



The CONNECTOR

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

www.agsny.org

Volume #64 Issue # 11 November 2018

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

**THE NEXT AGS MEETING WILL BE ON
Thursday Dec 6th 6:30 P.M at the Vestal Public Library**

Changes to time or location will be noted in this newsletter

The Prez Sez - Submitted by Rick Allabaugh

Next Club Meeting

The next club meeting will be up at the Vestal Public Library. PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF THE CHANGE AS NOTED IN THE CONNECTOR.

Don't forget that this meeting will be our annual Christmas Party. The club will provide pizza and drinks. Each member is encouraged to bring a dish to pass. The Vestal Public Library has graciously allowed us to use their facilities. Remember, this is our way to thank our spouses or significant others for putting up with our hobby and the multiple kits, tools, or other RC accessories we've probably snuck into the house at one time or another.

Board Meetings

At the last Board Meeting, we've decided that instead of meeting every month during the winter, we are going to meet every other month. During the spring and summer, we will return to meeting monthly. Once I update the Board on the meeting dates, I'll send out additional information to all of the members in case you'd like to attend one of our meetings.

If You Have a Smart Phone

Bob Jennings had shown me an application (App) you can download for free called "Air Traffic". It's a real neat way to track which aircraft are in the air. Bob demonstrated it when we were up at the field at a club event. Once you identify the plane, it will tell you which airline, the plane type, where it departed from, where its going to, altitude, air speed, and current heading. It was easy to quickly identify aircraft we could see from the field.

If You Have Facebook

You may want to consider joining the group "Balsa Model Aircraft Builders Association". Real interesting posts and photos from builders who scratch build or build from kits. Builders will have discussions about coverings, where to get parts, and even offer up kits for sale or trade. You also get perspectives from modelers in other countries.

Final Thoughts

The winter building season is upon us. Break out those kits, scratch builds, or repair jobs needed after a full summer of flying. Feel free to bring your winter projects to the club meetings for show and tell as they progress.

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 Dec Meeting

Thursday Dec 6

6:30 PM

Vestal Public Library

320 Vestal Pkwy E

Vestal, NY 13850

New Year's Day Fly

Tuesday Jan 1, 2019

BC United Soccer Field

Time TBD

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: Jeff Hatton (D-H)

Secretary: Bill Green (I-L)

Treasurer: Brent Bryson (M-R)

Board Members at Large:

Jim Monaco (S-Z)

Scott Wallace

Past President: None

Committee Chairmen:

Membership: Bill Green

Program: Tom Kopl/Scott Wallace

Activities: Open

Field: Bill Green

Historian: Bob Hoag

Public Relations: Open

Sound: Scott Wallace

Safety: Scott Wallace

Librarian: Brent Bryson

Webmaster: Don Shugard

Newsletter Editor: Scott Wallace

Editorial – submitted by Scott Wallace

Wondering aloud what the future for the AGS and in RC is general in the southern tier will be. I remember how vibrant and active the club was in the 60's & 70's; during the 80s & 90's I lived in the Carolinas, but when I moved back to this area in 2000 (yes, sometimes I wonder why) the AGS was still close to 100 members and the field was usually very busy on weekends. Today we are around 36 members with only about half paid up for the next year. Yes, dues will trickle in and most will eventually renew but is membership in the mid 30's enough to sustain a club that owns property and therefore has a considerable amount of fixed expenses and the effort needed to maintain?

Factor in that we've yet to see what will come from the FAA over the next few years your guess is as good as mine as what our future is. Every Board has a goal of increasing membership and we have added some enthusiastic new members over the past few years, but the net is we've lost more than we've gained the last 10 years.

I believe the only way the hobby will thrive (or even survive) on a local level is for the RC clubs in the nearby area to merge at some point. I can see this being incredibly painful and difficult to work out the details, but I'm equally sure business as usual will not succeed. I know enough about distant history that melding these local clubs together will have its challenges but if past differences can be set aside there can be a tangible upside to consolidation.

