



# *The R/C Flyer*

Volume 45, Issue 03

March 2020

**Next Meeting – March 12th, 2020, Clear Lake Park Building– 7:00 PM**



## **IN THE PITS**

by Mike Laible

I write this article just receiving some good news. Brian finally received an answer back from FAA about the airspace over the JSCRCC field. After several discussions with FAA, Brian and I have secured a path forward for getting a written agreement with FAA, Ellington, and JSCRCC. It has JSC approval, verbal. This is good news. It is the same area we fly at now but it is limited to 400 foot altitude. Brian is going to proceed with a petition to 700 feet after we get the final LOA signed. I think Brian can get this done but it may take time to get all the panels in place to hear our waiver.

But for now, a tentative agreement is in place that does not change our flying patterns. GREAT, good job Brian.

This month we have the Blue Bonnet Pavilion reserved for the “Iron Mike Swap Meet” scheduled for March 21<sup>st</sup>. So, bring all your goodies for sale. Once you sell them you can turn around and buy something new. We can talk more about this at the March meeting.

Then, we have the “Warbirds Over JSC”. This should be a great event and get ready for some thunder. Below are the notes that I

took at the last meeting. I have the leads listed for the major task.

Traffic – Jerry

Refreshments – Rex

Registration – Walt,

Flight Boss – Tom Altmeyer

Field Prep – James to lead but all hands on deck

We can talk more at the March and April meeting. I’ll put some lessons learned together.

On a closing note, I went camping with my brother in law at Bogue Chita in LA. Wonderful park. I was sitting around the campfire and low and behold Jupiter showed up.



*Never stop building, never stop flying.*

*Godspeed and safe landings,*

Mike

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## **FEBRUARY MEETING**

by Mike Laible

The February meeting was well attended and was full of discussion and talk of gyro copters. The Model entry this month was Ken White and his auto gyro. He hasn't flown it yet but it is a nice-looking model. He went through all the controls and gave a nice description. He was proud to take home the trophy this month.



## **FEBRUARY MINUTES**

Minutes 02-13-2020

### **Guest**

No Guest

21 members present

### **Old Business:**

Discussed the swap meet and Warbirds over JSC. Considerable discussion centered on becoming a JSC club, swap meet location, and the WOJSC.

### **New Business:**

### **Membership:**

50 renewals to date

### **Safety:**

No Report

### **Treasures report:**

Current balance approximately \$ 8600.  
Budget for 2020 is revenue of \$3855 and expenditures of \$3363, leaving a positive balance of \$492.

### **Program/General Discussion:**

Ken White and his Gyro Copter.

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## **MODEL OF MONTH**

by Mike Laible



Ken White and his award winning Gyro Copter.

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## **TOM'S SQUADMATE, RENE**

by Mike Laible, Tom Altmeyer

Email from Tom Altmeyer to his on-line flying group. I would talk with Rene every so often and was an amazing craftsman. Tom's edited email:

*IT is with SADNESS that I need to report to you that our SQUADMATE and my GOOD Friend Rene Saenz (TAs AeroFighters - Thumper)*

Passed away on March 1st! Thumper was 47, a Christian, and a Good GUY, a Husband and Dad.. He was also active in his church choir.. Who would have thunk that?? Even I didn't know. His Wife Amy notified me through FaceBook.

Rene Fought the GOOD fight with Cancer for sometime going thru all the treatments! When my other club member Herman fought cancer and finally decided to stop treatments, Rene was aware of this and alluded to me that someday he and his wife would have to make that decision too.

SO that is what happened. RIP sir Rene (Thumper) !

I met Rene through my RC Club and I got him interested in Aces High. I think he has played on and off for about 10 years with our group! Rene LOVED FLYING CORSAIRS with me and also P51s online in Aces High. He was a true Dogfighter at Heart and he loved to Dive bomb on those Stinking BISH (the enemy)!!! He would always search me out where ever I was and would be my personal wingman!



Rene used to fly in OUR RC club at JSC but moved to Waco Texas with his job. His wife's family also lived there too.

Rene was known in our club for flying a U2 which he scratched built using Cad system and a bunch of Balsa and plywood sticks.

He was the only one in the Club to fly a U2 because if you wanted a U2 model you would have to design and build it which he did successfully. He flew the U2 at our club and it flew well!! At times because of its stealth it was visibly challenging! It was also NOT HIS WINDY DAY FLYER!.. Those long thin wings seemed to FLEX quite a bit in the wind! Being the Master Builder that Rene was he continued BUILDING ANOTHER LARGER U2 from Scratch, HE built the MOLDS that he would use to eventually make more U2s and sell them, the molds were



before Christmas. I had just asked him how things were going and if he

was going to play Aces High soon. ( I knew he was still battling cancer). He asked me Hey... what giant scale corsair is there to buy? I want to get one.. so I told him Top Flight and the G62 engine was the going thing. He looked into it and soon found out that Top Flight was discontinuing the plane and may not build them again. So he decided to get Ziroli Plans, Order the Balsa and order the G62 engine.. The Next thing he says is Hey Tom, I got the Plans, Balsa and Engine this week and I am excited to start the build, it should be an interesting build! Stay Tuned!.. well that was the last I heard from Renee. A couple of days before I received the Bad news from his wife I was thinking of contacting to see how the build was going. So next time if I am thinking about contacting them I will not put it off till the next day.. You just never know.

