



# The R/C Flyer

Volume 44, Issue 6

June 2019

**Next Meeting – June 14th, 2019, Clear Lake Park Building– 7:00 PM**



## IN THE PITS

by Mike Laible

As most of you know this month has been a busy one. The month of May the club participated in two separate estate sales. The first was Dave Hoffman's and then Owen Morris. Both were longtime members of the JSC club.

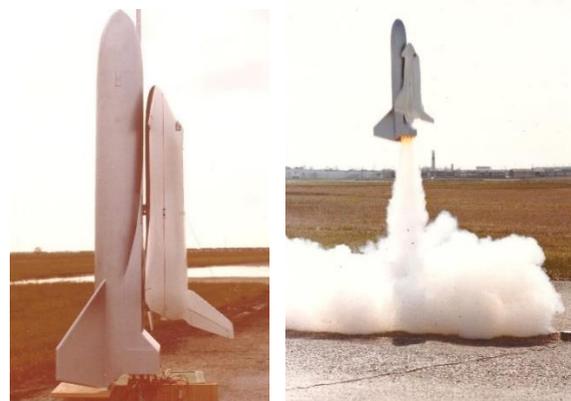
While conversing with the Elaine Spencer (Dave's wife) I found out things about Dave I never knew. First, he was a ham radio operator (knew that) in Morocco. He actually lived in Morocco until he was a young man. Here he is working his radio magic.



The pictures below are when he was a young man and another while still in Morocco as a teenager. Never new this about Dave. I think I remember Elaine said his father was in the military. Also, he was French.



Following is the Pewter Mule that I first heard about from David Hinson. What was interesting is at Owen Morris estate, there it was. Sitting in his garage. Ken White is working on getting it donated to the AMA Museum.



The 2020 Warbirds over JSC is sanctioned for April 25, 2020.

Well, that's all for now, Godspeed and safe landings,

Mike L.

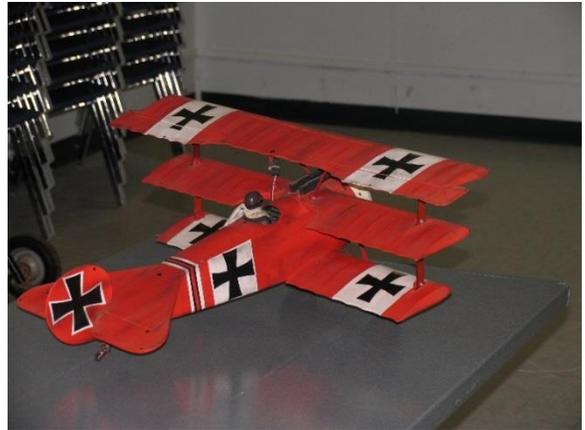
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## MAY MEETING

by Mike Laible

I was late and getting the pictures for the April meeting so this month I will cover April and May meeting pictures.

First is Charlie getting his Model of the Month pic for his Steerman.



Next Keith Fontenot and his Mig 3 for Model of the Year. Keith has been flying that bird with authority. Its in the shop at the moment but will be back.

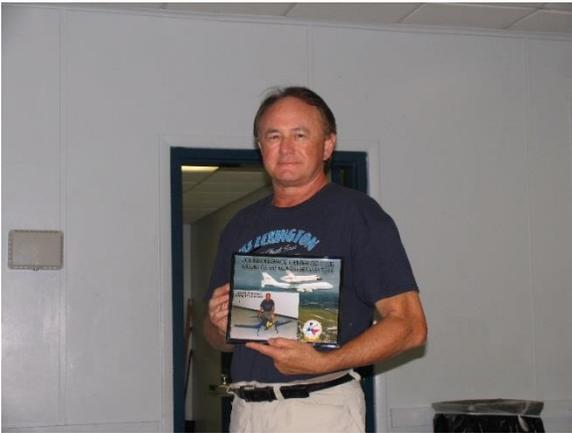
Below is Camran Kahn's Valiant.



The next two pictures are of Keith's DR-1. I didn't have info on the bird but it sure has Keith's magic weathering.



Now for the month of May. First up is once again Keith and his Model of the Month award for his Hanger 9 Corsair. This is another nice looking model.



The next following pictures are Dave Hoffman's estate. Everything was picked up and went to good homes.



## **MAY MINUTES**

### **Guest**

Vgeny Petrov

### **Old Business:**

Elaine Spebcer donated items on back table - as a side note Mike said Dave Hoffman was a Ham Operator in Morocco in 1951 and spoke 3 languages.

