

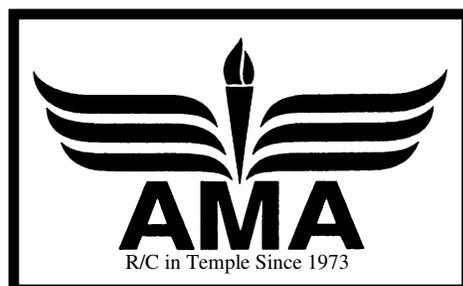
# The Temple Aero Modeler

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

February 2009



This month's meeting will be held Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30pm at the Ronald McDonald House Meeting Room in Temple



*Club Meeting –  
Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>*

# CLUB INFO

*Mall Show –  
March 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>*

*1<sup>st</sup> Beginners'  
Night – Mar 11<sup>th</sup>*

## 2009 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:	Fred Huber 698-4777

## 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	698-6777



## On The Cover

A nice gathering of Big Birds on a cold, windy day at the flying field. John Hagel (left), Jason Goodwin, Charles Harris, Rick Gregory and Lance Starzyk (right) are showing off their Giant Scale planes.

Photo by Mrs Gregory

## Temple Event Schedule

Feb 23	Club Meeting 7:30pm
Mar 7-8	Mall Show
Mar 11	First Beginners' Night 5:30pm
Mar 30	Club Meeting 7:30pm
Apr 11	Field Work Day
Apr 18-19	Temple Pattern Contest
Apr 26	Spring Picnic/First Combat 1pm
Apr 27	Club Meeting 7:30pm
May 1-3	Central Texas Airshow
May 17	Combat 2pm
Jun 1	Club Meeting 7:30pm (delayed a week due to holiday)
Jun 7	Combat 2pm
Jun 14	Sanctioned Fun Fly 10am
Jun 28	Combat 2pm
Jun 29	Club Meeting 7:30pm
Jul 12	Combat 2pm
Jul 26	Combat 2pm
Jul 27	Club Meeting 7:30pm
Aug 9	Combat 2pm
Aug 23	Combat 2pm
Aug 31	Club Meeting 7:30pm
Sep 13	Combat 2pm
Sep 27	Fall Picnic/Last Combat 1pm
Sep 28	Club Meeting 7:30pm
Oct 4	Fall Fun Fly 1pm
Oct 18	Poker Fly 10am
Oct 26	Club Meeting 7:30pm
Oct 28	Last Beginners' Night 5:30pm
Nov 30	Club Meeting 7:30pm
Dec 6	Don Cullison Memorial Christmas Toy Drive/Fly-In 1pm
Dec 7	Christmas Banquet/Officer Elections 6:30pm

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

On the web at: [www.templeaeromodelers.org](http://www.templeaeromodelers.org)  
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## President's Report



Get those airplanes buffed and polished, because... "the Mall Show is coming, the Mall Show is coming!" We decided at the last meeting to move the mall show to the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in March (that's the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>). Last word was we would be in the same vacant store as last

year, a few spots down from the Food Court. Frank Sodek will be heading up this event again this year, so be sure to sign up and work a shift. We will be going over all the details at the upcoming meeting, so please try to attend. This event not only makes money for the club (thru raffle plane ticket sales) it also creates community awareness for our club and hobby. (It also has been known to bring in a new member or two!) This is where the club members compete for bragging rights for the rest of the year in the "People's Choice Award" competition.

So, get that new project finished up, or just spruce up an old favorite and show it off!

Mark Cullison  
Club President  
[mcullison1@aol.com](mailto:mcullison1@aol.com)

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## Meeting Minutes (January meeting)



Called to order by President Mark Cullison at 7:31pm

**New Members/Visitors:** Mike Massie. Mike is interested in Electric Aircraft. We hope to see him at the field.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the meeting held in November of 2008 were read by Lance Starzyk; a motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Fred Huber and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed Weems.

**Treasurer's Report:** The report was read by Treasurer Buster Hinkle; motion to accept the report was made by John Hagel and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Fred Huber.

**Safety Officer's Report:** Don reiterated the rules regarding the taxiing of aircraft and not taxiing past the red station barriers.

**Club member Recognition:** Don Mondrik received kudos from the AMA District 8 President Jim Rice for his safety article in the last club newsletter.

**Announcements:** Kathy Ponder is doing well. The club is financially sound coming into 2009. This is in part due to the increase in dues, but also to the delay of some projects from last year.

### **Old Business:**

**Storage:** Larry Macie, project manager for the storage container, was not present. Current issues/tasks were put off until better weather.

### **New Business:**

**Fly-In-The-Taco-Soup:** Scheduled for Sunday, February 8th at 12 noon. Mark mentioned that Larry Macie volunteered to cook the soup.

**Temple Railroad Museum:** The Temple Railroad Museum is once again looking for volunteers to attend for Family Day in February. This month's topic is physics. It will be from 10am to 2pm at the Temple Railhead. Frank Sodek and Fred Huber expressed interest in the event. Mark will be confirming the date and pass the info on to Frank and Fred.

