

# The **CONNECTOR**

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

www.agsny.org

Volume #66 .... Issue # 7 July 2020

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

#### August meeting at AGS Field (Aug 3)

Changes to time or location will be noted in this newsletter

### Vice Prez Sez – Jeff Hatton

We will be having a meeting at the field on August 3rd, bring a plane up beforehand to get some flying in, the meeting will begin after the flying is done for the night. I am pleased to announce that Brent Bryson has agreed to fill the vacant Board Member at Large position and will consider running for the two-year position next term. As I mentioned at the last meeting, I am not planning on remaining in the president position next year and I know some of the other board members are looking to step down as well. Please consider supporting the club and running for one of the positions on the board.

The board looked at the financials for the year and we are working on budget for next year, based on the current budget and expected increases in taxes and insurance for next year we anticipate that if we leave dues at their current levels we may run a small deficit of under \$500 for the next year. Based on our current positive balance we are recommending that dues remain the same and the next board closely monitors the situation to see if it is a trend or a one-time shortfall due to the unusual season, we are having this year.

#### Field – Bill Green

#### **Upcoming mowing assignments**

| 7/30-8/1  | Chris   | Goffa    | Ron   | Sprague   |
|-----------|---------|----------|-------|-----------|
| 8/6-8/8   | Brent   | Bryson   | Rick  | Allabaugh |
| 8/13-8/15 | Charlie | Hatton   | Jeff  | Hatton    |
| 8/20-8/22 | Jim     | Quinn    | John  | Loomis    |
| 8/27-8/29 | Harold  | Peeling  | Bob   | Hoag      |
| 9/3-9/5   | Ray     | Phillips | Scott | Wallace   |

#### **Up-Coming Events**

#### AGS August Meeting

Monday Aug 3 6:30 PM AGS Field

#### AGS Pattern Contest

Saturday-Sunday Aug 8-9 AGS Field

#### AGS Open House

Tuesday Aug 4, 11, 18, 25 5:30 - 8:00 PM AGS Field

#### AGS Pylon Race #6

Wednesday Aug 12 6:00 PM AGS Field

#### AGS September Meeting

Monday September 7 6:30 PM Location 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: Open (A-C)

Vice President: Jeff Hatton (D-H)

Secretary: Rick Allabaugh (I-L)

Treasurer: Bob Jennings (M-R)

#### **Board Members at Large:**

1) **Open** (S-Z)

2) Dave A. Smith

Past President: Rick Allabaugh

#### **Committee Chairmen:**

Membership: Bob Noll

Activities: David Dewey-Wright

Program: Tom Kopl

Field: Bill Green

Historian: Bob Hoag

Safety: Chris Goffa

Webmaster: Don Shugard

Newsletter Editor: Todd Kopl

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

#### **AGS General Membership Meeting**

AGS General Meeting Minutes Club Meeting #868 7/6/2020 AGS Field

Meeting called to Order by acting President Jeff Hatton at 7:16 PM.

Present were 13 members. No guests were present.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Jennings

 Bob gave an overview of our current income, expanses, and account balance. This past month, we had income from dues, club merchandise sales, last year's Learn to Fly Program, and reimbursement from our application for funds from AMA's Take Off and Grow program. If you have any questions, please contact Bob.

Review of Board of Director's Minutes: Rick Allabaugh

 Rick gave an overview of the June BOD Meeting. In these minutes, several amendments were made to the May BOD meeting minutes. Minutes will be sent to the Webmaster so they can be published on our web site.

Review of General Meeting Minutes: Rick Allabaugh

• The March General Meeting Minutes, which were completed prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, were voted on and approved as published in the April Connector. Tonight was the first time the club has been able to meet since the pandemic started.

