

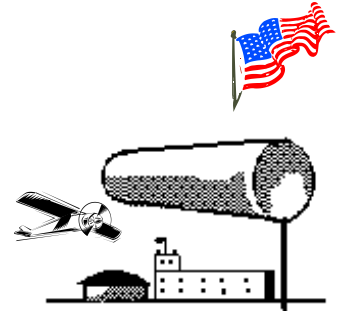
# THE WINDSOCK

PUBLICATION OF THE TRI-LAKES R/C FLYING CLUB

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## HAPPY 4TH OF JULY



Well it was the 4th of July, and it was windy, with some healthy gusts. But there were seven members at the field to enjoy the nice warm sunshine. In the photo, President, John Woods, is taxiing his well used Edge out for another flight. To the right, Howard Shire is working on his plane, getting ready for another flight. By noon, the wind had gotten stronger so everyone headed home . It was a great way to start the Holiday weekend!

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

We had a nice time at our 2<sup>nd</sup> FLY & FEAST get together. I had several relatives visiting who came out to watch the flying. Janet's cousins and our two God Children, ages 4 & 5, enjoyed seeing the planes. Gene and Elien and Erv and Doris were out too and Erv and Gene flew several of their planes. The weather was very hot so we flew for a couple of hours then headed on over to the Pizza Restaurant for dinner and refreshments. The next scheduled FLY & FEAST will be July 23<sup>rd</sup> so mark your calendar. All are welcome.

I had a mishap flying my Decathlon. I had checked the battery voltage the night before flying and charged it up. At the field I assembled the plane but did not check the batteries assuming they were OK. On the first flight I took off heading south then banked around north and about 100 yards past the center of the field ..... the engine quit. I was able to glide it around and landed safely on the field. The plane has never stopped before. I made sure it was warmed up and taxied it all the way to the end of the runway and everything seemed OK. Taking off again I gained some additional altitude and just as I was thinking that everything was OK the engine quit or what it actually did was go to idle but I thought it quit. I was behind the trees on the north end of the field but was able to make it to the edge of the field where it made a hard landing sheering off the landing gear. As it turned out the battery voltage had dropped and the plane went into its fail safe mode. I had remembered the plane's engine was idling as it came over the trees. I did a test after I got home and was able to duplicate what had happened. This is kind of a long story but just wanted to use it as a caution to everyone to always check your batteries especially if they are older.

Jim Haney pointed out that our Hanger is in need of some more repair. Many of the 2x4s need to be replaced. At our next meeting we can discuss what needs to be done and plan a work day.

Our next Club meeting is July 14<sup>th</sup> at the Flying Field.

See you there ..... John

## THE EDITOR'S NOTE PAD

Well I finally did it! Parked a plane in the top of the trees across the runway from the hanger and can't find it. It was the scaled down Polaris with an 18.5 inch wing. It had flown well on the last flight until the battery lost power and it had a hard landing. Thought the repairs were good, but the plane seemed hard to control and would not turn as it should. Tried to get it back over the runway but being so small it was difficult to see what it was doing and it ended up in the trees. Oh well, maybe when the leaves fall.....

Was hoping that Bud Austin would do the maiden flight of the Piper PA-18 that he finished for Gary Samuelson, but they haven't been able to coordinate a time yet. Will try to be there when it does happen and take some photos for the Newsletter.

Some time back it was mentioned that the last Fun Fly in October would have a bomb drop event but hadn't decided on what to drop. Now thinking of a six inch long piece of garden hose or a two inch square block, 3/4 inch thick with a 1/4 inch hole in the center. Either one would probably weigh less than two ounces. No bomb alterations will be allowed. Drop it any way you want. Drop must be at least 10 feet. Will bring a sample of each bomb to the July meeting.

