



# The CONNECTOR

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

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

Volume #63 ..... Issue # 5 May 2017

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

**THE NEXT AGS MEETING WILL BE ON  
Monday June 5th 6:30 P.M at the AGS Field**

Changes to time or location will be noted in this newsletter

## *The Prez Sez - Submitted by Rick Allabaugh*

### **SUMMER MEETINGS:**

The Board has decided to shake things up a little this summer at our regular meetings. We are not going to hold our “typical” meeting or even plan on having a Program for these meetings. Instead, it’s going to be open flying for everyone until dusk. We’ll conduct the business portion of the meeting after we’re done flying.

### **Open Flying Night:**

In order to foster and grow the relationship between the various clubs in the area, we would like to have a designated “Open Flying Night”. We’ll discuss this at the next meeting, but we’re thinking maybe two nights per month during the summer. In addition to having our club members fly, we’ll also invite the members of other local clubs such as the Aeros, the MOB, and the group from Sayre. I have a few contacts at SUNY Binghamton and SUNY Broome and looking into inviting some of the students from the engineering programs. Did you know that SUNY Broome now has an Aviation Program (I believe it’s a Mechanic’s Program) since a full size aircraft was donated to the college last year?

### **Field Vandalism:**

Hopefully you a read the e-mail I sent out about our recent vandalism incident. At the past BOD meeting, we’ve decided to address the issue in the following manner:

1. We’re going to see what we have to do to post our property.
2. We’re going to first try moving some of the recent tree trimmings and scrub brush members have cut into the access paths for the ATV’s and dirt bikes. If we make it difficult for access, we’re hoping to deter them from entering.

We did discuss buying trail cameras to capture trespassers. However, right now we’re going to try cutting off easy access first.

So until next month, enjoy the field, have fun flying, and fly safely.

### **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 June Meeting**

Mon June 5th  
6:30 PM AGS Field

#### **AGS Pylon Race #2**

Wed June 7th  
6:00 AGS Field

#### **AGS Hilltop Challenge**

Sat June 10th  
9:30 AM AGS Field

#### **AGS Pylon Race #3**

Wed June 21st  
6:00 AGS Field

### **For AGS field current weather info contact:**

BGM Automated  
Terminal Information  
System (ATIS)  
607- 729-8335

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

**AGS Officers:**

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

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

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

**Treasurer:** Pending (M-R)

**Board Members at Large:**

Tom Kopl (S-Z)

Bill Green

**Past President:** Frank Gioffredo

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**Committee Chairmen:**

**Membership:** Charlie Brown

**Program:** Tom Kopl

**Activities:** Frank Gioffredo

**Field:** Todd Kopl

**Historian:** Open

**Public Relations:** Open

**Sound:** Scott Wallace

**Safety:** Frank Gioffredo

**Librarian:** Brent Bryson

**Webmaster:** Brent Bryson

**Newsletter Editor:** Scott Wallace

**Editorial – submitted by Scott Wallace**

Persistence pays off, at long last my quick and simple “beater plane” Bridi Aircruiser is complete after a full calendar year. To be fair, in the interim I built and flew a Bridi Warlord, framed up an Astro Hog and a deBolt Equalizer...but a full 12 months for a basic “box with wings” is ridiculous.

For the most part, I blame the weather as I had the model framed up and covered by last October. Hoped to get it done before winter set in but was not to be, and we’ve all seen how bad the weather’s been this spring and I need good conditions for painting. Ah yes, painting; if I had been OK with monokote then this would have been finished and flying months ago. For this model I went with nitrate dope, Sig Koverall and then Klass Kote epoxy primer and paint. I had sketched out a nice four color scheme and thought I was in the home stretch.

Epoxy paint is fairly straightforward, you mix the paint and catalyst, let it induct for 30 minutes and then add the thinner. A tack coat followed by two wet coats gives me a respectable finish. This time the base white *seemed* to go on fabulously...until I went back to spray the final wet coat and saw runs everywhere! If you’ve ever tried to sand cured epoxy paint it’s almost impossible so the only recourse was to grab rags soaked in thinner and wipe it all off best I could. Talk about a mess...after days wet sanding the remainder of the mess I started over.

At this point I just wanted the beast done and off my workbench, so the simplest two color scheme is what it ended up with. Behold my Bridi Aircruiser 60:



I should point out this excellent kit was a bargain at only \$85 but the paint products to finish it were over \$250!

