



The CONNECTOR

Newsletter of the Aeroguidance Society, Inc.

AMA Chartered Club No. 441

www.aeroguidancesociety.org

Volume #51 Issue # 6 June 2006

Recipient of the AMA Presidents Award for 50 years of Service to AMA and Aeromodeling

Summer Meetings of the AGS are held the 1st Tuesday of every month at the AGS Field. Changes to time or location will be noted in this newsletter. Business meeting at 7:15 P.M.

The Prez Sez
Bob Balsie

Welcome to Summer, everyone. I hope that you are all getting in some good building and flying time this year. I've only got a couple of things to mention this month, so let's get to it and make it short and sweet.

Changes to Meeting Time...

Just a reminder that the starting time for the July meeting will be 7:15pm and as you know, the meeting will take place at the field. Also, due to July 4th falling on Tuesday night, the meeting has been moved to July 11th. So we'll see you at the field on the 11th. Since there is an STRC race scheduled for that night, we may start the meeting a little late.

The Annual Picnic...

...which will be held on July 15th, and not on July 24th as I stated in my last Prez Sez column. The picnic will be combined with the annual Intraclub Contest. Scott Wallace is the chairman for the contest, and my wife and I and Scott's girlfriend are going to handle the picnic. We propose to have the

club supply the meat items (burgers, hot dogs, etc.) and ask all of the members to bring one of their favorite side dishes to pass. And Scott is working to put together a series of exciting contest events. It should be a fun day of flying and feasting, so be sure to set aside time in your schedule to attend. We'll be activating the phone tree to personally invite each member to join in the festivities, so look forward to a call from one of our illustrious Board members as the day approaches.

Proposed Increase to Annual Dues...

Over the past few years, it has become obvious that we cannot continue to operate the AGS with the income that we currently receive from annual dues payments. Our expenses are too high, and there is not enough money coming in each year to meet these expenses. I won't go into a lot of detail on this subject here, because I have written another article specifically to deal with this issue elsewhere in the Connector. Please read it as I feel that it will address your questions and concerns on this subject.

(Continued on page 2)

Subscriptions to
"THE CONNECTOR"
can be obtained free via e-mail or at a minimal cost of \$8.00 annually via US mail by contacting the editor.

Coming Events

July 11th.....STRC Race 5

July 15th.....10 AM
IntraClub Contest
AGS Field

July 25th.....STRC Race 6

July 22nd.....11 AM
Aviation Day
AGS Field

August 5th and 6th
51st Pattern Contest
Blue Swan

Aug 8th.....STRC Race 7

Aug 22nd.....STRC Race 8

Sept 10th.....STRC Race 9

Sept 17th.....STRC Race 10

REMINDER:

This Months Meeting is at the AGS Field

**The Aeroguidance
Society, INC.
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Activities

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(Continued from page 1)

That about does it for this time, and I bid you farewell until next month. Don't forget the July meeting to be held at the AGS field on July 11th. Happy Flying!

Possible Dues Increase on the Way

I know that this will not be a popular subject, but it is my responsibility as your president to keep you informed of any possible changes to the club's operation on a timely basis, and one change that the Board is planning on recommending is an increase to our annual dues structure. At the June Board meeting, Frank Gioffredo stated that the last increase to the annual dues took place in the early 1980's. Anyone who can do math can immediately see that this was more than twenty years ago. And anyone who can do math can immediately see that the cost of living has increased dramatically since then. At an average level of inflation of three percent per year, prices and costs have nearly doubled. In the mean time, our dues have not gone up at all to cover the increased expenses of operating the club.

Since I've been an officer, each year more and more items have been cut from the budget in an effort to make ends meet. The last item of significant expense that was cut from the budget was the printing and mailing of the hardcopies of the Connector to all members. This resulted in a cost savings of over \$1000 per year, and it helped to carry us for a few years. Now we are at the point, however, where there is no more fat to be trimmed from the budget. In addition, we have not been spending any significant funds on road maintenance and this has resulted in the road's deterioration. Something must be done to increase our revenue on an ongoing basis to help the club stay solvent.

At last month's Board meeting, we discussed three options to increase income:

Levy a special assessment.

