



San Antonio, Texas  
June ,2025

# ARCS News

Alamo Radio Control Society    [www.alamoradiocontrol.club](http://www.alamoradiocontrol.club)  
AMA Charter 603



**CLUB FLYING SITE** Is located just west of Macdona at 10025 Shepard Road

**The next club meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 17, 2025, at 7 PM at Biggs Burger Joint, 10106 State Highway 151, San Antonio, TX 78251, (210) 543-2029.. Monthly Fun Fly the following Sunday.**

**Memorial Day Fun Fly and Picnic Is Resounding Success!**

## ARCS OFFICERS

### President

**Bill Ponseigo**  
(210) 394-8976(Mob)  
president@  
alamoradiocontrol.club

### Vice President

**Buck Murray**  
(210) 884-8445(Mob)  
webmaster@  
alamoradiocontrol.club

### Secretary

**Richard Sanders**  
832-233-3956  
1173 Pebble Beach Road  
Lake Hills, TX 78063  
secretary@  
alamoradiocontrol.club

### Treasurer

**Juan Galvez**  
1907 Green Ash  
San Antonio, TX, 78227  
760) 470-6096)  
treasurer@  
alamoradiocontrol.club

### Support Staff

#### Newsletter Editor

**Jimmie Neff**  
(210) 563-2121  
arcseditor@  
alamoradiocontrol.club

#### Hats and Nametags

**Eric Amundsen**  
hatsandtags@  
alamoradiocontrol.club

#### Chief Photographer

**Jim Witthauer**

#### Club Meeting:

Held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of  
each month (except Dec)  
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM  
Tuesday - Biggs Burger

The young, and the young-at-heart came out for the Memorial Day Weekend Fun Fly and Picnic to feast on hand-crafted burgers and juicy hot dogs. On the side, a full complement of condiments, garnishes, and side dishes both appealing and irresistible made everyone hungry. And, as if they could not satisfy their famished taste buds feasting on the burgers and hot dogs, everyone quelled their hungry palate with the tastes of homemade desserts, which were both decadently appealing and sinfully delicious. With so many giving in to the urge for second helpings of all the wonderful culinary delights, virtually everything had vanished when the Picnic was over leaving only a few burgers left uneaten.

With appetites appeased, the Fun Fly returned to the key event of the day: flying or watching others fly. Airplanes returned to the sky. An air boat screamed across the pond. Although most airplanes landed on the runway, others landed in the grass, or in the cornfield or even into the pond. Some landed smoothly, others not so much. By midafternoon most chose to gather under the pavilion out of the sun, shielded from the wind as it blew directly through the pavilion and across the runway. Friendly conversation descended upon the group and dominated the activities of the waning hours of the Fun Fly. Eventually the event drew to a close. Flattering remarks were made regarding all the delicious food and words of appreciation were exchanged to those who brought a wonderful dish to share. Chef Cliff Chetwood who organized the event and grilled the delectable burgers was showered with raving accolades as everyone departed with fond memories of a wonderful ARCS Fun Fly and Picnic.

**Jim Witthauer**

*Chef Cliff*



**THANK YOU, CLIFF!**

### ARCS Meeting Minutes May 20, 2025

The meeting was called to order May 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The reading of the April 2025 minutes were approved as published in the Newsletter. Treasurer's Report was read: \$9802 savings, \$3466 checking, Total of \$13,268. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report. Approved.

#### Guests:

Alan, Rick, Sean and Jacob Basinger

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The **Fun Fly** is May 25<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 2 pm. Bring snacks (donuts etc.) for the pilots and food for the Food Bank.

Eric Amundsen handles hats for club members. For new members, hats are free. Replacement hats are \$15.

The Club donated 249 lbs. of food to the San Antonio Food Bank in April 2025. Total for the year is 1008 lbs. Thanks to all who donated. **Keep up the good work, folks!** Just put the food in the "Fun Fly Barrel".

#### FIELD CONDITIONS:

Table repairs are continuing- Rob Lane

#### NEW BUSINESS:

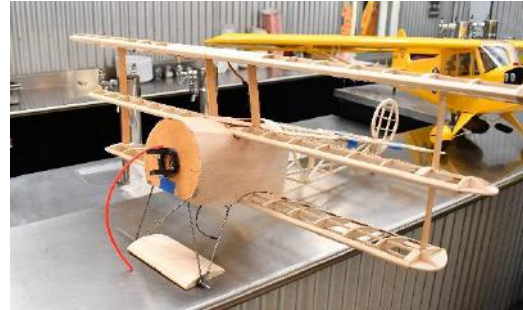
- AMA has approved 700 ft max altitude
- Hamburgers will be served at 11 am at fun fly for Memorial Day. Bring a side. Bring out your military planes.
- Fourth of July we will again be serving hamburgers and hotdogs at noon. Bring side dishes and desserts.

