

# The CONNECTOR

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

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

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

Volume #60 ..... Issue # 9 September 2014

**THE NEXT AGS MEETING WILL BE ON MONDAY OCTOBER 6th 6:45 P.M at the  
Endicott LIBRARY**

Changes to time or location will be noted in this newsletter .

Rick Allabaugh

*The Prez Sez*

At the last meeting, I brought in my Dynam PBY Catalina for show-n-tell which was going to be my first attempt at flying off of water. Unfortunately, during the first flight, the wings folded in half and it went quickly into the water. I think I was only in the air for less than 2 minutes. After fishing everything out of the water, I inspected the foam where it broke. The break occurred right at the point where the wings met the fuselage. I was surprised to see how thin the foam was and to notice that there was no reinforcement (spar) where the break occurred. I also think that the plastic wing struts failed and pulled away from the fuse. At the meeting, I jinxed myself by saying that I wasn't comfortable with the screws provided with the ARF and how everything was held together with screws. These screws are what held the struts to the fuse. The damage is repairable and I expect to have it ready for the next float fly.

I've done some thinking over the past month and I've decided to stay on as President for one more year. As it stands right now, here is the slate of officers we currently have:

President – Rick Allabaugh

Vice President – Charlie Brown

Secretary – Open

Treasurer – Open

Board Members at Large: Frank Giofredo and Tom Kopl

PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEER-

ING YOUR TIME TO BE OUR SECRETARY OR TREASURER!

Well, it's the end of another summer and I didn't get out as nearly as much as I had hoped. I'm kind of looking forward to the winter season so that I can finish up a few plane projects I have on the bench.

REMINDER  
Dues are Due

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

## Coming Events

### AGS Meeting

Oct 6th 6:45 PM  
ENDICOTT LIBRARY

### Pylon Party

Tuesday October 14  
Kristopher's

## **Cancellation of AGS Meetings:**

In the event of poor weather, listen to the radio or television for local closings and cancellations. If the Library is closed the meeting is Cancelled, A notice will be sent to the mailing list

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

**President:** Rick Allabaugh  
(A-C)

**Vice President:** Scott Wallace  
(D-H)

**Secretary:** Bob Noll  
(I-L)

**Treasurer:** Todd Kopl  
(M-R)

**Board Members at Large:**

Brent Bryson (S-Z)

Bob Johnson

**Committee Chairmen**

**Membership:** John Carril

**Program:** Rick Allabaugh

**Activities:** Bob Noll

**Field:** Open

**Historian:** Don Green

**Public Relations:** Open

**Sound:** Scott Wallace

**Safety:** Frank Gioffredo

**Librarian:** Frank Gioffredo

**Editor:** Jeff Hatton

jhattonc@gmail.com

**Field**

by Todd Kopl

We are entering the last mowing month of the year and grass growth is slowing down potentially making it

unnecessary to mow everything if your turn is coming up. The runway bald spots have recovered nicely since my last report.

What I would ask again is that you use your judgment...mow the areas that need it only.

Date	Tractor	Helper
October 4	Charlie Hatton	Jeff Hatton
October 11	Frank Gioffredo	Derek Gioffredo
October 18	Bob Johnson	Don Green
October 25	Vern Ziegler	Brian Ziegler

**VP Soapbox**

(submitted by Scott Wallace)

Well, it has certainly been a roller coaster of a year for the AGS Board. I believe we've made some real, tangible strides towards putting the club back on the right path in several areas. There has been a substantial increase in the number of folks regularly flying and enjoying our great site, which is very encouraging. Over the year we've lost a few long time members, but have also attracted many new members; more than any recent year and that's great to see their enthusiasm.

On the other hand, we should always be respectful and courteous to each other and this hasn't necessarily been the case this past year. It's a fact of life people don't always agree on a given subject, but we need to get back to having respect for each and every AGS member and be able to discuss issues in a civilized manner. If we can't achieve this one, simple goal then nothing else we accomplish really matters. Speaking from experience, email is not the best way to communicate, it's better to speak in person or pick up the phone. Having been your VP for the past two years, and an officer in one capacity or another for 7 of my 14 years in the AGS, it's time for me to take a short break from club administration. I will still be willing to help this club succeed in any way I can, but I reiterate what I've written in past columns, I think we need to greatly simplify our methods of operating to reflect the current state of club. It just isn't the same club (or even hobby in general) as it was twenty, thirty, or forty years ago; why do we try and operate that way? We have an overly bureaucratic organization that requires far too much time and effort to administer/govern yet we wonder why officer volunteers are increasingly hard to come by each year. We lament that we don't have a pool of eager volunteers to fill superfluous committees yet we take no steps to streamline and focus only on what's truly necessary. My hope is that with the input of our newer members, we forge a way forward for the AGS that respects our history yet takes us into the future.

