



# SANDERSON FIELD R.C. NEWS



CHARTER NO. 3079

## CLUB MEETING

*This month the meeting will be held on Thursday March 8th. Doors open at 6:00 p.m..*

*at PUD #3*

*At 3rd & Cota*

Minutes were read and accepted as read.

Treasurers report was read and accepted as read.

Tom Strom mentioned that the Senate and House passed the amendment to protect model aviation.

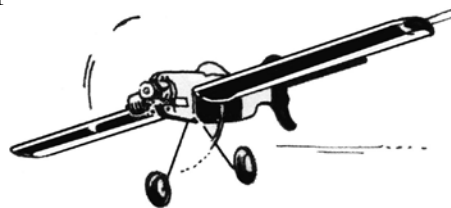
Dick Robb noted a couple of upcoming events. April 21st is the Dawn patrol and scale event up near Everett. He also noted that TCMAA has their schedule for the year on their web site.

Tom Strom asked Dick Robb to get the plans and materials list for the starting stands together for the next meeting as it's about time to start building them for the upcoming flying season at Hunters. Dick will be bringing the plans to the next board meeting.

Tom brought up the safety nets

which were destroyed by flooding and some new designs for the safety netting around the pilot stations was discussed.

The swap meet was brought up, the secretary has the 14th of April reserved and the date was agreed upon. It was also decided to have the 50/50 raffle again. Dave Fisher motioned to raise the cost of tables to \$10 for 1 and \$15. Motion passed



Tom Strom raised the idea of starting a formal training program, i.e. make it known there would be people available for training on a particular night. Dick Robb brought up the school kids coming for the day and possibilities were discussed on starting that program up again. It was thought that Hunters would be a good location for a training program because of better public access. The possibility of doing the Walmart public day was brought up and Dick Robb thought we should only fly electric models there as the younger crowd seems more interested in them than the glow models.

Meeting adjourned 7:45



Check out the new signs, The Strom's did a great job! THANKS!

The old one was looking pretty shabby

# Apprentice makeover

A New Firewall and Power System for E-flite's Apprentice by Royce Tivel

The E-flite Apprentice has just the right flying characteristics for a wannabe pilot who is learning the basics of RC flying. During my RC training, I have found that the stock motor is not all that robust. I have replaced two of them. The flimsy firewall is another weak point, including the nose-wheel mounting and steering arm. After my Apprentice received a major "owie" as a result of a rough landing, during which the engine and firewall were torn from the fuselage, I decided an Apprentice makeover was in order (I won't say who was flying the plane at the time). I should note that, as the old saw goes, "In the hands of an experienced pilot....," the Apprentice should last forever; however, newbies can find untold ways make life tough on their aircraft.

I began the Apprentice makeover by cutting out a new plate for the nylon nose gear bearing (SIGSH115).



Nose gear assembly

I used 3/16" birch plywood for this. Before gluing the mounting plate to the fuselage, I installed the bearing to the plate using the included screws and blind nuts. I then glued the assembly to the fuselage with Gorilla Glue. This was my first experience using Gorilla Glue and I found its gap-filling property made it perfect for foam. Also, a hot knife made glue removal easy when the glue expanded where it was not wanted: the hot knife cuts through the glue like butter after it has dried. Note that I cut a gap into one side of the bearing to provide additional travel for the nylon steering arm (SIGSH101).

Next, I cut a new firewall out of 3/32" birch plywood. Being what I call a barn-yard carpenter, I used an old fash-

ioned coping saw for this. I glued this to the foam with Gorilla Glue. I used lots of blue tape to hold the new firewall in place while the glue dried. After the glue cured, I constructed the engine mount.



Installing the new firewall

Actually, the engine mount for the new Power 15 motor consists of two parts. The new motor fit the standard plastic apprentice motor mount perfectly and the mount provides the correct amount of right thrust. I had to construct the firewall portion of the motor mount to provide the correct amount of down thrust. This has to be positioned carefully. Note that it is offset to the left side of the fuselage (your right while looking at the image) so that the motor will be correctly positioned within the cowl. I used three screws to secure the wooden motor mount in addition to gorilla glue: the screws insured that the mount position would not change during the gluing process. I determined the down thrust from measurements taken off the original firewall.



Firewall motor mount



Motor installation side view

Final construction included new hard points for the cowl screws, replacing some foam behind the new firewall, and repairing two large cracks in the cowl with a bit of fiberglass.



A test run of the new power system blew paper and other loose items quite nicely off of my workbench. After a balance check, I added 1 oz of weight to the end of the fuselage. Now, my Apprentice may look a bit rough on the outside but "under the hood," it's better than new.

Power system (all E-flite):

- \* Power 15 Brushless Outrunner Motor, 950Kv,
- \* 40-Amp Lite Pro Switch-Mode BEC Brushless ESC,
- \* 3200mAh 3S 11.1V 30C LiPo, 12AWG EC3, and
- \* 11 x 8 Electric Prop: Apprentice 15e.

