



THE CONNECTOR

Newsletter of the Aero Guidance Society, Inc.

AMA Chartered Club No. 441

www.agsny.org

Recipient of the AMA President's Award for 50 years of service to AMA and Aeromodeling

Volume #60....Issue #1...January...2014

The Following Channels Must Not Be Used At The AGS Field: 02, 04, 13, 27, 36, 42, and 49

THE NEXT AGS MEETING WILL BE ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD AT 6:45 PM AT THE ENDICOTT MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

Changes to time or location will be noted in this newsletter

The Prez Sez....

Rick Allabaugh

The Board has completed our budget for the upcoming year and will go over it in general at the next meeting. I'll bring copies of the report if you wish to see the details, but at the meeting, I just want to discuss general items. We also have been looking at ideas for growing membership and bringing in additional revenue to the club.

Scott Wallace has done a great job of going through our By-Laws and making recommendations to the Board for changes and updates. In order to vote on these proposed changes at the next meeting, they will be issued to all members for prior review.

This month, our Program will be a discussion from Mark Hunt who has designed and built aerobatic aircraft and has flown in competitive precision aerobatics contests. For the month of March, a member has offered to give a discussion on the J-3 Cub, one which I'm interested in as my wife's grandfather owned one for years and I hear stories all the time about flying in the Cub.

Since I'm still having no luck in filling the Program Chair, I'm going to implement an idea by Gib

Vandling. At the next meeting, I'm going to pass around a clip board looking for Program topics. These will then be sent out to the membership and if you're willing to talk on one of the topics let me know and we can schedule the month for the Program.

Our club's bulletin board is currently at Jim's R/C on Route 12A in Chenango Bridge. Darren was more than happy to let us place it there.

Finally, look for our club on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/aeroguidancesociety

Mike Harris has done an excellent job of developing this and I've already received about a dozen 'likes' from other modelers. This may be a real benefit for our club. See you at the next meeting!

February Program

The program for February will be a presentation by Mark Hunt.

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Subscriptions to "THE CONNECTOR" may be obtained free via e-mail or at a minimal cost of \$8.00 annually. Contact the Editor

Coming Events

AGS Meeting
February 3rd, 6:45 PM
ENDICOTT LIBRARY

Cancellation of AGS Meetings
In the event of poor weather, call the Library at 757-5350. If the library is closed, you will receive only the hours of operation.

**The Aero Guidance
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: Open

Activities: Open

Field: Jim Quinn

Historian: Don Green

Public Relations: Open

Sound: Ed Lancki

Safety: Frank Gioffredo

Librarian: Frank Gioffredo

Editor: Bob Balsie

e-mail: RC_flyer@stny.rr.com

AGS By-Laws Update

by Bob Balsie

By now, you should have received a communication from me on behalf of the Board of Directors informing you that there are a number of proposed changes to the club's by-laws and that these changes will be discussed and voted upon at the monthly meeting on February 3rd. If you haven't looked over the changes as yet, please do so and then come to the meeting to cast your vote on these updates. We need everyone's input to help make our club a successful organization.

Dues Reminder

by Bob Balsie

Last month I put a reminder in the newsletter, asking everyone who hasn't paid their dues to the AGS to do so as soon as possible. It seems that there are also some members who have not paid their dues to AMA, as well. The club is in the process of re-chartering our organization with AMA and if there are club members who have not paid their dues to AMA, this complicates things because all members of an AMA-chartered club must also be AMA members. So if you haven't yet paid your dues to either of these organizations, please do so as soon as possible to make things easier on our Board of Directors. It will be appreciated.



AGS General Meeting Minutes

Aero Guidance Society Meeting # 795

January 6th, 2014

Place: Endicott Public Library

President Allabaugh called the meeting to order at 6:52 PM.

Guests: Mike Harris

Board meeting minutes summary:

- Discussion items were President's Guide Book, Gold Leader Club, membership brochure, tractor and mower key duplicates, assets list.
- Action items list: 2 items closed and one removed from list.

Minutes of last meeting: Accepted as published in The Connector.

Treasurer's Report: Scott Wallace reported for Todd Kopl, financial report is attached to these minutes.

Announcements:

- New Years Day Fun Fly – Frank Gioffredo reported that 15 attended and enjoyed his chili. Ray Phillips got the 1st flight award.
- Rick Allabaugh said he received a \$20 donation to insure a Winter Fly. Noll said he will get the insurance from AMA as soon as an event director is identified.

Old Business:

- Rick mentioned that he still needs chairmen for the Program, Activities and Public Relations committees.
- Rick asked for meeting program suggestions. Continuation of the expanded Show & Tell was suggested. Gib Vandling suggested a program on gliders.
- Scott and Frank will collaborate to document the updated Field Rules.
- Rick said that the board is finalizing updates to the By-Laws with attention to eliminating the field maintenance fee which is believed to discourage new members.
- A discussion about the AGS web sites was held. Bob Noll mentioned that he believes the website, which has been under development for over 2 years, should be terminated. Bob also suggested that the current website should be revised with the objectives of:
 - 1) making the site primarily for visitors, and
 - 2) minimizing the need for frequent updates. A discussion by members followed.
- Rick reported that no documents could be found regarding property sale to our neighbor, Dan.