Field Update:

- Please remember to refill the mower, tractor (if used), and gas cans once you are done mowing.
- Even if you do not wish for reimbursement for purchasing gas for the field, consider turning in your receipts anyway as we are trying to track this Operating cost.
- In general, the field is looking very good.
- Online and in the Connector the teams for mowing are listed. Please pay attention and if are going to have an issue with mowing, contact Bill Green and Todd Kopl.

- The road up to the field is starting to get a little rough in the corners. Try not to spin your tires when going up the hill. Future road work will need to be reviewed and discussed.
- FYI to new club members: The road does have some ditches intentionally cut into the roadway to help with water drainage. Do not take it upon yourself to flatten or fill these areas in. If you're not sure, ask another club member first.

#### New Business:

- There has been a report that club members up at the field are not social distancing properly.
  - When flying, try to maintain the required separation distance of 6'-0". Be aware of your surroundings.
  - When under the pavilion, where a mask if you cannot maintain proper distancing.
  - As a club, we want people up at the field to feel comfortable.
- The club has once again received Gold Member Club status from AMA. In order to maintain Gold Member status for next year, we must remember to:
  - Buy an AMA magazine subscription for the Vestal Library or other local library.
  - Donate some of the money made from the Annual Pattern Contest or VRCS event to CHOW or another charity.
- 3) Bob Noll has ordered AMA "wing pins to give to new members.
- 4) Bob Noll is selling AGS Club coffee mugs for \$7.00 each.
- 5) Open House (Bob Noll):
  - Open House for people wanting to learn to fly starts tomorrow night, July 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - Bob has added the sign indicating so at the bottom of the road.
  - He strongly encourages club members to come up on Tuesday to participate in the Open House. Open House does not mean that the field is closed to our embers. Bring different types of planes up so that potential members get to see other types of planes and flying.
- Pylon racing has started. Races will be held on Wednesday nights. The racing schedule is in the Connector.
- 7) Board Positions:
  - The Board of Directors (BOD) currently has a Board Member at Large position open which needs to be filled. Per our By-laws, the BOD has

the authority to assign someone to this position if a club member does step up to fill it.

- Jeff Hatton is looking to have someone step up and be President for the next year. He'd like to get some new members involved with the Board.
- Rick Allabaugh is looking for someone to fill the Secretary position which will be open next year.
- Just a reminder that all AGS Board Meetings are open to any member to attend. Since these last few BOD meetings have been remote and online, if you are interested in attending, let Jeff know.

#### Old Business:

- 1) Annual AGS Pattern Contest (Jeff Hatton):
  - The Annual AGS Pattern Contest will be held August 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> and the sanction has been approved.
  - Given the current Covid-19 pandemic, this will be a scaled down event. Jeff is currently working out the food logistics and other items.
  - If a club member decides to fly in the Sportsman Class, the entry fee is waived.
  - If a club member decides to fly in the Intermediate class and up, the entry fee will discounted 50%.
- 2) VRCS event (Ray Phillips):
  - The VRCS event up at the field is planned for September 5<sup>th</sup>.
- 3) Family Picnic (Bob Noll):
  - The Family Picnic has been moved to August.
    Planned date is Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. Rain date shall be Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - There will be an ice breaker game called "Who Am I?" Bob is looking to have Jim Monaco's sister play accordion music at the campfire after dinner.
  - Bob is planning to have Phil's Chicken House dinners to those attending. Make sure to get your attendee count to Bob as soon as possible.
- 4) Membership (Bob Noll):
  - The club welcomes Jesse Pagels and Mike Mauersberg to the AGS.
- 5) AGS Pilot Qualification Evaluation:
  - Rick Allabaugh, in review of the June BOD minutes gave an overview of the revised pilot qualification evaluation form.
  - There was some discussion on why it was necessary to demonstrate "Touch and Go's".

