

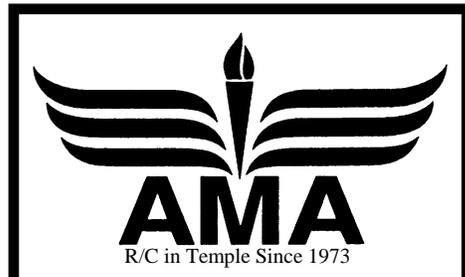
# The Temple Aero Modeler

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

February 2011



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



*Club Meeting –  
Feb 28<sup>th</sup>*

# CLUB INFO

*Mall Show - Feb  
26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>*

*First Beginners'  
Night – Mar 16<sup>th</sup>*

## 2011 Officers

|                 |                           |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| President:      | Frank Sodek<br>773-8081   |
| Vice Pres/Sec.  | Cliff Manuel<br>217-0428  |
| Treasurer:      | Buster Hinkle<br>982-4746 |
| Safety Officer: | Lance Starzyk<br>760-8678 |
| Field Marshal:  | Terry Turner<br>913-0307  |

## Instructors

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



## On The Cover

Past TAM student member, Alex Divine, (right) accepts two awards for Wingman of the Quarter of 388 Operations Group, and Wingman of the Quarter and Wingman of the Year for 421<sup>st</sup> Fighter Squadron.

## Temple Event Schedule

|           |   |        |
|-----------|---|--------|
| Feb 26-27 | Mall Show   |        |
| Feb 28    | Club Meeting  | 7:30pm |
| Mar 16    | First Beginners' Night                              | 5:30pm |
| Mar 28    | Club Meeting  | 7:30pm |
| Apr 17    | Spring Picnic/First Combat                          | 1pm    |
| Apr 25    | Club Meeting  | 7:30pm |
| May 6-8   | Central Texas Airshow                               |        |
| May 22    | Combat (tentative)                                  | 2pm    |
| May 23    | Club Meeting  | 7:30pm |
|           | (one week early due to holiday)                     |        |
| Jun 12    | Sanctioned Fun Fly                                  | 11am   |
| Jun 26    | Combat (tentative)                                  | 2pm    |
| Jun 27    | Club Meeting  | 7:30pm |
| Jul 10    | Combat (tentative)                                  | 2pm    |
| Jul 24    | Combat (tentative)                                  | 2pm    |
| Jul 25    | Club Meeting  | 7:30pm |
| Aug 14    | Combat (tentative)                                  | 2pm    |
| Aug 28    | Combat (tentative)                                  | 2pm    |
| Aug 29    | Club Meeting  | 7:30pm |
| Sep 11    | Combat (tentative)                                  | 2pm    |
| Sep 25    | Fall Picnic/Last Combat                             | 1pm    |
| Sep 26    | Club Meeting  | 7:30pm |
| Oct 2     | Fall Fun Fly  | 1pm    |
| Oct 16    | Poker Fly   | 10am   |
| Oct 31    | Club Meeting (tentative)                            | 7:30pm |
| Nov 2     | Last Beginners' Night                               | 5:30pm |
| Nov 28    | Club Meeting  | 7:30pm |
| Dec 4     | Don Cullison Memorial<br>Christmas Toy Drive/Fly-In | 1pm    |
| Dec 5     | Christmas Banquet/<br>Officer Elections (tentative) | 6:30pm |

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

On the web at: [www.templeaeromodelers.org](http://www.templeaeromodelers.org)  
Web Master: Mark Cullison  
[mcullison1@aol.com](mailto:mcullison1@aol.com)

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## President's Report

by Frank Sodek



Well I never dreamed that I would be writing about a lost club member in this column, especially with the circumstances surrounding our current tragedy. As most of you should know by now, Cliff Manuel, our Club VP/Secretary, apparently drowned in Lake Belton near our flying field on January 31<sup>st</sup> while attempting to retrieve a downed airplane. At the time of this writing (Monday, February 21<sup>st</sup>), his body has not been recovered. I'll send out a notice to club members if there are any further developments. Please keep Cliff's family and friends in your prayers.

Because Cliff was missing, it was decided to postpone our Taco Soup Fly-in that was scheduled to be held at the club's flying field on February 13<sup>th</sup>. We'll discuss rescheduling it at the next meeting, and we'll also discuss how to best honor and pay tribute to Cliff's passing.

This coming weekend (February 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>) we will be holding our annual Mall Show at Temple Mall. Please see an article about the Mall Show elsewhere in this newsletter. This is an event where we show off our models and our club to the local community and start selling raffle tickets for the RTF plane that we'll give away at the Central Texas Airshow. Get your planes polished up and bring them to the Mall this weekend. I'll see you there!

Regards,

Frank Sodek

[fsodek@aol.com](mailto:fsodek@aol.com)

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## January Meeting Minutes

The first Temple Aero Modelers meeting of 2011 was called to order at 1930 hours by our new President, Frank Sodek Jr., Commander In Grief. Our newly elected Vice-President/Secretary, Cliff Manual did not make it to the meeting and they made Don Mondrik take notes and record the minutes. The minutes from the last year's last meeting were remembered and John Hagel raised his hand for the "Make a Motion To Accept" the minutes and Andy Martin was the second with all present voting Aye to accept.

