



The CONNECTOR

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

www.agsny.org

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

**THE NEXT AGS MEETING WILL BE ON
Monday March 2nd - 6:30 P.M at the Vestal Library**

Reminder: Club Dues and AMA dues if you haven't paid yet – Your membership matters!

Changes to time or location will be noted in this newsletter

The Prez Sez – Dedicated to 1st AGS President

AGS Founding Member and First AGS President Dies - by Bob Noll

Dick (RC) Allen died on February 11, 2020 at 91 years of age in Florida. Dick and his wife Marilyn moved from Endicott to Naples Florida many years ago.

When I came to Endicott in 1959 as a recent college graduate, I quickly located "RC" Allen who I had read about in several model magazines. He was one of several pioneers in radio control model airplanes. Dick was quick to tell me about the RC club he helped form. I was thrilled to meet Dick and learn much more about the hobby I had been enjoying since high school.

Dick and I traveled together to many pattern contests around the east. I will include a photo of my Lancer, an AMA Nationals winning Class I (rudder only) design by Dick and fellow AGS member Ralph Jackson. I encourage you to read the Biography of Richard Allen on the AMA web site.

<https://www.modelaircraft.org/sites/default/files/files/AllenRichardCDick.pdf>





Bob Noll with Dick Allen & Ralph Jackson (designed) Lancer

Vice Prez Sez – Jeff Hatton

We are another month closer to the flying season, hopefully everyone is working on something to fly and will get plenty of flying in this upcoming season. We currently have a few members who have not paid their dues for this year, if you are one of them please let the board know your intentions so we can accurately forecast our income for the flying season. On a related note with the current dues received we will be running a deficit this flying season, while the account balances allow us to continue without going below our minimum balance goals we are closely monitoring our expenses.

We are continuing our open house / learn to fly program this summer, it would be good to have more pilots at these events flying more types of aircraft. Please come up during these events and fly, these nights are designed to attract more interest in the hobby and the club and the more activity the better.

I will be continuing the building series this meeting with the third installment where I will assemble and align the fuselage as well as prepare the motor mount if there is time.

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

AGS Officers:

President: Open (A-C)

Vice President: Jeff Hatton (D-H)

Secretary: Rick Allabaugh (I-L)

Treasurer: Bob Jennings (M-R)

Board Members at Large:

1) Jim Monaco (S-Z)

2) Dave A. Smith

Past President: Rick Allabaugh

—

Committee Chairmen:

Membership: Bob Noll

Program: Tom Koppl

Field: Bill Green

Historian: Bob Hoag

Safety: Chris Goffa

Webmaster: Don Shugard

Newsletter Editor: Todd Koppl

Up-Coming Events

AGS March Meeting

Monday March 2

6:30 PM

Vestal Library

Winter Fly

Date: TBD

Time: TBD

Location: BC United
Soccer field Endicott

AGS April Meeting

Monday April 6

6:30 PM

Vestal Library

[For AGS field current weather info contact:](#)
[BGM Automated Terminal Information System \(ATIS\)](#)
[607-729-8335](tel:607-729-8335)

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 clock is rapidly ticking down to submit comments against the FAA's proposed rule. March 2nd is the deadline and it is very important to speak up and post comments.

<https://www.modelaircraft.org/about-ama/advocacy>

Editorial – Submitted by Todd Kopl

As noted in *The Prez Sez* dedication to Dick Allen, I would encourage you to read his Biography on the AMA website or use link provided.

Dick was actually my flight instructor when I joined the AGS in the early 1980's as a pre-teen kid. I can still remember those days like it was last year (and I still have the original Sig Kadet Mark 1 I learned on). I also fondly recall several trips to the Nationals from the mid to late 80's with Dick in attendance (He and Ralph Jackson were an inseparable combination). Too many fond memories to list...

"When once you have tasted flight, you will forever walk the earth with your eyes turned skyward, for there you have been, and there you will always long to return."

– Leonardo DaVinci

God Speed Dick...

AGS General Membership Meeting

AGS General Meeting Minutes
Club Meeting #866
2/3/2020
Vestal Public Library

Meeting called to Order by acting President Jeff Hatton at 6:34 PM.

Present were 11 members and no guests.

