



Tri City Flyers

NEWSLETTER



www.tricityflyers.com

AUGUST 2026

AMA #850

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AUGUST 2026 NEWSLETTER INTRODUCTION

Welcome to your August 2026 TCF Newsletter. I encourage you to take the time to read through it to keep up with your club activities and fellow members.

As always, the newsletter includes the August Business Meeting minutes for your review and information. Take note of anything you have questions about, or corrections, and plan to attend the September meeting, where they will be approved by the members present.

No broken props this month? Some of you are just not trying - just joking of course! No one wants to damage or lose a model, but hopefully you, and we, can learn from our accidents.

This crazy hot weather is not going to go away for a while. So, when you go out to one of our fields, remember to stay in the shade when not flying and keep hydrated. I know I can get engrossed in an activity and forget to drink water, until I suddenly realize - hey I'm really thirsty!

Put September 26 on your calendar for our planned club fly-in, open to all AMA members. This will be a casual fly-in for any and all RC aircraft. A possible TCF club member fly-in later in the fall has been discussed. Stay tuned for more on that.

So, continue on to the August minutes; then be sure to read a special article by our VP, Matt Greenlee, as he describes his path to the RC hobby and related career. And finally, my OMP Edge 540 Build Series concludes this month.

Frank George,
Editor

Club Meeting Reminder: 7:00 PM on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the American Legion Post 593, located at 326 Legion Drive West, Converse, TX 78109. Unless otherwise informed, you can purchase a light meal at the Post prior to the meeting.

Tri City Flyers Meeting Minutes August 13, 2026

Call to Order: Vice President Matt Greenlee called the August business meeting to order at 7:00pm. 15 members including 4 club officers were in attendance. Our club president was excused from attending due to personal commitments.

July Meeting Minutes: Matt asked members in attendance if there were any needed corrections to the July Meeting Minutes. None were noted; Frank George made a motion and Johnell Holley seconded to accept the minutes as written. The members voted unanimously to approve.

New Members/Guests: There were no new members or guests in attendance at this meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Mike Zachau presented the end of July monthly financial report to the members. Rusty Koehler made a motion and Frank George seconded to receive the report. The members unanimously approved.

Safety Officers' Reports: Mike Fisher reported no incidents at the Kingsbury flying field. Ron Wahl reported no incidents at the Seguin flying field.

Field Manager Report: Mike Fisher reported that Gary Barrett has been doing a lot of the mowing at Kingsbury. He recognized Gary's efforts and thanked him for what he has been doing.

AMA Business: Frank George told members that the AMA reported that a \$10. surcharge will be added to membership renewals, beginning in September, for anyone wishing to continue receiving a hard copy of the AMA magazine, "Model Aviation". He also told members that the AMA has been working with the FAA to secure and authorize club flying sites. Jim Rice told members that he resigned from the AMA safety committee and had nothing to add to Frank's report.

Unfinished Business:

Election: The Officer Nominating Committee members for the election in November are Rusty Koehler and Matt Dirienzo. Rusty told members that he would like those interested in the position of Vice President, Secretary or Kingsbury Safety Officer to contact him or Matt before the October business meeting. The election will be held at the November business meeting.

National Model Aviation Day: Matt Greenlee discussed a Fly-in. A donation of the proceeds will be made to the Legacy program at the AMA. Mike Zachau told members that the donation would meet the AMA Gold Leader Club requirements. He also told members

that we can include any net proceeds from the club's Fun Fly-in. Matt Greenlee proposed 2 dates for the Fun Fly-in. September 26th and October 3rd. Discussion followed and the Fly-in is tentatively scheduled for September 26th. Frank George told members that it was not necessary to have AMA sanctions for the events unless there are planned competitions. Matt Greenlee volunteered to manage the Fun Fly-in and Rusty Koehler said he would CD the NMAD fly-in if others would help. Matt agreed to create a flyer for the Fun Fly-in and post it to Facebook.

New Business:

Christmas Party: Matt discussed the Annual Club Christmas party with the members. It was agreed by all that the party should be catered, and attending members should bring an appetizer or dessert. A White Elephant gift exchange will also take place at the party. The date was discussed and will need confirmation before the party.

