

Volume 17, issue 5

LOVE-AIR R/C



## President's Message

Another month has slipped away and the Big Bird is sneaking up on us. The weather has not been all that good, but a few brave souls have battled the wind and gotten a few flights in. The weekday flyers haven't been all that numerous lately. Maybe they are all doing yard work.

We should have an agreement on a new lease for the field by the time of the meeting. It has taken a bit longer than I anticipated. We'll talk about it at the gathering of the faithful.

The CSU team for the engineering contest was to come to the field today to test their bird. I hear its a canard. I'm not sure what the requirements are this time. Last year the birds had to be E power. Batteries were limited to a certain weight. Any way, we hung around until after noon and decided the wind caused them to cancel. I guess you can tell I don't have much to write about this time.

Program will be video of crashes, most of them scale models, also a spectacular mid-air.

Big Bird and board at 6:30. Everyone welcome.

*Bob Comiskey*



Once again our ever reliable core of instructors stepped up to the task at hand. Fellow member Ken Anderson brought a group of Civil Air Patrol cadets to Drake Field last month to experience a different kind of flying. Instructors Gene Burmeister, Dennis Spencer and Ron Colson shared their time, equipment and experience with the young cadets. In case you don't recall, many of these cadets staffed our parking brigade at last year's Big Bird Festival. In the photo is Gene and his reliable Senior Kadet.

## Weekend Instructor contact?

The Love-Air instructors are looking for someone who normally is at the field on Saturday or Sunday who would like to be an Instructor contact. If you are interested in helping the Love-Air Instructor team, call or contact Gene or Dennis.

Thanks  
Gene Burmeister 674-9820 (Windsor)  
Dennis Spencer 330-8917 (Greeley)

**Remember to renew your membership by June 30th.**

**This can be done either at the Club meeting or by mailing a check AND a copy of your 2004 AMA membership card to:**

**Love-Air R/C  
c/o Frank Ostermiller  
1429 Canal Dr.  
Windsor, CO 80550**

**New Member:** Mark Stroh

**Next Meeting:** **Wednesday** **May 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Big Bird & Board (all welcome) 6:30 p.m.  
General Membership 7:30 p.m.

## An Inexpensive Curing Oven

As another sunny and warm Colorado flying season is here, it's time to get those winter projects out and in the air. If you're like me, then you most likely have a model shop in your unfinished basement or in your garage. In wintertime, both of these places are generally cold environments - sometimes too cold for epoxy adhesives to cure correctly. For those of you that have mixed up some 8-minute Anchor Bond and waited somewhere around 8 HOURS for it to cure É you know exactly what I mean. As a builder, there is nothing more frustrating to me than to have epoxy take forever to cure and then be a rubbery mess to sand. Worse yet, the integrity of the bond is usually compromised as epoxies need to cure above a specified minimum temperature; this is typically over 70 degrees F. In this article I describe an inexpensive curing oven that can be fabricated easily from parts available at your favorite local hardware store. I really find these useful when I epoxy balsa skins onto foam core wings and stabs under vacuum, when I lay-up a fiberglass part, or when I just need to bond a firewall in place.

I use 2" thick white insulation foam available from Home Depot, Lowes, etc. The brand I use is R-GARD and has a thin foil on one side. The box size can vary depending on the size of the parts that you want to cure, but don't make it too small. My "small" box size is approx. 4'x 3'x 2' high. I put the four sides together with some 1/4 sharpened dowels to serve as pins then tape the gaps tight with 2.5" wide aluminum adhesive tape. I also tape the exposed edges to add some strength and protect them from dents. The top is just a large flat piece that is removable.



To provide heat I use a couple of 75-100 W clear light bulbs. To support them, I use the portable lamp fixtures that have the spun aluminum cup-frames. These mount directly to the sides of the box (see pictures). This requires cutting a hole just smaller than the overall diameter of the aluminum cup frame. Slip it in from the inside such that the flat outside frame fits tightly against the inside surface of the box then use aluminum tape to hold it in place.

Place the box over your part, plug the bulbs in and you 're cookin! With two 100W bulbs I can get to 150 degrees F. A small fan placed inside will help circulate the air and provide for a more uniform temperature. To monitor the temperature, you can use a kitchen meat thermometer pushed through the side of the box or you can spend a little more and get a nice digital one (both shown in picture). The digital ones are nice because they have a probe that can be positioned directly on your part.