Issue bonds.

Increase the annual dues.

Levying a special assessment was not deemed to be a good solution, because it would require all members to come up with a significant amount of money in a lump and this would cause a hardship for some.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Issuing bonds was not seen as a good solution either since the club would ultimately pay out more than it took in due to the fact that the bonds would pay interest to the bond holders.

Increasing the dues seemed to be the best option since it would result in the lowest immediate cost increase to members and would give us some of the extra income that we need as early as October of this year. The Board proposes to increase the dues by \$6.00 per year for each type of membership and to eliminate the \$6.00 savings incentive for members who pay their dues by October 31st. The bottom line is that for those of you who currently pay your dues by the end of October, you will be paying an addition \$1.00 per month for AGS membership. That's only about 25 cents per week on the average and any of us should be able to put a quarter in a coffee can every week to help cover the increase. If you are recalcitrant and always wait to pay your dues until the November time frame, you can throw that quarter into the coffee can every other week. I think that you will all agree that the impact to the membership will be minor.

Right now I can hear some you saying, "Hey, what about all of that money that we're going to make from the logging? Why do we need to increase the dues when we're going to have all of that income?" For one thing, we don't know exactly how much money the timber will bring in. The amount was originally estimated to be between \$5,000 and \$10,000; however, that was when we were thinking of cutting the best trees only, and before we had decided to manage our forest to produce a harvest every ten years or so, to give us long term income. Our take with the present plan may be less than the original estimate. In addition, we will have to pay income tax on the sale of the timber, which will decrease the bottom line even more. And the lion's share of the timber sale will ultimately go to the repair of our road. I don't foresee us having nearly enough money left to tide the club over for another ten years until the next timber sale can take place.

Ultimately, it will be up to you, the membership, to approve the dues increase. However, if this is not done, the only other option will be to continue to erode our bank accounts until there is no money left. At that point, those on the Board at the time will have to work out a plan to dissolve the club and properly dispose of our assets. This would be a rather ignominious end to an organization that was once one of the premiere R/C clubs in the country.



Model Aviation Day

By Frank Gioffredo

Model Aviation Day is right around the corner. July 22, 2006 is the date for our 2nd annual. I got very few signups at the June meeting. So I will be going down the roster and making calls to fill the spots on the sign up. We currently have no one to handle the road traffic and parking coordination. If you are available to help out, let me know and save a phone call. We had a great time last year and I was hoping to do the same this year, but we need your help. Attached is the sign up sheet. Please look it over, find a job you would be willing to do and let me know either by E-mail, phone, or at the up coming meeting.

Thank you, my E-mail address is fgioffredo@stny.rr.com or home phone is 607-748-9858.

FOR SALE by Bob Noll

Sonic 500 Quickee 500 Pylon Racer - \$75.

Just mount your engine and radio system and you will be ready to race with one of the best racers on the circuit. This plane earned me several AGS and STRC Season Championships and is in immaculate condition.

The Deadline for Connector articles is two Fridays before the meeting. Please have submissions to the editor before then.

Electronic submissions are preferred, E-mail them to jeff@priusonline.com

Deadline for Next Connector is 7/2106.

**AGS Meeting #707
June 6, 2006**

The meeting was held at the AGS flying field. AGS President Bob Balsie called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present at the meeting were approximately 29 members. No guests were present.

Meeting Minutes

Approved as published.

Officer Reports

President's report:

Bob reported that the date for the picnic was incorrect in the May Connector. The correct date is July 15, 2006.

VP's report:

No Report.

Secretary's report:

Minutes from the May Board meeting were read.

Treasurer's report:

The financial report was given and accepted.

Committee Reports

Membership

Two associate members Glenn Norton and Guillermo Leon were unable to fulfill their 3 activities. Ed Helinski made a motion to postpone voting on their membership for another 6 months with the understanding that they will pay an additional 6 months of dues. I did not note the second. The motion carried.

Jim Rodgers was voted in as a regular member.

Field

Paul Rahn passed the mowing list around. Slots were filled up till the July meeting.

Librarian

New DVD on the spectrum radio is now available.

Historian

No Report.

