

Proudly serving the Huntsville community at the Captain Trey Wilbourn Model Airplane Field.



... an AMA Award of Excellence Club!

P.O. Box 2163

Huntsville, AL 35804

APRIL 2012

President's Message

Officers		
President		
James Fowler		256-882-1784
Vice-President		
Basil Cooper		256-883-9220
Secretary		
Bob Vanderzyl		256-426-4524
Treasurer		
David Seymour		256-830-2047
Newsletter Editor		
John Williams		256-656-9499
Committee Chairmen		
Field		
John Williams		256-656-9499
Programs		
Basil Cooper		256-883-9220
Publicity		
Bill Mitchell		256-975-5687
Safety		
Basil Cooper		256-883-9220
Web Editor		
Tom Sutherland		256-714-8496
Flight Instructors		
James Whitbeck	By Appt.	256-541-6123
Pete Wick	By Appt.	256-883-7571
Mike Norton	By Appt.	256-653-6632

Hello from Japan.

There was no quorum for the March meeting, so we have to vote again at the April meeting to approve the two pylon race events and the War Bird event. We also have to vote again on the Bylaw change.

The board is looking for a secretary to replace Bob Vanderzyl, who resigned for health reasons. Any volunteers? If you know someone, let the board know.

See you at the April meeting.

Fly safe and fly in the zone.

Jim

March 2012 General Membership Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by the President. There was not a quorum present. Board members present were the President, Treasurer, Secretary and Newsletter Editor. There were no guests or new members.

The minutes from the last meeting were approved as written in the newsletter. There was a discussion concerning the March board meeting minutes. The President apologized for allowing those minutes to mention vendors rather than a more accurate designation of manufacturers representatives.

The President reported that the March fuel inventory was performed. There were no shortages. An inventory of soft drinks is not possible since we are still disposing out-dated diet drinks.

No Program committee report. Field requested that members dispose their trash. Field also reported progress on our Facebook page, Rocket City RC, for Publicity. Safety: No unusual incidents.

Old Business: The change to the Bylaws as published in the March newsletter was approved by motion. Another vote will be required at the April meeting.

New Business: The applications for the two pylon race events were approved. Dan Baldwin made a Warbird event presentation which was approved. These event applications will also have to be voted on again at the April meeting.

The program was the Warbird presentation. Door prizes were handed out and the meeting was adjourned.

April BOD Meeting Minutes

The April RCRC board of directors meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm April 3, 2012. In attendance were the vice-president, Basil Cooper, and the treasurer, David Seymour. A brief discussion was held regarding the need to identify a CD for the Big Bird contest. Also discussed was the potential vacancy in the secretary position and a possible replacement. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Submitted by Basil Cooper



At the Field

As indicated last month, the “At the Field” column will address general observations and anything else that comes to mind.

We have quite a diversity of modelers within the club whose activities can be seen throughout most months. The majority of RCRC membership seems to belong to the “Sport” flyer category. They may have a stand-off scale ARF warbird or three, or a U-Can-Do ARF for a little 3-D flying fun, or even an old Birdi pattern plane they bring out once or twice a year. But most of their flying is punching holes in the sky for fun and/or relaxation.

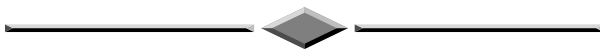
We seem to have only one active scale builder and flyer (there may be some of you still in the closet, though). It seems there are a lot of members who seem to want scale airplanes, but have neither the patience, time, nor aptitude for a long drawn out build and satisfy their cravings with any of the many very scale-like ARFs and foam ARCs.

The club has a couple of national quality pattern flyers, and a few who are working very hard to match their skills. The turn-out at the club’s two annual pattern events attests to the deep seated roots of this type flying.

While the interest in pylon racing is holding constant we don’t seem to have members flying any of the AMA combat classes.

The point of these observations is that, with a few exceptions, it doesn't really cost too much to try your hand at a new part of our hobby/sport. If you want to try pattern, practice the maneuvers and enter one or both of our events with any airplane you are comfortable with. If you've never flown a warbird, buy one of the ARF electric foamies or conventional balsa ARFs and have a blast. If 3-D looks like fun, there are several small foam birds and the popular U-Can-Do is still available in both a .46 or .60 size.