## Float Fly

by Bob Balsie - CD

Well, the 2014 edition of the Fall Float Fly is in the books and it was a success once more. This was scheduled to be a two day event, but the weather forecast was for an 80% chance of rain and thunderstorms for Saturday, so I felt that it would be best to cancel the event for Saturday. As luck would have it there was no rain on Saturday although it was pretty windy in some areas.

Sunday dawned clear and bright and I and several other members were at the park by 8:00 AM to set up. My thanks to Rick Allaugh, Nick Orwan, Frank and Derek Gioffredo, and Don Green who did most of the setup work. Marty Hartman from the MOB also pitched in as well. Thanks, Marty.

Since this was a sanctioned event, I told Rick that he had to put up a successful flight of his shiny new PBY model before the event started. After a nice take-off, he began to turn to the left and then with a loud "crack", the wing folded in the middle and the plane went into the water. Post-crash analysis showed that a poor design of the wing struts allowed them to come loose and overload the center section, causing the break. Hopefully, the manufacturer will stand behind their product and send Rick a new plane.

Once flying started, the action was fast and furious. We had thirteen registered pilots which I feel was pretty good since the event had been reduced to one day. Both fuel and electric models of all types and sizes were represented. We missed Dick Allen this year, as he always came and put up some impressive flights.

About noon, lunch was served by Frank Gioffredo, and Joe and Bev Perrucci. The food was great and all of the participants said as much. Thanks Frank, Joe, and Bev for another great job with the concessions. Then we had the drawing for door prizes. Our event sponsor list was down again this year, but my wife, Jackie, donated over fifty prizes of many types. Thanks, Jackie. All of the pilots and helpers were eligible to win and everyone took home at least four prizes. There was a "pilots only" drawing for the Maxford USA kit of the Hansa-Brandenberg float plane fighter. This was won by Otto Loorents of Shokan, New York. Otto is a lover of German aircraft and it was fitting that he was the recipient of this fine model.

Then it was back to flying again, and Joey Driggs did boat duty while he and his dad, Stan, rescued some of the mishap aircraft from their watery fate. The event wrapped up at 3:00 PM, but a few of the pilots and their family members stayed on and continued to fly.

## AGS Hosts Silver Anniversary Reunion

by Bob Noll

The annual Vintage RC Society Spirit of Selinsgrove Reunion was again hosted by the AGS over the Labor Day weekend. Twenty pilots and over 50 vintage planes filled the pits at the AGS airport. This represents the largest variety of RC planes that were designed at least 35 years ago.

Because this was the 25<sup>th</sup> reunion a special feature is a professional video that VRCS has endorsed for promotional purposes. The video is expected to be released sometime this winter.

As a thank you to the AGS for hosting this event, VRCS donated \$200 to the AGS treasury.

My thanks to all the members of the Golden Eagles, VRCS Chapter III, for helping with this major event.

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 [jhattonc@gmail.com](mailto:jhattonc@gmail.com)

**Deadline for Next Connector is 10/24/14**

## AGS Meeting #803 Minutes

9/2/2014

President Allabaugh called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM. Present were 18 club members and one guest, Scott Sinnett. Membership chairman John Carril provided club info to Scott.

Motion made by Bob Balsie to accept last month's meeting minutes as published in the Connector, seconded by Bob Johnson. Filling in for our Secretary and Treasurer, Scott Wallace read the minutes from the last Board meeting and gave the financial report. Questions from the membership concerning financial matters were addressed by Wallace and Allabaugh.

### Committee Reports:

Field: Frank Gioffredo mentioned the tractor/flail mower had been adjusted and would no longer 'scalp' the runways. As always, be vigilant when operating club mowing equipment. Frank also reminded folks to call him should there be equipment issues in need of attention.

Membership: John Carril reported that the AGS has taken in 10 new members this year which is an outstanding result. John also reported we have had four resignations this year.

### Activity Reports:

Bob Balsie gave a promo for the upcoming float fly Sep 6-7. Bob mentioned some great prizes including an ARF seaplane model donated by Maxford USA.

Frank Gioffredo gave a promo for the upcoming Aerobatics contest Sep 20-21. Additional helpers are still needed; please contact Frank or Jim Quinn if you are available. Jeff Hatton agreed to serve as judge coordinator.

Historian Don Green gave a report on Model Aviation Day and the VRCS event and had many great photos added to our year in review book.

### Old business:

President Allabaugh spoke on behalf of the nominating committee (Bob Balsie and Tom Kopl) that we still have open positions for President, Secretary, and Treasurer. If you haven't served on the Board for a few years please consider supporting the club for this vital task.

