



# Tri City Flyers

## NEWSLETTER



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

**MAY 2025**

**AMA #850**

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### **MAY 2025: PRESIDENT ED VALLS ASKED TOM DICUIRCI TO WRITE A SUMMARY OF WARBIRDS OVER KINGSBURY IN HIS SPACE**

Warbirds over Kingsbury 2025 is now in the books! This event did not happen by itself. I am overwhelmed by the support of the volunteers and sponsors that made this possible! Our field, the organization and hospitality made this event a success! Tuesday, May 13, kicked the event into high gear with a team of club volunteers swarming the field, getting it ready for flying and hospitality for the event. With our recent runway expansion, volunteers pressed forward mowing the lawn, filling holes, putting up signs/markers and rolling the field to promise great conditions. The amount of work that was completed was stunning to say the least! By the end of the day, the field was an example of what an event should look like and was ready to showcase.

Wednesday May 14, we started to welcome out of town guests in our designated camping area. We immediately received an abundance of positive feedback on the condition of the field and the setup. "This field looks amazing!" & "What an amazing improvement from last year!". Pilots immediately assembled their aircraft and started to fly. Members of the Texas Warbird Thunder Team started to punch holes in the sky!

Thursday May 15, we continued welcoming guests/pilots and kicked off the event by filling the first two pages of pilot registration forms! This was pleasant surprise. The raffle sales also started, once pilots locked their sights on the giant F4U Corsair prize from Legend Hobbies. The airspace above Kingsbury continued to be active with more aircraft.

Friday May 16, we continued to receive more guests, and we welcomed two food venues to our event; one caterer using our kitchen, and one food truck. Both sources had amazing meals and provided generous portions of food. Saturday May 17, registration concluded with an amazing total of 46 pilots. We were able to attract both local pilots and some who traveled distances more than 500 miles! Spectators were amazed as the pilots put on a fantastic show of airpower. The Texas Warbird Thunder Team provided an impressive gaggle of multiple fighter aircraft in the air at the same time, that completely wowed the crowd. Spectators asked if they could take pictures of the large number and variety of aircraft on display. The caterer served an excellent meal for the pilots and, as promised, very filling. The Pioneer Flight Museum also opened their hangars to their amazing display of restored full size aircraft.

In Summary, this event has now shown a growth trend and will continue each year. We anticipate a growth in club membership based on information requests and word of mouth feedback. Warbirds over Kingsbury will continue to be one of the many events that Tri City flyers use as a display of pride, recruitment and an example of responsible model aviation.

Thomas Dicuirci, Contest Director

**Club Meeting Reminder:** 7:00 PM on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the American Legion Post 593, located at 326 Legion Drive West, Converse, TX 78109. Unless otherwise informed, you can purchase a light meal at the Post prior to the meeting.



## Tri City Flyers May 8, 2025 Business Meeting Minutes

**Call to Order:** President Ed Valls called the May regular business meeting to order at 7:02 pm. There were 15 members including 5 officers in attendance.

**April Meeting Minutes:** President Valls asked members if anyone had corrections to the April Minutes. None were noted; Jim Rice made a motion to accept the Minutes as written, Mike Fisher seconded. The motion carried with a unanimous member vote.

**Guests/New Members:** One new member, Carl Bertschy, was present at the meeting. He was recognized and came forward to give a brief description of his R/C history. He is sponsored by Mike Fisher. Mike Fisher moved, and Matt Greenlee seconded, to accept Carl as a new member. The attending members approved the motion unanimously.

**Treasurers Report:** Mike Zachau presented the April end of month financial report to the members. He also informed members that the second ½ of the Sequin Flying Field Lease payment would be completed this week. Johnell Holley moved to receive the report as presented; Frank George seconded and the members approved unanimously.

**Safety Officer Reports:** Augie Santiago was not in attendance. Ed Valls reported that no incidents had occurred at the Sequin JBSA field.

Mike Fisher reported that a LiPo battery fire had occurred at Kingsbury. The fire damaged the battery recharge station, and Mike plans to paint and upgrade the station on the field maintenance day, Tuesday, May 13, 2025.

Ed Valls summarized info he had acquired about LiPo battery usage with the members present. He plans to provide a link to members for info on brands and usage of lithium batteries.

**Field Manger Report:** Gil Martinez was not in attendance at the meeting. Mike Fisher told members that Kingsbury was in fair condition,

and some maintenance was needed to spruce up for the Warbirds over Kingsbury Fly-in.

**AMA Business:** Frank George presented a report on an email he received from the AMA that clarified the altitude revisions recently made for recreational UAS operations. An FAA guide is available for all model aircraft pilots that outlines their use. TCF follows AMA and FAA guidelines/rules at the Kingsbury and Sequin Flying Fields.

### Unfinished Business:

**Members' Fly-in:** Mike Fisher gave a report on the fly-in, held on April 26. He told members that the fly-in was successful, and through donations and raffle sales, the club had nearly broken even. Ed commended Mike's performance as CD of the event.

**Warbirds Over Kingsbury:** Tom Dicuirci reviewed his final outline of the Warbirds over Kingsbury Fly-in on May 15<sup>th</sup> thru 17<sup>th</sup> with the members present. He plans to email the outline to members before the Fly-in. He asked for as many volunteers as can to help make the event a success.

**PFM Static Display:** Ed Valls told members that the PFM Wings and Wheels Static Display had been canceled due to inclement weather conditions. The PFM Wings and Wheels Fly-in was still held but had a limited attendance.

