

THE LEADING EDGE

Newsletter of the
TRI-CITY Radio Control Modelers

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Web Site: <http://www.tcrcom.org>

April '00

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, **Apr. 19th**, 7 PM
Country Squire Clubhouse
Fisher and Hood Streets
Kennewick, Washington

2000 TCRCM Officers:

President:	Ron Gibby	946-5356
Vice President:	Jerry Wallis	967-5046
Secretary:	Rick Magnuson	946-5724
Treasurer:	Clee Childress	544-0838

President's Corner

by
Ron Gibby

This past month we had an incident at our ORV Park field where **a person who was neither a club member nor an AMA member** was flying his plane at our field. None of those club members present were aware of the situation until Clee Childress approached this individual to introduce himself. At this time Clee found out the person was flying illegally, so he kindly asked him not to fly anymore. None of us like to be in a situation like this where we have to ask someone to pack up their R/C equipment and just watch, but that's what we have to do if we want to preserve our flying field. Clee has a good suggestion which I think we should implement. For a small cost we can purchase some clear plastic name tag holders which can be used to hold our club membership cards. While we are at the field, the membership card can be worn where it is plainly visible. This will accomplish at least two important objectives: First, it will clearly identify current club members and second, it will help club members learn the names of other club members. It will be a little inconvenient at first but I think the benefits will far out weigh the inconvenience. The AMA membership card can be used on the frequency board to identify the user of a frequency pin. We will discuss this proposal at the monthly meeting.

Terry Hane informed me that he will be very busy with his job this year and thus not be able to care for the flying field as he has in the past. I thank Terry for

all the work he has done at the field for the past several years. The field has never looked better and his expertise will be greatly missed. Terry has provided me with some lawn care instructions and a fertilizing schedule which he has used successfully. If there is anyone who would like to take the lead on this activity let me know, otherwise I will be contacting club members periodically for help with the fertilizing. Terry said he will continue to apply the weed and pest control, which doesn't require as much time.

The new lock combinations for this year will be provided with this newsletter or by separate mail to all club members. Please do not provide the combination to anyone who is not a club member. The locked gates are the only way we have of assuring that only club members have access to the field, fulfilling our agreement with the City of Richland. When unlocking the gates never leave the combination on the lock. Always immediately scramble the numbers and reclose the lock so that someone cannot steal it. This happened once last year. The locks cost us \$15 everytime they have to be replaced.

For comments or questions about the club please contact me by phone at **946-5356** or by Email at wrgibby@3-cities.com.

Until next month, happy flying.

New Member This Month:

Michael Hurst, AMA 653481

Welcome to the Club, Mike!

March '00 Meeting Minutes

by
Rick Magnuson

President Ron Gibby called the meeting to order with 14 members present, including new member Ted Tanasse and returning member Harvey Sevall.

President Ron thanked Rob Opgenorth for volunteering to oversee the lawn mowing schedule this year.

The February meeting minutes was approved as published in *The Leading Edge*.

The Treasurer's report was given.

As discussed at the February meeting, the coming year's event schedule was again reviewed without any changes. Again, there was concern about the proximity of the ARC event and pattern contest and the effects on the grass. As mentioned at the February meeting, Bill Greger will contact the ARC group about changing the ARC event date.

Larry Mitchell inquired about the electrical hookup at the field and mentioned that there could be some donations of material, thus reducing the expense of the hookup.

President Ron spoke of the recent change in the management of the City of Richland's park and recreation department. Ron will be taking with Stan Johnson of the City staff to clarify what information the City needs about the Club and to get an understanding of the new management structure. The Club will stress the need for an adequate water supply for the field.

A proposed change to the Bylaws was discussed. The proposal would change the Club membership renewal time limit from the current March 31st to January 1st. The reason is that the Club cannot, under the present method, ascertain if a flyer has AMA membership for the new year. The agreement with the City of Richland requires that all flyers be AMA members. The proposed method would ensure that all flyers have current AMA membership and not jeopardize losing the ORV field. The next issue of *The Leading Edge* will contain, as required for the first step in any bylaw change, the formal bylaw change.

