



**KNOX COUNTY RADIO CONTROL**

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## May 2022 Newsletter

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**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** – Brandon Drummer (bdrummer03@yahoo.com)  
**Exec Committee** – Jimmy Russell (JamesLelandRussell@gmail.com)

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### President's Corner

*By Rick Thompson*

The SPA contest May 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> will be history by the time you see this, but don't forget CubFest on June 11th. Bring a Cub or "Cub-like" plane (meaning it has wings) and join the fun.

Our runway is in pretty good shape right now thanks to the ongoing hard work of Bill Dodge. We want to keep it that way, which means we must keep up with ongoing maintenance. Bill thinks it would be a good idea to seal it with some new material he's found that's supposed to last several years. Bill is working on securing the materials and plans to schedule a work party in the near future – likely Saturday, June 4th. Rain date will be Saturday, June 18th. The final date and time will be confirmed via email and we'd appreciate help from any and all who are able. If you have questions, contact Bill at (865) 719-0353 (Cell) or (865) 482-3568 (Home).

Todd Thomas has been working on our usual springtime ant problem. Most of the ant colonies have been treated and are now dead but the battle is ongoing. Todd and Justin Long have both been checking into what can be done about the carpenter-bee problem. Remedies include possibly having a pest company come out and treat or bee traps. We'll be discussing these items at the next meeting.

If you like free stuff, here's your chance. The following email was received from Ethan Hull:

*Dear KCRC, Howdy! I'm cleaning out my garage. I have two planes (a 30 and a 100 size) and 1 30-size heli – all circa 2002 (before kids). They all run on glow fuel. I would like to get rid of them and free up the garage space. I would be happy to give them away to someone who would make good use of them. Please let me know if anyone wants them. They were all airworthy last time I flew them in 2005.*

*Best, Ethan Hull  
m. 865 481 3725  
Farragut  
ehull\_2001@yahoo.com*

A group of KCR Cers went to Joe Nall on May 12th. They included Warren Oliver, Randy Philipps, Michael Glasman, Errol Lyons, and Rick Thompson. Steve Jones had also been there most of the week. Here are a few photos:





See everyone at the field!

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## May Meeting

The May club meeting was held at the field on Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. Fifteen members attended the meeting. Steve Hill and Jeff Moersch were introduced as new members.

Treasurer Joel Hebert reported that the club's balance sheet is healthy. The balance in the bank account at the beginning of April was \$16,910. The balance at the end of April was slightly higher at \$16,949. Total expenses for the month were \$167. Income from club dues amounted to \$206.

It was noted that House Mountain RC will be hosting a Fun Fly on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Landing fee will be \$5 and lunch (hot dog, chips, and drink) will be available for an additional \$5. Events may include dog fights, low fly limbo, etc. Bring your own table or blanket to participate in the swap meet. AMA noise rules apply. Rain date will be June 11<sup>th</sup>.

The KCRC Summer Fun Fly Bash will be held on July 30<sup>th</sup> (rain date August 6<sup>th</sup>). This is an AMA-sanctioned event with Jimmy Russell serving as the contest director. Jimmy will be developing events for the day and anticipates having two classes to

accommodate pilots of various skill levels. Entry fee will be \$10 and includes a cookout lunch.

