

# The Temple Aero Modeler

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

November 2008



**This month's meeting will be held Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at the Temple Airport Conference Room (7:30pm) - New location for this month only -**



# CLUB INFO

*Club Meeting –  
November 24<sup>th</sup>  
(Temple Airport)*

*Christmas  
Banquet –  
December 9<sup>th</sup>*

*Don Cullison  
Memorial  
Christmas Toy  
Drive/Fly-in –  
December 7<sup>th</sup>*

## 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

## Temple Event Schedule

Nov 24	Club Meeting 7:30pm Temple Airport Conference Room (Note: new location for this month's meeting only)
Dec 7	Don Cullison Memorial Christmas Toy Drive/Fly-In 1pm
Dec 9	Christmas Banquet / Officer Elections 6:30pm

## 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

Former club member Alex Divine (4<sup>th</sup> from right) is shown with his flight training squadron at Sheppard AFB in Wichita Falls. See the story about Alex elsewhere in this newsletter.

Courtesy Photo

On the web at: [www.templeaeromodelers.org](http://www.templeaeromodelers.org)  
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Frank Sodek, Jr.- Editor 773-8081  
Mark Cullison - Editor's Assistant 773-9686

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## President's Report



Greetings! The Holiday season is upon us, with cooler weather and busy weekends. Speaking of which, our annual Christmas Banquet and Officer Elections will take place Tuesday evening, Dec 9th at the Western Hills Church of Christ (see map elsewhere in this newsletter). Start time is 6:30pm. Bring a covered dish to share. Also, don't forget to bring a \$10 (or less) wrapped, unmarked gift if you want to participate in Buster's wonderful Chinese Gift Exchange.

The nominating committee is continuing to accept nominations for officer positions for 2009. If you would like to serve your club in this manner, please contact Don Mondrik, Buster Hinkle or myself.

Our annual Don Cullison Memorial Christmas Toy Drive/Fly-In will be held Sunday December 7<sup>th</sup> - "A day that will live in infamy". Please bring an unwrapped toy for the "landing fee". Even if you don't fly, come out and bring a toy. This is a rain or shine event that starts at 1pm.

A friend to many and also past club member, Kathy Ponder, has been in and out of the hospital several times this past summer and fall. Please keep her and BW in your prayers during this holiday season and beyond.

FYI, this will be the last newsletter this year. Next issue will be January, 2009. Frank Sodek has done a wonderful job as Newsletter Editor this past year... Thanks Frank!

Here's wishing all a Bountiful Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*Mark Cullison*

President, Temple Aero Modelers

[Mculison1@aol.com](mailto:Mculison1@aol.com)

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## Meeting Minutes (October 27th Meeting)



The meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm by President Mark Cullison. No visitors were present.

Minutes from the last meeting were read by VP/ Sec Lance Starzyk. Cliff motioned to accept the minutes as read and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug Staines.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Buster Hinkle.

Fred Huber motioned to accept, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed Weems.

The Safety Officer Report given by Don Mondrik mentioned to members about being careful and not taxiing back to the station, "keeping the sharp end pointing away from people."

The Field Marshall was absent. Fred Huber reported that the field was marked with little flags to mark low spots and holes that needed filling which would be done in the future with Ed Weems' assistance and equipment.

Volunteers will be needed. He also mentioned the field looked good, John Hagel had mowed and Lance, Ed and Frank took care of the spraying earlier in the month.

## Announcements

Mark mentioned that Kathy Ponder was having some health issues and to keep her in your thoughts and prayers. He also noted that hunting season is now in swing, having started November 1<sup>st</sup>, and to be aware when crossing fences.

Doug Staines – District 8 AVP – announced two AMA Dirty Dozen Awards. One to Don Mondrik for his continued efforts in running the club's Poker Fly-ins over the years and another to David Henry for his volunteerism and personal food contributions for all the cookouts he has provided to the club this year at no charge. "It is this kind of participation that makes clubs like Temple so successful."

## Old Business

Beginners' Night: Paul was absent so Mark commented that the last Beginners' Night for the year will be Wednesday October 29<sup>th</sup>. Daylight Savings Time ends this coming weekend on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Poker Fly: Don reported to the point, "It was a good time." Larry Macie was the overall winner.

