

Ramblings

Official Newsletter of the Roxbury Area Model Airplane Club

Volume XXXIII, Number 367

March - April 2009



AMA Charter #429

Flying Cliches:

"What goes up must come down"

- Blood, Sweat & Tears

RAMAC By-Law Proposal and Vote

Read over the change and vote for RAMAC's future. It has once again come to my attention that the mandatory six visits to our club before we vote in our club members is still holding us back. It is the factor why our membership does not grow. It is a fact that some prospective members hang out without ever joining and some join other clubs after they learn to fly.

I am setting forth the proposal to remove this rule and let RAMAC move forward. Most prospective members are more than willing to sign up with RAMAC get their AMA card then pay our treasurer. They're IN!!

Back in 1990 I set up a proposal to put a vote to the membership to delete this (I call it a block on our membership) part of the by-laws. At that time we had a rebuttal in the same newsletter that seemed to sway the vote. The main argument was "why don't we give these new members a chance to know IF they even want to be in our club"? Why do we want them to fly free until they decide whether they want to join? Also the argument was lets see how these members react to rules etc. Lets make sure they are not unsafe flyers etc. Well at this time there are at least 6 bylaw articles to cover this. RAMAC rules must be followed. The AMA rules must be followed. AMA supports us.

I say let prospective members pay their dues the same as we do. They are learning to fly by our instructors. They are using our fields, even our new fields, and attending our meetings FREE. And if they crash a plane and just decide to bow out we do not see them anymore? They do not return for many reasons. Maybe they did not feel part of the club to begin with? Many prospective



Jurgen Appis wins model of the month with his giant scale Fokker Eindecker

members just want to pay their dues and join the club. Why hold them back?

I have many newsletters with as many as 8 to 10 proposed members names that haven't joined a year later! Why are we asking them to come in and let us know what they want to do without joining? They are learning to fly at the fields. We could have added permanent members to RAMAC if we had them join. We need this membership to support our fields, no one should be flying free. We need to encourage new members. Make them feel like they are part of our club from day one. If we do not want to see an increase in our dues we should be doing everything to build the membership numbers.

Do you want to be a member of RAMAC? It's simple. Fill an application out, show your AMA card and pay your dues. WELCOME!

Proposed BY-Laws Changes:

Modify Article 3 "membership"

Current:

3. Requirements for new open membership consideration are as follows:

A. Applicant must display a current AMA membership card to the organization secretary.

B. Applicant must complete an organization application form and present it to the organization secretary.

C. Upon completion of A&B above, applicant must participate in a minimum of six organization activities such as meetings, flying, etc.

4. All new members must be elected by the general membership. A 2/3 affirmative vote of the membership present at a regular meeting shall be required for election.

5. All applicants for Spousal, and Junior membership need only meet the AMA requirements for consideration and are exempt from item 3.C. above. All other membership rules apply.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
All Year		The Great American Crepe Paper Tow Contest CD, Bob Karasiewicz
March 24th	Tuesday	Club Meeting Eisenhower School, NJ
April 14th	Tuesday	Club Meeting Vote on By-Law change Eisenhower School, NJ
April 25th	Saturday	Pocono Airshow Frank Granelli, CD
April 28th	Tuesday	Club Meeting Eisenhower School, NJ
May 2nd	Saturday	Ledgewood Mall John Gill, CD
May 12th	Tuesday	Club Meeting Eisenhower School, NJ
May 17th	Saturday	Combat Sortie #1 Bob Reed and John O'Leary Co-CD's
May 26th	Tuesday	Club Meeting Eisenhower School, NJ
June 7th	Saturday	Combat Sortie #2 Bob Reed and John O'Leary Co-CD's
July 12th	Saturday	Combat Sortie #3 Bob Reed and John O'Leary CO-CD's

KEEP THE 2009 CALENDER UPDATED. CONTACT DAN VANNIEUWLAND

tal photos, which date back about eight years. I did a rough edit and put that into the computer. Then I did a final edit, and put that onto a DVD. Twenty minutes of good Combat footage took me about 20 hours of work. I'm not complaining, I have something I can show off to just about anyone, including potential members at the mall show. I also know what the other displayers went through to get their material.

