

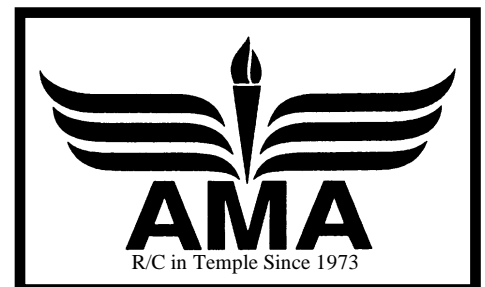
# The Temple Aero Modeler

The Official Newsletter of the Temple Aero Modelers Radio Controlled Aircraft Club

April 2025



**This month's meeting will be held Monday, April 28 at the Ronald McDonald House in Temple (2415 S. 47<sup>th</sup>) beginning at 7:30pm.**



# CLUB INFO

*Club Meeting:  
April 28<sup>th</sup>*

*Night Fly  
April 25<sup>th</sup>*

*Spring Picnic  
& E-Combat  
April 27<sup>th</sup>*

## 2025 Officers

President: Chris Boultinghouse  
(512)632-6920  
Secretary: Frank Sodek (254)295-6204  
Treasurer: Buster Hinkle (254)718-0243  
Safety Officer: Ryan Benefield (512)983-0506  
Field Marshal: T.K. Crisi (254)368-5443

## Instructors

Paul Milton (254)493-1339  
Frank Sodek (254)295-6204  
Larry Macie (254)291-4590  
Chris Boultinghouse (512)632-6920



## On The Cover

Chris has his night flyer ready for the Club's next Night Fly event, which will be held on Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.

*Photo by Chris Boultinghouse*

## Temple Aero Modelers Upcoming Events Schedule

Apr 25	Night Fly	6:00pm
Apr 27	Spring Picnic/E-Combat	1:00pm
Apr 28	Club Meeting	7:30pm
May 17	Central TX Airshow	
May 18	E-Combat	1:00pm
May 19	Club Meeting	7:30pm
May 23	Night Fly	6:00pm
Jun 8	Sanctioned Fun Fly	11:00am
Jun 22	E-Combat	1:00pm
Jun 27	Night Fly	6:00pm
Jun 30	Club Meeting	7:30pm
Jul 13	E-Combat	1:00pm
Jul 25	Night Fly	6:00pm

Club business meetings are held on the last Monday of each month, with the exception of May (pulled up one week because of Memorial Day) and December (replaced by the Christmas Banquet).

Frank Sodek – Editor (254)295-6204  
Mark Cullison – Editor's Assistant

On Facebook: @TempleAeroModelers  
On the web at: [www.templeaeromodelers.org](http://www.templeaeromodelers.org)  
Web Master: Chris Boultinghouse  
caboultinghouse@yahoo.com

# The Temple Aero Modeler

## President's Report



Hello fellow aviation nuts!

This month's column is on a requested topic: Choosing an electric power system. I will try to keep it as brief as possible, but it's a relatively complicated topic. In short, it's all about the watts. What? Let me explain.

Watt is the unit typically used to measure an electric motor's power. To put it into internal combustion specifications, one horsepower = 745.6 watts. This makes it relatively easy if you are converting a glow-powered plane to electric. Just find the horsepower output of the glow (or gas) engine you'd typically use, and convert it to watts. I will use my Ugly Stik as an example, since I'm converting it from glow to either gas or electric (probably the latter because it's easy). I removed an O.S. 62V 4 stroke, which according to the specs makes 1.08 hp. Power was adequate for my flying style, so if I can find an electric power system that makes 805 watts, it'll be fine. In reality, I'll probably shoot for 1,000 watts just to make it interesting. So how do we get 1,000 watts? Read on.

Even though I despise it, let's do some math. The formula to get watts is volts x amps. Sometimes folks get hung up on motor kv, cell count, etc. The big thing that matters is the watts, but how you get there also matters. Since amps cause heat, it's pretty clear that lowering the amps makes everything run cooler. But if you need (say) 1,000 watts, how do you get there without a lot of amps? Raise the voltage! The reality is you could achieve 1,000 watts on a 1 cell lipo battery (say 4 volts) but the amp draw would be massive (250 amps!) and would melt wires and connectors. You'd also need a motor with really high kv (rpm per volt) to spin the prop at a useful rpm. Obviously this won't work, so you increase the cell count (voltage). If you jump to 6 cells (which puts out 24v near the top of the charge) then you only need 41 amps to make your 1,000 watts. That's better!

With that out of the way, we're almost ready to choose a motor. We've determined that watts are the important number, but how many do we need if we're building something that doesn't have a gas or glow motor? Sometimes the kit maker will recommend a power system, but if you're scratch building you're on your own. Use this rule of thumb: 100 watts per pound is "trainer like" performance. 200 watts per pound is "strong sport plane" and anything more is "ballistic".

So how do you know what motor to use? In the past, some companies tried to compare them to glow engines so you ended up with absurd names like "Power 60" which really doesn't tell you much. Some companies, like SunnySky, use

stator diameter and length. That's helpful, because in general, size matters on a motor. Kv, as mentioned before, is the rpm per volt, and that helps you choose as well since you generally know what size prop you want to use based on ground clearance or past experience with a certain plane. With any luck, the motors you are looking at list specs at different voltages with various props.