President Allabaugh stated that club property (large file cabinet, etc.) stored at his place of employment was to have been moved to the field; that has been postponed for now as it can remain at Delta until Dec/Jan timeframe. We will discuss options at the next Board meeting.

### New business:

President Allabaugh mentioned that Indoor flying is slated to begin again starting Sept 16 at West Middle School. Requirements are AMA membership and a \$5 fee per session. For additional information please refer to the indoor flying email sent out 9/3, or contact Frank Gioffredo or Jim Quinn.

We did not have a quorum to vote on the proposed By-Laws changes, however it was agreed upon to discuss the proposals. Two proposed changes will be re-visited and voted on at the October meeting, two other issues were dropped from consideration following discussion highlighted below.

- Jim Quinn questioned the proposed change to Article X concerning the Aerobatics contest, stating we had already voted on this issue recently. Scott Wallace indicated that yes, this issue was raised and defeated in Feb. Proposed change author Bob Balsie stated he didn't realize that we had debated this issue earlier in the year and agreed to withdraw this proposed change.

- Gib Vandling, Tom Kopl, Don Green, Frank Gioffredo, Jeff Hatton, Scott Wallace and several others spoke out against the proposed change to Article XVI concerning filing grievances and member discipline. Rick Allabaugh presented the counter point that the existing policy is vague and this was an effort to clarify the current wording. Gib Vandling made a motion (seconded by Tom Kopl) that we take a 'straw vote' to see if there was any need to revisit the issue next month or drop it. The vote was held and there was an overwhelming majority against this proposed change. Proposed change authors Bob Balsie and Rick Allabaugh agreed to withdraw this proposed change. We'll revisit the proposed change to the Finance Committee and the proposed change to add "Inc." after Aero Guidance Society on the By-Laws Title page at the October meeting.

### Show and Tell:

Rick Allabaugh displayed his Dynam PBY Catalina WW2 amphibian. Rick plans to fly the model at the upcoming AGS Float Fly.

Charlie Brown displayed his T-28 modified to accept floats so that the model could also be flown at the AGS Float Fly. Jim Quinn displayed an EF-1 (Electric Formula 1) LR-1A Pogo racer by E-flite. EF-1 is becoming a popular alternative racing event to glow powered racing across the country. Speeds for EF-1 racers are similar to AMA class 424 (Q-500 mod-

els powered by Thunder Tiger 40's).

### Program:

Bob Balsie gave a presentation on the Martin B-26 Marauder. The twin engine aircraft was notoriously tricky for new pilots to fly. During the war there was a training squadron based at MacDill AFB in Florida - the mechanics used to say "A Marauder a day in Tampa Bay".

*Respectfully submitted by Scott Wallace  
(acting Secretary for the evening)*

## Race Results for Race #9 and #10

by Bob Noll

Tuesday August 26 was the last of our week day races. Frank Gioffredo, Brent Bryson and Bob Noll enjoyed a beautiful evening. Todd Kopl was unable to attend because of a work assignment and Rick Allabaugh and Jeff Hatton were AWOL. Bob earned 8 points while Frank earned 6 points and Brent earned 4 points.

Race #10 was our only Sunday race this year and four pilots races on a clear sunny afternoon. Todd was the top scorer earning 6 points. Bob followed with 5 points, next was Frank with 4 points followed by Brent with 3 points.

Our 2014 racing season resulted in three race cancellations due to bad weather and only Bob Noll flew in all 7 races. Frank flew in 6 races, Brent raced in 5 races, and Todd could only get to 4 races, Jeff attended 2 races and Rick Allabaugh was unable to attend any races.

We count only the best 6 races and therefore final season points totals are;

1st place - Bob Noll - 29 points  
2nd place - Frank Gioffredo - 22 points  
3rd place - Todd Kopl - 19 points  
4th place - Brent Bryson - 13 points  
5th place - Jeff Hatton - 6 points

Frank earned the honor of being the 2015 race coordinator by virtue of his 2nd place finish. At least someone else will be responsible for the hot dogs, chips and drinks next season.

I would like to thank all race helpers and mention that Don Green, Mark Lecher and Ray Phillips helped at all of the races. I also need to thank Frank for being at all of the races to prepare the food even though he was unable to make a repair to his racer before Race #7.

## It's A Racing Tradition

- by Bob Noll

It has been a long standing tradition that the pilots throw a pizza party for all of the race helpers at the end of the season. If you helped at any race, please come to the party.

