

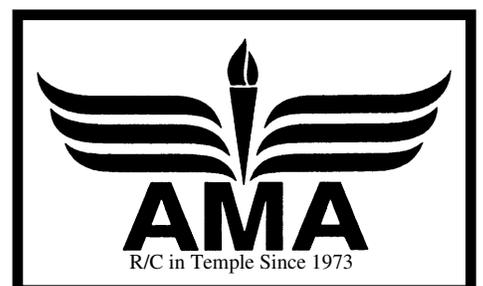
The Temple Aero Modeler

The Official Newsletter of the Temple Aero Modelers Radio Controlled Aircraft Club

April 2008



This month's meeting will be held Monday, April 28th at 7:30pm at the Ronald McDonald House Meeting Room in Temple



*Spring Picnic /
1st Combat –
Apr 27*

*Club Meeting –
Apr 28*

CLUB INFO

*Central Texas
Airshow–
May 2-4*

*Combat w/
Bryan club –
May 18*

2008 Officers

President:	Mark Cullison 773-9686
Vice Pres/Sec.	Lance Starzyk 760-8678
Treasurer:	Buster Hinkle 982-4746
Safety Officer:	Don Mondrik 939-1242
Field Marshal:	Randy Mennen 899-1097

Instructors

Frank Sodek, Jr.	773-8081
Mark Cullison	773-9686
Paul Horan	780-1274
B.W. Ponder	778-6182
Doug Staines	780-3512
Lance Starzyk	760-8678
Fred Huber	698-4777



On The Cover

Now that's some concentration! John Hagel is piloting his big Yak while competing at the club's recent Pattern Contest, with Paul Horan standing behind him calling the maneuvers.

Photo by Frank Sodek

Temple Event Schedule

Apr 27	Spring Picnic/First Combat 1pm
Apr 28	Club Meeting 7:30pm
May 2-4	Central Texas Airshow
May 18	Combat (with Bryan club) 1pm
Jun 1	Combat 2pm
Jun 2	Club Meeting 7:30pm (delayed a week due to holiday)
Jun 8	Sanctioned Fun Fly 10am
Jun 21	Family Day at Temple Railroad Museum 10am-1pm
Jun 22	Combat 2pm
Jun 30	Club Meeting 7:30pm
Jul 13	Combat 2pm
Jul 27	Combat 2pm
Jul 28	Club Meeting 7:30pm
Aug 10	Combat 2pm
Aug 24	Combat 2pm
Aug 25	Club Meeting 7:30pm
Sep 7	Combat 2pm
Sep 28	Fall Picnic/Last Combat 1pm
Sep 29	Club Meeting 7:30pm
Oct 5	Fall Fun Fly 1pm
Oct 19	Poker Fly 10am
Oct 27	Club Meeting 7:30pm
Oct 29	Last Beginners' Night 5:30pm
Nov 24	Club Meeting 7:30pm
Dec 7	Don Cullison Memorial Christmas Toy Drive/Fly-In 1pm
Dec 9	Christmas Banquet/Officer Elections 6:30pm

Frank Sodek, Jr. - Editor 773-8081
Mark Cullison - Editor's Assistant 773-9686

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President's Report



Greetings! I shared a financial presentation at the March club meeting. It seemed to be well received by those in attendance. I also sent it out through email and snail mail. I would like to review certain

portions of the presentation and include some additional info.

The treasury over the last three years has remained flat (no increase/decrease). If we make large purchases, the treasury would remain at that decreased level, with no hope of replenishment. This would leave us in danger of not having funds for future projects and emergencies (repair/replace damaged property/facilities).

The projected 2008 year end treasury balance with the approved 40' container purchase is \$772... too low for my comfort, especially when you apply a plus or minus 10% error factor to the budget data (that \$772 becomes -\$289 on the "low" side of the estimate!).

Here are some suggested alternatives:

- 1) Do nothing, leaving a treasury balance of \$4,142
- 2) Build a mower "doghouse" for about \$500, leaving a treasury balance of \$3,642
- 3) Purchase a 20' container, leaving a treasury balance of \$1,492
- 4) Get a loan from club member to purchase a 40' container and pay off over time.
- 5) Purchase a 40' container from club member Steve Meyer for \$1,500, leaving a treasury balance of \$2,217 (Thank you Steve for the generous offer!)

