

The Temple Aero Modeler

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

November 2025



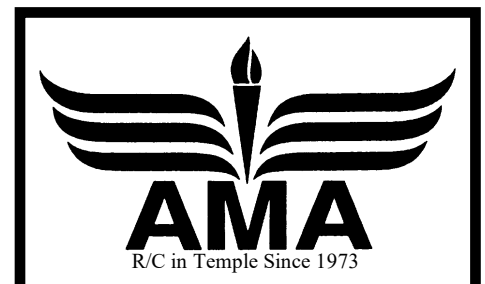
Happy Holidays



Happy Holidays



This month's meeting will be held on Monday, November 24th at the Ronald McDonald House in Temple (2415 S. 47th) beginning at 7:30pm.



CLUB INFO

*Night Fly
November 21st*

*Club Meeting
November 24th*

*Don Cullison
Memorial Toy Fly
December 7th*

*Christmas Party
December 8th*

*Fall Fun Fly #2
December 14th*

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

Temple Aero Modelers Upcoming Events Schedule

Nov 21 Night Fly 6:00pm

Nov 24 Club Meeting 7:30pm

Dec 7 Don Cullison Memorial
Toy Fly 1:00pm

Dec 8 Christmas Banquet 6:30pm

Dec 14 Fall Fun Fly #2 1:00pm
(rescheduled)

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).

Instructors

Paul Milton (254)493-1339

Frank Sodek (254)295-6204

Larry Macie (254)291-4590

Chris Boultinghouse (512)632-6920



On The Cover

The inaugural drone training class using our field is shown at the entrance gate to our field. See Chris's article on page 6 for a description of the event.

Courtesy Photo provided by Drone Pilot Inc



Frank Sodek – Editor (254)295-6204

Mark Cullison – Editor's Assistant

On Facebook: @TempleAeroModelers

On the web at: www.templeaeromodelers.org

Web Master: Chris Boultinghouse
caboultinghouse@yahoo.com

The Temple Aero Modeler

President's Report



Hello fellow aviation nuts!

Hard to believe, but we have already arrived at the end of the year, at least for the newsletter. As I contemplated what to write about, it occurred to me that I should probably share my experience and recommendations

from the perspective of someone who is returning to the Spektrum brand after over a decade of staying away from it.

Why did I stay away, you may be asking? I was an early adopter of the Spektrum brand, and actually first started with one of their modules installed in my JR radio. Let's just say that their early receivers and transmitters were not very robust when it came to signal quality and stability, and as a result I lost a few models to unexplained radio failures. That tends to rattle confidence (and cause extreme irritation) so I sold off my Spektrum gear and swore off (and at) it. Over the years I've had a few opportunities to sample Spektrum radios, and fly planes with their receivers equipped with AS3X (Spektrum's gyro). They were OK, but I didn't like the feel of the AS3X compared to other gyros I'd been using. Fast forward to earlier this year where I got the opportunity to fly a couple of E-Flite planes with Spektrum's latest AS3X+, and wowsers. It was really good! I started reading reviews and watching videos, including a podcast that had an interview with the lead developer for AS3X+, and I decided I wanted to try Spektrum again. I watched the classifieds and picked up a like-new iX14+SE transmitter, bought a Night TimberX Evolution, and now I'm having a blast!

Last week I added the RJ Gritter Decathlon to the fleet. While it flew well, I didn't think it flew nearly as "locked in" as the Timber. I was puzzled by that until I realized it had the older AS3X receiver and software, not the "Plus" version. Since I have the Spektrum programmer widget now, I updated the receiver to the latest software and did a factory reset and fresh setup.

Within 10 seconds of liftoff on the next flight I could tell the little Decathlon flew like a whole new airplane! Yes, the software really does make that much of a difference.

So, my fellow Spektrum users, here's the point: If you have any planes with the older AS3X, and you have an NX or iX series radio (or a newer DX with forward programming), you really should update your receiver to AS3X+! Then do a factory reset (which unlocks all the options) and run through the setup. It's easy, and I guarantee you'll be surprised by how much better it flies. If you don't have the programmer widget to update with, or are hesitant to do it, I'd be glad to help anyone with the update and setup. Just let me know!

Till next time. See you at the field!

Chris Boultinghouse
 Club President cboultinghouse@yahoo.com

Treasurer's Report



Beginning Balance: \$4,732.85

Deposits: None

Expenses:

Ronald McD House: \$25.00

T.K. (mower drive belt): \$70.35

T.K. Krisi (new Husky weed eater): \$239.99

Hilliard Trophies (Fall Fun Fly trophies): \$37.89

Buster Hinkle (Food for two Night Flies): \$52.00

Buster Hinkle (Poker Fly food, drinks): \$66.00

Total Expenses: \$491.23

Balance October 2025: \$4,241.62

Submitted by Buster Hinkle
 Club Treasurer

Meeting Minutes (October 27, 2025 meeting)

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

New Members/Visitors – Ray was present

Minutes - Minutes from the September meeting were
(Meeting Minutes continued on next page)

The Temple Aero Modeler

(Meeting Minutes continued from prior page)

approved as printed in the newsletter. A motion to accept the Minutes was made by Fred Huber and seconded by T.K.Crisi.