Next up, finishing my Astro Hog in time for the VRCS events this summer...

**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 # 833**

Date: May 1, 2017

Place: Endicott Library

President Rick Allabaugh called the meeting to order.

Guests: None

The minutes as published in the Connector were approved.

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

Unfortunately, due to the forecast of bad weather, including heavy rain, lightning and high winds, many members did not attend the meeting.

The field opening went very well. Thank you to all that helped removing our equipment from storage. Everyone enjoyed the breakfast by Rick Allabaugh. We are now ready for a new flying season after a long hard winter. The new addition you will note when you arrive at the field are 5 new flight stations that were built by Bill Green. These are examples of a club member's super craftsmanship. Thanks Bill, these will be appreciated by all for many years to come.

Everyone should review the 2017 AGS Club Activities Calendar that was published in the Connector. There are many events at our field this year.

Any AGS equipment problems should be reported to the BOD for corrective actions.

Rick is updating our AGS-Members email distribution list. This list is very out of date and was in need of maintenance.

Bob Noll gave a report on the pylon racing. Bob will be changing the schedule from Tuesday evening to Wednesday evenings to accommodate more members. Bob will publish a new schedule.

We reviewed the AGS field rules; the updated rules will be posted at the field. We will also have the AMA Safety Code posted.

Bob Noll brought a vintage Citizenship single channel transmitter. This is a very unique box. It used a telephone rotary dial to code the transmitter signals. Those who have flow escapements know the keying

sequence, one for left, two for right, etc. With this box, you just dialed the command. The idea was to be able to obtain rudder and elevator control with cascaded compound escapements. This transmitter had a feature that is not available in modern radios. When you got into trouble, you could dial 1-800-GET-HELP or 911.

The evening program was presented by Bob Noll. This was a picture presentation of the AGS 50th anniversary pattern contest. The year was 2005 and the contest was still held at the Blue Swan Airport in Sayre, PA. It took 40 AGS members with blue shirts and blue hats to run this large contest event.

Just a reminder to all members, the next meeting will be at the AGS field, get those airplanes ready and dust off those thumbs, the flying season has started.

**Respectfully submitted - Ray Phillips AGS 2016-17  
Secretary**

**Reminder to all AGS members...Keep  
your AMA membership current.**

**AMA membership is an AGS  
requirement to remain a member in  
good standing.**

**AGS Shirts and Hats are  
available again!**

**Get your from Zappia Athletic  
Products  
133 Front St.  
Vestal, NY 13850**

**Contact person is Dan Cordi,  
reference Ray Phillips**

## AGS Field Report June 2017 – by Todd Kopl

I'd like to start out by thanking everyone that turned up for field opening on April 29th and especially Rick for putting on a great breakfast to start the day...YUM! The weather was nice for a change and a lot of hard work was put into cleaning up the road sides. Don Shugard & Bob Jennings knocked down some of the bigger stuff prior to opening (thanks guys). We also have some nice new flight stands I believe compliments of Bill Green with some advisory assistance from Neil Hunt & Jim Monaco. Unfortunately I failed to snap a single photo to include this month so I apologize for that. I've probably missed some folks that are doing things up there...I know Charlie did some additional rolling recently. Just shoot me a note...I like to give a shout out whenever I know about something.

Rick put a note out to the club about the field vandalism and I'd like to first thank Bill Green for calling me right away to let me know and to everyone that stepped up and handled it that day (hard for me to get out of work in the middle of the day...). This is an unfortunate event but anyone that's been in the club for a number of years recognizes this is a recurring event every so often. Last time I personally recall was back in the late 90's when I was field chair...someone took an axe or sledgehammer to the upper pavilion to get in. I'll support whatever the BOD decides to do going forward.

Frank just let me know one of the new Exmark tires is flat...hopefully I'll have that addressed before this goes to print. Not sure if it was the vandalism or something else since it's one of the new tires.

Lastly, if you haven't been out go fly and enjoy the field! Just went up Saturday afternoon with Matthew & my Dad and what a great turnout and fun day to fly w/ fellow members! Jim Monaco asked me to try one if his planes (wish I could tell you what it was)...great flyer!

