

# Crosswinds

Newsletter for SPARKS  
Spring Area Radio  
Kontrol Society



## Message from the President—Terry Foote July 27, 2020

August 2020

Hi all,  
I'm sure all of you have seen or flown off of the new runway. It seems that all the reports I have received from everybody is that they had a positive experience taking off and landing on the new asphalt. Those that didn't care to try their hand at the paved surface could still land on the grass between the pilot's stations and the new runway. Sneed had taken on this project while working with Chris and I saw no reason to bother him. As the project unfolded, it became clear Jim was doing an excellent job preparing the new runway and dealing with the County boys that did the work. I'm sure we can all agree the results of Jim's efforts have given our field a wonderful makeover and will help gain new members. A big thumbs up for Jim!

I will be making two appointments in the near future..... One person will be in charge of the weather and the other will get rid of this dadgum virus! Hope all of you are wearing your masks and keeping your distance from each other. We are also dealing with hot weather and hurricanes..... Hmmmmm, we must live in Texas or something!

With all this shut in, stay home, furloughed pilots, closed movie theaters, drive thru eating out, there must be a lot more time for completing all those projects you've had languishing around your shop. That is exactly what I've been doing and I hope that all of you have been increasing your air forces. We have also been seeing an increase in sales of used planes and ARFs down at Randy's Hobbies.

This next weekend the Texas Warbird Thunder will be converging on the Livingston R/C field for a "Summer Sizzle" event. If you have never been to one of these events you will be in for a real treat! These are a fun loving bunch of guys that get together and show some extreme piloting skills and fabulous warbirds. Come on out and see what it's all about. Randy and I will be attending and putting some grass stains on the under surfaces of our warbirds!

Y'all make it to the meeting Saturday morning. Bring a plane and plan on some flying. I can't see why the business portion of the meeting would take more than a few minutes. I'm hoping for fair skies and no wind..... Hmmmmm: Note to self: Put my good buddy Karl Marshall in charge of weather!

All for now....  
Over and out!  
Terry

### SPARKS WEBSITE

[www.sparksrc.com](http://www.sparksrc.com)

Or mail to:

**SPARKS**

**P.O. Box 691405  
Houston, TX 77269-1405**

### SPARKS 2019 - 2020 Officers\*

President Terry Foote	936-537-4718
<b>Jim Sneed</b> Vice President/ Safety Officer	713-254-5175
<b>Randy Shewmaker</b> Treasurer	281-300-2899
<b>Paul Gallagher</b> Secretary	832-368-0500
<b>Jim Sneed</b> Newsletter Editor	713-254-5175

\* e-mail address' are on page 5



## Sparks Meeting Notes

July 11, 2020

Dyess Park – 9:00 AM

Meeting was opened by Chris Cavanaugh.

Terry Foote, Jr., was elected president by a 62% majority of votes cast.

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted but not read.

Treasurer (Randy Shewmaker) reported that the club has sufficient funds and that they increased \$77.70 from June.

Vice President Sneed stated that there had not been any incidents or accidents on the field.

There presently is a gopher and armadillo infestation on the field which is causing holes. Previously Caster Oil was used effectively to rid the field of the gophers. He will ask Randy to purchase more.

Pink flags have been placed on the field to delineate the new runway. It will be placed 15 feet from the fence and will be 28 feet wide and 450 feet long. There will remain a 47-foot strip of grass in front of the pilot stations for the grass runway.

There will be no trimming of trees at the end of the runway. One tree will be removed which currently is growing into runway space.

The bushes on the sides of the driveway into Sparks Park will be trimmed to allow vehicles to pass through.

Several trees in the parking are designated for removal.

Secretary (Paul Gallagher) discussed membership

Two probationary members were approved. Brian Lipp (sponsored by Jim Sneed) and Robert Dean (sponsored by Terry) were welcomed into the club.

Bertolo Burger joined as a probationary member.

Shores Morgan. They need pilot instruction, and have applied for AMA number. He was given a club member application form.

