



Lakeway Airpark Newsletter

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Lakeway Airpark Inc.
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Lakeway, TX 78734
www.3R9.org

President's Letter

March madness could be described as pilots watching the miserable cold and drizzle of our spring, bringing what seems constant IFR conditions. Now, we have reached a pattern of partly cloudy weekdays, followed by rainy weekends. I find myself checking Weather Underground frequently during the week hoping to see the 75 degrees and sunshine carrying through the weekend. Maybe by the time we have groups leaving for Sun 'n Fun, we will have the sun to go with the fun.



The transition of spring is in the air and some great flying days are ahead. Our Annual Membership Meeting is coming up on Monday, June 1. It is important that you know that, while we don't have any major issues on the agenda yet, new state procedures for non-profits **require** that your membership dues be paid 30 days in advance of our June meeting in order to vote. We are working to get membership invoices out this month, so watch your mail. We passed a resolution at our last meeting to clarify some membership issues so that there is clarity at the annual meeting for voting purposes. After review of our bylaws, we believe we have reached a solution that is fair to all member classes and consistent with the bylaws without having to make major bylaw changes.

I have learned in my business career that having goals of perfection is futile; it is unachievable. It is important to celebrate progress and not beat yourself up for not obtaining perfection. We set out with some lofty objectives last year and some legacy challenges. Progress toward solutions required some spirited discussion and often compromise. Our board is nearing the end of our year and I wanted to review a few things that we have done that I count as progress and set the state for a great 2015.

First, we have had a relatively quiet year, which is good. Second, we took a hard look at our fiscal condition and future financial plans for the Airpark and determined that our finances are on firm footing unless we identify major capital projects for our future. One potential capital project at hand is our solution to the drainage issues on our property that could require an investment in maintenance and some modification of current drainage soon. This has been an ongoing project challenged by our inability to find engineers that had time to help with the analysis of a solution. I am pleased to report that we met with an engineering group recently, walked the property and should have a proposal in hand by the April meeting. Austin is over 3" ahead in rainfall for the year and every time we have flash flooding in the forecast, I toss and turn at night. We need to get this resolved as soon as possible. We owe a solution to our neighbors on Blue Jay. We have been executing on maintenance as part of our solution to this problem. Ultimate plans will likely include a new 24" pipe being installed alongside of the current drainage culvert near the south end of the runway.

Building our pilot community through social events was another major objective and Steve has worked to put some events on the calendar this year. Participation of our members could be better. We had a great event to Brenham last year, but community outreach programs, like the Chamber events, are fun and important to building our reputation in the community. Another opportunity with the Chamber group is coming up on May 14. Please get involved if you can. There are a few opportunities in April also. Sun 'n Fun, the LBJ Ranch fly out, even the monthly meeting and workdays are all good opportunities to spend time with friends. April 10, 11 and 12 is also the STOL Roundup in Llano. These are light bush planes built for short take off and landing. The event was a huge success last year with competitors from around the country. Since I have been trying to master keeping the tail behind me in a Super Cub, it has my interest.

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You can find more info at <http://www.texasstolroundup.org>. I also hope that we can find a time for a BBQ at the Airpark and can get Jesse Beckett's new Urban BBQ Assault Vehicle out. Get out there and fly somewhere with friends while the \$100 hamburger is only \$50 bucks!!!!

I measure our progress in building community by the number of new faces that are showing up at the meetings and new connections that have been made between pilots at Lakeway Airpark. We have made a lot of progress in this area. Good things will happen if we continue to grow our numbers. Getting involved and encouraging others, including new potential members, to do the same is the best way to make this happen. I look forward to seeing you at the events in April and May, and at the annual meeting in June.

Best,

—Russ

Social Events—

As I sit and write this article, it is still daylight outside. There is a lot of chatter coming from the state capital about doing away with daylight savings time, but I bet it's not coming from pilots. I hear a lot of us flying after work (between the rain showers and clouds) and many others hanging out at the ramp to watch the planes.

Last November weather canceled the Chamber of Commerce Aerial Tours. They have been rescheduled to May 14 at 2:00 p.m. We will need 7 pilots and planes to fly approximately 35 guests on 20 minute sorties. Usually this works out to two flights per plane. The event will be well covered by the media and is great publicity for the Airpark. Thanks to those who have already volunteered to fly with us. Anyone else who would like to sign up, please let me know. Things change in two months and we will need some back-ups. What will not change is that the Chamber will be here, and weather permitting, they will be ready to fly.

I plan to create an Events calendar with some proposed activities to take us into the fall. Watch for burger runs, a speaker series (probably at the monthly dinners), monthly dinners and an Airpark open house for the community this summer. Hopefully we can get Jesse's BBQ and have tables set up in the hail shed, airplane static displays with pilots on hand, and maybe even some demo rides for aspiring pilots.

Many of you know that my wife, Sue, is getting close to earning her private ticket. She has flown with me for years but watching her attitude transform from "where are we going" to "when are we going" has re-inspired me to help share flying with more people. I will be asking for some help with this soon.

Heads Up and Wheels Down, fellow flyers.

- Steve Zbranek

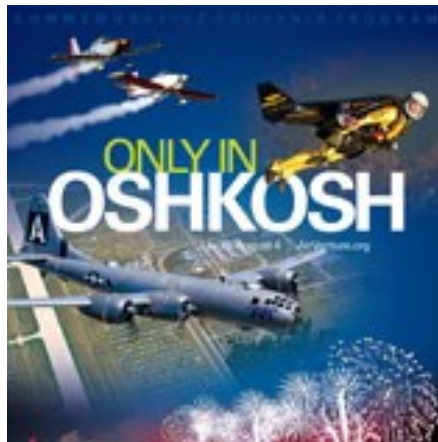
Notice — To reiterate the information in the President's Letter, there have been changes in State law regarding membership requirements in non-profit corporations. Membership dues must be paid in full no later than 30 days in advance of the annual meeting in order for a member to be able to vote at the annual meeting. Therefore, if you pay your dues the night of the annual meeting, you will not be able to vote that evening.

Join our Airpark community! To learn more about the Lakeway Airpark, call any of the board members listed below.

April is the month for Sun 'n Fun in Lakeland, Florida. Typically we have a pretty good group that will fly out there. I'm sure there will be talk of this at the April meeting.

I noted when I was perusing the Sun 'n Fun site that they have canceled the annual Splash-In for float planes due to the lake being overly full and therefore unsafe. So if anyone was planning on flying a float plane, you will need to rethink your flight.

Also there will be some folks flying to Oshkosh, July 20-26. I know we are flying into Appleton and the rooms are getting scarce. So make your plans today if you want to get out of the Texas heat in late July. I'm sure there will be more discussion on the ramp regarding flying out.



Russ in his Super Cub—below



Deadline for publication is the 30th of each month.

I hope you enjoy this issue!

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Lakeway Airpark Board Members

- Russ Norwood, President.....512.636.5057
- Neil Olufsen, Vice President.....713.542.1875
- Erik Mulloy, Treasurer.....512.261.3480
- Ed LeBlanc, Secretary.....512.494.6298
- Bill Kulpa, Maintenance.....512.261.6375
- Mike Collier, Maintenance.....512.261.8845
- Steve Zbranek, Public Relations.....512.261.0344

Next BOD meeting is Sat, Apr. 11. Café Lago 7:30; workday 8:30; meeting 9:30