

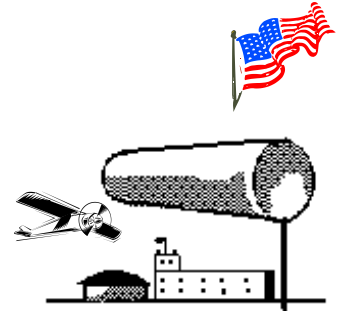
THE WINDSOCK

PUBLICATION OF THE TRI-LAKES R/C FLYING CLUB

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VOLUME 22 ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2015

UTTERLY AMAZING



This is Gary Merseal's quad copter drone flying over the Club's field. It has GPS. It has FPV (first person view). It has its' own Wi-Fi network (note the antenna wires). It has a still/video camera. There is a camera screen mounted on the transmitter. A flip of the button will bring it back about 60 feet above where it took off and slowly descend to a soft landing. All this technology and ability available to hobbyists for only about one big bill. The capability of these drones can really push legal, moral and ethical limits so know the rules governing drones and fly safe if you get into this side of our hobby.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Our Club started a new category for membership. It's called "**Retired Honorary Member**" and it was created for those past members who no longer fly R/C – no obligations and it's free too. They are welcome to come and join us at any of our events or get together or just stop by. After contacting several past members they were excited about being a part of our Club again so please welcome our new Honorary Members: **Jack & Annette McAvoy, Dick Peterson and Roy Steinestel**. Great to have you all part of Tri-Lakes R/C.

Our "4th Thursday Fly & Feast" was fun. The weather was very pleasant so we flew our planes until about 5:30 then headed over for Pizza and refreshments. There were 7 couples who were able to come out and enjoy the time together. Everyone of course is welcome, couples, singles, kids, neighbors and friends. **The next get together will be Sept. 24th.**

I wanted to mention again that AMA will be increasing our dues soon. The new rates begin 9/15/15. You may lock in your current dues for 1 or 2 years by renewing this month before **9/14/15**. Open membership will be \$75, it was \$58, and Senior membership will be \$65, it was \$48 (30% increase).

Don Johnson will be having a special Fun Fly event at October's Fun Fly so he wanted to get the word out so we will all have a little extra time to create something to make it work. There should be a description in this month's Newsletter or he may email it to you. Basically it is having to drop two objects from your airplane a piece of rubber hose and a small block of wood. Look for further instructions so you can design some kind of drop apparatus. Should be no problems for the superior modelers at Tri-Lakes R/C.

Jim Haney had a terrible mishap last week. I thought he was practicing his aerobatic skills with his pattern plane when his plane started rolling about a million miles a second as it sifted through the trees – really ugly. We retrieved it from forest and Gene and Howard were there and I think they said in unison, "Hey you brought confetti to the fieldcool" or something to that effect. Well Jim is very resourceful so he bought one of Bud's planes while it was still in the air flying – crazy but I was really impressed. Jim may be a candidate for the Crash Trophy for sure.

Our last Fun Fly will **not** be this month but Oct. 17th at 11:00 AM sharp.

Our next meeting will be at the Flying Field. Tuesday, Sept. 8th at 5:30 PM.

Please note that we will be meeting at 5:30 PM not 6:00 PM until further notice. As usual we will not fly in the morning but in the afternoon. Come on out and Fly around 3:00 PM then stay for the meeting.

Quote of the Day " Good judgment comes from experi-

ence & experience comes from bad judgment."

See you at the Field - Happy Landings,
John

THE EDITOR'S NOTE PAD

Had a good Fly and Feast on the 27th. Several wives were at the field and a couple more showed up at the Pizza Co. Fourteen of us enjoyed a good pizza dinner. Janet Woods sent me a photo of the group at the table but somehow my computer ate it up. I saw the picture attached to an email but now it's gone and I can't find it. Think it may have something to do with my smart phone. Not the first time I've lost an email!

Let's end the Fun Fly season with a bang. The final event will be a bomb drop. The bomb will be a 1.5 inch square piece of wood or a 6 inch piece of garden hose, or both. See picture. The rules are not finalized yet but here are some of the specifics. Bombs must be dropped from at least 6 feet above the target. Two bombs can be dropped but each bomb must be dropped on a separate bomb run in the same direction. Any method can be used to drop the bombs but nothing can be attached to the bomb when it hits the ground, like tape, glue, nails, screws, wire or knotted cord. Scoring will be A -one bomb, distance to the target in feet. B -two bombs, total distance from the target in feet divided by 3. C -both bombs somehow dropped on same bomb run, distance the furthest bomb is from the target. Low score wins. Possibly a minus 5 points will be awarded if two bombs are successfully dropped on two separate runs and land on the runway. **Note the possible advantage of dropping two bombs!** How about double Top Gun Points for the last event. The bombs will be available at the September Meeting.

