



PLANE TALK

PROP MASTERS R/C NEWSLETTER



AMA CHARTER CLUB #397

NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS

AUGUST, 2024

Greetings everyone! I hope this month's newsletter finds everyone healthy, happy and strong! In August, we experienced quite a number of good flying days, with light winds and comfortable temperatures. Two things are of particular note:

1. The amount of participation in flying at Tom Camp Field has obviously increased. As an example, I went to the field in mid-August, and observed 3 planes in the air at the same time! This reminded me of the "good old days". Additionally, all of the safety benches were in use, and one member was using a ground restraint. Remember those things? This is very encouraging, so let us keep the momentum going!
2. The new Flight Instruction Program that we introduced a few months ago has proven to be highly successful. We have Peter Fales to thank for that, so give him a pat on the back at the next meeting. The new system has resulted in more students. I think we have at least 7 students, maybe more. Also, the new system results in less conflict with member flying. I will ask Pete to give us a summary at the next meeting.

We have a new Forest Preserve Liaison, and that person is ME. I plan to attend the next DPFC Board Meeting on September 3.

The Celebration of Life for Tom Camp was held by his family on August 25th, at Gatto's restaurant in Downers Grove. A large number of people attended, and the Prop Masters were well represented.

Looking forward to an exciting August meeting with all of you!

Your President

Michael D. Pfeifer





Financial Report

Bill Hickey



Financial Report July 1, 2024 to July 31, 2024

Description	Operating Fund	Field Fund	Total	Comments
Balance July 1, 2024	\$1,546.63	\$3,837.64	\$5,384.27	
Income:				
Dues	40.00		40.00	57 paid members to-date.
Brand	5.00		5.00	Towel sale.
Total Income	45.00		45.00	
Total Cash Available	\$1,591.63	\$3,837.64	\$5,429.27	
Expenses:				
Field Maintenance		46.11	46.11	(2) Padlocks for Impound Stand, adjust hammer to \$15.07.
Board Expenses	74.67		74.67	Name badge postage.
Total Expenses	74.67	46.11	120.78	
Balance July 31, 2024	\$1,516.96	\$3,791.53	\$5,308.49	

Bill Hickey, Prop Masters Treasurer

305 White Oak Drive Naperville, Illinois 60540

treasurer@propmastersrc.org

DUES

When paying your dues, please complete an updated membership form if any of your contact information has changed and either mail the form with your payment to me or turn it in with your payment at the meeting.

Checks should be made payable to Prop Masters R/C Aero Club and sent to the address shown above.

Alternatively, you can send the funds to my PayPal account treasurer@propmastersrc.org. Please send them as “Friends & Family” and include a short note with your name so we know whose dues are being paid.

Many thanks!



Meeting Minutes

Jeff Cowan



Meeting Minutes – July 30, 2024

Opening:

The meeting began at 7:30 PM at Community United Methodist Church, 20 N Central St, Naperville IL. 20 members and 2 guests were in attendance. President Mick Pfeifer presided.

Mick shared some of the plans for Tom Camp's memorials, etc. The family is planning a small service in Arkansas. They are also planning a "celebration of life" on Sunday August 25 in Downers Grove for friends in this area. The 737 that he was building is about 95% done. Tom's wishes are that the model be finished and flown by the club. Mick suggested some people to help make that happen: He asked Bill Hickey and Dave Engel to look at finishing the model and nominated Darrel Zeri as the test pilot.

The June 25 meeting minutes were approved as published in the July Newsletter. The July financial report was read and approved. Bill Hickey asked folks to submit updates or additions to the emergency contact list.

Committee Reports:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Safety | Mike Pettinger/Dave Cairns: Mike suggested folks check the emergency contact list during the break. This time of year, make sure you bring water and sunscreen to the field. (Sunscreen and bug spray are also available in the impound stand should you forget). Make sure your AMA membership is up to date.

Dave observed a plane crash into a bench - fortunately unused at the time - sometimes things are out of our control, but we should try to be in control, stay ahead of the plane, and watch the flight line. |
| Forest Preserve | Dave Cotton is our current Forest Preserve liaison. Bill Hickey will talk to Dave about putting back the sign at the east side of the field that says, "Permittees Only".

Long discussion about whether we can (or should) move some of the benches from the west end of the field to the east end. Tabled for discussion by the board first. |
| Publicity | Harlan Davis: We need to get the information about the memorial flight to the AMA District VI person. Harlan will write something up and get input from other members. |
| Raffle | Harlan Davis: Value Hobby Stick ARF, Tower Hobbies Uproar, fuel, covering, glue, and some other small items. |
| Newsletter | No report. |
| Website | Mike Pettinger: Latest newsletter is posted. |
| Library | Bill Hickey: Nothing to report. |
| Instruction | Pete Fales: Flight training well underway. Currently engaged with many students. Training coordination and instructor engagement practices are being reviewed and continue to evolve. Instructors are still needed. Please contact Pete if you're interested. |
| Fun Fly | No fun fly this month. |



Meeting Minutes

Jeff Cowan



Old Business:

- Dave Cairns asked about renaming the field (on hold until we can approach the Forest Preserve but may be unlikely), and putting a brick on the Riverwalk (tabled until the board meeting, but likely to happen)

New Business:

None.

New Members & Guests:

The club welcomed new member Bob Aksamit and guest John.

Society of Aircraft Demolishers (SAD):

SAD patch was awarded to Pete Fales for his recent run of training accidents.

