



The CONNECTOR

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

www.agsny.org

Volume #64 Issue # 1 January 2018

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

**THE NEXT AGS MEETING WILL BE ON
Monday Feb 5th 6:45 P.M at the Endicott Library**

Changes to time or location will be noted in this newsletter

The Prez Sez - Submitted by Rick Allabaugh

Next Club Meeting

Monday, February 5th at the George F. Johnson Library in Endicott.

Mid-Winter Fun Fly

The Mid-Winter Fun Fly is all set for Sunday, February 11th with Neil Hunt hosting the event. We'll be flying from 11 am to 2 pm at the BC United Soccer Fields. What will it be, skis or wheels? If he can swing it, Frank Gioffredo may be planning on being at the event. Rumor has it that Terry Terrenoire may be coming up with him.

Where's our Club Secretary?

I am in desperate need of a Club Secretary! You would only have a couple of tasks.

- 1) Attendance at the monthly BOD meetings. Document the discussions and send the minutes to the Webmaster (Don Shugard)
- 2) Attendance at the monthly general club meetings. Document the discussions and send the minutes to the Newsletter Editor (Scott Wallace)

Finally

Don't forget that in Spring we'll hold a special Project Night where you get to show off your winter build projects. My building season is still on hold due to house improvements, but I try to do a little here, a little there every now and then. I tried building in my office during lunch, but too many people were coming in trying to figure out what I was doing.

As always, I hope to see ya at the next meeting!

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 February Meeting

Mon Feb 5

6:45 PM Endicott Library

AGS Mid-Winter Fly

Sun Feb 11

Time 11:00 – 2:00 PM

BC United Soccer Fields

[For AGS field current weather info contact:](#)

[BGM Automated](#)

[Terminal Information
System \(ATIS\)](#)

[607- 729-8335](tel:607-729-8335)

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

AGS Officers:

President: Rick Allabaugh (A-C)

Vice President: Bill Green (D-H)

Secretary: Rick Allabaugh (Acting
Secretary) (I-L)

Treasurer: Brent Bryson (M-R)

Board Members at Large:

Bob Jennings (S-Z)

Jim Monaco

Past President: Frank Gioffredo

Committee Chairmen:

Membership: Bill Green

Program: Tom Kopl

Activities: Open

Field: Todd Kopl

Historian: Open

Public Relations: Open

Sound: Scott Wallace

Safety: Open

Librarian: Brent Bryson

Webmaster: Don Shugard

Editorial – submitted by Scott Wallace

This has been a rough start to the year as the frigid temps have really kept me out of my workshop, my space heater was no match for near zero or even below zero temps we had for a sustained period. About the only I accomplished was to order a few more ‘short’ kits from Summit Model Aeronautics. I like owner Steve’s work as he uses a CNC router instead of a laser to cut parts.

To get my RC fix I did put together a few foam profiles. For outdoor/backyard flying I assembled a Hacker Pilatus Porter and for indoor I put together a Twisted Hobbies “superlight series” Crack Laser Pro. I flew the Laser at Sayre, PA on Jan 9th for the first time and was very pleased. It is approx. 1 ounce lighter than my Twisted Hobbies SU-29 that I have been flying and that made a dramatic difference. Light weight is everything for an indoor model.

I’ll throw in my 2 cents on the mower issue we have looming this spring. I think we need to realistically assess not only a declining number of members as well as an aging membership. We have an Ex-Mark mower that is problematic at best, and Ford tractor that fewer and fewer of the membership is willing or even able bodied enough to operate it safely.

If we sell both older machines and replace them with one new (or nearly new) modern, reliable mower we’ll be miles ahead. Yes, there are many of us that can repair machinery, but some of us have very little free time to fly let alone spend that precious time working on problematic equipment. When it comes to rolling the field, when it does the most good in the early spring the ground is often too soft for the Ford, so I do not think there’s a valid reason to keep either old machine.

Bottom line it won’t be too many more years until there are just a handful of us on the mowing list. Let’s aim to make this task as easy and trouble free as possible.

