Above is Gene Fuson’s latest creation, and it is big! It is a bi-wing with a wingspan of 63 inches, a length of 49 inches, weighs in at 10 to 11 pounds and is electric. It is powered by a Rimfire .80 55-55 500 motor with an 80 Amp speed control and powered by a 6 cell 5,000 mAH LiPo battery. The prop is an APC 16X8 cut down to 15 inches and looks like it is wooden. Gene said he had to modify several parts of the plane, most notably making the wheel pants stronger. He also changed the skin tone on the pre-painted pilots and replaced the ho-hum decals with some from Callie Graphics. Hope Gene gives us some advance notice on when this baby will be out at the field for its maiden flight. Nice work Gene!
**THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER**

Spring is here and so are the Spring rains - about 4 to 5 inches and it's cold too. Not sure when we'll be able to fly so, as they say, just be patient.

This month we will have our first Club meeting of the year. If the weather is OK we will meet at the Flying Field, if not meet at the Club House. We will determine the exact location probably the day before the meeting and I'll let everyone know. Also our first Fun Fly will be the following Saturday 4/14/18. In addition, on Thursday the 26th we will get together for our monthly Fly-N-Eat event. A very busy month.

I was able to get a few flights on my new Horizon UMX Revolution Bipe. It's really quick so I plan on changing it to my old DX6 so I can add some needed expo to the control surfaces. There was a picture of the plane in last month's Newsletter. Hope to fly it Saturday.

At April's upcoming Club meeting I wanted you all to share any thoughts you may have about what we may consider doing to help our Club's membership grow. We've done several things in the past but still our membership continues to shrink. All ideas are welcome.

See you at the Field ............... John

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**THE EDITOR’S NOTE PAD**

Tuesday, April 10th is the first Club meeting of the year and we hope all members will be able to attend. If the weather is decent, it will be held at the field, if not we will meet at the South Port condo Clubhouse.

We have eleven current members with two more that we are certain will catch up to their 2018 dues. We also have received our Club 2018 Charter and Insurance Certificate from AMA and have paid our rent. We are good to go for 2018!

Our first Fun Fly is Saturday, April 14th and we hope for good weather and a good turnout—both competitors and spectators. See the events on page 3. Bud has an event with many loops and we will try the Tennis Anyone event again but this time we will use a six foot circle instead of a 10 foot square. Remember the events are supposed to be challenging but within the capability of anyone that has a few flights under their belt after soloing and should be fun. We will cook some hotdogs after the event an maybe even have some lemon cake. See you there!

Time to land for this month..............ed.

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**TRI-LAKES FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2018**

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**MEETING MINUTES**

TRI-LAKES RC FLYING CLUB

There was no Club Meeting in March.
APRIL 14TH FUN FLY
FIRST EVENT WILL START AT 11:00 AM
BBQ AFTER THE Fun Fly

There will be three events.

Event 1. TOUCH AND GOES. Take off. Time starts when plane moves. Do as many touch and goes as possible in exactly 2 minutes. All touches must be on the runway in front of the judges and in the same direction. Only one touch per approach counts. Most touches wins.

Event 2. BUD’S Maximum loops in exactly 2 minutes. Take off and do as many loops as you can in 2 minutes. Time starts when the plane moves and stops when the plane stops. 10 points for each loop. Minus 1 point for each second you are over or under 2 minutes. No timing help.

Event 3. TENNIS ANYONE? There will be three unrestrained tennis balls in the 6 foot circle. Take off from the circle (time starts when plane moves) and land in the same direction as take off and park the plane in the circle (two wheels must be in the circle or if plane has no wheels, 50% of the plane must be in the circle). The transmitter must be in the pilot station any time it is used to move the aircraft. The pilot must go to the circle and retrieve one tennis ball and place it in the pilot station. Repeat sequence for each of the two remaining tennis balls. Time stops when the third tennis ball is on the ground in the pilot station. There will be a 10 second penalty for each tennis ball blown or kicked out of the circle. Pilot may place tennis balls any place in the circle before take off. Pilot must place any tennis ball outside of the circle back in the circle before takeoff or before picking it up and placing it in the pilot station. Low net time wins.

Pilots can fly any fixed wing aircraft in any event.
YOUR 2018 DUES ARE DUE!!

Below are the names of the 11 members that are current in their 2018 Club dues.

Bud Austin, Sid Beckham, Fritz Corbin, Don Johnson, Dave Medley, Randy Needham, Phil Rogers, Erv Rohde, Charley Schenk, Isaac Thomas and John Woods.

If you feel your 2018 Club dues are current but you are not on the above list contact Fritz Corbin for needed corrections.

Above is a photo of Fritz Corbin’s nice looking and nice flying Polaris XL after making a nice landing. The same plane is pictured below a week later after a fairly hard landing. Fritz was heard to say that as long as he had the crash trophy in his possession he might just keep it for awhile longer.

2018 DUES

Club 2018 dues were due as of January 1, 2018. If you fly at Rocky Top Field on or after January 1, 2018 you will need a current (2018) AMA card.

If you are going to renew you Club membership at the April meeting, bring your 2018 AMA card. If you are paying by check, make the check out to “Tri-Lakes R/C Flying Club. You may also pay your dues in cash.

The dues schedule is as follows:

1. FULL MEMBERSHIP - $80 per year.
2. ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBERS - $5 each per year.
3. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP (non-voting) - $15 per year.
4. STUDENTS - Free Club membership but must be a current AMA member.

If you joined the Club during 2017 talk to the Treasurer before paying as you may get a discount on your 2018 dues.

If paying by mail, send your dues to Fritz Corbin, 106 Neals Trail, Reeds Spring, MO, 65737-9786.
SAFETY FIRST

Well, we should be getting some warmer weather so we can resume flying at the field soon.

I just want to caution everybody to please check your airplanes out BEFORE you make the trip out to the field.

Check things like...the prop nut being tight...are all the nuts and bolts tight...check the control horns and arms....check the control directions and deflections...test those batteries that have been idle and finally, do a range check on that radio that has been sitting around all winter.

See You at the Field,
Gene Fuson
Safety Officer

THE NEXT CLUB MEETING WILL BE APRIL 10, 5:30PM, AT THE FLYING FIELD OR SOUTH PORT CONDO CLUB-HOUSE IF THE WEATHER IS BAD.