

## WHY NOT BUILD YOUR OWN SAILPLANE HANGAR?

by C. R. SMITH

For three years the need for a hangar had been the chief topic of conversation among the Tulsa Skyhawks, particularly Saturday mornings and Sunday evenings, during the "putting together" and "take apart" times. I am sure this is true for other clubs that have the same problem.

We were storing our towplane and four sailplanes in a hangar at a cost of \$85.00 per month, but, because of their wing spread, it was mandatory to store the sailplanes on the trailers.

The two big obstacles to our own hangar were money (or the lack of money) and a suitable location.

Harvey Young, the airport owner and manager, solved one of these by offering the Club an ideal area for their hangar at a very low cost lease fee of \$30.00 per month. This included the hangar area and surrounding ramp area, provided that we would build an attractive building and keep the area neat.

The next problem was solved by buying a "do-it-yourself" kit from the Wonder Building Corporation. By arranging for eight club member note signers with good credit ratings, the bank financed the building 100%. Payments on the note are \$111.80

per month, not much more than our hangar rent used to be.

This left only the "do-it-yourself" part to do. This was furnished by the club members. Most members willingly helped, of course, some more than others. It took us three months

longer to "move in" than we anticipated, but anyhow we did it.

Other "breaks" we got, which helped a lot, were free grading from Harvey Young and, when he saw we really meant business, he graciously cancelled the \$30.00 a month lease for the hangar area during the first three years while we are paying for the hangar.

We also received help in the form of a truck from the McClain Manufacturing Company, when we needed to haul something, and the use of two used electric impact wrenches from the Standard Auto Parts Company. Mr. McClain and Harvey Young also

### COST OF SKYHAWKS' HANGAR

1. Cost of Basic Wonder Building (60 foot span, 50 foot long)	\$3148.95
2. Foundation	520.16
3. Steel for Building Ends (less doors)	177.27
4. Scaffolding Rental for Erection	252.44
5. Miscellaneous (lease fee, insurance, small tools, etc.)	50.64
6. Donations, scrounged material and services (includes \$192.97 for freight on building, donated by McClain Manufacturing Company)	338.87
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	\$4488.33
7. Estimated cost to complete, including concrete floor and doors	1011.67
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	\$5500.00
8. Man-hours donated by club members: 682 M.H. (Seven month's work during winter. The building could be erected in less time during summer.)	
9. Estimated man-hours to complete: 318 M.H. Total man-hours: 1000.	

### MILESTONE CHART

1. Foundation started	October 19, 1957
Foundation completed	December 7, 1957
2. Secured loan on building	December 12, 1957
3. Building components arrived	December 21, 1957
4. Moved into building	May 1, 1958

Erecting the first ring of the Wonder Building. Dorman R. (Bob) Brown and Earl Hoggard on the scaffolding.



The hangar holds four sailplanes (shown) and a towplane (not shown). Use of dollies could add another sailplane.

