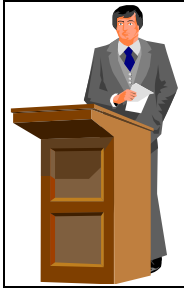


ETAM Tailwind

May-June 2011

Vol.5, No3

President's Corner



By Charles Warren

The Spring Fun-Fly has come and gone! I feel it was a great success, and the weather could not have been better. Many thanks to all of you who donated prizes to the raffle and gave your time and energy at the

registration table and food booth. It takes the dedication of all to have a successful event. I hope to see you all at the field.

Next Meeting:

May 1, 2011

June 5, 2011

2:00 P.M.

ETAM club field

Event Schedule-2011

5/7/2011-Sherman, TX. 11th Texoma R/C Electric Extravaganza. Site: Pete Danta Field, Joe Denney C.D. Phone: 903-819-5843 E-mail: joe1d@juno.com. \$15 landing fee includes lunch, pilot meeting at 9 am.

5/14/2011-Livingston, TX. Spring Fun-Fly. Site: Elwood Field, Mike Muehr C.D. Phone: 936-329-1973, E-mail: michael.muehr@ineos.com. \$20 landing fee, includes lunch, additional plates \$10. Please bring canned goods for Livingston Food Bank.

5/14/2011-5/15/2011-Mt. Pleasant, TX. Northeast Texas R/C Club Big Bird, Site: Club Field, Gus Hudson C.D. Phone: 903-885-6013, e-mail: gushudson@suddenlink.com.

6/15/2011- Ft. Worth, TX. Old Farts Four Stroke Fly-in. Site: Club Field, Ellwood Lake C.D. Phone: 817-294-8746, e-mail: at6pilot@att.net. Food and beverages available.

6/18/2011-Grand Prairie, TX. Golden Triangle R/C Club 1st Annual Electric Fly-in, site: Jim Fulton Field, Ray Thompson C.D., phone: 817-453-8110, e-mail: bigdogr@sbcglobal.net.

ETAM AMA Club #1260

Club Officers

Charles Warren- President
Eddie Bernaldez- Vice President
Sandra Warren –Secretary/Treasurer
Gene Elfstrom- Safety Officer
Bob Smith-Newsletter Editor
Eddie Bernaldez, Charles Warren- Instructor
Pilots

ATTENTION! BIG MIKE'S HAS MOVED TO 1617 PINE TREE RD (PINE TREE SHOPPING CENTER)

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2157 Gilmer Rd.
Longview, TX
75604
Mike & Donna Sumrow
OPEN
Mon-Wed-Thurs-Fri
10am - 6pm
Tues 12pm - 7pm
Sat 10am - 4pm

E-Mail Newsletter

If you would like your newsletter sent via e-mail, please send your e-mail address to Bob Smith (smith4911@att.net). If you have not received one yet, we do not have your correct address!

Hints and Tips

From Wings R/C Club, Les Mars, Iowa

Cheap Model Airplanes From Builders' Cast-Offs

Once you have mastered the basics of building a model airplane and have a few spare bits lying around your workshop it becomes very easy to produce your very own design of plastic model airplane. Simple Plastic Airplane Design (SPAD) is a really cheap and fun alternative to constructing expensive remote-controlled model airplanes kits.

Support your local Hobby Shop, it pays dividends!

The concept of SPAD started in the late 1990's and has evolved into a highly detailed and solid method for building RC model airplanes. While using traditional building materials and techniques can take weeks or months to put an airplane together, applying the SPAD concept can reduce the build time down to days, or even hours. SPAD materials are widely available and are less expensive than those used in standard model airplane kits. Plans and help for building a SPAD can be found online and are completely free. The best part about flying a SPAD is its survivability when it comes to the inevitable crashes as your enthusiasm gets away from you!