With all the bad news in the hobby lately, one bit of good news at least for me. MECOA has revived the Hayes line of fuel tanks and engine mounts. Their fuel tanks have been my favorites for over 30 years – they never split and you don’t have to bend brass tubing!

**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: s.j.wallace13@gmail.com

AGS General Membership Meeting Minutes

Aeroguidance Society Meeting #841

Date: January 8, 2018

Place: George F. Johnson Library, Endicott, NY

President Rick Allabaugh called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Guests:

We had two (2) guests, Doug Breneman and Dave Smith. Doug is a former member of the AGS who, to this day, still helps us to coordinate with the BC United staff for use of their fields during the Winter flying Season. Dave is a friend of Wayne Kunzman who came out to see what we're all about.

And finally, not to confuse everyone, but our newest Associate Member, Dave Smith, who should not be confused with the Dave Smith who was our guest, attended our meeting. Due to a commitment during the holiday season, he was unable to make the last meeting or the first winter fun fly. Welcome Dave!

The minutes of the last general meeting were approved as published in The Connector.

President Allabaugh gave the financial report to those in attendance. If any member has any questions regarding our account, they can contact Brent Bryson for additional information.

President Allabaugh gave a summary of the December Board of Director Meeting. A couple of important items:

We are currently working on determining if we have any delinquent members. Due to the recent change in Treasurer and Membership chairs, we are slightly behind. No member will be tagged a "late" fee as we hash this out. The BOD will discuss further at the next BOD meeting.

We are starting to prepare our Charter renewal and AMA Gold Leader renewal.

We electronically filed our taxes for the year.

Committee Reports:

The Mid-Winter Fun Fly will be hosted by Neil Hunt. The day is February 11th. Flying is scheduled from 11 am to 2 pm.

Old Business:

We briefly discussed the ongoing updates to our website.

We briefly discussed our Gold Leader and Charter renewals with AMA.

We discussed possible replacement of the X-Mark mower. We agreed to table the replacement discussion until we have further information from Bill Green and Todd Kopl on the condition of the X-Mark, he cost to repair, versus the cost to replace. Tis will be re-reviewed closer to flying season.

New Business:

The BOD will cut a check to the library for use of the meeting room and will renew the Model Aviation subscription we buy for the library.

The club received notice of the Wings Over Piper event in Lock Haven, PA. This is an annual event which celebrates the birthplace of the Piper Cub. More information can be found on-line at www.wingsoverpiper.com

Show and Tell:

Bob Noll gave a demonstration of the galloping ghost controls which was introduced back in the late 50's. Bob demonstrated the operation of the Rand actuator which provided mechanical control of eh rudder and elevator. It was a very interested demonstration.

Scott Wallace brought in hos Hacker Pilatus Turbo Porter and Twisted Hobbies Crack Laser. Both of which are indoor flying models.

Jeff Hatton brought in his FMS Tomahawk Futura jet. An electric ducted fan model.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm.

AGS New Year's Day Fly Report – by Rick Allabaugh

On January 1, 2018, the Aeroguidance Society (AGS) held its Annual New Year's Day Fun Fly at the BC United Soccer Field in Endicott, NY. The outdoor air temperature was a chilly 7 deg. F with the wind chill dropping it down to 0 deg F.

The AGS invited a couple of the clubs in the area and we had representation from the Binghamton Aeros in addition to the AGS. Eighteen (18) people showed up and approximately seven (7) people (Jeff Hatton, Ray Phillips, Chris Goffa, Scott Wallace, Cody Brown, Jim Quinn, and Bill Green) braved the weather and flew.

The warm chili and coffee must have worked, because I had very little to take home after the event. However, if you left either unattended for a short period, you either had cold chili or iced coffee really fast.



The photo above only shows about half of the attendees present in front of the salamander heater provided by Neil Hunt.