So all of you "Sport" and other flyers, try something new this year. If you've never entered the Warbird event, get an airplane and give it a try; if you've never flown pattern, practice and enter one of the events; if you want to try pylon racing it may cost a little to get into it, but it can be fun. Whatever you do this year participate in as many of the Club's events as you can. You'll find you've had more real fun than you would have guessed. And the Club can use the money.



Flying Field Regulations

The review of the Flying Field Regulations continues this month with a look at the second rule:

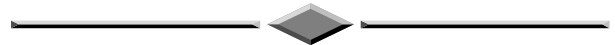
- RCRC is the authority to govern all radio control model flying and associated activities at this site, you will conduct such activities in accordance with the official AMA Safety Code and these regulations. Violations of the AMA Safety Code and/or these usage rules may result in loss of your flying privileges for this site. AMA Safety Rules are posted in the flight shed along with RCRC flying field regulations. You are required to become familiar with these safety rules.*

Another seemingly harshly worded no nonsense rule. But, like rule number one it is direct and to the point for a reason.

The rule really has two parts. First, RCRC runs the flying field for the city of Huntsville as a radio

controlled model airplane park under authority of City Resolution 95-112. Second, aviation, in any form and at any scale, has inherent dangers. Every year people are severely injured or killed by model aircraft. AMA safety rules have been developed to reduce the probability of people being injured, and if they are injured, to minimize the severity of those injuries, it's all about risk management and mitigation.

The need to follow all rules, not just those aimed at safety, is also important. Not following all of the rules can result in the suspension of field use privileges.



PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE BYLAWS

At the March 2012 membership meeting, there was not a quorum. (see March membership meeting minutes)
The change to the Bylaws will be voted on again at the April membership meeting.

Proposed change is as follows:

CURRENT:

ARTICLE THREE, MEMBERSHIP, Section 3: (b)

“Persons showing an interest in miniature radio controlled model aviation and of an age less than sixteen (16) years and current member of AMA will be granted a no dues Junior Membership. Applicant must file a membership application with proof of claim.”

PROPOSED:

ARTICLE THREE, MEMBERSHIP, Section e: (b)

“Persons showing an interest in miniature radio controlled model aviation and of an age less than **nineteen (19) years as of July 1** and a current member of AMA will be granted a no dues Junior Membership. Applicant must file a membership application with proof of claim.”

At its meeting on March 6, the board found no reason why this proposal could not proceed to vote by the membership in accordance with the procedures stated in Article Eleven of the BYLAWS.



PA-22

Here is an example of bashing a Cub ARF into a PA-22 Tripacer.



RCRC NEWSLETTER EDITOR
 P.O. Box 2163
 Huntsville, AL 35804

TO:

AMA CHARTERED
 CLUB SINCE 1964
 NO. 715

April 2012

2012 RCRC EVENTS

	17 Apr	7:00 PM	RCRC Membership Meeting	Jim Fowler	(256) 882-1784
	8 May	7:00 PM	RCRC BOD Meeting	Jim Fowler	(256) 882-1784

RCRC Event Schedule

	19 May	All Day Sat	Club Day	Basil Cooper	(256) 883-9220
*	9-10 Jun	All Day Sat All Day Sun	War Birds	Dan Baldwin	(256) 541-1061
*	23 Jun	All Day Sat	Pylon Race	Don Peck	(256) 539-5217
*	20-21 Jul	Noon Fri All Day Sat	Big Birds		
*	18-19 Aug	All Day Sat All Day Sun	BPA Pattern	Gary Courtney	(256) 603-3329
*	14-16 Sept	All Day Sat	AMA Pattern	Jon Lowe	(256) 464-0802
***		All Day Sun			
*	3-4 Nov	All Day Sat All Day Sun	Toys for Tots		
*	17 Nov	All Day Sat	Pylon Race	Don Peck	(256) 539-5217

* Field closed to non-participants during this event
 *** Field closed Fri before event at noon