



TORKS TALK NEWSLETTER September 2015

The Oklahoma Radio Control Society

AMA Charter 1648 Oklahoma City IMAA Chapter 544 Web Site: <http://www.torks.org>

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**TORKS Club meetings: The first Tuesday of each month at the Will Rogers Garden Center
3400 NW 36th and the Lake Hefner Parkway overpass. Meeting Time: 7:30 to 9:00pm**

The September meeting was held on the 1st of September 2015. **Next Meeting will be October 6, 2015.**

Old Business: There was no old business discussed except for the investigation of the runway which is covered in depth in new business.

New Business: The first item was the National Model Aviation Day Burger Burn and Fly In. We had a better than average turnout, and collected \$301.00 in donations and had expenses of \$122.80. As we had advertised that donations would benefit the Wounded Warrior Project, (and did not include a disclaimer that expenses would be recovered) a motion was made to send the entire amount to the AMA as our contribution. The motion was seconded and passed by show of hands vote.

Guest Speaker: Jerry from the Baxter Field Flying Club came to talk about their experiences with the City taking over responsibility for their field. The club was asked to draw up a wish list of things they would like to have at the site, and to prioritize them as they could not all be funded at one time. So far they have a new 60 X 500 foot runway, with 5 taxiways, and a greatly expanded shelter. They have also been promised an improved parking area, permanent restroom facilities, an access control gate, and at some time in the future a control line area, and AC power on site. The club retains exclusive rights to host events and claim the field as their home field, and gets a portion of each permit sold.

Jerry reports that in the case of Baxter Field, the city mandates have improved safety by promoting a zero tolerance policy for safety violations. (When I was at Mikes Models several years ago, buying a LT40 and associated gear, I asked about clubs and was advised that TORKS was the most beginner friendly and that Baxter was like the Wild West with no safety enforcement and too many planes in the air at once. Jerry's comments about safety seemed to confirm this.)

The down side is that their club roster has shrunk from about 40 to around 10. Since a city permit is required to fly there, it is not necessary to join the club to fly, those with no desire for camaraderie and fellowship have elected not to rejoin. They elected to reduce the club dues to \$20.00 per year since they have no mowing expenses or lease payments. Jerry stated that in spite of the negative effect on the size of the club, He is glad they entered into the present agreement with the City and would do it again. Jerry also stated that the city told him that a similar agreement was available to the other clubs.

TORKS currently has about 90 members with around 20 showing up for meetings and actually supporting the club functions. If we were to turn over operation of the field itself to the city, would those 20 still wish to belong to and support TORKS? Would we be able to continue our intro program? Do we have any other programs that could be adversely effected?

I have been told that back in 2013 the City offered us the same program they are doing at Baxter Field, but that we wished to remain in control of the flying site and turned it down. I am unsure if the club voted to turn down the City's offer or if it was an executive action, but after the success of the program at Baxter Field and the fact that after several years of saving we are not at 50% of our new runway goal, we could relook the offer and see if it is still on the table. This is one of many options available to the club, and there are still many others to be investigated. It is way too early to assume this is what will happen.

Possible restructuring of club dues. (Any action will require a change to the club bylaws as the dues structure is listed in article VIII)

We are currently rewarding people who choose to wait until after July first to renew their dues by giving late renewing members a discount on dues. We need our roster at its fullest by April 1 of each year as that is when we submit our annual report the City.

Our current structure is:

ARTICLE VIII DUES

Effective January 01, 2009 dues for the TORKS are as follows:

If the dues are paid between January 1st and June 30th of the current year:

Dues ***for Membership are divided into the following Categories:***

OPEN = Over Age 19 but not yet 65 = \$70.00 / Year.

Additional OPEN Family Member \$45.00 if living at the same address as the Open Member of the same name family.

OPEN = Age 65 and OVER = \$60.00 / Year

YOUTH Under Age 19 = \$15.00 / Year

YOUTH Under Age 19 = FREE if living at the same address as the Open Member of the same family name.

If paid from July 01, until December 31: ***the dues for the remainder of the year are***

OPEN = Over Age 19 but not yet 65 = \$60.00 / Year.

Additional OPEN Family Member \$35.00 if living at the same address as the Open Member of the same name family.

OPEN = Age 65 and OVER = \$50.00 / Year

YOUTH Under Age 19 = \$10.00 / Year

YOUTH Under Age 19 = FREE if living at the same address as the Open Member of the same family name.

NOTE: Dues for the upcoming year, may be paid in full after October 1st of the current year so long as the applicant has proof that they poses AMA membership for the upcoming year. For NEW members, paying in October also covers the remainder of the current year, i.e. 15 months of membership.

LIFE memberships are awarded by:

HONORARY LIFE memberships are awarded on a unanimous vote of the board and the members present at the regular business meeting which the LIFE membership is proposed.

LIFE memberships may be purchased by making:

A one-time cash contribution of \$800.00 or more.

A one-time donation valued at \$800.00 or more.

Annual payments of \$240.00 (\$20.00 a month) for four consecutive years.

A motion will be made at the October Meeting that the dues structure be changed as follows:

Effective January 01, 2009 change to: Effective January 01, 2015

If paid from July 01, until December 31: the dues for the remainder of the year for new members are

OPEN = Over Age 19 but not yet 65 = \$40.00 / Year.

Additional OPEN Family Member \$25.00 if living at the same address as the Open Member of the same family.

OPEN = Age 65 and OVER = \$35.00 / Year

YOUTH Under Age 19 = \$10.00 / Year

YOUTH Under Age 19 = FREE if living at the same address as the Open Member of the same family.

NOTE: Dues for the upcoming year, may be paid in full after October 1st of the current year so long as the applicant has proof that they possess AMA membership for the upcoming year. For NEW members, paying in October also covers the remainder of the current year, i.e. 15 months of membership.

(Note: the word possess rather than poses as currently reads. This is to correct the typo)

Also remove the word name where it appears with family (the current wording seems to discriminate against adopted children or a wife who for whatever reason did not change her name upon marriage.)

And finally add the following: Renewing OPEN members and Additional OPEN Family Member will be entitled to a \$10.00 reduction in dues if paid by January 31 of each year.

No change to LIFE.

If approved by the membership, this will result in only new members being entitled to a dues reduction if joining after July 1, renewing members will now be rewarded for renewing early, and the dues for those new members joining on or after July 1 are closer to 50% of the annual dues. Members renewing after January 31, will pay full annual dues. This motion will be made, discussed and tabled until the November meeting. At the November meeting, a second will be sought, if no second the motion dies. To pass the motion needs a two thirds vote of those members present.

Model of the Month: Steve Carpenter brought a Sig 4-Star 60 with Super Tigre Power and



was awarded the \$10.00 Gift Certificate from Mike's Models.

Training:

Safety:

Upcoming Events: September 19th, Burger Burn and Fun Fly.

October 17th, Fall Break, equipment and field maintenance.

Upcoming election of club officers: Nominations are due at the November meeting and elections are held at the December Meeting. Anyone interested in holding a club office should start now with a review of the club bylaws. It is ideal to get new people involved in the administration of your club. The October meeting would be a good time to find out if any of the currently serving officers would like to remain in their position. I am not serving a second consecutive year as secretary or in any other elected position.