2018 AGS Hilltop Challenge - by Jim "Moon Beam" Monaco

I will be sponsoring the 2018 HILL TOP CHALLENGE. At this time no date is scheduled, but I believe an early June date may be expected. Personally I am excited to arrange the event and want it to be even better than last year's challenge. We had a great turnout with a lot of fun for everybody.

The format this year will very similar to last year with some changes with events and scoring. So bring your planes for lots of laughs. I want to let Jim "Hollywood"

Quinn to know that the Hill Top Challenge trophy will again be up for highest score and I will also be looking forward to winning it myself. When you compete, laughing is mandatory. Plan for the 2018 "CHALLENGE"!

New Year's Day Award Winning Chili Recipe - by Rick Allabaugh

I had mentioned to those who attended the New Year's Day Fun Fly that they were eating an award winning chili. My office held a "Chili Cook-Off" competition a few months ago. The recipe below is what won it. While everyone else got fancy, I kept it basic with all of the ingredients coming from Aldi's (with the exception of the ground beef as I buy a 1/4 of a cow each year...).

- 1 lb. ground beef (80/20 mix)
- 1/2 of an onion (chopped)
- 1/2 of a green pepper (chopped)
- One (1) 14.5 oz. can of diced fire roasted tomatoes
- One (1) 12 oz. bottle of chili sauce
- One (1) 15.5 oz. can of kidney beans
- One (1) packet chili seasoning



AGS Field Report Jan 2018 – submitted by Todd Kopl

Only 3 months to go until we 'open' the field back up! Nothing to report on the field so I'll fill my space again with project photos from the workshop. I'll hold updates on SIG Kougar until project night now that it's nearing completion. Already considering what to build next...Great Planes Viper racer for sure (almost ready to

cover so not too much building) and then possibly a Great Planes Cub I have in inventory. I've been told everyone needs a cub at some point....

I did build this little thing a few years back while working in Minnesota. There was an awesome hobby shop out there right next to work reminiscent of the old GJ's (Big Sky Hobby).



Hobbico Bankruptcy – submitted by Scott Wallace

I'm sure most of you have read about Hobbico filing Chapter 11 on Jan 10. With Hobbico being the parent company of both Tower Hobbies and Great Planes this is terrible news for the hobby. For modelers like AGS members that live where good hobby shops are non-existent Tower Hobbies was a reliable 'one-stop shop' for almost all the bit, pieces and gadgets we need to build our models. They were also the sole US importer for products such as Futaba radios and OS Max engines. Those brands are somewhat in limbo until things play out.

Though companies can declare Chapter 11 and sometimes restructure and emerge healthy down the road this looks bleak based on the debt to asset ratio. A very high percentage of items on Tower's website are 'backordered' and the prognosis to get things back in stock isn't good as I suspect they've been cut off from suppliers that haven't been getting paid. All this just adds to the challenges and frustrations for the traditional

model builder as it is harder and harder to obtain basic supplies.

This is a double-edged sword as not only is this bad news for individual customers Hobbico is also the leading distributor for hobby shops to obtain RC products from, so now the long-suffering hobby shops around the country will have to scramble to find other sources of goods to sell.

Most of all I feel very bad for the employees of Hobbico, as this was an employee owned company they face not only losing their jobs but their retirement assets as well.

Shoestring Resurrection (Part II) – submitted by Jim Quinn

If you remember the photo of the control line Shoestring by Carl Goldberg, you remember the damage to the right side of the airplane. The right wingtip and horizontal tail were damaged or missing.

The horizontal tail was easy to fix. I decided to replace the entire surface with new material. Firstly, the old surface was removed. A template was made of the entire surface from the undamaged left side. The fuselage was cleaned out and the new parts were inserted and glued into place. No problem!



The right wing was a different story, however. My first mistake was to presume the length of the leading edge and the spars were correct. I went ahead and made two new ribs and a new wing tip. Everything was glued into place blindly with perfect 20/20 tunnel vision.