There was actually too much to see that night. With all the still photos, slide shows, and videos, anyone could have spent a whole day watching and looking. Snacks! You didn't need to eat dinner that night with all the food and drink that was there. Brownies, cookies, muffins and of course, POPCORN.

I also got to see some people who normally are not at our meetings. Bob Hunt, retired Model Aviation editor and past RAMAC member was there. He was introduced at a short gathering, part way into the night, and gave a short talk on many subjects. A founding member and first RAMAC president, Doug Twaits was introduced by Marguerite Gargiulo (CD for the night) and he also gave a short talk on the beginnings of RAMAC and had some items from that era to show us. I also was introduced as co CD and gave a short speech, a very short speech. "Thanks for coming!" Hey, I wanted to get back to the movies and stuff.

I enjoyed myself, both showing and looking. I also want to do it again, maybe an annual event. Thanks to all that displayed and helped bring this into being, including the people who offered their arms and legs to carry the stuff in and out of the school lunchroom. And special thanks to Marguerite for thinking of this and following through with it. It was well worth the effort.

On to another issue most club members are wondering about, the Island drag way field. The news is that there is no new news. Why? That would be because the landowner has been out of town for a couple of months and no meeting to hammer out the details could be arranged. The owner has returned just recently from Florida, and now a meeting can be set up. Come to a meeting for an update, or keep watch for the next newsletter.

Now for some upcoming events. I think this is going to be our forth-annual Air show to help celebrate National Parks Week with the Park Rangers out at the Pocono field in the Delaware Water Gap National Park. Frank Granelli is going to be the CD for this event. If you have any questions or would like to offer a helping hand, contact Frank. The mall show at the Ledgewood Mall will be held on May 2nd. John Gill is the CD for this event and already has flyers to be posted out and about. If you have any questions or would like to lend a hand with show, contact John. The last item I have to post on the schedule is the dates for combat. John O'Leary and Bob Reed (co-CD's) have tentatively set May 17th, June 7th, and July 12th as the combat dates. These dates should be confirmed at the next meeting if there aren't any conflicts.

Last, I would like to tell all of you a story about jets in the valley. I don't know what so special about the month of March, but this seems to be a good one for jet firsts. Last year Bob Karazeiwicz decided to fly his turbine powered jet for the first time March 31st, 2008. His jet looked great on the ground and in the air, but the sound it made was even better. This year on February 28th, (O.K., it wasn't actually March, but close enough), Vinnie Gargiulo had his first successful flight with his twin ducted fan SR71 foamy. It looked great on the ground and in the air, but the sound it made

Proposed... Delete 'C' & '4' Modify '5':

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ply.

A vote on the proposal will take place at the April 14th meeting at the Eisenhower school.

--MARGUERITE GARGIULO

RAMAC events past and future

All of us know what it's like to go through some old pictures, or watch an old video. You either giggle, guffaw, or groan. Most of the time, I'm sure, it's one of the first two. So anyone who missed the last meeting, missed out on a good time.

I, personally, was one of the displayers. I combed through my old analog videos and digi-

was even better. Maybe these two pilots know something I don't. I do know that sound travels better in the colder winter months, but maybe the jets fly better too, or maybe they are nuts for wanting to fly their beautiful creations when it's still to cold to feel your fingers on the sticks. It doesn't matter, from now on, even if I have to wear snowshoes, I'm going to be at the Pocono field every weekend in March so I don't miss the next chance to hear Jet Noise In the Valley.

-DAVID NUETZEL
Membership Chair

Model of the Month

The Model-Of-The-Month contest has been a staple at RAMAC meetings for many years. The club started this event to encourage members to build more (and better) and to have some light healthy competition. Unfortunately the past few years have seen this fun event languish for lack of entries. In order to infuse some new life into this meeting segment I made some changes in the format. A rotating emphasis on different aspects of the hobby was put in place. This would encourage more members to enter different types of construction projects.

The first month would be the standard Model-Of-The-Month covering any model made from a kit: plane, boat or car. The following month would be ARF-Of-The-Month open to any Almost-Ready-To-Fly model. The third month would be Project-Of-The-Month. This would cover any model related construction project; a home made electronic gizmo, for example, or an engine restoration or a new field box kit or any significant project you happen to be working on at the time.

