



OMAHA NEBRASKA  
AMA 857

## TAILSPIN NEWSLETTER

September 2016 Issue

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### A Word from the President



We had our annual large plane event - the Bud Hall Large Airplane Fun Fly. It was a success with some fine large scale airplanes, great lunch, and decent weather to boot. There were approximately 15 registered pilots with at least 25 airplanes. The hit of the fun fly was Dave Kelly's HUGE warbird. A Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress. We only had a couple of minor mishaps, but not worth mentioning. Unlike the dust devil that up-ended 3 shades. Story and pictures below.

We've been fortunate this year with the flying field being in such good condition. The rain really helped, but of course, the mowing crew insures that we have such great field conditions every week.

**Thanks!**

**~ Rick Miller**

### Vice-President's Corner



We had a very good turnout for our big bird fun fly this year. The weather was excellent and there were a lot of different planes. I enjoyed watching them all fly. It wasn't such a good day for me as you know

### Next Quarterly Meeting:

7:00PM Tuesday October 4, 2016

**Mead Field**



if you were there. The plane I was flying had the wings fall off. I should tell you that Mike Lauver was spotting for me and nice guy that he is (or isn't maybe) saw the fuse minus wings going down and yelled "landing!" I didn't get mad about it because I would have done the same. I acquired a couple of planes to replace it so all is well. We all had a good time and that's what counts. See you at the field.

**Go Out and Fly!**

**~ Rick Haneline**

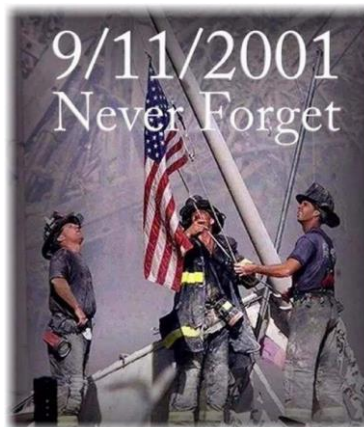
## Treasurer's Report



Since the flying season has been well under way, I have gotten out to the field two or three times a week weather permitting. Hope you all continue to have a great fall and will be looking for you at the field.

Your Treasurer

~ Dean Copeland



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Website: <http://www.weflyrc.org/>



"Packers fan??? Yes, why???"



# Building Up-North Country

Report by Jim Drickey  
the "Rubber Band Man"

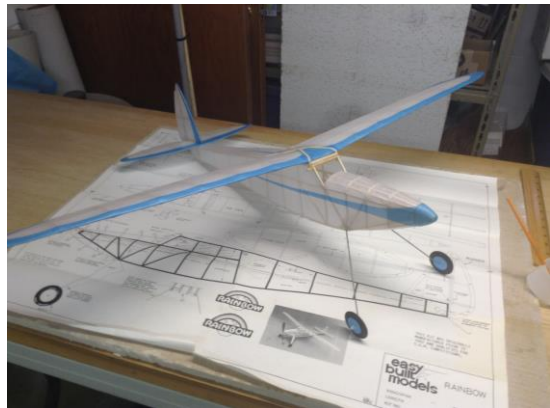
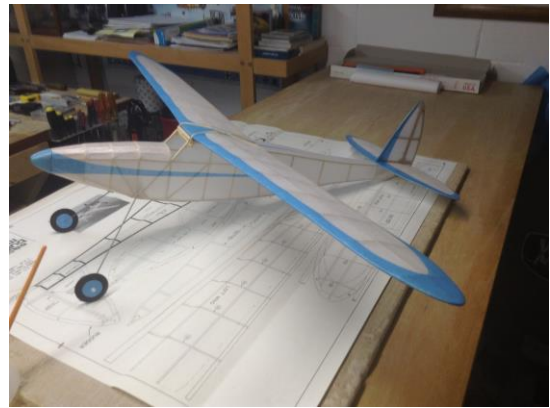


My little rubber job is done. I had to add some nose weight. To do that, I hollowed out the tiny nose block and glued as much lead fishing weights as I could get in. But it still needs a little more, so I will have to glob a little clay on the nose for flying. That's okay because I've done that many times before.

