



**May, 2006 ---- Knoxville, Tennessee ---- AMA Chapter 594 Newsletter.....jimscarbrough@charter.net**  
**KCRC website.....www.kcrctn.com**  
**KCRC Newsletter(PDF) available on KCRC website for downloading**

**The meeting for May will be on Tuesday, May 9th, 2006, at KCRC field on Williams Road at 7:00 PM.**

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Did you see the beautiful picture gracing the cover of the latest issue of the AMA magazine? It was a gorgeous picture of Scott Sappington, SPA Vice President, holding a great looking Daddy Rabbit. If you look closely at the background, you will see that it was taken against the safety fence at KCRC field! After reading the article Duane Wilson wrote ( from which he took the picture ), there were several more pictures taken there during the SPA contest last year.

I sent Duane an email praising the article and thanking him for using our field in the picture and he said he took the picture planning to use it as a cover photo. Bruce Underwood, the SPA president, calls KCRC field " The Most Scenic Site in the South ". Duane also said that he would never miss an SPA contest at KCRC field because it was the closest one to where he lives.

I say all this to say that sometimes we miss out on some great experiences because we are just too close to them. KCRC field IS a beautiful place that we become so familiar with that we don't appreciate the beauty. It is balm to the soul just to sit and soak in the glorious scenery. It doesn't help the looks much when we leave garbage and broken junk around. Since we don't have garbage pickup at the site, it behooves us to remove our own. When you empty a fuel jug, don't just throw it in the pavillion, hoping that Gene will pick it up and reuse it. We also sometimes throw broken props, pieces of broken balsa and scraps of covering and whatever else we don't use anymore under the benches, and that doesn't look very good.

I'm not just fussing at you because I ( and most everyone else ) gets careless at times and is guilty of these things. What I am suggesting is that all of us make a conscious effort to keep the field clean. We will be going back up there for meetings this month, and maybe some of us can get there a little early and police the area.

Speaking of pattern contests, an interesting item from CD Scott Anderson. He says that a prize, a Hangar 9 4D acrobat called the Showboat 90, will be given to one lucky KCRC member who places highest in the entry level

class called the Sportsman 401 in the AMA patten contest. The lucky winner does not have to be in the top three places, but has to have the highest point total among the other KCRC members. The maneuvers in this class can be seen at [www.nsrca.org/scheduleA.htm](http://www.nsrca.org/scheduleA.htm) and Scott says the maneuvers can be done by most all planes from trainers to warbirds.

For a look at the model, go to the Horizon hobby website.

Scott wants the KCRC member who wins to be available after the tournament for pictures.

#### NOTICE

**All you KCRCers who are on AOL are having their email bounce back to Ed Hartley. Since Ed does not want to deal with all the bounced email, he will remove your name from the KCRC Mail List. I would urge you to use something other than AOL if you want to receive email information about the club.....Phil Spelt, President**

Editors note::: I can appreciate Ed's aggravation at the returned mail because you never know who is getting the info. I have an idea that there is a filter set on the AOL service that is blocking the reception of those emails. The user can probably set the server to unblock for KCRC messages.....Jim

#### NOTICE

**Don't forget that the monthly meeting for May begins our return to KCRC field for the summer. All meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the pavillion. There is a chance to get in a little flying before the meeting.**

**Please make an effort to attend the meetings because this gives you an opportunity to contribute to the business side of the club.**

**Bring an entry for Model of the Month.**

# AT THE FIELD

the heavy metal WWII types best of all. Here he is with his kit built Corsair. Bill flies the models like they are on rails. He can do beautiful axial slow rolls with these scale jobs and I think he could do the contest pattern and do a good job of it with his Spitfire, P-51 or the Corsair.

In the third picture, Mike Gross entered his

There is an increasing number of days that qualify as flying days now that spring is finally here, so where is everybody? I have been a little slow to get started myself but I think if I can get an engine to run, I'll soon be up to snuff. There is a familiar bunch of faces I see on the rare days I've been to the field lately, but there is a large number I haven't seen for a while.