#### SHOW AND TELL:

- Jimmie Neff- Tower Hobbies amphibious seaplane



- Bill Cody- Baronette Tri Plane for an OS 40 engine



- George Wilson- Civil Air Patrol Cub with bomb drop



**CRASH OF THE MONTH:**

- George Wilson- Crashed his Tiger 2 and his AT6 doing a stall turn
- Cliff Chetwood- Crashed his F-16 in a high alpha stall, repaired
- Robert Morse- His miniature P-40 went for a swim in the pond and waded in in a rescue attempt (it blew to the side a few days later)
- Bill Ponseigo- His new Vulcan stalled and crashed. Cliff Chetwood rebuilt it for him.
- Cliff and Robert got tickets

**Raffle:**

The monthly raffles are designed to break even. Any excess monies are used for the Christmas Party Raffle. Our wives and guests receive a free raffle ticket for attending the meeting.

Cliff Chetwood won the E-Flite UMX Yak 54 3D



Chris Freeman won the E-Flite Viper 64 MM EDF Jet

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.



## How To Free Up A Stuck Engine

Jim Neff

OK, I know most of you ARCS members fly electric airplanes. They are convenient, not messy and reliable. No dead stick landings, we hope.

For others of us, nothing spells RC airplanes like the smell of burning Nitro fuel, or burnt gas/oil mix from 2-or 4-cycle exhaust. Then there's the sound, especially the 4-cycle sound. No electric planes can match it without an expensive sound system aboard.

One of the problems with our nitro engines, like the one in the photo, is that if they sit idle for a long time the oil in the fuel tends to congeal in the engine and stick the moving parts together. That is especially true with older, used engines that haven't been run in a long time.



The congealed fuel can make the engine almost impossible to turn over and may gum up the carb so it can't be moved. If fuel is left too long in the engine, the alcohol can turn into water and cause the ball bearings to rust. If that happens, you will likely have to overhaul the engine and replace the bearings.

So, the first way to free up a clogged engine is not to let it get clogged in the first place. Ask me how I know.

When you finish flying a nitro plane for the day:

- a. Use good fuel that has synthetic oil. The synthetic oil is less likely to congeal.
- b. Run the engine out of fuel by pulling the fuel line from the carb while it is running or just run it until the tank is empty and the engine stops.
- c. Use a good "after-run oil." Pull the glow plug and drop a few drops in the cylinder. Then put some down the carburetor and turn the engine over a few times to get the oil in the carb and the bearings.
- d. If the engine is going to be stored for a while, I'd recommend doing a more thorough job getting oil into the inner works of the engine. You'll try to get the oil to replace any residual alcohol fuel.
- e. I've noticed that the "after run oil" looks suspiciously like Marvel Mystery Oil.

My experience freeing up stuck engines and carburetors involves the following:

- a. Patience and time
- b. A good penetrating oil
- c. Heat from a heat gun.

The first step is to get penetrating oil into the engine somehow. Usually, I'll pull the glow plug and shoot oil into the cylinder. If it is a 2-cycle engine and the engine will turn over, I'll run the piston down to its lowest travel, then shoot oil into the exhaust to try to get oil into the area of the back bearing. I'll also try to get oil into the area of the front bearing, either from the outside or through the carb. If it is a 4-cycle engine, I'll pull the rocker-arm cover and put oil down the pushrod guides. Also put oil into the cylinder via the spark or glow plug hole.

Sometimes the carb is stuck in the closed position. Here is where the heat gun comes into play. I've had good luck heating the carb to almost operating temperature so that the congealed oil will melt. If enough penetrating oil is present, it should free up the carb. Heating the whole engine should help free up moving parts. You could put the engine in an oven and heat it to about 200 degrees. Any more heat and you could melt rubber gaskets, if any. A heat gun applied to the whole engine can help melt the congealed fuel and allow the penetrating oil to take effect. If necessary, let the oiled engine sit a day or so and soak.

Don't try to force the engine to turn over. Use the heat gun, oil and time for soaking to try and get it loose. Please don't grip the propeller thrust washer on the front with pliers to try and turn it. Bolt on a propeller and use that to try and crank the engine over.

With time and patience, you can free up even the worst cases of a stuck engine. When the engine seems to be running freely, turn it over with the prop and listen to the bearings. If you hear a grinding sound, even faintly, it is likely the bearings have rusted from the alcohol in the leftover fuel. The engine may run for a while but eventually will fail. A new set of bearings will cost less than \$20 even for a big engine. Changing bearings also involves heat and patience, but that is another topic.

**Happy flying!**

---

**May Fun Fly Photos  
Jim Witthauer**

