Review of General Meeting Minutes:
The minutes as published in The Connector were reviewed. A motion to approve as published in The Connector was made by Bob Noll and seconded by Ray Phillips. A vote was taken, and the minutes were approved as published in The Connector.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Jennings
Bob gave an overview of our current income, expenses, and account balances. If you have any questions, please contact Bob. Currently, we have eight (8) unpaid members; two (2) Senior Members and (6) Regular

Members. We have received three (3) resignations; Don Shugard, Neil Hunt. And Joe Perrucci.

Review of Board of Director's Minutes: Rick Allabaugh
Rick gave an overview of the December BOD Meeting. Minutes to be published on our web site.

Membership: Bob Noll

Bob gave an overview of Horizon Hobby's Flight School program and Coach designation. This would be used as an enhancement to our Learn to Fly Program we will once again be supporting this season. Through the Horizon Hobby Flight School Program, if a person purchases a specific Horizon Hobby aircraft, they are eligible for three (3) months of AMA coverage and access to Horizon Hobby designated Coaches who will work with them and teach them to fly. The Horizon Hobby Flight School is well thought out and includes training videos for new pilots to watch.

- Bob Noll is currently signed up as a Horizon Hobby Coach.
- The newest local hobby shop, Small Addictions RC, carries the Horizon Hobby aircraft supported through the Flight School.
- Bob has placed club brochures at Small Addictions RC.
- IMPORTANT: Bob would ask that club members consider joining the AMA Introductory Pilot status and becoming a Horizon Hobby Coach.

Bob is working on getting the AGS a display table at the upcoming Greater Binghamton Air Show scheduled for July 25, 2020. This would be an excellent opportunity for the club to get some exposure to the community.

Activities:

February Fun Fly: Looking to host the event February 8th. Currently, we have no member willing to organize the event.

March Fun Fly: Looking to host the event either March 7th or March 14th. Looking for a club member to organize the event.

NOTE: Just a clarification on the winter events. BC United is willing to let the AGS use the fields throughout the winter. We are not limited to three (3) days. However, the event is to be coordinated with Doug Breneman and should be an event where many flyers plan on attending. We don't want to abuse the use of

the field by calling Doug every time an individual wants to fly at the BC United field.

Old Business:

- 1) Jeff Hatton is reviewing the Pattern Contest dates already listed in the NSRCA schedule as well as other flying meets scheduled to see if we can move our Pattern Contest date. Jeff is looking to trade dates with the Syracuse club which would move our contest to August 8th and 9th. Jeff is hoping to have an update in the next Connector.
- 2) FAA Update:
 - a) The request to the FAA to extend the comment period to their Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) has been rejected. The FAA considers remote ID (RID) a national security issue.
 - b) There are currently four (4) sites approved to fly up to 600'. More sites being considered.
 - c) The last day to submit comments is March 2nd.
 - d) The AMA has templates on their website. Ray suggest using these templates as ideas but encourages members to make it more personal.
 - e) Tyler Dobbs, AMA Government Affairs Director, has an on-line Podcast that Ray recommends club members watch. One of the Podcasts discusses a Political Action Committee (PAC) being proposed with involvement from AMA, manufacturers, and retailers.
 - f) Ray has found an article on-line discussing the urban air mobility, a way to transport people either manned or unmanned. The requirement for RID is a small step in moving his concept forward. He will forward the article onto club members.

New Business:

- 1) The BOD is very concerned with maintaining club membership. We are looking at ways to increase club attendance at meetings, participation in club events, and increasing membership. To be successful, this must be a club effort.
- 2) The club once again will be supporting the Learn to Fly Program at the field this summer. **IMPORTANT NOTE: The field is not restricted to club members during this program. In fact, we encourage club members to come up so that prospective club members can see other types of aircraft and flying.**
- 3) Jeff is proposing that we pick an evening during the summer and have a weekly club flying night. We'll have the grill available and members can bring their own food to cook. The intent is to get club

members together during the summer for some food and fun flying.

- 4) Rick Allabaugh will be on BU radio in May promoting the club and our Learning to Fly Program.

Show and Tell:

Bob Noll: Brought in a small sample of antique Cox engines to show. He had brought in a Cox O2-TD engine that will be going in the Dakota he brought in the month before.