Activities

No report from the Activities chairmen.

Jim Quinn reported on the successful Aerobatic Primer.

Frank Gioffredo passed around a Model Aviation day sign up sheet.

Bob Noll began staffing the 51st annual pattern contest.

Frank Gioffredo reports that a couple of potential new members have expressed interest in flight school.

Public Relations

No Report.

Sound

No Report.

Safety

No report.

Connector

No report.

Program

No program.

Old Business

Picnic (July 15) will be combined with the intra club contest. AGS will provide the protein (hot dogs and hamburgers); attendees are asked to bring a side dish to share.

Next Board Meeting

June 13th at Don Shugard's home at 7:30 PM.

New Business

Don Shugard gave the AMA 2006 general rules and frequency posters to Paul Rahn for mounting on the frequency box.

Show and Tell

Frank Gioffredo had a Scat Cat Quicke 500 and his Typhoon pattern project. Frank thanked all the hanger session members who contributed their expertise in building the Air-plane

Mowing List

Weekend of July 1-2

Tractor: Frank Gioffredo
Helper: Jim Quinn
Helper: Don Shugard

Weekend of July 8-9

Tractor: Frank Gioffredo
Helper: Rick Allabaugh
Helper: Jim Schwab

Weekend of July 15-16

Tractor: Scott Wallace
Helper: Carolyn Secor
Helper: _____



RACING NEWS

By Bob Noll, Race Coordinator

The first STRC (Southern Tier Racing Circuit) race was held on May 9 under the leadership of Jerry Roscoe. Seven racers arrived for the 6:30 PM start but only five were able to go to the starting line. The #8 Budweiser plane of Frank Gioffredo had a landing gear leave the wing during the landing of a practice flight and Brent Bryson's plane had battery problems. Don Shugard had an engine failure shortly after takeoff in his first heat and the premature landing damaged his landing gear enough that he was out for the night.

That left only four planes that were able to put in all three of their races. The only Busch pilot, Scott Wallace, had to race the Nextel pilots. Bob Noll's #6 Viagra racer had a cut in the first race giving the win to the #31 Tide Special of Terry Terrenoire. Terry managed to get a cut for himself in his second race but Scott Wallace double cut giving the Tide Special another win. Last year's Busch winner, Jerry Roscoe, did a good job in his first year as a Nextel Cup pilot. Art Riegal could not attend because of an out of town commitment. Jim Quinn has decided not to race this year. Rick Allabaugh had a business engagement out of town.

STRC Race #2 was not held because of high winds. Race #3 was held on June 6. Here are some facts from that race;

Two DNFs in the first race. The racer who was in third place, Don, won the heat, but lost his gear when he landed.

Jim Quinn, our starter for the night, really wanted to be a cut judge so he could blow the horn a few times.

Brent still has a transmitter battery on order. When it comes in, he will be ready to race.

Four out of the five racers finished first in at least one heat.

After two races, Nextel has had two different racers in first place. After race 1, Terry was in the lead by one point over Bob (9 points to 8 points). After race 2, Bob is in the lead by one point over Terry (14 points to 13 points). There are only 7 points separating the Nextel fliers and only 2 points separating the Busch fliers.

Frank had the most points for the race with 7 points, 1 first place and 2 second place finishes.

Race #4 was scheduled for June 20 but could not be held because not enough helpers showed up. The race 4 organizers did not contact the helpers to remind them of the race and so the hot dogs, chips and soda were the main attraction for the evening.

If you are responsible for organizing a race, please remember to contact those members who have volunteered to help. Not doing so is unfair to the pilots and to those who did get to the field to help.

The next two races are scheduled for July 11 and July 25 and will be organized by Don Shugard.

The current season championship points are;

<u>Racer</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Race 1</u>	<u>Race 3</u>	<u>Season Points</u>
Bob Noll	Nextel	8	6	14
Terry Terrenoire	Nextel	9	4	13
Jerry Roscoe	Nextel	4	5	9
Frank Gioffredo	Nextel	7	0	7
Scott Wallace	Busch	5	0	5
Don Shugard	Busch	0	3	3

Field Report

The weather has been very nice lately and I have had a chance to test 3 new models, and hope all of you have had some time to fly at the AGS field.

