



**Fort Worth Thunderbirds**  
*Radio Control Association Inc.*  
**The Pilot's Log**



**Issue, 6406 June 2026**

**Next club meeting: June 22nd - 7:00 pm - Location - CERA, 3300 Bryant Irvin Road**

**President's Desk by Scott Hays**

By the time you all read this the Cowtown Jet Classic will in the books. To say the event exceeded my expectations would be an understatement. For a 1<sup>st</sup> year event to have 58 registered pilots and draw pilots from around our region is just a great accomplishment.

Those who visited our field were blown away with our flying field and the facilities we get to enjoy! We are fortunate to belong to a club that has one of the premier flying sites in the nation. Other than a very brief storm on Friday, the weather was hot but perfect for flying turbines.

I hope all of you got out and experienced some incredible jets and flying. Events like the Cowtown Jet Classic bring exposure to our hobby and club, and are invaluable in helping us grow and continue to be a successful club. I met one gentleman who was so impressed with the event, our club, and field, that he is going to join. We had another member we had lost and he said he was going to rejoin.

I so appreciate all of you who participated in the event, supported the raffle, and worked tirelessly to make this event such a huge success. I spoke with another turbine event organizer and one of his comments was how envious he was of how the club members were so involved in helping and supporting the event. What a positive reflection on our club and our membership! Thank you again for all of your support; we could not have made this event happen without all of you who volunteered your time and energy.

Lastly, a big thank you goes out to Mike Sawyer for taking the lead on this event. I think Mike will tell you it was hard work but very rewarding. Mike, we could not have done it without you! Thanks also goes out to Mo Culverwell for being the Co-CD and working hard, supporting Mike and bringing his experience to the event....thank you, Mo.

As I am writing this Mike is still working the numbers. The event is going to make a very nice contribution back to the club! This allows us to invest in our members and facilities, and continue to have more events like this.

Speaking of events, we have added an event to our schedule on June 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

Recently nature struck an ugly blow to the Salina Kansas RC Club. 100 mile an hour winds destroyed their facilities and field. The Salina Club was scheduled to host an IMAC (International Miniature Aerobatic Club) event on June 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. After a quick review by the board and a

phone call to AMA and IMAC leadership, a decision was made to move the event to Thunderbird Field. Hence the Cowtown IMAC was born! Moving the event to our field now gives all of you the opportunity to try IMAC.

Many of you may be asking what is IMAC? IMAC is a global organization and a competitive discipline on RC flying focused on scale aerobatics. To learn more go to [flyimac.org](http://flyimac.org).

IMAC is divided into 5 classes (Basic to Unlimited) plus a Freestyle class. Basic has some very basic maneuvers and is a very good class for someone to give IMAC a try. If you go to [flyimac.org](http://flyimac.org), and then go to 2026 Sequences, you can print off the sequences and score sheets for the class that matches your skill level.

There is NO entry fee for first time IMAC participants. And NO you don't need to have a 40% gas airplane. The overall region winner in Sportsman Class last year won the class by flying a 67 inch wingspan electric plane. So a scale like electric, gas, or glow plane will work....any size!

Mo Culverwell is going to be the Contest Director. Mo and I will be practicing over the next two weeks and will be available to help all of you that are interested. If you have any questions please reach out to me or Mo. We look forward to seeing many of you come out, have some fun, enjoy some great fellowship, and try your hand at IMAC.

Please register by going to [flyimac.org](http://flyimac.org), then selecting South Central Region, scroll down to Cowtown IMAC and then hit the register link. Remember there is NO cost to first time pilots. The Basic Class is a great place to start! It's all about fun, not about perfection.

The field will be closed on Friday at noon to members who are not participating in this event so that pilots can practice. Competition will begin on Saturday at 9 am. Three rounds of the known sequences are flown on Saturday. On Sunday morning (pilots other than Basic Class) will fly an unknown sequence they have never flown. This sequence is given to them at the end of the day on Saturday and they are not allowed to practice or even practice on a simulator. On Sunday Basic pilots will fly one round of their known sequence and it becomes 25% of their score. We should be done with Freestyle around 1 pm on Sunday and the field will be open the rest of the day to all members. Dinner will be provided on Friday evening. Donuts will be provided for Saturday breakfast, and lunch will also be provided on Saturday.