I also needed a whole new trailing edge. I had one in my "balsa bin" (that place where all manner of unused balsa

stock resides) but it was too wide. Again, I blindly cut off ¼” from the leading edge. Made all the appropriate grooves in the new leading edge and fitted all the ribs into my newly manufactured trailing edge. I cut it to length and when the new wing tip was added the proper taper was sanded in to flow into the curve of the wing tip.

The addition was done with small repairs to a few of the other ribs that had minor damage. I stood back to admire the progress only to realize my initial presumption was totally wrong. Yes, two new ribs, a new wing tip, and a new trailing edge were necessary. BUT in addition to the two new ribs, additions were needed to both spars. The leading and trailing edges needed to be lengthened as well.

The beautiful part of working with balsa is you simply cut out your mistakes and go back to that balsa bin and start over. For a second time I stood back and knew my work was now finished.



I tried to carefully sand the remaining tissue paper covering off the ribs, spars and leading/trailing edges. Sadly, I noticed how fragile the ribs were and how easily I could damage them, so I decided to let them be as they were. Yes, the covering would not be as good as I would like, but then again this is a resurrection from far, far beyond the grave. The strength of the bell crank was tested far beyond the pull of the control wires would place on the airframe. So the ribs themselves were strong enough to support the covering material.

So now it is on to covering, painting, reinstalling the vertical stabilizer and installing the power system and the throttle radio control system. My first question on covering was to “silk” or not to “silk”?

All silk isn't the same – submitted by Scott Wallace

There are times, probably for most of us, when a project stalls out. There's a variety of reasons, can be as simple as some other model catches our eye and we lose interest in the current project. Other times it can be that we screw something up and out of frustration set the model aside, or just decide we don't want to finish the project. Over the many years I've been at this I've probably given away a dozen of partially built projects or sometimes even finished models I just have lost interest in.

Over the past few years I've been working on a rare mid-1950's Hal deBolt Equalizer, taking my time as I wanted a Concours winning quality of build on this one. Last year I had a perfect wing and tail but wasn't 100% satisfied with the fuselage. So instead of finishing it, I set it aside and last fall built a new, perfect fuselage. The plan was to cover with yellow silk ala the original. I've done many, many great looking silk covering jobs over the years; I know how to do the task. When I went to source yellow silk from Sig I was dismayed to learn it was now over \$30 a yard and I would need almost \$100 worth, plus another \$100 plus in dope! In hindsight that would have been money well spent.

I ended up purchasing yellow silk from Dharma Trading, a company that many modelers get silk from. The thing is, they all use the lightweight white silk which is quite different than their heavier dyed color silk.

Long story short I bought the Dharma yellow silk, and though it seemed to go on well and water shrunk up tight, it wouldn't take dope well at all. All the open bays loosened up terribly and multiple coats didn't help. After a gazillion coats of butyrate, the wing and fuse started to tighten up but still looked just awful, and the fragile stab warped badly.

This past weekend I studied the situation and had two choices. One was to try and steam out the warp in stab and just go ahead and finish the model, it would end up serviceable but no longer a model I would be proud of. The other was to try and remove all the silk and start over, and recover with the expensive silk from Sig that I know works. In removing the silk from the fragile structure built from lightweight contest balsa, enough was damaged that we'll just say this project is now living in a landfill. Two year's effort down the drain...

For what it's worth, I am not the only AGS member to experience this same issue recently with the Dharma colored silk.

Below are a few examples that illustrate that I really do know how to cover with silk. The materials have changed!!



Sal Taibi designed 1938 Powerhouse (1/2 size) I built in the early 90's



1939 Air Trails Sportster I built in the early 90's



Bud Atkinson designed Aristo Cat I built in 2002

AGS Website update – by Don Shugard

I started out working on the navigation for the web site and got side tracked down memory lane. I have set up a home web server so I can develop the navigation for the website using one of the latest web tools called PHP. PHP is a programming language that runs on the server to deliver web pages to the browser running on your PC. In parallel I was still researching the newsletter editors of the “Connectors” when I discovered Bob Jennings had scanned a pile of connectors into PDFs!