Buster read the inputs and outputs of our Treasury, bottom line is in the black, we still have some money. The motion to accept was Doug Staines and Fred Huber got to second the motion and we all voted Aye to accept.

The new Safety Officer, Lance Starzyk didn't have anything

to say about safety. Since it was the first meeting and not much has been going on he didn't have anything to bring to the table.

The Field Marshal was not present and we didn't discuss field marshaling, just the regular who mowed last, do we need gas, and do we need a work day scheduled.

Announcements: Well, our new President is leaving for a month. Frank didn't want to be president so much so he and Frances, the wife, are taking a sabbatical to New Zealand for a month. Talk about dodging the club responsibilities. We wish Frank and Frances well as they travel, send pictures, look for Hobbits and maybe join a model club so he won't suffer with model flying withdrawals.

Old Business: Mark Cullison stated that all of the toys collected from the Toy Fly were split up. Half of the toys went to Toys For Tots and the other half went to the Ronald McDonald House.

The Christmas Banquet was a success again, thanks to everyone that makes this happen. There was a variety of food and some visiting by the families before the main event. The Buster Hinkle Christmas Gift Exchange began with the rules and several examples before the event began. It was a fun time, it always is.

New Business: Fly in the Taco Soup will be administrated by Larry Macie on Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup> beginning around noon. Frank signed up to bring drinks. The drinks selected will be temperature dependent based on Mother Nature's mood for that weekend.

The competition/event committee met and scheduled the events for the year, they are listed in the news letter.

The Mall Show is not in limbo yet but since the mall is in need of a financial backing, we are uncertain about the dates, if or when we might have the Mall Show. In the end we selected February 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Frank passed around the sign-up sheet for volunteers to man the store of our models. Mark is in charge of the signs again. The mall's Conference Center will once again be the site; it has access from outside to facilitate moving models in and out. Items discussed included the money box, People's Choice tickets, raffle tickets, flight simulator, laptop computer, VCR/DVD TV player for videos and all the old magazines to give away. Andy Sonnier and Fred Huber and Frank stepped up to bring hardware for the videos and the flight simulator. Raffle Plane? Yes, No, Maybe... The lure of the P-51 wins again. Choosing an electric model was discussed but the glow power won out, the glow is more likely to get a club member, an electric plane may be used by the winner but since they won't necessarily need a runway or flying site, we may never hear from the winner.

The club charter used to include patches upon renewal. This year the patches were an additional fee so Frank didn't get

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them. "Patches, we don't need no stinking patches..." oh, wait that was badges from Blazing Saddles. Attempt at humor.

Buster, however, did want his patch so Frank was to make arrangements to secure patches.

Fred Huber would like to donate his small trailer to the club to use when hauling barrels for watering the trees. Or, it could be given to a fellow club member if they wanted the trailer. Maybe this is what Frank was ambivalent about. Perhaps the Field Marshal may have a use for the trailer. If not, it is there for the taking.

Electric Fly In? Anyone interested in holding an electric fly in? All we need is an excuse to invite flyers with electric models.

The big planes also have a large following and an idea of trying to host a 3-D Fly In hovered around the table. This subject has a lot of appeal and spectator potential. However, this will have to be scheduled between existing dates on the 3-D calendar. The event will no doubt be discussed more but we will have about a year to try to get on the calendar.

The October meeting falls on the 31<sup>st</sup>, Halloween, this year. As a collective membership we opted to change the date because Doug wanted to go Trick-or-Treating again.

**Trip Report:**

The Georgetown Swap Meet was not a big event as in the past. Small turnout, lots of tables and space that wasn't used. Perhaps the weather played a part. Or, as Doug would surmise, all the parking lot wheeling and dealing circumvented the weekend attendance.

**Blunder Awards:**

We had only one entrant this month. Seems a pilot failed to heed the "Pull Up, Pull Up..." chime during a crosswind landing. Cliff Manual is once again the winner... I just failed to write down what got torn up during this event.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and Andy Sonnier promptly agreed at 2004 hours.

Doug added, at the last minute, that Jerry Rice our Vice President for District VIII will conduct a 3 day Fly-In in observance of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Academy of Model Aeronautics later this year. Doug will provide more information as it becomes available.

Minutes recorded by *Don Mondrik*

Acting Secretary

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**Paul's Korn'r**

I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.

**Treasurer's Report**



Beginning Balance: \$4,125.54

Deposits:

Dues..... \$1,040.00

Debits:

Lance Starzyk (Poker Fly food)..... \$32.55

Ronald McDonald House ..... \$20.00

Total Debits: \$52.55

Balance January, 2011: \$5,112.99

Submitted by *Buster Hinkle*

Club Treasurer

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**Safety Officer's Report**

By *Lance Starzyk*

I have to echo the Presidents' surprise regarding Cliff. I must say it was an exceptionally unfortunate and unnecessary loss. I never considered that anyone would attempt to retrieve a model from 48 degree water all alone and with night approaching. I'm sure Cliff had rationalized that he could do it but whatever his reasons were the final cost was too high.