- Per Jeff, the intent of the Touch and Go's is to get new pilots familiar with the proper landing approach. Too often, club pilots are not approaching the active runway correctly and are flying in towards themselves and the pits when attempting to land. This can become a safety issue should a problem arise.
- If done properly, Touch and Go's line pilots up with the center of the active runway for landing. A new pilot will use rudder control and throttle management to control the plane in order to do Touch and Go's. This will also help them learn how to abort a landing should an issue arise.
- Bob Noll suggested that the term "Fly the Patten" be changed to "Fly the Rectangular Pattern."
- The intent is to use this form for new pilots only.
- 6) FAA Update (Ray Phillips):
  - If you originally registered with the FAA back in 2015, you'll need to re-register for 2020. Go to the FAA website "FAAdronezone", Watch for fake FAA sites.
  - If you watch AMA Air, look for the update from Tyler Dobbs on Remote ID.
    - The AMA is pushing for a web-based application solution instead of an onboard solution.
  - With respect to the FAA's designation of an approved Flying Site, the AMA is pushing for unlimited field designation instead of a 4-yr. limit and re-approval process proposed by the FAA.

#### Show and Tell:

David Dewy-Wright: David showed club members an airplane storage rack he built for his truck. The main plywood base slides in/out of the bed and wood supports hold his aircraft. The wood racks pivot and slide towards each other so that he can maximum storage within a minimum amount of space. He plans on adding more racks to what he currently has.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.

#### FAMILY PICNIC RESCHEDULED - by Bob Noll

Well, it is sometimes said that the best laid plans ......! I just learned that Marie Monaco will be on vacation in

July and won't be able to entertain us at the Family Picnic as scheduled. Therefore, I am once again rescheduling the picnic to Monday September 14 with the rain date of Wednesday September 16. I am very excited about having Marie entertain us with her accordion as we gather around the "campfire" after the chicken dinner.

Chances are good that we will have delightful weather in September so please put those new dates on your calendar. The time will be 6 PM and more details will follow in the next issue of The Connector.

#### **Editorial – Submitted by Todd Kopl**

Blast from the past. With the annual pattern contest coming up I dug up some photos from a 1974 Model Builder magazine at Tri Cities Airport! I vaguely remember Dad taking me to watch those events but I was pretty young.



CD Bob Noll awarded special prize to visitor Bruno Giezendanner. He was twice World Champion, from Switzerland.



Class B winner at Enicott contest was Lon Sauter.

*Ed. Note: Lon was longtime go-to radio repair guy in Syracuse for many years* 

#### 2020 Spirit of Selinsgrove – by Scott Wallace

Ray Phillips and I will once again be hosting the Vintage RC Society (VRCS) for its 31st Annual Spirit of Selinsgrove Celebration on Saturday, September 5 at the AGS field. 2020 has certainly had its challenges and many RC events have been cancelled, but as I write this in late July, we are still committed to holding the event as scheduled. We could see a larger than normal turnout, or very little...at this point we do not know although several out of town folks have contacted me stating they will be attending. Reminder for everyone from the club please be mindful of social distancing, I will wear a mask only during registration of our entrants, afterwards maintaining our distance is the plan.

VRCS events feature airplanes designed for radio control 35 years ago or earlier. Fliers will come from all over the northeast to participate; the focus again this year is on open flying so everyone entered can enjoy the history of our hobby take flight. We will have competitive events for VRCS Concours, Theme Plane Concours and Scale. We'll also have entrants choose the "Pilots Choice" award for the model they feel best exemplifies the spirit of vintage aeromodelling.

Note that the field will be closed to regular flying until 5:00 but I want to personally invite the AGS membership, and especially our new members, to stop by and see what this fun event is all about. In an age of ARF or foam RTF models you will see some outstanding examples of old school model building craftsmanship. Many of these older designs are also excellent flying aircraft and would be great candidates for your first (or next) balsa build and are great choices for electric power.

