



# CONTACTS

9 Years a Gold Leader Club

The Official Newsletter of KCRC  
An AMA Chartered Club #390 for 70 Years

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[www.kcradiocontrol.com](http://www.kcradiocontrol.com)

## A historic month for KC/RC

Greetings flyers. The October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held in the EAA Chapter 91 building at the Lee's Summit Airport.

This issue's primary purpose is to publish our September meeting minutes and the names of the new club officers. If anything is amiss, please send updates to Keith Stevens. His contact info in on page 2. The new Editor has pretty big shoes to fill as I'm sure you can surmise from the lean-ness of this newsletter. I look forward to the challenge a promise more content in future issues. Also, it's better to keep expectations low and have room to grow rather than hit a grand slam out of the gate and have to improve on that performance ;)

**FIELD RULES REMINDER** – There is a mistaken belief that electric aircraft are allowed to fly as soon as the park rangers open the site gate in the morning, usually about 8:30 A.M., but occasionally earlier. This is not true. Normal flying hours at Charles W Reed III R/C Flying Field are "9:00 A.M. until Sunset." Yes, each year we request a variance allowing us to extend until 9:30 P.M., April 1 – September 30, to take advantage of daylight saving time. The point is, normal field hours are clearly posted on the Operational and Safety rules sign. We have confirmed with the Park Administration that flying is currently not permitted prior to 9:00 A.M., regardless of aircraft type. If the club membership wants this to change, we can request the park department to consider allowing electric airplane flying as soon as the gate opens in the morning. There is no guarantee they will agree. So be advised, there has been no changes to the posted flying hours. Flying is not permitted before 9:00 A.M.

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October 16<sup>th</sup> club meeting will be at the  
**EAA Hangar, 7pm**  
Lee's Summit Municipal Airport



President Edwin Chavez Doing His Thing  
with his foamy DR-1

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## Minutes of the September 18, 2024 Meeting

President Jon Britt welcomed everyone to the September 18<sup>th</sup> club meeting at 7:00 P.M. Jon reminded everyone that the meetings this past summer have been good with only one when the wind was a bit gusty. Meetings at the field will begin again next year on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Next month's meeting will resume at the EAA Hanger on the Lee's Summit Airport.

**Visitors:** Visitors were asked to share their modeling history. John Ponack shared that he is getting back into control line flying. Julia Payne also shared her interest in attending.

**New member:** Charles Boyd was introduced. Charles joined at the Warbird/Classics Event, and he had also won the Corsair Raffle plane.

**Minutes Approval:** Jon mentioned a couple of items in the minutes that have been corrected and the file on the website is a corrected version. The August 2024 minutes were approved as corrected.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jim Hulse shared the checking account balance.

**Secretary's Report:** John Midgorden had nothing to report.

**Park Liaison Report:** Jimmy Cianciolo gave a Park report mentioning the new ADA approved porta-potty that has been installed. He also mentioned that the new Park Director, Tina Spallo, is also aware of the issues of concrete walkways, electric power, etc., and will include them in the Park's Strategic Plan this Fall.

**Announcements:** Jon thanked Don Ronnebaum for the good job as chef for this meeting. Don received a round of applause.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Float Fly:** Jon shared the story of this year's Float Fly on August 24<sup>th</sup>. Although it rained until 1:00 P.M., 11 pilots finally got their planes in the water for some great flying. Craig McMichael's mother served a nice taco luncheon at her home before the rain stopped. Unfortunately, Craig lost his beautiful Cessna 170 in the trees on the far side of the lake (unrecoverable).

**Warbird/Classics Event:** Susan Calvin shared that the event went well with 25 pilots and at least 50 airplanes. She thanked everyone for their help. Jim Hulse shared the net income from the event.

**Fall Fly-In:** Edwin Chavez will CD the final major event of the season with the All-Types Fall Fly-In on Saturday,

October 12<sup>th</sup>. Earlier it was going to be a Jet Rally but that has been changed to an open fly-in where any aircraft can be flown.