Bob McDougall presented his 'Downspout' plane that he had made. Absolutely exquisite!
The meeting was adjourned.

Proposed By-Law Change

by
Ron Gibby

Change the first sentence of Section 1. of Article VII as follows:

from: "Annual dues shall be established by Club vote and will be due and payable no later than March 31st of each calendar year."

to: "Annual dues shall be established by Club vote and will be due and payable no later than January 1st of each calendar year."

Reason for change: The agreement with the City of Richland for use of the ORV Park flying field requires AMA membership for all Club members flying at the field. The AMA membership period runs from January 1st to December 31st of each year. Currently, Club membership dues are payable no later than March 31st, but the flying field gate lock combinations are not changed until April 15th. This situation allows 3-1/2 months of access to the field by persons who may not have renewed their AMA membership for the new year, thus placing our agreement with the City in jeopardy. This proposed By-law change would resolve the problem by requiring that the gate combinations be changed on January 1st of each year, with the new combination given only to Club members (who must be AMA members) who have paid their dues for the new year.

Ed. Note: This change has other benefits as well. It will make distribution of the new field lock combination more secure (the new combination could be given out along with the new membership card rather than having to be published in the newsletter). This proposed change would also eliminate the present requirement to publish two different versions of the April newsletter just to avoid distribution of the combination to non-members or former members.

The ORV Field Lock Combination for 2000 is

different than last year.

Zillah Fun Fly Report

by
Ted Tanasse

It was a beautiful day at the Zillah airfield, surrounded by blooming orchards and the sounds of engines being fine tuned for the event. A wide variety of planes were lined up such as a flying wing with an electric pusher engine (those foam wings really can take a lot of punishment-OUCH!!!) to a brand new AT6 big bird beautifully built from a kit (with all the options) and ready for it's maiden voyage. Of course more than half the planes were the fun-fly type. Mostly a stick with wings and tail feathers. You know the type.

After the fun fly events, many took to the air including the AT6. Mike Hanratty flew it for the builder who just couldn't get enough nerve to fly it himself. Mike did a wonderful job flying the plane and trimming it out. With the Robarts retracted, he brought it down for a nice flyby; what a gorgeous plane. Mike put her down softly and everyone took a deep breath.

A 12 year old boy named Colby really put on a show for everyone flying a Carl Goldberg Ultimate. My word, could that boy fly a plane and he's only been flying for two years. I got the scoop though. He lives on a 15 acre spread of land made into a airfield and flies nearly every day. His dad loves to build, but lets Colby fly. Colby is a good definition of "No Fear".

One mishap (in the time I was there). Someone was training with an Eagle 2 (not me) and his wing came off during flight. The wing is in good shape, since it floated down like a maple leaf seed, but the rest of it is ready for the landfill sparing a few tires and the plastic man. It was his maiden voyage. The problem was his rubber bands. They were too old.

I wish I could tell you who won the contest, but I was helping my Dad prepare his planes for flight. He is also learning to fly as I am. He did great today and had the largest cheering crowd of any flyer there. A guy named Tucker was instructing him. A real good flyer.

(Contributed via the Internet by Ted Tanasse)

The Yakima Valley AeroModelers present their annual *Big Bird Spring Opener*

April 28, 29, 30 2000
Friday, Saturday,
and Sunday til Noon

Ben's Strip
Zillah, Washington

- IMAA Big Birds
- AMA Sanctioned
- Overnight camping (no hookups)
- Landing Fee \$15.00
- Food will be Served
- Swap meet area Available

Contacts:
Bill Tucker 829-5027
Mike Hanratty 453-8238

Mike's Model Aircraft Supply & Hobby Center



"Largest selection of R/C
equipment in Yakima"