# FAA bill exempting aeromodeling

M U N C I E – The U.S. Senate late Monday joined the House in passing the first full FAA Reauthorization Bill in more than four years. In passing the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 both the House and Senate included a provision aimed at protecting model aviation from burdensome regulations. The President is expected to sign the bill into law.

“We are very appreciative of those in Congress who recognize that model aviation hobbyists have been highly successful at governing themselves and being safety conscious over generations,” said Bob Brown, president of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, representing 143,000 aeromodelers. “We are intensely committed to a safe National Airspace System (NAS), and have proven so. This bill is testimony to a common sense approach to model aviation.”

The AMA’s ongoing attempt to protect aeromodeling from what it believes to be unnecessary and overreaching federal regulations was championed by Sen. James Inhofe (R-OK) who sponsored the amend-

ment. The Academy would like to express its sincere appreciation to the members of Congress and their staffs, with special thanks to John Mica (R-FL), Kay Bailey Hutchinson (R-TX), Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) and Tom Petri (R-WI).

“I can’t stress enough the impact that AMA members have had on getting this amendment passed,” said Brown. “Last year, our members sent 90,000 letters of concern to their Congressional representatives, and the collective voice of aeromodeling was heard loud and clear.”

Rapid technological advancements and the integration of small unmanned aircraft systems, or sUAS, has been a challenge for the FAA, which is responsible for ensuring the safety of the NAS. The AMA has consistently contended that aeromodeling conducted by its members, following the AMA Safety Code, is different from commercial sUAS operations. That distinction lies, in part, with hobbyists operating within a defined area, away from people and property, and not for commercial purposes, among other self-imposed rules.

“This legislation is a very positive step,” said Rich Hanson, AMA’s Government Regulatory Affairs representative. “However, there are still steps to come. We look forward to a cooperative effort with the FAA in ensuring that model aircraft may continue to operate safely within the NAS.”

AMA expects that the FAA will issue its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for public comment sometime later this spring. The Academy continues to believe that a regulatory approach to model aviation is unnecessary and unwarranted.

**The March Meeting will likely be the last one in the old (current) facility**, the PUD is moving to the new facility on John’s Prairie in mid March. Our meetings will be held there if all goes according to the current plan. I’m told the new facility will have a bigger meeting room and it will still be free to use.

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**DUES ARE \$100.**

**IF YOU PAY BY MAIL SEND YOUR DUES, PROOF OF 2012 AMA MEMBERSHIP AND A SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE TO THE TREASURER:**

**CHUCK KENTFIELD  
3122 Madrona Beach Rd.  
Olympia WA 98502**

**Make checks payable to SFRCF**

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## CLUB OFFICERS

President.....	Tom Strom.....	(360)350-0181
Vice President .....	Burt Daggett .....	(360)427-6653
Treasurer .....	Charles Kentfield .....	(360)866-9473
Secretary .....	Bob Beatty .....	(360)426-5601
Safety Officer .....	John Tupper .....	(360)426-6383

## BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member .....	Tom Strom/ .....	(206)246-4258
Board Member .....	Jody Diaz.....	(360)427-6102
Board Member .....	Stacy Myers.....	(360)426-9367
Board Member .....	Bob Beatty .....	(360)426-5601
Board Member .....	Burt Daggett .....	(360)427-6653
Alt Board Member .....	Bob Mason .....	(360)426-9256
Alt Board Member .....	Chuck Kentfield .....	(360)866-9473

March 2012							Today
Sun 26	Mon 27	Tue 28	Wed 29	Today Thu, March 1	Fri 2	Sat 3	
4 ● RC Breakfast	5 ● SFRCF Board m...	6	7	8 ● SFRCF meeting...	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18 ● Car club	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 ● Non profit filing f...	

Only one closure this month so far the calendar could change, Check the website before heading to Sanderson field  
<http://sfrcf.quintex.com/event/events.html>

## Club Scheduled Events for 2011

*Event dates in black are scheduled. Events in gray are complete.*

The new contract allows us to schedule non-exclusive days again, however if the car clubs don't go to the new track we may not keep many.

January 1st 9:00 am .....First fly of the year  
 April 14th ..... 18th annual Swap meet  
 May 12th ..... Club fly-in  
 June ?? ..... Forest Festival parade  
 June 16th ..... Club fly-in  
 June 30th-Jul 1st ..... Pylon Race  
 July 14th ..... Club fly-in  
 August 4th ..... Club fly-in  
 August 18th-19th ..... Pylon Race  
 September 22nd ..... Club fly-in

**It's time for 2012 dues, dues are \$100.00**

Check out our web site at <http://sfrcf.quintex.com>