



The Field Box

By Jim Wilson

WTRCF February - March News Letter

INTRODUCTIONS

Greetings to all! My name is Jim Wilson and I am the new club secretary. I have been a member of the WTRCF RC club for two years. I am finding out that the club secretary's responsibilities are far more than just reading the minutes of the last club meeting. As the newly elected secretary, I will be replacing Mike Grippin who has done a great job for the club and is truly looking forward to getting more flying time in the upcoming summer. I want to personally thank him for getting me off on the right foot with all of the paperwork and offering me his advice should I have any questions about my new duties.

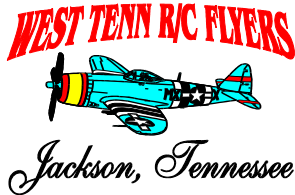
2005 OFFICERS

This newsletter is a little behind but should bring all members of the club up to date on the club status. In February, annual elections were held. The following is a list of the club officers for 2005:

President - Tim Treneff
Vice President - Jeff Layman
Secretary - Jim Wilson
Treasurer - Anthony Harden
Safety Officer - Harry Wood
Field Marshall - Ricky Gately
Intro Pilots - Jerry Tate, Jimmy Gibson, and Jim Wilson

Shortly after officer elections, Anthony Harden resigned as treasurer for personal reasons. Anthony has done a great job keeping track of our club finances and whose honesty and integrity is beyond reproach.

The club had an informal meeting called by Tim Treneff to discuss replacing Anthony as Treasurer. Danny Wheeler has volunteered to fill the office. A show of hands at the informal meeting passed Danny's election to the Treasures office. Danny has opened a new checking account in the Clubs name at the First Bank.



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CLUB FINANCES

The club is financially in good shape for this time of the year. We have had some expenditure on the Jacobsen mower, internet web page fees, and AMA Charter/Intro Pilot/Supplemental Insurance fees. Our income during the same time period has been good with a majority of the club members paying their 2005 dues. On that same topic, AMA membership fees were due on January 1st and club membership fees were due on February 28th. At this time if you are not current on both, you can not fly at the WTRCF field for AMA insurance reasons.

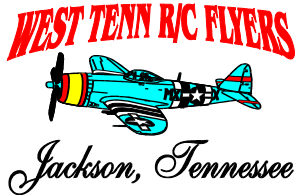
THE FIELD

The field has held up very nicely over the winter. Jerry Tate and Harry Wood have watched over it like two doting parents. Both guys are getting anxious put their green thumbs to work once the Bermuda grass begins to come out of dormancy. They have also taken it upon themselves to close off the parking areas when the ground was to wet to drive on. However the parking lot is not full of ruts and the grass in the parking lot is going to look great as the weather warms up. I know that sometimes this seems like an inconvenience to have to carry all of your equipment from the hill down to the pits and back but if you need help, just give a yell and somebody will come give you a hand. Later in the summer we will all see that the rewards of our efforts will far outweigh the costs.

By the way, if you see Harry or Jerry, tell them thanks for all their work to give you a great field to fly at.

The Mowers

Tim and Alex Treneff (and I am sure others) have been working diligently on the club mowers. Work is progressing well but there is still a lot do before they are ready for spring. We all need to stop by the shed and check in with Tim to see if there is anything that we can do for him. With the number of club members we have, if we each did just one little task, it would take some of the burden off of our club mechanics. Most of us have no idea of the amount of work it takes to keep this equipment operational so that we can have one of the best kept flying sites in West Tennessee.



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(Mowers – continued)

One thing that everyone can do to help keep the equipment running is to pick up all of the trash at the field. This includes paper, soda pop bottles, paper towels, rubber bands, cigarette butts, and most importantly air plane parts. If you break a prop on the runway (or worse yet have a honey dipper) make sure and pick up all of the wood and metal parts that are not attached to you plane. A broken aluminum engine mount will wreak havoc on the Jacobsen reel mower and could become a projectile if struck by one of the bladed mowers. At best it could cost the club financially or at worst it could cause bodily injury to one of your fellow club members.

THE FLY IN

Saturday May 21st is the date of our second annual fly in. As with any major project, there is going to be a lot of work required from all of us in order to make this event successful. At the March meeting it was agreed that we would raffle off an Avistar/Engine/Radio combo. This will make a great prize for some lucky contestant. This could also make a healthy increase in club revenue if we all do our share selling raffle tickets. Also being the host of the fly in means that we are opening up our field for flying to anyone with an AMA license and to the general public as spectators. We all need to pitch in when the time comes this spring to make the field a place that both flyers and spectators will want to return to.

THE FUTURE.....

Next month I am going to include articles from our Helicopter Trainer Pilot Ricky Gately and our Safety Officer Harry Wood. Other information that ANY club member would like to see in the newsletter can be forwarded to me at secretary@wtrcf.com. This can include question about the hobby or AMA, news about other flying activities, building tips, kit reviews, etc. I won't guarantee that the information will make it in the newsletter but I will try my best to respond to each contributor.

NEXT CLUB MEETING

The next club meeting will be at the field (rain or shine) **Saturday, April 9th at 2:00pm.**

Keep the canopy side up.....

Jim