



# The CONNECTOR

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

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

Volume #69 Issue #3 March 2023

---

## **The Next AGS Club Meeting is Monday April 3rd - 6:30 P.M at Tri-Cities Airport**

Changes to time or location will be noted in this newsletter

---

### **Prez Sez — David Dewey-Wright**

Happy April! I won't say that Spring has sprung, but we're getting close.

I noticed the other day that there was still some light out at 7:30 pm. Not enough to fly in, but close. I'm looking forward to our upcoming Wednesday night events, in whatever form they take. Whether its casual fun flying, with hotdogs, or if we get into some racing, with hotdogs. Either way, I'm figuring there'll be hotdogs, and fun.

We're trying to come up with a more affordable way for anyone interested to get into racing. The airframe we're considering is the Ace GLH from [balsaworkbench.com](http://balsaworkbench.com). He's got a short-kit available for \$35, which can be electrified quite readily. At our recent Board meeting, we had 4 hands showing interest to get one, and I'm checking to see if we might be able to get a better price for a "club quantity" purchase. It was also suggested that we could have an evening build session in someone's garage and get everyone's wing laid up then. Not having built like this, I like the idea of having experienced builders around to help. And for those who aren't interested in building, you might be able to "hire out" and have someone build one for you. If you think you might be interested in one of these planes, let me know. We might be too late to have a flying season with them this year, but even if that's

### **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 April Club Meeting**

Mon April 3rd  
6:30 PM  
Tri-Cities Airport

#### **Field Opening Work Party**

Sat April 29th  
10:00 AM  
AGS Field

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

**The Aeroguidance  
Society, Inc.  
147 Warrick Rd.  
Endicott, NY 13760**

**AGS Officers:**

**President:** David Dewey-Wright (A-C)

**Vice President:** Jeff Hatton (D-H)

**Secretary:** Tom Fargo (I-L)

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

**Board Members at Large:**

1) Brent Bryson (S-Z)

2) Dave A. Smith

**Past President:** Jeff Hatton

---

**Committee Chairmen:**

**Membership:** OPEN

**Field:** Todd Kopl

**Safety:** Chris Goffa

**Webmaster:** Don Shugard

**Newsletter Editor:** Scott Wallace

true, I don't see any reason not to start getting set up for next year.

We're also looking at some public events to get more exposure for the AGS and try to draw in more members. A table in the Strawberry Festival in Owego, with a static display of some planes, as well as an RC simulator set up to let people actually "fly" is one event. Another event might be the Spiedie Fest, and then the car show in Owego. Each of these would need people to be at the table, hand out fliers, answer questions, and help with the simulator(s). We'll need participation from as many people as possible to make these ideas work. If you've got other thoughts for bringing people in, pass them along!

One sign of spring was my trip to Lebanon, PA for the Central Penn Aeromodelers RC Expo a couple weeks ago. Since Scott wasn't able to go, I got the extra vendor ticket that Ray had, and got there early. (I left home at 4:00 am to get there around 7:30 am.) I needed some 30-minute epoxy, which I found. And then it turned out I needed some new (to me) planes. Earlier last year, I smashed up a Carbon Z cub. It's been downstairs awaiting a lot of time and glue. If you look at the pictures, I picked up another one, not smashed up. So, the one that's been awaiting repairs will be a parts donor.

Then I saw the Dynam Albatros biplane. I have a smaller Albatros already... but well, bigger is better, right?

And lastly, the STOL MPX Pilatus. That needed a new windshield, which I made from a Peanut M&M container, and a little repair of two internal supports, but a bit of epoxy there, and I believe it's ready to go.

Good thing I made that shelf so I could put planes below and above in my little Scion XB.

Bring your show-and-tell for the meeting on April 3rd at the airport!

Dave D-W



## **AGS General Membership Meeting Minutes**

### **Aeroguidance Society Meeting #897**

In attendance: Ray Phillips, Scott Wallace, Bob Noll, Jessie Pagels, David Dewey-Wright, Bob and Alita Jennings, Tom Fargo, Brent Bryson, Kieran Sweeney. Online: David Smith

Notes were taken by Kieran Sweeney, typed up by David Dewey-Wright. Club Secretary Greg Ingalsbe was not able to attend.