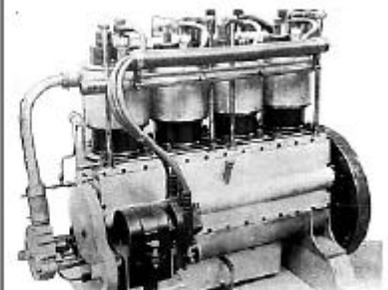
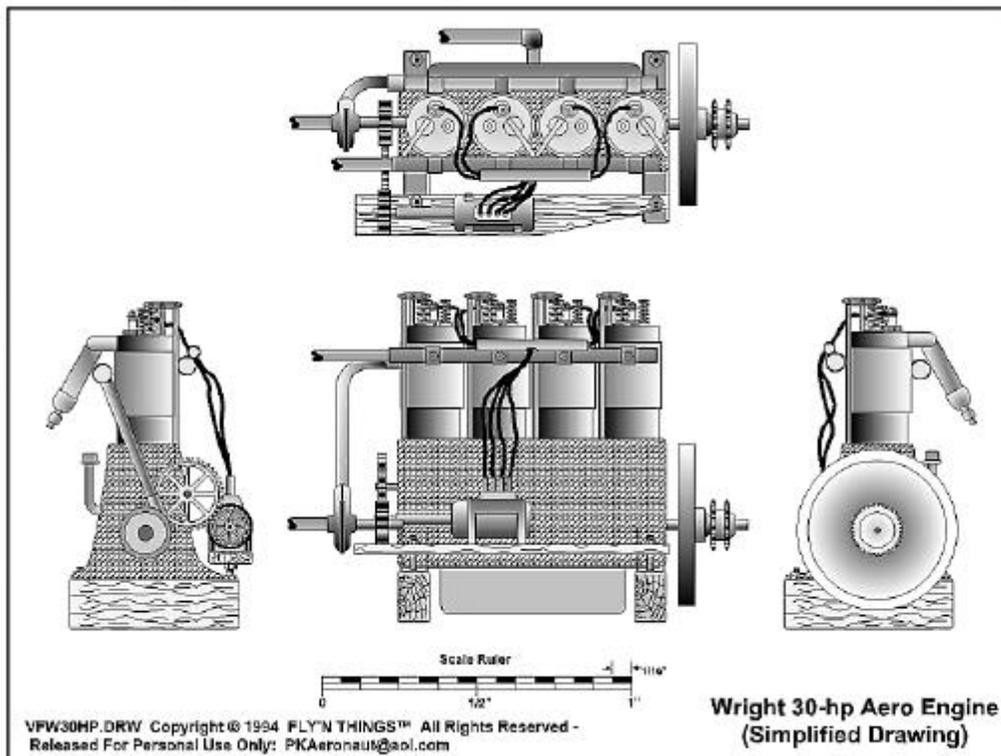
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Yakima, WA 98902
(509) 453-8238
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Hours: Mon - Sat 10am to 6pm

Mike Hanratty, Owner

TRI-CITY RC MODELERS 2000 EVENTS SCHEDULE

Event	Date	Location	Contest Director
Spring Fun Fly	May 11	ORV Park Richland, WA	Bill Greger (509) 735-3877
Big Bird Fly-in	June 10/11	ORV Park Richland, WA	Rob Opgenorth (509) 375-3335
Float Plane Fly-in	June 24/25	Richland Y on Columbia River	George Vargo (509) 375-0098
ARC Fun Day	July 5 (tentative date)	ORV Park Richland, WA	Bill Greger (509) 735-3877
Pattern Contest	July 8/9	ORV Park Richland, WA	Dennis Cone (509) 943-5773
Biplane Fly-in	August 19/20	ORV Park Richland, WA	John Hanson (509) 586-4843
Final Fling Fun Fly	October 7	ORV Park Richland, WA	Ron McMahan (509) 627-5317



1909 Wright Aero Engine

