

The PRANG



Monthly Publication of the Austin Radio Control Association

February 2004

Meeting Minutes

January meeting of the Austin Radio Control Association

President Tom Sewell called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were 24 members present.

The minutes of the December meeting were read and accepted as read.

The treasurer's report for December was read and accepted as read. Loyd noted that the club is starting this year with \$2700 more than we had last year.

There was no old business to discuss.

New business;

The gun club proposed to fix, clean the ditches and roll the road for \$950 not including any gravel that may be necessary. They would like us to share the cost. The executive committee recommends that the club do so. Ken made a motion that the club share the cost \$475 with the gun club. A vote was taken and the motion passed. Bob made a motion to amend the total to be spent to \$600, to meet unexpected expenses. This motion also passed. The club may have Rick Schaffer install a culvert that the end of the road to improve drainage. Tom would also like some type of speed bump at the end of the road. Pat is looking into a new, larger ARCA sign for the entrance. Phil said the club needs a sign to keep people from bypassing the locked gate and flying illegally. The executive committee is still looking for a place that serves food and has a meeting room, Don's BBQ was mentioned and will be looked into. A March Fun Fly for club members is being proposed, date to follow.

Blue Max nominees

Steve crashed his plastic plane. Phil had a spectacular flight with the drogue chute deployed and ended in a crash. Phil won the coveted award.

Ken White reported that the Coke machine is still making money, although the profit is down slightly due to increased cost of the product.

Jim Unruh won the gift certificate door prize.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

BPL issue ?

The FCC recently approved a measure allowing Broadband Over Powerline (BPL for short) to move another step forward in becoming a reality. Why should we care? Broadband is the term used to describe high speed data service. BPL would bring broadband services to your home/business over the power grid, not telephone line. The concern is that the broadband would be transmitted over the powerlines via an rf signal in the 2 to 80 mhz region. Our R/C aircraft fly on an rf signal at 72 mhz, square in the range of this BPL signal. Part of what the FCC did is allow further testing; but more of a "issue" appears to be placing the burden of

Next Meeting
Thursday Evening
Tuesday Feb. 26th
7:00 pm
at the Flying Field

Upcoming Club Events:

February

26th Club Meeting

March

25th Club Meeting

April

17th & 18th Central Texas Jet Rally

24th & 24th Anysize Warbird Event

29th Club Meeting

Meeting Topics:

- Road Update
- New Signs
- Event News
- New Meeting Place
- Event Worker Discount

2003 ARCA Officers

President	Tom Sewell
Vice President	Pat Fernandez
Treasurer	Loyd Ligon
Secretary	Dick Maus

Members at Large

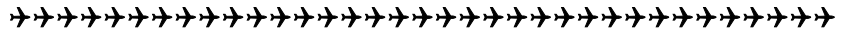
Robin Masek & Steve Sarlis
email addresses available online at
www.austinrc.org

download the prang at www.austinrc.org

Karl Tusa



As was circulated through the membership earlier this month ARCA member and friend Karl Tusa passed away on February 8th. As stated at his funeral Karl was a person who you felt was an "immediate friend". He always was willing to lend a helping hand, installing the electrical in the new building, working on a field clean up, or helping out in the concession stand. His generosity with his time and quiet demeanor will be missed. Below is the obituary from the funeral home website. More information may be found at www.mem.com .



Karl passed away on February 8, 2004 after a short battle with cancer.

Karl was a loving and supportive husband, father, grandfather and friend. He was always doing things for his family and friends or enjoying his favorite hobby. Karl was never known to allow the grass to grow high under his feet. Everyone Karl met was his friend.

Karl is survived by his wife and friend, Darlene; daughters: Wendy Bruton & husband Clay of Temple, Lori Ashton of Round Rock, Heather Turner & husband, Jason of Pflugerville; parents: Vince C. & Josephine Tusa of Waco; sister: Louise Crites & husband, Cotton

of Richardson; brothers, Dr. Vince Tusa & wife, Betty of Paris Tennessee, Leonard Tusa & wife, Sherry of Waco, grandson: Chance Bruton; granddaughters: Brittini Rohde and Kayla Turner; five nieces & three nephews.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to The American Cancer Society.

BPL issue ? (cont'd)

interference mitigation on the user. That would put us at the mercy of the power company who is providing BPL. At the same time our signal will obviously be picked up by the passing powerlines and cause problems for them. There are still a number of serious issues which would need to be resolved before such a system would be deployed. Several European countries have abandoned plans to mover forward with BPL citing such issues. Also evolving wireless technology may prove to be a better way to go. The AMA is staying on top of this item as well as the bigger "stick" the "National Association for Amateur Radio". In addition BPL would potentially knock out FEMA high frequency radio transmissions as well. We are definitely not alone in this fight. You can find more information on BPL, including a video of the interference caused by BPL at www.arrl.org. Also follow along at the AMA website www.modelaircraft.org. For our organization I believe we need to verify with Austin Energy regarding plans for BPL and the potential emanation from the Decker Lake plant.

amazing inventory!

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