



THE RAMS HORN

Mar 2008

Volume 15 Issue 3

The Official Newsletter of the Rainbow Aero Modeler's Society
Metro Milwaukee Area Franklin, WI Founded Nov. 6, 1980

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Wauwatosa Savings Bank

6560 S. 27th Street, Oak Creek, 7:00-9:30PM

(East side of 27th St.-1/4 mile south of College Av.)

by Russell Knetzger, 2002-2007 President

March 5th Program: Video: Carrier Deck Action

Members who attend will get to see the club's improved Video/DVD program capability. A classroom rollaway stand donated by Ken Huber is now stored in our meeting room closet, which means no more hauling the TV and player equipment home & back. New club secty.-treas. Craig Manka donated a DVD player, and is working on an outlet strip so only one cord need be plugged into a wall outlet. Previously, Russell Knetzger had the club's ancient TV serviced.

New Club President: Tom Ryan

Starting March 1st Tom Ryan is our new president, elected 18-14 over myself at the February meeting. Per the By-Laws, written ballots were used, assuring a fair, accurate result. Four modelers did ballot counting. As with public elections, where the actual change in office is later, Tom and I have been using the rest of February to create a smooth transition. A President's binder is being turned over (this column is written in mid-February) to allow Tom advance study of its contents. I thank the club for the six terms I was privileged to serve. I have asked Tom for his support, which he has given, in my becoming club librarian, and newsletter editor. Bill Stilley's job makes it hard for him to continue as editor.

The club will need to vote on both the librarian and editor changes at the March meeting

All business items as published in the last newsletter were approved at the Feb. meeting, shifted to that Saturday afternoon because of yet another bad snow storm. All 58 members were telephoned of the time change. If you were missed, it was because your answering machine was off. The club approved: (1) equalized dues for retired members at \$15/year; (2) requiring non-AMA license holders to show proof of homeowner policy coverage; (3) AMA or equivalent field turbine waivers for jets flown at our field; (4) field licenses to remain \$40 for 2008; (5) a field budget of \$3,790; (6) nominating & voting Bob Kabella to take Russ Retzack's seat as delegate to the Milw. R/C Assn. Retzack served that very morning.

Ten of Twelve Club Positions Changed Of the 12 club officer positions, 10 are either new people or people changing offices. Only Floyd Katz as safety officer and Jim Hatzenbeller for field licenses stay. Gone from service entirely will be Bill Stilley (editor & director), Russell Retzack, (assn. delegate), and Mel Stein (field manager). New people: Tom Ryan as pres., Jeff Borowski as vice pres., Craig Manka as secty.-treas., and Andy Runte, DVM as director. Serving in new areas: Bob Kabella field mngr. & assn. delegate, Bill Flannery, director, Ken Huber only as assn. delegate; Russell Knetzger as librarian/editor.

- *Thanks to all of the above for their service.* -

Pilot Profile Inside: Craig Manka



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7025 Lambertson Rd
Racine, WI 53402

**Dues (submit to Sect.)
Mar. 1 - Feb. 28
\$15 membership**

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MEETINGS

First Wednesday of every month @ 7:00 PM

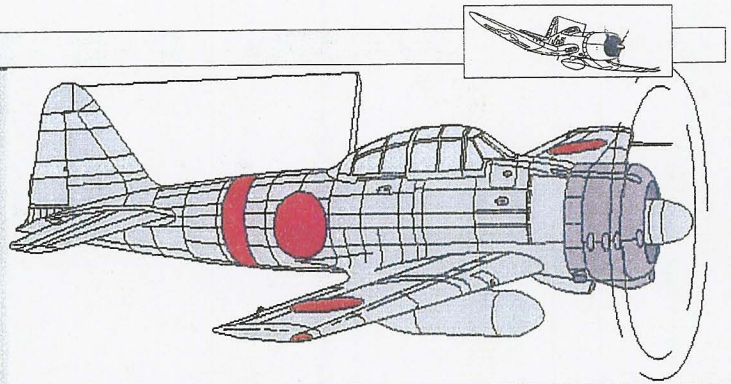
Wauwatosa Savings Bank

6520 So. 27th

FLYING SITE

Milwaukee Co. RC Model Flying Field
approximately 70th St on Oakwood Rd.