Where: Kristopher's Restaurant, Rt. 17 C Endicott

When: Tuesday October 14

### Proposed AGS By-Laws Change (submitted by the AGS Board)

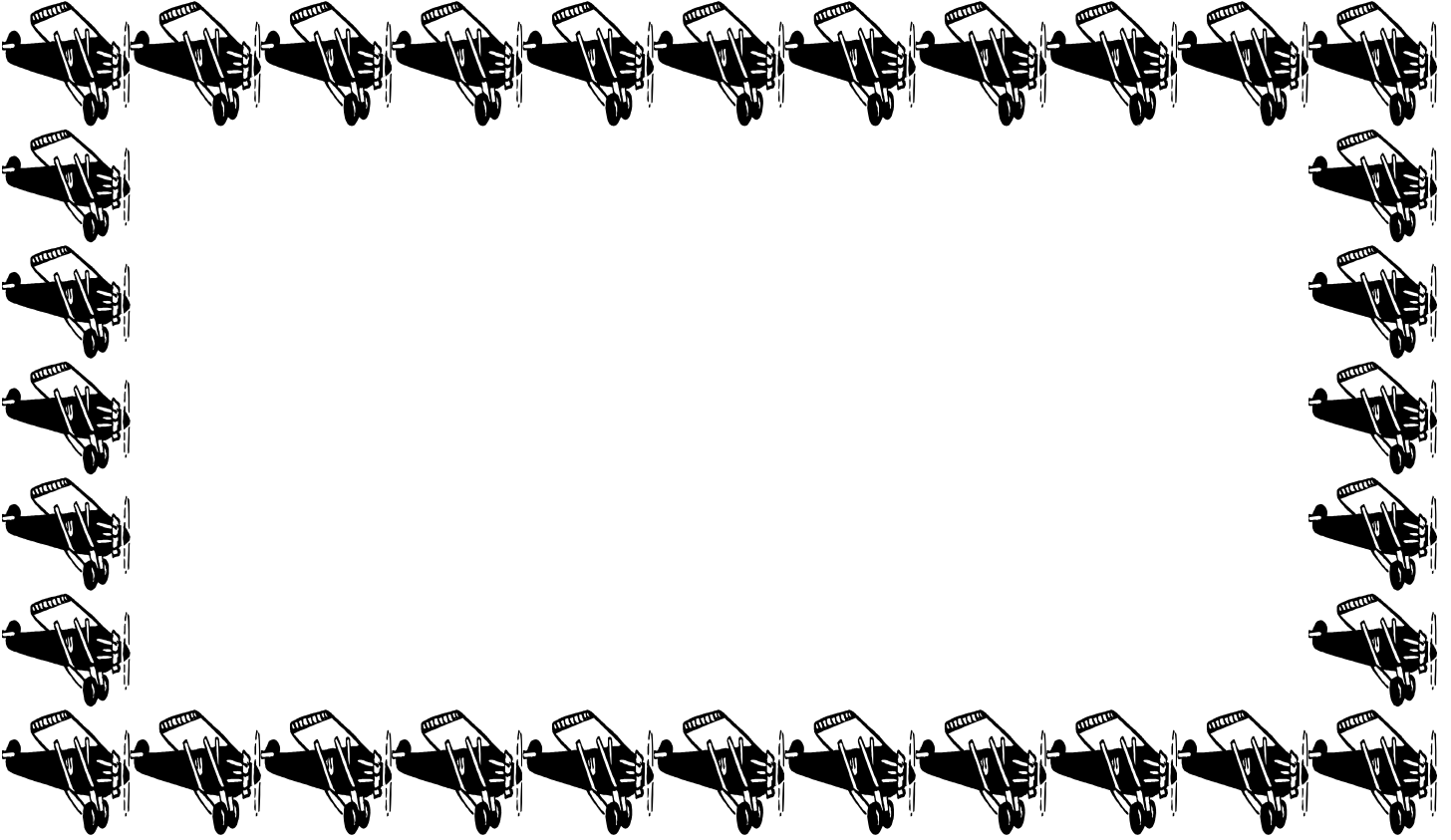
At last month's general meeting we did not have a quorum in order to vote on proposed By-Laws changes; hopefully we can address this change at the October meeting.

The AGS Board recommends a By-Laws modification to [Article VIII - COMMITTEES](#) regarding the Finance Committee.

A Finance Committee shall be a permanent committee convened on an 'as needed' basis and 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.~~

Rationale: Finance Committee was established to 'manage' the large sums of money the club would acquire from gas leases which hasn't happened and isn't likely in the near term. For several years, it has been impossible to staff this committee as written with 3 year commitments. The Committee should be convened on an as needed basis to handle specific tasks, e.g. special assessments, dues increases, property sale discussions, etc.

# OCTOBER PROGRAM



AEROGUIDANCE SOCIETY, INC.  
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