One honorary member (lobbied for by Mark Hunt) will be removed. There has been no contact after many attempts at communication.

Motions was made by James Jordan and seconded by Jim Sneed and received group approval.

It was asked if anyone knew a "Jess". He has paid his dues but there is no information to contact him. Terry said that his name is Allan Jess and he is presently out of the country. Terry will be responsible to get the necessary information.

The current membership is 49 including the newly inducted members.

Terry is very interested in increasing the membership of the club. Three people have stopped by the hobby shop and have talked with him.

President (Terry Foote, Jr.)

He voiced appreciation for the work on the By-laws. Rules have been created to take care of problem members. Terry would like less time spent voting and more time spent flying.

Terry presented a list of potential events that may or may not be held depending on a large number of items:

Meetings will be held on the first Saturday at the field until they can be resumed on the first Wednesday at Valley Ranch.

The third Saturday of the month will be learning to fly days for ROTC. Terry related a visit to Stafford High school's ROTC program and was impressed with the organization, management, and level of participation of that club. He would like to get Bob Troy to work with the 3 ROTC groups who have been involved with Sparks.

Nostalgia Fun Fly – later this year. No date set.

Runway Christening Gathering – after the runway is completed. R. Jack Cagle and other Precinct 4 dignitaries should be invited.

August 15<sup>th</sup> – National Aviation Day. No activity defined.

September – Fall Field Clean Up Day. Jim Sneed will set date and time.

November 7<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> – Toys for Tots drive. Terry will set date.

The North pasture needs mowing. Saplings are also growing in the creek, and there will be a date set for members to remove them.

Karl Marshall brought forth a suggestion to have clinics on a few Saturdays at the field and publicize them to create interest in the club for members and newcomers. Jim Sneed said that members from the club would need to support the effort. (It is not possible to do with only 2 people) Terry felt the it would have to be carefully planned and not be held during soccer or baseball seasons.

Mike Levchak is in charge of creating the new website and he feels it needs to be simple and easily accessible. The preliminary page works well on a mobile device and a tablet

Name tag raffle was held. Winning member not present so money rolls over to next month.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The small prize raffle was held and many gifts were given

There was no model of the month

Terri had two special raffles for electric and gasoline flyers. Dale Simcox and newcomer, Bertolo Burger were the winners of the planes.

Lee Lacky, son of Clyde Lacky (deceased) brought many of his father's planes to be auctioned off at the end of the meeting. The auction was completed, and many members had happy smiles!

The meeting was adjourned by Terry.

#### How to access cameras at SPARKS field

From your cell phone, tablet, or PC, go get the ZMODO app and install it. It will ask you if you want to share your data or files, tell it no. Go to login page and login by email address. The email address is:

sparksfield08@gmail.com and the password is 123456

This will open up the camera views for East and West runways, work area, and driveway.

## Contact Information for SPARKS Officers:

(This will be in each issue but you may want to print a copy for reference)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email address</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
President	Terry Foote	<a href="mailto:President@sparksrc.com">President@sparksrc.com</a>	936-537-4718
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Treasurer	Randy Shewmaker	<a href="mailto:treasurer@sparksrc.com">treasurer@sparksrc.com</a>	281-300-2899
Secretary	Paul Gallagher	<a href="mailto:secretary@sparksrc.com">secretary@sparksrc.com</a>	832-368-0500
Newsletter Editor	Jim Sneed	<a href="mailto:newsletter@sparksrc.com">newsletter@sparksrc.com</a>	713-254-5175

Club Meetings the first Wednesday of each Month

Upcoming Meetings:

Sat August 1, 2020—Sat September 5, 2020

**SPARKS Field**

**Until further notice**

**Due to Covid-19**

**Come early and enjoy time with us. Then stay late and fly your favorite plane.**

**Please support our local RC Shops...  
they are vital to our hobby.**

**Many special thanks to Randy Ritch of Randy's Hobbies  
for his continued support of SPARKS**

*Randy's Hobbies*

**Remote Control Airplanes, Boats & Cars  
Sales and Service**



**Randy Ritch  
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