### Mowing List

**New this year I'm also going to hang a clip board in the tractor shed with a "complete" box to check off. This way if for whatever reason you show up to mow and it looks like it was just done you can verify against the check sheet.**

MOWING LIST 2017				
Dates				
5/25-5/27	Bob	Johnson	Ron	Sprague
6/1-6/3	Todd	Kopl	Matt	Kopl
6/8-6/10	Brent	Bryson	Mark	Lecher
6/15-6/17	Scott	Wallace	Ray	Phillips
6/22-6/24	Jim	Quinn	Nick	Orwan
6/29-7/1	Charlie	Brown	Neil	Hunt
7/6-7/8	Harold	Peeling	Stan	Driggs
7/13-7/15	Rick	Allabaugh	Scott	Sinnett
7/20-7/22	Tom	Kopl	John	Carril

- Dates are the Saturday the field should be mowed by (*typically* mowed on Thursday afternoon/evening to ensure good condition for weekend).
- Please coordinate with your partner.
- If you would like to change partners please let me know who you have changed with so I can update the list.
- If you cannot make your scheduled time please consult the list and recruit a replacement.
- A complete job consists of the following:
  - Runways and pit area mowed
  - Upper & lower pavilion areas mowed & trimmed (Diagram also posted at lower pavilion)
  - Porta potty cleaned
- Please remember to submit gas receipts to the Treasurer (Bob Noll) for reimbursement so the club can track actual expenses.

*Note: you may notice not all active club member names appear on the list- this is not an oversight.*

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### AGS Hilltop Challenge – by Jim Monaco

The first AGS Hill Top Challenge is officially scheduled and set to start the event on Saturday, June 10th at 9:30 am for sign-in.

The excitement is building for the Challenge with some competitive talk between several pilots for some ambitious rivalry. We will see who is the best pilot at the end of the challenge. We have fifteen pilots to compete. There is no cost for anyone competing or attending. Everybody needs to bring food and drinks for themselves.

At the sign in, each flyer will draw a number from a hat that determines the pilot flying order for all of the events that day. Each selected event will be announced and explained before each start.

A lunch break will be announced and used as needed.

The flying hours will start at 10:00am and end about 6:00 pm. I will be sending an email notice on Friday, the night before, to notify everyone if there is a cancellation due to weather conditions.

There will be a rain date for Sunday, June 11th and sign-in is 10:30 am if weather permits. Over a 15 mph wind condition, the event will be postponed.

During competition a pilot can decide to not fly a specific event without penalty.

Any disagreement among flyers will be decided on by Judge Jim Monaco.

Bring any or all planes to fly as long as they are a fixed wing, 36" minimum span, no drones or, hellos.

Let's be fair with each other and JUST HAVE FUN!  
Invite people to come and welcome them.  
I encourage all contestants to wear their special apparel, like tie-dye shirts, bell bottom pants, and a special hat.  
Bring several planes as needed to be competitive for the different events.

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### **Kudos to Jim Monaco - by Bob Noll**

Jim Monaco's enthusiasm about the "AGS Hill Top Challenge" is great. I'm looking forward to the renewal of some intra club competition. I say renewal because the Intra-Club Contest was one of three activities listed in the AGS By-Laws for many years. This event was renamed the "Celebration of Flight" in the late 1990's by Jim Quinn to attract members who were not "contest" types.

This reminded me of the "Southern Tier RC Association" (STRCA) which was formed in the 60's by three of the Southern Tier clubs. The Ithaca RC Club, the Valley RC Club (Sayre, PA) and the AGS would gather throughout the summer as each club hosted an STRCA activity. There were three common

events that each club held and a fourth event that was selected by the host club and was unique to that activity. Scores for the clubs were used to determine the top club. An annual STRCA banquet was hosted by the Valley RC Club at an American Legion Hall in Sayre in the fall. Great fun and something that got those three clubs together for four activities including a banquet with wives and spouse. Great times for many years!

PS: Yes, Sayre, PA is not part of the Southern Tier but no-one complained.

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### **Classic Pattern Practice Sessions - by Bob Noll**

Classic pattern practice sessions are being planned for the Wednesday evenings when there are no pylon races. We will start at about 6 PM. These dates are;

May 31  
June 14  
June 28  
July 12

If you would like me to meet you at the AGS Airport at any other time that better suits your schedule please contact me at bobrc@aol.com or 754-5279.

