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Meetings are held on odd numbered months after the Monthly Contest at Southfork Ranch. On even numbered months we meet on the second Monday at Lake Highlands Recreation Center located at 9940 White Rock Trail (White Rock Trail at Church) at 6:30. Club dues are \$20 per year payable to Perry Dunlap. Contributions to the newsletter are encouraged. Visit our Web site at:  
[www.slnt.org](http://www.slnt.org)

# MAY 2009



## From The Prez By Dan Ahearn

Another tough month of weather, two contests called due to winds, if only we had a slope. That's what Tim said to me one day last month, and we finally got did something about it. Hopefully by Memorial Day weekend we'll have everything finalized granting us access to a local landfill. SLNT will manage the access of RC Pilots, as well as provide training and advice for the owner who has a bird problem.

Jim and Tim met with the facility management and learned that the site has a bird problem and is required to show an effort to abate them. These are seagulls and different migratory birds that only stay for a brief period. To date they've been trying to chase off the pesky unwanted guests with gas powered RC trainers. The guys learned that they were about to take on the cost of building a runway to launch and land the "slimers". That's about when Jim, always the showman, said, "Can I show you something?" and walked over to his car and pulled out his Radian. After a one minute setup time, he looked at the site manager and said, "I'll just l fly from here in the parking lot, we don't need to walk up there". He then tossed the model, climbed over the seething flock of vermin, and proceeded to make high speed passed at the birds scattering them to the four winds. All the spectators were shocked, a hand tossed, foam glider did that? Tim correctly pointed

**This months meeting is on Sunday, May 24,  
at Southfork after the contest**

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out that it's not the noise, it's the big predatory looking thing looming overhead that get's the birds jumpy.

The guys made it clear that we are not really interested in chasing seagulls over open trash, we'll have access to and will fly in the inactive areas which are grass covered with no activity. We will help them with their bird abatement program by helping with model selection, training, and if needed recruiting local RC pilots interested in chasing birds, for pay!

### **The new website**

When SLNT made it's debut on the internet in the 90's , creating, publishing and maintaining a web presence was a task reserved for the technically proficient few. Fast-forward to today and it's a whole new world. Not only is the technology easier to use, but the impact on the club. Fact is one of our primary missions is to grow the club, and we believe an active web presence is vital to get the word out to existing and potentially new pilots. The trouble is, while it's simple enough to setup a site these days, coming up with fresh new content is still the burden it's always been. With that I'd like to publicly recognize **Mike Glass** and **Gary Warner** for their efforts over the years creating and maintaining the website. It's tough work with little or no recognition, for this we are thankful. That said, Mike can only do so much, so I've volunteered to take on webmaster duties for the indefinite future, while Mike will continue to publish the newsletter.

www.slnt.org is a work in progress. Nothing fancy really, just a place to get up to date contest information for our club as well as our sister clubs in Houston, Austin and San Antonio. We'll also post the usual pictures and scores, and any other material that seems relevant. If you have a suggestion drop me a note or call. Again, the intent is to promote SLNT and our hobby.

### **Again with the Radians...**

I was chatting with Barry Kennedy, yesterday and learned that he sells Radian kits to club members at a **15% discount**. It's becoming more clear based on sales of this revolutionary kit that we can leverage the park flyer segment of the RC flight to garner interest in soaring. In fact, after Nats this year there will be a Radian contest in Muncie. Not to be out done, we've decided to see what kind of local interest we can generate for a regional contest. So in June we're going to organize the first Radian challenge. It will be man on man format,

basically identical to how we run the Class A hand launch events. We'll run heats with timed motor runs.

Details will be on the website and via word of mouth. This kind of activity will be held on off contest weekends, we want to promote attendance at our events, not compete with them; current target date for the first event will be in mid June, I'm already in contact with DEAF and the 114<sup>th</sup> to coordinate maximum draw, so contact Barry, get the discount and start practicing with your Radian.

## **April Contest**

**By Dan Ahearn - CD**

Canceled due to weather.

## **Class A Man-On-Man**

**By Tim Bennett - CD**

The Class A MOM contest for Sunday 2-26-09 was cancelled due to the forecast winds. The NWS forecast calls for winds to be 18 to 24 with gusts to 30 mph.

Our next contest will be May 17th.

## **Lonestar Soaring Series - Dallas**

**Henry Bostick - CD**

Due to the weather related cancellation of the May 3rd SLNT/LSS the SLNT/LSS event has been rescheduled for August 9th.

These changes were made to accommodate the largest number of participants, with special attention to our out of town guests.

## **May Contest**

**Henry Bostick - CD**

The make-up date for the May 3rd SLNT club contest is May 24th at Southfork (Open Class Only).

# May 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Hand Launch Contest	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Monthly Con- test & Meeting	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

# June 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Monthly Meeting	9	10	11	12	13
14 Monthly Contest	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Hand Launch Contest	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



**Soaring League of North Texas**  
6544 Greenwich Lane  
Dallas TX 75230

**Reminders**

*Sunday May 17th - Monthly Hand Launch Contest*

*Sunday May 23rd - Monthly Contest*

<b>Soaring League of North Texas 2009 Contest Schedule</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Class</b>	
May 24	Thermal Duration	Open	Henry Bostick
June 14	Triathlon	Open and RES	Tim Bennett
July 12	Thermal Duration	Open	Perry Dunlap
August 9	LONESTAR SOARING SERIES - Dallas	Open and RES	?
September 13	TNT Warm-up	Open, RES and maybe Hand Launch	Dan Ahearn, Julian Tamez, Tim Bennett
<b>October 16-18</b>	<b>TNT</b>	<b>Hand Launch, RES &amp; Open</b>	Dan Ahearn, Julian Tamez, Tim Bennett
November 8	Man on Man	Open	Julian Tamez
November	LONESTAR SOARING SERIES - San Antonio	Open and RES	
December 13	Pro-Am	Open	Rob Davis