



# The Flight Line

[www.alvinrc.org](http://www.alvinrc.org)

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## Newsletter of Alvin RC Model Airplane Association

May - June 2014

### 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Alvin RC Big Bird Fly In

On April 19, 2014 we held our Annual Big Bird – and was it ever a fantastic event! With the help of many - many members, the Houston Chronicle, local hobby shops, RC suppliers, our very supportive neighbors and Mother Nature we had the best ever event at our field – if you were not there you missed a great time. We had 52 registered pilots and it is anyone's guess how many spectators we had – my guess is well over 200. Between entry fees, income from food sales and the raffle proceeds we grossed close to \$2,000. From a safety stand point there were no injuries, near misses or as



put another way “no band aids were needed”. The picture above gives an idea of the participation. This gathering was simply the pilot's meeting and we were still signing up pilots for 3 hours after the meeting. Other photos shown below give an indication of the quality, size and performance of the airplanes and pilots. RC Hobbies group put on a great show with Warbirds flying in formation and low level passes. The 3D pilots and conventional pattern flyers did some great performances all to the delight of the spectators. I believe everyone had a good time and we did not hear of any serious concerns or incidents. Also after Tom sold all of the hamburgers he bought (almost 150) it appears everyone that wanted one got one – great job by Tom and his crew. We were even honored with the surprise visit of our District VIII VP, Mark Johnston along with AVP's Randy Brown and Randy Rich.



*Desmond Campbell - 8 years old – solo landing with Robert Bernal's 50% Cub*

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Great picture – looks like real WWII dogfight



Bucky of RC Hobbies presenting his raffle prize



3 D Pilot ready to approach runway



Tim, Benny and Bill (l to r) acting busy



50 cc Thunderbird Raffle Prize donated by RC Jets World



WWI Biplane Ready for a dogfight

Additional photos will be posted on our website in the near future.

## What's happening at the field?

- Flying conditions - Great
- Field is in great shape
- No serious safety issues or flying conflicts

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- Membership continues to increase (now over 100).
- Activities at the field are in full swing.
- Grass runway parallel to the paved runway has been rolled twice and will be rolled again as needed in the ongoing efforts to bring it closer to a definable and useable grass runway
- For information AMA has issued the latest version of their Safety Code which is effective January 1, 2014. The latest version is posted on the fence just before the pit area. Members can find copies of it at AMA's website and in the AMA magazine.
- Get your airplane(s) and come enjoy!

## **Reminder**

Our membership renewal is in full swing with our membership year beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>. Open and family membership dues remain at \$150 per year and can be paid to any club officer and Grady Owens will issue you your new membership card.

## **Crash Reports**

Most of the crashes I am aware of occurred at our Big Bird Fly In. One in particular was a Skyraider making a low level inverted pass and got a little too close to the ground. Night before the event a guest was practicing and clipped the power line on CR 180. Plane was probably quite damaged but power was only off for a few minutes due to a temporary short. This event highlights the fact that we should not be flying over the highway which in turn eliminates the risk of hitting the power lines.

Another crash during the event was a large scale Corsair which is believed to have gone in due to the elevator servo arm coming off the servo. Plane was pretty much a total loss. I promised MB I would not say whose plane it was!!!!!!

## **Facebook Group - Alvin RC Flight Line**

Remember our Facebook group for our club called Alvin RC Flight Line (same as the newsletter) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1008524842621885/> It has been changed to an open group which means it is limited to use by club members only but anyone can see the posting and photos. It is a great informal communication tool and we encourage our members to give it a try. Just go to the group page and there is a "button" that says Join. Click the button and it will send Larry and me your request and one of us will authorize you and you will be in – give it a try – even some of us old guys are doing it!!! We currently have 37 members that have joined and over 90 photographs posted.



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## **New Members:**

Introduce yourself and welcome our new members – if you happen to introduce yourself and welcome an old member now you know them and if you do it twice you will know them better and be getting near my age!!!!!!!!!!

## **For Sale or Wanted:**

Nothing submitted

## **Projects:**

Nothing submitted

**Lost and Found:** If you have lost or found an item at the field that you do not know who it belongs to please let us know so we can post the description. Most items found at the field are placed on the counter by the row of windows in the clubhouse.

