



THE CONNECTOR

Newsletter of the Aero Guidance Society, Inc.

AMA Chartered Club No. 441

www.agsny.org

Recipient of the AMA President's Award for 50 years of service to AMA and Aeromodeling

Volume #59....Issue #8...August...2013

The Following Channels Must Not Be Used At The AGS Field: 02, 04, 13, 27, 36, 42, and 49

THE NEXT AGS MEETING WILL BE ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD AT 6:45 PM AT THE ENDICOTT MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

Changes to time or location will be noted in this newsletter

The Prez Sez....

Jeff Hatton

Another month has gone by and it is time for me to write another article. I am back from my vacation but missed most of the month so I don't have much to write about. From what I understand Model Aviation day was a success and would like to thank Rick and all who helped him make this happen.

We have a couple of events coming up in September. The float fly and pattern contest are both coming up and hopefully we will have good participation from the club for these events.

It is the time of year that we must start thinking about who will be on the board in the upcoming year. The board has already heard from a few who are willing to step up and help but if anyone else is interested I feel that the more people who are willing the better things will be for the club.

On another note, the club has been contacted by Heritage Self Storage and due to their business they will no longer be able to offer us the storage locker free of charge. Most of the items in the locker can be moved up to the field for storage, but there is at least one file cabinet of papers and possibly a few other items that should be kept in better storage conditions than we have available at the field. If you have some extra space that you would be willing to give up to store some of this material

please let an officer know. I plan on getting together with a few people sometime next week after the meeting to pack up what we have in storage and get it moved.

September Program

The September program is titled "Learn to Fly a B-17" and will be presented by Bob Balsie. The program will consist of a short overview of the B-17 and its combat record, followed by a World War II training film. In addition to describing the airplane and its operation, the film includes some interesting aerodynamic principles that should be of interest to all of us.



In This Issue...

Coming Events.....	pg. 2
VP's Soapbox.....	pg. 3
Dick Says "Thanks".....	pg. 4
Pylon Racing Report.....	pg. 4
Meeting Minutes.....	pg. 5
LiPo Disposal.....	pg. 7
Activities Calendar.....	pg. 8
Mowing List.....	pg. 9

Subscriptions to "THE CONNECTOR" may be obtained free via e-mail or at a minimal cost of \$8.00 annually. Contact the Editor

Coming Events

VR/CS Reunion
August 31st, 9:00 AM
AGS AIRPORT

AGS Meeting
September 3rd, 6:45 PM
ENDICOTT LIBRARY

Fall Float Fly
September 7th & 8th
GREENWOOD PARK

Pylon Race #7
September 15th, 3:00 PM
AGS AIRPORT

Annual Pattern Contest
September 21st and 22nd
AGS AIRPORT

The Field is Open.
Remember to keep your speed under 10 MPH on the access road.

**The Aero Guidance
Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 39
Vestal, NY, 13850-0039**

President: Jeff Hatton
(A-C)

Vice President: Scott Wallace
(D-H)

Secretary: Jim Quinn
(I-L)

Treasurer: Bob Johnson
(M-R)

Board Members at Large:

Brent Bryson (S-Z)

Bob Jennings

Committee Chairmen

Membership: John Carril

Program: Jeff Hatton

Activities: Bob Balsie

Field: Jim Quinn

Historian: Don Green

Public Relations: Open

Sound: Ed Lancki

Safety: Frank Gioffredo

Librarian: Open

Editor: Bob Balsie

e-mail: RC_flyer@stny.rr.com

Upcoming Events

by Bob Balsie – Activities Chairman

On August 31st and September 1st, our field will once again host the annual VR/CS Spirit of Selinsgrove Reunion. This vintage event was written about by Bob Noll in the last issue of this newsletter. It will consist of a lot of flying of vintage models from the early days of radio control, and there will be a vintage pattern contest for three classes of planes (single channel, two channel, and three/four channel.) I was a judge for the pattern contest last year, along with Frank Cease, and we had a good time. You, also, will have a good time if you stop up to the field on Saturday, check out some of these classic models, and get the chance to meet some really nice guys. Hope to see you there.

On September 10th and 11th, the AGS will be sponsoring our 30th Annual Fall Float Fly at Greenwood Park in Lisle, NY. This is always a fun event and we usually have a pretty good number of members from other area clubs as well as many people from out of town.

As always, we will be serving lunch on Saturday and Sunday, and we hope to have a nice selection of prizes for the participants. Thanks to Joe and Bev Perrucci, and Frank and Derek Gioffredo for agreeing to provide the culinary services for this event. I hope to see many of you on the 10th and/or 11th.

