify structural weaknesses in the airframe when the event occurred. The crew, with the assistance of Boeing engineers on the ground, was able to land the aircraft safely. January 10 1964

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

Humor



Handyman Special

Events



The Fort Worth Thunderbirds present



T.E.X., The Texas Electric eXpo and Tailgate Swap Meet October 26, 2024



Come join us at Thunderbird Field for the best electric event in the area! Lots of relaxed flying, fun and fellowship. Event hours are 9AM until 4PM. Pilot briefing at 9AM. AMA required. Bring your unwanted RC stuff for a tailgate swap meet!

All types of electric aircraft are welcome. Landing fee is \$25.00 and includes lunch from the Thunderbird Grill! There will be a great RAFFLE!

Event Director: Tom Blakeney. Contact at 817-734-1917 or tomblakeney28682@yahoo.com

Directions and field information: <https://www.fwthunderbirds.org>