



NEWSLETTER

January 2011

**Knoxville, TN**

**AMA#594**

Editor.... JimScarbrough.....[scarbj1@yahoo.com](mailto:scarbj1@yahoo.com)

Website at [www.kcrctn.com](http://www.kcrctn.com) by Jeff Prosise

Safety coordinator

Karl Gerth.....[karlgggg@aol.com](mailto:karlgggg@aol.com)

Historian.....June Cope

## 2011 ELECTED OFFICERS

President.....Phil Spelt  
Email [chuenkan@comcast.net](mailto:chuenkan@comcast.net)

Vice President.....Don Eiler  
Email [eilers2@comcast.net](mailto:eilers2@comcast.net)

Secretary.....Bill Leonard  
Email [bl350@bellsouth.net](mailto:bl350@bellsouth.net)

Treasurer.....Joel Hebert  
Email... [hebertjj@comcast.net](mailto:hebertjj@comcast.net)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff Prosise, Randy Phillips, Dennis Drone

## THIS & THAT

■ We've had some gate lock problems lately and the lock has been replaced. To open, set same combination and press the shackle in before pulling to release it.

■ The other day I was checking out of the grocery store when I noticed an old friend sitting on a nearby bench waiting for his wife to finish buying groceries. He was intent on something in his hands. I went over to speak to him and saw that he was playing with one of the new handheld devices that are way beyond my understanding. He was scrolling around on the screen by rubbing his finger on it. Both vertically and horizontally, and bringing up all kinds of information. It was a Christmas present from his kids, he said. Then he confided that it cost him \$60 a month to operate. ( That may not be a lot of money now, but I recall that my father raised a family on \$15 a week in the decade before World War number two ). One thing we both agreed on, the toy had to be operated by magic!

■ My friend Gary Lindner let me ride with him to the December meeting of KCRC and we were talking about the days before RC. He's much younger than me but we both went through the same prelims before we got into RC. One of the prelims being U-control flying. Judging by the magazine that AMA sends us, control line flying is still pretty popular.

**I wish for you a most  
prosperous and  
Happy New Year**

After all, its just a way to get the thrills of actually flying the models we build. The magic I mentioned in the above paragraph was when the control lines were replaced by the invisible lines from the transmitter. Guys getting into the hobby now can not possibly appreciate how much the radios have improved just in the last decade.

■ We had a new member at the Dec. meeting and it turns out Eddie Dumas and his father were active in the old East Tennessee Radio Control club that was the fore- runner of KCRC. When ETRC had to leave the field on

Blockhouse Valley Road in Clinton in 1969, some of the flyers who were into gliders went to a field on Laboratory Road in Oak Ridge, and the power flyers went to a field off Lovell Road in Knox County. Small world, isn't it?

■ Now that I'm stuck in the house by winter weather, I'm wishing I could go to the field and fly. Back when the weather was outstandingly favorable for flying, I



spent it piddling in my workshop on models but I couldn't work up any enthusiasm for actually going to the field. When good weather comes again, I'm definitely going to go fly!. Definitely! And I'm taking my new Cub with me! ■

### **MINUTES, DECEMBER 2010**

In the absence of President Dennis Drone, Vice President Gary Lindner called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, December 14 at the Fellowship Church. There were 26 members and one visitor present.

Minutes for the November meeting were approved as printed in the December newsletter.

### **OFFICERS' REPORTS**

The Treasurer's Report was given by Joel Hebert and approved. A copy of the report is available from Joel or the other officers. Joel did report a small deficit in the 2010 budget.

### **VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS**

Ed Dumas is new member. Ed and his dad flew gliders at the Laboratory Rd. site in Oak Ridge many years ago. Ed's into electrics and is active in EAA.

Eddie Keelan visited to see what KCRC is all about.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The following 2011 officers were elected - President, Phil Spelt; Vice President, Don Eiler; Secretary Bill Leonard; and Treasurer Joel Hebert. Board members are Randy Phillipps and Jeff Prosise.

Phil Spelt overviewed the AMA Take Off and Grow (TAG) program. The program is supported by a \$1,000 grant from AMA. It involves heavy community outreach as well as a very structured training program with several elements. A motion was made and seconded to apply for one of the TAG grants. The motion failed.

Phil and others mentioned having Community Days next flying season with demonstration flights, etc.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to give the KCSO deputy residing in the park a \$50 gift card if this does not violate

KCSO guidelines. Phil Spelt is to check with Knox County to see if this is allowable.

Scott Anderson reported that a very good Hangar Fly was held on Nov. 11 at TAC Air with 13 registered flyers and many spectators. Scott is looking at having another event in late January. With the weather we've had lately, it would be a welcome outing!

Phil Spelt is checking on the banquet location. First choice is the Hibachi Grill on Kingston Pike. The backup location is the Super China Buffet in Oak Ridge.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved for the 2011 dues as determined last month - \$60 for individuals, \$72 for families, and \$30 for students. The late penalty will be progressive - \$0 after the Feb. meeting, \$5 after the March meeting, and \$10 after the April meeting (for current members).