We're also down to the last two Pylon Races this year. Participation was down a little this season, but those who came out to fly or help have enjoyed the activity. Todd Kopl will be sending out a note to all of you asking for your help with these races, so please consider coming up to the field and helping us to close out the season.

Last, and certainly not least, is our annual Pattern Contest to be held at our field on September 21st and 22nd. If I calculated right, this will be the 59th year that our club will be hosting this contest. (I believe the first contest was held in 1955). Frank Gioffredo will be the CD for this event, so when he asks for people to sign up to help him, please volunteer some of your time. This is our biggest event of the year, so please help to make it a success once again.

The V.P. Soap Box

by Scott Wallace – Vice President

October will be here soon and we all know what that means - time to elect a new slate of club officers! The AGS is facing some serious challenges in the next few years so the incoming Board of Directors will have its work cut out.

Officer candidates to date are:

President: Rick Allabaugh

Vice-President: Scott Wallace

Treasurer: TBD

Secretary: Jim Quinn (tentative)

BMAL #1: Brent Bryson (tentative)

BMAL #2: Bob Noll, Bob Johnson

These are our nominees at this point; other candidates are welcome for any position so that we can hold a meaningful election. As you can see, we are looking for a candidate for Treasurer, and potentially a club Secretary. The Board will be contacting some members in an effort to fill the nominations.

My own personal take on the state of the club is that we are fighting a myriad of problems, and (to use a cliché I usually dislike) we need to think outside the box if we are to survive. Some problems we cannot change, all we can do is adapt. The Southern Tier is an aging population. Large employers in the area are reducing their workforce, so we're not seeing an influx of middle class families moving in; quite the opposite, many are moving away. In the short term, I don't see the AGS returning to the number of members we had 10, 15, or 20 years ago. Our total roster is just over 40 members and effectively less than half are active fliers. Any new member we do get into the club should be made welcome and nurtured so that they have FUN and progress at a rate they are comfortable with; we can do much better at this than we currently do. We typically start 'encouraging' new members to help at all our many events both big and small; we need to put the emphasis back on *their* needs and not *ours*. From conversations I've had with former club members, the AGS's reputation is that we're 'elitist' - we must change that perception to survive in these challenging times. The general meetings should be streamlined and emphasis returned to airplane/equipment show & tells and programs. Our By-Laws are certainly due for a full refresh and if elected I'll lead that effort.

I also think we should consider scaling back our number of events (and corresponding workload expectations on club members) and return the emphasis to sport flying and camaraderie. We have enough workload already in maintaining our facility without adding to it. My views may be unpopular to some, but why continue to host several annual events that draw next to no one? I suggest we consider putting on only one modeler-oriented event per year, one that is well-advertised in advance to the RC community in the Northeast. How about trying something like hosting a Saturday-only warbird and fun-scale fly-in? Any fun scale or standoff scale model of any size, any means of power would be welcomed. The only other event I think we should run is Model Aviation Day or a similar community-oriented event. That's all - just two AGS event 'work' days a year.

The other main problem we face is financial, and we are not going to be able to solve the problem with a handful of new members every few years. Raising dues isn't viable; we couldn't raise them enough to make it meaningful and it would drive some current members away if we did increase them. I have some ideas that I will share in my next column.

A “Thank You” from Dick Allen

by Bob Balsie – Activities Chairman

I had the opportunity to visit with Dick Allen at his home in Crestview Heights a few days before he and his wife, Marilyn, moved to Florida. Dick expressed his appreciation for the farewell party that the club threw for him at Kristofor's a few weeks ago and stated how much it meant to him and that he and Marilyn had a great time. He asked me to pass on his thanks to everyone who came and wished him well. Dick stated that even though he will be living in Florida permanently, he still intends to continue his membership in the AGS. And all of us owe a big “thank you” to Dick, because without him and other modelers like him, there would be no AGS today.

AGS Pylon Racing 2013

by Todd Kopl – Race Organizer

As the pylon season begins to wind down for 2013, the Tuesday evening races have come to an end and the final two races will move to Sunday afternoon, September 15th at 4:00 pm. Yes, this will be a double header to wrap up the season. This means the scheduled race on Sunday September 8th has been re-scheduled to the 15th. Race #5 took place on the windy evening of August 13th with just Frank and Todd in attendance for pilots. The 1st heat may have been one of the most exciting/closest finishes ever with Frank taking the win by a few feet! I managed to wrestle a win back from Frank on race #2 and due to an unfortunate landing gear malfunction Frank sat out race #3.

