



# ARCS News



San Antonio, Texas

Alamo Radio Control Society

[www.alamorcs.org](http://www.alamorcs.org)

AMA Charter 603

April, 2023

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

**The next club meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 18, 2022, at 7 PM in the Acadiana Café, 1289 SW Loop 410.**

## ARCS OFFICERS

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#### 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. Acadiana Café,  
1289 SW Loop 410

## March 2023 Fun Fly

The morning of the March Fun Fly was overcast with a heavy mist that threatened rain. But when the clouds gave way and the sun shined through, the day blossomed into a marvelous day of Model Aviation. An audience of babies, kids, grandkids, parents, grandparents, in-laws, novices and seasoned



model aviators, came out to fly, or watch the flight of a variety of model aircraft. From 8 months to 80 years old a throng that counted over thirty people filled the area to witness one of the best Fun Fly Events ever hosted by the Alamo Radio Control Society.



Key events included brothers Sebastian and Santiago, who demonstrated praiseworthy skills as novice pilots. Flying a "CripesAmighty 3<sup>rd</sup>" P-51 and a foam trainer respectfully. Their proud parents stood by watching. Domingo Rey smoothly flew a newly introduced *Freewing* Eurofighter through a maiden flight.



Bill Grozdanich flew a beautifully scaled *e-Flite* FW-109a. Sal Sordo took turns with his grandson and granddaughter flying a mini drone.



Jim Branaum brought a PBY Catalina christened "Strawberry 5" after the famous plane of the battle of Midway in WW2, which he obtained from Jim Caton.



Saul Cordova performed parachute drops from an OV-10 Bronco, flew two helicopters and then a scaled "Daphne C" F4U Corsair. Always one to tempt fate, Tony Hand flew his P-47 "Snafu" dangerously low. Pete Dubree first revved up his Banana Hobbies Turbo jet, then skillfully piloted an F-86 through quick maneuvers at high velocity.

And Raul Colunga demonstrated his prowess flying an *Extreme Flight Raven* that presented a spectacle both on the ground and in the air.



There were three crashes. Beginning with Chris Freeman's Super Decathlon's hard landing which ripped out the landing gear. This was followed by Tony Hands P-47 crash which flew erratically due to a mysterious servo malfunction. Finally, there was Jim Branaum's *Ultrastick* crash damaging the landing gear. Fortunately, for each the damages are repairable.

Jim Witthauer

**ARCS Meeting Minutes March 21, 2023**

The meeting was called to order March 21st at 7:00 p.m. The reading of the February 2023 minutes were approved as published in the Newsletter. Treasurer’s Report was read. Total in club assets is \$11,176.98. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Approved.

**Guests:**

Beth Goland, Sandy Witthauer, Marilyn Caton

**Business:**

Treasurer’s Report given and approved.

Minutes from February meeting approved as posted in the newsletter

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The **Fun Fly is Sunday March 26th** from 10 am to 2 pm. Bring snacks (donuts etc.) for the pilots and food for the Food Bank.

If you want a club shirt, check with Eric Amundsen, he will take your order. Shirts are \$20. Extended sizes are slightly higher. There is no minimum order. If you want a shirt, call Eric. Hats are \$15. Name Tags are \$6. New members, hats and name tags are free but you need to tell Eric if you want a nametag. Name tags will be attached to the board in the pavilion. New members check the board for your name tag if you ordered one from Eric.

The Club donated 276 lbs. of food to the San Antonio Food Bank in February 2023. Total for the year is 498lbs. Thanks to all who donated. **Keep up the good work, folks!** Just put the food in the “Fun Fly Barrel”.

**FIELD CONDITIONS**

Buck will try to add the field camera to his cellular account if it can be done for \$35 / month. If \$35, he will do it. If more, we will discuss next month.

The field maintenance weekend was a big success. All runway cracks are filled and smoothed out. We can now easily roll onto the paved runway from the grass runway.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Members held discussions on the proposed IMAC event to be held October 7-8, 2023. It was proposed that a committee of four will execute the event. There will be no cost at all to the club. After discussions, a vote taken to see if we held the event this year. The vote was 15 to hold the event with 5 against. Motion passed and the club will be holding the IMAC event in 2023.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

There was a concern the some searches on Google do not reach our website. Results appeared to be mixed. If you are having any issues, the link is

<https://www.alamoradocontrol.club>

The raffle is going in the hole due the high cost of ARF electric models we are flying. Please buy more raffle tickets.



*The IPAC Committee*

**SHOW AND TELL:**

Jimmy Neff showed off an electric powered Escapade that was built by our late member Lupe Talamentez. The plane was great and Lupe is missed.

Bill Ponseigo showed off his Farmers Defense APF 50 Arm Guards that can provide sun protection in lieu of sunscreen. Available on Amazon.

**CRASH OF THE MONTH:**

Bill Cody/Bill Ponseigo got a donated Big Stick 40 flying great. An older 72 Mhz radio was used but on this flight the antenna was in 2.4 Ghz position and as it got far enough away it lost signal and crashed to total destruction. Keep in mind the needs of both current and old technology.

**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. Domingo Rex won the EFlite Cirrus SR-22T 1.5 Meter airplane.



**Cardboard Drone at War?**



The Australian Army has partnered with the defense Innovation Hub in awarding an Army Innovation Day contract to SYPAQ to develop and demonstrate a next-generation battlefield logistics small unmanned aerial system (UAS) called the Precision Payload Delivery System (PPDS), for use by Australian soldiers and now for Ukraine. So just what is PPDS and how is it used? The drone is a cardboard airframe that



is basically a box with a wing, electric motor, battery and guidance system. At a cost from \$600 to a bit over \$3000 each (assume depending on accessories), about the same as a DJI drone. The drone is supplied in a flat pack about the size of a large pizza box with



several of them stacked on a pallet. The package provides everything you need to assemble the craft, mostly tape, rubber bands and maybe some glue, and screws to attach the motor. It is called "...The origami of death."

The drone impossible to detect on radar. It can carry up to 11 pounds and fly up top 75 miles. Once programmed to go to a destination the drone is independent of any other guidance. Even if the GPS signal is interrupted, it can still navigate to its destination. Some of the drones have completed up to 60 missions! For a wax-covered cardboard drone that exceeds the longevity some of our more substantial RC planes! An RC modeler, inspired by the drone, tried to make his own: [Box Plank - Inspired by CORVO Drone - Bing video](#)

Here is a video from the manufacturer: [Stealthy Cardboard Drones Ukraine's Strategy to Decimate Russian Forces - Bing video](#) And another: [How Zelensky's Forces Are Using Stealthy Cardboard Drones To Bleed Russian Forces In The Ukraine War - Bing video](#)



These drones are among the many drones being used by the army in Ukraine for various purposes. It was intended to load supplies and deliver them to front line troops in isolated places. The Ukrainians use them additionally for surveillance, artillery targeting and in other, more lethal ways. The Corvo drone is not the only cardboard drone in use, but sounds like the most sophisticated. The guidance system can be re-used once the airframe is used up. That could be part of what looks like a home-grown variation in the photo to the left.

**March Fun Fly Photos  
(Jim Witthauer)**

























