



December 2019 Newsletter

Knoxville TN AMA #594

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2019 Elected Officers

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Secretary.....Roger Kroodsma.....rogkroods@att.net

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There is no meeting minutes this month as there were no club meeting or Executive committee meetings. Seems like a busy month for all the officers.

Club stickers have been ordered and a design for 2020 is being worked on. These stickers are 1 ¼ diameter and are to be placed on the upper left corner of the transmitter. This will make it easier to identify current members.



And for those “worry warts” out there the sticker residue is easily removed with some alcohol but my suggestion is to place next year’s over the last and spend even less time. The bright color and placement is to make it easy to determine membership. Regular (fixed wing) members will have one color and drone members will have another color. The colors will be changed every year. The stickers will have a date notation and icon to represent the level of membership.

We don’t expect to have different stickers for car members as their transmitters are very different from fixed wing and drone transmitters. I know some of you will need extra stickers and they will be provided if asked for. Why have member identification? Because I have noticed that over the past year several people have come to the field, setup and flown without being members. On at least one occasion an application was provided and that person was never seen again.

I've included again the map of the flying areas. While it seems the Drone and Helicopter pilots get more of the club "pie" their ability to operate in confined areas, operate quietly and land vertically leans towards allowing them to operate South of the barrier.

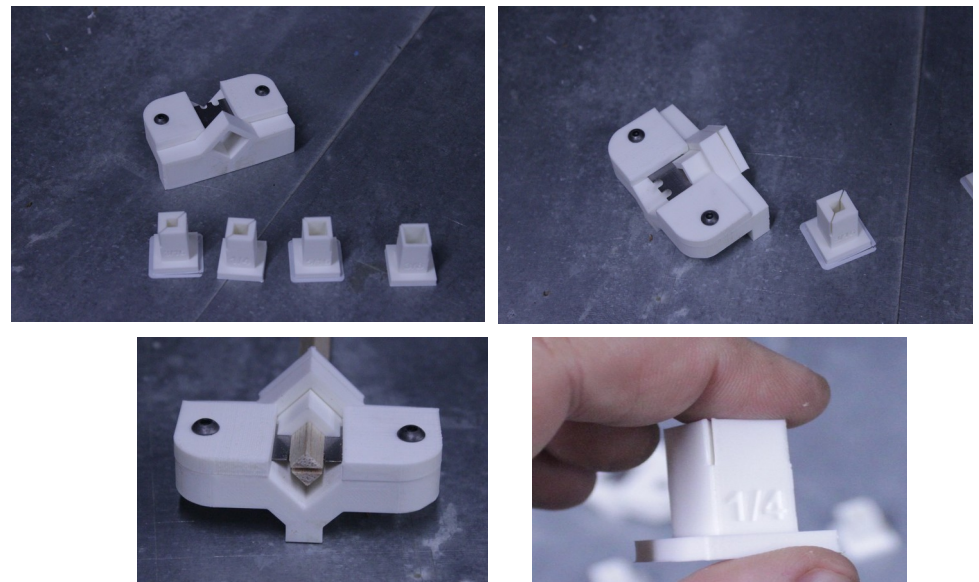
The change in club rules pointed out some deficiencies in the current rules and one of those was the text of the rules referred to different areas on the site without defining them. I have generated a map (still subject to approval) which revises the site map and the usage areas. The main area to be concerned is the no fly area over the flight line and pavilion area which reaches to the porta-potty. The Drone and Helicopter area wraps around the no fly area and it is expected that "vertical operations" will take place North East of the barrier fence from the helicopter pad. We still need to be conscious of the area South East of the field as there are new homes being built in that direction and we don't want noise to become an issue. And, as always, be courteous when using the Fixed Wing, Drone and Helicopter area North of the barrier fence. Study the map and if you have concerns about the layout let the Executive committee know.



A model I am working on calls for triangular stock and my local Hobby Lobby doesn't carry it and going to Hobby Town is a cross city trip which gave me some inspiration. A year or 2 at the Toledo Show I picked up a supply of balsa in different sheet thicknesses and stick sizes so I decided to come up with a way of splitting a stick into halves to make triangular stock.

The device consists of a holder which is equipped with a utility knife blade and inserts of various sizes (3/16, 1/4, 5/16 and 3/8). The blade is held in place with 2 covers which bolt on and cover the ends of the blade. The inserts install into the front of the device and guide the balsa stock against the blade. It took me several tries to size the inserts to easily install into the holder and be removed without tools or beating on it with a hammer. (The first fit was waaayyy too tight.) I also found the need to lengthen the insert and allow it to keep the blade from twisting as the balsa has uneven grain. It took several tries to get the balsa to slide through the insert easily without slop.

To be sure I had the right insert I printed the size of square stock into the insert. Now triangular stock is not a cross town trip.



December Article

Having seen “Midway” last week gave me this idea for the newsletter article.