RIP my Friend Rene (Thumper)

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## **WHAT'S UP AROUND THE CLUB**

by Mike Laible

To start this section I wanted to start with a pic of .two models I have. The B-29 I won at Warbirds over Texas some 5-6 years ago. The SPAD I built to represent the Balsa USA my Dad was building.

completed and other small parts were created. I do not know that he was able to complete HIS U2.

The last time I had texted Renee was December 18th





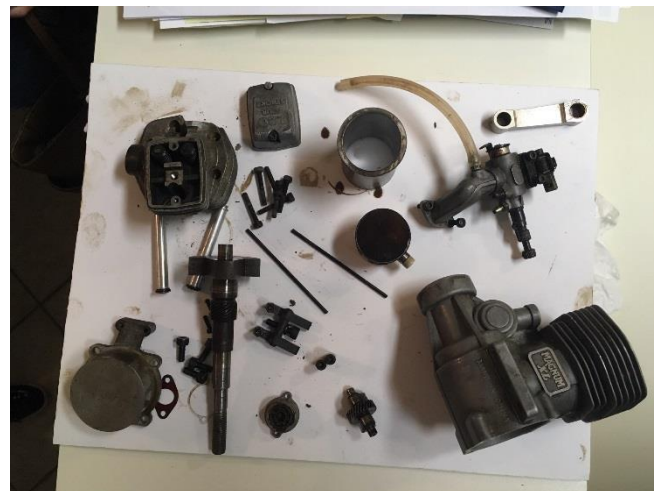
Now for the fun facts – Same Scale, 1/72.  
Wow, I thought that was cool, now the planes  
were manufactured 30 years apart. Chew on  
that for awhile.



This one is for all the train guys. Great layout  
of the trains in the pan handle in Jefferson,  
Texas. It was nice and is part of the  
Jefferson Historical Museum. A nice visit in  
an old Texas town.



The next three pics are of my 15 year old  
Magnum 1.2 four stroke. Had a test run in  
the p-40, started right up but all of a sudden  
made a bad noise. After tear down noted that  
the race ring failed, chunks of metal in crank  
case. Cleaned it out and rebuilt.



Disassembled. Love working on these  
motors.



Bearing in bad shape.



Assembled and ready to test run. Well, I guess it wasn't meant to be. Have had more problems since this rebuild. I guess 15 years and hours of run time has taken its toll. It was worn some. Anyway, life is way to short so have a OS Alpha-110 ready to be shipped. Those are the same engines as in the B-24.

Next Pic is Bob Pham having some fun on Columbus day. He is flying a great planes Skybolt. This is one of the best flying planes I own. I have over 150 flights on mine. Hope to see you at the field Bob.

strides with NASA and FAA on having the premier flying site in the area. We do have limitations, but still, one of the best.

*Godspeed and safe landings,*

Mike



Joe having fun at the control line.



That's all for this month. Remember, think smart and be safe. We have made great

## Upcoming Events

3/21 Iron Mike Swap Meet  
4/11 Alvin Big Bird  
4/18 Prop Nuts Flea Market Fly in  
4/25 Warbirds over JSC  
5/2 Warbirds over Lake Benbrook  
5/9 Texas City Warbird

## Club Officers

### President:

Mike Laible 281-474-1255(H)  
713-542-0987 (Cell)  
mrlaible@sbcglobal.net

### Vice-President:

Jerry Litjen 713-253-9887 (Cell)

### Treasurer:

Brian Campopiano 832-524-9590 (H)

### Secretary:

Kent Stromberg 281-480-0095(H)  
281-724-3762(W)

## Committees

### Membership:

Charlie Teixeira 281-642-4557(Cell)

### Safety Officer:

Joe Schmidt 281-300-1211(Cell)

## Instructors

### Chief Instructor:

Tom Altmeyer: 713 591 2859

### Fixed:

Mike Laible: 713-542-0987  
James Lemon: 832-385-4779  
Fitz Walker 817-797-9192  
Larry Ammons 832-385-3374  
Gary Wilkerson

### Heli& Fixed:

Brian Campopiano: 832-524-9590 (H)  
Russell Bear: 281-757-3251

## The R/C Flyer

Articles and Want Ads may be submitted to the Editor, Mike Laible at [mrlaible@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mrlaible@sbcglobal.net)

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## Club Homepage

<http://www.jscrcc.com>

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