



# The CONNECTOR

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

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

Volume #62 ..... Issue # 4 April 2016

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

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**THE NEXT AGS MEETING WILL BE ON  
MONDAY May 2nd 6:45 P.M at the Endicott Municipal Library**

Changes to time or location will be noted in this newsletter

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*The Prez Sez*

Submitted by Frank Gioffredo

Where has April gone, I was just thinking how far away Spring is and wow May is here.

I could not attend the field opening as work interferes, but kudos to all who prepped the field it looks awesome. I understand Rick's breakfast was well received, wish I could have been there.

I need to clarify the status of the mowing equipment. I was at the field on Friday before the field opening to service the equipment, after reinstalling the carburetor on the Ex-Mark, I found that the air filter was not going work, as it had been contaminated with oil, and the plugs were looking pretty old. My intent is to replace them, as well as pressure up the tires and finish greasing the mowers as we ran out of grease I will be up during the week of April 25th to finish servicing the mowers.

Tom Kopl has asked me to go over field and safety rules for our program. So that will be our program for May.

I hope everyone had a good time at the April meeting with all the aircraft that were present for project night 11 members displayed some 15 models and accessories, nice job guys. I am looking forward to a nice summer after this wild winter we have had, but I don't think spring has figured out what it wants to do, let's hope for the nicer sunny part. With the onset of the flying season, please make sure you are fully prepared for your flying. Check all airframes for airworthiness make sure batteries are in good condition, inspect engine and motor mounts, as I always stress above all use good common sense. One other thing I would like to touch on is not to fly alone, get a buddy to come out. It is too easy to get an electric out and get it in the air but things can happen all too quickly, and it's good to have help if you need it. We have a couple of young club members who want to take a shot at making our website better. We will be getting Cody, his brother Jake, Jeff and Brent together to start the groundwork. Good luck Gentlemen. I look forward to a fresh new start, I also find it very exciting that our younger members are taking such an interest in promoting the club. Well I think I am done for now see you at the meeting.  
Frank

## **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 and a notice will be sent via the AGS mailing list.

## **Coming Events**

### **AGS May Meeting**

Monday May 2nd  
6:45 PM  
Endicott Muni Library

### **Pylon Race #1**

Tuesday May 17th  
6:30 AGS Field

### **Pylon Race #2**

Tuesday May 31st  
6:30 AGS Field

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

**AGS Officers:**

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

**Vice President:** Charlie Brown (D-H)

**Secretary:** Ray Phillips (I-L)

**Treasurer:** Bob Jennings (M-R)

**Board Members at Large:**

Tom Kopl (S-Z)

Stan Driggs

**Past President:** Rick Allabaugh

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**Committee Chairmen:**

**Membership:** Charlie Brown

**Program:** Tom Kopl

**Activities:** Open

**Field:** Todd Kopl

**Historian:** Don Green

**Public Relations:** Open

**Sound:** Scott Wallace

**Safety:** Frank Gioffredo

**Librarian:** Frank Gioffredo

**Webmaster:** Brent Bryson/Jeff Hatton

**Newsletter Editor:** Scott Wallace

**Editorial – submitted by Scott Wallace**

Thanks to all that came out for the April club meeting and especially thanks to everyone that brought a project to show. That was a very nice turnout and an enjoyable club meeting.

After a mild winter as I write this on April 9<sup>th</sup> it is cold and snowing. I have several airplanes waiting for their first flights and another model or two I need to be painting...waiting for good weather is not fun. Hopefully by the time field opening rolls around all is back to normal and flying can begin. Living in the Carolina's for 20 years spoiled me, I really don't enjoy flying in cold weather at all!

Fast forward to April 25 and finally light at the end of the tunnel regarding finishing my winter building spree. Got paint applied to my Hog Bipe and now just a few finishing touches and all my new aircraft will be flight ready. Glad I pulled off five builds in one winter but I won't tackle this many again...one or two at most next building season!

For many years, the "Big Three" in RC equipment were Futaba, JR, and Airtronics with each maintaining a good market share and fierce brand loyalty. Airtronics in particular dominated the glider radio market as they were the first brand with specialized glider programming. Sadly, March 31<sup>st</sup> 2016 marked the end of the line for Airtronics. Their parent company Sanwa has discontinued the Airtronics brand name and is for all intents and purposes out of the aircraft radio business with no new offerings in the pipeline. For those still flying Airtronics radios, Global Hobby Services indicates they will offer support and repairs as possible from their existing stock of parts.

Despite troubling times with Government meddling into our hobby, we've more great choices/options than ever before in aeromodelling so the news isn't all gloom and doom. Electric may have taken over a large segment of the hobby but (despite rumors to the contrary) glow isn't totally dead, and the new generation small gas engines are now practical for even small 40 size models. We also have a plethora of inexpensive, reliable radio gear available - it wasn't too many years ago that the cost of receivers and servos was so great that it greatly limited the number of flyable models the average modeler could have, now that's hardly a concern in the overall cost of a new model.

