



## May 2023 News Letter

AUTHOR: Patrick Murphy

**NOTE: The May 13 Members meeting begins at 8:00 a.m. (Summer Hours)**

### New Members

The club welcomes new members Girard Ibanez, Walter Schroeder, Jerry Wyant, Ethan Wyant, Henry Cannon, Sarita Mitchell, Basil Johnson, Juan Steele, Peter Benitez and Mike Stanger.

### Gold Leader Club Status



Left, Jack Shafer presents club President Dan Tolleson with the AMA Gold Leader Club Certificate. It was Jack's hard work that won the club this recognition for the second year in a row. Gold pins celebrating the award are available from Mike Hinkle for \$3 each.

### April 15 Swap Meet

A lot of hardware changed hands at the swap meet.

We found out why Event Coordinator Jonathan Moore was eager to hold a swap meet. He, his brother and father cleared out their hangars of old kits. The Editor bought three.



## Second Annual Curtis Bishop Memorial Fun Fly, April 8

The event benefitted the community Food Bank. Members contributed cash or non-perishable food items.

Event Coordinator Jonathan Moore generously donated an FMS F3A Explorer as a prize for the fun fly.

At the April 8 club meeting, the members voted to include a \$200 donation from the club to the Food Bank.

The Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona, Marana Branch, was very grateful to receive 60 pounds of food, and \$377 of cash donations.



## Membership Cap

At the April 8 club meeting, the members voted to cap club membership at 120. At the time of this writing, we have 106 members.

## New Planes



Charlie Applebaum (on the left, with Jerry Wozniak on the right) has a bitchin' new Hawker Hurricane. A refreshing change from the many Spitfires you see. This is the plane that won the Battle of Britain.



Javier Arroyo has quickly built up an impressive quiver of helis.



Victor Fuentes has taken a big step up in scale. Here are two big, new, scale helicopters. They are both 700-size.



Victor hasn't forgotten the little guys, either. This baby is a very slick Fly Wing 450AF Airwolf that Victor says even a fixed-wing pilot can fly. The GPS and gyro are so good, you can get out of trouble just by taking your hands off the controls.

Victor proved how easy the little black one is to fly by letting Gary fly it. It was his first helicopter flight, and he made it look easy.

Right, on the fixed-wing side, Gary flew his new biplane. It's a Flex Innovations Mamba 10.





Left, Ethan Wyant poses with Jerry Wyant's Navistar. It boasts a Rimfire .46 motor. On the maiden flight, Doug Allen slapped the prop and the tail on the runway, but there was no damage.

Right and below, Jim Davis purchased this plane at the April 15 swap meet. It boasted an O.S. Max 0.61 engine.



Sadly, Jim's plane did not survive his first flight with it. The elevator servo arm had a stripped spline. Jim lost all elevator control, and the plane nosed in. It's an object lesson. Test the integrity of the servo arms, at least on any new plane.



Left and below, Javier Arroyo's new helicopter is a Saab 580. It's got a custom canopy, side rails, and tail. Javier explains that this one is a show pony, trotted out for special occasions. It won't be his everyday flyer until he is confident with some of his other helis.





Tyler Pangerl's new plane had been sitting on his workbench for five years. It is a Phoenix Models Spitfire version 2 kit that cost about \$100, back when he bought it.



### Scale Detail



Keith Koppas is just finishing his latest masterpiece. This one is a Sopwith Camel. Meticulously researched, this aircraft has to be examined closely to be fully appreciated.

Below, Tyler's Spitfire is beautiful. It has the Spitfire's characteristic outward-retracting main gear, which accounts for its narrow wheel base. The struts are spring-

operated. Notice the Fowler flaps. The pilot looks appropriately terrified.

This is a refreshing change from the many Hurricanes you see. This is the plane that won the Battle of Britain.





The swap meet featured this incredibly realistic model. It faithfully portrays the remains of an early WWII trainer, as found today in the jungles of the Solomon Islands.

Made using the old tissue-soaked-in-dope covering, the owner undoubtedly wanted to sell it to avoid steep toxic waste disposal fees.

## New Pilot

Mason Wilson received his solo flight certificate from Chief Flight Instructor Randy Wegner (on the left, with Doug Allen on the right).

Congratulations, Mason!



## Plane for Auction at May 13 Meeting



Here is a plane for auction after the May 13 meeting. It's a crash repair donation of a Multiplex Fun Cub.

It comes with motor, Spektrum-compatible receiver, ESC, and all servos.

It needs a prop adapter, a 10x7e prop, and a 3s 2200mAh lipo to fly.