### **New Business:**

Lone star Flight Museum would like to partner with us to put on a control line event in June and a static display of planes and indoor demonstration in July

Joe Schmidt will act as liaison for the control line.

### **Membership:**

The club is up to 88 members

### **Safety:**

Nothing to report

### **Treasures report:**

\$9118.93 in savings with expect expenditures to bring balance down to \$6400 by year end.

### **Announcement/General Discussion:**

None

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## **MODEL OF MONTH**

by Mike Laible



Camran Kahn and his Valiant

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## **WHATS UP AROUND THE CLUB**

by Mike Laible

I attended the Austin Spring Warbird event. I took off before noon on Friday to get some late flying in. However, soon after this picture was taken the skies opened up. Pictured below is Scott Grissom, Greg Yancy, Randy Larsen, Terry Monroe, Terry's long time friend, Larry Peck, and myself. It rained 6" Friday night so needless to say I did not fly.



However, Saturday was a different story. I got four flights in and came home with all pieces in tact.

This pic is the Homeward Angel heading out for its 73<sup>rd</sup> sortie. Flawless flight and bombs were dropped right on target.



Had to show this one because this is a 40-60 foamy all decked out. The detail and weathering was incredible.



Now for an aerial view. These are always nice.



I'll end this month with my dream van to carry my airplanes. Now wouldn't that be cool to

pull up to a fly in with this and pull out the B-24. Yah man, that is what I am talking about.



That's all for this month,  
God speed and safe landings,  
Mike Laible

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## **PEWTER MULE**

*by Ken White*

During the last club meeting the club members were invited to attend the Owen Morris estate sale early before it was opened to the public. I went there just looking for items or planes that I might want to add to my collection. When I first entered, I walked to the back and saw a silver rocket on a shelf set in a foam cradle. I immediately recognized it, as I was there when some of the tests were made with this craft. It was the Pewter Mule. Later during the evening others found some photos of the craft being wired up for launch. I left the estate with a few items and did not think too much about it, but sleep on it. In the morning I told myself this model needs to be in a museum. I called Mike Laible and got the phone number to the personnel in care of the estate and called them. After discussing with them about the history of the model, they agreed and let me pick up the model the next day, along with the photos. They asked that it be donated in Mrs. Joyce Morris's name for Owen. Unfortunately, we do not have the shuttle model.

I did not know a lot of the details about this rocket, but after discussing it with Mike he had indicated that he had some documentation that he acquired for our 50th anniversary event. These documents were obtained from David Hinson, Kirby Hinson's brother. Mike sent this to me and I called Michael Smith the director for the AMA museum. He was very interested and sent me the paperwork necessary for the AMA museum staff to use to determine if they want to accept the artifact. It was a good thing Mike sent me the documentation as it was needed to fill out this form.

Here are the facts as best as I know them, based on the data sent to me. The model was designed and built by Kirby Hinson, Owen Morris and David Glock around the 1978 - 1979 time period. The flight took place in 1979. The rocket was designed to continue the proof of concept of the space shuttle orbiter project. It occurred a few years after the test flights with the 747 and piggy back shuttle models. The model is constructed of balsa, ply and injected foam. It weighs approximately 8 lbs and with the shuttle attached 13 lbs. It is 4'-6" tall, 7" in diameter and has engine pods for 24 Estes D12 rocket motors. It has two parachutes for the nose cone and rocket, one 3' in diameter and the other 5' in diameter. Kirby wrote up several procedures documents to hook up the motors and launch sequence. It is painted pewter silver and given the name Pewter Mule, I assume by Kirby, but not sure on that.

I filled out the form for AMA and sent them all of the documentation. They will meet in early June to determine if they want to accept the model. I am going to assume, based on the history that it will be accepted. The Owen family requested that it might be displayed in the area, so I made the request to the museum director that they might consider drawing up a contract with Space Center Houston similar to the one for the 747/shuttle

models currently on display there. He indicated that they would look into that. By the time of our meeting in June, I may have an answer as to acceptance and where it will reside. I will bring the model and photos to the next meeting.



## Upcoming Events

5/31 6/1 Bomber Field, any size warbird  
6/7-8 Warbirds over TX, Aubrey TX  
7/13 Warbirds over Scobee

## 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  
Dave Bacque: 832-216-2566  
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.jsrcc.com>

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## FOR SALE

## WANTED

### Supported Special Interest Groups:

SAM Chapter 82, Membership, Don White, [white1962@sbcglobal.net](mailto:white1962@sbcglobal.net), 281 883-9159.