



THE RAMS HORN

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

AMA—Academy of Model Aeronautics Club #1264, Operating for Public Benefit, Milwaukee County RC Flying Field, S.70 & W. Oakwood Rd.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 3, 2009 – 7PM
WaterStone Savings Bank, 6560 S. 27th Street
(formerly Wauwatosa Savings Bank)

Volume 30 – Number 6, June, 2009

PRESIDENTS REPORT by Tom Ryan

How Are We Doing? The Rams are doing well. Our field improvements are coming along nicely, and our membership numbers are up. Several members have already jumped in and helped when we needed work parties at the field. Many others have signed up as volunteers on Bob Kabella's list, wanting to do their part when future work crews are needed. Teamwork works! -- Thanks to You.

How's The AMA Doing? Not so well. Total AMA membership has fallen and the new members coming into RC Aviation have been slow. The AMA leadership went after the Park Flyers as what they saw as the new wave of members, and to me that was a mistake. They looked to the youth of America to bring the membership numbers back up, but to me, that isn't going to happen! What they should have done was look toward the older set, the 40 plus range, but...the AMA like many other large and over regulated organizations only listen to their own voice and did it their way... and failed miserably.

Instructors Are Flying! Several of our instructors are already flying with students, and have managed to fly between the standing water. Hopefully the water will soon be gone and the field will take shape. If you're a student looking to hook up with an instructor to match your schedule, we'll be posting their names and phones

on the field bulletin board. Call them and schedule your flying lessons to match the best instructor for your flying needs. Instructors won't be hand picked for you; it's your responsibility to find the instructor who best matches your personal flying needs.

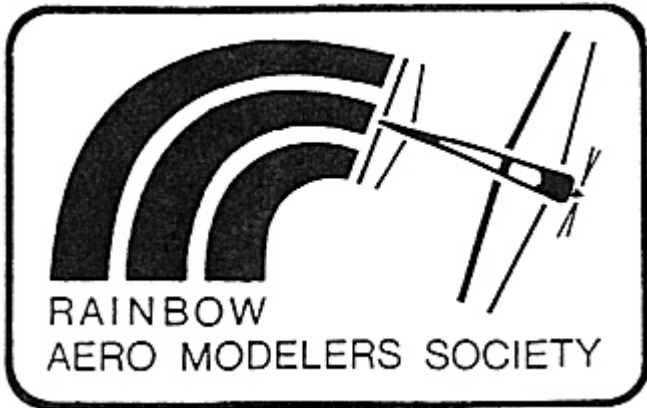
Help! Hopefully Mike Lutzenberger has the July Fun Fly-In covered with volunteers to man the required stations. If you'd like to help out, please let Mike know and get on his list. I know ***July 11th*** seems like a long way away, but when it comes to getting everyone on the same page for this event, that's a short time to put it all together. Your help would be greatly appreciated by Mike, I'm sure. You can reach Mike at (414) 483-8038

The Road Ahead. While other clubs are falling behind and losing members, we're gaining ground. It's you the members that make that happen by "TEAM WORK". The road ahead looks good for us right now. So let's keep it up guys, because it's paying off and we all benefit from that. Remember, this is a shared hobby to promote fun and fellowship. Together we can make the Rams club the best RC Aviation has to offer its members. Thanks guys!

* * *

Editor's Note: Thanks to Tom Ryan for filling in for me as editor for two months during my time off.

