

# N.E. Kansas Blue Sky Squadron, Inc.

## Smoke Screen

I.M.A.A Chapter #291

A.M.A. Charter #2826

<http://nekbssi.org/>

Pres: Vernon Nelson

VP: Mark Davidson

Secretary: Bud Park

Treasurer: Bill Miller

Safety: Don Regier

Editor: John Kauk

CD: Aaron Charest



Greeting Members!! And welcome back snowbirds!!

Warmer weather is here now so it's about time to go flying about every week (weekends and weekdays for some). The field is very green and the weeds are dying in the parking lot. We have been getting plenty of rain.

Bud Park has sent out an email inviting all of us to meet at Red Robin for **Museum of the Kansas National Guard fundraiser, "Meal out at Red Robin" from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Wed, 17 May, 2017.** I hope several of our members can make it for lunch or supper.

Looks like the club will have several new planes to have a maiden flight this year. We have the boat ready now for some flying at the lake.

Remember that our first travel fly-in is April 29<sup>th</sup> at Lake Perry from Capital City RC.

The view from the field cameras are great especially from the one on the tower.

Remember that our meeting is this Sunday the 23 at our field. It also looks like a good day for flying Sunday, high temperature around 69 and 6 mph on the wind. So bring a plane and fly before and after our meeting.

Please support our local hobby shop.

Vernon

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### Editor's Ramblings

Well, as Vernon said, it does look like the weather is heading in the right direction, so maybe we can start to get some regular flying in again. It seems like I haven't been out to the field in a long time, although I think it's only been a month.

Over the weekend of April 7, I drove up to Toledo, OH for the annual Weak Signals RC club's Expo. This event has traditionally been one of the big events in the hobby industry, and used to be the place to go to see the new things all the manufacturers and independent hobby businesses had for the new flying season. It looks like the Internet has changed that irrevocably. This year's show was smaller than ever, both in terms of exhibitors and attendance. The big hobby distributors like Hobbico and Horizon had much smaller displays and fewer people there to man them in an effort to keep costs down. Many of the businesses that were historically always there decided not to come at all this year.

It was still fun to go, seeing old friends and catching up with people I don't see often. But if the show continues to fade I'll have to come up with a new trip to take in its place to break the winter doldrums. Reno? Joe Nall? Who knows...

See you at the field.

John Kauk



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Vernon and Bud — Chuck Hanna photo from the Lawrence Big Bird fly in last September. Looks like fun!

And now, Bud Park's article entitled, "Replacing a Nose Cowling."

Thanks, Bud!

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### Replacing a Nose Cowling

I was having trouble with the Moki 135 on my Rascal 110, and decided to swap it out for an OS 180 4-stroke I had sitting around. After several successful trial flights I figured the switch was going to be permanent. Only problem was that the cowling had been cut out for the Moki and wouldn't fit the OS, having way too much material already removed – in the wrong places! So when the new cowling I ordered from Sig arrived, I made a pattern of the old cowling by cutting the additional material needed to accommodate the OS, and then filling in where material shouldn't have been removed by taping over the extraneous openings with as many layers of transparent tape as necessary (masking tape would have worked as well). This way the exact opening necessary can be obtained on the old cowling,



without actually

doing any cutting. By splitting the back of the old cowling it could be inserted inside the new cowling, and the required openings then transferred to the inside of the new cowling with a pencil. Then it was a simple matter to cut out the required material, smoothing and sanding the cut openings, and install the new cowling on the model. You can see the “taped-up”



pattern on the “before” photo above, and the finished results on the “after”. At the price Sig wanted for a new cowling, over 65 bucks with shipping, I wanted to fit the new one right the first time!

