



# The CONNECTOR

Newsletter of the Aeroguidance Society, Inc.  
AMA Chartered Club No. 441

[www.agsny.org](http://www.agsny.org)

Volume #54 ..... Issue # 12 December 2009

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

AGS are held the 1st Tuesday of every month at the Main Endwell High School at 7:00 P.M.  
Changes to time or location will be noted in this newsletter .

## The Prez Sez

Frank Gioffredo

I can't believe I am sitting here just a day away from Christmas. Time just seems to slip by. We just got Courtney home from her surgery to correct a hiadal hernia and acid reflux issues. Recovery from this takes a little time but should make her feel much better in the long run. Way to spend Christmas huh.

We had a nice time at our December meeting / Christmas party. Thanks again to Bob and Jackie Balsie for putting together such a fun time for all. It amazes me how Jackie comes up with all the nice little prizes for everybody on such a meager budget. Bob always gets his trusted assistants to help out with the evenings activities so a big thank you also to Chuck and Ester Krapf.

It has been a pretty quiet start to our year waiting ever patiently for those elusive gas contracts yet our normal activities proceed. Hopefully everyone can get out for the New Years Day Fly being held at the BC united Soccer Fields again this year. More details later in the newsletter. Also coming up in January is our Mall Show Terry will have more details later in this issue and sign-up at the next meeting. I would like to ask for ideas for programs you guys would like to see at the meetings. I could not get the gym for indoor flying for January but am hopeful the school will let us use it in February, but we have a lot of month that need a program so let me know. Well its late and I got lots of stuff to do. So Merry Christmas to all I hope you all got what you wanted and I'll see you at the meeting.

### Mall Show

Terry Terrinore

The mall show for this year is just 3 weeks away. I hope you have made plans to help out. I will have the sign up sheet at the meeting on the 5th for those of you who were not able to attend the December meeting. If you will not be at the Jan meeting but want to participate you can send me a note or give me a call

### New Years Day Flying

Frank Gioffredo

Well look at this 2010 is here I for one am hoping its better than the past year. And to start it out right we will be once again holding our New Years Day Fly at the BC United Soccer Fields in West Corners I have sent invitation for the other area clubs to join us in the festivities of the day. We will have the normal bill of fair coffee, hot chocolate, my world famous chili, haha, and a few hotdogs we will start around 11:00 and go to 2:00 weather permitting, so dust off those skiis and keep your wheels on standby. Come out and have some winter fun with your buddies we'll see you there

Subscriptions to  
*"THE CONNECTOR"*  
can be obtained free via e-mail or at  
a minimal cost of \$8.00 annually

### Coming Events

#### New Years Day Fly

January 1st  
BC United Soccer Fields

#### AGS Meeting

January 5th  
7:00 PM Main Endwell High School

#### Mall Show

January 16th 17th

### **Cancellation of AGS Meetings:**

In the event of poor weather, listen to the radio or television for local closings and cancellations. If Maine-Endwell High School classes are cancelled, then the AGS meeting is cancelled.

**The Aeroguidance  
Society, INC.  
P.O. Box 39  
Vestal, NY 13850-0039**

**President:** Frank Gioffredo  
(A-C) 748-9858

**Vice President:** Terry Terrinore  
(D-H)

**Secretary:** Paul Slocum  
(I-L)

**Treasurer:** Don Shugard  
(M-R) 732-687-7970

**BD. Members at Large:**

Scott Wallace (S-Z)  
Jeff Hatton 330-4782

**Committee Chairmen**  
**Membership:** , Paul Slocum

**Program:**

**Activities:**

**Field:**

**Historian**

**Public Relations**

**Sound:**

**Safety:**

**Librarian:**

**Editor**  
Jeff Hatton jeff@priusonline.com

**Finance Committee Instantiation Proposed By-laws Amendment**

By Doug Breneman for the AGS Board of Directors

The Board of Directors recommends the creation of a Finance Committee with the following changes to the By-Laws. Article VI is amended to include the Vice President and Treasurer as members of the Finance Committee. Article VII is amended to merge the permanent committee list as part of Section A, to create a new Section B which describes the Finance Committee, and to create a new Section D which describes how to replace a member of a committee in the event of a vacancy.

Amendments may be made to the by-laws at any regular or special meeting of the membership, provided the members have all been notified in writing at least three (3) days in advance that an amendment is to be considered. Copies of the proposed amendment shall be provided to all directors or to any members who may request same. Approval shall be by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of a quorum at any regular or special meeting following written notification.

*(Continued on page 3)*

***AGS WINTER FLY 2010***

Jim Quinn

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

BC United Soccer Field

11:00 to 2:00

On Sunday, February 15 get your hat and get your coat, leave your worries on the door step, and direct your feet to the BC United Soccer fields for our traditional Winter Fly.

