

Volume 16, issue 9

LOVE-AIR R/C



## President's Message

I want to send a big thanks from me to all of the club members that made the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Rocky Mountain Big bird Festival such a success. Well Done! In spite of all the heat, dust, and wind we had this year, all of our guest pilots and spectators went away tired and happy.

Our Saturday morning set up went super well. We had 25+ club members cutting, cleaning, pounding posts, stringing rope, and setting up all of the event areas. By the time I left, the field was 90%+ ready to go. I don't know when guests started to arrive but I think RV's were in the parking lot as early as Tuesday. I got out to the field on Thursday to find the parking lot over ½ full with motor homes, campers, and trailers. It looks like everyone had a good time flying all week.

The pre-registrations went well again this year with over 50 pilots having registered by Friday night. Everyone enjoyed the Friday night

*(Continued on page 4)*



And the winner of the 2003 Quinn Cadet raffle plane is TARA WALLS of Fort Collins. Word is Tara's boyfriend works at Hobbytown USA.

## Big Bird Festival

Bob Ferrero

This year's Big Bird was full of excitement, drama and lots of fun.

We had 95 pilots, a few hundred airplanes, several states represented and probably 2500 to 3000 spectators during Saturday and Sunday. This annual event has to be considered one of Colorado's premier events. Once again, Love-Air can be proud to host such an event.

Of course, we have to remember that this fly-in is our only fund raiser each year. This enables us to keep our Club strong, fun and viable. Thank you to all the members that sold tickets and bought raffle tickets for our Quinn Cadet raffle. Our yearly dues remain very low in comparison to all the fun and enjoyment that we receive from our hobby. Those of us who contribute to Love-Air in this endeavor can be very proud of its success.

*(Continued on page 5)*



Special guest and exhibition pilot Garret Morrison of Lodi, CA.

### September Program

- Covering the 2003 Quinn Cadet  
**Designing, cutting and application**

- Making your own decals

Presenter: Lloyd McConnell

New Members: **Andrew Williams**

August Winner: **John Dalton**

Drawing at September meeting:

*Something special according to our VP*

Next Meeting: Wednesday — September 10<sup>th</sup> — 7:30 p.m.

## Minutes of the Last Meeting

**Date:** August 13, 2003

**President,** Lloyd McConnell called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

**Guests:** Ryan Strauan, Russ Batz, and Chris Laypolet

**New Members:** We also welcome new member, Andrew Williams.

**Program of the month:** No program was scheduled for July.

### Treasurers Report:

Treasurer, Tim Yantis reports that our funds are in good shape. Anyone needing more detailed information feel free to contact Tim. A motion was made and accepted to accept the treasure's report.

**Minutes:** Members voted to accept the minutes for the July meeting

### Old Business:

- The First annual Heli-Fun Fly was discussed. There were approximately 30 pilots that participated in the event and all had a lot of fun. The event is expected to draw twice as many pilots next year due to the success experienced this year. Both Love-Air and the Modeleers received approximately \$350.00 each for the clubs general fund from the profits of this event.
- Ron Colson is still collecting names of any member interested in purchasing a club jacket. The jacket price is going to be \$70.00. All members wanting to purchase a jacket will need to be present at the September meeting for fitting. An order will be placed shortly after the September meeting. If you are interested there is still time. Please contact Ron Colson at (970) 635-0649.
- The scheduled Jim Parnell Fun Fly was discussed. Michael Derk will head up the event. The event was scheduled for May 3, 2003 however this date was canceled and a new date of September 6, 2003 has been selected. The fun fly will have many events for all flyers to participate in including, runway slalom, a Swampthang Challenge (building contest) and many other event to entertain members and family. There will be food furnished and all are encouraged to bring their spouses. There will be a \$15.00 landing fee collected from all pilots. All proceeds will be donated by the Love-Air RC Club to a scholarship program at CSU under the name of Jim Parnell .
- A motion was made and approved to allocate up to \$500.00 for the cost to prepare for the First Annual Jim Parnell Fun Fly.
- The Big Bird event was discussed for the final time prior to the event. Special thanks were given to all that participated at the field clean up and to all coordinators involved in this event.
- All members were reminded that it is time to pay your annual dues.

### New Business:

- .Bob Ferrero brought to the club a possibility of purchasing a 1971 GMC water truck being sold by the Department of the Interior in Montana. The truck reportedly has a 4200-gallon tank, pump, and is mechanically sound. Further discussion will be needed on this opportunity.