I enjoy watching movies with aircraft related themes. One of my all time favorite movies is “Battle of Britain”. Released in 1969 it tells the story of the RAF’s battle against the Luftwaffe. Plenty of aerial action and if you look closely you can see that Spanish 109’s were used in the filming. (They used Merlin engines).



Another favorite is Twelve O’Clock High filmed in 1949. Lots of actual war footage of B-17’s in action. And, believe it or not actual B-17’s were used.

Another in a similar vain is Fortress filmed in 2012 lots of action in the air most of which is CGI (Computer Generated Images).



And speaking of CGI, Midway 2019 is quite different from Midway 1976. The use of CGI gave the Midway 2019 and “up close and personal” feel. Where as Midway 1976 used mostly stock WWII footage and mock-ups of actual aircraft. One of the planes used in the movie (Felix the cat carrying a bomb) was based at the University of Illinois Willard airport and I actually got to sit in it. My only complaint was when the dive bombers attacked they were all bunched up which made for exciting video but in reality they would have attacked from several directions at once to spread the antiaircraft fire.



Red Tails 2012 is also a good movie with P-40’s and P-51’s and again CGI was used to create many of the action scenes. One piece of trivia is that the tails were painted red to let the B-17 (and B-24) crews know they were friendly because the other P-51 squadrons wouldn’t dive into a bomber formation.



Catch-22 1970 is another good one. I especially enjoy one of the opening scenes where a dozen or more B-25s are shown taking off and the use of a high power telephoto lens gets most of them in the scene at the same time.





Strategic Air Command 1955 gives a “inside” look at the rise of air power as a nuclear deterrent. Lots of shots of B-36 Peacemaker’s and an introduction to B-47’s. General Jimmy Stewart played the leading role.



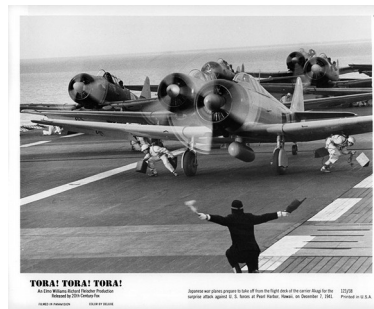
Fate is the Hunter 1964 is another interesting movie where the causes of an air crash is investigated in a series of flashbacks. It had scenes of crash reconstruction and primitive crash investigation.



Flyboys 2006 for those that like the WWI era. Pretty good special effects and one of the few WWI aviation films. Only objection was the solo takeoffs and landings at night. Baby it’s DARK out there.



And of course we can’t forget Tora-Tora-Tora 1970 documenting the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.



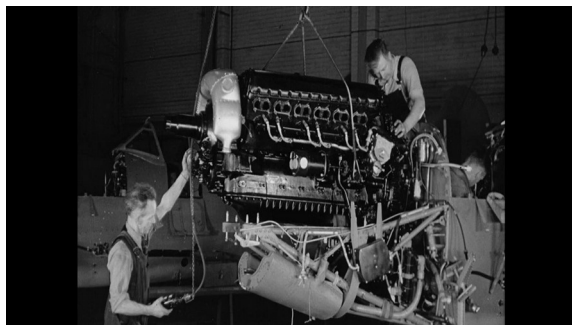
The Aviator 2004 is a film about the rise (and fall) of Howard Hughes. Lots of flying WWI in the beginning and a great crash sequence but I’ve always wondered about all the welding going on around a wooden airplane under construction.



Mission of Honor (also known as Hurricane) 2018 is about the Polish pilots during the Battle of Britain. Great action scenes with much better CGI than Fortress. Don't be put off by the subtitles in the beginning. They are only used when the actors are speaking non-English. Did you know that the Poles had their guns bore sighted much closer and carried the battle up close and personal the the Luftwaffe?



And let's not forget Spitfire 2018. The story of the fighter plane and pilots that helped win the Battle of Britain. Lots of historical data and actual footage plus modern day in-flight video of Spitfires flying over the English countryside.



The December club meeting will be at the New Beginnings Baptist Church 11218 Yarnell Rd.

December 10 at 7:00PM

Elections, voting on revised rules and by-laws and much more.

We will be accepting dues for 2020. Cash, check or credit card accepted.

Don't forget to visit KCRC Knox County Radio Control on Facebook!

191 members strong.

Daily 3 day weather predictions

Daily aviation photos

Event advertisement from other area clubs

Items for sale

Articles, information and aviation related videos.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/817242841697766/>

I am going to try a little incentive to get you, the membership, to contribute articles. If you would like to receive a triangle cutter (plastic parts only) send me an article for the newsletter and I'll send you one. Or, if you like I can send a strip cutter. I'm looking for 500-1000 words and include pictures if you like. A simple text file will do fine. You can email me the file(s) at catlimi2000@gmail.com