**New Business:** A field maintenance day has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. No RC flying will be permitted that day until the maintenance is completed. Volunteers are requested to help bring the Kingsbury field to exemplary condition for the Warbirds Fly-in.

**Broken Prop Award:** Sherman Lindsey nominated himself for an incident that happened to him. He told members he lost control of an aircraft he thought was due to a control servo becoming disconnected. Sherman was the only candidate for the award and won it by acclimation.

**Show and Tell:** As usual Jim Rice brought a couple of airplanes to the meeting to show to



club members. One was a “Willy Nillies” kit “Simple Citabria” that took Jim about a week to build. The second plane he showed was one given to him by Charles Roccaforte. It is a Mel Whitten Sport 240 Kit that Charles had given him in a semi completed state.

**Veterans Honor Flight:** Ed Valls invited Jim Rice to report on a recent Veterans Honor Flight that Jim and 19 other War Vets took. Jim outlined the activities that were part of the flight, he told members that it was one of the most inspirational and moving experiences he has ever been involved with. It also gave Jim a chance to reconnect with a lifelong friend with whom he served. Jim explained the program included volunteers called “guardians” who attended to the Vets’ every need during the trip. Also, during the trip, a “mail call” was held where the Vets received bundled letters from family and friends, reminiscent of the mail calls when they were overseas. Jim explained that the letters received by the Vets evoked great emotions, so much so that the letters were hard to present to those who attended the ceremonies. The greetings and thank yous from families, friends, and even strangers when they arrived back at the San Antonio Airport were so meaningful in contrast to the way many were greeted when originally returning from service. Way Thank you, Jim, for your service. We all know that you and your comrades deserve the recognition received and that this was past due.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Tom Dicuirci, seconded by Johnell Holley. Approved by unanimous Member vote.

**Upcoming Events:**

**Kingsbury Maintenance** **Completed** **Field Day**, May 13, 2025, 9:00 AM until finished. Flying will be suspended until the work is done.

**Warbirds Over Kingsbury Fly-in**, **Completed** **Over Kingsbury** May 15<sup>th</sup> thru 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Tom Dicuirci CD. Overnight campers welcome starting May 14. RV parking available with no utility hookups. Restrooms

and covered pavilion available. Food and cold drinks for sale at event.

**June Club Business Meeting, June 12, 2025:** 7:00pm at American Legion Post 593, 326 Legion Drive West; Converse, Texas

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I will sign off here - after the minutes - and invite you to enjoy reading about Jim’s show n tell airplanes, plus pictures from our April Club Fun Fly, and the Warbirds Over Kingsbury Event.

As always, I invite your comments and suggestions for Newsletter content. My goal as editor is to bring you a monthly newsletter you will find both useful and enjoyable.

Frank George, TCF News Editor  
[newseditor@tricityflyers.com](mailto:newseditor@tricityflyers.com)



Hello again to all TCF members and guests. Welcome to your monthly news section. May has been an exciting and busy month for our club. The Warbirds Over Kingsbury sanctioned event took a lot of time and effort by many club members, both in preparation work and helping run the event. In the end, we had a very successful fly in. See CD Tom Dicuirci's summary on the front page. So a great big thanks, and applause, to all who helped. See pictures following other news.

Remember to read the May meeting minutes and be ready for their review and approval at the June meeting. The AMA continues to provide guidance on the new altitude limits for club fields in Class G airspace. I encourage you to review the material at <https://www.modelaircraft.org/about-ama> highlight "About AMA" in the menu bar and click on "AMA Gov Blog" under "Advocacy". You don't need to log in to access the blog items.

Sherman was the only broken prop candidate this month, and nominated himself. Thanks for being honest, Sherm, because I am pretty sure there were other crashes at our very windy members' April fly in.

Thanks also to Jim Rice for contributing two offerings for show n tell. His first plane was a small "Simple Citabria" laser cut kit with interlock construc-

[aircraft-kits](#) The web site has a large variety of small airplane kits plus a selection of small and micro size power and control accessories. The Simple Citabria pictured on the website is actually Jim's model. Jim's second item was the completed Sport 240 model constructed by Charles Roccaforte, and finished by Jim in his usual excellent fashion. did my



customary Google search for more information on the airplane, but was not successful this time. Because of the other things going on this month, I didn't ask Charles or Jim for more details. I will leave that to anyone who has more interest in the plane.

Mike Fisher recently earned his CD rating and I congratulate him on his successful first event - our club fun fly on April 26.



Mike put in a lot of work setting up a ground obstacle course and runway landing marks for several fun events, plus a raffle. The attendance was good, but would have been better if not for the wind, which has been with us all spring. The club provided pizza for lunch, and people did fly in spite of the wind.

tion from <https://willynillies.com/buy-here/ols/categories/>



Note the wind sock stretching out. The raffle was a success, and between it and donations the event almost broke even. The happy raffle winners.



the threatening wind - which did win a few times. - -



Finally, this month's news ends with a pictorial summary of the Warbird Event, described by Tom Dicuirci on page 1. First is a shot of the Officials; District VIII Associate VP Larry Cox, TCF President Ed Valls, TCF Vice President Matt Greenlee, and Event CD Tom Dicuirci.



Uh-Oh!



Next is a shot of the OV-10 Bronco, the largest airplane flown, followed by a group shot showing one example of the variety of warbirds flown. The 3<sup>rd</sup> photo shows how busy the flightline was in spite of

