



Club Internet Web Links:

<http://www.geocities.com/strcc2002/index.htm>

<http://racingrookies.tripod.com> (no www)

STRCC 2004 Officers

President:

Mario Gonzalez
(817) 563-5650

Sec. / Treasurer:

Bill Jones
(817) 473-6801

Vice President:

Duane Riedel
(817) 483-2557

Newsletter Editor:

Bruce Anderson
(817) 483-8223

Meeting Notes

Simsco – April 12, 2004

The meeting was called to order by President Mario Gonzalez at 7:04 P.M. At the last meeting some ideas were discussed on forming a committee to search for a new club field. At this meeting, the committee was formed and the members are: Mario Gonzalez, Ralph Snow, Jerry Burk, and Duane Riedel. So if you have any suggestions or ideas, please forward that information on to these people.

Jerry Burk had contacted the old owner of the land, S.J. Stoval, and will continue to talk to him to see if any new locations could be found. Likewise, Jerry has gone to the city of Arlington to see if they knew of any places that would be suitable for a field but didn't find any.

Both Jerry and Ralph Snow found out some information on land that is located

5/4/2004

NEWS

Seven Towers R/C Club, Arlington, Texas
April 2004 - Volume 17 Issue 4

Mail Correspondence and Membership Dues to:

STRCC

P.O. Box 174334

Arlington, Texas 76003

Club Upcoming Events

May 16, 1:30 PM – Rookie Races

May 10, 7:00 PM – Club Meeting
at SIMSCO

just off Division street and next to Green Oaks. Jim Sewell is the current owner of that land. He plans on cleaning up the property and selling it.

Bruce said he would investigate the size required for a field. (see newsletter)

For those of you who don't know, at last months scheduled Rookie race day the club mower was moved from the field to Gary Hennings garage.

Craig Bevil mentioned that GSW is having a fun fly September 1.

Bruce Anderson
STRCC Newsletter Editor

**Note: The club meeting will be at the field this month. Bring your planes for some flying.
May 10 @ 7:00 P.M.**

A Letter to: North Central Texas Council of Governments

Mario Gonzalez has been looking around for some public land for the new club site. Because of this, he wrote a letter to the North Central Texas Council of Governments. This council is required by law to take an inventory of all the landfills in north central Texas. The letter shown below was written by Mario to the council looking for a new place for the club field.

Ms. Lambert,

Thank you for taking the time to talk to me on Friday about helping our club (STRCC) locate another field site. I will iterate a brief history of our club and then mention the sites that we think would fit the needs of our club.

My name is Mario Gonzalez and I am the President of Seven Towers Remote Control Club (STRCC) located in South Arlington. The club has been located in Kennedale for more than ten years and we fly remote control model airplanes. We have 35 members in our club that range in age from youth to retirees. The reason I am writing to you is that earlier this year the land where our club field is located was sold to a group of investors. They are planning to develop part of the land into an industrial area. This will leave our club without a flying field.

While trying to find a new flying site for STRCC, I came across a database of Texas Landfills that have been closed in the Tarrant County area. I am hoping that you can help us or tell us who to contact to see if we could use one of the sites. It is not unheard of for remote control clubs to

have their club field situated on or next to landfills. In fact, there are several clubs in the Metroplex that are currently using landfills as their club flying field. I have narrowed down the database list to what I think would fit the club's needs. I look forward to talking with you more and provide you with more information of what we do, what the club represents and how we could help improve the current status of one of these sites.

<i>Site ID:</i>	<i>Site Name:</i>
<i>909</i>	<i>Thomas C. Duncan</i>
<i>U1382</i>	<i>Abar</i>
<i>U1362</i>	<i>Joe Johnson Dumpground</i>
<i>U1341</i>	<i>Mansfield Solid Waste Site</i>
<i>U1383</i>	<i>No Name</i>
<i>U824</i>	<i>Pete Jones</i>
<i>U1533</i>	<i>Unknown</i>

If you have other sites in mind other than the ones listed above please do not hesitate to let us know. Please feel free to contact me to discuss any questions you may have. STRCC and I would appreciate any help or guidance that you could provide.

Thank you for your time and effort,

*Sincerely,
Mario A. Gonzalez
President, STRCC*

If you want to check out areas where there might be public land, you can follow the link below. Mario provided me with this link when he was looking for areas for the club field with Ms. Lambert.

<http://www.dfwinfo.com/envir/sw/act/cli/index.html>

The following was enacted by the AMA Executive Council...

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AMA Executive Council
Meeting Motions
February 7-8, 2004
Muncie, Indiana

Motion VI: It was moved that effective with the 2005 Charter Club Renewal, all clubs are required to name a Safety Officer. This officer must have access to E-mail. Motion passed unanimously.

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It has come to my attention that MANY clubs are experiencing KNOWN SAFETY problems... yet do NOT have any member tasked with this concern... In an effort to institute this ASAP... I am asking that ALL AMA CHARTERED CLUBS within District VIII enact this program ASAP and NOT DELAY until it is required... For any assistance in this matter please contact the AMA District VIII Safety Coordinator Don NIX at: FLYERDON@aol.com

Thank you. Your cooperation in this is sincerely appreciated...

