

Pilot Profile: Steve Navone

by Russell Knetzger

In spite of being very new to our club, and to radio control model aviation, (only one year since he soloed), Steve has accepted the AMA required position of **Club Safety Officer**. Since it is important that we all know and respect the office he now holds, Navone (pronounced Na-vo-nee) is being introduced via this Profile.

Steve's two main occupations imbued him with the importance of Safety, which is why he took this position even though he is new to our club. Those two occupations were auto mechanic, both in civilian work and in the US Army, and gasoline tanker truck operator for 16 years in snowy Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa. He only jack-knifed on ice once, but once is enough.

Now age 44, Steve grew up in Milwaukee and graduated from Bay View High School. He took auto shop, and went to MATC for his certificate in auto mechanics. For the Army he repaired and operated large tow trucks to recover motorized equipment. In that 8 year hitch the Army stationed him at many US bases plus Puerto Rico, Turkey, & Panama, culminating in Desert Storm (Kuwait-Iraq), 9 mos., 1990-91.



82nd Airborne, Desert Storm 1990-91 Kuwait & Iraq



Above: Steve Navone, new Safety Officer of the RAMS Club, holding his ARF Goldberg Yak on his home lawn, 77 inch span, 50cc gasoline engine. Steve may be reached with safety questions at 414-881-2255 (cell)

Steve now lives on the NW edge of the City of Racine with his wife Mashell, and his college age daughter, Malinda. Steve is an estate manager, taking care of properties owned by his sister, including some in Arizona. His mechanical aptitude and experience is useful.

Perhaps that overall feeling for how things work explains why Steve could take only a few lessons from Marv Anderson, his predecessor as Safety Officer, before soloing. That was in Spring, 2008. After mastering his Hangar 9 SoloStar trainer, Steve went next to an Ugly Stik, and since then variations on the aerobatic plane pictured here. Besides the Giles 202, he has a Pitts biplane, an Edge 540, and a SuperStar120.

Opposite Left: Steve's Giles G-202 at the May club meeting, 57 inch span, .46 Evolution engine.



RAMS HORN, June, 2009 Russell Knetzger, Editor
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