**NOTE: 72 MHz Channel #42 Must Not Be Used at the AGS Field**

The CONNECTOR is prepared on a Personal Computer. Submissions are happily accepted via email to: wallaceaero1@aol.com

## AGS General Membership Meeting Minutes

Aeroguidance Society Meeting # 821

Date: Apr 4, 2016

Place: Endicott Municipal Library

President Frank Gioffredo called the meeting to order.

Guests: None

The minutes as published in the Connector were approved.

Bob Jennings gave the Treasurer's report. Details are available from Bob.

Ray Phillips read the BOD minutes.

Charlie Brown, membership chair, presented former member Don Shugard's application for membership. Don was voted in as a member.

Brent Bryson reported the details for the 2016 pylon racing season are TBD.

The AGS field opening and breakfast are scheduled for Sat 23 April, 2016, at 9:00 AM.

Frank Gioffredo acknowledged the fine work Scott Wallace has been doing as the editor of the "Connector". The membership also thanked Jim Quinn for hosting our "Spring Fling" flying event.

Some very good news from Charlie Hatton, Jeff's problem with his eyes has improved greatly.

Neil Hunt was the winner of the flight simulator. Thank you Bob Noll for the donation.

The main focus of the meeting was the annual AGS Project Night. Based on the quantity and the quality of the aircraft displayed, 2016 will be a busy time at the AGS field.

Ron Sprague displayed several Dollar Tree Foam Board aircraft. FT Mini Sparrow 15 " free flight, FT Mini Mustang 18" with 280 size motor and FT Mustang 36" span with 380 size motor. One comment Ron made was when you run out of Dollar Tree foam, you can build models from the cardboard box the foam came in.

Jim Monaco presented his newly finished scratch built scale Waco Biplane. This aircraft is electric powered and

built entirely from blue foam board. The foam board was either sanded or hot wire formed. Finish was Econokote.

Tony Cammarata brought his balsa framed up Curtis Robin. This airplane is electric powered with a 50" wingspan. This is a scale model of the 1928 design made famous by "Wrong way Corrigan"

Stan and Joey Driggs showed their new PT - 17 Stearman. This is an electric powered foam airplane.

Charlie Hatton was showing his BJ Craft Monolog 70. This is a completion class electric pattern aircraft. The airplane is an ARF, film covered and powered with a 5S battery and 100 amp speed control.

Scott Wallace has been building like a crazy man this winter. One example is his Hawker Hurricane 1/7 scale with flaps and retracts. The airplane is powered by an OS 62 Four Cycle motor, the kind that burns glow fuel and makes airplane noises.

Bob Noll refinished his 1963 design "Beachcomber". This airplane is 20 years old, powered by a OS 55. Covering is Sig Koverall and dope.

Tom Kopl's Monokote covered Sig Kougar was built in 1995 and never flown. Power is OS 46. This should be the year for a maiden flight; Tom bought a gallon of fuel.

"Warbird" Charlie Brown brought, well you guessed it, two warbirds. The first was a Phoenix Spitfire 1/8 scale 55" wingspan balsa model covered with Coverite. Power is 4S battery, 4250-580 KV motor. The second was a Fliteline Seafury 1/10 scale 48" wingspan model built from EPO foam. Power is 4S battery, 3540-580Kv motor.

Ray Phillips had two airplanes. The first is a Tower Hobbies "Kaos" This was built from a kit, covered with Sig Koverall, dope and Poly Fiber finish paint. Power is Enya 40. This airplane is a VRCS standoff scale model of the very popular Bridi Kaos design. Not an exact replica, but it looks like a Kaos.

The second airplane is to fill the need for military sea air rescue operations at the AGS field due to all the military operations. The airplane is an Extreme Flight "Little Feet". 53" span electric ARF. The airplane is a look alike Christen Husky. Power is by a 3S battery and 3536 electric motor from FMS.

Why do you guys paint those military airplanes green?  
Do you have any idea how hard is it to see a green airplane in the trees??

**Respectfully submitted - Ray Phillips AGS Secretary**

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**Proposed AGS By-Laws Change – submitted by the AGS Board.**

The ASG Board of Directors is proposing the following change to the club’s by-laws. This change will establish a formal dues policy for returning former members.

Editor’s note: I’ve added **yellow highlight** to the proposed updates to the existing By-Laws text.

**ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP**

**Proposed updated section F:**

F. Former Member - A Regular member in good standing whose resignation has been accepted by the Board of Directors. Former Members applying for membership shall be immediately eligible for membership at any regular meeting. A two-thirds (2/3) vote **by secret ballot** of a quorum (refer to Article IV Section E) shall be required for Regular Membership. **Dues will be prorated from the month of approval to the end of the current year.**

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**AGS Field Report – submitted by Todd Kopl**

I’d like to start off by thanking everyone who turned out for field opening day on Saturday April 23rd...we had a great turnout for the event. Rick Allabaugh served up an awesome breakfast feast to start the day. It was not the warmest day of the week but no mud and no rain allowed the planned work to be accomplished. The main project was to whip the tractor shed/pavilion back in shape by enclosing the upper gable end, repairing rotten wood, and putting a fresh coat of paint on the entire building.

Thanks to Jeff Hatton we had a paint sprayer which helped immensely with the painting part. Probably one of the bigger projects over the past few years and it really looks great again and most importantly should be protected for years to come.

Frank has also prepared the mowing equipment for the upcoming season. I know he had a few tasks to complete on the Exmark mower that should be done by the 1st of May. It was noted the front tires on the Exmark are at or nearing end of life and I’ve asked Frank to take that expense to the BOD as a pending need.

With mowing season upon us please let me know if anyone experiences any issues with the equipment. Mowing list for upcoming month as follows:

MOWING LIST 2016				
Dates				
5/5-5/7	Bill	Green	Cody	Brown
5/12-5/14	Charlie	Hatton	Jeff	Hatton
5/19-5/21	Frank	Gioffredo	Derek	Gioffredo
5/26-5/28	Bob	Johnson	Ron	Sprague
6/2-6/4	Todd	Kopl	Matt	Kopl
6/9-6/11	Brent	Bryson	Mark	Lecher

The field is in excellent shape and it’s time to get out and fly!

Attached are a few photos from the Field Opening and many more can be found on the clubs Facebook page:







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**AGS Pylon Racing 2016 – submitted by Brent Bryson**

Racing season is almost upon us. We are looking forward to great participation from the experienced racers and helpers, and new enthusiasts that want to join in the fun. We also hope that some past participants that have been away from it will return this year.

For the newcomers, race number 3, held on 6/14/16, will include an introductory race. This will give the opportunity for anyone who wants to get started with minimum stress. Experienced racers will provide guidance with checking out your plane, preparing and starting your plane, racing your plane, and bringing your plane to as safe a landing as possible.

There will be hot dogs on the grill after every race cooked to perfection by Rick Allabaugh, along with chips and soda. Also, as is tradition, there will be a pizza dinner out at the end of the season to thank the helpers, and award the trophies.

The race schedule will be fairly simple. There will be 8 races starting on 5/17/16, and repeating every two weeks, with the final race scheduled for 8/23/16.

The fee for racers will be \$40 this year, which goes to support the after race grilling and to support the Thank You dinner for the helpers.

The official equipment is a quickie 500 type aircraft, and a stock (unmodified) OS xp40 or an OS la40 glow fueled engine. Fuel is restricted to 15% or less nitromethane component.

Also, a number of racers have expressed an interest in other format racing, such as electric foamies, 1/2A,

Trainers, etc. These races would be initially unofficial, more or less ad hoc, with fun being the objective. After the race on a race night (when the days get longer) would be a good time to try this out, since the flags would already be set up. If you have any thing you would like to try bring it up and we will see if there is any interest.

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**New Idea for AGS Pylon Racing in 2017 – submitted by Scott Wallace**

The AGS has a long history of running club pylon racing events. In early days the then common Goldberg Jr Falcon was used with Cox .049 engines – mild performance maybe but I’m sure this was a lot of fun in its day.

More recently the AGS has been racing a ‘modified’ Q-500 style series using sport engines (OS 40FP or 40LA) instead of much more powerful racing engines. I raced with the AGS for around 5 years and had a lot of fun, but I’m no longer interested in devoting the time and resources for such specialized models that are useless for anything other than race nights.

Lately we’ve seen fewer guys racing (really just a small number now), and as our club demographics have changed I know it’s been a chore for our race directors to secure enough workers to help run the races.

Electric F-1 type models have been discussed in the recent past as a solution to increase participation but these small, sleek racers end up being quite expensive and in my opinion would do nothing to help renew interest in AGS club racing.

Certainly more and more of our membership *are* only flying electric aircraft these days so I’ll throw this out for discussion. Why don’t we consider going back to our roots with simple, cheap, affordable and durable electric racers? Here’s an option though I’m sure several viable choices are available.

Twisted Hobbies has released a series of colorful EPP foam ‘racers’ aimed at club racing events. EPP is tough enough to take a beating and be ready for the next heat unlike our current balsa models. We could set up a smaller 2 pole course set up within our runway boundary and could cut down of the number of helpers needed by probably 50% plus get more than 4-5 guys racing.



