



# The CONNECTOR

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

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

Volume #61 ..... Issue # 7 July 2015

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 Aug 3rd 6:00 P.M at the AGS Field

Changes to time or location will be noted in this newsletter

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*The Prez Sez*

Submitted by Rick Allabaugh

Just a reminder, the next club meeting is at the field and instead of a traditional meeting we'll be having our Family Picnic that same night. So, I promise to keep the business meeting very short and only discuss critical items so that we can enjoy the evening. I hope to see you and your family there!

I'd like to thank everyone for their input at the last meeting regarding their concerns about lack of club participation in club meetings and activities. We could debate for hours why people show up or don't show up to our meetings and club events and never resolve it. The simple fact is the success of any club all hinges on club member support. What I see in our club is that if you ask for help face to face, you typically get a better response than asking for help via e-mail or phone. What's difficult is that low attendance at meetings means you're asking the same people over and over for help. The same people get tired helping out all of the time...

I've spoken to people in two other clubs, the Binghamton Aeros and the MOB. They are experiencing a similar situation. It seems it's the same group of people who host or run the events. On average, the other club's meeting attendance is ~50% and club event participation is 60-75%. The Aeroguidance Society is running about 25% in meeting attendance and 20-25% in club event attendance. So why the difference? To be honest, I'm not 100% sure.

- 1) The other groups do not do "Programs" at their meetings. They have a short business meeting, then end it. Maybe our meetings go too long.
- 2) The other clubs do not hold the same amount of events we do. Maybe we've worn people out by having the same events year after year after year. Maybe we need to change things up a bit.

All topics for future discussions...

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"The CONNECTOR"  
can be obtained free via e-mail  
or at a minimal cost of \$8.00  
annually

### Coming Events

#### AGS Meeting & Family Picnic

Aug 3rd 6:00 PM  
AGS Field

#### Pylon Race # 7

Aug 11th 6:30 PM  
AGS Field

#### Pylon Race # 8

Aug 25th 6:30 PM  
AGS Field

#### 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary AGS Aerobatics Contest

Aug 29-30  
AGS Field

### **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.

## The Prez Says - Continued

On a lighter note, the Board has established a proposed budget for the next fiscal year. We'll be reviewing it at an upcoming meeting. I encourage every member to make it to that meeting as that will establish of membership fee for the upcoming year.

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

### Board Members at Large:

**Frank Gioffredo (S-Z)**

**Tom Kopl**

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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

## AMA Dues Increase FYI – submitted by Scott Wallace

If you haven't seen the news, AMA dues are going up for next year, from \$58 to \$75 per year. **AMA offers a chance to renew at the old rate if you renew your dues by September 14<sup>th</sup>.** I for one will take advantage of that!

## Editorial – submitted by Scott Wallace

Following the July club meeting, I feel the need to vent. Seems to me the AGS is at a crossroads, caught between a glorious modeling history and the stark contrast of present day reality, i.e. the current state of the economy and demographics of Broome and Tioga Counties. I fear we will cease to exist as a club in a very few years if we continue to do "business as usual".

The fact is that the AGS of today is a club **primarily made up of casual sport flyers** and that is not likely to change anytime soon. There's nothing really wrong with that and twisting people's arm to be "more involved" in the hobby will just drive folks away. Attendance at club meetings has steadily declined and I can only conclude that many members find little value in our meetings. Let the elected Board govern and lets not micro-manage and debate to death everything they do; general club meetings should only need 20 minutes to review club business followed by an hour of program and show & tell. I know it's a challenge to find folks to present programs and difficult to find topics that interest the majority of the club but collectively we need to figure out a way to engage our membership. Can you imagine being a guest at any of our meetings the past few years? If I were a prospective member or guest and endured one of our typical meetings I would probably not follow through with joining the club.

We already share an important responsibility to maintain the AGS property which takes some time and effort; many of us feel fortunate if we can just carve out another few hours a month to actually fly our own models. The few of us that regularly attend club meetings continually get the underlying message that we "aren't doing enough" to support this or that event or function. If you look at the members the AGS has lost over the past 10 - 15 years, quite a few of them remain active modelers so it seems clear to me that people have voted with their feet. We need to recognize that fact and act accordingly to not drive members away.

## AGS General Membership Meeting Minutes

Aeroguidance Society Meeting # 812

Date: 7/6/2015

Place: AGS Field

THE NEXT AGS MEETING WILL BE AT THE FIELD.

Guests: Neil Hunt's grandson Mathew from TX. Mathew is learning about RC airplanes and speedies.

The minutes as published in the Connector were approved.