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

TRI-LAKES FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2015			
		JUN	YTD
BALANCE	5/1/2015	\$ 1,275.40	\$ 1,668.23
INCOME-DUES -----		\$ -	\$ 655.00
INCOME-SHIRTS&CAPS		\$ -	\$ 5.00
INCOME-FOOD -----		\$ 31.55	\$ 47.55
INCOME-50/50 -----		\$ -	\$ 7.50
INCOME-MISC -----		\$ 5.50	\$ 76.87
EXPENSE-FIELD -----		\$ 41.10	\$ 839.85
EXPENSE-NEWSLETTER		\$ -	\$ -
EXPENSE-SHIRTS&CAPS		\$ -	\$ -
EXPENSE-FOOD -----		\$ 24.80	\$ 51.80
EXPENSE-AMA -----		\$ -	\$ 90.00
EXPENSE-Web -----		\$ -	\$ -
EXPENSE-meeting room		\$ -	\$ -
EXPENSE-MISC -----		\$ -	\$ 231.95
BALANCE	6/1/2015	\$ 1,246.55	\$ 1,246.55

## MEETING MINUTES

### TRI-LAKES RC FLYING CLUB JUNE 9, 2015

President John Woods opened the meeting at 5:44 PM, at the Rocky Top Field. There were 7 members present including the officers. Vice-President Gene Fuson was absent. Treasurer, Fritz Corbin, reported that the Club had \$1,275.40 in the bank as of June 1<sup>st</sup>. The Minutes of the May Meeting were approved as written in the June Newsletter. There were no guests or new members present. The 50/50 raffle was won by Gary Merseal and he received \$5.50 of the \$11 pot.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

**OLD BUSINESS:** President John Woods said that Matt Ward (local farmer) did not get back in touch with him so Jim Haney brush-hogged the areas outside the armadillo fence.

Bud Austin reported that Gary Samuelson's PA-18 ¼ scale Cub is ready to be flown, maybe next Saturday if Gary is available.

President John reported that the first Fly & Feast went off quite well and that the next one would be Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>.

He also mentioned that having your name, phone number and/or AMA number in each of the planes you fly at the Club field is a Club and AMA rule.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Fritz Corbin said that it would cause less strain on the gate if it were placed on the concrete block instead of just letting it hang after opening it.

John went over plans for the Fun Fly on Saturday.

The monthly Crash Trophy finally was found and after some discussion it was awarded to John Woods. Although Randy Needham's crash was spectacular. John was awarded the trophy because his pilot error crash was the biggest and most expensive.

Meeting adjourned at 5:49 PM.

**PROGRAM:** President John presented Gary Merseal his New Year's Day Fun Fly Certificate. Better late than never!



A couple of weeks ago saw Gary Merseal starting up an unusual looking model. It had the look of a model designed many years ago, but have no additional specs on it. Gary got it started and turned it over to test pilot, John Woods, for a test flight. The plane looked very solid as it did a few laps around the field. Below, John brings it in for a nice smooth landing. Way to go, guys!



# JUNE FUN FLY

It was an iffy day. There was a good chance of rain, but the main threat was wind—not only affecting the control of the planes but the safety of the planes as well. But there was a cheerleader group of five looking for action so seven brave aviators stepped up to give it a go.

The first event was **TWO MINUTE LANDINGS**. Take off, (time starts when plane moves) do a loop, land and stop on the runway. Earn one point. Do it again and again as many times as possible in exactly 120 seconds. Earn 1/4 point each for the last take off, last roll, last landing and last stop on field. Most points wins. First place went to Don Livermore with a score of 6 1/2. Gary Merseal was second with 5 1/2 points and Bud Austin was third with a 4 1/2. Fourth place went to Don Johnson with a 4 1/4. fifth was John Woods at 3 3/4 and sixth was Fritz with 3 1/2. Howard Shire did not participate due to operational difficulties.

The second event was **ERV'S 6 GROUND TARGETS**. Time starts when you touch starting line between two targets. Knock over 2 targets, come back and knock over one starting line target. Continue to knock over 2 more targets, then back to the starting line. Knock over remaining starting line target and clock stops.