I look forward to seeing many of you participate in the event. I know that there are several club members who are already planning on attending. If you're not participating, please come out and watch the fun and see some incredible pilots fly full scale aerobatics.

Please see the Cowtown IMAC flyer in this newsletter, on Face book, or on our club webpage for more information. Use the link to register and remember if this is your first go at IMAC, there is NO entry fee! Please register as this helps us plan the event and plan for food!

Next on the calendar is our 4<sup>th</sup> of July family Fly In! Come out and celebrate America's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday!! The celebration will begin at 9 am and last until 1 pm. This event is open to members, their families, and guests. Bring your planes and enjoy some open flying. Mix and mingle and enjoy the camaraderie. Enter into the raffle....we have some great prizes!

Bring some stuff for the parking lot swap meet. Lunch will be served at noon by the Board...guaranteed to be delicious!!!!

Please see the flyer in this newsletter, club website, or Face book to learn more about the event. For planning purposes we would ask that you RSVP by June 27<sup>th</sup>. You can register by scanning the QR code on the flyer or using the link. Please include your name and the total number of people attending including yourself.

We look forward to seeing all of you there on this historic birthday of our nation!

Well if that's not enough we still have more events this year

August 15<sup>th</sup> will be our annual Float Fly. If you haven't flown off of water, it is an absolute blast! You still have time to mount some floats on one of your favorite planes!!! Learn more about the event at [fwthunderbirds.org](http://fwthunderbirds.org). Any questions please contact Chris Berardi.

September 11-12 will be our second 2 day event of the year....Thunderbirds EDF Jet Blast. This all EDF is guaranteed one of the biggest events in Texas! Two days of EDF Blasting at Thunderbird Field.

### REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

You can register by going to the Thunderbirds EDF Jet Blast Face book page and clicking on the link. You can also go to [fwthunderbirds.org](http://fwthunderbirds.org), go to the flyer and click, or scan the QR code.

Don't wait to register as only the first 100 registered pilots receive a commemorative coin of this inaugural event. Spread the word to all of your Jet Jockies...this event is going to be epic!

With more events to come with a Members Day on October 10<sup>th</sup> and Tom's TEX Expo on October 24<sup>th</sup>. More to come on both of these events as we get closer.

I would like to remind all of you of our next club meeting on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at CERA. The meeting will begin at 7 pm. Look forward to seeing all of you at the field!

All the Best,  
Scott

### Vice President's Corner: by Mark Johnson

Hello Thunderbirds! I hope this newsletter finds everyone happy and health. Meteorological summer has arrived with Astronomical summer not far behind. That means temperatures will start to rise. With the increase in temperatures and humidity, please be sure you and others around you are staying well hydrated. Keep a watch on your flying buddies. Also keep an eye out for local wildlife.

I just want to give a shout out to Rex Anderson and Gary Nelson. They are doing a wonderful job of keeping our flying site looking great. Please help keep it looking great by policing your trash and cigarette butts. If you crash and can recover your aircraft, please also recover your battery. We found several batteries left in the field while mowing. Those batteries pose a fire hazard to our flying site and surrounding woodlands. I hate to keep repeating that your used batteries are your responsibility. If you have questions on how to properly dispose of your damaged Lipo batteries, ask an officer.

I would also like to thank Mike Sawyer and Mo Culverwell for putting on an Epic two-day turbine flying event. We also need to thank our sponsors and volunteers for their contributions to the event. It was an exciting time at Thunderbird Field. If anyone took some photos of the event please forward them to me for inclusion to our web site... We will also be hosting an IMAC event at our

field on June 27th and 28th. This event was to take place in Salina Kansas, but their field was damaged by weather. The Thunderbirds have stepped up to host. I am looking forward to watching it.

The last thing is our 4th of July club fly-in. The board is making it an exciting celebration of our country's 250th birthday. You should have received an RSVP email, please respond so we have a good head count. I am looking forward to seeing you there.