Combat Report: Larry was absent so Mark announced that this Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> was the Combat in Bryan with their club members. Anyone interested should contact Doug and Larry to coordinate rides. Doug mentioned that they were going to keep it simple. No tents etc. John Cobb has the trophy.

## New Business

TUFF: Temple Unlimited Fun Flyers (via an email from Stacey Peacock) is promoting the use of a Temple City Park for flying "all types of model aircraft." Mark and Doug made the point that the park in question may be too small for some aircraft and with no national affiliation it appears that the club may lack formal rules and liability protection. General discussion suggested

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that this could be a problem for the Temple Aero Modelers Club and the sport as a whole with regard to the public eye if an incident were to occur. While the Temple Aero Modelers Club supports all new model organizations, it must encourage responsibility for the sport as well. Since the specifics of the program were unclear, Doug (AMA) and Lance (TAM) will be working to ensure that Temple Parks and Leisure has all the facts about the sport so that they can make an informed decision about a safe program if it materializes.

**Formation of Nomination Committee:** Buster volunteered to run the nominating committee, as he has done in past years, for the club's upcoming new officer elections. Anyone interested in assisting Buster or wishing to nominate individuals for officer positions should contact Buster. This includes self nominations.

**Don Cullison Memorial Toy Drive/Fly-In:** Mark informed everyone that this event will be held on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> and to mark your calendars. This is a rain or shine event and worth the time to bring an unwrapped toy to the field for collection.

**Christmas Banquet and Elections:** They will be held again this year on Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at Western Hills Church of Christ in Temple. This is a pot-luck event in addition to elections. Please bring a dish to share and remember next year's dues must be paid to vote. See directions in this newsletter.

**Other:** Frank mentioned that the widow of former club member Dean Stroud is ready to sell his collection of models and other items. Discussion suggested that Frank will price the items fairly and bring them to a meeting for bid and sale.

**Trip Reports:** None

**Blunder Award**

Mark asked the present membership if this award should be discontinued due to a lack of participation during the year. There were some comments to keep it, so it remains.

**Incidents:** Lance was training his wife Tamara on his Computer Radio and a buddy box. His Mach 1 Trainer was lost to a tree in yonder field. Don's combat plane crashed due to a lack of sufficient elevator. Lance received the Blunder Award.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by *Lance Starzyk*  
Club Secretary / Vice-President

**Treasurer's Report**



Beginning Balance: \$3,518.15  
 Deposits:  
 Dues ..... \$165.00  
 Total Deposits: \$165.00  
 Debits:  
 Ronald McDonald House .\$20.00  
 Mower fuel (Mark) ..... \$58.71  
 Picnic drinks (Mark)..... \$29.40  
 Mower parts (Ed) ..... \$39.95  
 Buddy boxes (Paul) ..... \$31.00  
 Fun Fly trophies ..... \$30.00  
 Temple Telegram PIE..... \$121.00  
 Total Debits: (\$330.06)  
 Balance October 2008: \$3,353.09

Submitted by *Buster Hinkle*  
Club Treasurer

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**Safety Officer's Report**



Here we are on the downhill side of 2008. It's been a good year, so far. I am not aware of any serious mishaps, which can only mean that my superior skills as the club's Safety Coordinator have exceeded expectations! Just kidding, I can't really take credit for our club not having any accidents. It is the club as a whole - collectively we keep each other aware of our surroundings (Situational Awareness). Think about it, when someone goes out to start a plane we almost always have someone step up and assist or ask if they would like some help. In a way we are all on the same team, and our team works well together.

Our flying season is winding down, the days are getting shorter and the available flying weekends will be fewer as well. This will be a great time to check out our airplanes to make sure they are still in good order. We, as modelers, have an obligation to each other to make sure that our toys are safe to operate. A little preventative maintenance will provide an opportunity to inspect your equipment to ensure it is still safe to operate.

Safe work habits also apply to our work areas. Does your work area have adequate lighting? How about

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good ventilation? Flammable liquids stored properly? What about those sharp pointy blades, do you have a place to dispose of old blades? A dull blade can still slice open skin and remember, never, ever, try to catch a hobby knife if it falls off the table. You might want to move your feet though, wouldn't you rather have to change a blade that struck the floor than pull a knife out of your foot? The same applies to a rotary tool - if it slips or falls, catching it may not be a good idea, especially if it is running! Now you have to wonder how I know about these scenarios... You should also have a way to debond yourself from your model if the CA seeps through the wood and grabs your skin. The debonder is a safer way to un-glue yourself. Using a really sharp instrument has the potential to add insult to injury. Do you have a fire extinguisher handy? Why would I need a fire extinguisher? Don't ask.