#### Penalties:

**5 seconds if you break a piece. 2 pieces.**

**10 seconds if you get airborne.**

**15 seconds if you destroy a stick; more than 2 pieces.**

**20 seconds if you don't follow the rules.**

**ONE WITH LEAST SECONDS WINS.** John

Woods jumped on this event with a low score of 67. Don L was second with an 82 and Bud was third with 84. Don J came in fourth with 96, Fritz was fifth with a 185, Howard had a DNF and Gary scrubbed.

The last event was **TIMED EIGHTS**. Take off from square and do as many figure eights as possible, with center of the eights in front of the judges (all must be acceptable to the judge(s) to count). Then land and stop with at least two wheels in the square in exactly 120 seconds. Time starts when plane moves and ends when plane stops with at least two wheels in the square. Earn 10 points for each acceptable figure eight and deduct 1 point for each second over or under 120, Most points wins. Restarts and timing help O.K. This

seemed easy but proves very difficult to score, mostly because of the wind. But, Don L made it look easy with 13 recognizable 8's and only a 2 second penalty for a 128 score. Gary came in second with 10 8's and score of 68, Bud was third with 7 8's and a score of 62. Fourth place went to John with 6 8's and a score of 60, fifth was Fritz also with 6 8's and a 27. Sixth went to Don J with 5 8's and a score of 14 while Howard was captured by the wind and could not make it back to the square.

Overall winners with 2015 Top Gun points were Don Livermore First at 210 points with John Woods and Bud Austin tied for Second with 150 points each and Fourth went to Gary Merseal at 140 points. Fifth place went to Don Johnson with 70 points, Fritz Corbin was Sixth at 50 points and Howard Shire was Seventh at 20 points.

Even with the wind we were able to get through all events with only one damaged plane. If we do the figure 8's again there will be a better definition of what a 8 needs to look like to count. But this is a Fun Fly, or an excuse to get together joke and poke fun at each other and have a good time. No matter what the event or the rules, the better pilots are usually at the top and the rest of us are not.

As always many thanks to everyone that helps with these events. From the people that fly in the events, help time and score, bring and prepare the food, donate side dishes, prepare the field and those that come out cheer us on.

The next Fun Fly is scheduled for August 15th.



Don Johnson's Horizon Hobby 15.3", 1.7 oz, PT-17 with Spektrum AS3X stabilization control.

**TRI-LAKES R/C FLYING CLUB**

**PRESIDENT**  
**JOHN WOODS 338-8419**

**VICE-PRESIDENT**  
**GENE FUSON 538- 9346**

**SECRETARY**  
**DON JOHNSON 779-5340**

**TREASURER**  
**FRITZ CORBIN 272-1106**

**SAFETY OFFICER**  
**GENE FUSON 538- 9346**

**CO-FIELD MARSHAL**  
**BUD AUSTIN 561-4466**  
**FRITZ CORBIN 272-1106**

**INSTRUCTORS**  
**ERV ROHDE 538-2439**  
**HOWARD SHIRE 779-5069**  
**JOHN WOODS 338-8419**

**SAFETY FIRST**

Recently we had a minor mid-air collision between two airplanes at our field.

One aircraft was a small slow moving airplane flying fairly low, and one airplane was a large fast airplane flying fairly high. I don't know exactly how they collided, but they did, and there was damage to the smaller airplane. I won't say who was at fault here, because I really don't know. In my mind, however, small slow moving airplanes should have the right of way over a fast moving larger airplane. Maybe we should discuss this at a future meeting and get some opinions. This would eliminate mid-air problems and hard feelings among our pilots. Maybe use of a spotter would help when we have multiple aircraft in the air.

See You at the Field,  
 Gene Fuson

**THE NEXT CLUB MEETING**  
**WILL BE JULY 14TH, 6:00PM,**  
**AT THE CLUB FLYING FIELD.**