Put a few winds on it and launched it out the back door into the backyard. It went clear down by the lake and lucky not to hit a tree. The light blue trim is also tissue. I traced pattern off the plan. I have not really flown it yet - I'm pathetic! But will try to get some flights in before winter. Yes the trees are changing up here in North Country. Fall is in full swing!

I've also included a pic of Owatonna after a 6 in. rain the night before. It was a wet one! That's Dave Kelley in the back ground filling up his generator. I plugged into it to run my A/C in the Scamp. It was very humid while we were there. I was selling my RC airplanes there under the shade.

All for now.....Jim D. Up North



# Fifi Visits Omaha

By Doug Clemetson

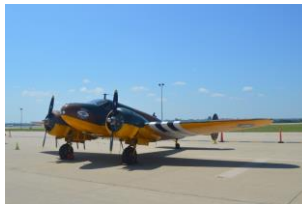


'Fifi' a restored B-29 Superfortress visited Omaha along with five other restored WWII planes August 16-21, 2016. The other restored aircraft included a P-51 Mustang, an SB2C Helldiver, a T-6 Texan, A C-45 Expeditor, and a Stearman bi-plane. The planes were on public display at the Eppley Airfield TAC Air terminal.

Flights on the restored planes were available to the public for prices ranging from \$75 for a cabin seat in the C-45 to \$1,895 for the P-51. Flights on *Fifi* were available with prices ranging from \$595 for the Rear Gunner Seat to \$1,595 for the Bombardier Seat. All planes are part of the Commemorative Air Force's Air Power History Tour of Historic WWII Aircraft.

*Fifi* is one of only two B-29's still flying. A second one named 'Doc' made a successful test flight this past summer at *Wichita, KS*. Approximately 4,000 B-29's were built during WWII with over 400 assembled at the *Martin Bomber plant* in Omaha including the two that dropped the atomic bombs on Japan to end the war, the *Enola Gay* and *Bockscar*. Although the first flight of a B-29 occurred on 30 December 1942, it did not enter service until April of 1944. It continued flying through the *Korean Conflict* and was retired in the 1960's. *Fifi* was assembled at the *Renton, Washington* facility in 1945 and was retired in 1958. In 1974, restoration of *Fifi* was completed and returned to flying condition. In 2006 it was grounded and all four engines were replaced before returning to the sky in 2010.

The *Boeing B-29 Superfortress* with a wingspan of 141 feet and length of 99 feet has a crew of 11. Crew members include: Pilot, Co-pilot, Bombardier, Flight Engineer, Navigator, Radio Operator, Radar Observer, Gun Commander, Right Gunner, Left Gunner, and Tail Gunner. It is powered by four Wright R-3350 turbo supercharged radial engines with 2,000 HP each to achieve a maximum speed of 357 mph with a ceiling of 36,000 feet and a maximum takeoff weight of 133,500 pounds. More information about these planes can be found at: [www.AirPowerTour.org](http://www.AirPowerTour.org)



Western R/C  
Flyers



## Lipo Fire Protection

By Tim Peters



We're all aware of how many uses there are for lithium-polymer (*lipo*) batteries; anymore most all portable electronic devices use them. Most likely you've read, heard, or seen stories about lipo packs that have caught fire to smolder, setting the balsa model on fire.

The pilot was able to quickly remove the pack from the plane and tossed the smoldering batteries over to an open area while he attempted to save the rest of the plane.

One of my buddies told me to watch what was about to happen to the battery pack: one-at-a-time, each cell in the pack burst into flame, igniting its neighbor until all of the cells were burning. Pretty spectacular, and it made a lasting impression. I left with a real respect for what a damaged lipo pack can do.

When I began using lipos I knew I wanted a metal container for storing them. At the time I had a heavy-duty metal cash-box that seemed to work ok. After some time I had acquired enough lipos (*both for models and for outdoor power tools*) that the box was near capacity. Recently *Costco* had a sale where you purchase two ammo boxes (*small and large size*) for less than \$20. I bought a



set and now my batteries have a new residence—see the photos.

As you would expect, the boxes have a watertight seal and strong latching mechanism—after all, they are intended for storing ammunition! I need to drill some holes for ventilation and for charging cables (*I plan to use the larger for storage and smaller for holding a single battery while it is being charged*).



