

Rio Grande



R/C Flyers

The Fly Paper

February 2010
A.M.A. Chapter # 3723

News Letter
I.M.A.A. Chapter # 480

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The Day the Big Bird Flew

By Aspec Tayter

Sunday January 17th started off like most Sunday mornings. As I walked out the driveway to pick up the newspaper, there was a feeling that this might be a special day. The sun was just peeking out above the horizon at an angle of about 115 degrees east. The sky was clear, temperature 55 degrees, and very still. Besides being my Grandsons 18th birthday, the thought that this might be a good day for flying passed through my mind. My Grandson Matthew is really a good kid. He is a senior in high school, a pitcher on the baseball team and is very smart. He probably takes after me. My Mother used to say, "there is just something special about your own". The Sunday morning routine moved along as usual until about noon. I had put the Kadet on charge the night before, so I decided that it was time to get out to the field. When I arrived at the field, there was a lot of action going on. Planes were lined up on the ramp as far as the eye could see. Brad and Pablo were giving those helicopters a good workout. Arnie was there watching the action. He had flown earlier. John said that he had just flown his Yak, and Bob Barry (Special Events Coordinator), had been flying since sun up. Randy gave us a good show with that 10,000 mega watt powered Big Stik, and Rick showed everyone what that beautiful twin could do. Roy, Norm, George, Fred, Phil, and Jim were some of the other pilots along with some spectators watching the show. Art did manage to get in a couple of flights before all the air was used up by those speedsters. When Bob took off in that P-40 Warhawk, and Julio in the F6F Hellcat, we knew that this was going to be exciting. It almost looked like a scene from long ago in the South Pacific. That inline Twelve and the radial could be heard from as far away as Los Ebanos. Some people headed South on the ferry for fear of an invasion from the North. While all this was taking place, Roger was assembling something that no one had ever seen before. It was so big, it took a huge crew to get it to the ramp. With a wing span of 144 feet, that red and White Big bird was a sight to see. When Dave came around the corner

March Meeting Notice

**The March meeting
will be held on Wednesday
March 3rd at
7:00 PM. The meeting
will be at Rudy's restau-
rant, located at 209 W.
Nolana In Pharr.
The club usually arrives
at 6 PM for dinner with
the meeting beginning
at 7 PM.**



and got a glimpse of the plane, he was heard to say, "What is that?" Of course the explanation was simply, this is the biggest Super Cub in the world. Everyone was amazed when Roger Cranked up that 2000 hp. 28 cylinder radial engine. Spectators grabbed their hats, hung on to whatever they could reach while Roger taxied out for that first test flight. That take off was as smooth as silk. As he swapped fuel for altitude, we knew this was something special. Somewhere around 20,000 feet, some white pelicans, and a few hawks flew by. You could just here them say, "Now that is a big bird". A huge shadow followed the plane around on the ground. some neighbors in the area thought that it was a solar eclipse, ran out of the house and starred at the Big Bird with Awe. After a very successful test flight and a smooth landing, everyone gave Roger a round of applause. Wilson heard all the applause and thought that was a sign that the food was ready. Wilson, Lawrence, A.J. and Randy came running around the corner to see what all the commotion was about. Someone said that it was just another special day at the field with the Rio Grande R/C flyers.

Meeting Minutes February 3, 2010

Art Ratley

Meeting Minutes February 3, 2010

The February 2010 meeting of the Rio Grande R/C flyers was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by club President Bill Robinson. There were 17 members present at Rudy's BBQ in Pharr.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved as published in the Newsletter.

Roger Bell reported a balance in the treasury of \$1935.00. He also reported an expenditure of \$97.00 for replacing the drain line from the sink to the septic tank.

John Bearden had no safety issues to report for the past month.

Old business:

Rick and Gary reported that the Tejas Weslaco Air Show was a success despite the poor weather conditions. Rio Grande R/C flyers attending were: Rick and Ricky Martinez, Roger Bell, Gary Dye, Art Ratley, Greg McCrossin, David Mann, Wayne Mitchell, and John Bearden.

