



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

# The CONNECTOR

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

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

Volume #63 ..... Issue # 11 November 2017

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**THE NEXT AGS MEETING WILL BE ON**  
**Monday Dec 4th 6:30 P.M at the Endicott Library**

Changes to time or location will be noted in this newsletter

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## *The Prez Sez - Submitted by Rick Allabaugh*

### Annual Holiday Party

Just a quick reminder that the upcoming meeting in December will be our Annual Holiday Party! Please bring your spouse or significant other, a dish to pass, and enjoy the evening. The club is providing pizza and soda. It's a nice way to end the year and really thank those who support us in this crazy hobby.

### Looking for Club Member Support

I've said it before and I'll say it again. The key to a successful club is its members. Due to some changes within our club, I'm asking for help to fill the following Chair positions:

Club Secretary (critical)

Activities

Flight School Instructor

Historian

### New Year's Day Fun Fly

I'll be running this year's New Year's Day Fun Fly event. I'm in the process of getting the winter flying site set up with BC United. Look for further information on the flying time in your e-mail. I'll be providing chili and coffee for those who want to stop out.

### New Member

We have a new Associate Member, Dave Smith. Unfortunately, Dave is not able to attend the meeting in December, so I look forward to meeting him in January.

Continued next page

### **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 Holiday Party

Mon Dec 4th

6:30 PM Endicott Library

#### AGS New Year's Day Fly

Mon Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 2018

Time TBD

BC United Soccer Fields

#### AGS January Meeting

Mon Jan 8<sup>th</sup>

6:30 PM Endicott Library

#### 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:** Bill Green (D-H)

**Secretary:** Open (I-L)

**Treasurer:** Brent Bryson (M-R)

**Board Members at Large:**

Bob Jennings (S-Z)

Jim Monaco

**Past President:** Frank Gioffredo

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**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

**Newsletter Editor:** Scott Wallace

**Finally**

You may have heard that Frank Gioffredo is leaving the area to pursue a job opportunity in Virginia. Well, it's true. Frank has been very instrumental to our club. I don't even know where to begin... He's kept our field equipment running for many years, he was one of our pilots for the blimp flown at the hockey games, he's done many Program Nights, he's been on the Board several times in different positions, he's been heavily involved with our Aerobatics contest, he taught me to fly, and has worked with many club members to help them with their planes and set-ups. Bottom line is that Frank always stepped in when you needed him. The good news is that Frank's going to stay on as a club member for now. Why he won't be as readily accessible, I can only wish him and his family the best.

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

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**Editorial – submitted by Scott Wallace**

We're at that time of year when we fly less and start looking towards our next projects. **Please share with your fellow AGS members what you're up to - just write a quick blurb on your project, snap a cell phone photo or two and email it to me for inclusion in the next newsletter.** Doesn't matter if your project is a plug and play foamy or a multi-engine giant scale bomber, anything is of interest to the diverse membership of this club.

Since I haven't built a model with balsa sheeted foam wings since 1990 I was really pleased with how well the wings and stab for my Troublemaker have turned out. Now to tackle the complex fuselage which is essentially carved from an array of thick balsa blocks and triangle stock...such fun...I think. I really wanted to use retracts on this sleek model but as the fuselage so incredibly narrow the nose gear installation would have been more trouble than its worth, especially when taking into account you can't even retract the gear in VRCS events.

**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](mailto:s.j.wallace13@gmail.com)

I'm definitely taking a deliberate approach to building this model, and compared to the past few winters of churning out several airframes at a clip I'm slowing way down. This Troublemaker and perhaps a Twisted Hobbies foamy for the local schoolyard are all I'm planning to tackle.

Please read elsewhere in this issue the latest on FAA registration. Last year, attorney John Taylor successfully challenged the then existing registration requirement. Well, the FAA's motto is "we're not happy unless you're not happy" and it was a given they would strike back. Well they have, and FAA registration is once again the law of the land. I'm afraid we're on an inevitable slippery slope to where traditional line of sight RC flying is legislated to where it's no longer fun and affordable.

Finally, I want to wish Frank and Denise all the best with their move south. When I moved back to this area from NC 18 years ago, Frank was one of the friendliest and most helpful members of the AGS and went out of his way to make a new member feel welcome. Frank's remained a great flying buddy over all these years, and he was always there to do anything any time the club needed him.

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## **AGS General Membership Meeting Minutes**

### **Aeroguidance Society Meeting # 839**

Date: Nov 6, 2017

Place: Endicott Library

President Rick Allabaugh called the meeting to order.

Guests: None

Membership minutes were approved as published in the connector.

Three members paid dues. One Sr. member paid dues. Associate membership dues received from Dave Smith, Charlie Brown has his application, Bill Green to follow up w/ Charlie.

VP: Nothing to report at this time

Treasurer: was not in attendance

Rick reported Charlie Brown is resigning from the AGS. His resignation will be accepted per the review of his resignation letter. Bill Green will take over as Membership Chairman.