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

TRI-LAKES FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2015

		AUG	YTD
BALANCE	5/1/2015	\$ 1,129.17	\$ 1,668.23
INCOME-DUES -----		\$ -	\$ 735.00
INCOME-SHIRTS&CAPS		\$ -	\$ 5.00
INCOME-FOOD -----		\$ 16.50	\$ 64.05
INCOME-50/50 -----		\$ 3.50	\$ 11.00
INCOME-MISC -----		\$ -	\$ 96.87
EXPENSE-FIELD -----		\$ 67.31	\$ 1,004.54
EXPENSE-NEWSLETTER		\$ -	\$ -
EXPENSE-SHIRTS&CAPS		\$ -	\$ -
EXPENSE-FOOD -----		\$ 8.90	\$ 60.70
EXPENSE-AMA -----		\$ -	\$ 90.00
EXPENSE-Web -----		\$ -	\$ 120.00
EXPENSE-meeting room		\$ -	\$ -
EXPENSE-MISC -----		\$ -	\$ 231.95
BALANCE	6/1/2015	\$ 1,072.96	\$ 1,072.96

MEETING MINUTES

TRI-LAKES RC FLYING CLUB August 11, 2015

President John Woods opened the meeting at 6:00 PM, at the Rocky Top Field. There were 8 members present including the officers. Treasurer, Fritz Corbin, reported that the Club had \$1,129.17 in the bank as of August 1st. The Minutes of the June Meeting were approved as written in the August Newsletter. The July meeting had been cancelled due bad weather. There were no guests present but new member Darrell Miers was present. The 50/50 raffle was won by Fritz Corbin and he received \$3.50 of the \$7 pot.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: President John Woods reported that past members, Jack and Annette McEvoy had retired from R/C modeling and sold most of their planes, mostly large scale, through Sleeth Hobbies.

John also reported that Dick Peterson has also retired from R/c modeling and had given his planes to his grandson.

OLD BUSINESS: John announced that some wood had been replaced on the hanger and some plywood reinforcing brackets had been added so the hanger should be serviceable for a few more years.

After some discussion, it was decided to change the Club meeting time to 5:30 instead of 6:00. Then see how the new time works out.

John asked if the restaurant for Fly and Feast should be changed or rotated. The consensus was that it should stay at the Reeds Spring Pizza Parlor.

NEW BUSINESS: John announced that Branson Hobbies (TPA) is having an open house on December 18th and 19th and would like our Club to display some of our models and talk about them at the event. Howard Shire suggested that we take our 10 foot Club banner to display at the open house.

The monthly Crash Trophy that had been awarded to John Woods last month was again awarded to John for his spectacular crash of his Extra. The good news is that most of the flight gear was found. The bad news is that the airframe probably is terminal.

A motion was made to build new starter stands (6) as the old ones are getting quite aged. Estimated cost is \$50 each. There was a question about who pays for them, the Club or individuals. To be decided later.

It was moved and passed that the Club develop an Honorary Member list. This would be a list of past members that would be put on the Club notification list and invited to Club functions. John will develop the first list

Meeting adjourned at 6:41 PM.

PROGRAM: Don Johnson showed what will be used for the bomb drop in the October Fun Fly, either a 6 inch piece of garden hose or a 1.5 x 1.5 x .75 inch block with 3/8 inch hole. It was decided that either one or maybe both could be used. See picture in the Newsletter.

National Model Aviation Day is August 15 and our Club will celebrate with our August Fun Fly.



The photo above shows how relaxed our Club Fun Fly pilots meetings are.

Photo by Gene Fuson

AUGUST FUN FLY

The weather was nice, a little warm but with some breeze. There were only five pilots but they were eager to get on with the contest. At 11 AM the pilots' meeting was held and after explaining the rules several times, it was on to the contest.

The first event was 8'S REVISITED. From the square, taxi around the two pylons twice (two complete figure 8's). If you become airborne or move a pylon, do an additional figure 8. Then take off and do two good (judges decision) figure 8's with the crossing point in front of the judges. A bad 8 will have to be repeated. Land and stop in the square. Time starts when plane starts to move and stops when plane stops in the square, at least two wheels. Low time wins. Figure 8 s seem to be difficult for this Club, but John Woods led off and turned in the lowest time of 89 seconds for First place. Fritz Corbin came in at 157 seconds but still captured Second place and Don Johnson managed a 167 for Third place. Fourth place went to Bud Austin with 175 seconds and Howard Shire was Fifth but did not finish the course.