Again this year we will have Mary's delicious chili to warm our stomachs while amazing flying will warm our hearts. So bring an airplane and bring a hungry stomach. The fun will be added as you arrive. Our airplanes are made to fly so make them happy as well by letting them do their thing, fly! Even if you can't get a plane ready for the snow just come and enjoy the pleasure of each others company and be part of the support crew for those who have something to fly



## **Article VI – OFFICERS**

F. The Vice President shall:

1. Assume the President's duties in the absence of the President
2. Have all the same rights and powers as the President.

*Be the chairperson of the Finance Committee*

H. The Treasurer shall:

1. Have the care and custody of all moneys belonging to the AGS and shall be solely responsible for such moneys or securities of the AGS.
2. The Treasurer shall maintain a Petty Cash fund to pay expenses where it would not be appropriate or possible to write a check. The Treasurer shall maintain a written record of cash flows to and from the Petty Cash fund, and shall make the record available for the annual financial audit described below.
3. Render at stated periods as the Board of Directors shall determine a written account of the finances of the AGS and such report shall be physically affixed to the minutes of the Board of Directors at such meeting.
4. Present a detailed report at the Annual Meeting which outlines income and expenses for the fiscal year, which shall be affixed to the minutes of that meeting.
5. Exercise all duties incident to the office of the Treasurer.
6. Have discretionary spending of up to \$50.00 for any single purchase without requiring membership approval.

*Be a member of the Finance Committee*

## **Article VIII - COMMITTEES**

A. Unless otherwise indicated in this Article, all committees of the AGS shall be appointed by the President and their term of office shall be for a period of one (1) year or less if sooner terminated by the action of the President. The responsibility of each committee shall be defined and documented by the President. *The Permanent committees shall be:*

1. *Activities*
2. *Contest*
3. *Field*
4. *Historian*
5. *Librarian*
6. *Membership*
7. *Newsletter Editor*
8. *Nominating*
9. *Program*
10. *Public Relations*
11. *Safety*
12. *Sound*

13. *A Finance Committee shall be a permanent committee consisting of five (5) members - the Vice President, the Treasurer, and three (3) regular voting members of the AGS who are not officers. One (1) regular voting member shall be appointed annually to the Finance Committee by the Board of Directors for one three (3) year term.*

14. A nominating committee consisting of three (3) members shall be appointed at least six (6) weeks prior to the Annual Meeting. At least one (1) candidate for each office shall be recommended.

15. *A vacancy in any committee because of death, resignation, removal or any other cause shall be filled in the manner prescribed in these by-laws for regular appointments to such office.*

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](mailto:jeff@priusonline.com)

**Deadline for Next Connector is 1/22/10**

**AGS General Meeting Minuets – December 1, 2009**

Meeting 747 brought to order at 7:35 PM by Frank Gioffredo. – This was the holiday dinner so gave people a chance to eat first

Guests were Walt Schoder from British Columbia

Minuets of the November meeting approved

Bob Noll presented John Carril his Wings for soloing

Terry T. Passed around the sign up sheet for the Mall show to be done in January. He also read the minuets of the Financial Comm. from their meeting of November 2 along with some ideas on the direction the committee will take. Members are Frank Gioffredo Terry Terrenoire Charles Hatton Doug Breneman Don Shugard and Don Green.

Frank G. Talked about the January 1 Fly in and inviting the AERO's and the MOB to attend as well.

Terry T. Talked about the Mall Show and Bob Frey supplying the airplanes.

Indoor Flying spot still unknown

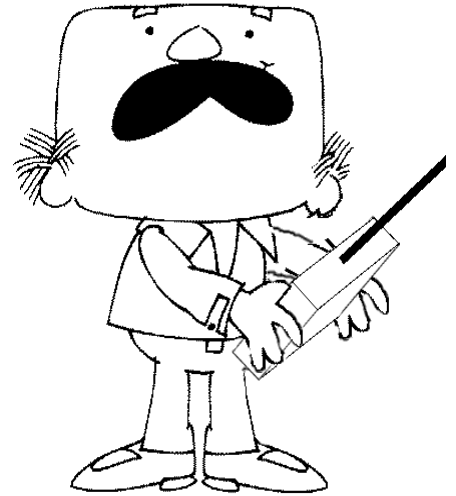
Bob Balsie was thanked for doing the holiday dinner

Show and Tell – Jim Quinn showed his electric Vanquest that weighted in at 2 lbs 2 oz and pleased with the performance. Also showed two Pentathlons fuselages that are a work in progress. They are designed by Mark Hart

Doug B. showed his Coronet Acro an Aileron Trainer ARF from North East Sailplanes. It has a 56 inch wingspan and is powered by an e-flite 450 motor with a 20 amp ESC. Total weight is 27 ounces.

