



# The Eagle Eye News

The Newsletter of the  
Georgetown Aero Modelers Association

Georgetown, Texas

Volume 11, Issue 9

September 2011

**The Meeting is September 13th ,The Second Tuesday at:  
Mel's Lone Star Lanes, 1010 North Austin Ave, Georgetown.  
Meeting Starts at 7:00 pm**

## Just a Bit Nose Heavy

by Dewey Goddit

"Shoes must be worn," said the sign on the door of Pete's Pancake Palace. I looked down at my feet. Yup, my shoes were well worn...and muddy too. I wondered why Pete didn't like new shoes. Perhaps he wanted to encourage a casual atmosphere. I looked for my flying companions. We met every Saturday morning before going flying.

"Hi Dewey," Flip said as I took a seat in the booth beside him. Flip Smartly is the club's engine wizard, and I had lots of questions for him.

"Flip," I started, "I'm thinking of building a canard. Should I put the propeller on backwards too?" Flip choked on a mouthful of pancakes. After he recovered he said, "Golly, Dewey. I don't quite know how to answer that." I had stumped the experts again. I continued to ask Flip more questions, but before I finished, the other guys got up and left. I guess they were eager to start flying.

When I arrived at the field, I was eager to fly too, but balancing my Smog Hog revealed that it was just a bit nose heavy. I explained this to Flip and on his advise I decided to add an ounce of weight to the tail. I rummaged thru my field box for a weight that would fit in the tail. There was a bottle of Hot Stuff—too light; a Higley Heavy Hub—too heavy; an old spinner—too bulky; a screwdriver—too long. Rats! Then I scrounged thru my pockets. A pocketknife, my watch, my wallet, my keys. Keys! A key ring with 6 keys on it was perfect. It was just the right weight, and the keys could easily be jammed between the longerons ahead of the tail wheel. I turned the plane over, wedged the keys in place and secured them with just a drop of Hot Stuff.

Now I was ready to fly. I understand that Hanno Pretner has to practice 8 hours every day in order to fly mode one. But a couple of flights once a week is sufficient for me. So I started the engine and taxied to the end of the runway. I tipped my cap in the direction of the sun and wiped my oily hands on my pants.

Advancing the throttle slowly and holding a slight amount of right rudder, the graceful airplane accelerated down the runway. It lifted off a little early and climbed steeply, so steeply that it was doing a loop right over the middle of the runway. I pushed down elevator to stop the climb but it was already at the top of the loop, inverted. Too much down-elevator caused it to snap-roll upright. It seemed that the extra tail weight was not so desirable after all.

"Great Immelman take-off, Dewey," someone shouted.

The elevator was much too sensitive now. A slight amount of down-elevator made it dive, and a slight amount of up elevator made it shoot straight up. Up-down-up-down it went with the wings visibly bending every time I even thought about touching the elevator stick. At last, mercifully, the engine quit during one of the more violent transitions. I tried to stretch the glide to bring the errant child home but it snap-rolled and spun into the swamp---deep into the swamp.

After several hours of trudging thru the muck with the help of three other sympathetic flyers and all of us looking like lost Yeti's, we were forced to give up. It was getting late. Dejected, but not discouraged (never discouraged), I prepared to pack up my field box to go home. To my dismay, I discovered that in my haste to glue the weight into the tail of my airplane, I must have thrown the bottle of Hot Stuff into the field box where the CA spilled over everything, gluing together #64 rubber bands, tools, props, and all the other stuff in my box. Even my glow plug starter was glued--to the side of the fuel jug. I tried to unstick it by breaking it loose, but I pulled so hard I split the side of the fuel jug. Fuel began to glug-glug-gurble out the side and all over the floor of the field box. What a mess, I thought as I leaned over the box, surveying the damage and wondering how to clean it up.

At that very moment my sunglasses fell out of my shirt pocket into the field box. The metal rim of the sunglasses landed right on the terminals of my starter battery. Sparks flew. KAHFWUMPF went the field box as it burst into flames. There was no way to put it out because the giant scale guys with their fire extinguishers had gone home. In fact, everyone had gone home, leaving me to helplessly watch the flaming field box in the semidarkness of the setting sun. It was kinda pretty though. I waited until the fire completely burned itself out. And then I walked to my car, more dejected (but not discouraged). I reached for my car keys. Oh sh--! Do you know how hard it is to hitchhike on a Saturday night when you are dirty, muddy and scorched?

On the following Saturday, I put on my worn shoes and met my friends at Pete's Pancake Palace again. Flip Smartly asked me if I had solved the nose-heaviness problem. "Well I think so," I replied. "And I learned that if it ain't broke, don't fix it. And if it ain't fixed, don't fly it."



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## Local Events

Information about local events can be found on the **GAMA Web Site** or at the host club's web site.

### Next GAMA Field Event: Halloween Electric Fly-In!

GAMA will be holding a Electric Fly-In  
On Saturday, October 29th!  
At the G.A.M.A Field.

