



**KNOX COUNTY RADIO CONTROL**

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## December 2025 Newsletter

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**President** – Jimmy Russell  
**Vice President** – Richard Love  
**Secretary** – Bill Lewis  
**Treasurer** – Todd Thomas

**Safety Officer** – Phil Cope  
**Exec Committee** – Warren Oliver  
**Exec Committee** – Brandon Drummer  
**Exec Committee** – Craig Dieter

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### President's Corner

*By Jimmy Russell*

I hope everyone has had a great Christmas and has some new RC toys to play with. With the Winter settling in, good flying days will be sparse. Let's all try to stay interested in the hobby by tinkering in the shop, playing on a simulator, or just being active on RC websites and social media. Also, please bring any ideas you have to make the club better in 2026 to the meetings. You can always reach out to any of the officers or directly to me. We will be having an executive meeting in February to lay out our budget and plan for 2026 activities. Get your ideas in so you can be heard. Check your email for the date and location for our annual banquet in January. Please try to make it. We may raffle off an airplane with the proceeds going to the club.

I have a funny story to tell. We'll call it a Bench Blunder. While flying my new pattern plane at the field I managed to crash it on the bench! I just put a fresh battery in and was going to carry it to the flight line. I picked it up while talking to someone, turned and smacked the nose into one of the bench uprights! It broke the motor off, breaking the plywood motor box. The lower cowl popped

loose too. Needless to say, I didn't fly it anymore that day. I felt like a moron!



I also want to take some time to wish Phil Cope good luck and fair winds as he moves to North Carolina to be with his wife. Phil has been a cornerstone to KCRC for many decades. He has trained countless new pilots, helped a ton of

people to get into the hobby and freely gave his time and equipment to those who needed help. In the last few years, you would rarely see him bring a plane out. He would spend his entire time at the field helping others with maiden flights, buddy box training, maintenance, programming, engine tuning - you name it. I've even seen him building balsa planes in the pavilion for others. So, thank you Phil for everything you have done for us!

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year*

-Jimmy

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## KCRC Meeting December 9, 2025

*By Bill Lewis*

The club meeting was opened at 6:40pm by the Vice President Richard Love. Thirteen members were in attendance.

The meeting was held at Pellissippi State meeting room F150 at the Lamar Alexander Building.

### *Treasurer's Report*

The treasurer read the report, and the members accepted it. Todd said this was the first time that we had a minus of \$100 between money coming in and going out.

### *Safety Report*

Phil Cope said that there was little to no flying and no issues.

### *Old Business*

Looking forward to next year, some of the past issues were brought up again. Checking the fire extinguisher for renewal, repairing and building new flight stands, and filling and sealing the cracks in the runway.

### *New Business*

There was a vote held for the upcoming Year 2026 KCRC Club Officers. Most of the positions were filled from the year 2025 officers. The 2 positions that were filled by new officers were:

Vice President:	Travis Brasier
Safety Officer:	Steve Patterson

Phil Spelt said that he would try to book the private room for the annual club banquet at the Golden Oak in Oak Ridge. No set date as of now.

### *Crash Of the Month*

No crash of the month, but Jimmy broke the engine mount off his new pattern plane by banging it onto upright of a plane stand; he didn't even make it up to the flight line.

### *Show and Tell*

Warren brought in a cute little high wing plane that he's been building; he said that he gets as much pleasure from building something small as he does from building a larger plane. Of course, the smaller planes don't take up nearly as much room, which is a plus. He now needs to find a battery that will fit in the fuselage.

### *New Members*

No new members this month.

### *New Club Officers for 2026:*

President: Jimmy Russell

Vice President: Travis Brasier

Treasurer: Todd Thomas

Secretary: Bill Lewis

Executive Committee Members:

Rick Thompson

Warren Oliver

Craig Dieter

Safety Officer: Steve Paterson

The meeting was closed at 7:30 by Vice President Richard Love.

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## Upcoming Events

Remember to come to the annual club banquet at the Oak Ridge Golden Coral in January 2026! Watch your Email for the time and date.

The annual officers' planning meeting is coming up in February, so get your ideas together for events



and let all the new officers know what you have in mind. Let's make next year an exciting one!

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## Meet the New Member

On hold for a while. We hope to see some new people signing up for next year. Tell your friends.

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## Holidays

I hope you all enjoy the holidays and maybe even get out to the field should a nice day come your way. As the weather gets bad, this is the time to reorganize the shop, sort through your stuff, repair the old airplanes, and start on a new project. Maybe you even got some good RC stuff for Xmas; you can jump right in on that! Now is also the time to make sure your shop is safe. Make sure you have enough ventilation when using paints and glue, use a vacuum system to keep the dust down, make sure all the electrical stuff is in good shape, and clean up the old stuff that can be a fire hazard. Remember to remove the prop from any motor you are adjusting the speed controller on. We want to see you and your planes in good shape next Spring!

Bring your completed projects to the March meeting so we can see what you have been up to. Planes, new tools, and new techniques are all welcome as we all can use a new idea or two. Also, take a picture or two and send it to me so I can put it in the newsletter.

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## Turbines

We are getting more members with gas turbine projects. These are exciting, challenging projects which require special certifications and skill levels to successfully fly, and it is interesting when one of them shows up at the field. So, when Ben Kowalski brought his MIG out to the field in mid-December

for a couple of flights, those of us there took notice. Here are a few pictures:



Let us know if you have any interesting projects of your own, from scale planes to jets to high performance gliders to whatever else tickles your fancy.

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## A Farewell

As some of you know Phil Cope is moving out of the area soon and we will miss him. He has taught countless people how to fly, helped many with getting their planes and equipment to work, volunteered at many events and work sessions, been a club officer for years on end, and supported the club in just about any way you can think of. Many of you learned to fly from him; he has been around for the better part of 50 years.

He taken more than a few planes home to work on them himself and has been generous with his time, tools, and effort. Over the years he has helped many of us retrieve lost planes from the woods and the lake, not to mention saving them from that fate.

Whether it was at the field at a Cub fly-in or on the lake at a float fly, he was always 100% in for the club and we always received his best. He was instrumental in keeping the club going.

We wish him the best in his new location and the start of the next phase of his life. He will always be invited to come back and fly with us when he passes through!