My recommendations are to purchase the 40' container from Steve (contingent on the storage committee's endorsement after they have inspected the unit and recommended the purchase) and enact a dues increase.

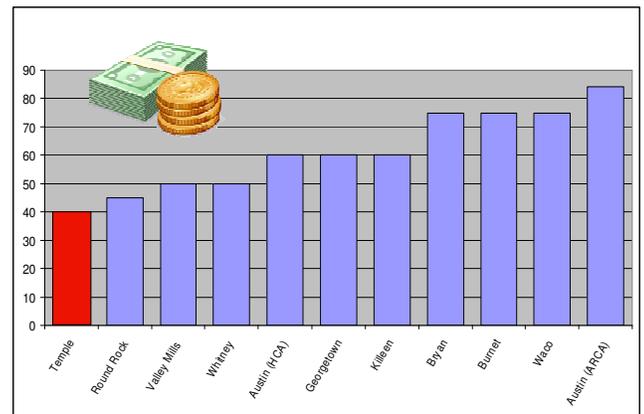
I wrote some dirty words in that last sentence... "dues increase". (Yes, I am starting my campaign early - my non-reelection campaign, that is!) The club dues were \$20 for several years. In 1996 dues were increased 100% to \$40. What year was that? 1996? I wondered what impact inflation has had on that \$40 over the course of 11 years. Take a look below...

Year	US Inflation Rate	Dues Buying Power	Dues Adj by Inflation
1996	2.9%	\$40.00	\$40.00
1997	2.3%	\$39.06	\$40.94
1998	1.6%	\$38.46	\$41.57
1999	2.2%	\$37.62	\$42.48
2000	3.4%	\$36.34	\$43.92
2001	2.8%	\$35.32	\$45.16
2002	1.6%	\$34.75	\$45.88
2003	2.3%	\$33.97	\$46.92
2004	2.7%	\$33.06	\$48.18
2005	3.4%	\$31.93	\$49.81
2006	3.2%	\$30.90	\$51.42
2007	2.9%	\$30.02	\$52.89

Our \$40 dues only buys about \$30 worth of goods and services in 1996 dollars; that's only 75% of what it could buy 11 years ago. This is quite a decrease in purchasing ability. If we adjusted the original \$40 dues every year for inflation, we'd be paying at least \$53 now!

Here is another look at dues... comparing us to other clubs:

Club Dues Within a 75 mile Radius



Where does our club fall in this chart? (Hint: look for the lowest bar!) Who do you think we compare to, based on facilities and membership? Valley Mills at \$50 per year? Killeen at \$60? Or Bryan at \$75?

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It is my contention that to keep a healthy treasury balance that has a bit of reserve for emergencies, and to make large purchases (like the 40' storage container that membership voted to purchase at the February meeting) we will need to pass a dues increase for 2009. But hey, with our wonderful and generous club members a \$10 or even \$20 per year dues increase should not be a problem at all!

Speaking of generous members, check this out... since the cost difference between the 20' and 40' container is \$600, David Henry volunteered to donate \$600 so there would be no reason not to get the 40' container if we went that route. An unbelievably generous offer. Thank you David! There were other offers to donate money to cover the cost of adding a second door in the container as well.

Ya know, if we had more members like this, I probably would not be writing about money in this article. Maybe I'd be writing about my P-51 project, or one of many nice memories I have of my dad and me flying airplanes, or...

Mark Cullison

President

mcullison1@aol.com

Meeting Minutes (March 31st meeting)



Called to order at 7:31 pm by President Mark Cullison. Minutes from previous February meeting read by VP Lance Starzyk; motion to accept minutes was made by Randy Mennen and seconded by Larry Macie.

Treasurer's Report given by Buster Hinkle; motion to accept by Doug Staines and seconded by Fred Huber.

No safety report.

Old Business

Max Blöse's surprise celebration event went as planned. Several clubs attended. President Mark Cullison

presented the plaque and flag on behalf of the Temple club. Auction of the table centerpieces raised \$760. Doug thanked members for attending and their participation in the auction.