Pilot Profile This Issue: Steve Navone
(our new Safety Officer, replacing Marv Anderson)
(Read 50 past profiles at www.rcsl.com/rams)



Founded Nov 6, 1980 Club #1264 Academy of Model Aeronautics

PRESIDENT

Tom Ryan cell.414-881-0070
 PO Box 1111 tomcat@execpc.com
 Milwaukee, WI 53201-1111

VICE PRESIDENT

Michael Lutzenberger 414-483-8038
 3518 S. 4th Street mjplutz@
 Milwaukee, WI 53207 ameritech.net

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Craig R. Manka 262-681-9169
 7025 Lambertson Road
 Racine, WI 53402 craigrmanka@att.net

SAFETY COORDINATOR

Steve Navone -414-881-2255 (cell)
 2607 Indian Trail
 Milwaukee, WI 53218-5447 shamless@wi.rr.com

ASSOCIATE SAFETY COORDINATOR

Chuck Bucci 414-425-2930
 5720 S. 124th Street
 Hales Corners, WI 53130 cbandab@hotmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Russell Knetzger 414-962-0637
 2625 E. Shorewood Blvd.
 Shorewood, WI 53211-2457 rknetzger@execpc.com

LIBRARIAN

Russell Knetzger 414-962-0637
 2625 E. Shorewood Blvd.
 Shorewood, WI 53211-2457 rknetzger@execpc.com

RC ASSOCIATION DELEGATE #1

Robert Kabella, 414-282-1145
 4725 S. 35th Street
 Greenfield, WI 53221 rckaboo@yahoo.com

RC ASSOCIATION DELEGATE #2

William Flannery 414-423-1369
 6008 W. Glen Court [bcflannery@](mailto:bcflannery@wi.rr.com)
 Franklin, WI 53132 wi.rr.com

FIELD MANAGER

Bob Kabella, cell.414-331-4725
 4725 S. 35th Street
 Greenfield, WI 53221 rckaboo@yahoo.com

FIELD LICENSE ISSUER

James Hatzenbeller, 414-483-1246
 4388 S. Pennsylvania Avenue
 St. Francis, WI 53235 jimhatzy@aol.com

MEETINGS-7PM

First Wednesdays
 *WaterStone Sav.Bk
 6560 S. 27 Street

Terms of Office are
 February 1 through
 January 31.

Membership Dues
 \$20 Jan.1-Dec. 31

**All Flight
 Instruction
 is**

Without a Fee to Club Members

Contact:

FIXED WING – Reciprocating Engine

Marv Anderson, 414-535-0764 Marty Gscheidmeier, 262-439-8265
 Jeff Borowski, 414-483-4377 Russell Knetzger, 414-962-0637
 Chuck Bucci, 414-425-2930 Mark Meyrose, 262-895-7036
 Bob Ehlers, 414-482-3759 Tom Ryan, 414-881-0070

ELECTRIC POWER

Phil Schumacher, resource person, 414-425-2963

ALL TURBINE POWERED

Jeff Borowski, 414-483-4377 Darrell Hossalla, 414-651-0968
 Tom Ryan, 414-881-0070

HELICOPTER – Reciprocating Engine or Electric

Russ Schneider, SWARM instructor coordinator, 262-642-2790



Above: Rebuilt frequency board (side away from camera) and bulletin board, as relocated southerly along east fence line. Framework for another sun shade, donated by Dell Fisher, also shown. NOTE new side post location of Emergency Kit (eye level).

- Visitors at Meetings or the Field Always Welcome -

Happenings at the Meeting

RAMS Club, May 6, 2009

by Craig R, Manka, Secty.-Treas.

Photos and some notes by Russell Knetzger, Editor

An unusual method of opening the meeting was used by President Tom Ryan at the May gathering. Each person stood and gave a brief self-introduction. This was especially effective because an all-time high membership was in attendance: 45. Past highs were in the upper 30s. The 45 represents 60% of the then 76 members, but by press time for this issue it is now 86. Last year closed at 85. It will likely exceed that this year because the SWARM club now includes RAMS membership in its dues. Field licenses sold stood at 106. Last season ended at 125, according to license issuer Jim Hatzenbeller.

The club will resume mailing newsletters to those without computers, or who request a printed copy. For the rest, usual e-mailing will be supplemented with a Website version (including back issues) that can be visited at the viewers convenience. Also, a club “blog” is being opened on the website so members can post their own news and articles, and others can respond. To make your first visit to the blog you need a special code from VP Mike Lutzenberger, (414-483-8038 or email mjplutz@ameritech.net). Once logged in, you enter a code of your own choosing. This approach minimizes activity on the site from non-members, and from “spam.” The website address remains “www.rcslot.com/rams”.