The mowing list is looking like the same few guys time after time. If you fly at the field please pitch in and help; if you want to learn tractor operation contact any senior club member and they will be happy to arrange training with you. We are ok through mid-July but have a lot of blank spaces after that

Reminder to those that sign up as "helpers"- one duty is to clean & replenish supplies in the outhouse. This is not getting done!

Also, be sure not to cut straight across from the tractor shed to the runways to begin cutting. Take the route along the woods and hang a left at the outhouse. We leave that area between the shed and runways uncut to deter folks from driving across an active runway.

Model Aviation Day 2006

Held on July 22, 2006

Location is the AGS Flying Field

Time: 11:00 am until 4:00 pm

Please sign up for a job you can help with

Road Control Crew 6 Persons required Chairman _____

Delta Darts 2 or 3 persons required Chairman _____

Public Relations \ Advertising and Flyers 1 or 2 persons

Chairman_ Bob Balsie_748-1074

Training Flight Instructors 4 required Chairman_ Jim Quinn 786-0995

Instruct and or bring Planes to use for flight instruction

Terry Terrenoire _Ed Helinski_ _Frank Gioffredo_

Ground School Joe Perucci Tom Kopl

Static Display and Flight Demonstration Chairman _____

Bring Planes to Show and/or Fly as Demonstration. ALL aircraft being flown as flight demos MUST be Air worthy deemed so by the Chairman. Also pilots should be comfortable flying in front of large groups of people

Terry T. 5 Jeff Hatton 3 Don Shugard 2 John McGrath 1

Food Service 3 or 4 persons required Chairman Paul Rahn 785-9348

Mark Lecher Rick Curtis Guillermo Leon

M/C Bob Noll



2006 AEROGUIDANCE SOCIETY

Intra-Club Contest & Picnic

When: July 15, 2006 starting at 10:00 AM

Where: AGS Club Field



Dust off those sport planes (glow or electric), bring the family and enjoy a few hours of flying fun!

Two events, one for experienced fliers and one for those not so experienced.

Flying events: Experienced

Roops (roll & loop combinations)

Touch and Go's

Balloon Bust

Dixie Death (takeoff, 3 loops, 3 rolls, 1 spin, landing)

Flying events: Not so experienced

Timed Flight

Spot Landing

Loops

Bomb drop (materials provided)

We will break for lunch about 12:30, main dishes will be provided by the AGS! Please bring a dish to share- sign up sheets will be available at the July club meeting.

Contacts: Scott Wallace (607) 206-0928 wallaceaerol@aol.com

Bob Balsie (607) 748-1074 a10hog@stny.rr.com

**GET READY FOR OUR
51st ANNUAL PRECISION AEROBATICS CONTEST - AUGUST 5 & 6.**

By Bob Noll, Contest Director

Our AMA sanction has been received, prizes are coming in, advertising is under way and staffing is proceeding. If you can help, there are still some jobs that remain unfilled. The staffing plan will be circulated again at the July meeting for those who have not had a chance to sign up. If you can help but will not be able to attend the July meeting, please contact me at 754-5279 or BOBRC@aol.com. Working at the contest affords our members with a great opportunity to see some of the best Precision Aerobatic pilots in the northeast.

Reports from pilots at recent contests are that we should have a very good turnout due to our contest location and our August dates. Our contest will be the first after the AMA Nationals and by then most pilots, especially those who will not be attending the Nats, will be eager to compete since the last local contest was the Pocono contest on June 24 and 26.

Those of you who like to camp will enjoy pitching your tent or setting up your camper for the weekend. Many contestants will be camping. Field set-up will be done Friday afternoon and the field will be open for practice flying at 3 PM.

