



ARCS News



San Antonio, Texas

Alamo Radio Control Society

www.alamorc.org

AMA Charter 603

September 2020

CLUB FLYING SITE Is located just west of Macdona at 10025 Shepard Road

FLASH! The next club meeting will be held on September 15 at 7 PM in the Acadiana Café, 1289 SW Loop 410. There will be plenty of room for social distancing and eating. The restaurant has installed a partition that will allow the club to use almost half the dining room without interference between other patrons and the club meeting.

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Club Meetings

Normally Held the 3rd

Tuesday of each month

(except Dec) 7:00 PM to

9:00 PM. Due to Covid-19

meetings are held at the

field on Sunday after 3rd

Tuesday.

Fun Fly and Meeting Notes

Many came out early for the August Fun Fly to beat the late summer heat and humidity. The temperature was in the high 80s and humidity in the 90s by 9:00. 30 pilots came out bringing a variety of aircraft of nearly every fashion. Flying was heavy, 4 to 5 aircraft in the air constantly, not counting Jim Agnew's glider soaring high overhead nearly out of sight.

The flying days for Phil Everman's P-47 and Chuck Krumholtz's Sportster ended in the mud. Chris Freeman's Yak 130 ended on the runway. The runway was dry but fields to the north were muddy with standing water. Winds were light and abundant sunshine filled the day.

After a slight delay to repair the flag halyard the meeting commenced with the raising of the flag and Pledge of Allegiance led by President Ponseigo. Bill welcomed Scott Milam a guest of Victor Poole, former member returning to the ARCS family. *Show and Tell* featured George Wilson's *Old School Model Works* Javelin and Richard Beardsley's exact scale *Oracle* Turbo Raven. Bill reminded everyone to land immediately if a full-scale aircraft is too close. He urged everyone to put their name on their equipment and to use the First Aid box to store lost and found equipment. Total Food Bank donations are 614 pounds, half as much as 2019. Our current officers volunteered to serve another term and were approved unanimously by the members present. There were no other nominations.

The Christmas Party is set for Tuesday December 8th at 6pm at Acadiana Restaurant and will feature Turkey and Catfish.

Finally, Club Meetings will return to Acadiana Restaurant beginning in September on the third Tuesday as before.

The raffle grand prize went to Bill Ponseigo! When the meeting adjourned a few returned to flying but most left to find comfortable air conditioning, leaving the sky nearly empty and the runway almost vacant.

Jim Witthauer

Training and Recruiting



Our club membership has a pretty good range of age from us grey-heads to some younger flyers. What I don't see is kids under 18. I'm pretty sure there are younger children and grandchildren of members who are good prospects for our hobby. Following is an account of my effort to get my oldest grandson into our hobby. It isn't a done deal yet, but I'm working on it. Maybe others can do the same.

Some time ago I bought the RealFlight 8 simulator. One day my 9-year old grandson James, staying at my house for a day, tried out RF-8. It looked like a video game to him. Previously he'd had fun playing with Microsoft Flight Simulator. Of course on the RF-8 he enjoyed crashing the airplanes, but I succeeded in getting him to try flying a regular oval pattern for a while. He got the basics of controlling the airplane, a trainer, then moved on to faster planes and eventually jets. The reset button got a lot of use. In all, I think he spent about 2 hours over the weeks flying the simulator.

Earlier this year I got James, now 10, the "HobbyZone AeroScout S, 1.1m, RTF" trainer and we went to the field to fly it. Paul Dawson was there at the time. Paul started flying with a Scout and gave us some tips and helped setting it up. It had been a few weeks since James played with the RF-8 simulator. We hooked up the battery and I took the plane off, then handed James the controller.



The AeroScout has three flight modes built in; beginner, intermediate and advanced. James was flying on beginner mode. Beginner mode is a variation of the SAFE mode that both limits control input and also returns the plane to level flight when the sticks are released. The intermediate mode is like the standard SAFE mode that just limits control throws, the pilot has to level the plane. In advanced mode there is no limit on the controls. The little Scout is surprisingly very aerobatic in the advanced mode

James proceeded to fly the scout all over the sky and landed it himself. He flew it three times more and each time landed on the runway. Subsequently James let his Dad fly the Scout. We failed to tell Dad about the controls and he nosed it in on takeoff. That resulted in the first nose gear break. A quick field repair got it back together and after some orientation, James' Dad flew the Scout just fine. A couple of weeks later James flew again and his Mother and sister came to watch. Both flew the Scout that day. I'm trying to get my family hooked you see. Those experiences convinced me of the Scout's value as a trainer.

Well, James grew tired of just flying the Scout in level circles and wasn't excited about going to the field. Last Saturday he finally agreed to go flying with me. The field was crowded with flyers almost like it was a fun-fly day. We charged up some batteries and watched the other flyers. We'd forgotten the transmitter so I checked the Scout manual on my phone and bound up my DX-6 to the Scout. Unlike the basic kit controller, the DX-6 has a timer that tells you when it is time to land. James finally got in a flight, flew in circles for about 3 minutes and landed...in the tall grass. After that he seemed glued to the bench. With some encouragement, I got James to fly again.

I noticed he had the Scout up fairly high, still flying ovals and circles but occasionally doing something different. He told me he was switching to intermediate and back again to practice. I said, "James, switch the mode down to Advanced and pull back on the elevator, then switch back to beginner mode." He did his first loop! After that there was no stopping him. He proceeded to tear up the sky doing loops and rolls and even a short bit of inverted flying, after each maneuver switching back to beginner mode. Excited now he flew 4 more batteries out. No longer boring, it was a challenge and exciting. Maybe I've succeeded in starting something. Maybe someone else can get their children or grandchildren out to fly and we can grow youth in our sport.

Jim Neff

August Fun Fly/Meeting Photos







"The Duke"