### Show & Tell:

- Mark Smith had an OV-10 Bronco that he and his brother had just recently completed. The Bronco has an 81" wing span and is powered by two RCV60 engines. This was a beautiful airplane and we appreciate Mark sharing it with us.



Ryan McManus (L) and Jack Bugg (R) keep a watchful eye on Garret Morrison as he digs for the winning ticket for the Quinn Cadet.



View of the north half of the pit area.

William Sallaz photograph



(Continued on page 3)

## Meeting Minutes cont.

(Continued from page 2)



Fred Damm's flag equipped Cub kicks off the official start of the Big Bird Festival. Frank Ostermiller sang the national anthem.

William Sallaz photograph

- Also congratulations went out to Michael Schauer who placed 8<sup>th</sup> overall in the unlimited category at the recently held NATS. Michael also recently completed his private pilots training and received his license.

Raffle Winners: **Futaba 9c Radio**      **John Dalton**

- This month the raffle was for any member that had sold their 30 raffle tickets for the Quinn Cadet that will be given away at the Big Bird event. Congratulations to John Dalton who was the lucky ticket holder. To the Club's surprise John donated the Futaba radio back to the Club to be given away at the Big Bird event. A special thanks goes to John for his generosity.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

*Ron Carlson,*

## Big Bird Festival

Darwin Idler

As I began to write this article I started thinking about past Big Bird Festivals. I thought some of the newer members might like to know how this event has evolved over the years so I pulled out some of my old newsletters to compile some history behind our event.

Although I wasn't a member of the club until 1995, there was some information from Lloyd McConnell's article in the September 1998 newsletter about the first event. The following is an excerpt from that article about the first Big Bird Festival.

**Big Bird #1** – 1994: It began as a collection of individual dreams that all ended up in the right place at the right time and someone said "let's do it". Some people wanted to have an organized club event that all of the members could participate in. Others wanted to be able to invite other pilots to share in the fun we were having at our newly founded Kness Field like we did at theirs. Still others wanted to have a once a year major money making event.

Then came the "what can we do" meeting. Strange things such as big birds, which everybody likes, door prizes, raffles, BBQ dinners, and inviting all the local pilots to our field were suggested. Someone even suggested that we build a ready to fly airplane, complete with engine and radio, that we would sell raffle tickets for. And when the meeting was over, we could find no reason for not doing the event.

I will have to admit that the first year was a white-knuckle ride into uncharted territory. But when it was over, we found out that we could get a meet sanctioned, run a transmitter impound, get sponsors to support our raffles, find someone to build us and airplane, sell raffle tickets, run a concession stand and BBQ dinner, get pilots to come, have fun, and meet some great modeling friends. IT WORKED!

(Mark – do you have any statistics from this first event?)      *54 Pilots, Rick Streck won the Quinn Cadet & and a major thunderstorm on Sat. p.m.*

**Big Bird #2** – 1995: We had 67 registered pilots in attendance and 106 planes. I remember seeing a few spectators, but it was mostly a pilot event

(Continued on page 6)



Love-Air member Bert Sutton flying up close and personal with Garret Morrison. When a crosswind on Sunday kept many of us out of air Bert did a commendable job of keeping the spectators entertained with numerous flights.

William Sallaz photograph

## President's Message cont.

*(Continued from page 1)*

Cajun boil potluck. The weather was good enough for some pilots to get in some night flying.

Each year the big bird festival supplies some sort of surprise to liven up the event. Saturday morning I woke up with one of those bad sinus head ache and body aches that many of our members had. I felt I was walking in the fog and probably looked like it too. I did manage to keep my voice until late Saturday afternoon. I am sure that many of you appreciated it. Thank you to all of you who stepped to cover for me where I couldn't.

Actually, the special surprise moment for me was the flag ceremony on Saturday morning. Fred Damm took off with his Cub flying the American flag high over the wing. Someone asked if we had the national anthem to play for the occasion and we didn't. From out of blue Frank Ostermiller belted out an a cappella version of the anthem much to the delight of the pilots and spectators. Thank you Frank for starting us off in such a great manner.

To sum up the rest of the event, we had a lot of pilots, a lot of beautiful airplanes, one great mid-air, a lot of great food, and a lot of great conversation. As club members we have a lot of our fellow club members to thank for all of their hard work. From the committee to the set and tear down groups, to the parking people, to the flight line and impound people, to the ticket sales and raffle people, to the people that handled the potluck and the barbecue, to the club pilots who kept flying for the crowd on the windy Sunday, my hat is off to all of you for you special efforts to make this event so successful. Please come to the September club meeting to hear the final results from this year's event.