Visitors always Welcome!



Editorial Disclaimer and Policy

Items printed in this newsletter are the opinions of the authors and may not reflect the views of the editor, officers or the club as a whole, but are the responsibility of the authors. This newsletter is published and mailed out at the beginning of each month. Items submitted for publication must be received by the editor no later than the 20th of the month prior to the publication month. Permission to reprint is hereby granted provided that credit is given to the author and this newsletter. Items submitted for publication may be edited to fit available space, however, the main topic of the material submitted will remain intact to the extent possible within editorial constraints. Material should be sent to the newsletter editor at the published address or to the editors E-mail address

Club Instructors

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William O'Dell	(414) 543-6518
Art Schmidt	(414) 543-7100
Bill Stilley	(414) 541-4702
Milan Zdrubecky	(414) 282-3997

Helicopter

Darrell Hossella	(262) 639-1465
Tim Sorenson	(262) 789-8602

GREENFIELD NEWS

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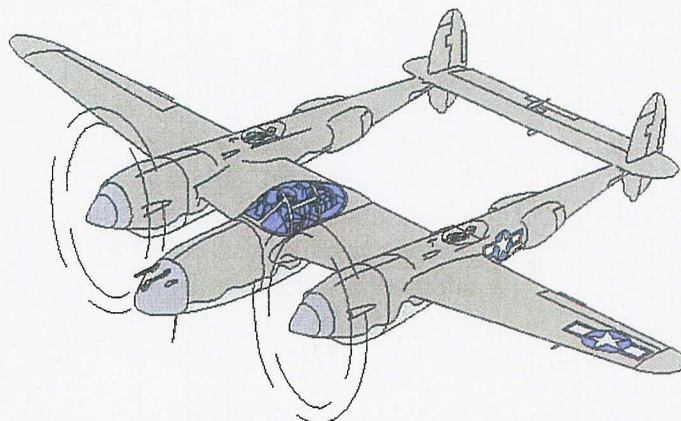


Meeting Minutes of Feb 6th

Submitted by **Bill Stilley**

Our President **Russell Knetzger** brought the meeting to order at 7:05 He mentioned the magazines on the back table and that we should take them or they will be thrown out. **Craig Manka** gave the Club Treasury report and **Jim Hatzenbeller** gave the Field Fund report, saying that he issued 113 licenses for 2007. **Hoss Hossalla** has been plowing the driveway, so the field is open to planes on skis or floats as well as helicopters. **Jeff Borowski** motioned that Hoss receive \$50 to cover his expenses of plowing, membership approved. **Russ Retzak** said the R/C Association gave the club \$70 for the members of our club that volunteered at the January Swap Fest in Waukesha. He also said that the Association is looking for someone to run the event next year and that they will be paid \$1000 to do it. **Jeff Borowski** said there were minor problems with the original Futaba 2.4Ghz radios, but the new ones are ok. If in doubt, take your radio into Greenfield News and have it checked.

Russell Knetzger presented **Mel Stein** with a service award for having maintained the field and the equipment for the last five years. **Russell** asked that we have one fee for all members in the future, a motion was made and approved by the members. **Russell** said there are three field license holders that are not AMA members. A motion was made and carried that requires that anyone without AMA insurance must show proof of not just home owners insurance, but a rider for one million dollars. This can only be done by a certificate of insurance issued by the insurance company. Because the field must be open for use by the public, we cannot require AMA membership or AMA rule enforcement. To address the issue of flying jets by unqualified people, a motion was made to change the field rules requiring that jet fliers must have an AMA waiver or equivalent (demonstrate knowledge and flying skills to two other jet fliers). This is not a reaction to a problem, just looking out ahead.



Russell asked that we consider continuing the field license fee at \$40 to cover next year's field maintenance costs. It was approved by a vote of the membership, as was the 2008 field budget of \$3790. Any changes to this budget must be approved by membership vote. (Ed note: all expenditures of club and field funds can only be done by membership vote). Five people showed up at the meeting and asked to join the club, so as to be allowed to vote in the election and it was allowed. Election results: much of the electorate was re-elected except **Tom Ryan** was elected President. The membership approved the SWARM club to have exclusive use of the field on July 19th or a rain date of July 26th.