**EAA Build and Fly Project:** Susan Calvin and Phil Lucido held an orientation meeting on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, for another Build and Fly Program. There were 6 enthusiastic kids in attendance. They will be building an Old School Model Works "Fifty Six" trainer. Building will begin on September 28<sup>th</sup>. Susan and Phil could use more adult helpers.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Park Rules:** Jon reminded everyone that the current park rules say that no flying is permitted until 9:00 A.M. There has been the idea floating around that electric powered models could begin flying before 9:00 A.M. This is not so! If the Club wants to apply for an earlier hour for electrics it would have to be presented to the park department. There seemed very limited response for doing so.

**Election of Officers:** KCRC's officer year begins October 1<sup>st</sup>. The candidates for the new year are:

President: Edwin Chavez  
 Vice-President: Deon Cross  
 Treasurer: Jim Hulse  
 Secretary: Keith Stevens

Since there were no other nominations, Jon declared the slate of officers approved by acclamation.

Fred Hulen asked to speak to the assembled members. He mentioned that he has been a member of KCRC for 55 years and wanted everyone to know that the past 2 years have been the best that he can remember thanks to Jon Britt's leadership. He also mentioned the many hours that John Midgorden has spent over the years as club Secretary and newsletter editor. Both gentlemen were given a round of applause.

Duane Hulen also announced that he has checked with John Knox and the Pavilion date of February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, is confirmed for the next KCRC Swap 'N' Shop.

Jon called everyone's attention to October 16<sup>th</sup>, the next club meeting, held at the EAA Chapter 91 building at the Lee's Summit Airport, 7:00P.M.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned

John Midgorden, reporting



## Safety is No Accident

Keep an eye out for wasps in the door handle of the storage unit. They love to nest under there. Ouch.

As I talked about at our August meeting, we are required to keep all flights within the approved park boundaries shown below. Prop planes, jets, FPV, drones, quad copters, helicopters. We may get tired of hearing it but, flying outside our boundaries will place the entire club at risk. We fly on Parks & Rec land and it can be taken away if we don't comply with the agreed upon rules. Please remember; the safety officer is not intended to be the club police. If you see someone flying too far, too high, or in any unsafe manner, please give them a courteous reminder. It might be they simply don't understand the rules or the consequences. Thank you for your help.



AMA guidelines state our responsibility this way: *"Creating a safe environment to protect bystanders, other model pilots, as well as surrounding property, is crucial and the responsibility of every individual participating in modeling activities"*.

There has been a lot of national discussion recently regarding First Person View drones, quad copters, and FPV planes so I looked into it a bit. The AMA states that ALL flying craft, including First Person View, must remain in "Visual Line of Sight" of the pilot or their spotter.

The FAA is currently in discussions about making spotters mandatory in order to ensure FPV craft stay inside approved boundaries, below the max altitude, and to observe if any private planes are approaching the same airspace. Many of the transmitters for these craft have parameters that

## Deon Cross

can be set up to give the pilot a warning if they have flown too far away or too high.

Again, our agreement with Parks & Rec supercedes the AMA line of sight rule. Line of sight could easily be well beyond the park approved boundaries for any of us. (Roughly the north, south, east tree lines and 400' altitude). That means flying over the dam, lake, soccer fields, roads, houses, etc., is a no-no.

There is also legislation currently being debated in Congress to ban DJI drones.

**"The U.S. government may ban DJI drones, (Da Jiang Innovations), concerned that China is collecting information through them. This would impact several areas of the consumer market and commercial drone market"**.

And now drones are even more in the news with one being flown to scout the rally area by the person who shot at Mr. Trump, and another one being flown to spy on an Olympic soccer team practice.

As I researched, I found that FPV flying, and especially drones, are a hot topic nationwide so let's stay within our flight boundaries and stay off the radar with this one.

Remember: We are all safety officers. Let's all do our part to keep this great hobby safe.

Happy and safe flying, Deon