#### **OPEN HOUSE CONTINUES - by Bob Noll**

Several spouses took advantage of flying one of our club trainers last month but no new visitors ventured to our model airport to experience the thrill of flying an RC plane. We hope the next few weeks will see a few new visitors. This Learn to Fly Program is a club function and needs the support of all members. You can help by telling a fellow worker, neighbor or friend about our Open Houses. Encourage them to visit our model airport on Tuesday evenings to experience the fun of flying an RC plane.

# Better yet, bring the neighbor, friend or co-worker with you to the field.

#### Pylon Racing – Matt & Todd Kopl

Race #4: Bob Noll was the victim of an aileron servo failure after his 1<sup>st</sup> heat race. Fortunately, the plane was throttled back & 'landed' in a tree but no more racing for him that evening. Matt Kopl is still trying to break his cut habit which has prevented him from accumulating more points.

Race #5: Bob Noll again experienced misfortune with a wheel malfunction during the test flight of his new Quik V6 racer. Despite attempts to repair he ended up scrubbing for the evening. With Matt out west on vacation it left Brent & Todd to duke it out for the evening.

Once again Brent's after race hot dogs were a big hit and we have been very lucky with weather and exceptional helper turn out.

New member Jesse Pagels has already been bit by the racing bug & has been busy acquiring a racer and some engines!

#### Current Standings:

| Q-500   | RACE         | 1      | 2      | 3      | 4     | 5      | TOTAL  |
|---------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|
|         | DATE         | 20-May | 10-Jun | 24-Jun | 8-Jul | 22-Jul | POINTS |
|         |              |        |        |        |       |        |        |
| Seeding | Pilots       | covid  |        |        |       |        |        |
| 1       | Todd Kopl    | 0      | 7      | 6      | 6     | 6      | 25     |
| 2       | Bob Noll     | 0      | 7      | 3      | 1     | 0      | 11     |
| 3       | Matt Kopl    | 0      | 0      | 5      | 3     | 0      | 8      |
| 4       | Brent Bryson | 0      | 0      | 3      | 5     | 2      | 10     |



Dedicated cut judges Dave & Dave

One more blast from the past from 1974 issue of Model Builder magazine.



Bob Noll, Vestal, New York, shows off his new K & B Schneurle powered Stegall Minne His first Formula I ship in 3 years, it turned 1:34 the first time out.

#### **DID YOU KNOW - by Bob Noll**

Chapter 12 of our "Fifty Years and Still Flying" history book is titled "Flight Training Program". Here are a few words from that chapter written by Gib Vandling.

"Most who try to learn by themselves either give up or seek help. Indeed, most of the instruction books that come with beginner model airplanes either kits, or Almost Ready to Fly (ARF) planes requiring very little construction, clearly stress the importance of finding someone to help you learn to fly. Recognizing this, the AGS instituted a formal flight school for new and inexperienced members some years ago and to this day the AGS is the only club in the area providing this service to its members as an organized program. Today most radio transmitters are provided with a connector for a "buddy chord" which allows two transmitters to be interconnected. One of the transmitters is the active transmitter used by the instructor and the other is a "buddy box" – a transmitter unit with the transmitter disabled – which is used by the student. During the training the instructor will permit the student to control the airplane for longer periods if time but retake control to avoid and problems or crashes. The goal is for the student to solo and fly a complete flight without any intervention of the instructor.

It sounds pretty simple but there is more to it than this. In addition to instructors, other club members act as "helpers". First, the helpers will make certain that a student's airplane is airworthy. That means, for example, that the controls respond to the appropriate transmitter commands and deflect in the proper direction and that the center-of-gravity is correct. Even experienced pilots sometimes make such mistakes particularly when they use a transmitter with more than one airplane programmed into it. Also, the helper will assist the student in starting and adjusting the engine and provide other assistance where necessary.

At the beginning of the flying season a flight school coordinator will organize the flight school and publish a list of instructors, students and helpers with their phone numbers. Flight school is traditional held on Wednesday nights and Saturday mornings although other arrangements can sometimes be made to fit an individual instructor's or student's convenience.