Rick reported Event Activity chairs are being filled:

Christmas Party Bill Green

NYD Fly Frank Gioffredo

Mid-Winter Fly Neil Hunt

Summer Picnic Bob Noll

Contest Jeff Hatton, Frank Gioffredo

Fall Float-Fly Don Shugard

Rick commented there are still events to be chaired/hosted please contact him if you are willing to chair an event.

Bob Noll, Recognized Scott Wallace for the excellent quality newsletter he has been supplying us with.

### **Old Business:**

Bob Noll presented Frank Gioffredo with a third place trophy in pylon racing.

Field winterization was chaired by Bill Green for Todd Kopl. Everything went smooth, all picnic tables are stored in upper pavilion as well as the flight control center and the metal cabinet, all flight stands are stored under the flight pavilion. The Tractor and mowers will be winterized later this month.

The determination of repairs to the ExMark will be made in the Spring.

Rick commented on the website improvements Don Shugard has been making.

It was determined Bill Green, Jeff Hatton, and Rick Allabaugh have administrative access to the Facebook account. Bill will start addressing improvements soon.

Some discussion on whether to keep the Ford tractor or replace it, discussion tabled.

### **New business:**

Chris Goffa asked for a familiarization meeting on operating the Tractor. Also Chris asked about electric pylon plane requirements.

Scott Wallace reported on the Valley RC groups' startup of this season's indoor flying; beginning on Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of Nov. Refer to the Activities Calendar.

### **Show and Tell/Hanger Talk**

Jeff Hatton showed his DJI Spark quadcopter and discussed its abilities commenting on how much improved it is from his first one, also Jeff had video on his tablet of the field filmed with this quad which uses a 1080p camera and has on board gps. Jeff also has a second unit with a much better 4K camera.

Frank Gioffredo showed a replacement former he produced using carbon fiber cloth aircraft ply and epoxy.

Various discussions held concerning hobby suppliers and supplies. Meeting was adjourned at 8:04pm.

**Respectfully submitted by - Frank Gioffredo AGS Secretary**

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### **AGS Christmas Party – by Bill Green**

Well here we are the end of another flying season, where does the time go? This note is to remind everyone that our 2017 AGS Christmas party will be held at the Endicott library December 4th at 6:30. The club will provide pizza and drink. Each member is asked to please bring a dish or dessert to pass. Thanks in advance for your help in making this a great evening for all to enjoy.

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### **FAA's Registration Requirement for UAS**

We are writing to update you on the FAA's registration requirement. Today, Congress finalized legislation that will **reverse** the earlier court ruling in the John Taylor case and restore the FAA's UAS registration requirement, including for AMA members.

We expect this legislation – the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2018 – to go

through final passage in the House and Senate, and to the President's desk, soon. **We ask all AMA members to please comply with the registration rule once it is in effect again. We will update you when this happens.**

While we have always said registration makes sense at some level, we have pushed for a more reasonable threshold and argued that if registration is to be implemented, the criteria, threshold and implementation should go through rulemaking.

We continue to work closely with Congress, the FAA and other stakeholders to determine the best path forward now that UAS registration will be reinstituted. This process will take time but, as always, we are doing everything we can to advocate for our members and protect the model aircraft hobby.

AMA Government Relations

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### **Virginia Bound – by Frank Gioffredo**

Hey guys I would like you all to know that after I don't know how many years I have decided to relocate to Virginia where I can start anew and try to recover from my financial losses in this area. I have a very respectable job opportunity that I've already been hired to.

I am forced to resign from the Board of Directors, but will remain a member of the AGS, as I will be returning every so often to work on the house and prepare for my wife and I to permanently relocate to Virginia. It is with mixed emotions that I make this decision, but I need to do what I feel is best for me, and my family. I will miss the AGS and my many friends here, but I have passed to many times on this opportunity. I plan to be at the Christmas Party on the 4th and will be heading to Virginia on the 9th or 10th.

Again I would like to say Thank you to all of you who have influenced my life and made me a better person over the years. I will be changing my e-mail to frankieg756@gmail.com so I can keep receiving the newsletter.

I will be returning every so often to work on the house and prepare to move Denise and me permanently to VA. Please stay in touch I might need the support. As Buzz Lightyear says "TO INFINITY AND BEYOND". Follow your dreams and follow your heart.

Frank Gioffredo



## AGS Field Report Nov 2017 – by Todd Kopl

I'd like to start off by again thanking Bill Green for filling in for me at field winterizing while I was away on business travel (Salton Sea, CA...look it up if you've never heard of it, very interesting place!) and thanks to all that came out to support the activity. As I recall the weather on the following weekend was terrible so glad it got done. Bill provided me with the following highlights:

- The side walk blocks were lowered to allow for easier access with the lawn mower
- the spools(tables) have been lined up along the fence and locked (Bill & I know the combo)
- All picnic tables were placed into shed
- All benches and flight stands under pavilion
- All power equipment winterized (separate day, thanks Bill & Frank)

Action list for next year (feel free to provide additional suggestions):

- Paint and seal up the holes on the spools to help keep the bees out
- Repair the legs on picnic tables as they are in rough shape

Replacing the Exmark mower has been tabled for now. Frank has recommended we change the drive belt before taking action and I agree. While there were some good end of season deals on new zero turns in my opinion it did not make sense to purchase a new unit only to store it all winter risking vandalism and wasting warranty time.