Treasurer's Report - The Treasurer's report was read by Buster Hinkle and accepted. Motion to accept was made by Larry Macie and seconded by T.K. Krisi.

Safety Officer's Report - Ryan Benefield presented the safety report, which was printed in the October newsletter. Ryan reminded everyone that the pilot stands should always be used, even when flying electric models.

Field Marshal's Report – T.K. mentioned that a Field Work Day will be held on Saturday, November 15th. The contents of the long conex will be organized and there will be light mowing.

The annual field inspection by the Corps will be held on December 3rd at 1245pm.

Fred Huber pointed out that there are some rotten rafters on the roof of the main pavilion due to water leaks from the metal roof panels. The rotten rafters will need replacing and the holes in the metal roof will need to be sealed.

Announcements – Frank Sodek, Buster and Marsha Hinkle helped with the Clay Shoot fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House on Friday, October 17th at Weber's Guns range.

Chris reminded everyone that the field will be closed on November 3rd and 4th for drone training sessions by local law enforcement personnel.

Frank showed some historic photos provided to him from Keith Janeway, the son of deceased former member Collins Janeway.

Old Business - The results of the Fall Fun Fly that was held on October 5th as printed in the newsletter were discussed.

The results of the e-Combat event held on October 19th were discussed. Andrew's points don't count. New streamers are needed.

There were three attendees of the Night Fly held on October 24th. Winds picked up due to a storm in the West as the flying was ending.

New Business – Fall Fun Fly #2 will be held on November 9th. Events will consist of spot landing /

balloon bust.

The next E-Combat event will be held on November 16th.

The next Night Fly event will be held on November 21st. Marsha will cook food for the event.

It's time to nominate the slate of officers for next year, which typically are voted on at the Christmas Party. This needs to happen at the November meeting.

Trip Reports – Buster reported on the REKLAW full scale fly-in. Kids were running on the runway at night, causing issues for the night-flying models that were being flown.

Frank S. mentioned that he had planned to attend the Wings Over Houston Airshow but decided against it because no current government aircraft would be attending (including the Thunderbirds) due to the government shutdown.

Blunder Award – Fred Huber damaged his combat plane during a test flight. Russ Burt dinged up his Super Cub during a flight.

Fred won the Blunder Award

Meeting adjourned at 8:30.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Frank Sodek (Club Secretary).

Safety Officer's Report



Club members have been doing an excellent job following the safety rules lately, other than Larry flying over the pits... and if all else fails drink water and stay hydrated.

Submitted by Ryan Benefield
Club Safety Officer



The Temple Aero Modeler

5

November Combat report

By *Marsha Hinkle, CD*

As this year's combat comes to a close, we have had a great season and I think we have figured out all the kinks and got it down and are ready for next year! We will present the trophies for this year's combat season at the Christmas banquet, but to save suspense here are the final tallies and after-action report. Our final combat was held on November 16th and surprisingly the weather was finally in our favor. We had 5 pilots: Chris, Ryan, Larry, Fred, and a new participant Kenny Malcik, who did excellent for his first time. Chris is really getting good at cutting the free-floating ribbons. The scores on the final combat are as follows:

- Chris: 11 Cuts + 1 midair = 13 points
- Ryan: 8 cuts + 1 midair = 10 points
- Larry: 3 cuts + 0 midairs = 4 points
- Fred: 0 cuts + 0 midairs = 1 point
- Kenny M: 0 cuts + 0 midairs = 1 point

Here are the overall point totals for the 2025 combat season:

Ryan: 9 contests/56 cuts/14 midairs = 79 points 1st

Chris: 9 contests/59 cuts/6 midairs = 74 points 2nd

Derek: 5 contests/22 cuts/9 midairs = 36 points 3rd

Larry: 6 contests/12 cuts/3 midairs = 21 points 4th

Mike: 6 contests/4 cuts/3 midairs = 13 points 5th

John C.: 1 contest/4 cuts/0 midairs = 5 points 6th

Fred: 2 contests/2 cuts/0 midairs = 4 points 7th

Frank: 1 contest/1 cut/0 midairs = 2 points 8th

Kenny M.: 1 contest/0 cuts/0 midairs = 1 point 9th

Doug: 1 contest/0 cuts/0 midairs = 1 point 10th

Thank you everyone for all your hard work this year, I enjoyed being your CD. Can't wait for next year!

Don Cullison Memorial Toy Fly

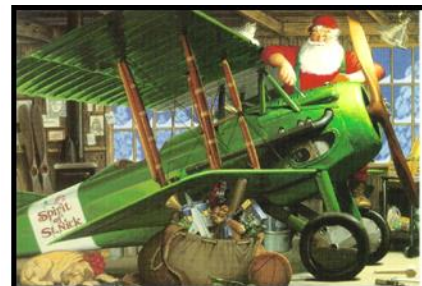
On Sunday, December 7th our club will be holding our annual Don Cullison Memorial Toy Fly beginning at 1PM. Entry fee for the event is one unwrapped toy (in prior years several pilots have brought more than one toy) which Mark will distribute to local toy collections for needy children. This event is for a really good cause, so come on out with some toys even if Mother Nature isn't cooperating for us with good flying conditions.