### **Secretary's Corner: by Robert Solis**

Hello Thunderbirds,

Our last meeting was in April and we've all been pretty busy preparing for our inaugural Cowtown Turbine jet Two-Day event. Mike and MO put together an amazing setup with a great assortment of vendors, raffle prizes, great food and lots of help from an amazing group of guys. (I sure was glad when the cool front blew threw and the temps and sun quit beating us).

A special thank you goes out to all the volunteers that made this run smooth- I think we are finally figuring out some things.

And on that note you guys did so good during the Two-Day event we really need your help with a Three-Day IMAC event. For the uninformed its precision flying at its finest. We agreed to host this event because every event across the nation has met Mother Nature's fury in every imaginable form. These poor guys have nowhere to play together so why not the premiere site of all and maybe they will have better weather luck. Yes I said Three-Day event-Oh I forgot it's in two weeks!! Bring your IMAC planes out and do controlled aerobatics in the sky.

Unfortunately I need to say this.

Let's see what's left... Oh Yeah. We still had a few rough edges during the show. I did say show because this is a production with paying customers that paid to watch a show... The Airstrip is the stage. Remember that **THE SHOW MUST GO ON no matter what!**

Understanding your role is key to an event's success and our good image. Please understand we are trying to sell our field and club as the Number 1 club hands down and it can only be accomplished by believing we are the best and working as the best team. It becomes really simple if you would like to step up as a CD for the next event please feel free. Please try and see from a show point that every detail has been planned for months with hundreds of hours going into it. We may have done it differently in the past however the CD is the guy signing off on a sanctioned event and his rear is on the line. Future events like the next one will have strict limitations on volunteer input, same with the big EDF event.

Final plea: Unless you're the CD and have hundreds of hours of personal time invested in these shows please save your input to the end and the changes may or may not be implemented that will be the decision of the CD.

It's a lot of work we do to get a front row seat on some really cool events. We are blessed to have the group of volunteers we have willing to be the best in the business. I take pride in my field and have the greatest respect for our club. Thank you for all coming together and making us the best!

And...seems like a year ago we had a meeting - here are the minutes again for those like me that forgot what we are doing LOL - Rob

Meeting called to order at 7 pm by Scott Hays

### Officer Reports

**Mark Johnson:** Brief thanks for all the help and that it appears to have had good feedback from all concerned.

**Fred Neal:** Safety report. Talked about new information board and box with AED, First Aid Kit and Trauma Kit, Derek Gregory to give break down and over view of equipment later in the meeting.

Audio recording started

**Rex Anderson:** Field Report, Said field look good following SAE, but will need some work to recover. Said everything was back in the shead and it was organized.

**Chris Berardi:** Treasure Report All in good standing

Old Business None to discuss at this time

New Business None at this time

**Program:** Derek Gregory gave his presentation on First Aid, AED and Trauma kits.

Meeting ended at 8:42

Members Present 30 with 2 quests

Rob

From the Treasury: *by Chris Berardi*

<b>Membership Type</b>	<b>Count</b>
Individual	133
Family	9
Associate	5
Life	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>164</b>

**Safety: by Fred Neal**

No Report This Month

**SUN Block: by Woody**



Once again I cannot begin to stress the importance of sun block. Once again, I needed surgery to remove skin cancer but this time it also required a skin graft. As a young person, many years ago, I thought I was immune to any skin damage or most likely didn't even consider it. Words to the wise to all you folks, young and old, SUN BLOCK – SUN BLOCK – SUN BLOCK or any other form of protection you may choose. The result is obvious after four surgeries. It's got my attention, better late than never. Don't want to go through another of these. Hurts big time.

**Field Manager: Rex Anderson**

No Report this month.

**Cowtown Jet Classic**





## L-19 Birdog the Never ending Story:



Chapter 2: Back to the field. Great flight, minor trim changes and successful landing. Ready for second flight and when bending over to pick it up, lost my balance, and managed to crunch the rear fuselage.

So much for a great day of flying. Back to the maintenance hangar for repairs.