Bob Jennings gave the Treasures' report. Details are available from Bob.

BOD minutes from 6/8/2015 were read by Ray.

The club has received very few gas receipts from members for gas. Please remember to submit these bills to the Treasure; we need this information for the AGS annual budget. If you wish not to be reimbursed for these expenses, mark the receipt "donation".

Frank announced the 2015 Pylon Racing season will be restarted on Tuesday 21 July 2015 at 6:30. Frank needs help to run this AGS event. Please contact Frank to volunteer.

We had a lengthy discussion about the flying activity at the field. Members have misses many good days with little wind at the field. This hobby is more enjoyable when shared with fellow club members and friends. Charlie is encouraging everyone to come out to the field with their latest projects and bring a friend.

Frank reported the AGS pattern contest is scheduled for Aug 28, 29 and 30 at the field. Frank needs help for this event we need judges and other volunteers. Frank is more than happy to teach you to be a judge.

CLUB FAMILY PICINIC... The replies to the club picnic notification have been sparse. Many regrets have been received due to family commitments and other activities. Therefore; the picnic has been rescheduled for the regular club meeting night of Monday 3 Aug, 2015 at 6:00 PM. Ray will send out a new notification to the members.

The AGS float fly is still uncertain. We need a CD to run this as a sanctioned event. Time is running out to have an AGS a float fly.

Reminder to all members to be certain the driveway gate is closed and the lock is secure. The lock must be firmly set and a good pull on the lock to be sure it is latched. Also, remember to scramble the combination after opening the lock.

Rick has been too busy with his work commitments to close the details for club hats. Ray will pick up this task. Frank reviewed the safety rules. In short use common sense. No engines or electric motors are to be run in the spectator area. The fence divides the spectator area from the active flight area of the field. Any non-club member spectators must be escorted by an AGS club member whenever they go beyond the fence onto the field

Two currently finished projects were displayed:

Charlie Brown's Skyraider, this is a Seagull model available through Sig. Charlie has it equipped with electric power and all the markings from his Navy squadron.

Ray Phillips, a rudder only design converted to 3 channel operation. The "Spirit" was a design published in Sept 1958 issue of Flying Models. Kit was manufactured by Consolidated Engineering. This was Ray's first RC airplane from 1961. This model was scratch built from the kit plans. Ray donated one of the original kits to the AMA museum.

**Respectfully submitted - Ray Phillips AGS Secretary**

**Field News - submitted by Todd Kopl**

Remaining mowing list:

AGS 2015 Mowing List		
Weekend	Primary	Assistant
Aug 1	Charlie Hatton	Jeff Hatton
Aug 8	Frank Gioffredo	Derek Gioffredo
Aug 15	Bob Johnson	Don Green
Aug 22	Tom Kopl	Todd Kopl
Aug 29	Brent Bryson	Mark Lecher
Sep 5	Charlie Brown	Ray Phillips
Sep 12	Jim Quinn	Nick Orwan
Sep 19	Scott Wallace	Scott Sinnett
Sep 26	Harold Peeling	Stan Driggs
Oct 3	Rick Allabaugh	Neil Hunt
Oct 10	Bill Green	John Carril
Oct 17	Charlie Hatton	Jeff Hatton
Oct 24	Frank Gioffredo	Derek Gioffredo

## AGS Family Picnic Update

We are rescheduling the AGS family picnic. The July 18 date conflicts with many of our members personal commitments. We have set a new date and time, Monday Aug 3, 2015 at 6:00 PM. This is the same night as our regular membership meeting. The goal is to have as many members as possible attend.

The format will be the same as last year. Members are asked to bring a dish to share with serving utensils. The club will provide the main dish from, Phil's Chicken House. The club will provide plates, cups, plastic ware and soft drinks. Remember to bring a folding chair.

This event is open to all club members, family and guests. If you know someone who may be interested in AGS, this would be a perfect time to introduce them to the field and AGS members.

RSVP is not required, but sending a note to Ray, [BPHILLIPS2@stny.rr.com](mailto:BPHILLIPS2@stny.rr.com) will help with the planning.

Charlie Brown will provide the entertainment playing his guitar and singing songs around a camp fire. Be sure to bring some marshmallows.

**Mark your calendars now!**

**AGS Family Picnic at the AGS Flying Field**

**Monday Aug 3, 2015 starting at 6:00 PM**

**Bring a Dish to Pass**

## AGS Pylon Racing 2015 - submitted by Frank Gioffredo

FINALLY, we got the first race of the season in. I along with Brent and Todd would like to thank all the helpers who came out for the night. The wind was a bit brisk, this according to Charlie Brown who did a test flight before racing commenced, and stated good luck it's windy as %#@ up there. He was correct.

