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July 2024 Newsletter

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President's Corner

By Warren Oliver

I made it to the meeting this time! You know I have to celebrate these small victories when it comes to memory. I have also been getting in some flying time this month. The weather has been great for flying even if it is a bit hot and very dry. Once again there have been a couple of Saturdays where we ran out of shaded flight benches. We did discuss the idea of extending our shade another 50 ft to accommodate the higher number of members we are getting. We approved a preliminary budget of \$7,000 to proceed if there are no surprises as we get firmer estimates of the cost. I firmly believe this is a great use of some of the funds we have accumulated in the club. If you have an opinion that needs to be heard on this subject, particularly if you have an objection, please let me know. I want to make sure that the vast majority of club members are on board before we spend money.

I saw many new or almost new airplanes make maiden flights with only a few unfortunate results. We do seem to be decorating the trees at each end of the runway with airplanes. I think there are six that remain stubbornly stuck high in trees, three at each end of the runway. Make sure when you are turning to your final approach that you do so in line

with an extension of the runway not over the higher trees. I find it best to make that turn beyond the treeline but for smaller, lighter airplanes staying inside the treeline works.

Another subject discussed at the meeting was to establish a check out/familiarization flight for new members. There are a few tricks, like avoiding the trees, that folks may overlook without help. All of the safety systems they are putting on new ARFs help folks get started in RC but they can give the pilot an overestimate of his own abilities. Of course, the trick here is to make sure we don't discourage new members or make folks feel any less welcome to join and fly with us. Brandon volunteered to put together some words to introduce such a concept on our application form. We also discussed adding the liability waiver required of each pilot by the county to our application documentation as well.

Jimmy Russel is becoming our resident CD for AMA sanctioned events. We had a great Cub Fest and BBQ this month. I counted over 15 piper cub models. I think Craig Dieter brought the most (three I believe). Craig is an outstanding builder and his craftsmanship shows in some of the small, very light Piper Cubs he brought out. I don't think we lost any aircraft. It is amazing how good a

simple hamburger or hot dog tastes when you are with a buch of friends out at the flying field.

Thanks Jimmy!

There have been several ideas about how to let more people know about our activities that came up during the meeting. We have been contacted a couple of times about doing a spot on one of the lifestyle programs that are produced in Knoxville. We decided that cooperating with that production could be a good thing. Jimmy also brought up the idea of doing an RC day. We would get a variety of aircraft as well as drones and possibly cars out to our site and publicize the event as another form of community participation. Jimmy suggested a possible date later this year and will try to get it going.

July Meeting Minutes

By James Russell

Warren Oliver started the meeting at 7pm with 10 or 11 in attendance. Phil noted there were no safety issues but said there are over eight planes that have been put in the trees.

Todd gave the treasurer report and said we are still over 21k dollars.

Jimmy reported on the Programs in the Parks and he has received the use certificate from Knox County Parks. All flying members will need to sign the Hold Harmless Clause waiver; this only states we will not sue Knox Co in any situation while participating in activities on the property. We are not required to turn in a membership list or the signatures. Ten members at the meeting signed the sheet. It will be located in the information box in the pavilion at the field for others to sign. Todd will be reworking the application for club membership to include verbiage about the Hold Harmless Clause so all new members will agree when signing the application.

Events

Jimmy reported that the Cub Fest went very well with 12 flyers signed up with many more visiting

and enjoying the cookout. This event brought in \$200.

New events

Jimmy reported that he is working on a sanction for our Oct Fall RC Day. He must work around UT football and other nearby events, so the date is still in flux.

Brandon brought up that he would run a Warbird event on Aug 3rd and Jet Fly on Aug 20th. Both will include a cookout lunch and an estimated cost of \$20 to participate.

New Business

Warren mentioned the fact that we have a good amount of money and that he had polled some members about extending the shade structure on the south end and about building a few more plane stands. All members in attendance agreed with our growing club and hot summers more shade would be nice. Warren got some initial quotes on the conceptual project and estimated we could do it for under \$7000. Steve Patterson has made some preliminary contacts for doing the groundwork and for the shade structure. It was decided we would continue to pursue this project and will discuss it more at the next meeting as task and cost information becomes available.

Brandon brought up the idea about a new member "Check out Flight". He said we have had some close calls with new flyers not used to our field and possibly lacking in skills. Much discussion was had. Brandon will draft a description and define where it will be used. A few members were concerned about alienating possible new members. Everyone agreed it was a promising idea as long as it was marketed as an introductory flight at our club and field with the sole purpose of showing that the new members can control their plane in a safe manner.

The next KCRC Event will be Warbirds over Knoxville Aug 3rd with Brandon Drummer as CD.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55.

Cub Fest

By James Russell

The Cub Fest was a success. We had over 13 fliers with a bunch of Cubs and other planes. Most of the day we had several planes in the air, and everyone seemed to have a lot of fun. We also had a few guests and a potential new member that I coaxed into flying my trainer on the buddy box. Big thanks to Warren as he did a superb job on the grill as usual.

Check out the photos and get some ideas for your next project:





Meet the New Members

Sorry, nothing new this month. Stay tuned!

Upcoming Events

Pencil in these events for the flying season:

Aug 3rd – Warbirds over Knoxville

Aug 20th – Jet Fly

Stay tuned for any updates or additions. Make sure you get your event in early so the club can get it on the roster.