Be safe. Think about what you are doing while you're doing it. Ask yourself what would happen if the knife blade or screwdriver slips. Like I have said all year long, don't hurt yourself while having fun. You cannot protect other people from themselves, but you do have the ability to protect yourself, so be safe - at home, at work, when traveling, when flying, when you do whatever, try to do it safely. If not for yourself, then do it for those that depend on you.

Thanks to everyone for having another safe flying season with The Temple Aero Modelers.

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

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## Update on Alex Divine

*Editor's note: Former club member Alex Divine sent the following update on his flight training status. Alex learned to fly RC models at our club (along with his Grandfather, James McKee) while attending school here in Temple, before going off to the Air Force Academy.*

Hi Y'all, and Greetings from beautiful(?) Wichita Falls. I'm sure my granddad James has kept you all up to date on my training, but I thought I'd send you a few words.

I graduated from pilot training last December (2007) and got my 2<sup>nd</sup> pick assignment: F-16 Fighting Falcons

at Luke AFB (Phoenix, AZ). Originally I was supposed to be out there by Summer '08 but with the tragic accidents here and at other training bases the plans got postponed. I finally started IFF (Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals) in September.



It sure is amazing to see all those acrobatic maneuvers I practiced with the RC planes being put to good use! As you may or may not know, IFF is a graduate pilot program intended to introduce basic fighter maneuvers (BFM) and basic surface attack (SA) tasks.

While it's a far cry from full-up dogfighting, the (relatively) limited performance of the T-38C actually makes you learn the correct procedures, since it bleeds energy in nearly every maneuver (it's REALLY important to select the correct one!) I've completed the Offensive portion, which is where the student begins with an advantage, and have finished 2 of my 4 Defensive rides. Defense is uncomfortable not only because you have the IP's (simulated) bullets being fired at you, but also because they're asking you to max perform the jet while looking behind you. I finally found out what they mean when they say it's like having an elephant sitting on your chest!

Anyway, just thought I'd let you know how things are going and if you're in Wichita Falls before Christmas or Phoenix after February let me know and I'll take you out on the flight line.

V/R,  
JAMES A. DIVINE  
Lt. James A. Divine  
80 OSS / Grad Flt  
[Phaeton84@gmail.com](mailto:Phaeton84@gmail.com)  
Igitur qui desiderat pacem, praeparet bellum.

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## Leading a Club is More Than Doing the Job Yourself

By *Dave Mathewson*, AMA President  
 Reprinted from the *AMA Insider*

The year 2008 is winding down and this is the time when many of our clubs elect new, or reelect current, officers for the coming year. I'm going to begin this column by shamelessly plagiarizing an article I recently read about being an association officer: "Filling an officer role does not mean that you are required to do the job alone. Being an officer simply means that you are responsible for ensuring that the job gets done. As an officer, you are allowed to ask other members of the club to help you fulfill your duties."

How true is that? I've been a member of a number of different organizations, and far too often I've seen cases of burnout because club officers feel a need to carry the load of running a club or association entirely on their own shoulders.

Sure, there's a responsibility that goes along with being a club officer, but that responsibility doesn't include doing all of the work yourself. In fact, over time, many clubs eventually fail because the club officers allow themselves to be put in a position where they had to do all of the work and simply accepted this as the way things were done. In other words, it was easier to do the job yourself than to solicit the help of others. At least that sounded good at the time.

As club members we should accept the fact that we all need to play some part—even if only a small part—to ensure the well-being of our club. That's what being part of a club is supposed to be all about. At the same time we recognize that those who have volunteered their time to be club leaders have accepted a greater level of responsibility; however, that responsibility should lean more toward creating an atmosphere of teamwork and cooperation within your club.

As a club officer you also have an opportunity to influence the direction of, and culture within, your club. Your members depend on you, as well as the other elected officers, to help set and meet goals and objectives for your club during your term. How you do that can mean the difference between success and failure, not only for you, but for your club.