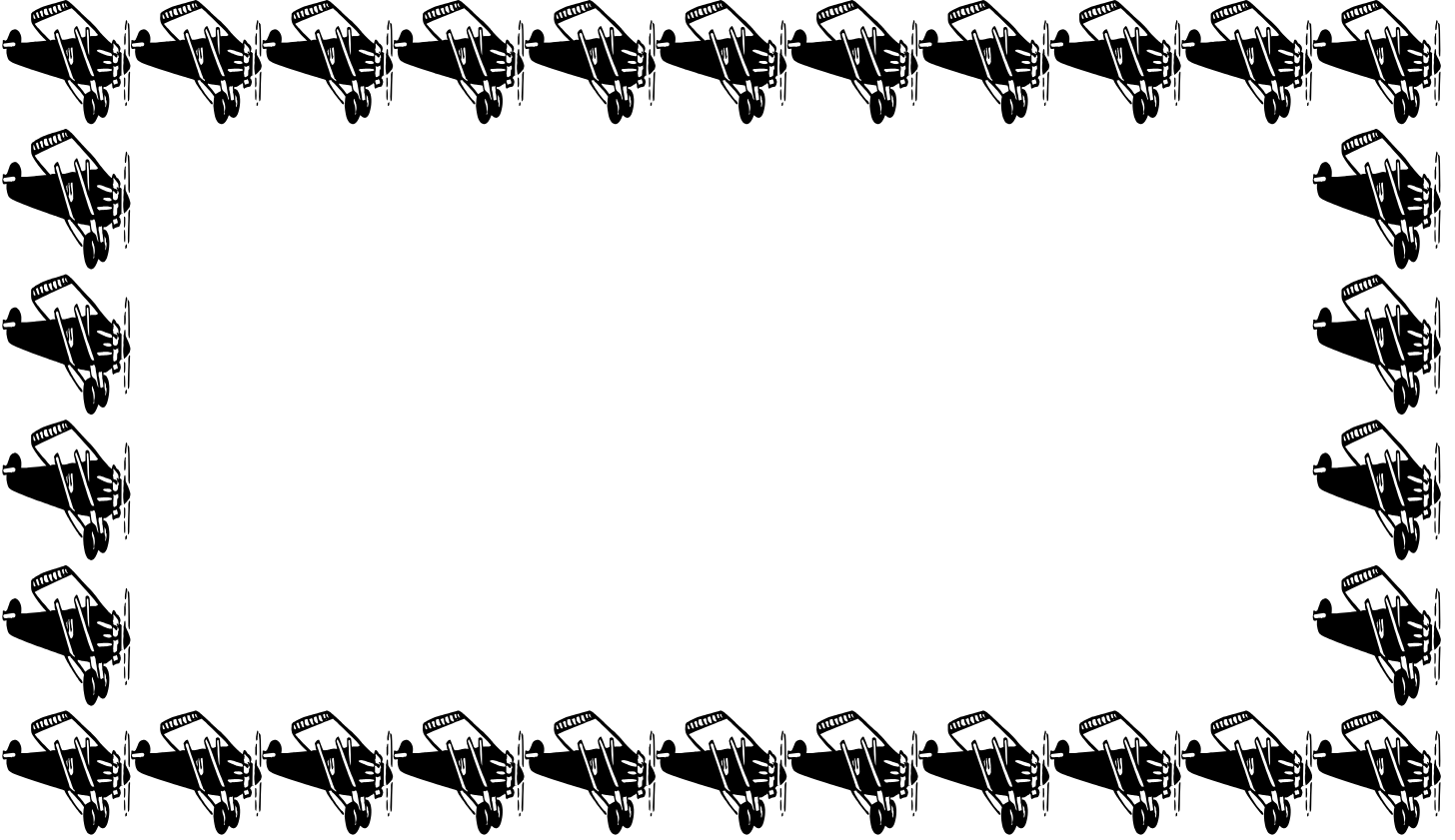
The contest starts at 9 AM Saturday and will continue until about 5 PM after which we will have a chicken dinner for all contestants, their families and for our club members. Some demonstration flying is expected after the meal until dark.

On Sunday flying will start again at 9 AM and continue until about 3 PM. After that all club members working at that time are needed to tear down and return the facility to its pre-contest status.

Since we will be using contestant judging, our club members can compete. So if you are a seasoned competitor, have competed in our Pattern Primer or have since decided that you would enjoy the excitement of competition you are invited to enter the contest. The entry fee will be waived for all AGS members who have worked at the contest.



JULY PROGRAM



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