One face I see frequently belongs to Carl "Bud" Weisser, sometimes making a spectacular landing. Bud has been through many different types of models in the short time I've known him. He didn't stay very long in trainer types before he was trying sport, then 3D, now he has the good looking canard in picture number one, and then take a look at his latest in his Model of the Month entry shown in the last picture on this page. The Lightning Dart.

Bill Dodge has been in KCRC a little longer than Bud but he hasn't gone through as many different types of flyers as Bud. Bill likes scale looking models and he likes



Me-109 in the Model of the Month contest and won the gallon of fuel. He built the model from an old Jemco kit he got from Craig Dieter. It was a typical old time kit with lots of whittling and carving. He then fibreglassed the model and painted it. A very good job.

## NOTICE

**This month ( May ), KCRC will start meeting at the field again. Same second Tuesday of every month at seven o'clock. I hope you guys will be more active in your membership than you have the last few meetings. There was only 14 members who attended the April meeting, and only a couple more than that in February.**

**It ceases to be a club when the membership starts treating it like the dues they pay is their admission to the field. We can't afford to pay folks to do the maintenance work required to keep the field up to snuff, and it's not fair to ask the same old guys to do it for you. That's where the club part comes in. If you don't do your part in the keep-up work, then the price of admission is going to go up.**

**The place to start is attending the meetings, and then volunteer to do your part. There's something that everyone can do.....Jim**



## **Minutes from April 11th, 2006, meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 PM by President Phil Spelt in the grass behind Deane Hill Rec Center because the manager of the rec center had scheduled another group in the room we normally meet in.

There were fourteen members present.

The minutes from the March meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter.

Treasurer Joel Hebert was back and it was good to see that he is feeling better. He gave the report on the treasury and the report was approved as given.

### **OFFICERS REPORT**

President Phil Spelt gave a report saying that our standing as a Gold Leader club is intact and that the club charter has been received.

He also said that the state incorporation renewal has been sent in.

He has also received the sanction from AMA on our co-sponsor role in the Warbird Fly In at the Tennessee Eagles field in Harriman.

There were no other officers reports.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There has been no work done on the electrical work planned for putting outlets on the roof supports in the pit area. Vice President Gary Lindner has acquired some wire for placing underground to bring the power from our switchboard to the pit area, but the engineering and ditching has not been done.

There has been no further work to report on the float fly.

There was no action to report on the repair to the gate at the north end of the field.

Dennis Hunt gave a report on the upcoming Ben Oliver Memorial SPA Pattern contest. Dennis has not been getting much in the way of volunteers to assist in the big event. Jim Scarbrough, who normally works at the registration, will not be available this year. He said that he had contacted by email a couple of the members who normally work with him and asked them to help out. ( Ed note: Hal Travis has said that he will be glad to help out. ) At any rate, Dennis says he needs more help. This event is one of the biggest contests in the SPA calendar and brings a lot of credit to the club. President Phil says he will do some campaigning by email among the membership.

There was nothing new to report on the AMA Pattern contest scheduled for August. Phil said that he and CD Scott Anderson were doing some background work, but that the contest itself was on the backburner until after the May SPA event.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The only new business at this time was by Ed Hartley who says that the computer that we normally use for the score keeping duties at our events needs a new home. It is kept in boxes and he would like to use the room the boxes now occupy in his home

The only other item mentioned was that the May meeting will return to KCRC field. I hope that we get a

bigger turnout than we've had the last two meetings.

### **MODEL OF THE MONTH**

There were two entries in this months contest. The first was Bud Weisser. Bud always manages to entertain with his entries. This time he had a flying wing called the " Lightning Dart " by RichModels. It looked like an over sized Zagi except it was built up instead of foam. It was powered by an OS .40 in pusher mode and looked very fast. Bud said it hadn't been flown yet because he wasn't sure about where the CG should be.

The second entry was by Mike Gross who entered his Me-109. It was built from a Jemco kit he had gotten from Craig Dieter. Mike said the kit gave him a bunch of balsa and the instructions said to cut away everything that wasn't Me-109. It had foam wing cores that Mike planked with balsa. He fiberglassed and painted the model as a training tool to learn how to do it. Powered by a .46 two stroke, he said it required being alert while flying and you couldn't slow it down very much when landing. A good looking model.