I'll also line the insides with some insulating material to prevent accidental shorts. Now I have a little more peace-of-mind that my batteries have safe places to 'hang-out' when not in use!



# Bud Hall Big Planes

By Nelson Carpenter



The 26<sup>th</sup> annual Bud Hall Big Planes Fun Fly was held on August 27<sup>th</sup> at Mead Field. There were 15 registered pilots who participated with at least 24 aircraft. The day started out wet, but within a couple of hours things were drying out and we had a fun fly! From early in the morning, until well into the afternoon, there were constant airplanes in the air. Spectators attended, and it appeared that they all enjoyed the show.

Dave Kelly revealed his B-17 for the first time, and was it ever impressive! Four attempts were made to get the big bomber flying, but Dave was experiencing engine problems. Not all were in sync. The fourth attempt late in the afternoon was successful, and it was a beauty in the air. Dean Copeland had his turbine jet flying. It was fast and had a great turbine sound.

Lunch was served consisting of Fareway brats which everyone thought were great. Proof being none were leftover. Thanks to all who attended. Photos by Rene Mayo.



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# Bud Hall Big Planes Cont.



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# Bud Hall Big Planes Cont.



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# Bud Hall Big Planes Cont.



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# Bud Hall Big Planes Cont.



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# Bud Hall Big Planes Cont.



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*Western R/C  
Flyers*



## ~ 2016 Western R/C Flyers Event Schedule ~

### January 2016

- **Wednesday, Jan 7th** - Club Meeting 7pm, NRC, Natural Resources Center, 8901 S. 154<sup>th</sup> St.
- **Saturday, Jan 17th** - Strategic Air & Space Museum's Indoor Air Show 2015

### February 2016

### March 2016

### April 2016

- **Tuesday April 5th** - Club Meeting 7pm, NRC, Natural Resources Center, 8901 S. 154<sup>th</sup> St.
- **Saturday, April 16th** – Old Timers Fun Fly with Glider Fly - Starts at 9:00am with flying until 3:00pm.

### May 2016

- **Saturday, May 21st** – Old Timers Fun Fly with Glider Fly - Starts at 9:00am with flying until 3:00pm.
- **Saturday, May 28th** – Scale Fun Fly and Swap Meet at Mead Field starting 9am.

### June 2016

- **Saturday, Jun 18th** – Annual Spring Club Fun Fly at Mead Field starting at 10:00am. Open flying.
- **Saturday, June 25th** – Old Timers Fun Fly with Glider Fly - Starts at 9:00am with flying until 3:00pm.

### July 2016

- **Tuesday, July 12th** - Club Quarterly Meeting 7pm, MEAD FIELD bring a plane, open flying.
- **Sunday Jul 10th** – Western Flyers Open House Fun Fly. Starts at 9:00am with flying until dark.
- **Saturday, Jul 16th** - Old-Timers Fun Fly with Glider Fly - Starts at 9:00am with flying until 3:00pm.

### August 2016

- **Saturday, Aug 20th** – Old Timers Fun Fly with Glider Fly - Starts at 9:00am with flying until 3:00pm.
- **Saturday, Aug 27th** – Bud Hall Large Aircraft Fun Fly. Aircraft restricted to IMAA criteria. Landing fee \$10.00 provides lunch and flying. Rain date Aug 28th.

### September 2016

- **Saturday, Sep 17th** – Old Timers Fun Fly with Glider Fly – Starts at 9:00am with flying until 3:00pm.

### October 2016

- **Tuesday, Oct 4th** - Club Quarterly Meeting 7pm, NRC, Natural Resources Center, Chalco Hills Recreation Area, 8901 S. 154<sup>th</sup> St.
- **Saturday, Oct 15th** – Old Timers Fun Fly with Glider Fly – Starts at 9:00am with flying until 3:00pm.

### November 2016

### December 2016



## Western R/C Flyers Inc. 2016 Membership Application

Please print clearly!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

AMA Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**2016 Dues: \$35** (Renewals should be paid by **April 1**) New \_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_ (Check One)

Sign Here: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership application subject to approval. AMA membership is required.**

**Make Checks Payable to: Western R/C Flyers**

Complete this form and send with check to WRCF Treasurer:

**Dean Copeland 15668 Fountain Hills Dr. Omaha, Nebraska 68118**