The second event was BUD'S T & G'S PLUS SPOT LANDING. The task is; Take off, come around and do a touch and go come around and do another touch and go then come around and land stopping as close to the target as possible. The rules are; All take offs and landings must be in the same direction. You must cut your engine or motor before starting the 180 degree turn to the final landing. You may violate the rules but the penalty is 75 seconds. You must complete the task to score. Time starts at the beginning of first take off and ends when your plane stops. Score is time in seconds plus distance in feet from target plus penalty if any. Lowest score wins. Bud had this event down pat and turned in a quick 55 seconds and only 12 feet off for a First place net 67. Second place went to John with a net 82 (65+17), in Third place was Don with an 84 (68+16) and Fritz had a 128 (91+37) for Fourth place.

The third event was SPEEDY GONZALES. Put plane in square and take off. Time starts when plane moves. Do a roll, do a loop and a roll, then do two loops, then land and stop with at least two wheels in the square. Time stops. Shortest time wins. Twenty point penalty for not complet-

ing any of the three maneuvers satisfactorily—judges decision. Failure to complete the event in 3 minutes will result in disqualification. John was back in his winning ways with 46 seconds and First place. Fritz got another Second place with 56 seconds and Don took Third place with a 71. Bud was in Fourth place with 72 seconds and Howard was Fifth with a 119.

Overall in First place with 270 Top Gun 2015 points was John. Second overall went to Fritz with 170 points, Third went to Bud at 160, in Fourth was Don at 150 and Howard was Fifth with 60 points.

After the events were concluded it was off to the BBQ lunch of hotdogs, chips and sodas. Many thanks to everyone that helps in these events—Gene Fuson for being chief scorer, Janet Woods for being chef of the day and bringing a Lemon cake and for the pilots that participated. And for the spectators that numbered about four.

Our next and last Fun Fly of the year is scheduled for October 17th. There were about three regular pilots missing this month, hopefully everyone will be ready to take on the last Fun Fly of the year. There will be a special bomb drop event so check it out in next month's Newsletter.



Above is Fritz Corbin walking out to get his Pro Twister after a short flight on a fairly breezy Saturday. He later said that the weather was a little too much and he decided to call it quits for the day. Probably a good decision.

Who will earn the Crash Trophy for August? John Woods now has it for his crashed yellow Extra. John had this plane since April, 2013, or longer. On the last flight, John was suspicious of the flight battery because it didn't seem to be keeping the voltage up like it used to. But he charged it up and it seemed to hold the charge. And it did until he lost complete control of the plane and it went into the trees-hard! The recovered battery had a charge of under 3 volts instead of 4.8 volts. Moral of the story is don't fly with an iffy battery!



Maybe the trophy will go to Jim Haney. Jim is the creator of the Crash Trophy. Jim's Obsession 3D was featured on the front page of last month's Newsletter. Jim was getting the hang of flying it and it flew well and fast. He was into another good looking flight when the wing seemed to come loose. Seems that there is a screw that keeps the wing from sliding off the central aluminum tube. It came out. Moral of the story is don't fly if you have a screw loose!

Bombs for the Bomb Drop event in October. The last event of the Top Gun 2015 competition of the year. Six inches of garden hose and/or a 1.5 inch square piece of particle board. About two ounces each.



President, John Woods, doing what he likes to do— helping new member Darrell Miers learn how to fly RC planes. Darrell seems to be coming along nicely with his lessons. Won't be long until he solos and can fly on his own.

Photo by Gene Fuson

TRI-LAKES R/C FLYING CLUB

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SAFETY FIRST

Recently, we had a really bad crash occur at the field. The plane lost control and wasn't responding to commands by the pilot. It crashed off of the field into the tree line. The plane made it to the ground and was a total wipeout. We gathered all the parts and returned to the field. The pilot took the time to figure out what caused the crash. In his investigation, the receiver battery had very low voltage, low enough to cause the receiver to be inoperable.

Lesson learned.....always do a voltage check on your batteries before flying.

This airplane could have crashed close to other people, we were lucky it was off the field. Charge your batteries and check them before flying. If necessary, change them out.

See you at the field,
 Gene Fuson

THE NEXT CLUB MEETING
WILL BE SEPTEMBER 8TH,
5:30PM, AT THE CLUB FLY-
ING FIELD.