There will always be a deal somewhere if we decide to buy and I have identified leading candidates if we choose that direction.

If you're up there doing anything field related, please take some pictures and forward to me...I like posting a pic or two of members enjoying the facility. Lastly, I'd be remiss if I didn't write something about Frank leaving the area. I'm sure we'll stay connected but he will be dearly missed. I joined the AGS back in the early 80's, have seen a lot of folks come and go, and I've always considered Frank a friend and have enjoyed the many years of flying and camaraderie. He has been a true asset to the AGS and I wish him well.



## Indoor Report – by Scott Wallace

Unfortunately nothing to report, the second November session in Sayre was a scratch as the Sayre schools were still closed on 11/28 for the Thanksgiving break. Oh well next session coming up on Dec 12<sup>th</sup>. I needed a new indoor model like I needed a hole in the head but behold my new Twisted Hobbies Superlight series "Crack Laser" in patriotic colors:



This new generation superlight model is a bit lighter (and more fragile) than the first gen such as my SU-29 and the Crack Yak.

Speaking of indoor RC flying, its popular these days and very much taken for granted with plug and play fully aerobatic foam models weighing 5-6 ounces at most.

Did you know that over **50** years ago the AGS held one of the very first indoor RC flying sessions in the USA? My recollections are vague as I was very young then but I've confirmed with Bob Noll that at least what I recall is accurate. Back in the mid-1960's a group of inventive AGS members held an indoor RC flying day at the IBM Country Club gymnasium.

There were no off the shelf micro radio components, no micro electric motors, no Li-Po batteries, no lightweight foam airframes...no these were all hand built masterpieces.

The models were incredibly delicate, indoor Free Flight style airplanes, covered in microfilm (a liquid was poured into a container of water, where it formed an almost invisible film on the surface which was carefully lifted and applied to the delicate framework.

Believe it or not the models were rubber band powered as micro size electric motors and Li-Po batteries were many years down the road. For RC equipment nothing was available commercially so intricate, tiny single channel radio gear was designed and built by some of our very own AGS members.

At best the models made a few slow circles around the gym before the rubber motor unwound, but for 1966 this was as high tech as there was! I recall an article was published in Model Airplane News about the club's

accomplishment. I will do some research through the AMA archives and try to locate that issue.

### **Gernot Bruckman's ginormous new "Pandora" model for the F3A Aerobatics World Championships**

The 'pregnant guppy' look of the modern F3A model has been taken to an absurd new level and with those two huge T-canailizers it seems to be almost a triplane!



### **World Championship results are as follows:**

- Tetsuo Onda (Japan) is the new World Champion
- Christophe Paysant-Le Roux (France) 2nd place
- Jason Shulman (USA) 3rd place
- Andrew Jesky (USA) 4th place
- USA wins the Team Gold medal

Interesting in an age where electric power dominates pattern flying the top two still used YS engines ☺

## ***AGS Merchandise – available from Bill Green***

<b>Item</b>	<b>Price ea.</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Price ea.</b>
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 2017-18**

<b>ACTIVITY / LOCATION (AGS Field unless specified)</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>CHAIRMAN</b>
Holiday Party (Endicott Library)	Dec 4th	Bill Green
New Year's Day Fly (BC United Soccer Fields)	Jan 1 <sup>st</sup> Time is TBD	Rick Allabaugh
Mid-Winter Fun Fly (BC United Soccer Fields)	TBD	Neil Hunt
Spring Fun Fly (BC United Soccer Fields)	TBD	TBD
Field Opening	TBD	TBD
Family Picnic	TBD	Bob Noll
Hilltop Challenge	TBD	TBD
AGS Float Fly	TBD	Don Shugard
Aerobatics Contest	TBD	Jeff Hatton
VRCS Reunion	Sept 1-2	Bob Noll

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

<b>Event / Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Contact / Info</b>
Indoor Flying Sayre, PA	Dec 12 7PM - 9PM	Dan Luchaco <a href="mailto:pafflyer23@gmail.com">pafflyer23@gmail.com</a>
Indoor Flying Sayre, PA	Jan 9 7PM - 9PM	Dan Luchaco <a href="mailto:pafflyer23@gmail.com">pafflyer23@gmail.com</a>
Indoor Flying Sayre, PA	Jan 23 7PM - 9PM	Dan Luchaco <a href="mailto:pafflyer23@gmail.com">pafflyer23@gmail.com</a>
Indoor Flying Sayre, PA	Feb 13 7PM - 9PM	Dan Luchaco <a href="mailto:pafflyer23@gmail.com">pafflyer23@gmail.com</a>
Indoor Flying Sayre, PA	Feb 27 7PM - 9PM	Dan Luchaco <a href="mailto:pafflyer23@gmail.com">pafflyer23@gmail.com</a>

**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](mailto:s.j.wallace13@gmail.com) for inclusion in the next edition of The Connector.**



# DECEMBER PROGRAM



## *Holiday Party*



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