



# The R/C Flyer

Volume 49, Issue 2

February 2024

Next Meeting-Gathering – February 8th, 2024

## CLUB CHIT

by Fitz Walker

It's a new year and with the flying season coming up I've realized that new (and some old) club members may not be familiar with the center rules while on the premises of the Johnson Space Center. The center is U.S. government property and thus is subject to federal laws and not necessarily Texas laws. So, here are some rules you must follow while at the flying field:

**-No firearms of any kind are allowed on-site**

**-No pets or animals are allowed on-site**

**-Club members are not allowed to tour/sight-see JSC property. Upon leaving the main entrance guard station, you must proceed directly to the flying field behind Bldg. 14 and exit the same way.**

**-If you lose/crash a model outside the immediate area of the flying field, do not go get it. Ask a member that has a JSC access badge to get it for you (or call club leadership).**

**-No drugs or alcohol**

**-Please don't arrive before 4pm on Weekdays (federal holidays are an exception).**

**-Be courteous to the guards, they are the ultimate authorities. Any issues with them**

**should be reported to club leadership and not arbitrated on the spot.**

**-Do not exceed the posted speed limits**

**-Pedestrians have the right of way. Stop for any pedestrians that are crossing or look like they will be crossing the street.**

**-Cell phone usage must be hands-free while driving.**

**-Be prepared for random spot-checks of your vehicle by the guards. It is not optional and at some point you will be stopped (but it only takes a few minutes).**

-Fitz

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## JANUARY MINUTES

by Rex Beck

January JSCRCC Meeting Minutes 1-11-2023 (6:30 PM)

**Meeting Location** Gilruth Center, Mars Room

**Members present** 14 + 1 new member – Nicolas Skelton

**Membership report** 70 Paid Members, 205 guests, for a total of 275.

**Treasurer's Report** New Treasurer, Bill Courtright, reported JSC-Welby Balance of \$6,810, which includes his December payment of \$70.36 for the Port-o-Can. During 2023, Brian negotiated a monthly rate of \$70.36, which amounts to \$844.32

annually. Rex will ask Warren Benson of the Rocket Club for a donation of 25% (\$211.00).

**Safety Report** No flying safety problems at JSC that we are aware of. However, Mark Mansouv (Alvin Pres) sent safety email in December, regarding an EDF jet, which recently caught fire and crashed at nearby Alvin field. A larger voltage battery had been installed than was specified. A word of caution to all members – be sure to use batteries only as specified for all electric aircraft.

**Old Business** An FAA “exemption” for broadcasting Remote ID was issued to JSCRCC on 11/22/23, and is good for four (4) years, expiring 11/30/27. With this, we are in FAA compliance and pilots will not have to install a remote ID module when flying at Nasa JSC. We thank Brian Campopiano and Lee Ray of AMA for making this happen.

2024 membership renewal applications must be signed and mailed to Charlie Teixeira by the end of February, 2024.

Fitz has been in contact with Jeff Dunehue, who continues to make progress on updating our JSCRCC website. Goal is to have it up and running by March, 2024.

The pile of scrap metal left over from re-building the tent frame has been hauled off.

**New Business** Our new President, Fitz Walker opened the meeting. The status of the Treasurer’s and Membership Reports are as stated above.

The 2024 JSCRCC Christmas Party was a total success, hosted by Mike Laible, as he has graciously done for many years. It was held on December 14th at Gilruth Center with 38 members and guests attending. Fun was had by all with the ornament exchange and door prizes. Two lucky winners received a Turbo Raven and an EDF Jet.

The 2024 Warbirds over JSC event is scheduled with AMA for April 27th and Lisa Gurgos (Nasa Event Coordinator) has been notified. For raffle prizes, Samonos has already donated an e-flite 1.5m P-51 and several other clubs have indicated they would also like to contribute. Action items for this event will need to be detailed in the next several months.

Fitz & Mike mentioned we should have a b-bque fun-fly get together before the hot July/August heat sets in. Will discuss if any interest and details next mo.

Field Improvements Needed:

Mike will measure the field for filling low spots near the drive thru area.

The field has been without a Wind Sock for several months, and Mike believes a new one is in the storage box. Needs to be installed.

Field is also without the large American flag, and Mike will order one.

Our push Squeegees are worn out, Fitz will buy 2-3 new ones.

Need new Storage Box – Mark will get quotes for options.

Brian Campopiano has updated the AMA website with jscrcc’s new officers.

Charlie mentioned that members present at each monthly meeting be asked to approve the meeting minutes from the previous month, in accordance with our JSCRCC Bi-Laws. Motion was seconded and approved.

Charlie made a motion that we reinstitute “Model of the Month”, starting in February. The Motion was seconded and approved.

Charlie Teixeira discussed his revision of the JSCRCC Bi-Laws regarding, removing the outdated membership fee, which is now noted in the annual membership application. Motion was seconded and approved.

Brian Campopiano indicated his name remains with FAA as our JSCRCC POC, and will gladly forward any information he receives to the club.

**Future Business** Bill Courtright will be submitting our 2024 application to AMA for Charter and Liability Insurance for Johnson Space Center Radio Control Club #617.

The February 9th meeting will be held at 6:30 PM, at Gilruth Center, Mars Room.

**Show and Tell** To spur more interest in show and tells, Charlie suggested we might want to re-establish model of the month in 2024. Motion was passed and approved.