Show and tell: **Phil Schumacher** gave a flying demonstration of orinthopter, cost less than \$50. **Andy Runte** showed the foam wing he made using a hot wore cutter controlled by Comp-U-Foil software. **Jeff Borowski** brought a Reaction 54 on skis powered by a P70 jet engine putting out 17 pounds of thrust. The plane has a lot of wing, so with wind, it can stand still. He has rebuilt it after a crash caused by a ski flipping backward. He has since modified the ski mounting so it cannot happen again.

Raffle prizes: **Bob Ehlers** won a gallon of fuel and a four way wrench, **Mike Lutzenberger** won a compact toe box, **Richard Bentzler** won an engine mount hole locator, **Rick Manka** won an electric fuel pump, **Bob Maciejewski** won a glo-driver, **Ed Kachellek** won a super X helicopter, **Marv Bishop** won an aviation book and a 2008 calendar.

ON BOARD 2.4 Ghz VIDEO TRANSMITTERS ON FUTABA/SPEKTRUM 2.4 GHZ RADIOS

Long ago, I was a member of a local model sail plane club. One of the problems we had was when the club members were spread out across the flying field, flying the sail planes. This worked very well, unless you flew your model 1000 feet away, over the head of another member also flying a model. The poor receiver tried to deal with two different channels, with a very substantial difference in signal level. Often times, when the model passed over the distant transmitter, the receiver couldn't handle the difference in signal level between the near by and far away transmitters. The result is a severe glitch that could result in a crash of the model flying over the distant transmitter. This is not an issue with our club, since all pilots must be located in the pit area.

However, various internet locations HAVE indicated this CAN be a problem with the new microwave radios. How??, When we have all transmitters located in the pit area, it is NOT a problem. The problems start when the pilot installs a video camera with a radio link back to the ground. This video transmitter is likely to be on the same radio band that the microwave Spektrum/Futaba radios are on. This results in a very strong radio transmitter located only a foot or two from the model radio, providing a volt or so of radio signal on the model radios RF section. Superimposed on this volt or so of radio signal from the video camera is a signal a million times lower from your transmitter located on the ground.

It would take a receiver with an exceptional Radio Frequency amplifier design to not be affected by this gigantic difference in signal level between the two different transmitted frequencies.

If you are planning to do this onboard video camera with a radio link to the ground with a Spektrum/Futaba microwave radio, make absolutely certain you do not have a range problem before flying anything. Check range both with the "reduced power" switch AND with full range for at least 1000 feet.

Oh, just a note on these 2.4 Ghz microwave radios. The December 2007 issue of RCR magazine has a test on an ignition engine. The article indicates that the ignition engine had so much radio interference that it was not useable with the 72 Mhz radios. They tried this same engine on the 2.4 Ghz microwave radio. Guess what? No interference what so ever.

Interesting Internet site, run a google search for the "worlds largest diesel engine". This is a monster of an engine that has a 300 ton CRANKSHAFT! It's the size of a pretty large house. This thing burns about ½ gallon of fuel for every revolution of its crankshaft.

Another interesting Internet web page is www.rccraze.com. This site has a lot of videos on model airplanes, many of which are electric.

Final issue of the Rams Horn published by Bill Stilley 22 Feb 2008

It has been my pleasure to serve the membership from 1995 to 2000 as President, from 2000 thru 2007 as a Director and from 2004 thru 2007 as Newsletter Editor. It has also been a great pleasure to do the "Introduction to R/C Flying" that I have been doing with Floyd Katz and Dave Simonson at our Fun Flys in recent years, teaching little kids and some grown up kids how to fly R/C. However, the time has come to set aside the duties of Newsletter Editor.

As many of you know, I employed full time by the Astronautics Corporation of America as a mechanical engineer, where I have been designing aircraft instruments, computers and gyros for over 41 years. It is very rewarding work, but very demanding as well.

In addition, I have been one of the partners in the Fixed Base Operation "Brookfield Aero" located at Capitol Drive Airport since 2003 and my days for running the airport are, you guessed it—Saturday and Sunday. I have been taking my grand children (10) flying in the Skyhawk for some years and teaching them to fly R/C is next.

This leaves me with little time to join you at the flying field, so most of my model flying is done in front of my hangar at the airport, where any of you are always welcome to join me.