## **Smiles:**



## **Who Is Mr. Gorsky?**

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T ALREADY KNOW THIS LITTLE TIDBIT OF TRIVIA.

ON JULY 20, 1969, AS COMMANDER OF THE APOLLO 11 LUNAR MODULE, NEIL ARMSTRONG WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO SET FOOT ON THE MOON.

HIS FIRST WORDS AFTER STEPPING ON THE MOON, "THAT'S ONE SMALL STEP FOR MAN, ONE GIANT LEAP FOR MANKIND" WERE TELEVISED TO EARTH AND HEARD BY MILLIONS. BUT JUST BEFORE HE RE-ENTERED THE LANDER, HE MADE THE ENIGMATIC REMARK - "GOOD LUCK, MR. GORSKY".

MANY PEOPLE AT NASA THOUGHT IT WAS A CASUAL REMARK CONCERNING SOME RIVAL SOVIET COSMONAUT. HOWEVER, UPON CHECKING, THERE WAS NO GORSKY IN EITHER THE RUSSIAN OR AMERICAN SPACE PROGRAMS.

OVER THE YEARS, MANY PEOPLE QUESTIONED ARMSTRONG AS TO WHAT THE -

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"GOOD LUCK, MR. GORSKY" STATEMENT MEANT, BUT ARMSTRONG ALWAYS JUST SMILED.

ON JULY 5, 1995, IN TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA, WHILE ANSWERING QUESTIONS FOLLOWING A SPEECH, A REPORTER BROUGHT UP THE 26-YEAR-OLD QUESTION ABOUT MR. GORSKY TO ARMSTRONG.

THIS TIME HE FINALLY RESPONDED BECAUSE MR. GORSKY HAD DIED, SO NEIL ARMSTRONG FELT HE COULD NOW ANSWER THE QUESTION.

HERE IS THE ANSWER TO "WHO WAS MR GORSKY":

IN 1938, WHEN HE WAS A KID IN A SMALL MID-WESTERN TOWN, HE WAS PLAYING BASEBALL WITH A FRIEND IN THE BACKYARD. HIS FRIEND HIT THE BALL, WHICH LANDED IN HIS NEIGHBOR'S YARD BY THEIR BEDROOM WINDOW.

HIS NEIGHBORS WERE MR. AND MRS. GORSKY. AS HE LEANED DOWN TO PICK UP THE BALL, YOUNG ARMSTRONG HEARD MRS. GORSKY SHOUTING AT MR. GORSKY,

**"SEX! YOU WANT SEX?! YOU'LL GET SEX WHEN THE KID NEXT DOOR WALKS ON THE MOON!"**

## Upcoming Events:

- Events both flying and non-flying are listed on AMA's website under Competition/Calendar and also listed in AMA's magazine Model Aviation. Local club events are also listed on RC Hobby Shop's website and as I receive flyers from the clubs I will distribute to the membership.

It should be noted that Bucky (Matt Keller) along with the other hobby shop owners do a great job of supporting our events and their efforts really help bring the Houston Area RC community together.

- Alvin RC has recently registered with AMA to participate in the celebration of National Model Aviation Day in support of our hobby and the Wounded Warrior Project. Tentative plans for this year include an open Fun Scale (Rough) Fly In. The idea behind the nature of the event is to have as large a cross section of the types of airplanes that are used in our hobby as possible. There will be no stringent rules to be met to qualify as "scale". If it looks like it is kinda scale of a real airplane then it is!!!! It is all in fun! Event is scheduled for August 16, 2014 nationwide. Last year there were over 170 clubs participating with \$72,000 being donated to the Wounded Warrior Project. Chris Wisby is helping lead this event and additional information will be distributed when available....stay tuned

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- RC Hobby Shop's list of events is shown below:



**WWW.RCHOUSTON.COM**  
**2014** Houston Area Flying Events Schedule  
For Updates and More Info go to [www.RCHouston.com](http://www.RCHouston.com)

