



KNOX COUNTY RADIO CONTROL

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January 2025 Newsletter

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Exec Committee – Warren Oliver (Warren.Oliver@kla.com)

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President's Corner

By Jimmy Russell

Hello everyone, I hope you are having a great start to 2025. We had our annual banquet last week and had a great turnout. Most tables were talking about airplanes and the new gear we are wanting to try out. It was nice to see some of the new members and listen to their excitement about getting back into the hobby. This is where so many of our hobby stories share similarities. Fifteen years ago, I too was excited to enjoy this hobby again and wondering if I still had it. Some people think I've been doing RC planes my whole life, but that's not true. I started in my teens and stopped in my early 20's, took about a 10-year break, then got back into it about 15 years ago.

Warren shared with a few of us pictures of the newly erected shelter at the field. I have to say it looks awesome! Thanks Warren and Steve! It will provide us with much more shade on the flight line. He said because the new shelter is higher, the early morning shade might be more toward the runway, I thought how nice it would be if some of us early morning fliers could stand in the shade while flying on hot days. We will have to wait and see.

We will not be having a normal club meeting in February. The Officers and the Executive Committee will have a planning meeting to set the '25 budget and discuss club activities for this year. We plan to bring a proposal to the members at the March meeting.

I'm really looking forward to flying with you all soon. Hope for an early Spring!

January Meeting Minutes

By Bill Lewis

The meeting was the annual dinner held at the Golden Oaks restaurant in Oak Ridge. No official business was conducted; we just chatted and had a nice dinner.

Next meeting:

There will be no February meeting as the executive committee is using the time slot for yearly planning. The next monthly meeting will be held at Pellissippi State just off of Hardin Valley Road. Todd Thomas will E-mail the details after they are all worked out. It will be, as usual, on the second Tuesday of the month, March 11, 2025.

The rest of our winter scheduled meetings will be held at the Pellissippi State until we return to summer meetings at the field next year.

Meet the New Member

Stay tuned for next year! In the meantime, say hi to your old friends at the field when a nice day comes along and look forward to the Spring. That is, after you dig through all the mid-January snow. January is not looking good, but you can use the down time to finish up those back burner projects.

Upcoming Events

Pencil in these event(s) for the flying season:

February Planning Meeting

Get your event in now before the calendar gets filled up. Email your ideas to the officers (addresses at the top of the newsletter) before the February meeting.

If the field or shelter needs any work let the club know so we can schedule it early in the year before it gets too hot. We all like a nice well-kept field, so let the leadership know of any pending trouble spots.

Also, now is a good time to clean up your shop and repair all those busted up airplanes. Spring will be here before you know it and it will be nice to have a clean working space and a bunch of working airplanes to tear up the clear blue sky.

Flightline Extension

The flightline cover was extended this month. Fifty feet of new cover was added to the pit area in a mere 3 hours. Now, those of you who can only come to the field on the crowded weekends can get some relief from the sun in the summer months. A few details need to be wrapped up, but the cover can be used in the meantime. Next projects are

flightline benches and some power lines. Pencil in some time in the Spring to lend a hand for some construction work.





For plans and details about flight bench construction see:

[Club Field Safety Benches | Model Aviation](#)

We will probably need several more of these made, so take a look and see about putting together a committee to start planning a work session in the Spring. Also, sketch out some ideas for adding some electrical outlets to the poles. Thanks in advance for lending a hand.

While you have some cold days to think about it, here are a few projects for next year:

- 1) Finish up the landscaping around the new flightline canopy
- 2) Extra flight benches
- 3) Electrical power for the flightline extension
- 4) Runway repair
- 5) Tidy up the shelter and flightline
- 6) Minor repair to the flightline fence
- 7) Your pet project!



Mod-Podge

By Jimmy Russell

I've been torturing myself by rebuilding an old Sig Kadet Senior I built as a teen some 30 years ago. This was originally built glow powered with an OS 40 engine and covered with the "ChinaKote" of the day; I believe I bought the covering film from Balsa USA. As expected, after I peeled back the old covering, I found some areas on the front of the

fuse darkened with oil residue. I used my usual method of running a heat gun across the balsa and blotting away oil as it came to the surface. This gets the majority out. But I warn you there is no easy way to get the old oil out and get new covering to stick. It takes effort and usually a couple methods. K2R is a product used in dry cleaning. It can help get out minor oil damage; you spray it on the surface, wait a minute and wipe away the powdered residue. They say the solvent in the spray dissolves the oil, brings it to the surface and the powder soaks it up so you can wipe away. This doesn't work for heavy oil damage. I've found it is best to use K2R after the heat gun and paper towels.



proof but that doesn't matter to me as this big Kadet will have 6s E-power. It's going to be a really neat airplane. It's big with a 78" span and 62" length. I rebuilt it to have big ailerons, flaps, and I increased the rudder size. It is set up as a taildragger with big tires, a BBBP - Big Balsa Bush



Plane! If you see me at the field doing silly one wheel shenanigans with it, feel free to join in the peanut gallery commenting on how poor my landings are. 😊

I didn't have any K2R on hand so I thought I'd try a product I've heard can be used to increase covering film adhesion. It is called Mod Podge. I found it at Wal-Mart in the craft section. It is a type of water-based sealer. So, after I spent several hours with the heat gun and paper towels and set off the smoke detector in the garage, I was willing to try it. I brushed it on the surface and let it dry for 24hrs. Then I placed a test piece of covering and tried to iron it down. Surprisingly it stuck great. It appeared to melt the Mod Podge and provided great adhesion. It reminded me of an old product called Balsarite. I have no idea if it will be fuel

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