A special feature of our Flight School is the Performance Log. This shows the student his/her progress from lesion to lesion. It sets goals for the student to achieve. It also is a quick reference for the instructors to know where a student's skill level is if he hasn't taught that student recently.

Dick Allen coordinated our first flight school some years ago. This was before buddy boxes became commonplace. Dick said that they originally passed the transmitter back and forth from instructor to student and that this worked pretty well except for landing. Dick also remembers that mode I, mode 2 and single stick transmitters were quite common in the old days and that students were given wings when they soloed. A more recent tradition is for the students to host a picnic for the instructors and helpers on the last scheduled flight school session.

The AGS is very proud of our flight school tradition and of the dedication of our flight school instructors and helpers. It is one of the very important benefits of club membership."

#### Show & Tell



Jerry Wright hand launching delta wing.



*Jeff Hatton's DJI Mavic quadcopter captured from Bob Hoag's DJI Mavic quadcopter at first AGS Tuesday night Open House* 



Brent Bryson and David Dewey Wright readying airplane in pit area viewed from Bob Hoag's airborne quad at first AGS Tuesday night Open House.



Scott Wallace's Joe Bridi Sun Fli 3 powered with an OS 61 FSR. Dope finish over silkspan/Koverall. Flies really well, as good or better than the Kaos I completed in May.



Sam Kopl with Dad's new Kaos (and Dad's new student pilot)



Jesse Pagels, new associate member, with his new FMS 1800 Ranger (4 cell power) ready for it's maiden flight (which was very successful)



*Bill Green presenting a surprise birthday gift to Chris Morgan, a restored E-Flite Timber.* 



Chris Morgan with his Cub and Spektrum DX6 Radio

#### CARBON CUB S+ 1.3M FOR SALE - \$299.



Originally purchased as a club trainer. Contact Bob Noll at 754-5279

# AGS 2020 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

| <b>ACTIVITY / LOCATION</b>   | DATE                  | TIME      | CHAIRMAN                     |  |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|------------------------------|--|
| (AGS Field unless specified) |                       |           |                              |  |
| August Club Meeting/Field    | Mon Aug 3             | 6:30-8:30 | NA                           |  |
| AGS Aerobatics Contest       | Aug 8-9               | TBA       | Jeff Hatton                  |  |
| AGS Pylon Race #6            | Wed Aug 12            | 6:00-8:00 | Todd & Matt Kopl             |  |
| AGS Pylon Race #7            | Wed Aug 26            | 6:00-8:00 | Todd & Matt Kopl             |  |
| VRCS Spirit of Selinsgrove   | Sat Sept 5            | 9:00-5:00 | Ray Phillips & Scott Wallace |  |
| AGS Club Meeting/TBD         | Mon Sept 7            | 6:30-8:30 | NA                           |  |
| AGS Pylon Race #8            | Sun Sept 13           | 2:00-4:00 | Todd & Matt Kopl             |  |
| AGS Family Picnic            | Mon Sept 14           | 6:00-done | Bob Noll                     |  |
|                              | $(16^{th} rain date)$ |           |                              |  |
| AGS Float Fly/Cole Park      | Sept 26-27            | TBD       | David Dewey-Wright           |  |
|                              |                       |           |                              |  |

## Other nearby RC events of interest

| Event / Location              | Date       | Contact /Info                              |
|-------------------------------|------------|--|
| Aero's Festival of Giants     | Aug 7-9    | Binghamton Aeros website                   |
| VRCS Rochester, NY            | Aug 8      | Jim Capuano cappaj1@yahoo.com 585 739-6040 |
| VRCS Lancaster, PA            | Aug 15-16  | Jeff Troy (jefftroy@aol.com) Cancelled     |
| Warbirds over Chenango Bridge | Sept 26-27 | Jason Felice/607-341-0829                  |
|                               |            |  |
|                               |            |  |



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