Bob Balsie then started the entertainment by doing BINGO to win one of the many many door prizes.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM



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**ARF's 101:**

Almost Ready to Fly (ARF) RC models have been around for many years, but in the past decade they have dominated the hobby. As someone that's been building models from kits or plans for longer than I can remember I didn't always embrace ARFs, but lately I have begun to see some of their appeal as I have had less and less free time. Besides, there are not many kits left on the market these days.

A brief history lesson, ARFs such as those sold by Lanier were around from the late 60's. They consisted of a very heavy plastic fuselage (with maple reinforcement) and heavy foam core wings and tail covered in some funky plastic material. Remember the popular engines of the time were the K&B 40 and 61; they must have been stressed to the max to fly these heavy airplanes. They were universally un-loved by purists, yet they could be assembled quickly and did fly. In fact (for reasons that escape me) some are still sold today.

In the 80's, the "E-Z" brand from Japan was popular and they had a good variety of Aerobatic and WW II models in both 46 and 60 sizes. They were light, and flew well but had a few drawbacks. One, they were not cheap; my 46 size FW-190 was \$239 back in 1986! The framework was good quality balsa/lite-ply

but they were covered in a very thin veneer of 1/8" thick foam that had a layer of colored mylar to give the model its colors. It was very susceptible to denting, and any minor crash damage was almost impossible to repair. Their factory burned down many years but you'll still sometime see and "E-Z" model on eBay, and they bring high prices. I saw one of their "Dago-Red" P-51's go for over \$500 recently.

In the past 10 years we have seen a flood of models emanating from China. The cost and quality vary greatly, and even on the best there are things to watch out for. Modelers that have built kits in the past can quickly spot these areas, but we have a large population of RC fliers today that have only flown ARFs and may not always know what to look out for. I'm not going to touch on the high end composite offerings, or the electric models, instead I will focus on 40-90 sized glow models which many of us still enjoy.

So, what to look for...number one, assume nothing. The first thing I do once starting on an ARF is to go over the glue joints. If you can see it, or reach it, re-glue it! Medium CA works well for most places, for firewalls or landing gear blocks epoxy or Gorilla glue works well. Even though Hangar 9 ARFs have a generally excellent reputation, last fall I put together an Ultra Sick 60 to use as a weekend warrior. I made the<sup>4</sup> first flight at a club meeting, and it was almost the last.

The engine was a new OS 75AX, and a few minutes into the flight I noticed a strange sound. Upon landing, I noticed over 50% of the firewall was loose. I neglected rule #1 to reinforce all glue joints because it 'looked OK' when I inspected it. In my shop it was easy to remove the fuel tank and engine and re-glue the firewall, but it would have been easier to do it right the first time J

Secondly, you typically need to re-shrink the covering. You will find some companies advertise their models are covered in genuine Ultracote, or Monokote. If you don't see that advertised, chances are you will get something covered in a lesser quality film (aka China-kote). The really bargain ARFs are covered in basically shelf paper and are to be avoided. Be careful with your heat gun or iron, the cheaper coverings are very easy to burn through.

Third area of concern is the hardware. Personally, I throw all of it away and use good quality Dubro or Sullivan hardware from the hobby shop. At a minimum, please consider replacing the pushrods (those Chinese black rods are very brittle), any plastic clevis or keeper, and the fuel tank and lines. Yes, all this will add another \$25 or more to the finished cost but safety and peace of mind make it well worthwhile.

I'll close with some recommendations based on years of experience. The old rule rings true in the world of ARF's; you get what you pay for!

Companies that sell good quality ARFs:

- Aero-Works
- Top Flite
- Hangar 9
- SIG
- Goldberg
- Great Planes
- World Models

Some to be wary of:

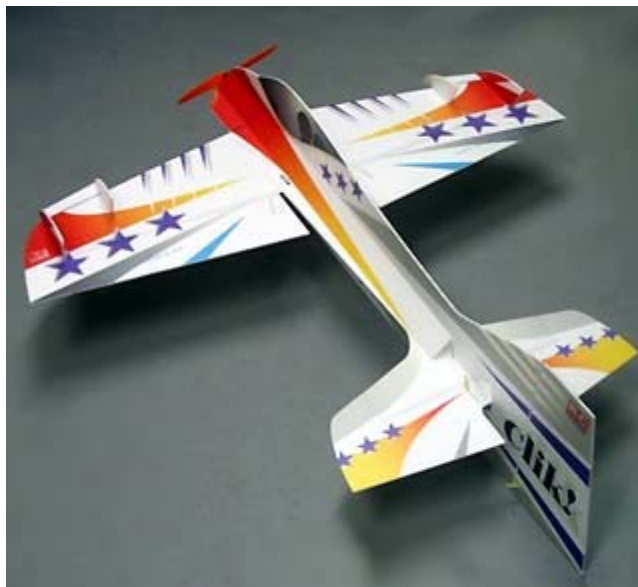
- Lanier
- Phoenix
- Tower
- Seagull
- Nitro Models
- Fliton
- Kange