Frank Sodek said the mall show was on a good day due to the bad weather. There were 13 members and 32 entries of aircraft with 820 votes (50 more than the previous year). Ticket sales were \$161. 189 tickets were sold. Missing \$40 for both days. Frank thanked the members for working the show. The winners are as follows: 5th place, 40 votes, Mark Cullison's Fun One; 4th place, 50 votes, Ron Norman's Super Chipmunk; 3rd place, 76 votes, Ed Weems Corsair; tie for 2nd place with 77 votes, Carl's Raptor helicopter and Randy's Yak; and 1st place, 101 votes, Larry Macie's US Army Quest. Three flight simulators were running and thanks to those who supported it.

First beginner's night report was too windy. Paul was present.

Temple Railroad Museum event – this is a mini mall show event on June 21, 2008. Mark, Larry, Fred and Randy are going to attend. More information at the next meeting.

Resealing of the runway – Randy and Mark found two holes in the runway. Ants are taking dirt from under the runway possibly creating the holes. Randy reported field maintenance was done with mowing on Wednesday night and 4-1/2 hours on Saturday and Sunday. Randy indicated that the mower deck height should be set on number 3 for the pit area and Randy sprayed round-up around the runway. Thanks to John Hagel for the new signs, they look great. Paul Horan recommended advancing Randy maintenance fees due to the increase in fuel costs and unpredictable mowing times. Doug and Mark thanked Randy for his work.

Storage container – Larry Macie said he and Mark looked at a container that was \$2,995 for a good one. Stakes were placed at the field to locate possible areas for the container. They indicated that they would like more people to view the containers located in Nolanville on Highway 190. Although a 40 foot was approved, there was discussion about possibly getting a 20 foot. David

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Henry offered to donate \$600 toward the purchase of a 40 foot container. In either case, John Redwine would donate \$100 towards an extra door in the container. More discussion to follow.

New Business

Upcoming pattern contest - April 18th, 19th and 20th. This is the 20th year of the event. B.W. and Bobby will co-CD the event. Paul will manage the fees and registration. Kathy, Max and Todd will score. Food – Paul will bring donuts; Randy and Fred will make sausage wraps. Bobby said that club members can fly in the contest. There will be no need for special frequency control as in previous years other than the standard frequency control. Trophy costs increased - \$650 is the estimated cost. Working on sponsorship and the \$25 entry fee will not include food.

The spring picnic will be April 27th at 1:00 p.m. This will also be the start of Combat season. Frank will bring soft drinks. The hamburger meat will be donated by David Henry and Randy will cook. Members should bring food to share.

Lance attended the first Central Texas Airshow meeting and reported the club will have 20 minutes on Saturday and 20 minutes on Sunday for combat, giant scale and jet demonstrations. The club is looking for a volunteer to announce. The club will be located in the same area as previous years. Larry Macie will be running the combat event.

Friday night's airshow will include an F16 demonstration, a 90 minute concert with Aaron Tippin and will close with fireworks. Tickets are \$25 at the gate, \$20 online for Friday. A weekend pass is \$35 or online \$30. Saturday and Sunday fees are \$15 each day, \$12 online, \$13 at HEB.

Mark Cullison concluded the meeting with an excellent club finance presentation showing that the club's income/spending has been relatively flat for the past five years, indicating that we spend what we make. Mark also demonstrated that our club has the lowest membership dues in all of Central Texas. There was discussion regarding a possible dues increase for next year due to

the increase in goods and services to maintain the club. Lance pointed out that the economic success of the club with regard to the low dues is primarily the result of many generous members who donate their time, money and other material donations. However, while these contributions are always greatly appreciated and make our club exceptional, we should not depend on them to maintain the club. More discussion to follow.

Blunder award: Fred Huber won this month's Blunder Award.

Meeting ended at 9:08. Motion by B.W. and second by Fred.

Minutes recorded by *Lance Starzyk*
VP/Secretary

Treasurer's Report



Beginning Balance: \$5,874.37

Credits:

Dues \$130.00
Total Credits: \$130.00

Debits:

Ronald McDonald House \$20.00
Doug Staines (mower repair) \$258.83
AMA (club charter) \$90.00
Max Blose Party \$168.00
2.5 gal MSMA \$43.75
Total Debits: (\$580.58)

Ending Balance March 2008: \$5,423.79

Submitted by *Buster Hinkle*
Club Treasurer

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Safety Officer's Report



Greetings once again, it's that time again - the Safety Stuff. Now has everyone still got all their fingers and toes? If you do, well you could say you've been safe.

Safety should be second nature to most people, think of it as self-preservation.