The AGS owning property is an upside for this club, and I profess I don't have the details on flying site stability for the other local clubs, but one thing is clear is that no one club can assert dominance over the others. It would have to be a true merger where the best qualities of each club form the new path forward.

Just something to think about, not proposing we take immediate action to investigate this...but how many of us would be willing to pay dues that are double or triple the current rate if our AGS membership numbers drop into the low 20s?

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

Article submissions for The CONNECTOR are happily accepted via email to: s.j.wallace13@gmail.com

AGS General Membership Meeting Minutes

Aeroguidance Society Meeting #851

Date: Nov 5, 2018

Place: Vestal Public Library

President Rick Allabaugh called the meeting to order at 6:35

Guests: Doug Breneman, Art Felton

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

Brent Bryson 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 brief summary of the October Board of Director's Meeting:

- Bob Noll attended as a guest and had suggestions to improve safety
- Discussion ensued on safety and pilot competence
 - New pilots will be better 'checked out' going forward
 - Existing AGS safety rules and procedures will be followed by all current pilots
- Brent provided a Treasurers report to the BoD
- A few goals for the coming year
 - Keep current on new rules/regulations resulting from the FAA reauthorization Bill
 - Update & maintain membership database/club roster
 - Update Bylaws & Field rules as required

Committee Reports:

Membership: A long standing AGS member, John Carrell, has resigned from the club.

Field: Field winterizing was completed, weather permitting flying is still available

Activities: Bob Noll reported the VRCS reunion provided \$400 for the club, plus another \$50 from raffle proceeds and \$20 in food donation. The AGS thanks the VRCS for their contribution.

Old Business:

Safety will be a priority going forward, Field rules will be reviewed and updated as needed, and will be briefed prior to the 2019 flying season.

Jim Monaco is handling getting new signs for the spectator fence.

Windssock will need to be replaced for next year.

Update on the tower, President Allabaugh had spoken with Mid-Hudson Wireless about recent activity at the shed. It's our understanding they will be fixing their access road per NYSEG in order to restore their electrical service.

New Business:

Programs: Discussion about lack of attendance and enthusiasm at club meetings, with lack of programs being a possible cause. Bob Noll has volunteered to do the January program on the Tournament of Champions (TOC).

Discussion held on the FAA Reauthorization Bill; specifically on knowledge testing. It is believed the AMA will be able to administer the tests online on behalf of the FAA.

Ray Phillips displayed the new club jacket, a very sharp looking item at a reasonable price (approx. \$35). If interested contact Zappia's and mention Ray's name.

Show and Tell:

Bob Noll showed left over items from one of the VRCS raffle grab bags. Several nice items including a glue caddy and wheel chocks found new homes.

Scott Wallace showed his Joe Bridi designed Chaos 40. Model uses a JR radio with JR digital servos, an A123 receiver battery and has an OS 55AX for power. Model is finished in dope and Koverall/silkspan, with dope for color and a urethane clear coat from a rattle can.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40

AGS Christmas Party – submitted by Bill Green

The AGS Christmas party will be held Thursday December the 6th at 6:30. Everyone is asked to bring dish or dessert to pass. Pizza, beverage and serving utensils will be supplied. Party will be held at the Vestal Library on 434 just past the Skylark diner (going east). This is our new permanent meeting location, enter thru the front door and turn right. We're looking forward to seeing everyone there.

FAA Registration Renewal – submitted by Don Shugard

On December 12, 2017, Congress reinstated FAA registration for all unmanned aircraft weighing between .55 lbs. and 55 lbs. Many of us had received our registration number before this December 12th date and we expected that the time to renew was coming soon. However, due to the ruling in the US Court of Appeals, those who obtained an FAA registration number before the December 12, 2017 date will have their registration expiration date extended to December 12, 2020. The only caveat to this rule is for those individuals who specifically requested that his or her name be taken off the FAA registration database. If you requested to have your name and personal information removed, you no longer have an FAA registration number in the system.

If you are uncertain whether or not you have a valid FAA registration, you can access your FAA account at www.faa.gov/uaa. This site will allow you to view your personal FAA registration number and expiration date.