Cut out damage area, installed stringers, covered skin with 1/64 ply, matching paint color from ACE, and 'ViOLA' ready to go again. Also installed a gyro to help (me) during takeoff.

Cheers  
W



## Thrust Set-up: *by Model Airplane News*

To measure the thrust angle, take a flat, straight piece of wood, plastic, metal, circuit board, cardboard etc. and drill a hole in it so you can bolt it to your prop adapter.

Now level the plane with some flat surface, like a table. The horizontal stab and the wing should be as level as you can humanly get them. Measure the angle that the piece of wood makes with the table. Ideally, you want about two or three degrees for most planes. Some will take more, and some will take less.

You might also be able to use the 1/60 rule. If you have something that's sixty units long and you raise an end by one unit, it'll make a one-degree angle. This can be adapted to find smallish angles with motor mounts.

Measurement of the angle is irrelevant unless you know exactly what angle you need, which in this case you don't. Just fly the plane and see how it trims out. If adding power causes the plane to turn left then add more right thrust... If adding power causes the plane to turn right then reduce the right thrust... You have found the correct offset angle when the plane does not turn in either direction regardless of throttle setting.

Down thrust is a similar story but before you mess with down thrust you need to make sure the CG is correct because CG and required down thrust have a close interaction... Assuming your CG is correct then if the plane pitches sharply up when you add power then add more down thrust... if it pitches down reduce the down thrust...

The angles you end up with are irrelevant providing it flies right.

## From the Editor's Desk: *by Woody*



Greetings to all. Just a reminder that our newsletter is a member's document. If you have any aviation related article you would like to share please get it to me for inclusion in the newsletter.

[wdlake@yahoo.com](mailto:wdlake@yahoo.com)

## 2026 CALENDAR

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>POINT OF CONTACT</u>
June 27-28	IMAC	
July 4th	Picnic	Board Members
August 15	Float Fly	Chris Berardi
September 11-12	EDF Jet	Kraig Rogers/Derek Gregory
October 10	Members Day	Board Members
October 24	T.E.X eXpo	Tom Blakeney

[www.fwthunderbirds.org](http://www.fwthunderbirds.org)

POSITION	BOARD MEMBER	EMAIL
President	Scott Hays	hays2441@sbcglobal.net
Vice President	Mark Johnson	mijohnson64@att.net
Secretary	Robert Solis	robdogsolis@gmail.com
Treasurer	Chris Berardi	mikadopilot@gmail.com
Safety Officer	Fred Neal	fredneal@sbcglobal.net



***Pres: Scott Hays***



***VP: Mark Johnson***



***Sec: Rob Solis***



***Safety: Fred Neal***



***Treas: Chris Berardi***



***Field Manager: Rex Anderson***



## SUPPORT OUR ADVERTIZERS

**Ventrex**  
Collectibles 

[www.ventrexcollectibles.com](http://www.ventrexcollectibles.com)  
817-615-4080  
304 THOMAS PLACE  
EVERMAN, TX 76140

Ventrex Collectibles  
& R/C Hobbies

VENTREXCOLLECTIBLES

**GLOW FUEL**  
**RITCH'S**  
**BREW...**  
THE WINNER'S CHOICE  
Planes - Cars - Boats  
Distributor: Scott Hays  
817-829-6046

**Bill's Planes and Parts**  
Bill Kunz 817-472-0809 [bkunz33000@aol.com](mailto:bkunz33000@aol.com)

Expertly Custom Made Extensions  
Engines, Motors, Accessories, Modeling Tools  
Hardware, Spinners, Propellers, Wood  
Composites, Switches, Servos  
New and Used

PAYPAL accepted

**A&E RC Products**



*We Keep 'em Flying!*

A&E PRODUCTS@GMAIL.COM  
WEB:A&ERCPRODUCTS.COM

# Flying Field New Signage

**Fort Worth Thunderbirds Radio Control Association**  
Since 1962

## WELCOME TO THUNDERBIRD FIELD

3602 Winscott Plover Road Fort Worth, Texas 76126  
Latitude 32.60997° N Longitude 97.48473° W

This field is leased from the United States Army Corp of Engineers  
and maintained by  
**THE FORT WORTH THUNDERBIRDS RADIO CONTROL ASSOCIATION**

All Pilots must have a current AMA Membership.  
Pilots must adhere to the AMA, and Thunderbird Safety Codes  
posted on the opposite side of this board.

### EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

**ANY EMERGENCIES - CALL 911**

NEAREST HOSPITAL IS  
**HARRIS METHODIST HOSPITAL SOUTHWEST**  
VIA CHISOLM TRAIL PARKWAY

**FIRST AID**      **TRAUMA**      **AED**

**Legend**

- FRIA
- Fixed Wing Flying
- Helicopter Flying
- THUNDERBIRD FIELD

## 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:

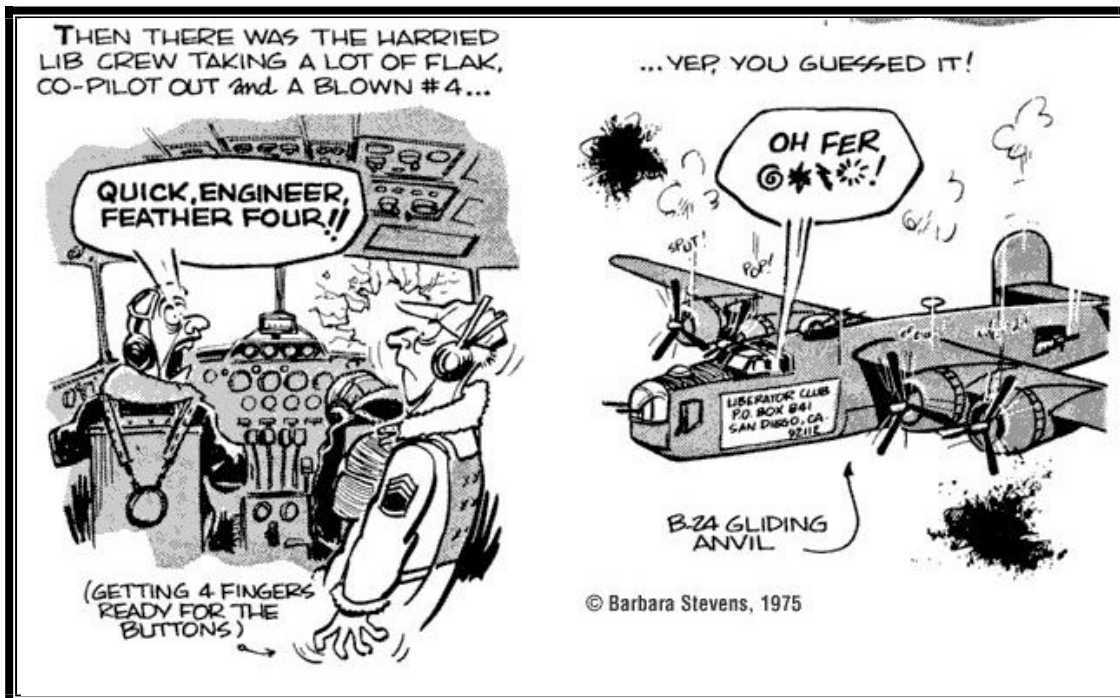
- I will not fly a model aircraft in a careless or reckless manner.
- I will not interfere with and will yield the right of way to all human-carrying aircraft using AMA's *See and Avoid Guidance* and a spotter when appropriate.
- I will not operate any model aircraft while I am under the influence of 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](http://www.modelaircraft.org/files/100.pdf)

## Humor



**If this is your idea of Bush Flying...You're doing it wrong!**



# Thunderbirds Events

# COWTOWN IMAC

**JUNE 27-28, 2026**

Hosted by the Fort Worth Thunderbirds RC Club

This event replaces the Smoky Hill Model Flying Clubs event due to the damage sustained at their field.

**★ PILOT FEES ★**

IMAC Member	\$50
Non-Member	\$70
First-Time IMAC Competitor	\$0 FREE!