TAM Christmas Banquet

The final non-flying event for this year will be our Christmas Banquet, to be held on Monday, December 8th beginning at 6:30 PM. This year our banquet will be held at the Northside Church of Christ located at 3401 North 3rd street (take exit 303 if you're heading north on IH35; the church is on the IH35 service road just past the Convention Center). There is a nice meeting room behind the church, and parking is also behind the church. This is the same location that we used last year.

The party starts with a pot-luck meal, which is always full of delicious-tasting goodies (the club will provide drinks, plates and utensils). After the meal we'll have a very brief business meeting (which typically includes officer elections for next year), then Buster will lead us in the always-popular Chinese Gift Exchange. Anyone wanting to participate in the gift exchange (which should be everyone attending the party – it is loads of fun!) should bring a wrapped gift (normally in the \$10-\$15 cost range) to join in the fun of opening/exchanging/stealing the gifts.

This is our premier family event – it is an evening of great fellowship and fun for all, so please bring all your family and friends to join in the fun!



Merry Christmas!

The Temple Aero Modeler

Fall Fun Fly #2 Rescheduled

By Buster and Marsha Hinkle

Due to excessively strong winds, the Fall Fun Fly #2 that was originally scheduled for November 9th has been rescheduled for December 14th at 1pm. Hope to see everyone there!

There will only be a single event - a combined spot landing / balloon bust. You take off and then come back and attempt to land in the circle painted on the runway (to get the maximum landing points awarded). Extra points are awarded if you also pop a balloon that is tied down in the center of the circle.

This is a non-timed event. There will be three rounds of four landing attempts each round, for a total of 12 landing attempts. The only aircraft restriction is that the battery capacity used must be at least 2,200 mAH. If there happens to be a tie, the two winners will fly another round of four attempts to break the tie. Everyone should come out and participate in the fun!

It's Time for Officer Elections!

The Club's officers are elected to serve for a calendar year, and are typically elected at the Club's annual Christmas Banquet. The prospective slate of officers for the election is typically set at this upcoming November. If you happen to have a desire to help lead our club, please attend this month's meeting or else just contact a current officer if you have any questions regarding the duties involved with the position.

Important Note from your Newsletter Editor

This is the final newsletter for 2025. Your next club newsletter will arrive during the fourth week of January. I hope all of you will have a terrific Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!

Drone Training Class Report

By Chris Boultinghouse

Some of you may have seen on our club calendar that the field was closed on November 3rd and 4th for "TPD Drone Class" and wondered what was going on. Well, it's an interesting story! I was contacted through the website by a gent from the Temple Police Department and he asked about using our field for the practical portion of a drone class that Temple PD and other local law enforcement agencies were taking. Apparently this class was to get them familiar with using the drones of the tactical kind, and they needed a safe and secure location to learn how to fly. Of course we were happy to accommodate! I'd hoped we would be able to observe some of what they were doing, but alas (as you can see from the picture) they were pretty serious about keeping people away. In fact, the entire park was closed off! The event went well, from what I was told, and they plan to do it again in the spring. So look for a future date when our field is once again taken over by the police, but in a good way.

(Editor's Note: The company providing the training is located in Austin. They have a ton of photos on their website: <https://dronepilotinc.com/>, take a look at the Photo Gallery)



2026 Club Dues

Club dues for next year are coming due. The following form can be mailed to Buster,
or else bring it with your check or cash to the next meeting or event.

As an alternative, membership application can be made on the Club's website:
<https://templeaeromodelers.org> but dues will still need to be mailed or given to Buster.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Temple Aero Modelers

To join the Temple Aero Modelers or renew your dues, please fill out this form,
enclose a check, and mail to:

Temple Aero Modelers

c/o Buster Hinkle
11591 Pritchard Rd.
Temple, TX 76501

Make check payable to:
Temple Aero Modelers

(check or cash can also be brought to the next club meeting or event)

Name: _____ AMA#: _____

Spouse's Name: _____ Date: _____

Phone: () _____ - _____ (Home)
() _____ - _____ (Work)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____

Amount enclosed for:

	Full Year *	
Adult member dues (18 and over)	\$60.00	_____
Additional family member	\$30.00	_____
Senior member dues (over 65)	\$30.00	_____
Junior member dues (under 18)	\$10.00	_____
Associate (non-flying) member	\$30.00	_____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

* New members have their initial dues prorated as follows:
If joining in the first quarter (Jan-Mar): 100% of full year dues are due;
second quarter (Apr-Jun): 75% of full year dues;
third quarter (Jul-Sep): 50% of full year dues;
fourth quarter (Oct-Dec): 25% of full year dues.

Frank Sodek
6124 Modena Drive
Temple, TX 76502

Night Fly: November 21st
Club Meeting: November 24th
Toy Fly: December 7th
Christmas Banquet: December 8th
Fall Fun Fly #2: December 14th

"The Temple Aero Modeler Newsletter"

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