Mike won the fuel.

Safety Officer Bill Walters demonstrated his new E Flyte helicopter, the Blade CK Coaxial Heli. This is an impressive offering from Horizon Hobbies. It is a complete unit with everything needed to begin helicopter flying. Bill flew it in the lobby of the building while we were waiting for the meeting to start, and he flew it again outside after the meeting. He says that anyone could fly this one.

### **CRASH OF THE MONTH**

The only entry to this one was Donny Dishner, who had loaned his P-51 to his son who had taken it to the field in one piece and brought it back home in several. Donny had not been present when the deed was done, but he said the ramifications would be far reaching!

Donny got the glue.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM

Minutes taken by Jim Scarbrough, Secretary

The minutes this month might be a little rough. We had the meeting sitting on the ground in the back of the building. A long freight train went by during the meeting and it was only about a hundred yards away. A couple of low flying jet tankers went over, and the constant noise from the highway made talking and listening a little difficult.

I have been back in the club attending the meetings for 17 years and there has never been a problem meeting at the Deane Hills Rec Center before. Every year we have had this room on the second Tuesday of every month from October through April.

Perhaps its time to look around for another place.

**COMMENT:: Out of the fourteen members present, five were current officers plus two former Board members. Maybe we don't need meetings. Just let the Executive Committee do it all on the internet.....**

# This'n That

It's that time of year again when we start the field maintenance and begin having the events that puts a little money in the coffers. Some members think the events are a pain and we shouldn't ask them to give up the field while they are going on. Others think they are a necessary part of a modelers life, and that because of them, the whole modeling community benefits, and we should have more of them. Somewhere between these two extremes is where I think we should be. The guys who take part in the contests are the winners, both from the standpoint of actually competing, which can be a barrel of fun, and working in some function of the event where you get an inside look at a part of the hobby where you might find what you're looking for. You are also performing a service for the club, which depends on you for contributing in some manner to club maintenance.

KCRC is in the process of scheduling work days to perform some needed field maintenance. Some paint needs to be put on some wood surfaces to keep water out, and we are trying to get the pit area electrified. So if someone asks you to help, please do. Actually, you shouldn't need to be asked; remember those famous words of somebody or other; " Ask not what your club can do for you, ask instead, what can you do for your club ". Or something on that order...

## Balancing Large Models Made Easy by Jeff Prosize

Next to setting up the radio properly, setting the center of gravity (C.G.) to the manufacturer's recommended location is probably THE most critical aspect of preparing a new plane for its maiden flight. Never underestimate the importance of C.G; an inch or two can make the difference between a plane that flies well and a plane that flies once.

Balancing small models is easy. You can balance the plane on your fingertips, or you can use a balancing tool like Great Planes' C.G. machine. But the Great Planes device doesn't work very well with large models, and even with a buddy to help, it's too easy for a large model to slip and go crashing to the ground when you attempt to balance it with your fingers. Here's an inexpensive solution for balancing large models. Get a piece of scrap 2-by-4 about 4 feet long and cut it into two 1-foot sections and two 8-inch sections. Screw the 8-inch pieces onto the 1-foot pieces so that they form tees. If you'd like, cut the corners off the top of the tees to provide added

clearance. Then cut two pieces of wooden dowel the same width as the tees and glue them on top, as shown below.



You now have two halves of a stand that you can place an airplane on for balancing. Mark the recommended C.G. on the wings and place the model on the stand so that the centerline of the dowels lines up with the marks (see below). Place a box, foam, or other padding material under the nose and tail of the model so it can't tip too far and possibly damage the structure. (I also place a bit of foam rubber on the dowels to avoid scratching the wings.) Then add lead to the nose or tail or move components inside the plane until it balances on the dowels. There's no risk that you'll drop the plane while balancing it, and the dowels provide the precision you need to get the C.G. exactly where you want it.....Jeff

( Ed. note: If you take another piece of wood and run it across between the two units and fasten them together, it will stabilise the unit so it won't tip over.)