Preregister at <http://flyIMAC.org>

**★ SCHEDULE ★**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 26**

- Field Open for Practice: Noon
- Complimentary Pilot Dinner Provided

**SATURDAY, JUNE 27**

- Registration: 7:30 AM
- Pilots Meeting: 8:30 AM
- Wheels Up: 9:00 AM

**SATURDAY AMENITIES**

DONUTS COFFEE DRINKS LUNCH PROVIDED

**SUNDAY, JUNE 28**

- Flying Begins: 8:00 AM

**★ LOCATION ★**

Fort Worth Thunderbirds Field  
3802 Winscott Plover Road  
Fort Worth, Texas 76126

Website: [fwthunderbirds.org](http://fwthunderbirds.org)

**SCAN FOR DIRECTIONS & FIELD LOCATION**

Open in Google Maps

**★ FACILITIES ★**

- ✓ Large Covered Pit Area
- ✓ Electrical Power Available
- ✓ Spacious Flying Site
- ✓ Overnight Camping Available (No Hookups)
- ✓ Ample Parking P

**NO ENTRANCE FEE REQUIRED FOR THUNDERBIRD FIELD VISITORS AT MUSTANG PARK GATE**

**★ LODGING & DINING ★**

Excellent hotel and restaurant options are available nearby in Burleson and Crowley.

The field is also only about 30 minutes from downtown Fort Worth, offering numerous hotels, restaurants, and entertainment options.

**COME FLY WITH US!**

Join pilots from across the region at one of North Texas' premier RC flying facilities for a weekend of precision aerobatics, great food, and outstanding fellowship.

**FORT WORTH THUNDERBIRDS RC CLUB**



★ FORT WORTH THUNDERBIRDS RC CLUB ★

# 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY FAMILY FLY-IN

★ CELEBRATING AMERICA'S 250<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY ★



Join us for a morning of flying, fellowship, food, and fun as we celebrate Independence Day and America's 250th Anniversary!



★★ SATURDAY ★★  
**JULY 4**  
★  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM



## ★ EVENT ACTIVITIES ★



**OPEN FLYING**  
Bring your planes and enjoy the day!



**MIX & MINGLE**  
Meet & mingle with fellow members and families!



**CLUB RAFFLE**  
Great prizes up for grabs!



**PARKING LOT SWAP MEET**  
Buy, sell, trade RC items!



**LUNCH SERVED AT NOON!**  
Relax and enjoy lunch on us!



**CELEBRATE AMERICA'S 250<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY!**  
Honoring 250 years of freedom!

# RSVP

*Requested!*

★ **RSVP BY JUNE 27** ★  
SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT THE LINK BELOW TO RSVP ONLINE:

<https://forms.gle/XmJt7uY8qkL2Zp9A9>

- Please provide:
- ✓ Member Name
  - ✓ Total Number Attending (including yourself)



**SCAN TO RSVP!**

*We look forward to celebrating with our Thunderbirds family!*

★ **FAMILY** ★ **FELLOWSHIP** ★ **FLYING** ★



**Saturday • August 15 • 0900 – 1500**  
**Camp Joy Park – Lake Worth, Texas**

GPS: 32.8145 – 97.4905

**LANDING FEE \$25**

**AMA REQUIRED**

- OPEN FLYING
- All R/C Seaplanes Welcome
- Fixed Wing & Rotary

**★ PILOT LUNCH INCLUDES! ★**

- Tortilla-wrapped brats
- Chips
- Drink

SCAN FOR  
EVENT INFO



Join us at beautiful Camp Joy Park for a day of splash-and-fly fun on Lake Worth.

CD: CHRIS BERARDI | mikadopilot@gmail.com



INAUGURAL  
**THUNDERBIRDS**  
**EDF JET BLAST**

SEPT 11-12, 2026

BENBROOK, TX

- ★ 40' x 480' Concrete Runway with Grass Runoffs
- ★ Limited Overnight RV Parking - No Hookups
- ★ Pop Up Tent Locations
- ★ Raffle Prizes
- ★ Aircraft Awards



SCAN FOR INFO  
& REGISTRATION

CD: Kraig Rogers • [TBEDFJetBlast@gmail.com](mailto:TBEDFJetBlast@gmail.com)