The meeting was called to order at 6:42 pm. by club president David Dewey-Wright.

Bob Jennings presented the club financial information of starting balance, income, expenses, and current balance.

It was announced that Greg Ingalsbe will be moving in the near future, and his position as Club Secretary needed to be filled by someone else. He had requested this change at the Annual Meeting last Fall, but had agreed to stay on until someone agreed to fill the position. As he was also working on taking over the Web Site maintenance, this will also need to be managed by someone else.

The Membership chair position is still vacant and in need of being filled. Jesse Pagels indicated that he might be willing to take on the position.

New business – Attracting new Members. As the club has been losing members rapidly, we need to find ways to reach out and find new members. The discussion identified possible areas to pursue: Binghamton University, BCC, High Schools. We could also frequent local parks and either fly there to attract people interested, or possibly meet people who are already flying there, and get them interested in joining the AGS. The Board will continue this discussion.

New Business – Racing. Dave D-W has been talking with Jim Quinn about some possibilities for racing that might have a lower entry cost than the Quickie 500 planes we have been racing in previous years.

Scott Wallace identified the 1/2 A “Ace GLH” plane from Balsa Workbench ([www.balsaworkbench.com](http://www.balsaworkbench.com)) as a low-cost possibility. The short kit from Balsa Workbench goes for \$35 and the thought is to race using electric power. The discussion is still on-going.

End of business portion of meeting.



## Show and Tell:

DDW brought a tool he received at Christmas time, the Wonder Cutter S oscillating knife tool. Available from Microtools, it's a bit pricey, at \$400, but works nicely on plastic, wood, etc. The blade oscillates at 40kHz. It takes a little practice on some plastic pieces to not melt them.

DDW also brought a Tower Hobbies Ryan STA plan he purchased a while back which he is working on assembling. Hope to see that flying a little later this year.

Bob Noll brought one of his "Crash" DVDs that we watched to end the meeting. Thanks for the cringes.

## AGS Field Report April 2023 – Todd Kopl

Field opening is tentatively scheduled for Saturday April 29th at 10:00am. Weather plays a big factor and it must be dry enough to drive up and conduct activities. We'll grill some hot dogs for lunch compliments of your field chairman and feel free to fly after work is complete. Technically the field is always open so if it really warms up and dries out no need to wait for opening to fly.

My hobby activities have been on the back burner so far this year. I still have on-going construction work at my house from the tornado/microburst that hit it last June along with a long overdue bathroom remodel I promised my wife. However, I'm beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel!

Not an airplane but this is the current state of house this week (10 huge spruce pines fell on this last year!):



## Sporty Forty by Ray Phillips

Ray Phillips has finished up a beautifully done rendition of the Ken Willard designed "Sporty Forty" biplane. Ray's model started from a balsaworkbench short kit and features an OS 40 engine and a dope finish.



## Country Squire by Scott Wallace

In the past month I scratch built a 1969 designed Country Squire using leftover balsa in my scrap box. This homely design is the result of two challenges to designer Don Dewey (Don was the editor of RCM Modeler magazine for the entirety of its existence). First was a challenge from his club to design a quick building, rugged, and expendable small model (.19 power maximum) to serve as a streamer towing "target" for RC combat. Second challenge was a \$2 bet with fellow model designer Chuck Cunningham to see if Don could design an uglier model than his 1965 design "Royal Coachman". Even in naming the model Don took the lazy way out, taking the name from his 1968 Ford Station Wagon!

All I need to finish my model is a muffler extension which I have on order. One thing about models designed in the 1950s and 60's is that mufflers were not even a thought back then, so it is sometimes a challenge for a stock muffler on a later glow engine to clear the fuselage.



## Andrews A-Ray restoration by Tom Fargo

I've started refurbishing the A-Ray I originally built in 1972. Because it only had rudder, elevator and throttle based on the 3 channel OS radio I had at the time, I'm adding ailerons and have built the extended versions of the rudder and elevator per the original plans. The old silk and dope have been removed and it will be re-covered with monokote and powered with a new OS .35 glo I have waiting.