## Gunsmoke Scale Masters Nationals Qualifier

*Contributed by Special Correspondent Randy Wegner*

On a very fine weekend in March of this year, I went to compete in the Gunsmoke Scale Masters event in Mesa AZ. It is the biggest scale event put on by the One Eighth Air Force, and winners Qualify for the Nationals held in the Fall.

As I was setting up my Turbo Beaver, I was not expecting, but glad to see Keith Koppos, setting up two planes aided by Don Evans who helped him during the event. The competition was understandably pretty serious as many of the competitors work to great lengths to produce great looking aircraft that get static judged first and then flown before judges that score them for realism in flight during pre-declared maneuvers.



Yours truly won the Pro-Am-Pro event which is mostly about flying your plane as realistically as possible and it is not static judged. Keith Koppos entered an entry-level event called Pro-Am-Sportsman and took a very respectable third place his first time out with his JN4 Jenny! It is a great class to get your feet wet and makes for a light-hearted and fun weekend.

Even more impressive is the Commander's Award that is given to the competitor whose plane receives the highest static score for realism. It is the toughest award to win and you guessed it..... Keith won it for his very detailed Farman F40 biplane. His plane stood out from several others at the event. One pilot even spent a really long time sitting on the blacktop, both days, studying his JN4 Jenny. I just sat there in the shade privately thinking..... Gee if only we could raise a child up who has my flying skill and Keith's unbridled abilities for scale aircraft. But then I thought, what kind of limitless patience it would take to raise such a crazy human??

--Randy Wegner

## The Walk of Shame



Javier decided to trim his fleet by one. He mourned the broken blades, especially. They are expensive in this size.

## AIAA Design, Build and Fly Competition

*Reporting by Dan Tolleson and Jack Shafer. Photography by Javier Arroyo.*



*Wentworth Institute of Technology*

CRCM has had the honor of hosting many Universities from across the globe in support of the Design, Build and Fly (AIAA) International competition. The AIAA is the world's largest technical society dedicated to the global aerospace profession.

Catalina R/C Modelers was selected as the practice field to allow many of the teams a place to finish their builds and then test fly their entries before the actual competition at TIMPA.



*University of Colorado*



*Rice University*

In April, CRCM had the pleasure of assisting teams from some of the following countries:

- Colombia
- Hong Kong, China
- Austria
- Australia
- Slovenia

Also, some of the following Universities from the United States:

- University of Colorado
- Rice University, Houston, Texas
- U.C. Davis, California
- Colorado State University
- University of Missouri, Kansas City
- University of Texas, Dallas



- Penn State University
- Wentworth Institute of Technology, Boston

The following directional schools also competed:

- University of Western Michigan
- University of Southern California



*Western Michigan University*



*University of Texas*

As a bit of history, one of the biggest driving factors in Pima County's agreement to fund our new runway, was the fact that CRCM has always been a supporter of the AIAA competition, as well as many other community activities.

We hope that we will be providing support to the AIAA competition in two more years.



*Slovenia University, with a good-looking plane. Double-tapered wings, single motor, winglets, boom empennage, and a v-tail. A mature design.*

## Tom Crawford

*Contributed by Special Correspondent Randy Wegner*

Many of you who are newer may not recall Tom Crawford. He has been a member since I can remember, and flew mostly 40-size glow planes out at our field for many years. He has been active in our club, introducing children to the hobby, as well as helping out with some of the construction projects that have made our club what it is today. What I recall most however is his kind, level-headed, and positive approach towards problems and life in general. Mostly, he is easy to like and folks including myself consider him a good friend.

I hadn't seen Tom in a few weeks so when he called, I figured it was about weeds or planes. When we spoke, our discussion became more serious as he shared how his leukemia had spread too far, he could barely get out of his chair and he said he might lose his battle with it before long.

We talked for a while and he reminisced about some of the people and all of the fun we had out there. I intend on more calls to share time and memories with him.

As I get older, its ever more clear just how short life is. I think it would be safe to say that Tom likely decided years ago to spend his time being a thoughtful, helpful and kind person. There is a quote I recall hearing maybe 35 years ago that has resonated with me ever since. "The size of a man is best determined by the size of the things that make him mad and for some, it's a little white golf ball." If indeed that's a fair unit of measure, then for Tom Crawford, his would have to be a MEDICINE BALL!

Tom is seemingly taking his condition admirably well and called me to pass along to all of us a friendly farewell.

Randy

*Photo by Bill Disney*



**Please attend the May 13 Club Meeting  
0800 Hours (Summer Hours)**