Please continue to bring your models, techniques, & flying stories in to discuss as members are always interested in hearing about them – adds aeronautical flavor to the meetings, which is what we're all about.

The monthly Newsletter needs more local JSC representation as to who's flying/planes at our field. Many already take field pictures and post them on Group-me, but with a little extra effort you can email them with short comments to Mike Laible for all members to see in the monthly Newsletter.

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

*by Mike Laible*

Well, whats going on around the club. What projects are you building and what new planes do you have? Just send me a note and some pics and we can include it. Contact me at [mrlaible@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mrlaible@sbcglobal.net).

A good way to stay in tune with what is going on is join Johnson Space Center RC Club group me. You can contact Walter Lueke and he'll get you set up. It's a good forum and you can check it when you want.

Anyway, moving on to what I got going on. First and not shown is I have a Zirolli B25

near paint stage. Just got the paint and need to finish panel lines and rivets.

But for now I am moving full steam on the Balsa USA Cub, which I turned into an L4 Grasshopper.



The pic above is the wing being covered and using a new sharp xacto. Change those blades often to get a good edge.



Done. Two huge wing halves covered and ready to detail. All I need to do is add the rib stitching. This really adds a lot. The method I use turns out great and goes fairly fast.





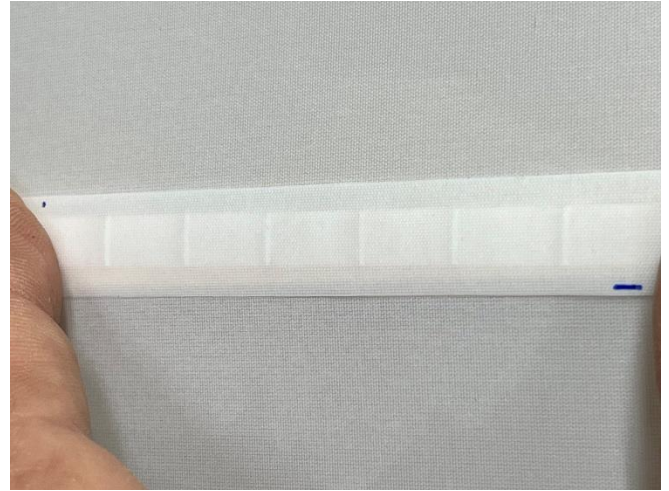
Some years ago (25 to be exact) I read this article about rib stitching. So I made the board above with nails on the side, you lay a sheet of paper and wrap string back and fourth, side to side. Then paint on watered down elmers to glue the strin to the paper



Rmove paper with string and slice a width that is appropriate. Now you have a stream of paper with a rib stich every  $\frac{1}{2}$ ".



This pic shows the paper on the covered wing at the rib. I have sprayed the bottom with contact glue and attached it to the rib area.



Now you cover this with a wider piecae of covering. I have not figured out how to get the zig-zag cut but with a straight cut it looks nice and adds a lot to the scale appeal



She is getting closer. Probably be painting by end of February.

Until next time,

Godspeed,

Mike

## Upcoming Events

- 2-24 Hockley NWHRC - Warbird/Swap Meet  
3-9 Lake Friendswood Boat Float: 2533 Davis  
Prairie Ln 9:00-12:00  
3-15 LSFM – Indoor Airshow/RC Plane  
Demos/Marshalling Class  
3-22/23 Warbirds over LA, Breaux Bridge LA  
3-22/23 Hempstead – Bomber – Jets over Houston  
4-6 Alvin – Big Bird/Swap Meet  
4-12/13 Texas City Warbird/Swap Meet  
4-12/13 Cubs and Cousins, Austin TX  
4-20 Crosby – Prop Nuts Flea Market & Fly in  
4-27 Houston Nasa-JSC – Warbirds over JSC  
5-3/4/5 New Waverly – Big Bird  
5-3/4 Ken White Memorial, Austin, TX  
5-11 Warbirds, Thunderbird Field  
5-10/11 Hockley - Space City – Cub & High Wing  
5-18/19 Rosenberg – Ft. Bend F5J Open  
5-18/19 Warbird Kingsbury aerodrome, Kingsbury, TX  
5-24/25 Back of the Bend Warbird, Monroe, LA  
5/31-6/1 Hempstead – Bomber – Warbird – Any Size  
6-7/8 Texas City – Big Bird/Swap Meet  
6-14/15 Big Bird, Waco, TX  
7-11-14 US Scale NATS, Muncie IN  
8-2/4 Livingston Summer Sizzle, Livingston, TX  
8-23/24 West Texas Warbirds, Lubbock, TX  
9-19/21 Hempstead – Bomber – B-17 Gathering & Big  
Bird  
10-5/6 Hockley - Space City – Warbird Fly in  
10-11/12 Warbirds over TX, Aubrey, TX  
10-25/26 Hempstead – Bomber – Jetoberfest  
10-25/26 Southwest Warbird Jetero, Dayton, TX  
11/1-2 Tex City - Cubs & Cousins  
12-31 Hockley - NWHRC – Night Fly

## Club Officers

President:

Vice-President:

Fitz Walker 817-797-9192 (Cell)  
flying\_fitz@yahoo.com

Vice-President:

Mike Laible 713-542-0987 (Cell)  
mrlaible@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer:

Bill Courtright 713-253-0895 (Cell)  
b2crrt@comcast.net

Secretary:

Rex Beck 832-628-9473 (Cell)

## 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 (Cell)

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.org>