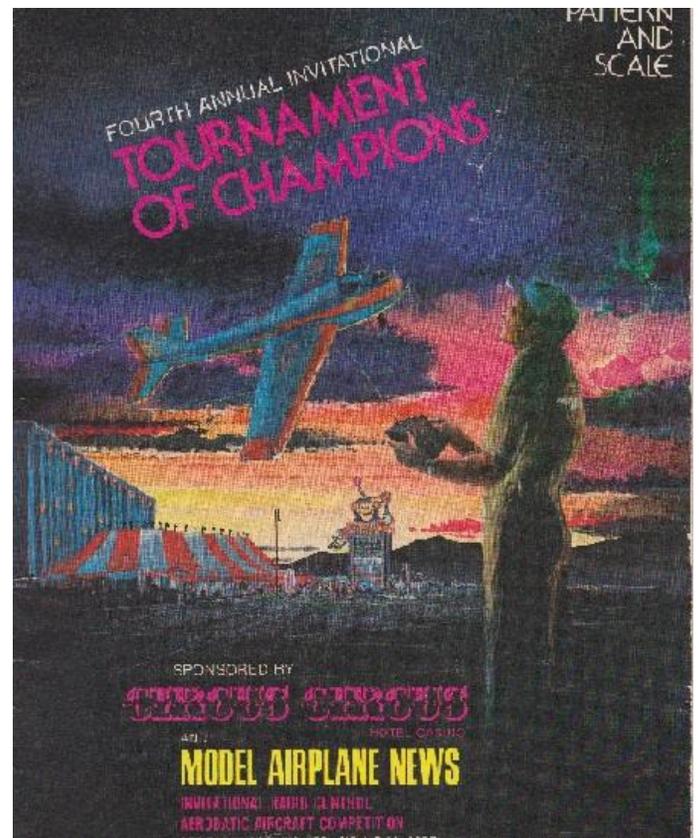
<https://amablog.modelaircraft.org/amagov/2018/11/13/faa-registration-renewal/>

Editor's note: The FAA registration page also states this: **You must mark each aircraft with the assigned unique registration number before it is operated.**