Of course it is good if you practice the maneuvers on you own.

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### **Wing In It with Warbird – submitted by Charlie Brown**

As a follow up on the field conditions, I mentioned last month that it needed a second "hammering" which did get done before spring setup. With all the recent rains the runways were growing extremely fast so during that Sat setup got it mowed for use before the first scheduled mowing. This left the 8N's rear wheel cleat mark imprints and I was not happy about that so time for another rolling which had to wait until after the monsoons that came a week after setup.

So when I did get to the field again for the "final" roll I was confronted with turf damage to the area around the equipment building, south runway infield and car access path to the equipment building which took 3 hours more to fix above and beyond the 2 hrs. to roll the runways for

the last time. This damage had occurred the day before and the culprits parents had been confronted by our neighbor/gate keeper. It is highly suspected that a possible few took retaliation to that and caused the felony vandalism that was reported to you by the Prez. The days of a warm reception to uninvited nonmembers using our facility are to say the least numbered. The BOD will continue to advise the course of actions being considered or taken over the near term.

Since last month I was able get a couple more maidens completed. Unfortunately I have not been able to do but one at our field which was the Pitts Python because it has been an extremely wet spring on top of the hill so far. I was however able take the opportunity and accept the courteous offer by the Binghamton Aero's Prez Tony Jensen to come over to their facility. I took the F7F-2D Tigercat and the P-40B Flying Tiger over to their flying facility at the Chenango Bridge Airport. The maiden results were successful and very gratifying because I had also done some pretty radical airframe and power plant mods to these birds.

Here's a before as it was bought and the after mod addition of the drone controller crew member, nose radar pod and larger scale props/radial engine facade ready for the maiden of the NAVY's Tigercat.



I was able to make the MOB's Float Fly this past Saturday at Nathaniel Cole Park. I learned from the host CD Brian Taylor that this spring event used to be hosted by AGS at one time. I really enjoy these float fly events and am glad that we are still able to do the fall event at Greenwood and thanks again to Don Shugard for keeping it alive for this year. It was a gorgeous day both temp/sun and wind wise and AGS had 5 members taking advantage of such a fun event. Flying off the water is such a different animal than terra firma and for those that don't participate you are really missing a completely different satisfaction in model aircraft flying. You don't need an expensive or elaborate airframe to participate in this event also. Don Shugard had DTFB (Dollar Tree Foam Board) modeled from a Flite Test plan and it flew very well and took to the water like a duck too. You don't know what your missing is all I can say.

See ya all at the next club meeting where this year as the Prez has already mentioned that we're gonna be flying so let's hope for a nice comfortable evening with mild winds.

With warm regards,

Warbird

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### **PYLON RACE REPORT - by Bob Noll**

As a cool wind swept over the AGS airport, pilots and helpers gathered to kick off the 2017 pylon racing season. Todd Kopl started off where he finished last season by winning all of his 4 heats. Cory Bulger, Todd's friend from Lockheed Martin, showed that, although

new to pylon racing, he is an excellent pilot and won all but one of his heats. Of course that was the one he had to fly against Todd.

Bob Noll, Frank Gioffredo and Brent Bryson rounded out the field and every pilot handled the wind masterfully although the wind did account for a few pylon cuts throughout the evening.

After four rounds of Q-500 racing it was time for the Sport Cub races. This was the first race for the Cubs and everyone was wondering how they would handle the wind. Running the Cub races after the Q-500 races did allow the Cubs to enjoy a slightly reduced wind velocity.

In stark contrast to the fast take-offs of the Q-500 racers, the Cubs lumbered a bit as they headed into the wind toward pylon #1. Matty Kopl and Jeff Hatton did a great job of flying the Cubs and showed everyone that Cub racing is a new and exciting feature of the AGS pylon racing. The Cubs fly only 5 laps rather than the 10 laps flown by the Q-500 planes.

The final results for Q-500 are:

Place	Pilot	Points
1	Todd Kopl	8
2	Cory Bulger	7
3	Bob Noll	6
4	Frank Gioffredo*	4
5	Brent Bryson*	3
6	Rick Allabaugh*	0
7	Matty Kopl*	0

**\*Notes:**

- Frank and Brent chose not to fly their 4th heat
- Rick Allabaugh was out of town on business travel
- Matty chose to sit out the Q-500 races until he gets a bit more practice

Results for Sport Cub are:

Place	Pilot	Points
1	Matty Kopl	3
1	Jeff Hatton	3
3	Cody Brown*	0
4		

**\*Notes:**

Cody will join the racing after school is out

Thanks to all of the helpers and especially Ron Sprague and Scott Sinnett who attended their first race. A special

thanks to Jim Monaco, our race starter, and was heard to say "I've got to get one of those" after seeing the Sport Cub races.