In some cases, if things go extremely wrong, it can result in an officer eventually leaving not only the club, but modeling all together, because the pressures of

holding a club office have taken the fun out of what was supposed to be an enjoyable activity.

Please keep all of this in mind as we move into the new year. Being a club officer doesn't mean tackling every project or activity yourself. It doesn't have to feel like a job. Most often, it can be an enjoyable experience if approached the right way. Enlist your members to do their part in support of your club. Most want to be a part. They just need to be asked.

Since this is the last issue of the *AMA Insider* for 2008 I want to close this month by wishing everyone a happy holiday season and the best of luck in the coming year.

See you next time.

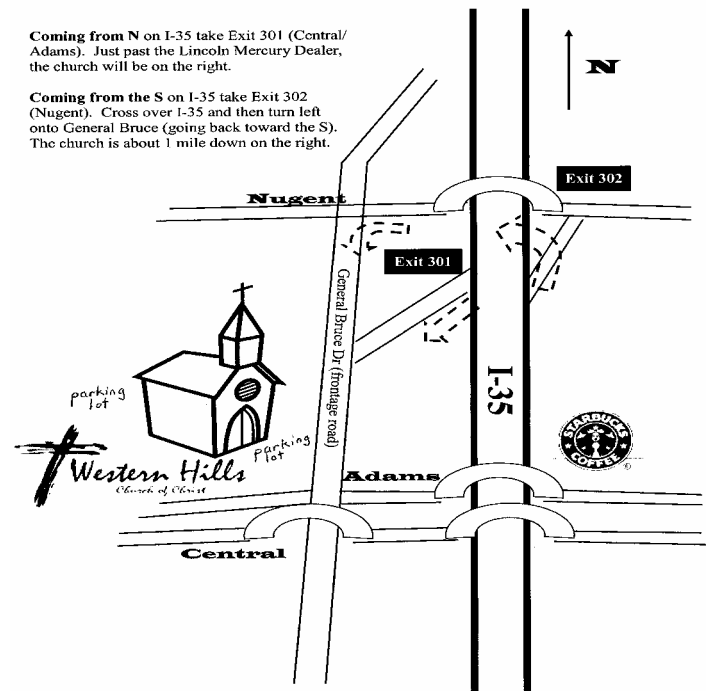
*Dave Mathewson*  
 AMA President

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### Directions to the Western Hills Church of Christ

Coming from N on I-35 take Exit 301 (Central/Adams). Just past the Lincoln Mercury Dealer, the church will be on the right.

Coming from the S on I-35 take Exit 302 (Nugent). Cross over I-35 and then turn left onto General Bruce (going back toward the S). The church is about 1 mile down on the right.



**This year's Christmas Banquet will be held at the Western Hills Church of Christ (same location as last year), which is on the NW corner of IH35 and West Adams, beginning at 6:30PM.**

# MEMBERSHIP FORM

## Temple Aero Modelers

To join the Temple Aero Modelers or renew your dues, please fill out this form, enclose a check, and mail to:

**Temple Aero Modelers**

c/o Buster Hinkle  
11591 Pritchard Rd.  
Temple, TX 76501

Make check payable to:  
**Temple Aero Modelers**

(check or cash can also be brought to the next club meeting)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ AMA#: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Radio Channels that you fly: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ (Home)  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ (Work)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed for:

	Full Year*	
Adult member dues (18 and over) .....	\$60.00	_____
Additional family member .....	\$30.00	_____
Senior member dues (over 65) .....	\$30.00	_____
Junior member dues (under 18) .....	\$10.00	_____
Associate member .....	\$30.00	_____

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*For new members only – if joining in the first quarter (Jan-Mar): 100% of full year dues; second quarter (Apr-Jun): 75% of full year dues; third quarter (Jul-Sep): 50% of full year dues; fourth quarter (Oct-Dec): 25% of full year dues.

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## TX District VIII Events

November 22 BVRC Toys for Tots Fly-In – Bryan

November 22 SPARKS 2008 Survivors' Fly-In – Tomball



Frank Sodek - Editor  
510 West Shell  
Temple, TX 76501

***Club Meeting – November 24<sup>th</sup>***  
*(Temple Airport Conference Room)*

***Christmas Toy Fly-in – Dec 7<sup>th</sup>***  
***Christmas Banquet – Dec 9<sup>th</sup>***

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

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