Apparently this new system was well received since 5 models showed up for competition at the last meeting. Jurgen Appis won with his giant scale Fokker Eindecker. He even gave us a history of the full scale plane

during the First World War. Congratulations Jurgen.

The next event will be ARF-Of-The-Month and will be held at the second meeting in March since the February meeting has a different event taking place. Remember only ARFs will be considered but everyone has at least one of these so we should expect to see quite a few entries. C'mon guys, show off your stuff!

-FRANK COSTELLO

Get ready for Training!

May 7th, 2009 will be the first evening flight training of this year. The flying will commence at six however if the students can get there earlier, they can do they're ground checks, assembly, aircraft inspections etc and we can spend more time in the air.

I would suggest that the students bring their aircraft into the meetings while they are building /assembling them. This way we avoid having to make field adjustments, alterations and repairs. Some of the things that I will be looking for will be:

- 1 Snug engines
- 2 Fuel line clevis locks
- 3 Fiber glassed wing centers (even on the ARFS)
- 4 Radios soft mounted with the brass pointing upward
- 5 Balance at a slightly nose down attitude (with the tank dry)
- 6 Tight, small gapped, hinges and hinge lines
- 7 Clevis or z-bends at all servo connections (don't even try to sneak those plastic bots dots by me)

8 Non- balsa elevator pushrod. (a pull up elevator is preferred but a push elevator rod is acceptable if you use a carbon fiber or fiber glass pushrod.)

I would recommend that the following either be brought out to the field or be done before you come to the field:

1 Charge the aircraft and transmitter for twenty - four hours the first time and 12 -16 hours thereafter.

2 Get a gallon of good 10% nitro, Twenty % oil (some castor oil as part of this) fuel and some way of getting it into the fuel tank.

3 A two pound bag of #64 rubber bands from Staples, Office max, etc. You'll be using them a dozen or so at a time and I don't recommend reuse.

4 Spend the extra \$20.00 and get your self a ball bearing engine. You'll regret the purchase of that underpowered plain bushing engine the first night. If the engine is new I would suggest that you break it in for two tanks worth of fuel. We can set it up and break it in at the field if the student doesn't know how to do this. You will, however, loose out on some flying time if we're breaking that new engine in on flight training night.

5 A chicken stick or starter is a must to keep those all-important flying digits safely out of the prop.

6 A fully charged glow plug igniter. Charge it and the radio gear together and then you'll know that it's charged.

7 Bring an extra prop or two. The Master Airscrews seem to survive rough landings better than the APC'S or wooden props. Do yourself a favor and mount the prop so it is horizontal when the engine is rotated clockwise to the point of compression build up. This will keep the prop from getting broken so often if the engine dies and an emergency dead stick landing is required.

8 A "buddy box" makes training a lot easier. You don't have to worry about hitting trims or the power switch when you pass the box if you don't pass the box!

These are just some quick thoughts and I'm sure that I've forgotten something, but if you try to remember these things it will get you up in the air and training a lot sooner. I'm looking forward to seeing you all on Thursday nights at the Pocono field.

- LEW MCCARTHY

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

**Pocono Airshow
April 25th
Contact Frank
Granelli**

**RAMAC Mall Show
May 2nd
Contact John Gill**

Contact RAMAC

Visit the RAMAC Web Site!

www.ramac.org

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NEEDS SOME BREAK IN TIME) \$200

(2) OS48SURPASS FOUR STROKES LIGHTLY
USED PURCHASED FOR A TWIN WHICH DID-
N'T MATERIALIZE. EA. \$100

(4) HITEC 700'S (160IN-OZ@6V) & (8) FUTABA
S3306-GIANT SCALE SERVOS. (138 IN-OZ@6V).
NEVER USED. EA. \$30

20)FUTABA 148 SX'S
USED EA \$7

(1) HITEC GIANT SCALE FLIGHT PACK W/3 -
HS700'S(160IN-OZ@6V), 1- HS425, 1- 8 CHAN-
NEL RX & 1-SWITCH \$150

(5)FUTABA DF127FM RX'S, W/CRYSTAL,
USED EA\$20

(5)FUTABA 8CH1024PCMRX'S, W/CRYSTAL,
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STICK 40 FOAM WINGS KITS



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Return Address Correction Requested