Mark Lecher returned as our statistician and Frank Gioffredo handled the head cook's job of providing hot dogs with all the trimming, chips and drinks after the races.

Thanks to Tom Kopl for helping me reconstruct the racing equipment and to my friend Barbara Sitler who made new pylon flags, all of which were stolen from the metal cabinet.

**The next race is scheduled for Wednesday, June 7.** Let's see more Sport Cubs for that race. I know they are out there.

**What our members are building:**



**Ray Phillips Bridi Aircruiser 60**

Ray and I bought these two Bridi kits at the same time, and as it worked both were finished up a year later. We both used dual aileron servos, and both changed to a bolt on wing instead of using rubber bands – but our solutions were different. I can report that mine flies great!



**Scott Wallace's Bridi Aircruiser 60**

## **AGS Merchandise – available from Bill Green**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Price ea.</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Price ea.</b>
AGS Decals (white base)		AGS Patches	
Small	\$0.75	Small (2.25" x 1.75")	\$0.75
Medium	\$1.75	Medium (3" x 2")	\$1.75
Large	\$2.75	Large (4.25" x 3.25")	\$2.75
X-Large	\$3.75	X-Large (5.75" x 4.5")	\$3.75
AGS Decals (clear base)		Embroidered Coat Patches	
Small	\$0.50	Medium (9" x 7")	\$10.00
Medium	\$1.00	Large (12" x 10")	\$15.00
Large	\$1.25		
X-Large	\$1.50	AGS Coffee Mugs	\$10.00
		AMA ID Labels	\$0.25

### **Classic Pattern model perfection – the Aurora**





**Classic Pattern**



AMA Sanction 888

# CLASSIC PATTERN CONTEST

**JULY 22, 2017**

**Aeroguidance Society Model  
Airport, Endicott, NY**

- **9 AM - Registration \$15, no fee for AGS members**
- **10 AM - Flying starts**
- **Lunch available**
- **Any plane other than planes designed for current RC Aerobatics competition.**
- **All CPA Classes**
- **Fixed Masters sequence - Contact Bob Noll**
- **Visit the Classic Pattern Association web site at [www.classicpatternassociation.org](http://www.classicpatternassociation.org)**
- **Bob Noll - Contest Director**  
**E-mail: [bobrc@aol.com](mailto:bobrc@aol.com), Phone: 607-754-5279**

## **AGS CLUB ACTIVITIES FOR 2017**

<b>ACTIVITY / LOCATION (AGS Field unless specified)</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>CHAIRMAN</b>
AGS Pylon Race #2	June 7	Bob Noll
AGS Hill Top Challenge	June 10	Jim Monaco
AGS Pylon Race #3	June 21	Bob Noll
AGS Pylon Race #4	July 5	Bob Noll
AGS Pylon Race #5	July 19	Bob Noll
AGS Classic Pattern Contest	July 22	Bob Noll
AGS Pylon Race #6	Aug 2	Bob Noll
AGS Pylon Race #7	Aug 16	Bob Noll
AGS 62 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Precision Aerobatics Contest	Aug 25 - 27	Jeff Hatton Frank Gioffredo
AGS Pylon Race #8	Aug 30	Bob Noll
VRCS Spirit of Selinsgrove	Sept 2 - 3	Bob Noll
AGS Float Fly Greenwood Park, Lisle NY	Sept 30 - Oct 1	Don Shugard
AGS Field Winterizing	TBD	Todd Kopl

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

<b>Event / Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Contact / Info</b>
Susquehanna Valley Modelers 2017 Fun Fly	July 8 (rain date 9 <sup>th</sup> ) 10:00AM – 5:00PM	Mike Brown <a href="mailto:Mikeb@kfhinge.com">Mikeb@kfhinge.com</a> (570) 568-0710

**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.**

# JUNE PROGRAM



*No Program, come up and Fly!*



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P. O. Box 39  
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