#### September 2011

13th - Club Meeting - 7:00pm at Mels Lone Star Lanes([map](#))

23rd, 24th, 25th - DEAF Electric Fly-In, Dallas, TX ([Info](#))

24th, 25th - 30th Annual Angelo RC Fun Fly, San Angelo, TX ([Info](#))

30th, Oct. 1st, 2nd - J. H. Rice Memorial Fly-In, Old Kingsbury Aerodrome, Kingsbury, TX ([Info](#))

#### October 2011

8th - CenTex Modelers Fly-In - Killeen, Tx ([Info](#))

11th - Club Meeting - 7:00pm at Mels Lone Star Lanes([map](#))

29th - GAMA Halloween Electric Fly-In ([Info](#))

29th - ARCA Swap Meet - Austin, Tx ([Info](#))

#### November 2011

8th - Club Meeting - 7:00pm at Mels Lone Star Lanes([map](#))

12th - GAMA Club 40 Race ([Info](#))

#### December 2011

13th - Club Meeting - 7:00pm at Mels Lone Star Lanes([map](#))

#### January 2012

1st - GAMA Chili Fly - GAMA Field

10th - Club Meeting - 7:00pm at Mels Lone Star Lanes([map](#))

21st, 22nd - [15th Annual Swap Meet](#) - Georgetown Community Center, San Gabriel Park



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## GAMA FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2011 August 31 2011 BANK ACCOUNT

Savings	\$ 26,572.32
Checking	\$ 228.18
Account Balance	\$ 26,800.50
Cash on hand	\$ -
Total assets	\$ 26,800.50

Note: \$250.00 Transferred from Savings to  
Checking

### INCOME

Dues	\$ 90.00
Name Badges	\$ 10.50
Total Income	\$ 100.50

### EXPENSES

Bob Petrinec, July Door Prizes	\$ 50.00
Action Portable Toilet, August	\$ 80.00
Total Expenses	\$ 130.00

### GPS Coordinates for the GAMA Flying Field

North 30 degrees, 42.9560 minutes  
West 97 degrees, 37.6824 minutes  
Elevation: 810 feet msl  
Bearing from flying field to airport: 229.0 degrees  
Use 655 CR141, Georgetown, TX as the address  
in your GPS

## GAMA July Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to order by Bob Petrinec at 7:00 PM  
Meeting started with Pledge of Allegiance

### Vice Presidents Report

With cool weather approaching we expect to be able to work on fence line and add additional openings and also widen the existing opening. This will allow us to support larger scale events at our flying field as the pilots with their planes can then access the field easier and not have to worry about damage to aircraft getting in and out of the fence. Anyone who might have a contact in the fence business, please let Bob Petrinec know.

Next event – Air fest at Georgetown Airport on 10/1/11. Meeting scheduled for Thursday, 8/11, Bob will try to get an invite so he can report to group.

Halloween Electric Fun-Fly on Saturday 10/29/11, Halloween Weekend, wear a costume and bring your Electric Only flying stuff out

Bob still has (3) club trainers, need to adopt for training or he will sell off.

Very good article in current Model Aviation magazine by Dean Pappas on "How to improve flying your airplane with Center-of-Gravity Balance".

### Treasurers Report

\$26,721.82 in savings account as of date.

\$108.18 in checking as of date.

\$462.13 expenses for month (Pattern Contest)

\$615.00 income for month (Pattern Contest)

\$400.00 Xfer from savings to checking

Total amount in treasury \$26,830

We also donated \$425.00 to FAI Team through AMA

### Membership Report

We now have 104 club members as of this month.

A new member joined at this meeting increasing our membership to 105 Members

New members in 2011 = 33

### Field Report

Grass (weeds) along runway are sprouting up and will need to have weed killer applied to knock them down

### Field Search Committee

Richard Ray reported that the meeting on Tuesday, 8/2, the team reviewed the list of sites.

27 Acres owned by Department of Recreation was identified.

Ray Rayburn talked about a long narrow strip of land along the river east of town along Hwy 29. This land is in flood plain but still might make a good site. This is owned by county. Concern might be that property owners around this area might disapprove due to cattle in area.

Appraisal District has a website of Government owned property but getting through it to view larger tracts of land is difficult as it lists all properties owned and cannot sort by size.

Another site at Hwy 29 & Ronald Reagan owned by MUD was discussed.

### Website

Please let Chuck Esh know if there is anything else we would like to see within the site.

### Youth Program

It was discussed that Sun City Kiwanis group has programs focusing on Kids. We need to present how GAMA and Kiwanis might be able to also support R/C Flying for kids in order to get more youth involved in flying. Kiwanis schedule is booked through end of year, need to put program presentation together for early next year visit and presentation to their group.

Georgetown High School – Aviation Program: Bill Bruce to check into this to see if there is one and who contacts are to present to.

Richard Ray to check into program through AMA on presenting the opportunity of R/C flying to interested clubs or schools.

### Raffle

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM with raffle for those in attendance.



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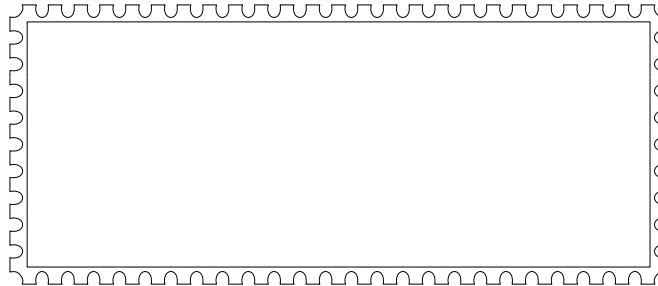
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Charles Esh - GAMA Newsletter Editor

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