



AMA
Chartered
Club
#1140



2003 AMA Gold Leader Club

The Greater Southwest Radio Control Club is a nonprofit organization. Membership is nondiscriminatory and open to anyone who agrees to abide by Club rules. A condition of membership for insurance purposes is current affiliation with the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA). Our flying field is located on the North side of Randol Mill Road, 0.4 miles East of Highway 820 at N 32°46.895' W 97° 12.361'. Visitors are welcome whenever the gate is unlocked. Free flight training instruction is available to members from 6:00 PM to dusk on Tuesday and Thursday while Daylight Savings Time is in effect. Regular Club meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the North Richland Hills Parks and Recreation Building, 6720 Northeast Loop 820, North Richland Hills, TX 76180 (on the corner of Rufe Snow and NE820).

Next Meeting:

**Sunday
6:00PM
December 7, 2003
North Main Bar-b-que**

The Tail Spinner

Greater Southwest Aero Modelers

P.O. Box 1355
Bedford, TX 76021
<http://www.flygsw.org>

President	Lewie Moore.....	(817) 571-0347
Vice President(s)	Steve French	(817) 284-0875
Secretary	Craig Bevil.....	(817) 282-3340
Treasurer	Frank Mobley.....	(817) 461-2278
Newsletter Editor	Roy Baker	(817) 545-4031

President's Corner

As the holiday season approaches GSW offers a little help to get you into the holiday spirit. Our Christmas party will be Sunday Dec. 7th at the North Main Bar-b-que in Euless. Festivities will begin at 6:00pm. The food is outstanding and it's all you can eat. After our meal we will have drawings for door prizes for both the Guys and the Gals. The big winner will take home a Space walker .40 size ARF by Seagull. You won't want to miss this gala occasion. If you haven't bought your ticket see me or Frank Mobley. Tickets will be available at the door. The cost is \$12.00 per adult and \$5.00 per child. Ya'll come.



A few meetings ago, the membership voted to hold a Lawrence Harvel Auction in place of the Jan. meeting. Since that time, quite a bit has happened that requires a regular Jan. meeting. At this time I will exercise the executive privileges of the office of President and move the auction to our March meeting date. I have discussed this with Lawrence and got his approval to do so.

This is official notice for the election of Secretary. As most of you know Craig Bevil has resigned the Secretary position and Sonny Coleman is presently the acting Secretary. At the Jan. meeting nominations for Secretary will be ac-

cepted and published in the Feb. Tail-spinner. The election will be held during the Feb. meeting.

No one has yet to come forward and volunteer for Safety Director. This is a very important position that needs to be filled by a conscientious member who is willing to spend some time at the field and help GSW be a safer place to fly. I would like to make this appointment at the Jan. meeting.

The 2004 GSW Mall Show will be held in Feb. at the Northeast Mall. Tony Trimarchi has again volunteered to be the chairman. This event takes quite a few people so let Tony know when you will be able to help. This has always been a very successful project for our club. The show will be planned at the Jan. meeting. Hopefully we will have our new club t-shirts and polo shirts for the event.

It has been brought to my attention that the gate to the field has been left open when there is no one there. This is a great way for a field to get vandalized. Remember the last one out ALWAYS locks the gate no matter what time of day.

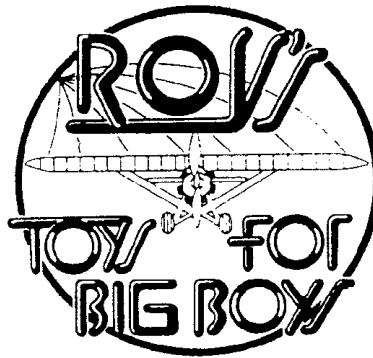
2004 memberships are now available at Airport Pawn and Hobby. Frank Mobley will have memberships available at the field every Sat. 2004 renewals are due Dec. 31st. Make sure you have your 2004 AMA card at the time of renewal. The lock will be changed on the gate Feb. 1st. Please have your renewal and new key by that time.

Dec/Jan Event Calendar

DEC 6--Beaumont, TX (C) 3rd Annual Toys for Tots Fly-In Site: Club Field, Beaumont, TX Charles Warren CD, 4295 Congress, Beaumont, TX 77705 Phone:409-833-9719(day), 409-637-9042(eve) Sponsor: Beaumont RC Club #605 CD Email: grunherzgeschwader@yahoo.com

DEC 17--Huffman, TX (C) Jetero R/C Club Centennial Of Flight Site: Jetero Club Field, Huffman, TX Odis Everts CD, 3714 Beau Lane, Houston, TX 77039 Phone:281-449-9179(both) Sponsor: Jetero R/C Club #1218 Celebrating Centennial of Flight. Model 1903 Wright flyer will fly (weather and nerve permitting)Bring your oldest model and fly on this historic date. \$5 donation for club fly-in. Time: Noon till dark.CD Email: oeverts@aol.com

JAN 16-17--Georgetown, TX (UnSanc) Seventh Annual Georgetown Aero Modelers Swap Meet. Site: San Gabriel Park Neighborhood Building, Georgetown, TX. Table's are free and admission is \$5 a day (spouse or under 12 with adult are free). 3 PM to9 PM on Friday and 9 AM to 3 PM (or when things taper down) on Saturday. Concessions, door prizes, auction on Saturday, and raffle. Dealers



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Sponsor: Georgetown Aero Modelers #1813.