An update on the club’s Fun Fly-In scheduled for July 11, 2009 (the second Saturday in July) reveals that VP Mike Lutzenburger has already achieved his outside fund raising goal of \$1700. Pres. Ryan stressed this means the event is self-financing. No club funds are at risk. Prizes will appeal to the general public, such as a new \$600 gas BBQ Grille (\$300 cost). A new event being added is a “Pilot’s Rummage Corner” supervised by Floyd Katz. “Sell what you no longer want, buy what you don’t need” (the motto of all true rummagers.) One hitch encountered by Fly-In food manager Tom Young is that the City of Franklin might be zooming up its food permit fee from the usual \$80, to \$150. Previously we qualified for the \$80 by not advertising our food to the public. A public advertised-food permit is more costly.

Field Update: New bleachers, costing \$370 have been installed in the NE area facing the old Frequency Board location (it has been moved). President Ryan urged that the gap be filled with cyclone fencing (to match the new west parking fencing) so that spectators, especially small children, don’t wander into the pits. One center post should suffice. Field Manager Bob Kabella will look into drawing a parking plan so the new westerly parking area can be used efficiently.



**Above: New bleachers facing NE to old Freq. Bd. site
Below: View from bleachers to new west fencing**



Bob also will be studying a way to prevent or reduce cross-field water flows that regularly gouge our NE part of the field. He would like to deflect creek overflows over the north creek bank instead of south onto our field.

Club Raffle winners at the May meeting were Chuck Bucci of a radio/beverage cooler; John Schmidt twice, once of an electric motor mini-helicopter suitable for indoor use, and then a tool set; Kent Struwe of a lighted magnifying lens; and each of the following members of a bottle of Frank Burton’s home made wine: Alex Barda, just back from Israel; Dale Champagne, Jeff Borowski, Darrell (Hoss) Hossalla, and Nick Johnson.

Two new student training manuals have been written by RAMS Club members. The first, given out in February to all re-certified club flight instructors, was written by Marty Gscheidmeier and Tom Ryan. Sub-titled “Teaching R/C Model Airplane Flying,” it is 49 pages and focuses on being a good flight instructor. The second, in final draft form, is by Earl Evans, a club student, and gives flight instruction from the pupil’s perspective. Earl, age 85, is making good progress toward becoming the club’s oldest-ever to solo. An older book from 1983 by Russell Knetzger, in the club library, is 28 pages, and takes the soloed pilot into aerobatics. It has two extra chapters, one on making sure your aircraft is “true & straight,” including correcting for warps, and one on “trimming” a plane for aerobatic flying.

Club Models at Military Show

May 9-10, 2009, 128th Wis. Air Nat'l. Guard Hanger



Above: Photo of banner by the Milwaukee R/C Assn., coordinator of model aircraft display, dominated by the RAMS, SWARM, MARKS, and CIRCLEMASTERS flying clubs, and the Richard Ira Bong plastics club.



Above: Darrell Hossalla & latest turbine powered jet



Above: Bob Kabella's F4U Corsair, floor display



Above: Steve Navone's 77" Yak 54, Goldberg ARF



Above: Russell Knetzger's twin Das Little Stiks
Below: Plastic club display, 3 of 7 tables



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.



84^{2nd} 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
Rainbow Aero Modelers Society, Franklin, Wisconsin

Pilot Profile – Duane Gagnon

by Russell Knetzger

Our pilot this month is very much a sign of the economic times, being on a 3 month layoff as a carpenter with Bell Craft Builders. He mostly does residential “rough-in carpentry,” but also finish work, and some commercial. The world-wide recession that started in the United States because of its many “sub-prime home mortgages,” now going sour, is especially reducing new residential construction, causing layoffs.