The list of newsletter editors is almost complete. I used PHP to produce the Connector “archive” page. You can find the “archive” by scrolling to the bottom of the “newsletter” page. The “archive” page is intended to be friendlier to Smart Phones and IPADs for browsing. The use of drop downs and accordion menus will eventually become the navigation style for the main website.

The archive page is still a work in progress. I have added Bob's scanned newsletters from 1969 thru 1999 to the archive. I have not had a chance to read through all of them, but I did come across these gems that are not only humorous but a reminder of how much our RC technology has grown.

From the October of 1969 issue of the Connector:

RADIO CONTROLLING THE FAIR SEX: by Fred Angel

1. If she feels depressed.....Elevator
2. If she's hungryFeeder
3. If she hags. Transmitter
4. If she meets you half wayReceiver
5. If she's aggressiveResistor
6. If she talks too much.....Condenser
7. If she whispers Amplifier
8. If she sings off key Tuner
9. If you have a date Meter
10. If she's reluctantInducer
11. If she's bad Switcher
12. If she's high strungDesensitizer
13. If she's turned onController
14. If she's run-downCharger
15. If she's stubborn.....Oscillator
16. If she's up tight..... Modulator
17. If she liesDetector
18. If she really bugs you.....Throttler

Thanks to Wayne Sitler for this contribution.

Takeoffs are Optional; Landings are Mandatory – by Scott Wallace

Not just RC flyers have the occasional “oops” on landing. Recently a ski equipped Cessna 185 belonging to the Maine Warden Service fell through the ice while taxiing to towards a base camp set up on the edge of the lake. The pilot was able to get out uninjured and aircraft remained suspended by its wings and tail.



A UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter from the Maine Army National Guard was called in to retrieve the aircraft, as you can see it was quite a spectacular recovery. The Cessna will fly again!



AGS Merchandise – available from Bill Green

Item	Price ea.	Item	Price ea.
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

**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**

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

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

AGS CLUB ACTIVITIES FOR 2018

ACTIVITY / LOCATION (AGS Field unless specified)	DATE	CHAIRMAN
Mid-Winter Fun Fly (BC United Soccer Fields)	Feb 11th 11:00 – 2:00	Neil Hunt
Spring Fun Fly (BC United Soccer Fields)	TBD	Bill Green
Field Opening	TBD	Todd Kopl
AGS Pylon Race #1	Apr 24	Bob Noll
AGS Pylon Race #2	May 8	Bob Noll
AGS Pylon Race #3	May 22	Bob Noll
AGS Pylon Race #4	June 12	Bob Noll
AGS Pylon Race #5	June 26	Bob Noll
AGS Pylon Race #6	July 10	Bob Noll
AGS Pylon Race #7	July 24	Bob Noll
AGS Pylon Race #8	Aug 7	Bob Noll
Aerobatics Contest	Aug 25-26	Jeff Hatton
VRCS Reunion	Sept 1-2	Bob Noll
Family Picnic	TBD	Bob Noll
Hilltop Challenge	TBD	Jim Monaco
AGS Float Fly	TBD	Don Shugard

Other nearby RC events of interest

Event / Location	Date	Contact / Info
Indoor Flying Sayre, PA	Feb 13 7PM - 9PM	Dan Luchaco pafflyer23@gmail.com
AMA Expo East (formerly WRAMs)	Feb 23 - 25	http://amablog.modelaircraft.org/amaexpo/ama-expo-east/
Indoor Flying Sayre, PA	Feb 28 7PM - 9PM	Dan Luchaco pafflyer23@gmail.com
Lebanon, PA RC Flea Market	Mar 10	http://cpaa.us/
Wings Over Piper Fun Fly Lock Haven, PA	Aug 3-5	www.wingsoverpiper.com Kevin Ziegmann ziggysr71@gmail.com

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 s.j.wallace13@gmail.com for inclusion in the next edition of The Connector.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM



Hangar Talk



AEROGUIDANCE SOCIETY, INC.
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