JAN 17-18--Odem, TX (C) 2nd Annual Vintage Scale R/C Fly-In Site: Club Field, Odem, TX Ron Cooper CD, 114 N. Mesquite, Corpus Christi, TX 78401 Phone:361-882-1069(day), 361-852-0868(eve) Sponsor: Gerber's Aero Squadron #7465 Grass Runway; 75 x 400ft. Limited RV parking. Scale models of aircraft built and flown prior to 1960. No profiles or bashed kits please. Rib dinner Saturday evening; \$5 per head. Contact Jerry Gerber for more info at 361-368-2161 or www.gerbersrc.com Current AMA required.

7336 Grapevine Hwy.
Fort Worth, Texas 76118
(817) 589-2624

5720 Davis Blvd.
Fort Worth, Texas 76180
(817) 581-0553



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Tail Spinner Submissions

Items for the Tail Spinner are due by the 25th of the month. Remember that ads are free to members. Send them to:

Roy Baker
3303 Fox Glen
Colleyville, TX 76034
(817) 545-4031

(e-mail) rbaker19@comcast.net

November Secretary's Notes

The meeting was called to order by Lewie Moore.

No minutes were posted in the October newsletter

Meeting attendance was 38

Treasurers Report:

Frank Mobley gave the Treasurers report. Other than the scheduled field maintenance, there were no major expenses this month.

Field Report:

Steve French gave the field report. The field is in good shape, there will be some minor filling of low spots in the pit area and the runway.

Old Business:

The AMA Leader Club Award was completed and the AMA sent the club a very nice plaque and member pins. The Leader Club Award was completed mainly due to the efforts of James McGuiness, who was the leader of the project.

Chuck Rovell gave us a C.A.P. update. The funding of the C.A.P. R/C aircraft and support materials should be available around the first of the year.

The club Christmas party will be held December 7th (Sunday) at 6pm at North Main BBQ in Eules. Contact Lewie Moore or Frank Mobley to buy tickets. Tickets will cost \$12/ adults, \$5.00/ children.

New Business:

Gary Stevens is to get pricing for a four foot high chain link fence to replace the plastic picket fence on the flight line.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed by a club vote to fund the November 16th fun fly with a maximum of \$200.00 in prizes.

A Safety Director is being added to the club staff, anyone interested in the position should contact Lewie Moore. The Safety Director position needs to be filled by January.

The club will be nominating a new club Secretary at the next regular club meet-

ing. The nominee will be posted in the newsletter and a club Secretary will be elected the following meeting.

A committee has been formed to check on material pricing for underground wiring in conduit that will serve the pit area.

Program:

Bob Leone and demonstrated how to cut foam wing cores from a jig. Bob explained how to build a wing jig that will cut foam wing panels and then actually cut a wing half from a foam block to demonstrate how it all works.

Model Of The Month

No model of the month.

Fuel Raffle

Steve Rogers, Tommy Ezell, George Clark each won a gallon of fuel donated by Airport Pawn and Hobby and F3 Hobbies.

Sonny Coleman
Acting Secretary
817-251-3940
Sonny@flygsw.org

(Continued from page 1)

Frank and I have located a cargo van that we can purchase for \$500.00. Our present one is overflowing and we need more room. It is in pretty good shape and will last a long time. In looking for cargo vans I have discovered that they are selling for \$1000.00 to \$2000.00. This will be the only business discussed at the Christmas party.

A big thanks to Herb Roundy for having a very successful H.O.R.S. funfly. Thirty-one pilots participated in a fun filled day. GSW showed the Thunderbirds a lesson or two and rest assured they will be waiting for us at the next one. It was great friendly competition and a good time was had by all. GSW even added a little money to the treasury.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Years to you and yours and a personal thank you to everyone who helped GSW have such a good year and a great place to fly. I appreciate the effort of everyone of who has spent time working at the field.

See you at the field,
Lewie Moore

Instructor Report

I am happy to report that Jeremy Roberts successfully completed his solo flight November 24,2003. Congratulations Jeremy. Thanks also to Walt Fisher for helping Jeremy to succeed.