Your new Editor will be Russell Knetzger (after approval by membership vote), who has served the club and the R/C association in many capacities over the years. He is a capable writer and is not afraid of hard work, having led all of the work parties at the field with a shovel in hand. He does not just talk, he works! He will serve you well and I highly recommend you vote for him.

Thanks for your help and confidence over the years,

Bill Stilley

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PRESIDENT ELECT REPORT

By
Tom Ryan

My first official duty is to learn where projects were and what was on going for 2008 and review them. Some will be scrapped, others modified and a few considered for continuation.

During this transition I hope to have the necessary club paperwork and required procedures kept moving and on schedule.

Other noticeable changes are: Russell Knetzger has asked for and I have approved him as our new Newspaper Editor, a position he enjoys and has experience in. Second, I have sent out a questionnaire to all field license holders asking them to fill it out and return it. I'd like to hear from them and hopefully get those who are on the fence, on this side now!

I plan on having a meeting with the officers and board, plus other key members before the next club meeting to discuss their input for the up coming flying season, with focus on safety, growth and of course fun. After all, that's what this hobby is all about!

Thanks for your support and I look forward to having a great 2008 filled with sun, (*what's that*) fun, and a new resolve for the club and its members.

Regards, Tom Ryan
Rams Club President Elect

Service Award to Mel Stein

by Russell Knetzger, 2002-2007 President

I was pleased to be able to present to Melvin Stein at the February, 2008 meeting the following framed recognition:

Faithful Service Award

to

2003-2004-2005-2006-2007

Milwaukee County Radio Control
Model Airplane Field

7000 W. Oakwood, Road Franklin, Wisconsin

In five years Mel performed far more than cutting the grass. Watching Larry Brisighella, he learned

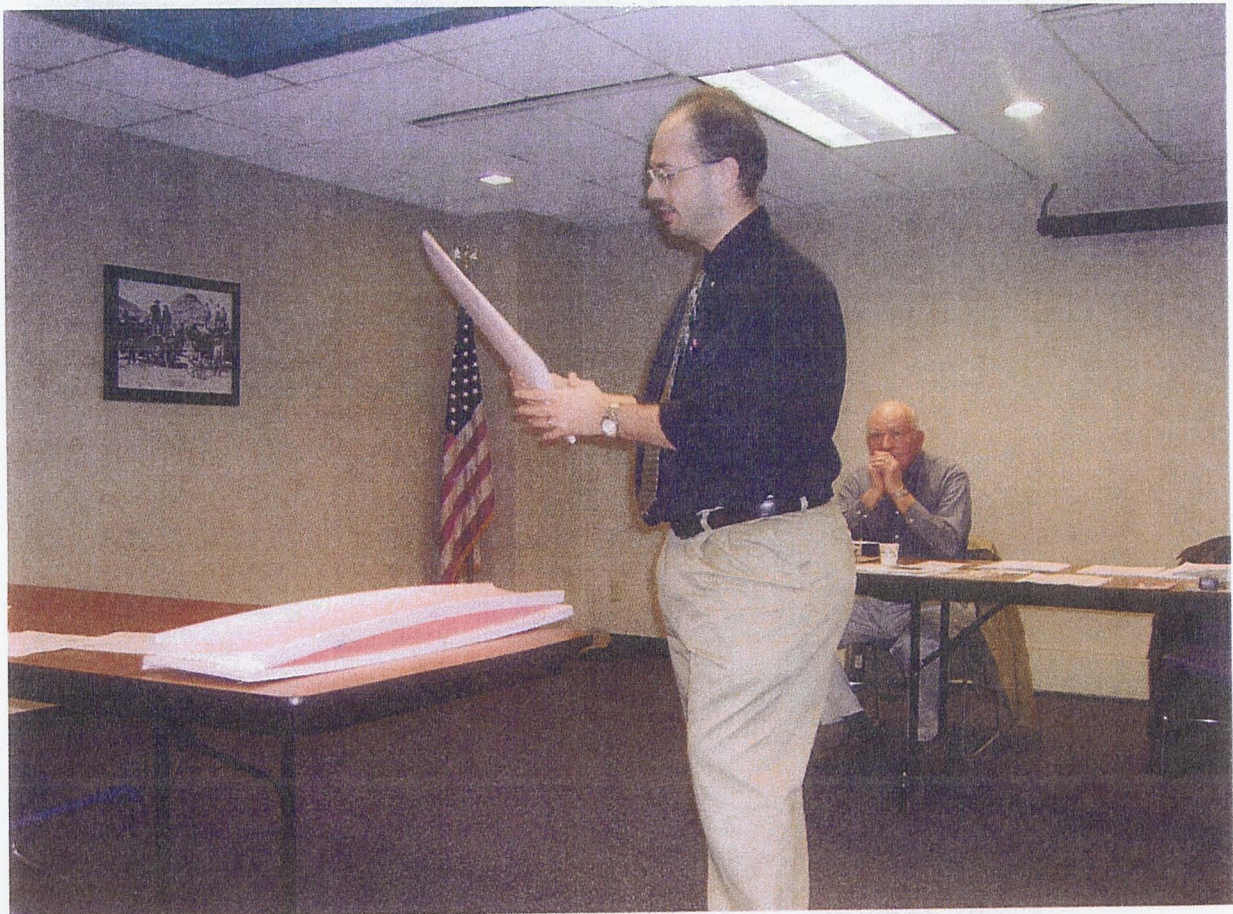
how to use the blade on our Allis-Chalmers diesel tractor to keep the driveway smooth. He showed us how, with a heavy chain, the tractor could un snag telephone poles or downed tree limbs from hiding in the hay. Last fall he saved many man hours of hand rake work, by skillfully blading smooth the topsoil deposited to extend our west runway.