It is not surprising that people conduct themselves safely without having to be reminded.

Is an accident preventable? And while you're thinking about how to answer that question, load this question next: where will the next accident be? If you think about it, it could make you more aware of what you're doing. Driving to the flying field, driving home from the field, adjusting the needle on a running engine, the list could be infinite. But if all you do is worry about all the things that could happen or go wrong, you would not have time for anything else.

Then there is the "what if" game that is often used to determine what the safety rules should be. So what if a blade on a propeller came off while the engine was running? Where would the blade go, forward, up, down, off to the side or to the back over the plane? Four stroke engines have been known to kick the prop off, usually if the engine gets too lean. I have first hand experience with this one. What if the spinner came off, where would it go? As you can see, the "what if" game can quickly produce way too many "what ifs". Where do you stop? Can you stop?

Fortunately, we have the knowledge of those that have "Been There, Done That" before us, leaving rules behind for those that are to follow. The AMA has developed rules over the years and I'm sure that they were "After The Fact" creations. I would like to believe that the rules are there to help people avoid the pain and suffering someone went through right before the rule was created.

Even our small club has a set of rules, some of which I think we need to revise. Our illustrious President, Mark "The Terminator" Cullison and I have talked about getting a group together, a rules committee if you will, to look at the rules we have and the rules we need. So if you have a comment on how our rules should evolve to keep up with the many changes our hobby has seen, send

me an E-mail or send Mark an E-mail or send smoke signals, what ever works for you. Get involved, it's your club, too. We should all have some input regarding the rules because we will all be affected by them.

"What if" a meteor, remnants from the Big Bang, came hurtling through our atmosphere and hit you? I have a history of finding the exception to the rule, which is, oddly enough, not always appreciated. I ask you, how do you prevent that from happening? I usually throw that out right after our Safety Officer at work tells us that all accidents are preventable. It is a comment like this that usually wipes the slate clean of all the good things I have done prior to the Safety Meeting.

I only have one more comment/complaint/observation about being a past President. And that is that I never got an intern, never. So we shouldn't let Mark get one either!

Don't get hurt having fun,

Don Mondrik

Safety Facilitator

czchtek@aol.com

Spring Picnic

This year's Spring Picnic will be held Sunday, April 27th beginning at 1pm at our flying field. Our resident chef, Randy Mennen, will be cooking hamburgers (thanks to a generous donation by Dave Henry). Club members and their families are encouraged to attend, and may bring a side dish or dessert to go along with the burgers. Drinks and plates/utensils will be provided.

As always, the Spring Picnic jumpstarts our combat league competition for the year. After we stuff our faces, get ready for some hot combat action! There are a couple of new faces in the pilot lineup this year (fresh meat!). It should be interesting ...

Reminder to the non-combat pilots: there will be time for you to fly before, during (between rounds), and after combat is over. So go ahead and bring a plane or two to fly as well.

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District VIII Events

- Apr 25-27 ARCA Any Size Warbird Fly-in - Austin
- Apr 26-27 Tri-County Barnstormers Big Bird – New Waverly
- Apr 26-27 Jetero RC SE Texas IMAC Shootout - Huffman
- May 3-4 Bomber Field Float Fly – Monaville
- May 3-4 Space City Pattern Contest - Katy
- May 3-4 Texarkana 18th Annual Big Bird - Texarkana
- May 3-4 Texas City RC Club Pylon Race – Texas City
- May 16-18 ARCA 19th Annual Central Texas Jet Rally
- May 17 Thunderbirds Memorial Warbird – Ft. Worth
- May 17 NW Houston Big Bird – Houston
- May 17 Tri-City Flyers Biplane and Triplane Fly-in – Kingsbury
- May 18 WAMS Spring Float Fly – Weatherford
- May 24 Warbirds Over Space City – Katy
- May 24 Hawk Field Big Bird – Mansfield
- May 31 Golden Triangle All Scale Fly-in – Grand Prairie
- May 31 Dallas RC Big Bird – Seagoville
- May 31-1 Propnuts TruTurn IMAC Challenge – Crosby
- May 31-1 TX Scale Championship/Scale Masters Qualifier –
Ft. Worth

Frank Sodek - Editor
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Spring Picnic – April 27th
Club Meeting – April 28th
Central Texas Airshow – May 2-4th

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