**Pattern Contest:** Bobby Zikes discussed this year's pattern contest. It will be an "open" event. Any club member can fly any event. He will be looking for a caterer unless someone is willing to volunteer to cook. He noted that a long time pattern competitor at our event from Lubbock, Ed Deavers, passed away. Ron Elsa suggested that he would talk to Dave Henry about cooking for the event. It was noted that Dave was not yet a member this year due to the economy and his business.

It was also pointed out by John Hagel and Mark Cullison that Dave has provided food at his own expense and cooked for many events but has never turned in a receipt for reimbursement. Roger Miller motioned to vote that Dave's dues should be considered paid by the club for the year, Fred Huber 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. It was voted unanimously that Dave Henry's dues are hereby paid for 2009. John Hagel suggested that it would be nice to remove the old shed prior to the pattern contest. Mark indicated that we needed to go through its contents and move them to the other container first, but this could be done before the event.

**Mowers:** Fred and Ed commented that the mowers need some blades and oil changes. John Redwine offered to take care of these issues.

**Mall Show:** Frank Sodek discussed the Mall Show. He said that Temple Mall representative Lisa Perez said the same room as last year is currently available. Frank suggested that we move the date of the Mall Show back to the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in March to possibly avoid spending a good flying day in the Mall instead of at the field. He would be checking on the

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availability of rooms in the Mall for that weekend. Frank mentioned the need to obtain the raffle plane. Fred motioned to authorize Frank to spend up to \$400.00 for this purchase, John Redwine 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. It was agreed.

**Trip Reports:** Mark mentioned the Georgetown Swap Meet was attended by several members. The event was ok but there were little or no vendors as in earlier years.

**Blunder Award:** Mark once again questioned the members about discontinuing the Blunder Award, as its popularity has waned and some members see it as a negative ritual. Frank commented that the purpose of the award is to identify an event that everyone can learn from. Mark motioned for a vote, John Hagel 2<sup>nd</sup> and the present members voted 10 to 4 in favor of keeping the award. Mark then asked for blunder events.

1) Don Mondrik regaled us on his misadventure flying his Rogue 3D Electric. On his way home from a windy day at the flying field, the wind had calmed and he stopped at the Belton High School for a few quick flights. It was getting dark and as the plane took off he lost it in the dark background of the trees.

It nosed into the ground and nothing but toothpicks was left.

2) Charles Harris' Delta Wing collided with the runway after he was unable to recover it from a flat spin, leaving a good hole in the asphalt and an irreparable aircraft.

3) On New Year's Day, Jason's Giant Scale Extra 300 suffered wing damage after he killed the plane's ignition. He previously moved the kill switch on his radio and then flipped it during flight.

Jason was voted the winner of the blunder award.

Mark adjourned the meeting at 8:22 pm.

Minutes recorded by VP/Sec *Lance Starzyk*

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## Safety Officer's Report



The days are getting longer, which means more flying time unless the windy conditions hang around. Flying when it is windy is not much fun unless you have the right airplane.

What's the right airplane, you might ask?

It's the plane you are the most comfortable with. The right airplane can give you confidence. It's the plane you'll try anything with, it's the plane that you don't really care about and it's the plane you can fly in any condition, anytime, anywhere. But is it the plane or a mental attitude? Maybe it's a little bit of both. I think for many pilots the inability to dismiss the cost of their pride and

joy prevents them from truly being confident or comfortable with an airplane. The flip side to this is being overconfident in one's abilities or equipment. Being overconfident could lead to taking too many chances, resulting in injury or loss of airplanes. Know your limits! We don't all have the same abilities, agendas or goals but we do seem to enjoy flying model airplanes. We, the Temple Aero Modelers, are very fortunate - we have a great club and a great place to fly. Having respect for each other is just one way we can safely enjoy our hobby.

*Don Mondrik*  
Club Safety Officer  
[czechtek@aol.com](mailto:czechtek@aol.com)

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## Treasurer's Report



Beginning Balance : \$3,853.09

Deposits:  
Dues ..... \$760.00  
Total Deposits: \$760.00

Debits:  
Banquet room rental ..... \$100.00  
Gift cards ..... \$100.00  
Total Deposits: \$200.00

Balance January 2009: \$4,413.09

Submitted by *Buster Hinkle*  
Club Treasurer

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## 2009 Mall Show >>> Notice: New Dates!!! <<< By Frank Sodek

Please notice that we have a new date for our annual Mall Show: it will now be held on March 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> at the Temple Mall. It will be in the same location near the Food Court as we've used the past few years (bring your planes thru the Food Court entrance at the SE rear corner of the mall). We'll start setting up at 8am Saturday morning. I'll have a sign up sheet at the next meeting for 3 hour time slots; give me a call if you can't make the meeting. I'll see you at the Mall!