Upcoming events – Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> we will be holding the First Annual Jim Parnell Fun Fly. Michael Derks is running the event and I hope all of your will show up, show your support and have a good time. Please see your August newsletter for details. All of the money we raise from the event will go to the Jim Parnell Student Professional Development Fund.

Club dues are due. If you haven't paid your dues, you are over due. We want all of you back as club members so get those dues paid.

Well that's about it for this month. Fly safely and enjoy this hobby.

See you at the club meeting.

*Lloyd McConnell*

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## Announcements

**Big Bird coordinators, please plan to meet at 7:00** prior to the Club meeting. All members are welcome to attend.

**Membership Renewal:** Please renew your membership at this month's meeting. To accelerate receipt of your new membership card, send your payment and updated personal information directly to  
Membership Chairman, Frank Ostermiller:  
1429 Canal Drive  
Windsor, CO 80550  
970-674-3199

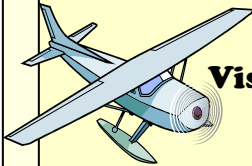
**Are you willing to receive the newsletter via email?** If yes, please contact Mark Smith by email, mark.e.smith@hp.com or by calling 667-3575.

**This will be the FINAL mailing to anyone who has NOT renewed their membership.**



Chapter #2356

## Don's Hobbies



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## BBF - Bob Ferrero cont.

(Continued from page 1)

Our guest pilot, Garret Morrison, was a big hit with the pilots and spectators. Once again the Big Bird featured and outstanding world class flier. Our thanks go to Garret for entertaining us with his spectacular performances.

Many thanks go to all the members that volunteered to this event a big success. Jack Bugg did an amazing job selling raffle tickets, getting our terrific prizes, announcing and in general making sure the Big Bird is as good as we can make it. Jack sets a very good example for all of us. Good work Jack!!

Our Big Bird could not succeed without our CONTRIBUTORS! Love-Air wants to thank all of its many sponsors for donating prizes, labor and money to this event. Let's remember to keep these contributors in our thoughts.

*Bob Ferrero*  
Event Director

## 2003 Events Calendar

- **Sept 6: Love-Air 2003 Memorial Fun Fly**
- Sept 14: Cross Country Rally (Sterling/Greeley)

Events in bold are sponsored by Love-Air R/C

If you know of an event you would like to see listed here, contact Mark Smith, Flight Lines Editor  
(970) 667-3575 or [mark.e.smith@hp.com](mailto:mark.e.smith@hp.com)

## 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.

### Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Freq. \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

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

Newsletter type: Electronic or Hardcopy (circle one)

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

## BBF - Darwin Idler

*(Continued from page 3)*

in the early years. Sponsors donated 27 door prizes and 7 major prizes this year.

The club ran our own concession stand this year. I remember it well as I was covered with grease from flipping burgers! The newsletter reported that we served 240 hamburgers, 120 hot dogs, several cases of soda, 1 gross of doughnuts and 10 gallons of coffee. We also served a barbecue dinner on Saturday night for those in attendance.

This was the year Bob Ferrero won the Quinn Cadet raffle plane, and soon after became a member of the club.

**Big Bird #3** – 1996: Much the same as the year before, 68 pilots and 109 planes. We tracked the number of flights in the early years, and that year almost 240 flights were logged. The more you flew, the more chances you had in the prize drawings.

The club again ran the concession stand and served a barbecue on Saturday night for 75 people. This was the last event held at Kness field. We had received notice a few months prior to the event that our lease was going to be terminated, and the field was closed in September.

**Big Bird #4** – 1997: Although we had secured a new flying site in May, we didn't know if the field would be ready for a large event like the Big Bird Festival so we took our show on-the-road. Jack Bugg made arrangements with Al Ward let us use the Akron field for our event. Attendance dropped a little with 57 pilots registering 91 planes, but everyone still had a great time. 307 flights were recorded over the weekend.

Jack Bugg also arranged for a local group to provide concessions in Akron. The concession stand always took the most people to staff and organize. Even though we lost the revenue, it did ease the burden on the club.

Did you notice Jack's name on both the items above? Well that's not all he did! He set up the Akron field by getting the impound trailer, getting portable toilets, and mowing the field. He also provided the generator for the PA system. He solicited all of the merchandise for the give-aways. He donated the engine for the Quinn Cadet,

*(Continued on page 7)*

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**Ask a Sales Associate  
about the Love-Air Discount**



This biplane was the victim of a midair collision with a Corsair. The Corsair landed safely with only minor wing damage.