2/22/14 -- Dayton, TX (A) JETERO FROZEN FINGER OF FATE COMPETITION FUN FLY  
2/23/14 -- SUNDAY Texas City, TX TCRCC FREE FLY IN & LUNCH-all AMA aircraft welcome  
3/1/14 -- NOF Freestyle \$Challenge\$ 1 of 3 Series Bomber Field Monavile By RCHS & MKS  
3/15/14 -- Rosenberg, TX (C) FORT BEND RC CLUB SPRING SWAP MEET AND FUN FLY  
3/22/14 -- Jetero RC 18th Anniversary Fly In Dayton TX  
3/27/14 -- 3/29/2014 -- Rosenberg, TX (C) 2ND ANNUAL JETS OVER HOUSTON  
4/5/14 -- Texas City, TX (C) TCRCC WARBIRD FLY IN AND SWAP MEET  
4/12/14 -- Crosby, TX (C) PROP NUTS ANNUAL FLEA MARKET AND FLY IN  
4/19/14 -- Alvin, TX (C) ALVIN RC 24TH ANNUAL BIG BIRD FLY IN  
4/26/14 -- 4/27/2014 -- New Waverly, TX (C) 30TH ANNUAL BIG BIRD FLY IN  
5/1/14 -- 5/4/2014 -- HoBro 2014 Bomber Field Profiles & 3d Event  
5/2/14 -- 5/5/2014 -- Katy, TX (AA) SCRC 7TH ANNUAL SPRING PATTERN  
5/10/14 -- Crosby TX Electric Fly In Day Propnuts RC Club  
5/17/14 -- Spring, TX (C) SPRING FUN FLY. Site: Houston Sport Flyers  
5/17/14 -- Orange, TX (C) BIG BIRDS OVER THE BAYOU. Site: Gloria Drive Flying Field  
5/31/14 -- RCHOUSTON.com Flying Community Gathering By RCHS Scobee Field  
6/7/14 -- Monaville, TX (C) WARBIRD EVENT ANY SIZE. Site: Bomber Field  
6/13/14 -- 6/14/2014 -- Texas City, TX (C) BRADEN CLOUGH BIG BIRD /SWAP MEET  
6/19-21/14 -- Hotter than Hell Jet Rally Bomber Field Monaville Tx  
6/21/14 -- Spring, TX (C) 2ND ANNUAL BIG BIRD GATHERING  
6/28/14 -- Rosenberg, TX (C) 8TH ANNUAL FORT BEND BIG BIRD FLY IN.  
7/19/14 -- Texas City, TX (C) TCRCC OPEN FUN FLY #1 AND SWAP MEET  
8/9/14 -- NOF Freestyle \$Challenge\$ 2 of 3 Series Bomber Field Monavile By RCHS & MKS  
8/21-24/14 -- Rally of the Giants IMAA + AMA pilots welcome Bomber Field  
9/18/14 -- 9/20/2014 -- Monaville, TX (C) B17 GATHERING. Site: Bomber Field  
9/27/14 -- Spring, TX (C) CHOPPERAZZI. Site: Houston Sport Flyers.  
10/10/14 -- 10/11/2014 -- Katy, TX (C) WARBIRDS OVER SPACE CITY  
10/25/14 -- NOF Freestyle Final \$Challenge\$ Day 3 of 3 Bomber Field By RCHS & MKS  
10/25/14 -- Dayton, TX (C) SOUTHEAST TEXAS WARBIRD RALLY. Site: Jetero Club  
11/1/14 -- Wings Over Houston Ellington Field - Come check out the RC Pilots Demo Booth  
11/8/14 -- Texas City, TX (C) TCRCC OPEN FUN FLY #2 AND SWAP MEET  
11/15/14 -- Spring, TX (C) TOYS FOR TOTS. Site: Houston Sport Flyers.  
11/16/14 -- SUNDAY Fort Bend RC Turkey Shoot

Want to Add your event ?  
Email us @:  
[RCHS1@hotmail.com](mailto:RCHS1@hotmail.com)

Find us on:  
facebook.