Submitted by Scott Wallace

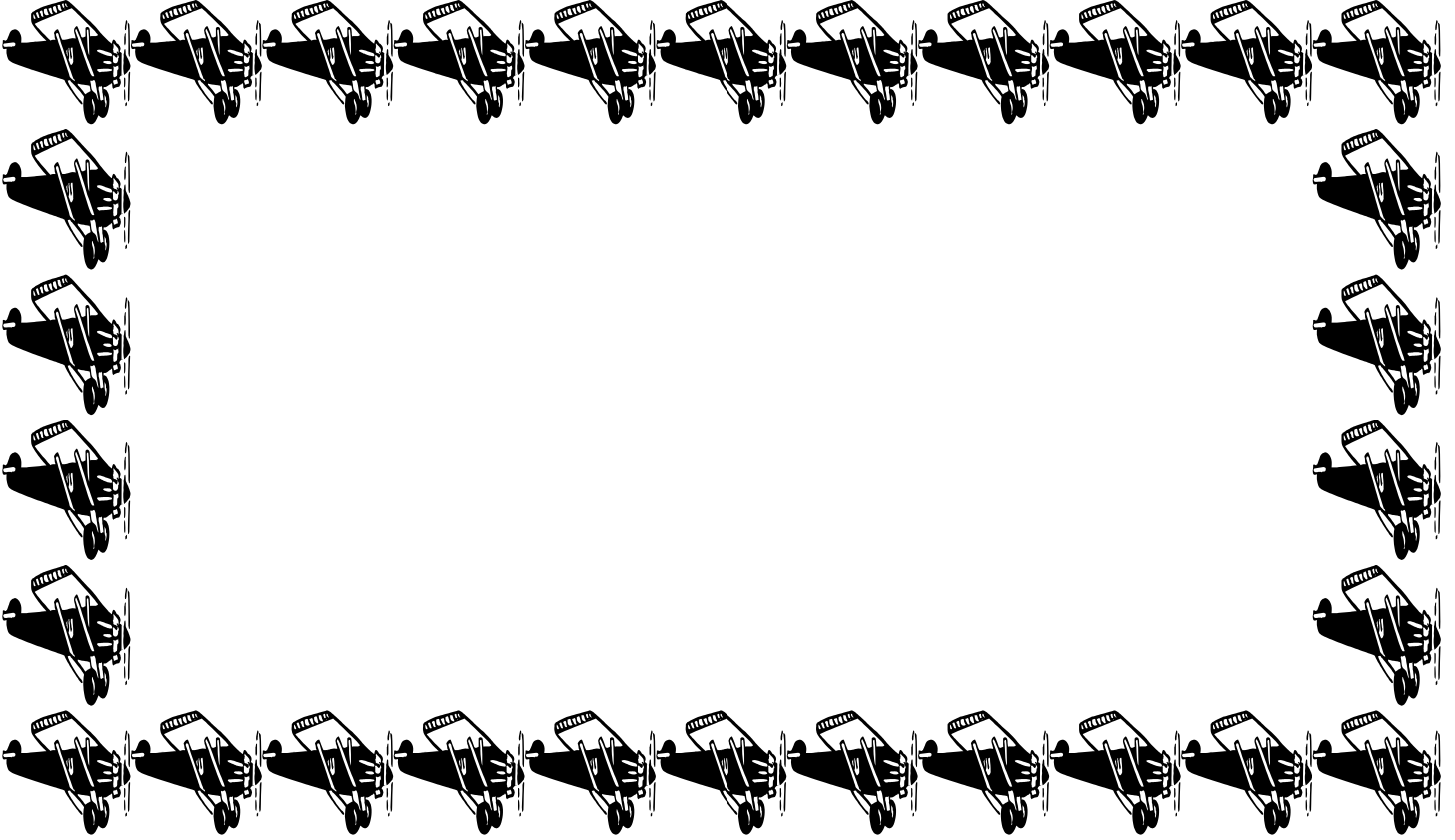
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For Sale

RTF 'Clik!' indoor RC model. Everything is new, model has not been flown. Includes a Park 250 motor, 3 JR 185 sub micro servos, Thunder Power Pro Lite V2 350 mAh 7.4V 2 cell Li-Po, and a Thunderbird 9 amp ESC- just add your receiver and be ready to fly. Over \$230 invested, will sale for \$150. For more info on the 'Clik!' go to: [www.nesail.com](http://www.nesail.com) Scott Wallace phone 206-0928 or email [wallaceaero1@aol.com](mailto:wallaceaero1@aol.com)



# JANUARY PROGRAM



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