



CROSSWINDS R/C CLUB NEWSLETTER



March, 2018



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President's Report – Doug Gilbert:

Congratulations, and thank you, to all who participated in our first online club auction. In aggregate we collected \$453 for our club runway fund, all from a few donated items and a little bit of work and generosity on the part of a few people in the club! There were some lessons learned from this auction that we will incorporate into any potential future options that we hold. If any club members who participated in the auction have comments they would like to submit regarding it's conduct please do so to myself at the email shown above.

This year's event calendar is pretty firm at this point. The 4 Star 20EP group build continues in preparation for our April 7 fly off. We have 5 or 6 participants, our planes are all complete (or nearly so, see next page), and the draft informal contest rules are being developed. There is still one kit available at HobbyTown, and even a novice builder could get this easily built plane done in time to participate in the contest events on the 7th of April.

The Crosswinds work day task list is in review, Wayne Thompson agreed to work finalizing the task list and coordinating volunteers at last month's meeting. The task list will be sent to club membership shortly, please consider volunteering to support this event. Our facilities are looking great these days, with just a little work we can continue to keep them that way.

While I still need to confirm the LPS FLYNICK with Mike Irwin, I did speak with Wayne Perry regarding War Birds, and he has some ideas regarding how to get greater Front Range (and beyond) participation through advertising, as well as ways to increase club benefits while reducing the effort associated with providing a quality lunch at the event.

- New Years' Day Chili Fun Fly: January 1
- 4 Star 20EP Group Build Fly Off: April 7
- Crosswinds Work Day: April 21
- LPS FLYNICK: Thursday, May 17 (T), contact: Mike Irwin
- War Birds over Parker: July 28 and 29, contact: Wayne Perry
- Mike Noll Memorial Fun Fly & Member Appreciation Weekend: September 15 and 16
- November 2 (T): Veteran's Day Celebration @ Aspen Crossings Elementary, contact: Robert Porter
- Holiday Celebration Dinner: December 7

Two final items of note this month: Wayne Thomson and Dennis and Dorothea Thomas are developing the order form for club shirts and hats; Doug Gilbert and Wayne Perry are developing a Warbirds over Parker flyer to send out to District IX clubs, and for Crosswinds members to post locally.



The photos on the first row above are of Jim Walker's and Sal Mansu's 4 Star 20EP planes, and the second row shows Chris Stubbs' and my planes, respectively. Jim McGee is holding his beautifully finished plane below.



Vice President's Report – Wayne Thompson:

Stress...Failure...Success...Elation...Crash...Ok, let's try it again!

Ahhh, the work. The stress of working on the basics. Crash, rebuild, crash, rebuild and crashing some more. Oh, but the sweet sound of the motor spooling up the main blades, all awhile the tails start to move from a whine into a scream! Blades up to speed and then the collective moves pitch into the main blades. That sound is what gets me each time. Man, do I love the sound of a helicopter!

This is what keeps me going after each failure or crash. And boy, have I had some. It's just part of the deal. Helicopters are not simple. They are not easy, and that's what I love about them. They are a challenge each & every time I fly.

All but the smallest of helicopters which are crashed, will need many new parts. You can basically count upon no re-useable/fixable damaged main parts on a helicopter. The good part is that after a rebuild/repair, the helicopter is basically as good as new. Also, if you haven't flown Fly-Bar-Less Helis (FBL's) vs their forefathers, the Fly-Barred Heli, well then, you'll be pleasantly surprised. Come and give it a try, you just might like the stress of controlling something which is inherently out of control and wanting to collide with itself in midair. I'm certainly no expert but will assist in any way I'm able.

Secretary/Treasurer Report – Bob Moore:

The executive team has agreed upon the proposed dues structure for the 2018 dues cycle. The proposal will be presented to members for an approval vote at the club meeting on Wednesday, March 14, 2018. Note that while we are proposing the annual dues structure for membership vote a month early, the normal renewal period beginning May 1st and going through May 31st will remain in effect.

Safety Officer Report – Jim Gilbert:

As the weather warms (and hopefully the wind dies down), and our thoughts move to the flying days of summer ahead, it is a good time to consider the safety related maintenance needs of our hardware. If you have some time during some of these windy days, when the weather is not that conducive to flying, or during these early spring evenings, consider taking down one of your planes from your storage area and doing a once over on it, making sure it's in top-notch shape and ready for the year's first trip to the field. Taking the time to do this could result in avoidance of a tragic mishap for one of your planes, or more importantly, it could result in avoidance of damage to yours or others' property, and/or injury to yourself or others. We all owe it to each other, and to the community at large, to ensure that the vehicles we fly can be safely operated for the benefit of all around us.

Member at Large Report – Jim Walker:

March Meeting Program:

MAGNIFICENT MOUNTAIN MEN!!! These local free flight club members, who, like Crosswinds, enjoy a parcel of leased property on the Lowery Range, will be at our March meeting with planes and exciting tales of un-tethered flight. Free flight is where we all started - the 59 cent balsa glider - but these guys are pros. Some have been National Champions in their chosen events. They are as happy to meet us as we them. Don't miss this!! Can't wait for the meeting? Check out this unique front range flying club online at themmmclub.com!