After School Opportunity: Jim Rice told members that the San Antonio Northeast ISD had contacted him with interest in Jim leading a student model flight school. Northeast ISD has 3 gyms to use as indoor training facilities. Jim said he would instruct 5 students at a time and when they were proficient, he would graduate those with the hopes some would become instructors. Then the next 5 students would be given instructions. Jim recently did a demonstration flight at one of the schools, which prompted the interest.

Broken Prop Award: No nominations were made for the Broken Prop Award at this meeting.

Show and Tell:

William Enox showed members a Cessna 182 HSD model he had recently acquired. It is a large EPO foam model which flies on 6s a Lipo battery. William also brought a UMX series Bronco to show. He said both planes fly very well.

Jim Rice showed members the fuselage of a prototype Dream Machine he is building. The Dream Machine will be pictured on the kit box along with a picture of Jim's father, who designed airplane. The prototype Jim is working on is a 65" version, for a 20cc engine. plans the were designed and drawn by Dennis, a longtime friend of Jim's. Jim's son Gary had requested the model in this size. The parts are laser cut, and he is building the plane with a one-piece wing because he doesn't feel it will be necessary to be 2-pieces for transport. As he builds the prototypes, he takes pictures, writes instruction manual notes, and corrects any design or parts errors.

Adjournment: Matt asked for a motion to adjourn. Jim Rice made the motion and Rusty Koehler seconded. Members voted unanimously in favor.

Next Business Meeting: September 10, 2026 at American Legion Post, 326 Legion Drive West; Converse, Texas. The meeting will begin at 7:00pm.

Club Fun Fly: An informal fly-in will be held on Sept. 26, 2026. From 9:00am to 2:00pm. Open flying may continue afterwards. All AMA members are invited to attend. There is no registration fee, and a pizza lunch will be offered for a \$5.00 donation.

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Hello all, this month the News Section begins with a guest article from our VP, Matt Greenlee. Matt indicated an interest in writing something for the newsletter, and asked for some suggested topics. He selected the following, which I am titling "Who is Matt - Greenlee RC, Modeler".

[Our RC journeys are vast, and we have lots of different RC experience in our club. Growing up in the 1990s and 2000's, I remember going to my local hobby shop and marveling at all the different RC airplane models in there. I was enamored from that moment with the RC models, but they were expensive.

Back then, in the late '90s and early '00s, we still used the library for research projects, and I'd be dropped off at the local library to research various school projects for a few hours. I would always head to the magazine section, find the latest issue of Model Airplane News, and read it instead of doing the research I was supposed to be doing for school. I always did the research for school, but I ended up cramming it in before I was picked up from the library, because I was too busy reading the Model Airplane News. I never asked my parents for a model because back then all the rage was video games, and all my friends were into video games, so I did that instead of getting into modeling (I kick myself for doing that, but I digress).

Fast forward to when I was an adult, and in September 2013 at the age of 26, I finally got into RC models with adult money, as the young people called it. I started with a Hobbyzone Delta Ray and quickly moved up to an Eflite Apprentice. I first joined AMA in the spring of 2014. Over the years, I've enjoyed many models; I have been part of a few clubs, flown at many events, instructed a few new pilots how to fly and met many friends along the way. I even built a career from the modeling hobby, which has been absolutely incredible, and I am very thankful for it. I've talked with many hobbyists over the years from all over the world, and I will never take that experience for granted.

This career has also opened me up to trying different things in the hobby. I started with airplanes; I've since gotten into flying other types of RC aircraft, namely helicopters. If it wasn't for my boss at Motion RC suggesting I fly helicopters, I never would have flown them like I do now. Thanks to GPS and modern tech, they're easy to fly. Now, I need the courage to turn the GPS off and really fly the helicopters without it. My advice is to try something different in the hobby; you never know how much fun you can have!

Matt Greenlee
Vice President Tri-City Flyers]

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Thanks Matt. I hope our readers find your story interesting - and maybe somewhat familiar. I did. We have a large membership and I think we could benefit both socially and "technically" from learning a bit more

about each others' hobby background and experience. Please contact me through my news editor email if you have any topics you would like to write about.