These 31" wingspan airframes are around \$70 each and come in several colors/styles; a club 4-pack is even offered at a small discount. The AGS could specify a motor/ESC/battery/prop combo and be racing. The TW hobbies motor & speed control run approx. \$50 and they recommend 3S 600 mAh Li-Po's for these racers. No, they aren't drop dead gorgeous airplanes but neither are Q-500's and something like this might be just what we need going forward for next year to renew club interest.

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**WingInIt with Warbird – submitted by Charlie Brown**

Hello pilots,  
 And another month just went screaming by and it seems like I didn't get squat done on the remainder of my build/assembly projects that I mentioned in last month's WingInIt. I really enjoyed seeing what some of ya have been busy working on over the lay-up winter months at last month's Show-N-Tell. Am particularly excited that there are fresh new 'targets' for Scott Wallace's and my new British fighters to practice on.....only kidding guys!?!?!?.

This past weekend was the de-winterizing of the club field and approx. a third of the membership participated in getting all the various equipment relocated from storage back to it proper place for flying season usage. Rick Allabaugh got the breakfast fixins served up and from my observation the flap jacks looked pretty tasty and they must have been because the talk level sorta slowed as the chow was going down. I was diagnosed a couple months ago to be gluten intolerant so all could have was the eggs and coffee.

We no sooner cleaned up our plates and Todd Kopl kicks the first major work party in gear that I've seen in

the three years I've been here. It was a good project because the equipment barn was in desperate need of a good face lift. After a little over 3 gallons of stain, some T-111 finally put up on the end gable over the double barn doors and close to 4 hours of everyone pitching in on various tasks I think the barn is now good for probably longer than I'll be around on the top side of the dirt.

Another fresh look for the club that I am really looking forward to seeing completed will occur this Thursday because that is when Ray Phillips and I are gonna get the new club road signage installed. Once that is in place there will be no mistaking what the AGS is all about when people go driving past. I truly believe that the money invested in that infrastructure upgrade is absolutely going to have the inquisitive passerby turn into a visitor who actually makes their way to the top of the hill to investigate and possibly become the next new Associate member. The more members that are added to the membership rolls means a stronger club financially and less burden on each and every member's wallet. So this coming week keep your eyes peeled for the new "who we are" sign.

Now that the flying season is 'officially' underway (I can attest to this fact because I know of three pilots with birds in the woods already and I wasn't one) just a reminder that the flight school is open for basic and refresher activities. If you desire some assistance at either level feel free to contact myself or Brent Bryson to schedule a time on Wednesdays or Saturdays. I also offer to assist or actually perform the maiden of a members new aircraft if one so desires due to being apprehensive in doing so by yourself. We all get that "pucker" factor including yours truly but I have been able to tame that sphincter beast pretty well by now due to the volume and variety of airframes numbering better than 20 successfully maiden in the past 2 years. For those that I didn't get to see flying last year, I hope to get to see ya this year putting a grin on your face.

Best regards,  
 Warbird

**Editor's Note:** A huge thank you to Bob Jennings and Charlie Brown for their hard work and dedication to getting our runways in tip top shape, ready for all of us to enjoy this flying season.



Ole "Warbird" no doubt daydreaming of flying one of his WWII fighters chasing after bandits!



Not a Harley Davidson but still cool!

## **AGS CLUB ACTIVITIES FOR 2016**

<b>ACTIVITY / LOCATION (AGS Field unless specified)</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>CHAIRMAN</b>
AGS Pylon Race #1	May 17	Brent Bryson
AGS Pylon Race #2	May 31	Brent Bryson
AGS Pylon Race #3	June 14	Brent Bryson
AGS Pylon Race #4	June 28	Brent Bryson
AGS Pylon Race #5	July 12	Brent Bryson
AGS Pylon Race #6	July 26	Brent Bryson
AGS Pylon Race #7	Aug 9	Brent Bryson
AGS Pylon Race #8	Aug 23	Brent Bryson
AGS Aerobatics Contest	Aug 27-28	Frank Gioffredo
VRCS Reunion	Sept 3-4	Bob Noll
AGS Float Fly	TBD	TBD

### **Other RC events of interest**

<b>Event / Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Contact</b>
MOB Float Fly – Nathaniel Cole Park	May 21-22	Brian Tyler (607) 775-2410 flyinbri@echoes.net

**Editor's Note: If you know of an event in the area that would be of interest to the general membership please forward that information to me at [wallaceaero1@aol.com](mailto:wallaceaero1@aol.com) for inclusion in the next edition of The Connector.**



# MAY PROGRAM



## *Safety & Field Rules Discussion*



AEROGUIDANCE SOCIETY, INC.  
P. O. Box 39  
Vestal, NY 13850-0039