Dr. Sandy Frank
AMA District VIII VP

Also from AMA Headquarters:

EMERGENCY SAFETY ALERT

Lithium Battery Fires –

Lithium batteries are becoming very popular for powering the control and power systems in our models. This is true because of their very high energy density (amp-hrs/wt. ratio) compared to NiCads or other batteries. With high energy comes increased risk in their use. The, principal, risk is FIRE which can result from improper charging, crash damage, or

shorting the batteries. All vendors of these batteries warn their customers of this danger and recommend extreme caution in their use. In spite of this many fires have occurred as a result of the use of Lithium Polymer batteries, resulting in loss of models, automobiles, and other property. Homes and garages and workshops have also burned. A lithium battery fire is very hot (several thousand degrees) and is an excellent initiator for ancillary (resulting) fires. Fire occurs due to contact between Lithium and oxygen in the air. It does not need any other source of ignition, or fuel to start, and burns almost explosively.

These batteries must be used in a manner that precludes ancillary fire. The following is recommended:

Store, and charge, in a fireproof container; never in your model.

Charge in a protected area devoid of combustibles. Always stand watch over the charging process. Never leave the charging process unattended.

In the event of damage from crashes, etc, carefully remove to a safe place for at least a half hour to observe. Physically damaged cells could erupt into flame, and, after sufficient time to ensure safety, should be discarded in accordance with the instructions which came with the batteries. Never attempt to charge a cell with physical damage, regardless of how slight.

Always use chargers designed for the specific purpose, preferably having a fixed setting for your particular pack. Many fires occur in using selectable/adjustable chargers improperly set. Never attempt to charge Lithium cells with a charger which is not, specifically, designed for charging Lithium cells. Never use chargers designed for Nickel Cadmium batteries.

Use charging systems that monitor and control the charge state of each cell in the pack. Unbalanced cells can lead to disaster if it permits overcharge of a single cell in the pack. If the batteries show any sign of swelling, discontinue charging, and remove them to a safe place outside as they could erupt into flames.

Most important: NEVER PLUG IN A BATTERY AND LEAVE IT TO CHARGE UNATTENDED OVERNIGHT. Serious fires have resulted from this practice.

Do not attempt to make your own battery packs from individual cells.

These batteries CANNOT be handled and charged casually such as has been the practice for years with other types of batteries. The consequence of this practice can be very serious resulting in major property damage and/or personal harm

Safety Committee
Academy of Model Aeronautics

5161 E Memorial Drive
Muncie, IN 47302

Upcoming events from Greg Judy with the DEAF Club

Sat, May 8 - "Unlimited Motor Run"
contest at Eastfield- Jack Hamilton CD, with the assistance of Frank Korman.

**May 15 - THE FIRST EVER - INDOOR
RADIO CONTROLLED FLOAT FLY
PRESENTED BY THE LOCKHEED
AEROMODELERS**

Keller ISD Natatorium, 1000 Bear Creek
Parkway, Keller, Texas Saturday May 15, 2004
– 5:30pm - 9:30pm

The Lockheed Aeromodelers will hold The First Ever Indoor Radio Controlled Float Fly on Saturday May 15, 2004 from 5:30pm-9:30pm. Miniature radio controlled aircraft with floats will be flown off of the Keller ISD Natatorium pool, 1000 Bear Creek Parkway, Keller, Texas.

With the advent of miniature electronic components, radio controlled model aircraft have become smaller and smaller. These models are powered by quiet electric motors and safely fly indoors at speeds of less than 15 mph. Their weight is 6 to 10 ounces with a maximum weight of 16 ounces. Construction materials consist of carbon fiber, balsa, foam, cloth, paper and fiberglass. Model aircraft with 12 to 72 inch wingspans will be flown during the event. Flying will be under the AMA NIRAC guidelines (NIRAC.org) and all fliers will be required to be current AMA members. Pilot's landing fee is \$8 and spectators get in free. For information please contact Ed Couch at 817-777-6478 or Tom Blakeney at 817-777-1241.



There were no Rookie races ran last month. This months races are scheduled for May 17 as Mothers day falls on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Come out for the races. We will have to start a new fast time for the coarse as the old pylon locations were bulldozed over. So come on out and see if you can be the new record holder!

**Note: The club meeting will be at
the field this month. Bring your
planes for some flying.
May 10 @ 7:00 P.M.**

Recommended Flight Zone

The AMA recommendations for a R/C field are shown below. The total **width** of the land would be a 250' safety zone, a 500' overfly area, a 50' wide runway, 80' for the taxi area, pilot line, pits area and up to the parking line, and an extra 80' for access to the field. The total field width is:
 $250+500+50+80+80 = 960'$

The total **length** of the field is a 2000' overfly area with an extra 250' safety zone on each end. That makes the field length 2500'. The total required square area for the AMA recommended field is:
 $A = 960 * 2500 = 2,400,000 \text{ sq. feet.}$
 Converting this to acres requires dividing by 43560 sq ft per acres.
 $A = 2,400,000 / 43,500 = 55.1 \text{ acres.}$

Based on the AMA recommended field size, you can see that our current field size (approximately 11-13 acres) is a little on the small size. But if you take into consideration the land that has the small lakes just neighboring the land we are on, that would probably be very close to the numbers shown below.

STRCC 2004 Flight Instructors:

Melvin Bowser*	(817) 370-0863
Joe Sudduth*	(817) 572-2091
Bruce Anderson*	(817) 483-8223
Rick Byrd	(817) 294-2048
Ken Sloat	(817) 467-9470
Stan Sims	(817) 483-0240

* indicates AMA introductory pilot program call an instructor if you need assistance for training