Everything ready and Brent still plagued with fuel leaks, leaving it to Todd and myself to duel for supremacy. Well it didn't take long to see who was supreme as Todd tore up the course taking the win in the first heat, but having a little gear trouble on the landing. The second heat much like the first, with Todd owning the course for a second time. I would like to give Brent a bonus for the

expertly executed tumbling roll and still getting to his feet to flag the final lap. Well Done!! And in the third heat I fared no better as a bad start and unable to re-fire the plane I aborted the third heat succumbing to the Kopl Go Daddy Racer.

So the standings to get our season started are:

Place	Pilot	Points
1	Todd Kopl	5
2	Frank Gioffredo	2
3	Jeff Hatton	0
3	Brent Bryson	0
3	Rick Allabaugh	0

Again I would like to **thank the helpers** and ask that you plan to attend the upcoming races. We will Race again on August 4th and the next date will change to August 18th both are still on Tuesdays the final two races will fall on Sunday afternoons in September the 6th and again on the 13th which at the end of the race on the 13th the racers will host the helpers to a BBQ picnic right at the field. Sunday races will start at 4:00. So please plan to be there and see if the pilots can cook. Thanks again, Frank

## The 60<sup>th</sup> running of the AGS' Aerobatics Contest - submitted by Frank Gioffredo

Wow, 60 years of one of the most prestigious events in our club. I have had the honor of being a part of this event for over 20 years, watching it evolve, growing and shrinking over the years. I have flown in a few of those years at various events, but I have always been most impressed with our event. From the club judging to the food I have felt we have excelled at taking care of our contestants. I would like this year to be just as impressive, so I am asking again for your support in making this happen.

I ask at a previous meeting for button designs and have only received one from Bob Noll, so if you have a design in mind please have it to me by the August meeting where we will pick the design for the 60th. The design needs to fit on a 2 1/4 in button.

I am hoping for volunteers at the meeting so I do not have to spend time calling.

I already have Jenn Hatton for Tabulation but will need a couple helpers for her to run scores. We will need help for set up on Friday morning; I will have the list of jobs at the meeting and will talk to as many as possible but try not to interrupt the picnic to much sound like it should be fun as well. Please plan to come August 28 for set up and 29 and 30 for the contest. For the guys who haven't participated before. We prep the field on Friday morning and open for practice at 1:00.

Hoping for great weather and for a good turnout. By the time you read this prize letters will have been sent out. I have already received several contacts requesting hotel info. (Good sign). If you would like to try your hand at it sign up for the sportsman class, and give it a try.

Thanks Frank Gioffredo CD.

### **VRCS "Hal deBolt In-Memoriam Fly-In" Event Report - submitted by Scott Wallace**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Vintage Radio Control Society (VRCS) Hal deBolt fly-in was held on July 18<sup>th</sup> in Rochester. Though recent torrential rains left the pit area soggy, the event day was sunny and very warm with light winds. CD Beppe Fascione and the host Rochester RC club ran a friendly and informal event with the emphasis on fun and flying. Not only was there no entry fee, the club even provided an outstanding lunch free of charge. I counted 19 participants, maybe half from the local area but there were fliers from as far away as Delaware and Maryland.

Hal deBolt was an icon in the RC hobby, and being from the Buffalo area this event pays tribute to his many contributions to the modeling world. Though any vintage model is allowed, deBolt designed models were in abundance. The Live Wire Champ was the most common model, but there was also several P-Shooters (great flying sport planes), an Acrobat biplane, a Live Wire Custom biplane, 1/2A Kitten, Yankee, 1/2A Ercoupe, and my replica 1952 Live Wire Senior which is an example of deBolt's earliest RC design.

Models, often two or three at a time, were in the air non-stop all day long and it was great to see all these colorful old designs in the air. In the vintage modeling scene the models need to have been **designed** at least 35 years ago, and though some folks use older RC equipment and engines most fliers use modern, reliable engines and radios. The aircraft designs were not all cookie cutter clones back in the day and at a vintage meet you will see a great variety of designs as well as some true craftsmanship as most all of these planes were built from plans or old kits...you won't usually see ARFs at a

vintage meet. There were some aircraft powered with electric motors but for the most part the models used 2 cycle glow engines with the exception of the red & blue P-Shooter running an OS 48 4 cycle with a 3 blade prop. I do love the smell of burning glow fuel in the morning!