There are a couple of ways to regulate the temperature. The first is the simplest and involves just sliding the lid open to create a small gap to "leak out" some heat. The second method is a bit more involved but is more consistent. By running the power cord through a dimmer switch you can adjust the lights to the temperature you want. One word of caution: when using the light bulbs, DO NOT place anything directly in front of them as there is a "hot spot" that can easily burn wood or melt foam if placed too close É been there, done that! The best thing to do is to build a small aluminum shield (or glass diffuser) mounted several inches away from the bulb to block the concentrated light. Recently, I have been using some small electric space heaters placed inside the box. The heater and fan kick on and off depending on your thermostat setting.



So make one and give it a try the next time you find yourself cussing about that slow epoxy. However, please be safe. I never leave mine unattended for too long, typically checking on it periodically just in case É better safe than sorry!

by *Erik Richard*

## Minutes of the April Meeting

**Date:** April 14, 2004

**President,** Bob Comiskey called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

**Guests:** We welcomed Don Kozal and Mark Stroh to our meeting this month. We look forward to these guests returning and joining our club.

**New Members:** Richard James

**Treasurers Report:** Treasurer, Andy Hiller reports that our funds are in good shape. Anyone needing more detailed information feel free to contact Andy.

**Minutes:** Members voted to accept the minutes for the March meeting.

### Old Business:

- The lease of Drake Field was again discussed. Bob Comiskey reported that the Drakes have suggested a 5-year lease on the existing property and the additional land to the west of the field that is used for parking during the Big Bird event. The lease amount would be increased to \$3,600.00 per year with a cost of living increase every 2 years. There was a motion made and approved to authorize the continued negotiation on the lease and to get this done prior to the expiration of the existing lease.
- Dennis Spencer reported on the first training night at Drake field for this year. Dennis stated that there was six members signed up to be instructors and only one new pilot. The first training night was very windy however we expect to train many new pilots this year. Dennis indicated that if any others pilots were interested in being a trainer to please contact him.
- Bob Ferrero reported on the upcoming annual Big Bird. Bob indicated that he has secured a commitment from Chip Hyde to come and be our featured pilot again this year. We all look forward to an outstanding show from Chip and we know he will be a big draw to pilots from around the area.
- Bob Ferrero also discussed the Friday night meal situation at the Big Bird event. Bob report that last year the club ended up in the hole by several hundred dollars on the Friday night meal. A discussion was made regarding having the pilots that want to participate in the meal pay at the time of registration then order a much more simple meal such as pizza or barbecue. Further discussion on this will be held prior to the Big Bird event.
- Bob Ferrero is also looking for volunteers for various positions during the Big Bird. All members are encouraged to help the club with this event. If you're interested in lending a hand please contact Bob.
- A discussion was also brought up regarding the raffle ticket sales and radio give away to a club member. For the last several years all club members were mailed 30 raffle tickets. If the tickets were sold and returned by the August club meeting the club member would receive a single chance to win a new radio. This was done to promote sales of the raffle tickets in advance of the Big Bird. It was suggested that the club should consider possibly giving a gift certificate or other type prize this year. It was also discussed possible giving an additional incentive based on the numbers of tickets sold by a member. The more tickets sold would earn more chances to win the club give away prize. This will also be discussed further in the upcoming months. Any suggestions are welcomed regarding this or any other topic.
- Club Safety officer, Michael Derk, presented a new accident report form that will be placed at the flying field to collect information regarding any mishap at Drake Field. The form was pasted around for members to review and a discussion regarding use was made. The report should be used anytime there is an accident that requires medical attention or property damage of others. The report can also be used to report any conditions that may exist that could jeopardize the safety of our flying field. All members are encouraged to use the new accident reporting form.
- Our annual field clean-up day was discussed. A motion was made and approved to have the clean-up day scheduled for Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. We will start the field clean up at 9:00 am and will fly after completion of the cleaning.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Minutes cont.

(Continued from page 3)

### New Business:

- Bob Comiskey brought to the clubs attention the rest passing of Jim Kolm. Bob suggested that the club send a card and a donation to a memorial fund that had been setup to honor Jim Kolm. A motion was made and approved to send \$100.00 donation from Love-Air RC to the Jim Kolm memorial fund.

### Program:

- Bob Ferrero gave a presentation on float flying. Bob provided handouts on the design of floats for aircraft and had several models available that had different mounts and setups. Several float kits were also available in various sizes for inspection. Bob Comiskey also shared a video of some float flying held in the Pueblo Colorado area. The program was very entertaining and informative. Thanks go out to both Bobs for this presentation.

