



# The R/C Flyer

Volume 33, Issue 06 June 2008

**Next Meeting**  
June 12, 2008,  
Clear Lake Park Building – 7:00 PM

## In this issue:

 In the Pits

 Heart of Texas Historical  
Museum Memorial  
Military Annex



that came out to do a little maintenance and clean up at the field. The work was efficient and mostly painless. We got all the weeds trimmed, new canopy installed, wires tightened up and finally a little galvanized paint. Once again I would like to thank everyone and the maintenance went off without a hitch and some flying took place afterwards. The work was not effortless, so we decided not to have the fun fly and just relax.

## In The Pits

By JSCRCC President, Michael Laible

Well, once again I find myself up against the wire. I must be driving Randy nuts submitting articles at the last moment. Oh well, this month may be short.

My first course of business is to thank everyone

The following pics are some pictures of the B-25 that Pop Laible (or Builder Bob) is building in St. Louis. As you can tell, the first pic is a prime example of too much time on your hands. He is proud of this build and is trying to figure out how to get it to rotate. I told him to velcrow it in and it could be the hiding place for air fill and switches.



The second pic is of the wing fully clamped together. It is a three piece wing spanning 101", WOW. I have most of the parts ordered and will power the

beast with two Ryobi's converted with electronic ignition, swinging a 3-blade 16-10 prop.



Of course the Zirolli B-25 isn't enough. I had to go and start a build of a Bates Hellcat. The following pic shows the body and wing near completion of the balsa build. All that is left is final sand, fiberglass coat, prime, detailing, paint, check out, etc. I guess it is safe to assume I am about 1/3 of the way. I must be nuts. But wait it gets better, Herman Burton and myself are embarking on a 1/9 scale (144") B-24. I completed the tail sometime ago and Herman is about ready to start on the wings. I'll start the body when the Hellcat is complete.

This month we will be watching the crasher video. This one is nicely done and is very entertaining.

Well, that's it for this month. See ya at the meeting

See ya at the field,

Mike

## Heart of Texas Historical Museum Memorial Military Annex

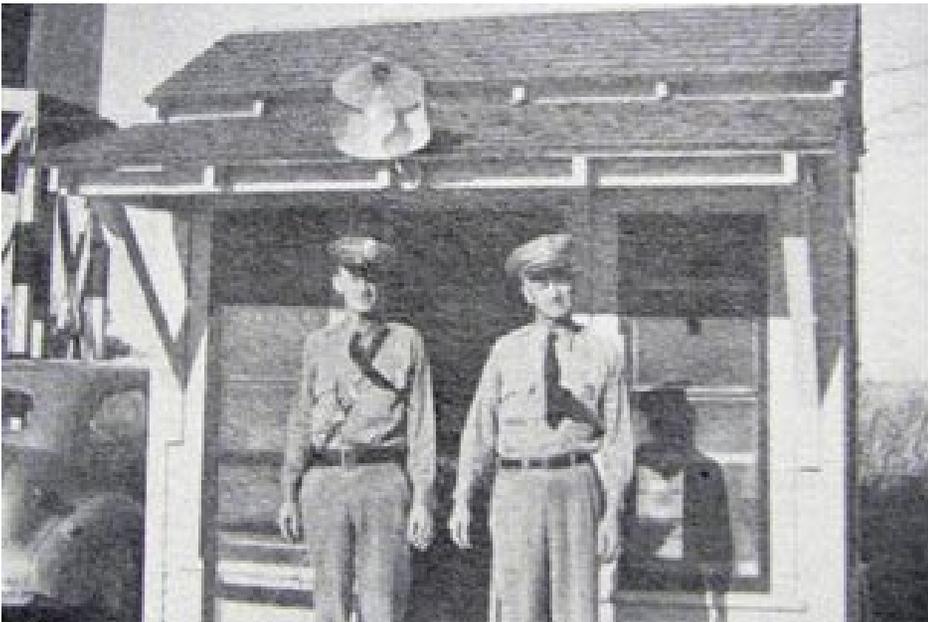
Part 3 of 3

### CURTIS FIELD GUARD SHACK

The little white wooden Curtis Field Guard shack was the first thing arriving trainees saw when they arrived, and it served as their gateway into the town when they had the luxury of a pass. This little building was in several different locations over the years. It was generally a happy little building as that is where the bus stopped to take trainees into town. After the war, the little building was removed, but due to the foresight of the airport manager Joe Mosier, it was not destroyed and was instead placed in a secluded place north of the airport. It was given to the Museum when our project got started, another piece of history saved