There was no formal competition flying, only Pilot's choice awards for VRCS Concourse, best Live Wire Champ, and best Rudder Only flight. It was a very enjoyable day of model flying and I will certainly plan to return next year. Hopefully a few AGS members would be interested in joining me; the drive isn't bad at all. A few photos from the event illustrate the colorful array of vintage models on hand.



### **VRCS Spirit of Selinsgrove Reunion - submitted by Scott Wallace & Bob Noll**

The Aeroguidance Society is once again proud to host the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Spirit of Selinsgrove Vintage Radio Control Society (VRCS) reunion over Labor Day weekend, Sept 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Last year's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary reunion featured a large turnout of interesting models and this year we expect much the same. For the AGS, hosting this event is a win-win. The Spirit of Selinsgrove event pays homage to the early days of RC flight and the AGS has proudly kept this event alive for many years once it became impossible to continue at the Selinsgrove airport. If you didn't know, each year the VRCS makes a nice donation to the AGS for use of the field which is greatly appreciated.

The weekend will start on Friday evening with a gathering at Mario's restaurant in Owego since the headquarters hotel is the Owego Treadway Inn. VRCS members will be arriving at our airport around 9:00 AM on Saturday and will fly a variety of vintage models until about 5:00 PM. At that time we will leave to prepare for the Saturday evening banquet at the Treadway Inn. Some pilots will venture to our field on Sunday morning for a few more flights before traveling home. **Note: The AGS field will be open to all club members after 5:00 PM on Saturday and ALL DAY SUNDAY.**

Visit <http://www.vintagercsociety.org> to learn more about VRCS, one of AMA's Special Interest Groups.

I invite all AGS members to come out on Saturday and observe for a while, you'll see a lot of interesting models being flown the likes of which we don't see on a regular basis.

#### **“WingInIt” with Warbird - submitted by Charlie Brown**

Hello AGS pilots and welcome to my first contribution to our monthly club periodical. For those that may not be aware who “Warbird” is, let's just say it is the handle I now use as a member of the RC community and as the VP of your club because warbirds are my addicted passion when it comes to model aircraft.

Since joining the club in the spring of last year my fleet has grown considerably (almost 20 warbirds now). Along with the fleet growth and diversity of airframes came my advanced flying skill levels. The skill levels just don't happen though unless there is a dedicated effort of time spent flying and honing your skills. As the month of July quickly runs out I realized that the flying season is now half way over and thought about what I have accomplished so far this year and did a quick review of my flight log. Since the month of April when the field was opened for the season, so far this year I have spent 37 days at the field, with a total of 30.6 hrs of air time. I have also spent a lot of hours working with other club members that have asked for assistance with regard to maidenings of their aircraft and instructor guidance or for buddy box flight time. Speaking of training, I would like to make a shout out to Cody Brown (“Wild” Bill Green's grandson) for his recent successful and above satisfactory completion of demonstrated flight skills culminating in his solo which included a takeoff, multiple T&G's and a spot on landing. If he keeps going at the level he demonstrated

to me, he'll be giving grandpa some airtime lessons!!

For those that know me a little better, my fleet is made up of ARF's of varying levels in both foam and balsa/ply construction. Because of this construction trait that the modeling industry has been predominately moving towards, I was asked if maybe I could write some articles about this subject.

I believe that the biggest reason for less scratch build kits and in lieu of more ARF's is because of constraints imposed on our time by today's society. It is what it is, so lets enjoy the time we do have for the hobby with the advancements in the building materials and construction/assembly of our models.

For this article I would like to start talking about foamies and about one of the more prominent and affordable manufactures out there. For someone that is looking for an ARF that is relatively inexpensive with average quality of form and function then I really have to recommend the Dynam line of models. They make a full line of warbirds as well as trainers and sport aircraft ranging in wingspans from 40 to 60 inch utilizing lipos in either the most common 3S size and also the 4S for the larger birds.

I have 2 Dynam aircraft which I have come to really adore just because they are so fun to fly. A couple months ago I brought a YMF-5 Waco to a club meeting for show and tell and this bird is just phenomenal to bore holes in the sky with, just ask my pilots Snoop and Charlie. The fixed gear makes its a very robust airframe for those harder than expected landings. Being that it is a biplane with ailerons on both wings makes it highly aerobatic if one is so inclined but as a biplane it is also very docile with air speeds at landing because of the extra drag created by the second wing. Because of this second wing drag, this is one that requires a 4S lipo for power. It has a 50” span (the majority of the Dynam line fall here) which has good presence on the ground and in the air. You can be in the air for an investment of less than \$200 for airframe and battery if you want to fly a Waco. For those that want a 3S powered aircraft, the one that readily comes to mind is the Dynam Gee Bee Y. I had the opportunity to maiden Jim Monaco's bird earlier this year and was really impressed. It is a low mono wing with a 50” span and fixed landing gear. After a pilot error by Jim and some Gorilla glue repairs, I just recently re-maidened that airframe and it is still very airworthy and capable of aerobatics, this after having it's fuselage and wing busted up pretty good. I swear by Gorilla on foam repairs.