Ed Hartley reported that the 2011 membership stickers are ready to be picked up.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

### **CRASH OF THE MONTH**

Larry Hayes displayed the remains of the fuselage of his Pete 'n Poke. A familiar story - he lost it on final coming in from the west. The good news - using a hand compass, he walked right to it, not far from the lake. Larry got the glue.

Phil Spelt mention a tail boom strike with his new T-Rex heli. Other heli fliers opined that that was not a crash!

### **MODEL OF THE MONTH**

There were two informal presentations with no award made.

Bill Dodge presented the motorized Gentle Lady he has built for his son. Less than 2 lb. with a very substantial motor. It should have good climb. As usual, the model is done in Bill's school (LSU) colors.

Phil Cope presented the fuselage of his F9F Panther (not to be confused with the F9F Cougar). The model is by FEI BAO of China and



looks great – scale landing gear and doors, molded rivets and panel lines, etc.! Joel Hebert added an interesting bit of trivia – John Glenn flew a F9F Panther with Ted Williams as his wingman.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.

**Minutes submitted by Don Eiler,  
KCRC Secretary. ■**



*Illustration 2: Phil's F9F Panther*



*Illustration 4: Bill and his Gentle Lady*

Here are a few pictures I took at the meeting. It was good seeing so many guys come out in the bad weather to support the club. It was, however, a little disturbing that only 37 votes cast in the club election was considered a success. With about a hundred members, seems like half ought to be expected to care enough about the business of the club to vote new officers in. Especially since a ballot was printed in the newsletter and an online ballot was provided that took about a minute to use. I guess that reflects the policy all over the country in most elections.

Let somebody else do it!...■.



*Illustration 6: Visitor Ed Keelan and new member Ed Dumas*



*Illustration 5: Larry showing the remains of his crash*

### **From Wings R/C Club. Le Mars, Iowa, Cheap Model Airplanes From Builders' Cast-Offs**

Once you have mastered the basics of building a model airplane and have a few spare bits lying around your workshop it becomes very easy to produce your very own design of plastic model airplane. Simple Plastic Airplane Design (SPAD) is a really cheap and fun alternative to constructing expensive remote-controlled model airplanes kits.

The concept of SPAD started in the late 1990's and has evolved into a highly detailed and solid method for building RC model airplanes. While using traditional building materials and techniques can take weeks or months to put an airplane together, applying the SPAD concept can reduce the build time down to days, or even hours. SPAD materials are widely available and are less expensive

than those used in standard model airplane kits. Plans and help for building a SPAD can be found online and are completely free. The best part about flying a SPAD is its survivability when it comes to the inevitable crashes as your enthusiasm gets away from you!

The basic RC model airplane SPAD concept revolves around using inexpensive building materials that can be found at local hardware stores and sign shops—or even picked up for nothing from builders' cast-offs. While the materials required for constructing a SPAD vary from one design to another, the basic materials used include PCV downspout pipe for the fuselage, Coro-Plast (corrugated plastic) sign material for the wings and controls surfaces, HDPE cutting boards for firewalls and landing gear blocks, and CA (superglue) to hold everything together.

Because of the simplicity involved in putting a SPAD RC model airplane together, even an inexperienced modeler can complete the job in a single weekend. A basic fuselage made from PVC downspout can be made in a matter of minutes, CoroPlast wings and control surfaces in just a few hours, and all the miscellaneous parts to complete the project in just a few hours more. Acquiring the materials needed for a RC model airplane SPAD project may require no more than a trip to the local hardware store and a few phone calls to local sign shops.

Aside from these readily available materials, there are a few other items that you will need: self-tapping sheet metal screws, zip ties, a utility knife, and a few wood sticks (4mm x 27mm x 1m pine lathing/lattice). Other items needed to complete your RC model airplane, such as wheels, landing gear, and control arms, will need to be fabricated or purchased from your favorite hobby store.

Plans for building a SPAD RC model airplane are available online, free of charge, from many different sources. SpadToTheBone.com, the original home for the RC model airplane SPAD concept, has plans to suit just about anyone. From the ever popular trainer called the Debonair, to the more sophisticated Coro Edge 540 sport/fun-fly model. A community has been built around the RC model airplane SPAD concept at [www.SpadWorld.net](http://www.SpadWorld.net) where model builders from all over the globe help each other learn better and more exciting ways to

make SPADs.

One of the greatest benefits to building with the RC model airplane SPAD materials is just how tough they are. Whether you're trying a new aerobatic maneuver and just can't seem to pull out of it, or just learning to take off for the first time and cartwheel your airplane down the runway, the chances that your airplane will survive are good. Compared to easily breakable balsa, plastic is a forgiving material that can survive higher impact speeds without damage—and is easily fixed when broken.

Ease of construction, low cost, and survivability all add up to a package that encourages modelers to experiment with design concepts and methods that extend the envelope of their experience and knowledge.

Why not give it a go yourself? ■

How about that, Bud????■

**January meeting will be  
the annual banquet.**

**Location and time is:.**

***Hibachi Grill***

***9645 Kingston Pike***

***Phone-357-3555***

***Manager Name:Tom, cell 931-505-3690***

***Tuesday***

***Jan 11th 2011***

***Gather at ~ 6:30PM***

***Dinner \$ 8.99***

***Drink \$ 1.49***

***\$ 10.48 + tax***

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**