The impressive sequence of photos is an excellent example of shots by Bill Sallaz. Use the link on our website to view the entire gallery of photos from the BBF.

## BBF - Darwin Idler cont.

*(Continued from page 6)*

and several other items for the drawings. And last but not least, he sold 25% (several thousand!) of the raffle tickets! It wasn't just that year either, he has done much the same for all Big Bird Festivals to date. We should all thank Jack for the dedication he has shown to the club.

**Big Bird #5 – 1998:** This is the year changes were made which took the event to the level we have today. We invited Bill Hempel as a guest pilot for the noontime air show. And what would be an air show without spectators? We needed to advertise the event. Newspaper articles, a TV spot on Greeley cable, promotional flyers, and word of mouth made the event an incredible success. What we ended up with is 94 pilots from 6 states registering 156 planes, and more than 220 cars in the spectator parking lot at noon on Saturday. As Lloyd stated in his article "We hit a grand slam home run with this event for 1998!"

**Big Bird #6 – 1999:** This was our second year of inviting a guest pilot. Sean McMurtry accepted our invitation and put on a great show. As I recall, we just missed hitting the 100 pilot mark. Event promotion once again brought in a large spectator crowd.

**Big Bird #7 – 2000:** We were in for a treat this year with Quique Somenzini as the guest pilot. There were 104 pilots from 8 states with 136 registered airplanes. Quique put on an outstanding noontime show that really wowed the crowd with his low level torque rolls. Advertising and newspaper articles brought in a huge crowd of nearly 3000 people.

Some new items were introduced this year for the spectators: Buddy-box flights for people in the stands; Spectator only kit raffles; and expanded spectator viewing areas with walkways along the pit area to name a few.

We had 39 contributing partners who donated more than \$6,500 worth of merchandise for the give-away and raffle prizes.

**Big Bird #8 – 2001:** This was my first year as contest director, and I must admit I was a little nervous taking on this responsibility. With all the help and organization by the committee members my fears were unfounded and the event ran very smoothly.

This year we had 110 registered pilots and Doug Gearman was our guest pilot.

Few changes were noted for this event, as they say "if it ain't broke don't fix it".

**Big Bird #9 – 2002:** This was our biggest event to date with Chip Hyde as the guest pilot. We had 117 pilots from 11 states in attendance. Huge crowds showed up for the noontime air show and Chip put in outstanding performances both days. We also had another first for our event – Brandon Jewett flew a turbine jet powered model. He gathered a lot of attention over the weekend from people who had never seen and heard a model jet before.

Nearly 50 sponsors were noted as contributing cash and merchandise for the door prizes and raffles. I'm sure the sponsors play a huge part in making this such a special event!

**Big Bird #10 – 2003:** Another great event, but one that showed our first ever drop in pilot attendance. We had 95 pilots from 7 states registered. Garrett Morrison was the guest pilot and performed a wonderful show. We also had demonstration flights by Dan and Greg St. John with their Turbine powered helicopter, Brandon Jewett with his Turbine powered EuroJet, and Josh Moen with his freestyle helicopter demo. Approximately 3000 spectators joined us over the weekend.

The main change noted this year was to set aside times for special event flying, such as freestyle and warbird flights. I heard nothing but positive comments from this decision.

Great weather was on hand for Saturday with light winds and warm temperatures. The flight lines were full all day. Sunday was a different story, with strong crosswinds blowing from the West. Just a few flights were recorded in the morning. Even with less than ideal conditions, the demonstration pilots were able to put on a great show! As in years past the event came to a close with the grand prize raffle drawing for the Quinn Cadet.

The format for the Big Bird Festival has remained much the same since its inception. Giant scale planes and a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Minor changes have been made throughout its history to improve on safety issues and make for a smooth running event. I believe most of the problems have been worked out in the last 10 years, and look forward to seeing what the next 10 will bring.

As you can see this event has been, and still is, one of the largest events in the country. The Big Bird Festival would not be what it is today without all the time and effort that all of the club members have put into it. Be proud of what you have accomplished!

Thank you all for making this event what it is today!

*Darwin Idler*  
Contest Director

*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/>**

### **2003 Officers:**

President	Lloyd McConnell	330-5101
Vice President	Michael Harrington	226-4820
Secretary	Ron Colson	635-0649
Treasurer	Tim Yantis	351-6280
Directors	Gene Burmeister	674-9820
	Van Kratzenstein	330-7670
	Dennis Spencer	330-8917
Newsletter Editor	Mark Smith	667-3575
Webmaster	Rick Sothen	669-7011
Freq. Coordinator	Jim Richardson	352-1067
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