During innumerable field work parties he was first on the scene and last to leave, obtaining and returning rented equipment. When that equipment was a brush cutter or stump grinder, both brutal to handle, he took the longest turns, exceeded only by Dale Champagne. Mel took pay only for grass cutting.

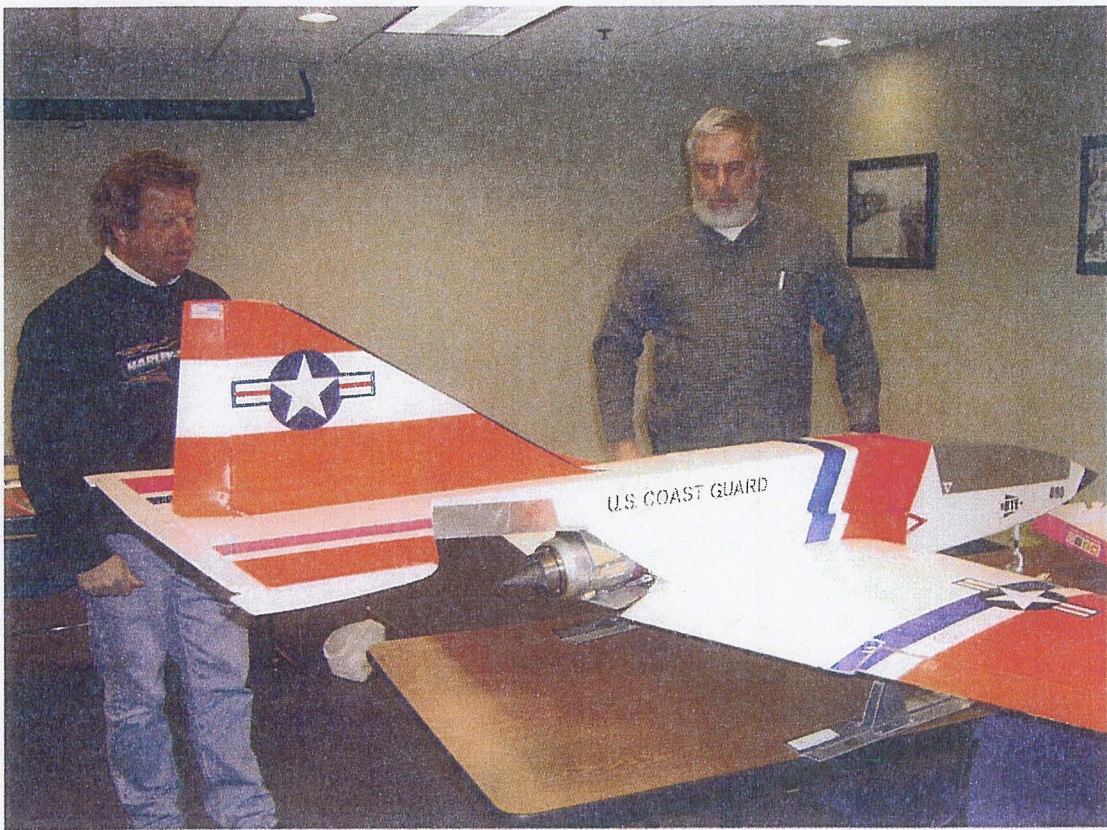
- *Happy retirement Mel, and get some flying in!* -