Duane, 47, is using this slow-work period to return to R/C model aviation, which he was in at our field 20 years ago. While he always was building and flying rubber powered models in the early 1970s as a boy in West Allis, (West Milwaukee High School) it was during US Army service in Korea in 1980 that R/C really caught



his attention. Army helicopter pilots for recreation were flying R/C fixed wing aircraft. Returning from 3 years of Army service as a wheel mechanic, Duane found Art Schmidt and Floyd Katz at our field, and they taught him to fly. Duane advanced himself to instructor status, and was flying the Piper Comanche pictured below. He then got diverted out of R/C aviation into R/C cars, and a 29 ft., min. 2-crew sailboat on Lake Michigan, which he still owns.



Above: Duane Gagnon's Piper Comanche (prototypes had P-51 Mustang wings,) Jack Stafford 1995 kit, with retractable landing gear, flaps,.75 Supertigre engine, Darrell Hossalla helicopter in foreground.



Above: Duane Gagnon (pronounced “Gonyo”) with his 1995 Piper Comanche, sold and now bought back, shows rear empennage refinishing in progress.

Below: Closer view of Duane Gagnon's Piper Comanche refinishing project, with the white rear sections already sanded. Original use of a low cost and low quality paint likely caused the finish failure. This work is done in Duane's home with fiancée Christina Cabrera, near S. 92nd St. and W. Oklahoma Avenue



Pilot Profile: Shawn Rehm

by Russell Knetzger

Shawn Rehm's residence in Hartland, Wisconsin is there because the home base of his job, **American TV Appliance & Furniture**, is a few miles away in Waukesha. But his wife Nikki has roots on Milwaukee's South Side, and that is how he came to discover our field, as recommended by Greenfield News & Hobby. Shawn, Nikki and their three daughters, Carolyn, Jada and Maia moved to Hartland last year.

Shawn, 31, operates from his home, and from his service truck, as an appliance repair and custom installer. That can involve structural modification of a home or business to accommodate the installation.

American

Repair and Custom Installation

Except for being born in Colorado Springs, Colorado to a military mom and dad, after the age of 5 Shawn was a northwest side resident of Milwaukee. He attended 95th Street School near Lisbon Ave., Wilbur Wright Middle School on 84th & Burleigh, and John Marshall High School at 64th & Capitol Dr.



Above: A front view of Shawn Rehm's latest flying model, a Nitro Planes ARF 3D "Passion," having the unusual feature of see-through yellow film covering of wings and fuselage.

Above: Shawn Rehm displaying his 3D Passion ARF from Nitro Planes at the March, 2009 club meeting. It has an OS.61 engine to power the 6.6 lbs. of weight, being lifted by a 55 inch span wing, and controlled by ailerons that are 3 inches wide at the wing tips and 4 inches at the wing root. "3D" means capable of vertical attitude flight, hanging motionless.

Shawn's boyhood path to R/C model aviation started with R/C cars and trucks, just about anything in the Tyco lineup. That gave him the basics of "going away control versus coming back at you control." Then he advanced to Park Flyer equipment, which added the up-down aspects of remote control model aviation.

In an August, 2007 first-visit to the Milwaukee County field in Franklin, Bob Ehlers was there with a trainer and buddy box system. Bob gave Shawn some stick time, and that convinced Shawn to buy an Avistar trainer and radio of his own (Spectrum). Back at the field, Floyd Katz, Roger Olsen and Marv Anderson, brought Shawn to solo status, in only five lessons. Shawn still has his Avistar, and a P51 Mustang. This spring his daughter Carolyn, 12, is going to take her first flight lessons.