Continuing with my Ugly Stik example, I want 800-1,000 watts, and probably a 13 or 14" prop. Looking at the specs for SunnySky motors, this one looks good:

<https://sunnyskyusa.com/collections/x-motors/products/sunnysky-x3525-brushless-motors-520kv-880kv>

It's a 3525 (35mm stator, 25mm tall), and I'd choose the 520kv to give me about 12,000 rpm on a six cell pack. Their specs list around 46 amps / 1,018 watts on a 6 cell pack swinging a 13x6.5 prop. Sounds just about right! They also list static thrust at 3,950 grams / 8.7 lb, which is about 2 lbs more than the plane would weigh.

Hopefully this will give you some ideas on how to choose motors for your next project. If you want help, reach out to me and we can run some numbers.

Till next time. See you at the field!

Chris Boultinghouse  
Club President [cboultinghouse@yahoo.com](mailto:cboultinghouse@yahoo.com)

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## Treasurer's Report



**Beginning Balance:** \$4,587.02

**Deposits:** None

**Expenses:**

Frank Sodek (AMA Charter and Insurance renewal): \$130.00  
T.K. Crisi (mower oil and filter changes): \$177.00  
T.K. Crisi (food for events): \$111.00  
Ronald McDonald House: \$25.00  
**Total Expenses:** \$443.00

**Balance March 2025:** \$4,144.02

Submitted by *Buster Hinkle*  
Club Treasurer

# The Temple Aero Modeler

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## Meeting Minutes (March 31, 2025 meeting)

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by our Club President, Chris Boultinghouse.

**New Members/Visitors** – None.

**Minutes** – Minutes from the Febuary meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter. A motion to accept the Minutes was made by Buster Hinkle and seconded by Gary Morawiez.

**Treasurer's Report** – The Treasurer's report was read by Buster Hinkle. Motion to accept the report was made by Joe Svacina, seconded by Kenny Maddux.

**Safety Officer's Report** – Our Club Safety Officer was not present. Buster read Ryan's article that was in the newsletter.

**Field Marshal's Report** – Our Field Marshal was not present, his wife is getting a lung transplant and they were preparing to go down to Austin for the surgery.

**Announcements** – Your newsletter editor (ME!) apparently got confused and forgot to send out some March newsletters.

**Old Business** – Club rechartering with the AMA is complete. Frank reported on the sub-lease renewal with Bell County (and for the County's lease renewal with the Corps) for our field. No new documents have been requested. The new lease and sub-lease are for a period of ten years beginning 7/25/25.

A Night Fly was held on February 28<sup>th</sup> but the Night fly scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup> didn't happen due to bad weather.

The first E-Combat event for this year was held on March 9, with a turnout of six pilots. Chris put his combat plane into a tree.

**New Business** – The next Night Fly of the year will be held on Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6pm.

The Spring Picnic and an E-Combat competition will be held on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1pm. The Picnic will be a potluck lunch, the club will provide plates and utensils. Frank volunteered to bring bottled water.

Frank reported that the Central TX Airfest will be held on Friday evening, May 16<sup>th</sup> (6-10pm) and Saturday May 17 (11am-5pm). After some discussion it was decided that the Club will not participate with a static display booth at the event this year.

Mike DeWolf suggested that we should create a flyer offering free flight training and post them around town in an attempt to get some new members.

Paul Milton reported that he had been contacted by a Camp Funshine organizer requesting the club return to put on some demonstration flights similar to a previous event last year. It was decided to not support this request.

**Trip Reports** – Frank attended the Lunch at the Airport that was held at the Temple Airport. The aircraft display was minimal and lunch involved a food truck serving Cajun Food. Helicopter and Fire Truck rides were being offered (the helicopter ride cost \$65).

Frank James attended the San Antonio swap meet.

**Blunder Award** – Larry Macie took off his combat-like plane with the ailerons reversed.

Joe Svacina left his wing tube at home. He landed short with his Big Cessna and messed up its nose gear. He also flew his big Cessna but forgot to install the strut screws.

Buster stated that he will check on stiffer poles to use for retrieving planes stuck in trees. Our current PVC pipe poles are a bit too flexible.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Minutes recorded and submitted by *Frank Sodek*  
Club Secretary [fsodek@aol.com](mailto:fsodek@aol.com)

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## Spring Picnic – Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>

The Club's Spring Picnic will be held on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1pm. It will be a potluck lunch as usual, so bring your favorite dish for everyone to enjoy. The club will furnish drinks, plates and utensils. There will be an electric combat session after lunch, followed by open flying during the rest of the afternoon. Bring your family and friends out for the fun!

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## April Meeting Location

This month's meeting will be held in the Ronald McDonald House in Temple as usual, however our normal meeting room (the Board Room) is being used by another party, so we will meet in the dining area outside the Board Room (which we had to do a couple of times last year).

**Editor's note:** If the entrance gate to the Ronald McDonald House parking lot is closed, the entry code is **0412**.

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*A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.*

*The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.*

*When you go into court, you are putting yourself in the hands of twelve people who weren't smart enough to get out of jury duty.*

Frank Sodek  
6124 Modena Drive  
Temple, TX 76502

*Night Fly: April 25<sup>th</sup>*  
*Spring Picnic / E-Combat:*  
*April 27<sup>th</sup>*  
*Club Meeting: April 28<sup>th</sup>*

## **"The Temple Aero Modeler Newsletter"**

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Frank Sodek  
6124 Modena Drive  
Temple, TX 76502  
(254) 295-6204  
E-Mail: [fsodek@aol.com](mailto:fsodek@aol.com)

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