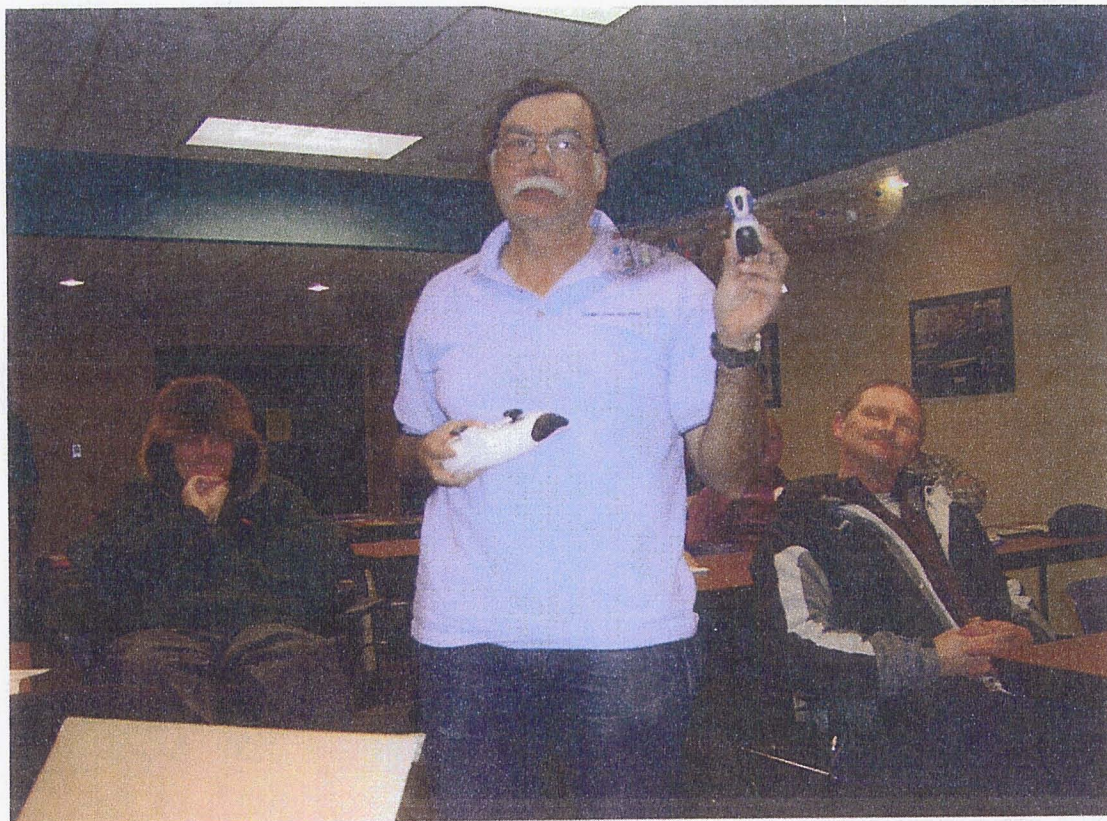
Russell Knetzger presenting service award to Mel Stein



Andy Runte hot wire cut foam wing core



Hoss and Jeff Borowski with Reaction 54 jet



Phil Schumacher with his Orinthopter

Pilot Profile: Craig Manka

by Russell Knetzger

Meet your new RAMS Club Secretary-Treasurer, **Craig Manka**, 37, family man; organized man. While very new to the club, Craig has been active for 20 years in radio control of electric model vehicles such as cars, trucks and slot cars, even boats. And since 1993, that involvement has been with his father, Rick Manka and not long after, his father-in-law, Ed Kachellek, now both widowers. Each has been to RAMS club meetings with Craig this year.