**www.RCHobbyshop.com**  
**RC HOBBY SHOP**  
Stafford, TX 281-969-7751

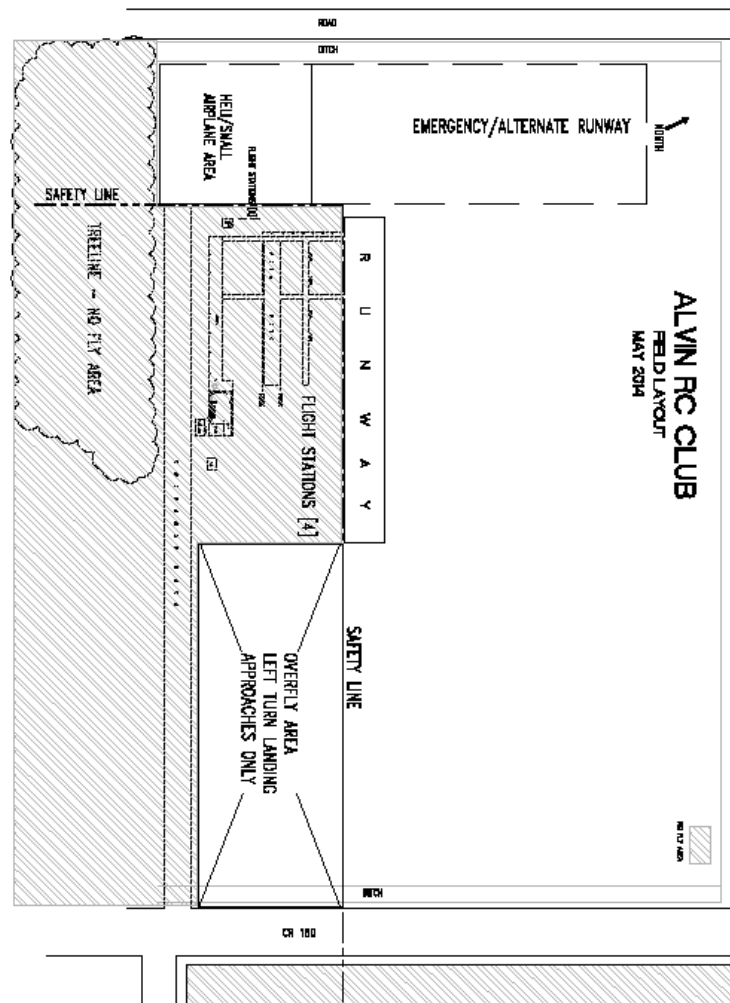
## Information from the Club Executive Committee (EC)

- Recently a copy of the updates to the Club Bylaws were distributed to all members via email with additional copies available at the clubhouse. In the near future you will receive a postage paid ballot card to indicate your acceptance of the updates as proposed by the EC. As noted in the distribution and covered in our monthly meeting the update does not reflect any major changes to our operating policies it simply brings them current with our policies. When you receive the ballots simply indicate your vote and drop in the mail.

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- The EC, as requested by the members present at a monthly meeting, has reviewed our policies related to use of the field for flying. The sketch below reflects areas where flying is permitted and where it is restricted. If you have any questions or need clarification please discuss this with a member of the EC. For information the "Overfly Area" is intended to allow additional room for turns and is not intended for takeoff's, landings, aerobatics or other general flying in this area. This sketch only applies to general member use of the field and does not apply to events which will have specific restrictions.



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## Club Officers and Board Members

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>President – Tim Haskins</b>   | <b>Vice President &amp; Safety Coordinator– Mike Vawters</b> |
| <b>Treasurer – Grady Owens</b>   | <b>Secretary – Benny Behrens</b>                             |
| <b>Board Member – Lewis Mack</b> | <b>Board Member – Ken White</b>                              |
| <b>Board Member – Bill Bley</b>  |  |

Any comments, suggestions, corrections may be submitted to Benny Behrens at [cbbahrens@comcast.net](mailto:cbbahrens@comcast.net)

**Local Sponsors:** The following local Hobby Shops are loyal supporters of our events and club and we hope you will support them and tell them thanks.



[WWW.RCHOBBYSHOP.COM](http://WWW.RCHOBBYSHOP.COM)

[RCHS1@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:RCHS1@HOTMAIL.COM)

281-265-4844

206 BRAND LANE  
STAFFORD, TX 77477

## **Odyssey Hobbies**

1020 W. NASA Parkway  
Webster, TX 77598  
281-557-1424

## **SB Hobbies**

2002 N. Main St.  
Pearland, TX 77581  
281-485-8860  
[info@pearlandhobbyshop.com](mailto:info@pearlandhobbyshop.com)

## **Samano Hobbies**

Mike Samano  
651-C Egret Bay  
League City, TX  
832-632-2206  
Cell: 281-827-7148