What it looked like when we got it in 2007



What it originally looked like in WW2



Curtis Field Guard Shack - Restored

## CAMP BRADY GUARD SHACK POW CAMP

The little stone guard shack was the most recognizable structure associated with the POW camp, possibly because that is as far as most of the public got to go! Camp Brady was about 1 ½ miles east of downtown Brady. The camp held 3,000 German and Italian prisoners of war in large wooden barracks behind a rather impressive system of double fences. Quite a few local citizens worked there as office staff to supplement the military personnel who were in charge of handling the prisoners. Many of the GIs were in and out of downtown Brady and many were entertained by the local citizens when they were off duty. There was a camp theater that allowed locals to attend on occasions, and there was a camp orchestra that played for dances there. I remember that well as my father, Cecil Striegler, played in that orchestra. Joey Bishop was one of the GIs and he performed some with the orchestra, and later went on to fame in the new world of radio and TV after the war. There were two principal operational units of the Army that operated the camp. The first group there was the 551st Military Police Escort Group and they were replaced later in the war by the 552nd Military Police Escort Group. The 552nd was pulled out late in the war and thrown into the Normandy invasion to handle POW's, and had the misfortune to be among the first American troops to enter the Dachau extermination camp where they saw horrors that no one should have to see.



How it looked at the end of WW2 abandoned



Framing rocked in place



How it looked in Feb 2006  
after a truck ran over it



Guard Shack restored

If you wonder why the museum saved and restored these buildings, maybe now you will know. 10,000 cadets trained at Curtis Field in a little less than 5 years. Each of them went through the control tower building twice each flying day to get and return their parachutes. 21 of the trainees were killed in flying accidents. The last doors they ever walked out of on this earth were the two doors on the front of this control tower building, and these two doors are now hallowed ground. Every one of these young men dreamed of becoming a famous pilot. Statistically, 35% of them never came back home.

All of the boys in the 551st and 552nd Military Police passed the little stone guard shack regularly, knowing that they would soon be put at risk. I never recall hearing any of them complain, even though most were far from their homes and families. They and their other military friends, past and present, are the real reason we live in a free country and we must never forget them.

This site was dedicated very formally in a splendid military ceremony held on November 11th at 1500 hrs CDT, Veteran's Day, 2007. These buildings were dedicated to the men and women who served here, to the 21 who died here and to all of the veterans of all branches of the service from McCulloch County and the rest of the nation. We have designated this site as a living memorial and we consider it hallowed ground. Surely God has smiled on this project and will help us teach our children the importance of "Duty, Honor and Country." May God continue to bless America.

The Heart of Texas Historical Museum is a 501 ( c ) 3, not for profit corporation and all donations to this project are tax deductible. Donations of money or items for display can be sent to the museum at PO Box 48, Brady, Texas 76825. Items for display will be treated with the greatest of honor. We work in the interest of preserving and teaching our history to future generations – with pride.



Bert Striegler  
Director, Special Projects  
The Heart of Texas Historical Museum

## May Meeting Pictures

Photos by Taswall Crowson



# *Model of the Month*



## *Brian*

*Brian won MOM with a P40 ARF warbird in RAF North Africa colors. It has a Saito 1.0 4-stroke for power. It is complete with retracts and split flaps.*

## May Meeting Minutes

By Michael Goza

### Old Business:

Fun Fly and canopy installation will be moved to March 17th. The original date could not be attended by a number of members. We will spray some of the joints on the metal poles to reduce corrosion. We will need multiple ladders and several weed eaters for field clean up day.

The canopy cost \$306 and will be here for clean up day.

Mike L bought some videos to show at the club meeting using club funds. They will be shown during meetings throughout the year.

We handed out old model of the month awards. The making of the awards is now being printed at Walmart inexpensively.

We are still trying to get a Port O Potty out at the field for the benefit of RC and Rocket club. Mike L. is working on that for this month.

### New Business:

No new business.

### Entertainment:

Mike L. provided a video for the club to view.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35pm. People stayed to watch videos after the business portion.

### The R/C Flyer

Articles and Want Ads may be submitted to the Editor, Randy Collier at 12323 Ramla Place Trail, Houston TX 77089 in hard copy or via e-mail (preferred) to [randy\\_collier@sbcglobal.net](mailto:randy_collier@sbcglobal.net)

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