## Event Report by Kieran Sweeney

Event: Model Aircraft Forum & Electric Fly-In  
Club: Aero Radio Club of Syracuse  
Location: Syracuse Academy of Science Charter School, Syracuse, NY

I saw an advertisement for this in the AMA newsletter, and thought it might be a good opportunity to offload my UMX Yak-54 as there was a focus on indoor flying. As it turns out, this was a great decision!

There was a wide variety of aircraft from featherweight UMX B-17s and indoor 3D designs, all the way up to a turbine Blue Angels F-18C the size of my truck!

Supposedly those F-18s retail for more than \$18k as a prebuilt kit without the engines. It had all the bells and whistles - pneumatic gear, flaps, and even a working airbrake.

I had the opportunity to fly some other attendees UMX aircraft in the gym, which was a fun, if hair-raising, experience as there was an air duct in the corner that had a reputation for sucking up aircraft! Thankfully no airframes were sacrificed to the HVAC system this year.

I highly recommend attending just for the raffle and swap shop. It's an easy way to donate or sell/trade old airframes. Donated aircraft are raffled off for \$1 / ticket. Raffle ticket proceeds go directly to after-school STEM programs. I took advantage of this to pick up a 2.4 meter Heron glider (\$400+) for only \$20 in tickets. I simply couldn't pass up the

opportunity to own an aircraft that is clearly an "inspired" model of the Schempp-Hirth Ventus - one of my favorite professors from college designed the wing of the full-scale aircraft.

I've included a few photos that might interest people - including a flier for Syracuse's EAA Young Eagles Build and Fly program. This may be something that our club should look into if we want to increase membership.



## ***AGS 2023 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR***

<b>ACTIVITY / LOCATION (AGS Field unless specified)</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>CHAIRMAN</b>
AGS April Meeting Tri Cities Airport	Apr 3 6:30 PM	David Dewey-Wright
AGS Field Opening	April 29	Todd Kopl
AGS May Meeting Tri Cities Airport	May 1 6:30 PM	David Dewey-Wright
AGS Annual Aerobatics Contest	TBD	Jeff Hatton
34 <sup>th</sup> Annual VRCS Spirit of Selinsgrove Celebration	Sept 2 9:00 – 4:00	Scott Wallace Ray Phillips
AGS Float Fly	TBD	TBD

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

<b>Event / Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Contact / Info</b>
Hudson Valley VRCS Fun Fly West Haverstraw, NY	June 10	<a href="https://www.hvrcc.com/">https://www.hvrcc.com/</a>

## **2023 FIELD MOWING SCHEDULE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Primary</b>	<b>Helper</b>
5/4/2023-5/6/23	TODD KOPL	MATT KOPL
5/11/23-5/13/23	HAROLD PEELING	JESSE PAGELS
5/18/23-5/20/23	BRENT BRYSON	LASHAWN WILEY
5/25/23-5/27/23	CHRIS GOFFA	MARK LECHER
6/1/23-6/3/23	JIM QUINN	MICHAEL MAUERSBERG
6/8/23-6/10/23	CHARLIE HATTON	JEFF HATTON
6/15/23-6/17/23	TOM FARGO	GREG INGALSBE
6/22/23-6/24/23	DAVID DEWEY-WRIGHT	DAVID A SMITH
6/29/23-7/1/23	RAY PHILLIPS	SCOTT WALLACE
7/6/23-7/8/23	TODD KOPL	MATT KOPL

**NOTES:** Dates are the Saturday that the field should be mowed by, typically the field is mowed on a Thursday afternoon/evening to ensure the runways are in good shape for the weekend.

**Crews:** You are responsible for switching dates with others if unable to mow on scheduled date.

**YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE TO REPLENISH FIVE GALLONS OF GAS AT COMPLETION OF YOUR MOWING ASSIGNMENT.**

AGS folklore has it that Ray Phillips was piloting this Curtiss Jenny while Bob Noll and Art Riegal played badminton?

**People in 1925: Aircraft are extremely unreliable, and flying is dangerous**

**Also people in 1925:**



The dates don't add up but it is April 1<sup>st</sup> after all 😊