Bob Barry reminded everyone about the Fun Fly this Sunday February 7th. There were 5 members who indicated they would participate in the two scheduled events beginning at 1:00 P.M. Fast and slow pass down the runway in regular pattern, and 1 minute mission. Take off , fly pattern, land within 1 minute. Participants were

Calendar of Events



- February 7 Fun Fly (Fast & Slow)
- March 3 Club Meeting
- March 28 Prime Rib Social

asked to make a \$10.00 donation, hamburgers included. Others will be a \$5.00 donation for those gourmet hamburgers. All money going to the runway fund.

Bill reminded everyone that Dues are due for the year 2010, and AMA membership is required. ID club membership cards were passed out to those present.

Sunday March 28, 2010 was selected as the date for the annual social Prime Rib Fun Fly.

New business:

There was a lengthy discussion about doing an Air Show as a fund raiser for the runway project. Several ideas were mentioned, but no action was taken at this time. Roger reported that the cost of the runway extension project is approximately \$1400.00 short. Donations are still encouraged above what has been collected so far.

Next meeting March 3,2010 at Rudy's. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Donation Wall Of Fame

Runway Expansion Fund

- Randy Ashley**
- Kevin Aguirre**
- Roger Bell**
- Bob Barry**
- Gary Dye**
- Marion Dupree**
- George Glendenning**
- Fred Huebinger**
- Fred Mentzer**
- Ed Montague**
- Robert Nagle**
- Juan Ortegon**
- Art Ratley**
- Roy Richmond**
- Bill Robinson**
- Brad Woods**

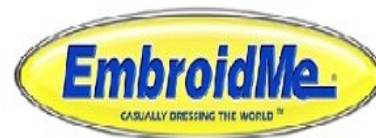
The members listed above have donated to the runway expansion fund. If you have not yet contributed to the fund please do so. See one of the club officers or visit the donation page on the club website <http://www.rgflyer.org/donations.asp>

Club Shirts & Custom Items

The club has contracted with EmbroidMe for club related graphics and Logos. You can take your shirts to the store and they will embroider them for you. It takes about a week.

Price List :

- Option 1 Large logo on back Name on right chest \$23.00
- Option 2 Opt1 + Small logo on Left Chest \$30.00
- Option 3 Opt 1 & 2 + American & Texas flags 1 on each sleeve \$40.00



EmbroidMe-McAllen

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Fun Fly Schedule

By Bob Barry

Here are the events for the first 3 Fun Flies.

In all cases, events will begin at 1:00 pm and, if there are less than 5 competitors, the events will be cancelled. Those not participating the events can help out by keeping score, keeping time, or spotting for flyers. The events are described below. Clarifications and/or changes may be made prior to the start of the event.

Feb 7

Fast & Slow - Take off, make fast pass down runway in regular pattern, second pass made slow. Starter at down-wind end of runway, timer/scorer at up-wind end of runway. Score = slow/fast times

1-Minute Mission - Take off, fly pattern, land within 1 minute. Timing starts at liftoff and ends with touch-down. Time closest to 1 minute wins. Over 1 min scores zero.

April 11

Pylon Race - Four classes: 40-51, 52-91, 100+, Electric. Pylons will be set up 400 ft apart. Flying start. Planes must complete 10 laps. [We previously did 5 laps, but that's too short of a race]

Touch & Go's - Touch & go's in 2 min. Timer starts at liftoff. Score points per touch in scoring boxes.

June 6

Dead Stick Spot Landing - Take off and climb to 100+ ft, kill engine, land plane, plane comes to a stop in scoring boxes. Must kill engine within 30 sec or score zero.

Bomb Drop - Cup carrying egg (or other 'bomb') attached to plane, take off and drop bomb within scoring boxes.