While 48 degree water may not sound that cold to some, we must remember our bodies operate at ~98.6 degrees. According to the U.S. Search and Rescue Task Force water can cool a body 32 times faster than air at the same temperature. At 48 degrees it only takes 30 to 60 minutes with no physical protection (wet/dry suit) for exhaustion and unconsciousness to set in. Death can occur from 60 minutes to 3 hours. While these times are affected by many other variables (age, health, etc) the end result is inevitable.

There can be many other unexpected consequences. Even excellent swimmers have been surprised when their limbs became rigid and could no longer be used to tread water. They have also been shocked to the face with frigid water only to experience the mammalian reflex and were unable to breathe despite being above water. Wind, waves, underwater currents and obstacles or hidden terrain become instant trouble while wading knee deep and suddenly falling off an underwater ledge and becoming entangled.

Regardless of water temperature, attempting this in the dark and/or alone would make rescue almost impossible. I know

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I've said a lot here and many of you may know this already but I think it's worth saying. For those who didn't know, perhaps I've enlightened you and everyone will question the risk before challenging any water under these conditions.

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## 2011 Mall Show

By Frank Sodek

The club will be holding its annual Mall Show this weekend (February 26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>) at the Temple Mall. We will be in the same location as last year: the Mall Conference Center, which is directly across from the Premier Cinema 16 movie theater ticket booth. The closest entrance is near Fuddrucker's at the SW side of the Mall, and we should also have the rear outside door to the room open, making it easy to unload stuff from your vehicle.

We'll start setting up the display at 8am Saturday morning (try to have your planes at the Mall by 9:30am). During the show, we'll be showing off our planes and giving out info about our great club, plus we'll be running a couple of flight simulators and selling raffle tickets to the RTF Hangar-9 P-51. Please bring any modeling magazines that you'd like to give away.

Here's a reminder to those members that signed up at the last meeting for a time slot:

### Saturday

9am-noon: Tom Drybola, Ed Weems, Buster Hinkle  
 noon-3pm: John Redwine  
 3-6pm: Fred Huber  
 6-9pm: Fred Huber

### Sunday

Noon-3pm: Doug Staines  
 3-6pm: Ed Weems, Doug Staines, John Redwine

Fred Huber has actually volunteered for all time slots, and Eric Runfeldt has also stated that he's available any time, plus I should be there most of the time. Anyone else that happens to have some free time to help out during the show is welcome to come join us. We'll start shutting down around 6PM on Sunday, so please come back for your planes around that time. Polish up those show planes, I'll see you there!

Regards,  
 Frank

## Temple man, 54, reported missing

BY DEBORAH MCKEON  
 TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

Clifford Manuel, 54, of Temple was reported missing Tuesday by a friend, Lele Whipkey, and has not been seen or heard from since Monday, said Sgt. Brad Hunt, public information officer with the Temple Police Department.



MANUEL

Whipkey said the Temple Police Department informed her they located Manuel's car at the edge of Lake Belton, which was next to the airstrip where he flew his model airplanes. The airstrip belongs to Temple Aero Modelers. Manuel had recently been elected vice president of the club and had a real passion for model planes, Whipkey said.

Manuel, 13-year employee at the Temple Daily Telegram, did not show up for work Tuesday, which confirmed for Whipkey that something was very wrong.

"He loved his job. He never called in sick and never missed a day," she said.

Richard Herschler, business manager at the Telegram, said Manuel was a "great guy," and was a good and dependable employee, never having an attendance problem.

When Whipkey came home

from work at 8 p.m. Monday, Manuel wasn't there, but she knew he had a 7:30 p.m. meeting at the Ronald McDonald House for his club.

"He wasn't back at 10 p.m., so I went on to bed. I woke up at midnight and he still wasn't here. I tried texting him many times during the next several hours, but never heard back," she said.

Whipkey filed a police report Tuesday morning when Manuel still wasn't home.

"The police said he probably just left me, saying that it happened all the time. I knew that wasn't true," she said.

### **His car found**

Thursday morning police found Manuel's car at the airfield, and a helicopter and dogs were used to try to locate him.

"The police found his shoes, hat, phone and wallet at the edge of the lake," Whipkey said. "They are planning to send out scuba divers as soon as the weather is good enough. "This just seems so surreal, like it's not happening," she said.

Manuel has been entered into the state and national database as a missing person, Hunt said.

Whipkey said he really loves his planes. "I wouldn't put it past him to dive into the lake to get one," she said. "I just want to know where he is."

dmckeon@tdtnews.com

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Mark Cullison - Editor  
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*Mall Show - Feb 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>*  
*Club Meeting - Feb 28<sup>th</sup>*  
*First Beginners' Night - Mar 16<sup>th</sup>*

## **"The Temple Aero Modeler Newsletter"**

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