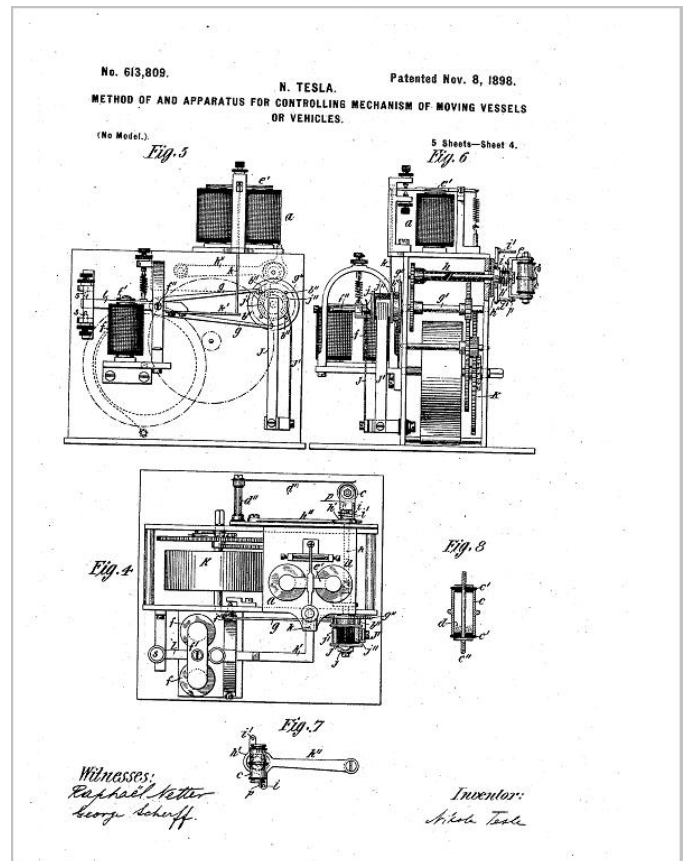
The condition of the drop-off lane was discussed. Due to the level of usage, the grass is getting pretty worn and bare spots are developing. To give the grass a chance to recover, please access the drop off area via the far end of the field (past the porta-potty) and shift away from the pit area (to the right of the existing tracks). Also, please try to avoid using the drop-off area if the ground is wet. Handicap access is always permitted, regardless of ground conditions. Several club members expressed concern about vehicles left in the drop-off area. Please move your vehicle to the parking area once you have unloaded.

The implementation of FAA FRIA (Remote ID for FAA-Recognized Areas) in September 2023 was briefly discussed. AMA may be doing a blanket application process with the FAA for AMA-chartered clubs but Rick noted that we need to look into this in more detail. Jimmy Russell noted that we need to request a higher altitude limit if possible. You can read about FRIA at <https://bit.ly/3LEPmcP>.

Two crashes of the month were discussed. First up was Warren Oliver, who shared the details of the loss of his Hangar 9 P-51 ARF. The suspected cause of the crash was an undersized BEC. Next, Brandon Drummer discussed Gary Swigart's Freewing Avanti going down in the river. The aircraft was recovered at an upstream boat ramp so it is suspected that a boater found it and left it when they pulled their boat out. After performing a few minor repairs and installing a new ESC, Gary has logged several flights since the crash.

Jimmy Russell presented his latest project as the model of the month. He designed an electric Daddy Rabbit with plug-in wings and had a kit custom laser cut. The model weighs about 7.4 pounds ready to fly, has a wingspan of 64 inches, and an overall length of 58 inches. Equipped with a 6S power system at approximately 1,200 watts, the fully balsa model is covered with film in his "trademark" yellow and blue color scheme and is also equipped with six piercing 3W 200 lumen LEDs wired in series and run off the 6S battery without any limiting resistors. The wing and horizontal

stabilizer tip LEDs are mounted in 3D printed custom housings. Based on his build, Jimmy has made some refinements to the design and several others now have the kits and are beginning their builds.



### Did You Know?

Radio control – the ability to control the movement of mechanical objects such as the control surfaces on an airplane using radio signals – is the very essence of our hobby. Transmitters have come a long way in recent years, progressing from simple boxes featuring a single stick or knob to programmable multichannel devices that use spread-spectrum technology to avoid frequency collisions. According to the AMA, the first successful RC airplane was built in 1938 by two brothers, Walt and Bill Good. But did you know that a famous person invented the concept of radio control, received a patent for it, and did so *before* 1900?

On November 8, 1898, U.S. Patent 613,809 entitled “Method of and apparatus for controlling mechanism of moving vessels or vehicles” was awarded to none other than Nikola Tesla – one of the most prolific inventors in history. The illustration above comes from the patent application. Next time you fly your model, thank Mr. Tesla for making it possible. If you drive away from the field in your electric car with a Tesla logo on the front, thank him again.