



KNOX COUNTY RADIO CONTROL

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August 2021 Newsletter

President – Rick Thompson (JRT1953@gmail.com)

Vice-President – Warren Oliver (Warren.Oliver@kla.com)

Secretary – Richard Love (rltnlove@1791.com)

Treasurer – Joel Hebert (HebertJJ@gmail.com)

Safety Officer – Phil Cope (PhilipCope@BellSouth.net)

Exec Committee – Matt Conser (FloridaCracker@Yahoo.com)

Exec Committee – Kay Kasemir (Kay.Kasemir@gmail.com)

Exec Committee – Jimmy Russell (JamesLelandRussell@gmail.com)

President's Corner

We are all shocked and saddened by the sudden passing of KCRC Secretary Walt Lounsbury just hours after the August meeting. In the year or so that Walt had been a KCRC member, he made many friends and was well liked by all. Walt will be sadly missed and our most heartfelt condolences go out to his wife Lisa and family.

Richard Love has graciously agreed to fill the club secretary position left open by Walt's passing. Richard has experience in the position as he was the previous secretary and did a tremendous job. The Executive Committee, whose job it is to fill officer vacancies, voted enthusiastically and unanimously to accept Richard as the next club secretary. We thank Richard for "stepping up to the plate."

I apologize for my absence at the August meeting, but it sounds as if it went very smoothly with Warren Oliver presiding. I'm very pleased to hear that the club chose to have another cookout around the Labor Day weekend. The previous cookout was fun for everyone and I'm sure this one will be no different. I encourage everyone to come. Most importantly, however, Bill Dodge again rose to the challenge of taking on the badly needed runway repairs. Bill has been instrumental in preserving the runway over the years. In fact, it's not an exaggeration to say that without Bill, KCRC wouldn't have a runway. There will be a workday

announced at a later time to apply the repair materials and I encourage everyone who is physically able to come and help if at all possible. Thanks Bill.

For those who haven't already, you might want to check out the "Cirrus" article in the September 2021 issue of Model Aviation. The featured historic Cirrus plane, originally owned and flown by Tom Brett was recently brought to and displayed at KCRC by SPA expert Jerry Black, who is a frequent SPA contestant at KCRC contests. Jerry recently flew this historic 58-year-old aircraft again after it had been stored for decades. It's a fascinating article about the aircraft itself, and the advancement of RC radio technology from the early 1960's until now.

Please watch for KCRC emails. As event dates, field closings, etcetera sometimes change at the last minute, email has become the preferred and most efficient way of notifications. Important events will also be posted on KCRC's Facebook page. Until next time, I look forward to seeing everyone at the field.

August Meeting

The August club meeting was held at the field on Tuesday, August 10th. Vice-president Warren Oliver chaired the meeting.

Treasurer Joel Hebert reported that the club's cash balance at the beginning of July was \$14,478, while the cash balance at the end of the month was \$13,669. The largest expense was \$875 for a club fuel purchase. The club also paid \$82 to have the field mowed and \$87 for the porta-potty.

The club decided to have a cookout on Labor Day weekend, with details to be announced later. KCRC will host CubFest on Aug. 28th and a cross-country event for Knox County Schools Sept. 20-21. The field will close to flying in the early afternoon on Sept. 20th and reopen the following morning. The Sept. 21st event is an overnight marathon and is not expected to impact flying hours.

Brandon Drummer reported that KCRC's new Facebook group now has 71 members. It is seeing a healthy amount of activity as members post there and engage in online conversation, and it is one of the club's primary means of outreach. Several new members have joined the club in recent years after finding us on Facebook, and Joel Hebert reported that five new members joined in July.

Bill Dodge proposed that we patch areas along the edge of the runway that have crumbled. A motion was made (and approved) to budget up to \$1,200 for materials. Bill will buy the materials. Sometime in September, KCRC will hold a workday and invite all members who are willing to help with runway repairs.

The bylaws committee reported that work is progressing on proposed changes to the bylaws and that a draft should be ready to present at the next club meeting. The goal of these changes is to empower club members and make sure that the club is run with full transparency.

Remembering Walt Lounsbery

Each month, we spotlight one of our members. This month it's Walt Lounsbery, who passed away suddenly last week.



Walt grew up in Kansas City. His dad worked for TWA and was in charge of maintaining the airline's flight simulators. His family used their fly-for-free status with TWA to travel the world. Walt enjoyed a two-week trip to Nairobi, Cairo, Addis Ababa, and Rome when he was in sixth grade. He loved seeing faraway places and traveled extensively with his wife Lisa.

Thanks in part to his dad's connection to TWA, Walt developed an early interest in aviation. He studied aerospace engineering at the University of Missouri at Rolla, earning both a Bachelor's degree and a Master's. After college, he went to work for Boeing in Wichita, KS and earned his pilot's license while there. When Boeing sold off the Wichita division, Walt moved to Dallas/Fort Worth and took a job with General Dynamics working on the then-secret Navy A-12 Avenger project. When that project was canceled, Walt moved to Savannah to work for Gulfstream. It was during that time that he changed careers and started writing software professionally.

Walt moved back to Fort Worth and went to work for Radio Shack. He did two consulting tours with Lockheed maintaining and enhancing their library of simulation software. And he met the love of his life at a meeting of the Tall Texans club. Walt and Lisa were married in 2004 and moved to East Tennessee in 2007.

Walt joined KCRC last year. When all KCRC officers abruptly resigned in June, Walt graciously volunteered to become the club secretary. He passed away a few hours after last Tuesday's club meeting. In the brief year that I knew him, I learned that Walt was a good man who loved aviation and loved his wife. The world is a better place because Walt was part of it. He will be missed.

Walt loved ocean cruises, flying, scuba diving, cats, hiking, Hawaiian shirts, and getting "farkstrikes" on Facebook. Lisa plans to hold a celebration of Walt's life this fall. Details will appear in this newsletter when they are available.



Did You Know?

The [FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018](#) requires all "recreational flyers" to pass an aeronautical knowledge and safety test called *The Recreational UAS Safety Test* (TRUST) and provide proof of test passage to the FAA or law enforcement upon request. The test is taken online. It is free, and you can't fail. All of us are required to take the test, regardless of what types of RC models we fly. [Click here](#) to learn more about the test and for links to various Web sites where the test can be taken.