



CROSSWINDS R/C CLUB NEWSLETTER



Summer 2025



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[Link to our website!!](#) - Check it out!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello, Members

I hope everyone is having a great summer. If you have been to the field recently, you have probably noticed as illustrated in Bernie's article below, the improved condition of the field.

Kevin Archer led the effort relating to the fence repairs which was funded by the State Land Board (SLB) through their insurance.

Frank Kaylor led the effort to coordinate the reconstruction of the Cabana and is responsible for the new work bench and table that now sits in the Cabana. And... yes there is a new TV in there. We used it to display the scoring for the recent pattern contest and it's open for members to use should they choose to do so. You will need to use your phone as a hotspot to make it work.

We have spent a lot of money to restore the cabana. It is no longer going to be used for junk storage. The dumping of unwanted RC gear is no longer allowed. There are brooms and dust pans in there and it is the hope and expectation that everyone will take a proactive approach to keep the place clean. Please, let's not allow it to revert to the condition it was in

before the tornado. We have a very nice club house. Let's work together to keep it that way. We will be discussing the installation of solar power and a battery station at the next meeting.

The bottom line is there was a small army of folks who contributed their time, energy, talents and financial resources to this recovery effort. In my humble opinion, the field and its facilities look fantastic. To all of these folks I cannot express my gratitude enough.

There is a small amount of work left on the shed that should be completed in the coming days.

As a reminder, there will be a club meeting next week at the fire station (8/13)

Last but not least... **Kevin kicked my butt** at the contest on July 26-27. Just ask him. He'll tell you. (Congrats, buddy)

Tail Winds and clear skies to all.
Bill Whichelo
President

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

Station 42, 1830-2030

August 13

October 8

Upcoming Events:

Mike Noll – 9/6 or 9/13/2025 to be set at next club meeting

The annual Mike Noll fun fly is coming up next month. Bring out your favorite models and let's fly. More details to follow in a separate mailing.

Crosswinds Fall Pattern Contest – 9/27/2025

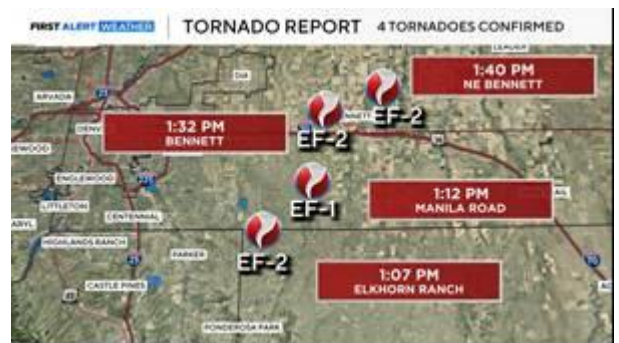
One more opportunity to fly some pattern this year at our new & improved field. Just a one-day event this time. Dust off your aerobat and come out for some loops and rolls!

Recent Events:

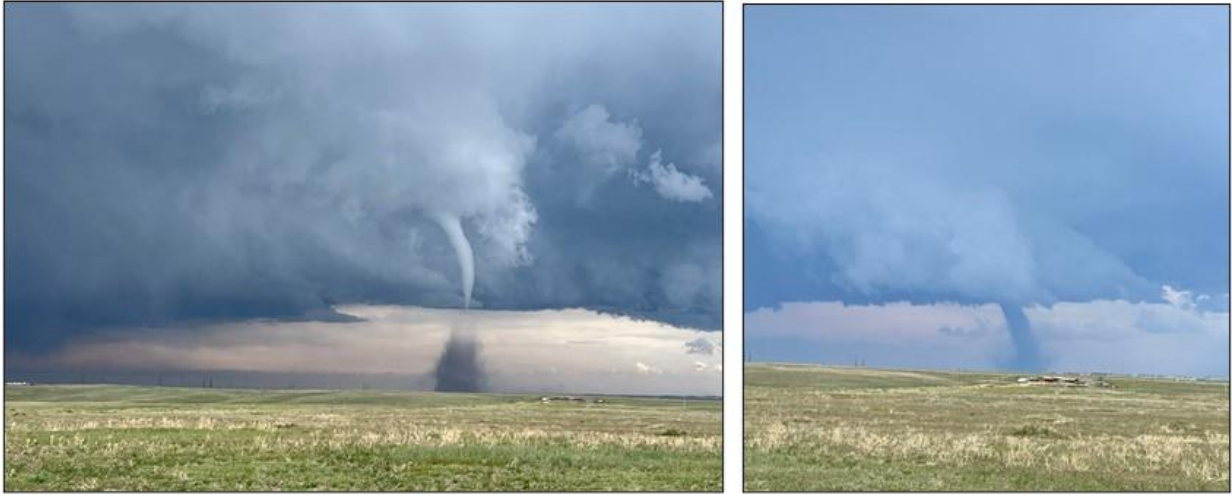
Tornado Hits Crosswinds Field

Four EF-1 and -2 tornados were tracked in the area from Crosswinds to Bennett on May 18th this year. It appears one cell likely birthed all four funnels as it tracked to the northeast. The first one hit our field and the Elkhorn Ranch community across the road to our south.

Coincidentally, the MMM club was hosting its monthly free flight scramble that day about a mile northeast of Crosswinds field. Participants at that event witnessed all four of the funnel clouds but none struck their location. Fortunately, the funnel that hit Crosswinds lifted before crossing the MMM site.