Program:

Jeff Hatton gave a presentation on how to install servos and pushrods in the Extreme Flight 60" Extra 300 EXP V2. NOTE: This program was Part 2 of a video series that Dave Smith and Jeff are doing. The Program is being videotaped and once edited, it will be uploaded to our website and possibly Facebook page.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

AGS Website — Don Shugard

A new AGS website was put into service on February 18, 2020. You may have to empty your browser caches or force an update in your browser to see the new pages.

On a device with a narrow screen width the main navigation menu is hidden by default. You can expose the navigation menu by clicking/tapping on the 3 horizontal bar burger on the right side of the dark blue Menu bar.

Colors are used in the Navigation Menus text to indicate the following:

- White - Sub Menus and Main Menu navigation to internal pages
- Yellow -Sub Menu links to internal AGS web pages
- Salmon - Links to external Webpages
- Orange - information only or a placeholder (no link if you try to click on it)

External links and internal documents (PDF documents such as a Connector or field rules) will open in a

separate browser tab allowing you to go to the tab view/save a page and quickly return to where you are on the AGS page tab.

"Back to the top" links are sprinkled throughout the pages. As you scroll down a page you may want to return to the Main Navigation menu. Rather than scroll all the way back up you can click/tap on "back to the top" and get there quickly.

The content of the site has been updated to reflect the current operations of the AGS and our hobby. You will find links to the AMA and FAA under the club Information menu. Bill Green contributed to a page dedicated to field maintenance in the members only section (same username and password as the old site). Look at it before you head out to mow this year!

If you are interested in contributing to the website, please let me know. The club and field history pages can certainly be embellished, or you may have an idea for a new page. All I need is good old ASCII text and perhaps a photo or two for the content.

A special thank you to Bob Jennings for use of his Android Phone, suggestions, contributions, proof reading and review of the website content.

Field – Bill Green: Nothing this month

GREAT MEETING PROGRAMS - by Bob Noll

Jeff Hatton is following through with his plan to assemble an ARF plane in a series of meeting programs. Jeff has named the programs as "RC Aircraft Build and Fly Series". I was unable to see the original program at the January meeting but did enjoy it at the February meeting. I have been building for many years and for ten years I built custom pattern planes for many of the top contest pilots in the country and Canada. I mention this since I am convinced that you can always learn something new like different techniques, tools and materials from watching Jeff.

Then to make things even better, David A. Smith videos the programs and posts them on our web site for viewing by anyone who visits our web site. A past member Jamie Arnold posted the following after viewing the January video. "Great idea, but what's with all the talking in the

background? Seems a bit rude." David uses a very sensitive microphone so please keep the chatter down.

DID YOU KNOW - by Bob Noll

In the Fifties:

Pattern flying (known today as precision aerobatics) has been a part of the fabric of the AGS since the club was formed. So much so that the first By-Laws states that the club "shall hold an annual AMA sanctioned contest". While the By-Laws didn't state the type of contest, pattern flying was the premier event in 1955, so the club interpreted that By-Laws requirement as a pattern contest.

The first contest was held at Tri-Cities Airport in Endicott and was a one-day contest. Only one flight line could be used at those early contests because of the limited frequencies that were available and because the receiver technology, which had not yet developed with the selectivity needed for multi-frequency operation.

Many ground-based transmitters were used with the primary class being rudder only. Escapements were the control actuator of choice and most motors did not have carburetors with which to control their speed. High wing planes were seen exclusively until the late fifties.

The Early Sixties:

In the sixties, the club continued to use Tri-Cities Airport and added RC scale category to the contest. The contest was expanded to two days to accommodate the large number of entries. Because the club purchased its first flying field in 1961, it decided to advertise the contest to the local public in order to get some revenue to help pay off the bonds that were sold to purchase the flying field. Special advertising included print, radio and TV were used and the results were very satisfying for the club.

Crowds in the hundreds gathered at Tri-Cities Airport and parking donations and concession profits were significant. The AGS contest became the largest contest in the northeast and continued to attract almost all the RC pilots who enjoyed competition. (It boasted having contestants from most of the states in the northeast and Canada and was twice as large as most other contests of its type).

The club constructed a large concession stand because of the large growth in spectators and had to have the help of Endicott police to control traffic into and out of the

airport. The profits from the contests were what allowed the club to purchase its own flying field. An important feature at the contests was the model air show that took place on Sunday afternoon while the final scores were being calculated. Acts like a flying doghouse, multi engine demonstrations, gliders, clown acts pylon racing amused the crowd.