The basic RC model airplane SPAD concept revolves around using inexpensive building materials that can be found at local hardware stores and sign shops—or even picked up for nothing from builders' cast-offs. While the materials required for constructing a SPAD vary from one design to another, the basic materials used include PVC downspout pipe for the fuselage, Coro-Plast (corrugated plastic) sign material for the wings and controls surfaces, HDPE cutting boards for firewalls and landing gear blocks, and CA (superglue) to hold everything together.

Because of the simplicity involved in putting a SPAD RC model airplane together, even an inexperienced modeler can complete the job in a single weekend. A basic fuselage made from PVC downspout can be made in a matter of minutes, CoroPlast wings and control surfaces in just a few hours, and all the miscellaneous parts to complete the project in just a few hours more. Acquiring the materials needed for a RC model airplane SPAD project may require no more than a trip to the local hardware store and a few phone calls to local sign shops.

Aside from these readily available materials, there are a few other items that you will need: self-tapping sheet metal screws, zip ties, a utility knife, and a few wood sticks (4mm x 27mm x 1m pine lathing/lattice). Other items needed to complete your RC model airplane, such as wheels, landing gear, and control arms, will need to be fabricated or purchased from your favorite hobby store.

Plans for building a SPAD RC model airplane are available online, free of charge, from many different sources. SpadToTheBone.com, the original home for the RC model airplane SPAD concept, has plans to suit just about anyone. From the ever popular trainer called the Debonair, to the more sophisticated Coro Edge 540 sport/fun-fly model. A community has been built around the RC model airplane SPAD concept at www.SpadWorld.net where model builders from all over the globe help each other learn better and more exciting ways to make SPADs.

One of the greatest benefits to building with the RC model airplane SPAD materials is just how tough they are. Whether you're trying a new aerobatic maneuver and just can't seem to pull out of it, or just learning to take off for the first time and cartwheel your airplane down the runway, the chances that your airplane will survive are good. Compared to easily breakable balsa, plastic is a forgiving

material that can survive higher impact speeds without damage—and is easily fixed when broken.

Ease of construction, low cost, and survivability all add up to a package that encourages modelers to experiment with design concepts and methods that extend the envelope of their experience and knowledge. Why not give it a go yourself? →

From Notam, Bayou City Flyers, Katy Texas

Protecting Yourself From Hazardous Materials

By Chris Myers

If we caught our kids out in the garage sniffing paint or glue, we would send them to counseling. Yet, as adults we do this and call it modeling.

Last year I read an article about a man who was working with acetone in his house. After using it, he almost collapsed. Getting out of the room and lying down, he returned to normal.

When I look at the shelves in my work room, the chemicals stored there range from Balsarite to various spray cans, paint, lacquer, pesticides, etc., to CA to acetone, along with a couple cases of fuel. In addition to this, I use balsa and do a lot of sanding, creating particles to clog my lungs.

In the process of repairing and maintaining our aircraft, our hands come in contact with several hazardous materials. Our body absorbs these chemicals, and consistent exposure to them can be a danger to your health.

If you dissect our hobby, it quickly becomes apparent that we often spill fuel and CA on our hands. We sniff the paint and glue fumes and use grease and oil in our maintenance. It all gets on our hands. If you are an active modeler, you have a lot of exposure to hazardous materials.

Below is a list of a few items you may want to keep around the workshop. They should help minimize the risk of exposure to hazardous materials.

1. Get a fire extinguisher.
2. Go to an auto paint and body shop and pick up a good face mask.
3. Buy a small fan for ventilation. [**Tech editor's note:** A large fan is recommended. In order to move more air, a small fan must be run at a higher speed and that causes some of its own problems. A large fan running slow moves sufficient air without making other problems.]
4. Work in a room that is properly ventilated.
5. Buy a box of rubber gloves.

Our hobby is great fun, but more than the propeller deserves some serious attention to keep you from being in harm's way.

Fly safe and have fun. →

Always use good safety practices at the field!

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