Funnel at Elkhorn Ranch and lifting as it reaches the MMM scramble



More funnels formed Northeast of MMM site

Damage to Crosswinds Field included broken windows and damage to the roof on the cabana. Start stands and safety fences were all damaged and strewn around. One large work table and the porta-potty travelled to Oz. Should be able to spot them flying by in the next 'Wicked' movie. Remarkably, the runway and pit area fabric were undamaged with the exception of some punctures from flying debris. Nice job to all who helped install them over the last couple of years. They held up beautifully!

Frank Kaylor coordinated efforts of club members to strip down the inside of the cabana which included painting the floor. DC Haulers donated trash bins and hauled away multiple loads of the debris. They were then contracted by the club to repair the cabana which now looks (and smells) like new!



Thank you to all those who participated in the cleanup operations!



The cabana looks better than ever!

Parker Showdown Pattern Contest

Twelve flyers competed in the annual summer pattern contest hosted by Crosswinds on July 26th and 27th. The weather was typical for July; hot with a crosswind thrown in to add to the challenge of keeping the planes from blowing away from the flight line. Even if you're not flying, these are fun events to attend just to see these planes perform their maneuvers.



Flight Order		1	2
Sportsman	Chris B	C-16 B	
	Tim P	Nick F	
	Douglas B	Bill F	
Intermediate	John R	Douglas F	
	Eric A	John B	
	Nick F	Nick B	
Advanced	Kevin A	Bill W	
	Tim W	Kevin A	
Masters	Chris H	Chris S	
	Chris L	Eric B	
F3A	Tim P	Eric C	
	Chris L	Tim P	





The south wind added to the challenge

Current Topics:

Free Models to Crosswinds Members

John Kleber is passing along a few planes that he no longer flies. It includes a Radian powered glider, a Timber and a Timber UMX. All were in flyable shape the last time they flew. They are considered bind-and-fly ready. However, given the idle time, the batteries are probably not up to full capacity. John is keeping his Spectrum transmitter.

They are available for free.

Contact John at:

303-570-8164

jkleber@att.net

From the Shop:

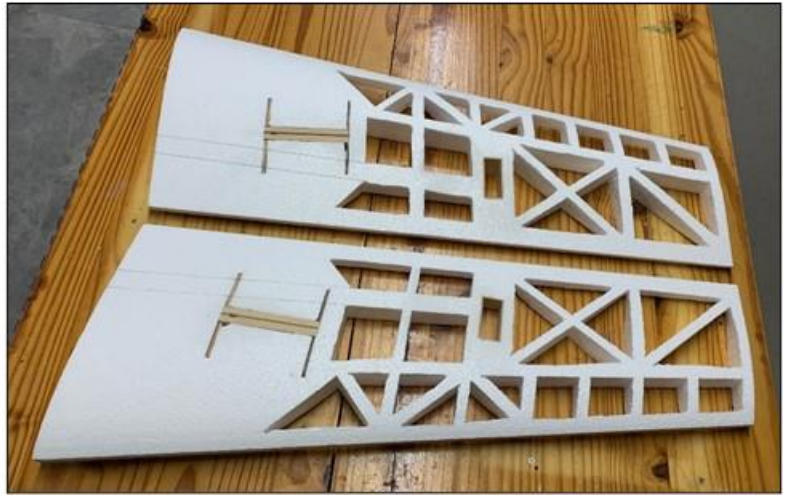
This section is intended to include recent additions to club members' fleets, ongoing projects, construction hints, technical topics, etc. Please feel free to send me what you have for inclusion in future newsletters.

Editor's Sixth Blue Angel

The latest build to emerge from the shop is neither a sailplane nor a free flight model. How about an old-school pattern plane? The Blue Angel was a Japanese design flown to victory at the 1972 World Pattern Championships. I think it's one of the nicest looking pattern planes from the era and this is number six for me. The first two were wood short-kits from Eureka Aircraft Company [Eureka Aircraft Company](#) and the following four were scratch built with molded fiberglass fuselages. Had to build a sixth since I killed #5 with a hard-learned lesson about the subtleties of flying acro in high density altitude conditions after moving to Colorado. Toto we're not in Texas anymore! The latest one sports an OS .75AX rather than the .65AX used in the others for a little extra oomph for flying up here otherwise it's pretty much identical to #5.

Started with molding a new glass fuselage since #5's was smooched. This fuselage came from a second set of molds that incorporated improvements learned from the third and fourth Blue Angels.

The plane used a foam core wing provided by Eureka. The cores were 'honeycombed' with a 'hot knife' foam cutter to save a couple of ounces. Poster board templates were taped to the top and bottom of the cores to guide the knife for honeycombing. Balsa skins were bonded to the completed cores with Gorilla Glue. Gorilla Glue foams as it cures expanding into the pores of the core increasing the effective bond area. This provides a stronger joint than traditional non-foaming adhesives. Great stuff for bonding foam!



Landing gear blocks and servo bay walls were bonded in place before skinning the wing



Carbon fiber reinforcements are visible in the laminate and the plane's clean lines are evident here

Wing, horizontal tail, rudder and elevators were covered with .56-ounce fiberglass. The ailerons used 1.5-ounce glass for additional torsional stiffness. That was a lesson from #1 which broke aileron hinges due to surface flutter. These planes definitely fly fast.

The plane's exterior was filled and smoothed with multiple coats of Rustoleum Sandable Automotive Primer from rattle cans; sanding most of it away between coats. Klass Kote primer and top coats were then applied with a Devilbiss touchup gun. Klass Kote is durable, looks great, shoots nicely and is impervious to glow fuel although a bit pricey.



Blue Angel #5 in happier times and #6 ready to replace it. Pattern planes sure have changed over the years!