Training is going well with several new students involved in training. We need additional instructors to help with the number of students. Please let me know if you are interested in training. If you are looking for training and are having any difficulty in finding an instructor please call me and I will get you in touch with instructors that are available at the times that you have an opportunity to fly.

Max Ficken 817-498-4744

New Member report. Two new members joined this month. Please welcome Douglas Adams and Bill Bailey to the club

WANTED!!

I need to look at the plans for the Sig 1/4 scale J-3 Cub.

It would only take about 10 minutes of your time for me to take the measurements I need.

If you have the plane only, that will work also.

At your convenience we can set it up.

Call 817-431-3617

Tony Trimarchi.

[Received this interesting article from Richard Hose. Thanks Richard.—Ed]

PAULOWNIA WOOD
an alternative to Balsa

Paulownia is the next lightest wood to balsa and is a genus of East Asia. There are five species. In China, it is used for shelterbelts, musical instruments, furniture, charcoal, veneer and wooden clogs. The leaves, some of which are half a metre across, are fed to cattle. It was introduced into Japan by Buddhist Monks one thousand years ago and is a highly-valued timber. It was used in the first Zero fighters and other Japanese aircraft.

The ornamental species grows in New Zealand. It is a bushy tree with large leaves and has mauve, trumpet-like flowers in spring. Its wood grain is wavy.

Bill has secured a species which is suitable for building model aircraft. It grows tall - in ten years it grows to about half a metre diameter and four metres to the first branch. It is very heavy when felled and there is a 30mm hole right up the centre of the trunk.

The timber is plantation grown, milled, kiln dried to about 8% moisture content then cut to useable sizes. Being able to cut long length spars is good news for builders of large models.

Bill has carried out some tests of bending strength, comparing paulownia with balsa of about the same weight, and with spruce and cedar. All the samples were as straight-grained as possible. Identical 1/4" square samples of each material were made, fairly accurately and with a good surface finish. 3 cantilevers of each material were tested to failure, and the load at failure noted. The results show just how consistent paulownia wood is, and it has proved to be an excellent wood for model aircraft construction.

Sample Paulownia

.219gm/cc Hard Balsa
.148 gm/cc Spruce
.41 gm/cc Cedar
.39 gm/cc
1 1600gm 1200 3900 2800
2 1600gm 1550 2900 2850
3 1550gm 2100 3100 2900

If you are interested in stocking paulownia wood in your model shop or finding out more about its availability, please contact Bill.

Bill Maunder,
P O Box 73, Ngatea 2852.
Phone 07 8677574 Fax 07 8677711
Email maunder@wave.co.nz

Tips for balancing your model airplane

By LARRY DUDKOWSKI

One of the more critical aspects of building a model—even an Almost-Ready-to-Fly (ARF)—is the balance. Much of the way your aircraft will perform depends on its balance. Unlike a helicopter that “beats the air into submission,” an airplane is balanced on the air. While it is one of the last things you do when you’re building a model from “sticks” or snapping together an ARF, it is one of the most important.

What happens if your model is out of balance? If the model is unbalanced laterally (wingtip to wingtip), it tends to veer to the heavy side in a climb and its loops will appear to corkscrew toward the heavier side. If the model is nose heavy, higher takeoff and landing speed are required. Tracking is straighter, but there is less sensitivity to elevator and rudder inputs. If a model is too tail heavy, just the opposite happens. While landing and takeoff speeds are lower, the aircraft becomes very sensitive to elevator and rudder inputs. Tail-heavy airplanes become uncontrollable.

The easiest way to check the lateral balance is to rest the model on the tail or tail wheel. Then, loop a piece of string under the propeller shaft. Lift the model, using the string, so the main gear is off the ground. The wingtips should remain level. If they are not level, add some weight to the wing that is light (higher). The

further toward the wingtip, the less weight you will need.

Somewhere in your instructions, you should find information on balancing or on how to determine the center of gravity (CG) of your model. This is usually toward the end of the instructions. The CG is typically given as a range dimension and is about a half inch wide. It is generally measured from the leading edge of the wing, usually where the wing meets the fuselage. For example, the CG could be given as 3 to 3 1/2 inches from the leading edge. The location of the measurement is extremely critical on a tapered wing, such as the one found on an Extra 300 or a Cap 232. It is less important on a constant chord (straight) winged model, such as a trainer. I balance the aircraft in the center of the balance point. If the CG is 3 to 3 1/2 inches, I balance at 3 1/4 inches.