New Business:

- Rick said his conversation with local Boy Scout leaders concluded that our support of merit badges would not be helpful. The leaders did appear to like the ideas of visiting the field for flying and/or camping.
- Ray Phillips said that the CPAA (Central Penn Aeromodelers Assoc) 34th Annual Radio Control Flea Market will be March 8 at the Lebanon Fairgrounds, Lebanon, Pa. This is the largest flea market in the northeast.
- Bob Noll reported that he sent a letter to the President of the Endicott Library Board of Trustees informing her that a one-year subscription to Model Aviation would be sent to the library. This is a Gold Leader Club item.

Show & Tell:

- Rick Allabaugh - his Dad's AT-6 which he is restoring for his own use.
- Scott Wallace – Midwest Sweet Stik which is a VRCS theme plane for 2014.
- Ray Phillips – Vintage Min-X relay receiver and a Cloud Ranger.
- Scott Wallace – LiveWire Senior wing and a reduced size LiveWire Trainer donated by Gib Vandling.
- Joe Felice – FMS foam Messerschmitt.
- Mike Harris – Splendor foam pattern plane and indoor kit.
- Don Shugard – Dusty, a plane from the Disney film Planes.
- Bob Noll – Sting Ray from Aero Works.
- Tony Cammarata – downloaded plans for Das Ugly Stik.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted – Bob Noll, Secretary

Flight School Preview

by Brent Bryson - Flight School Coordinator

Bear with me, I will eventually discuss the flight school.

As many of you know the success of the AGS depends on its membership for its existence. It depends on members volunteering their time, but it also depends on the dues that each member contributes to cover the many expenses that go along with running the AGS and maintaining the field. Our membership has declined to the point where we cannot cover our fixed expenses, such as paying the taxes, insurance, and maintenance of the field with the current dues income. The solution that seems to have the greatest benefit (in more ways than just financial) is to “grow” our membership.

Unfortunately, developments such as miniaturization of highly capable models that enable one to fly in parks, indoors, and even in one's own backyard has greatly depreciated prospective members' perception of the added value of becoming a member of an organization that has a large flying field, such as the AGS.

One way to add membership value to prospective members is to provide flight training in the form of an organized program. Some initial ideas that I have (open to change) are:

- There will be one or more times during each week that training resources (instructors, helpers, aircraft, etc.) will be available at the field, so that members can show up for training without having to make special arrangements.
- There will be an overall curriculum for basic training.
- There will be a training plan for each student so that they know what they will be learning when, and they can see their progress.
- There will be basic (leading to first solo) and various advanced training available (for example aerobatics, gliding, racing, transition from tricycle to conventional gear, flying in windy conditions, etc.). Advanced training will depend on demand and resources.
- Basic training of members (leading to solo) will take priority over advanced training when there is a resource or airspace conflict.

For this to work we will need to have a dedicated flight school staff. My thoughts are that we should have:

- Regular Instructors that will generally be at each session.
- Substitute Instructors that can (if they are available) fill in for regular instructors if the regular instructor cannot make a session.
- Support Staff that can help during the sessions as needed.
- Flight School Coordinator that will be responsible to make sure that there are resources (staff, and equipment) available at the field for the training sessions, and will also be responsible to make sure that everyone involved is always notified.

The first step is to recruit staff so that we can work together to come up with a successful plan. At the next meeting I will pass around a sign up sheet to get a list of who is interested. If you have any suggestions, or would like to volunteer please email me at bbryson@stny.rr.com, or call me at 607-760-9397.

Club Activities for 2014

Given below is a tentative Activities Calendar for the coming year. It will be refined as dates and chairmen for the activities become available.

| * ACTIVITIES CALENDAR FOR 2014 * | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Activity | Date | Chairman |
| New Year's Day Fly | January 1, 2014 | Frank Gioffredo |
| Winter Fly | TBD | TBD |
| Field Un-winterization | TBD | Jim Quinn |
| Pylon Race | May 13, 2014 | Bob Noll |
| Pylon Race | May 27, 2014 | Bob Noll |
| Pylon Race | June 10, 2014 | Bob Noll |
| Pylon Race | June 24, 2014 | Bob Noll |
| Pattern Primer | TBD | Jim Quinn (CD) |
| Pylon Race | July 8, 2014 | Bob Noll |
| Pylon Race | July 22, 2014 | Bob Noll |
| Pylon Race | August 12, 2014 | Bob Noll |
| Pylon Race | August 26, 2014 | Bob Noll |
| VR/CS Reunion | August 30-31, 2014 | Bob Noll (CD) |
| Fall Float Fly | September 6 & 7, 2014 | Bob Balsie (CD) |
| Pylon Race | September 14, 2014 | Bob Noll |
| AGS Pattern Contest | TBD | Frank Gioffredo (CD) |
| Field Winterization | TBD | Jim Quinn |
| Annual Holiday Party | December 1, 2014 | TBD |



FEBRUARY PROGRAM

***PRESENTATION BY
MARK HUNT***

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