2020 Greater Binghamton Airshow - by Bob Noll

An airshow is being planned for July 25 at the Greater Binghamton Airport. The news release reads "The Greater Binghamton Airport is interested in entering an agreement with various non-profit organizations to provide display booths for the Greater Binghamton Airshow 2020".

The AGS is all signed up! I spoke with Peter LoPiccolo, Broome County Department of Aviation. Peter was very glad to provide display space AT NO COST. I explained that the AGS had display booths at several airshows in the past. I even explained how I put one of the Air Force Thunderbird pilots on the buddy box so he could see what flying an RC plane was like. He didn't do very well as I had to gain control frequently throughout the flight.

The plans are for the club to erect their 10' x 20' shelter and use our tables to display a verity of planes.

Please put this event on your family calendar and plan to help the club with this project. You can help by providing aircraft and working at the booth.

More details will follow as we get closer to July 25. Hopefully we can recruit some new members.

From Florida— by Bob Hoag

Thought I'd share a couple pictures from Florida. Two of the fellows that fly here mornings are into Autogyros or Gyrocopters. Here are a couple pictures of one of them. If anyone has any interest in exploring a unique rotorcraft RC adventure, this might be a new one for you. Bill says he would be happy to field any questions. Just let me know and I will connect you to him.



Editor's note: Former/deceased AGS member Hank Farrell had an autogyro back in the 80's with an o.s. wankel for power!

The other picture is my new Air Tractor 1.5M. Will have maiden flight tomorrow morning. Beautifully built airplane. One of the nicest, build and finish quality, to come out of E-Flite recently, I think. Purchased from Horizon Hobby.



Here is another shot of one of our group here in FL flying the Horizon Hobby E-flite V-22 Osprey. It will hover and then transition into horizontal flight. Not the easiest to fly, but another unusual aircraft model.



Cheers and see you in June.

Balsa Build Challenge– by Scott Wallace

Ace 4-40 framed up in 2 weekends, another few hours and ready to cover.



Found a photo from 1986 of my original Ace 4-40 and Saito 45



For Sale items

In support of the club's Intro Pilot/Learn to fly program the current fleet of glo powered club trainers are being sold and the proceeds will go towards the purchase of new Horizon Hobby E-Flite Apprentice(s). This Hobbico Superstar has been in my possession for several years, I have gone over it completely and it is RTF (OS 40, Spektrum DX5 2.4 radio, all servos). Contact the editor if interested. \$120 donation to club (or reasonable offer).



AGS 2020 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

ACTIVITY / LOCATION (AGS Field unless specified)	DATE	TIME	CHAIRMAN
March Club Meeting/Vestal Library	Mon Mar 2	6:30-8:30	NA
Winter Fly/BC United Soccer Field	TBD	TBD	TBD
April Club Meeting/Vestal Library	Mon Apr 6	6:30-8:30	NA
May Club Meeting/Field	Mon May 4	6:30-8:30	NA
AGS Pylon Race #1	Wed May 20	6:00-8:00	Todd & Matt Kopl
June Club Meeting/Field	Mon Jun 1	6:30-8:30	NA
AGS Pylon Race #2	Wed Jun 10	6:00-8:00	Todd & Matt Kopl
AGS Pylon Race #3	Wed Jun 24	6:00-8:00	Todd & Matt Kopl
AGS Family Picnic	TBD	TBD	Bob Noll
AGS Pylon Race #4	Wed Jul 8	6:00-8:00	Todd & Matt Kopl
AGS Pylon Race #5	Wed Jul 22	6:00-8:00	Todd & Matt Kopl
AGS Pylon Race #6	Wed Aug 12	6:00-8:00	Todd & Matt Kopl
AGS Aerobatics Contest	TBD	TBD	Jeff Hatton
VRCS Spirit of Selinsgrove	Sat Sept 5	9:00-5:00	Ray Phillips & Scott Wallace
AGS Float Fly/Cole Park	TBD	TBD	TBD

Other nearby RC events of interest

Event / Location	Date	Contact /Info

MARCH PROGRAM



*Extreme Flight Extra build project
session #3- Jeff Hatton*

*Bring a show & tell
Come to the meeting!*



**Reminder: Club Dues and
AMA dues if you haven't paid
yet – Your membership
matters!**

AEROGUIDANCE SOCIETY, INC.
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