My second Dynam airframe is the FW-190. It is also a 50”span but because it is a warbird it is powered by 4S. I

had this on my radar for a while because it was the only version of the Focke Wulf in the industry that represented the appropriate scale relationship when compared to the 55" to 60" span warbirds made by FMS like the P-51 which happen to be 1/8 scale. Well thanks to Scott Wallace's sacrifice in letting me obtain his assembled but never flown German airframe at a really affordable price it has become another one of my frequently flown warbirds (20 sorties in the last 2 weeks). This is a very easy flying warbird with retracts (optional flaps can be added) that can be had at the same normal retail range as the Waco or Gee Bee.

So that's a quick peek at some of the Dynam line and the next time I'll touch down on the FMS product line. Just like to say that I am seeing more regular fliers at the field which is awesome because even though we all are busy you gotta take time to put a smile on your face like a youngster now and then.

Also a big OMG to Harold Peeling. He mentioned at the last club meeting that his time constraints for flying are very limited but when he does show he brings the show. I was witness to his 1/4 scale Citabria with a smoke machine and again.....OMG what a nice show of aerobatics with smoke, I really enjoyed it.

With best regards,  
Warbird

### **Product Review: Twisted Hobbies Crack Turbo Beaver- submitted by Scott Wallace**

About 30 years ago, I tried my first electric RC model. For those that have been around a while, it was a kit built Leisure models "Amptique" with an underpowered can type motor and a NiCad battery. The performance was so unspectacular I vowed never again! Over the past

few years I've dabbled with electrics but didn't enjoy them much until I started flying a lot of the Twisted Hobbies EPP foam models. You can buy their kits along with motor/esc/servo combos and have a great performing model; they've done the homework for you. I'm sure you could find cheaper components at Hobby King or the like but the TH combos just work without any hassle. My fleet now has a Crack Yak, SU-29, MXS-C, Edge 540 mini, and now a Crack Turbo Beaver (CTB). The CTB may just be the most versatile, fun little model I've flown in years. As a high wing aircraft employing spoilers, flaps, and flap/elevator mixing it will do some amazing things. Probably most amazing of all is with the control throws set to mild and all the transmitter mixing turned off, it makes a near indestructible model for learning to fly or getting flight time in when you don't want to risk a more expensive model. At 35" wingspan and 7 ounces it handles more wind than you might think, and at higher control throws it will definitely keep your reflexes sharp. Full flap takeoffs require almost no runway, and full spoiler landings float in like a feather.

For a video which illustrates the crazy performance envelop of this little gem:

[www.youtube.com/watch?t=27&v=jDhQjVS\\_bLg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?t=27&v=jDhQjVS_bLg)

Website for Twisted Hobbies: [www.twistedhobbys.com](http://www.twistedhobbys.com)

I really enjoy flying fuel powered models and always will...but for some backyard or lunch time flying sessions these EPP models are hard to beat.

## **AGS CLUB ACTIVITIES FOR 2015**

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>CHAIRMAN</b>
Family Picnic	Aug 3, 6:00 PM	AGS Board
Pylon Race 7	August 11, 6:30 pm	Frank Gioffredo
Pylon Race 8	August 25, 6:30 pm	Frank Gioffredo
Aerobatics Contest setup	August 28	Frank Gioffredo (CD)
Aerobatics Contest	August 29 & 30	Frank Gioffredo (CD)
VRCS Reunion	September 5 & 6	Bob Noll (CD)
Pylon Race 9	September 6, 4:00 pm	Frank Gioffredo
Tri Cities Airport Aviation Day - AGS Display	Sept 12 Time TBD (Rain date Sept 13)	TBD
Float Fly	TBD	TBD
Pylon Race 10	September 13, 4:00 pm	Frank Gioffredo
Field Winterization	TBD	TBD

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

<b>Event / Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Binghamton Aeros Giant Scale Fly-In Chenango Bridge, NY	August 8-9	Anthony Jensen tjraven@frontier.net
Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome WWI & Golden Age Fly-In Rhinebeck, NY	Sept 12-13	TBD
NEAT Fair Downsville, NY	Sept 18-20	www.neatfair.org

**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.

# AUGUST PROGRAM



## *AGS FAMILY PICNIC*



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