Race #6 took place on the beautifully calm evening of August 27th with Todd, Bob, Frank, and Bill fighting for the points. Bill had the roughest evening with a DQ followed by what we call an “unintentional landing” and I also had to scrub my last flight due to a loose firewall on the Go-Daddy racer. So Frank, Bob, & Todd all ended up with 6 points each on the evening. We also had some former members in attendance and helping: Jamie Arnold with his daughter Paige and Tony Viziak. It would be great to get these folks back into the club.

I would like to once again thank all the support staff that show up to help run these races and I hope we are putting on a good show for you...or maybe it's Frank's hot dogs that motivate you. Whatever the case, THANK YOU!

PYLON RACING POINTS STANDINGS								
NAME	CLASS	BEST 6	RACE 1	RACE 2	RACE 3	RACE 4	Race 5	Race 6
Bob Noll	Sprint	35	9	8	6	6	0	6
Todd Kopl	Sprint	37	7	8	0	8	8	6
Frank Gioffredo	Sprint	30	5	0	8	6	5	6
Bill Markovitz	Sprint	10	3	4	0	3	0	0
Brent Bryson	Sprint	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jeff Hatton	Nationwide	15	6	5	4	0	0	0

AGS General Meeting Minutes

Aeroguidance Society Meeting # 791

August 5, 2013

Vice President Wallace called meeting #791 to order at 6:48 PM. The meeting was held at the AGS R/C airport. President Hatton was on Vacation.

Meeting #790's minutes were approved as published in the Connector.

Board Minutes were read referencing:

1. Model Aviation day.
2. Updates to Action Items list.
3. AGS' financial future.

Treasurer, Bob Johnson gave his report.

Committee Reports:

Model Aviation Day

Rick Allabaugh gave an extensive update on final preparations for MAD on August 10th. Rick has done a fantastic job and everyone is grateful to him.

VR/CS Reunion: August 31 - September 1.

Float Fly: September 7 - 8. Bob Balsie, CD, passed around a form for volunteers to assist him with the weekend activities. He reminded everyone how much fun this event is and encouraged everyone to participate.

Aerobatic Contest: September 21 - 22. Frank Gioffredo, CD, is making excellent progress on our 58th annual aerobatic contest. He will be contacting members for assistance online. Jim Quinn, Assistant CD, encouraged all AGS members to try flying in the Classic Pattern Association's portion of the contest. Jim explained that there are no turn-around maneuvers making this part of the contest easier to fly even for a foamy.

Field: Jim Quinn commented on the maintenance for the XMark mower. Until further notice the XMark is down. Please use the tractor/flail mower. John Carril has volunteered to finish some staining on the addition to our storage garage.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Plaque for Ed Arrington. A call was placed to Terry Terrenoire in VA who advised the members on speaker phone that A1 Trophies in Johnson City is our source for memorial

plaques for our deceased members.

Jim Quinn brought up Initiation Fees as a deterrent to new members joining the AGS. A lively general discussion followed as to why our membership is half of what it was 10 years ago. It was generally agreed that R/C flying is as popular as ever but with the advent of easy to fly and maintain foamies there is less of a need to join a formal AMA supported organization like ours. Pilots are flying in back yards, at parks, on roadside runways. Suggestions were made for locations for our members to fly which would be more visible and possibly attract new members.

GJ's is officially CLOSED!

Show and Tell:

Gib Vandling showed an AeroStar 40. Gib wants to donate this "Kit" to a new R/C pilot. He will also donate an engine and radio system to anyone interested in starting in our hobby. Gib also showed a beautiful 1/6 scale Fleet bi-plane which is for sale. It was designed years ago for electric. He also showed the power system designed for this beautiful airplane. Gib mentioned that battery power at that time was 18 cells to power this model. This model is FOR SALE. Contact Gib.

Don Green showed his beautiful Mid-Star 40, powered by an OS .46. Don is grateful for all the help he received in building this model and thanked Scott Wallace in advance for help in test flying.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Quinn, Secretary



Nano QX BNF with SAFE Technology by BLADE

**** DISPOSAL OF LIPO BATTERIES ****

Unlike NiCd batteries, lithium-polymer batteries are environmentally friendly. For safety reasons, it's best that LiPo cells be fully discharged before disposal (however, if physically damaged it is NOT recommended to discharge LiPo cells before disposal - see below for details). The batteries must also be cool before proceeding with disposal instructions. To dispose of LiPo cells and packs:

1. If any LiPo cell in the pack has been physically damaged, resulting in a swollen cell or a split or tear in a cell's foil covering, do NOT discharge the battery. Jump to step 5.
2. Place the LiPo battery in a fireproof container or bucket of sand.
3. Connect the battery to a LiPo discharger. Set the discharge cutoff voltage to the lowest possible value. Set the discharge current to a C/10 value, with "C" being the capacity rating of the pack. For example, the "1C" rating for a 1200mAh battery is 1.2A, and that battery's C/10 current value is (1.2A / 10) can be used, such as a power resistor or set of light bulbs as long as the discharge current doesn't exceed the C/10 value and cause an overheating condition.
For LiPo packs rated at 7.4V and 11.1V, connect a 150 ohm resistor with a power rating of 2 watts (commonly found at Radio Shack) to the pack's positive and negative terminals to safely discharge connecting it to an ESC/ motor system and allowing the motor to run indefinitely until no power remains to further cause the system to function.
4. Discharge the battery until its voltage reaches 1.0V per cell or lower. For resistive load type discharges, discharge the battery for up to 24 hours.
5. Submerge the battery into bucket or tub of salt water. This container should have a lid, but it should not need to be air-tight. Prepare a plastic container (do not use metal) of cold water. And mix in 1/2 cup of salt per gallon of water. Drop the battery into the salt water. Allow the battery to remain in the tub of salt water for at least 2 weeks.
6. Remove the LiPo battery from the salt water, wrap it in newspaper or paper towels and place it in the normal trash. They are landfill safe.

SOURCE OF THIS ARTICLE (CASE SENSITIVE)

thunderpowerinc.com/PDF/DISPOSAL-OF-LIPO-BATTERIES.pdf

Club Activities for 2013

by Bob Balsie – Activities Chairman

Well, the year is winding down, at least from an activities standpoint, but we still have five events scheduled in September, and I hope that you will take advantage of at least one of them. They are listed on the calendar below. A description of each is written up in an article on page 2.

* ACTIVITIES CALENDAR FOR 2013 *		
Activity	Date	Chairman
New Year's Day Fly	January 1, 2013	Frank Gioffredo
Winter Fly	March 9, 2013	Don Green
Field Opening	April ??, 2013	Jim Quinn
Pylon Race	May 14, 2013	Todd Kopl
Pylon Race	May 28, 2013	Todd Kopl
Pylon Race	June 11, 2013	Todd Kopl
Pylon Race	June 25, 2013	Todd Kopl
Pattern Primer	June 29, 2013	Jim Quinn (CD)
Pylon Race	July 9, 2013	Todd Kopl
Pylon Race	July 23, 2013	Todd Kopl
Model Aviation Day	August 10, 2003	Rick Allabaugh
Pylon Race	August 13, 2013	Todd Kopl
Pylon Race	August 27, 2013	Todd Kopl
VR/CS Reunion	8/31 – 9/1, 2013	Bob Noll (CD)
Fall Float Fly	September 7 & 8, 2013	Bob Balsie (CD)
Pylon Race	September 15, 2013	Todd Kopl
AGS Pattern Contest	Sept. 21 & 22, 2013	Frank Gioffredo (CD)
Field Winterization	TBD	Jim Quinn
Annual Holiday Party	December 2, 2013	Bob Balsie

AGS Mowing List

Date	Mower Driver	Helper #1	Helper #2
September 7	Kopl, Tom	Kopl, Todd	Kopl, Matty
September 14	Carey, Richard	Seitz, John	Green, Don
September 21	Gioffredo, Frank	Gioffredo, Derek	Allabaugh, Rick
September 28	Wallace, Scott	Lancki, Ed	Peeling, Harold
October 5	Noll, Bob	Carill, John	Johnson, Bob
October 12	Hatton, Jeff	Hatton, Charlie	Green, Don
October 19	Quinn, Jim	Cease, Frank	Cease, Ben
October 26	Kopl, Tom	Kopl, Todd	Kopl, Matty

Airport Activities

by Jim Quinn – Field Chairman

The X-Mark mower is back and is working better than ever thanks to the tireless efforts of Frank Gioffredo.

Our storage facility is also looking better than ever, as well. That is thanks to John Carril who finished the staining, so it was looking so good for our Model Aviation Day.

Don Shugard made us alert to a mowing issue with the flail mower. “I was running the flail mower at the hose clamp on the runways. As I cut 12/30 I noticed what I thought was thatch from the X-Mark being tossed up. By the time I got to 6/24 I realized it was cutting too low. Not wanting to give the runway a reverse Mohawk I kept the same setting on the mower. Bob Jennings confirmed with a phone a call that he thought it was too low as well. I think the top link needs to have the end opposite the hose clamp turned out 5-6 turns.”

It seems our grass runways are “Mohawked,” to quote Don. Since the grass is so low it is hard to know what needs to be mowed and what is already low. Be sure to watch some areas that are growing faster than others so takeoffs and landings are smooth.

Thanks to everyone who helps keep our facility in such good shape!

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

LEARN TO FLY

A

B-17 "FORT"

Aero Guidance Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 39
Vestal, NY 13850-0039