Since I addressed some of the meeting business in the opening column this month, just a few items remain to call to your attention. First, our officer elections are coming up and I encourage you to consider stepping up to help keep our club going. Some additional activities, including a club fly in and National Model Aviation Day fly in were discussed, and December Christmas party. Stay tuned for more details on these activities.

Moving on to Show and Tell, thanks to William Enox for bringing two very different models. First is his 2 Meter Scale Cessna 182 from hsdjetsusa.com that he described as fully aerobatic capable. The airplane is very



impressive both in size and detail features. William's second offering was equally impressive in part because of the contrast with his first model. Here is his E-flite UMX OV-10 model, that comes transmitter and



battery ready, and includes SAFE technology, like most of the Eflite series. This plane's detail is also impressive, especially for a model with only a 25.5" wingspan and about 10oz weight. E-flite recommends a 3S 600-800 mAh LiPo for power.

Our second show and Tell this month is from Jim Rice, who is helping his friend develop a kit for the Dream Machine originally designed by his father, and featured in "RC Modeler" Magazine. The details in the minutes are a



good summary of Jim's work to help develop the new kit, so here are a couple pictures to illustrate the effort. As usual, Jim's construction work is impeccable. I look



forward to seeing the final product. Here is another picture showing the plans you get to build the kit. They are pretty impressive too. Thanks, William and Jim, for your efforts in bringing these models to share.

Last on my agenda for this month's newsletter is the final installment of my OMP Edge 540 build series. Continuing from last month, when the DuBro slim wheels arrived, I installed them and the wheel pants on the main landing gear. The assembly was not well described in the assembly manual, but I was able to figure out how they fit together by laying the parts out in front of me, and staring at them for a few minutes.

The next step was to put everything together, including the power battery, and set the CG range where I want it. Once again, the manufacturer's assumption that this airplane would be used for 3-D aerobatics, caused an issue. Since I plan to use 4S power instead of the recommended 6S, plus a more stable CG I installed the heaviest 4S battery I have towards the front of the battery tray.

Then I put the airplane on my balance rig and added ballast on the motor box until the plane balanced a little nose heavy. I marked the battery location on the tray, then verified that I could still balance the plane with a lighter 4S battery a little farther forward, and marked that



location. Finally, I epoxied the ballast weights in place and buttoned up the airplane for its inaugural photos.

With that formality over, it was time to measure the actual power system performance. Motocalc's predicted performance indicated the plane should perform



well with my selected power system. So, here we go, full throttle with a 4S 4000mAh freshly charged battery. These numbers result in a power loading of 130.25 W/Lb, very close to the 129 W/Lb predicted by Motocalc. A Glacier 4S 4000mAh 45C battery and APC 13x8 electric prop were used for this power check, which confirms adequate power for normal aerobatic flying. Next, the plane passed a ground radio range test with my Futaba 14SG transmitter in range check mode, at over 100 feet, facing away from the nose of the plane, and with the motor running. Taxi testing on my driveway and cul de sac showed very good ground handling and straight tracking. At this point, I believe my "Build Thread" is finished, and the airplane is ready for testing at Kingsbury. I hope those of you who followed me on this build adventure found it interesting. And, I hope to see you at the field soon.

See the flyer on page 6 and plan to be at our September Fun Fly

Looking forward to seeing a lot of you here. Guests are welcome so bring family and friends. Non TCF member AMA pilots are invited as well.



TRI CITY FLYERS

FUN FLY-IN

26 SEP
AT 09.00 AM

ANY RC AIRCRAFT
WELCOME - FREE - MUST
BE AN AMA MEMBER TO FLY

OLD KINGSBURY AERO DROME
170 PERSHING LN, KINGSBURY, TX
78638

***PIZZA AVAILABLE FOR
LUNCH WITH A \$5
DONATION**

WWW.TRICITYFLYERS.COM

That's it for this month. Frank George, Editor
Send comments to: newseditor@tricityflyers.com