**Drawing:** Some tools were won by **Adam Omomerick** and our newest member **Richard James**. Congratulations to the lucky ticket holders.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ron Colson*



Bob Ferrero with his float plane at the April meeting.



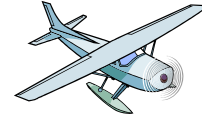
The winners in April were Adam Omomerick and Richard James.

## 2004 Events Calendar

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| • May 8        | <i>Pylon Racing (Airpark Elite)</i>                         |
| • May 15-16    | <i>LAMA Pattern Contest (Longmont)</i>                      |
| • May 29-30    | <i>Love-Air IMAC Contest (Drake Field)</i>                  |
| • Jun 25-27    | <i>Modeleers Heli Event (Drake Field)</i>                   |
| • Jul 4        | <i>Fourth of July Funfly (Valley View)</i>                  |
| • Jul 18       | <i>Sweetheart Fun Fly (Arvada East Field)</i>               |
| • Jul 31-Aug 1 | <i>Love-Air Pattern Contest (Drake Field)</i>               |
| • Aug 8        | <i>Old Timer's Fun Fly (Arvada East Field)</i>              |
| • Aug 21-22    | <i>Love-Air Big Bird Festival (Drake Field)</i>             |
| • Sep 11       | <i>Love-Air Memorial Fun Fly (Drake Field)</i>              |
| • Sep 11       | <i>Arvada Harvest Festival Air Show (Arvada East Field)</i> |
| • Sep tbd      | <i>Modeleer's 50th Anniversary Flyin (Horton Field)</i>     |

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# Things with Wings

### Join the Fun with Love-Air R/C

#### Membership in Love-Air R/C, Inc.

For new members or for the renewal of persons who have been members of LARC in the past.

The details of membership in Love-Air R/C are printed on the rear cover sheet of this newsletter. Annual dues are \$60 per year and run from July 1 to June 30 of the following year. There is a one time runway assessment fee for new members. To join as a new member or to re-activate a prior membership, send this application **with a photocopy of your current AMA membership** to the address shown to the right.



Chapter #2356

#### Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ AMA # \_\_\_\_\_

Freq. \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter type: Electronic or Hardcopy (circle one)

**Mail to: Love-Air R/C**  
**c/o Frank Ostermiller**  
**1429 Canal Dr.**  
**Windsor, CO 80550**

*Come fly with us.*

The Love-Air R/C Club is a club organized to enjoy and promote the sport of flying radio controlled models. The club is a chartered member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA), a national organization whose purpose is to promote the sport of model aviation.

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM in the Collision Repair building at the Ferrero Auto Center in Loveland.

The annual membership fee is \$60.00 and covers from July 1st through June 30th. Membership cards are issued and a monthly newsletter is sent to each member. Current membership is required to fly at the Love-Air flying site. The club requires that all members who use the club flying field are also current members of the AMA. New members Welcome! Ask any member for information. See a club officer or check the box on the Freq. Board for membership forms.

	Adult	Junior	Family
Annual Dues (1/2 price after Jan 1st)	\$60.00	\$20.00	\$80.00
Runway Assessment (One time only)	\$75.00	-0-	\$75.00

**Membership Chairman: Frank Ostermiller (970) 674-3199**

**Field Weather Station: Phone (970) 686-9026**

**LARC Home Page: <http://www.fortnet.org/loveairrc/>**

#### **2004 Officers:**

President	Bob Comiskey	352-4048
Vice President	Michael Harrington	226-4820
Secretary	Ron Colson	635-0649
Treasurer	Andy Hiller	223-5068
Directors	Lloyd McConnell	330-5101
	Michael Derks	278-1383
	Dennis Spencer	330-8917
Newsletter Editor	Mark Smith	667-3575
Webmaster	Rick Sothen	669-7011
Freq. Coordinator	Gene Burmeister	674-9820
Instructors	Gene Burmeister **	674-9820
	Dennis Spencer *	330-8917
	Brayden Fisher	207-1178
	Darwin Idler	225-2431
	Michael Schauer	663-4748

*Instruction Coordinator\*\*  
Lead instructor\**

Flight instruction is offered at no charge to members. Beginners night will be on Thursday evenings during Daylight Savings Time. Priority shall be given to beginners flying with instructors. Anyone desiring instruction needs to make arrangements ahead of time with an instructor. If the weather station reports winds over 10MPH at 4:30 PM, wait until 6:00 PM and call the weather station again. If the winds have died below 10MPH then the instruction session will still take place that evening.

## **LOVEAIR R/C**



P.O. Box 1781  
Loveland, CO 80539-1781