Craig traces his interest in an organized approach to life from his Cudahy high school days, where in 1988 he graduated with, and within three years married his high school sweetheart, Sheri Kachellek. Sharing Craig's sense of order, they agreed in high school to marry at age 19 on the same day in April on which both her grandparents and her parents had married. Craig took all the rigorous college prep courses such as physics, even the dreaded Calculus, yet squeezed in hands-on mechanical drafting and metal shop. That led him to study civil engineering for a year at UW-Platteville, one of the UW system's main engineering schools.



Facing marriage and the need for steady work, Craig parlayed his high school jobs with Jonesy's auto service, and with Whitlock Auto supply, both in Cudahy, to a job in the parts department of Schlossmann's Honda City in West Allis. Craig has been there ever since – 17 years, and now heads up the parts and service departments. Honda has proven to be a stable, growing brand. From four people in parts in 1991, Craig now oversees 12 with four drivers delivering Honda parts all over SE Wisconsin, because Schlossmann is a regional parts supplier to service stations.

That requires Craig's stewardship over a standing inventory worth \$500,000. Parts and service are all about organization, a skill which Craig enjoys. He has already sorted and organized all past Secretary -Treas. records of the RAMS



Craig Manka with his Hobbico "Nexstar Trainer", OS .46 ABC engine, 69 in. wing span, 722 sq.in. area, 6.5 lbs. and other R/C equipment - car, off-track, and speed boat.

Club, taking office only last month.

The success of Schlossmann's Honda City enabled Craig and Sheri in 1995 to build a home in east Caledonia for themselves and what has evolved to be three daughters, Allison, 11, Ashley 8, and Anna, 6. The home is near Lake Michigan, between Oak Creek, Racine, and Wind Point. Its large basement permitted Craig to install the car racing track that he and his dad and father-in-law could use privately, though now carpeted for family use.

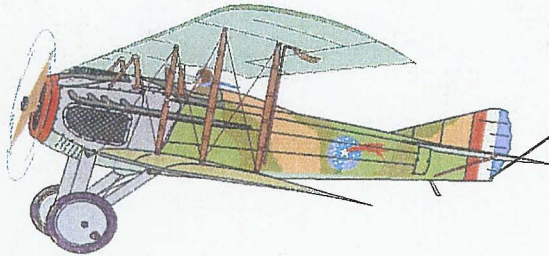
In past years they had raced at Raceways Hobbies near Howell & Rawson Avenues in Oak Creek, until that shop closed. That is where Craig and his crew met George Andritsis, and when George transferred to Cudahy-Greenfield News & Hobby, the Manka-Kachellek guys took their patronage there.

The 2007 switch by Craig to model aircraft has left the two grandfathers a bit perplexed, but they are supporting him, cautiously, by buying their own trainer aircraft. Both grandfathers want to fill the void left by the passing of their wives, Yvette Kachellek only 16 months ago, and Rick Manka's wife seven years ago. If Craig successfully solos this coming season, that may embolden the two dad's to try also.

RAMS Horn, March, 2008, Bill Stilley, Editor
Rainbow Aero Modelers Society, Franklin, Wisconsin

THE RAMS HORN

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Upcoming Events

Wednesday, March 5, 2008 RAMS Club Meeting 7PM
Wauwatosa Savings Bank, 6560 S. 27th Street

MEETING PROGRAM

Aviation Week Video: *"Flight Deck"*
US Navy Aircraft Carrier Deck Operations

MARCH EVENTS

APPLETON, WI SHOW/AUCTION, Sunday March 2, 2008 "The Wave" Bar & Ballroom
Take US 41 Freeway to CTH OO Exit (Wisconsin St.) West to Casaloma Dr, then South
Swap Opens 9AM, Auction at Noon, Contact Mike Moen, mike54106@new.it.com
Admission \$5 - 80 Tables - Prizes Awarded for Best Models

WHEATON, IL SWAP MEET, Saturday, March 22, 2008 DuPage Co. Fairgrounds
2015 W. Manchester Lane, Wheaton IL 60517 (Due W. of Elmhurst/Lombard/Glen Ellyn)
"SWAP 'TIL YOU DROP 2008"