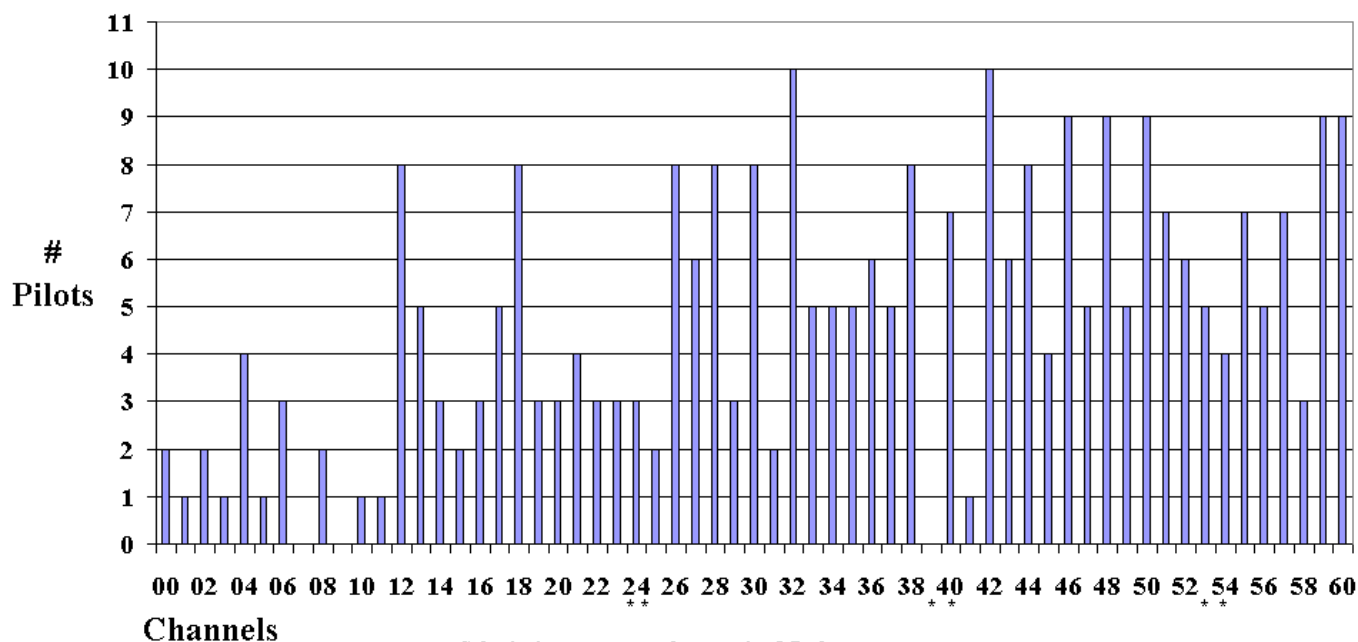
To balance a model, suspend it at the CG points. It should be free to tip forward and backward. Then, add or remove weight to or from the nose or tail until the rear stabilizer is level. Try moving existing weights, such as the receiver and battery, before adding additional weight. If the model is nose heavy, move the battery and receiver toward the back before you add other weight. Remember, the fuel tank must be empty.

I use a Great Planes CG machine to balance my models. Before I had the machine, I supported my model on two full 2-liter bottles. This worked fine on my straight winged trainer. Later I built a balancing stand using two 1/4-inch steel rods glued into wood block bases. I used rubber pencil erasers on the tops of the rods to protect my model.

Here are a few more tips:

- When finding the CG, the fuselage should hang below the balance points. For a high-winged model, lift and support the

**Greater SouthWest Aero Modeler's Club
Frequency/Channel Usage
25 November 2003**



Prepared & Maintained by Walt Fisher

Submit input to gswamfrequencies@flash.net
817 540 5921

*Suspect Channels
24,25,39,40,53,54

model from under the main wing. For a low-winged model, balance the model upside down with the fuselage hanging below the supporting structure.

- When building a kit, try to balance the model before you cover it. That way the covering will hide any additional weight needed inside the structure. On an ARF, try placing the weights under the cowl or inside the fuselage. Again, I try to hide any additional weights.
- I mark the CG point on my models with a small circle of red and white checkered trim sheet. That way I don't have to re-measure every time I want to check the CG.
- Don't forget to recheck the CG after any major repair (read "crash" here). This is especially

true if repairs are done to the nose or tail.

from *Plane Talk*
Prop Masters R/C Club
Dave Masters, Editor
Warrenville IL

Pilot Profiles

Why not put a profile of a family member as the pilot of your next airplane? Take a photo, blow it up to scale size, cut it out, and mount it on foam core. You can then glue it to the cockpit of your airplane.

from *RAMS Airmail*
Rochester Aero Model Society
Leo Jaeger, editor
Rochester MN

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The Tail Spinner

Greater Southwest Aero Modelers
P.O. Box 1355
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