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Well there wasn't much flying during our recent Fly-in-the-Taco Soup Fly-in because of very strong winds, but there sure was a lot of good eatin', thanks to Larry Macie's delicious batch of soup and cornbread that he prepared for us. Notice how this motley crew was huddled between the vehicles, in an attempt to shield themselves from the wind!



Fred Huber was only one of three pilots who braved the strong wind during our Fly-in-the-Taco Soup Fly-in. Here he's shown preparing his electric pattern plane for its first flight. Larry Macie and Jason Goodwin also put in some flights in the strong wind (all without any incidents, I might add).

Photos by Frank Sodek



Actually, there was a fourth "pilot" who attempted flight during the fly-in! Don Mondrik is shown with the kite that he and Nick successfully got up in the wind, after the addition of a stabilizing tail.

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## Charging that New Battery

By Stan Grett and Jim Kale

In recent months, we have heard a lot of discussion on how to charge a new airborne battery or transmitter battery. Charge times have been recommended from 12-24 hours. Dave Thacker of Radical RC is the battery guy I listen to.

He recommends charging the new battery packs at 1/10 of the mAh, which is normally referred to as "C." This rate is often referred to in magazine articles and manufacturers' directions as C/10. He recommends that rate for 16 hours. Most NiCD manufacturers also recommend this.

So, if your battery is rated at 1500 mAh; then charge it at 150 mAh for 16 hours.

Be careful, if your charger charges at less than the C/10 rate, you will have to charge it longer. However, extremely long over charges are bad for the battery pack and will shorten its life. Also high charge rates can shorten the battery life if there is anything overcharging at all.

Cycling a new battery pack will help it get off to a good start in its new life. A good regiment to follow is to cycle it for three charge/discharge cycles over a week-long period. If it passes this test, it should give a good long life if maintained and charged properly.

Cycling a new battery pack before the start of each flying season and after the flying season will give you a good idea

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how the battery pack is holding up over a period of years. Generally speaking, any battery that is more than three years old is on borrowed time. However, I do know of cases where battery packs lasted as long as seven years. You are betting your airplane though if you try to squeeze just a little more out of your battery pack than it has to give. Battery packs are cheap when compared to replacing airplanes.

*From Wiregrass RC, Enterprise, Alabama*

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## Battery Shorts, How They Occur

By Red Scholefield

A short develops in a NiCad when conductive particulates bridge the separator or the separator itself deteriorates to the point where it allows the negative and positive plates to touch. Rarely does the short occur all at once, but rather building up a very small conductance path termed “soft shorts.”

In a charged cell the energy in the cell will blow away any short as it tries to develop. You’ve heard about “zapping” cells. The cell actually zaps itself before the short can develop. Only in cases of severe overcharge at high rates when the cells heat up significantly, can the separator melt down to the point where the plates contact each other (hard short). In this case the energy in the cell then dumps and we have what is referred to as a hot steamer; the electrolyte boils, nylon in the separator melts down and is forced by the steam through the vent.

On some occasions the vent is clogged by the molten nylon separator and becomes inoperative causing the cell to rapidly disassemble. So under normal circumstances a cell maintained at some state of charge is much less likely to short than a cell that is completely discharged.

It should be noted however, that the self-discharge increases rapidly in cells where there is a short building (high resistance-soft short) because of separator deterioration and/or cadmium migration. One other shorting mechanism is a manufacturing defect where the positive or negative collector tab bridges the opposite plate. These usually fall out before the cells are shipped or assembled into batteries.

*From the Anoka County Radio Control Club, Coon Rapids, Minnesota*

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## Mixing Epoxy

When mixing epoxy use an old coffee can lid, after the epoxy hardens just flex the lid and the epoxy will pop off.



Former club member “Super Crazy” David D. sent me a few photos of some of his giant scale planes. Is this big Edge 540 a super advertisement for David’s workplace, or what!?!?



Here’s David Dussetschleger with a very nice Extra 260.

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## Instant Gap Filler

To fill small gaps, instead of filling with the usual putties and waiting for them to dry, place some medium CA in the gap. Then place a small amount of baking soda on and watch it set before your eyes. It is the strongest fill I have come across and is instant.

—*from the Beachmasters RC Club, Ocean Park, Washington*

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## District VIII Events

- Mar 7 BVRC Spring "Just Plane Fun" Fly-in - Bryan
- Mar 14 HSF 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Founders Day Fly-in – Houston
- Mar 21 Ft. Bend RC Swap Meet & Fun Fly – Sugarland
- Mar 27-29 Tyler RC 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Helicopter Fly-in – Tyler
- Mar 27-29 Lone Star RC Combat Nationals – Ft. Worth
- Mar 28 Jetero RC 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Anniversary Celebration -  
Huffman

Frank Sodek - Editor  
510 West Shell  
Temple, TX 76501

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*Mall Show – Mar 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>*  
*1<sup>st</sup> Beginners' Night – Mar 11<sup>th</sup>*

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