RAMS HORN, April, 2009 Vol.30 - Number 4
Rainbow Aero Modelers Society, Franklin, Wisconsin

More 2.4 Ghz Radio Testing Results

by Dennis Vollrath, Editor, "The Flightline" - May, 2009
Racine R/C Club, Inc., Racine Wisconsin - Reprinted in the
RAMS HORN, Russell Knetzger, Editor, Franklin, WI

PHONE	FAX (262) 554-0539
(262) 554-8884	
(262) 554-8636	
(866) 820-1732	
GARY'S HOBBY CENTER	
COMPLETE HOBBIES & CRAFTS FOR ALL AGES ART SUPPLIES FOR THE BEGINNER THRU THE ADVANCED ARTIST	
MON-FRI - 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM	ELMWOOD PLAZA
SATURDAY - 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM	3701 DURAND AVENUE
SUNDAY - 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM	RACINE, WISCONSIN 53405

The 2.4 Ghz Microwave radios are really taking over on the Radio Control scene. As it stands now, various Inter-net sites indicate that Spektrum/JR has about **70%** of the world 2.4 Ghz market, and Futaba has about **20%**. That leaves about **10%**, which is primarily divided between **Assan** and **XPS** radio systems. New radios are coming on board all the time.

Several www.youtube.com web sites show a person that has performed computerized interference tests on all four of the above radios. Those tests show that when "same channel" interference was broadcast into the Spektrum JR and the Futaba radios, neither was affected in any way.

These same tests were then conducted on Assan and XPS radio systems. Apparently XPS (Xtreme Power Systems) is making replacement Radio Frequency Modules for the Futaba and JR 72 Mhz radios. (I checked with Jay of Greenfield News & Hobby; they have never carried XPS).

The tests on [youtube](http://www.youtube.com) show that the Assan radio usually turns on "Channel one" in the 2.4 Ghz radio band, The tests show that when interference was turned on "Channel one" the Assan radio simply quit working, resulting in total loss of control of the model. Once the interference was turned **off**, the Assan radio started to work properly again.

That is not true with the XPS radio's. The various Internet sites indicate that the XPS radios operate in what is called a "Peer to Peer" system, where the transmitter sends a message to the receiver, the receiver accepts that signal, and the RECEIVER sends a signal back to the transmitter, stating "OK I got it, send another message of information." When interference was injected into the XPS radio, the response was - slowing down of the servo response. Then, suddenly, the radio link DISCONNECTED! Exactly like your cell phone hanging up when walking into a building. NOT GOOD. This same exact phenomenon has been occurring while flying models with the XPS system. These XPS radios work for many flights with zero problems, then suddenly, on a bad day, the danged radio "Hangs Up," crashing your model. The only way to reconnect, is to turn off both the transmitter and receiver, (or what's left of the receiver) and again turn them on. These XPS radios are not cheap.

XPS is now on software version 3.00, so some of these issues may have been corrected. But, based on the results of these tests and (in the case of XPS) a growing number of reports from the field, it becomes very hard to recommend an off brand system for any larger, faster or more expensive model. (Last year in Germany, every XPS equipped model - all 7 of them, in a national pylon race competition lost radio communications and crashed. The 7 models were absolutely destroyed. (Germany has banned all XPS radios in pylon race competition.)



HAPPY HOBBY
www.happyhobby.com

Club Members receive a discount

8021 W. National Ave
West Allis WI 53214
414-453-3210

7125 N. 76th Street
Milwaukee WI 53223
414-461-6013

See Scott or Laurie for all of your control line needs.
Special orders welcome.

GREENFIELD
NEWS & HOBBY

12,000 SQ. FT. OF HOBBIES

FINE ARTS • DOLLHOUSE • CLASSES • KITES
RADIO CONTROL SPECIALISTS • ROCKETS • TRAINS
HUGE SELECTION OF MAGAZINES

6815 W. Layton Ave. • Greenfield, WI 53220
(414) 281-1800 Fax: (414) 281-1440
www.greenfieldhobby.com

Keith Kittoe
President



RCSLOT
5012 W. Ashland Way, Rear
Franklin, WI 53132

Phone: (414) 421-3305 Fax: (866) 354-9968
RCSLOT.com keith@rcslot.com

Best Products! Great Prices! Reliable Worldwide Shipping!