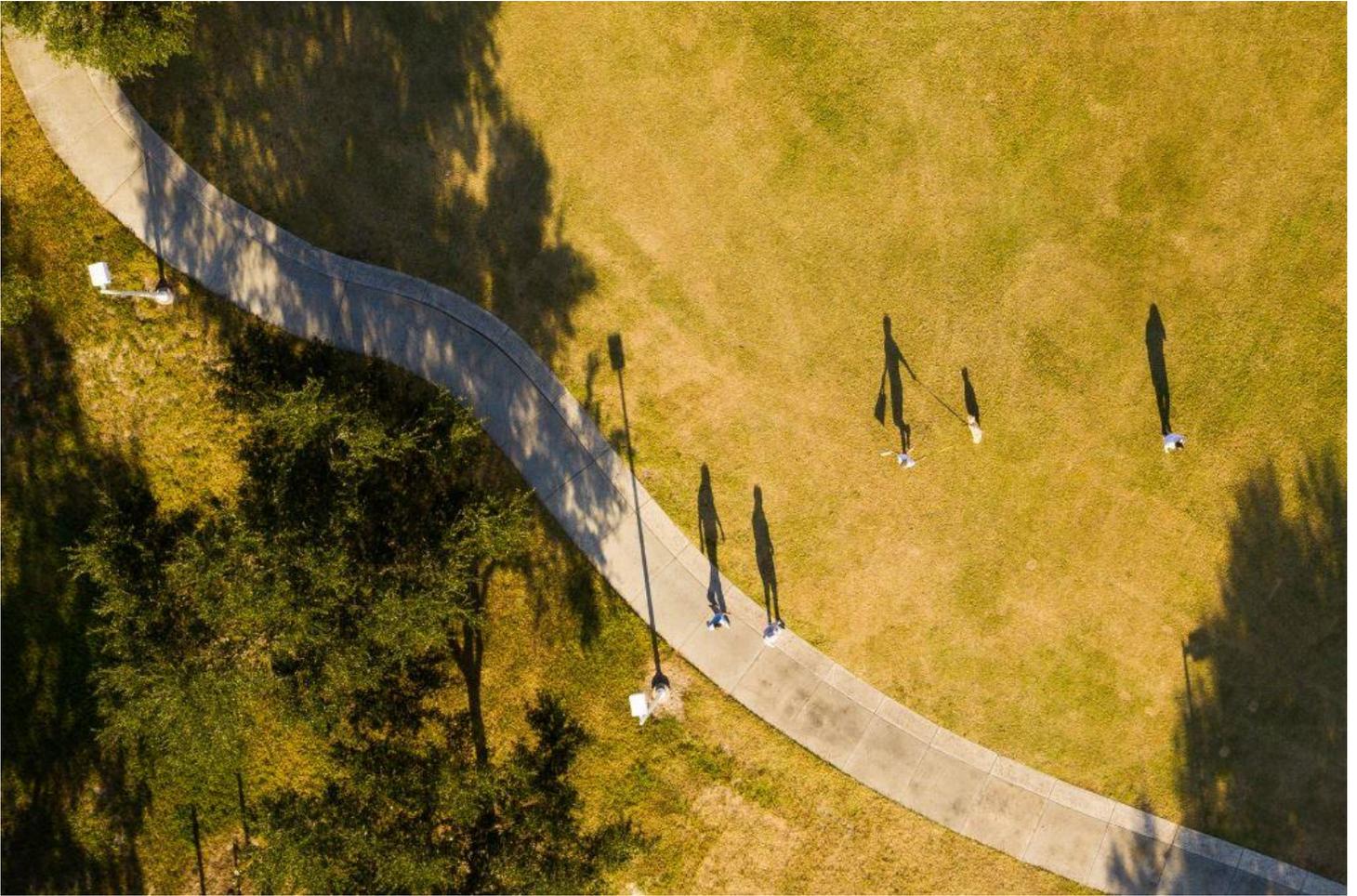


AGS January Program Teaser – submitted by Scott Wallace

For the January club meeting, Bob Noll will be doing a program on the Tournament of Champions (TOC), held in Las Vegas and was the premier RC event in world for many years. I still have the program from 1977, little known fact is the early TOC's had both pattern and scale competition, my dad was the scale Contest Director in 1977. It was here in Vegas where my father met Bill Bennett, own of the Circus Circus Casino which sponsored these TOC events. Not long after they met the original *NIHW* Skybolt belonged to Mr. Bennett and my dad was off building a second Skybolt, this time with a 260HP Lycoming.



An aerial view from 200' up via a Mavic 2 Pro – by Bob Hoag



Scott Wallace's new Bridi Chaos, shown at the Nov club meeting



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
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 2018-19

ACTIVITY / LOCATION (AGS Field unless specified)	DATE	CHAIRMAN
Dec Club Christmas Party Vestal Public Library	Dec 6 6:30 – 8:30	Bill Green
New Year's Day Fly BC United Soccer Fields	Jan 1	Rick Allabaugh
Jan Club Meeting Vestal Public Library	Jan 7 6:30 – 8:30	NA
Feb Club Meeting Vestal Public Library	Feb 4 6:30 – 8:30	NA
Mid-Winter Fly BC United Soccer Fields	TBD	Neil Hunt
Mar Club Meeting Vestal Public Library	Mar 6 6:30 – 8:30	NA
Spring Fly BC United Soccer Fields	TBD	Bill Green
Apr Club Meeting Vestal Public Library	Apr 3 6:30 – 8:30	NA
AGS Precision Aerobatics Contest	TBD	Jeff Hatton
VRCS Spirit of Selinsgrove Celebration	Aug 31 – Sep 1	Scott Wallace s.j.wallace13@gmail.com

Other nearby RC events of interest

Event / Location	Date	Contact / Info
AMA Expo East Secaucus, New Jersey	Feb 22 - 24	https://amablog.modelaircraft.org/amaexpo/ama-expo-east/
RC Swap Meet Lebanon, PA	Mar 9	

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.

DECEMBER PROGRAM



AGS CHRISTMAS PARTY



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