Show and Tell:

Mike Pettinger Biplane from Jim Farina. "Infinia" electric.
Dave Engel Bowers Flybaby. Red/White. 40cc twin engine.
Darrel Zeri Saber 920 foamy, \$90 PNP from Value Hobby
Dave Cairns Sbach 342 from Value Hobby (from our points auction)
Pete Fales Radiomaster TX16S and Phoenix RC Flight Simulator

Raffle:

Dave Cairns took the Uproar; Randy Johnston took the Stick.

Closing:

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, August 27, 2024, 7:30 PM at Community United Methodist Church, 20 Central St, Naperville IL.

Newsletter Contributions

Send newsletter contributions to the
Newsletter Editor at
editor@propmastersrc.org

The deadline for submissions is the second
Tuesday of the month.

Club Newsletters are posted at the club
website: www.propmastersrc.org.



July 30th. Meeting Photos

Ray Luchetti



Mike Pettinger – Bi Plane from Jim Farina, “InFinia”.



Darrel Zeri – Sable 920 foamy from Value Hobby.

Prop



July 30th. Meeting Photos

Ray Luchetti



Dave Cairns – Sback 342 from Value Hobby.



Peter Fales – Radiomaster TX16S.

Prop I



July 30th. Meeting Photos

Ray Luchetti



Dave Engel – Bower Fly Baby
with 40cc twin.

Prop Masters R/C



July 30th. Meeting Photos

Ray Luchetti



Guests and new members



Guest – Kirk Alvey



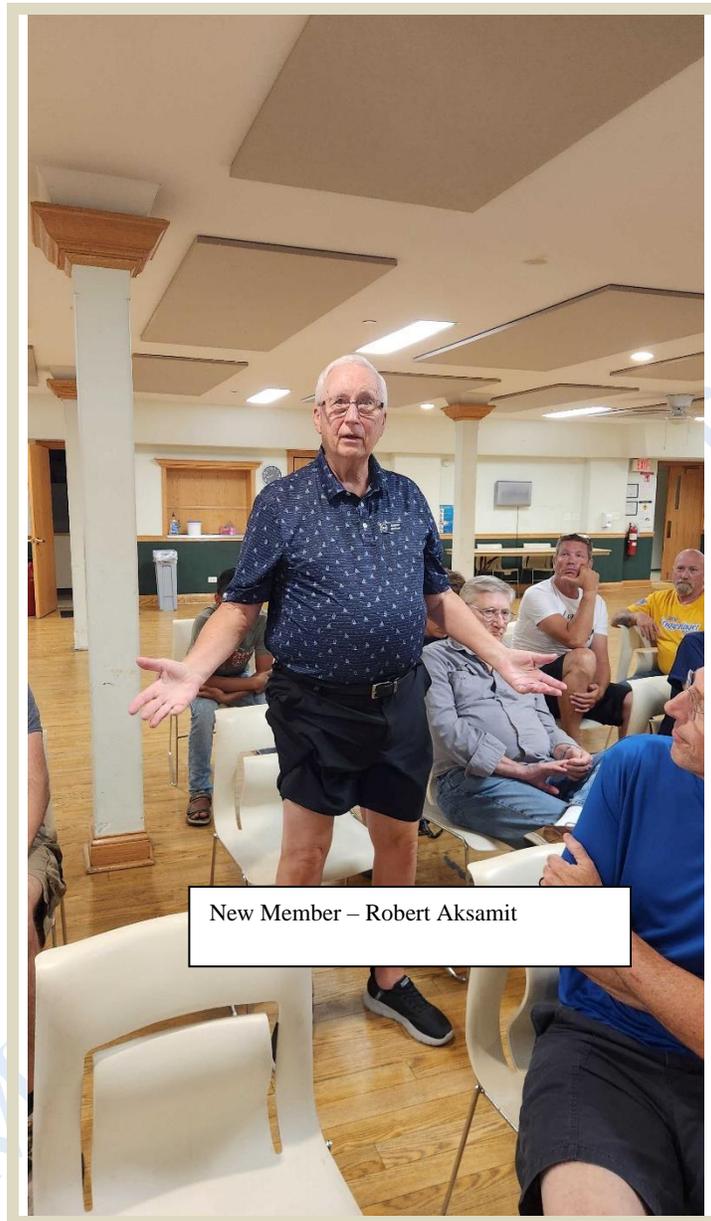
Guest – Jonathon Williams

Prop



July 30th. Meeting Photos

Ray Luchetti



New Member – Robert Aksamit

Prop Masters

CAERO Club



2024 Club Calendar

Date	Event Type	Event Details	Notes
January 1 st .	Special Event	Polar Bear Fun Fly	
January 30 th .	Monthly Meeting	Annual Christmas/Points Auction.	
February 3 rd .	Special Event	Pop-up Fun Fly	
February 27 th	Monthly Meeting		
March 19 th .	Special Event	Snag-A-Deal Auction	
March 26 th .	Monthly Meeting		
April 30 th .	Monthly Meeting		
May 4 th .	Special Event	Timed flight Fun Fly	
May 28 th .	Monthly Meeting		
June 1st & 2nd	Special Event	Clow Cavalcade of Flight	Participation cancelled.
June 25 th .	Monthly Meeting		
July 30 th	Monthly Meeting		
August 27 th .	Monthly Meeting		
September 14 th .	Fun Fly	Bring anything you fly and impress the judges. From 11am to 2pm.	

Prop Masters RC



Propeller Safety

Bill Hickey



I've updated an article I wrote as Safety Director of Prop Masters over 19 years ago. Ironically, this time I got "bit".

I had just started the OS FF-240 on my Turbulent when my left hand got caught by its 20" prop. It was bad – I shut down the engine and made it to the canopy before nearly passing out. Mick & Pete got the first aid kit and wrapped up my hand; Darrell drove his truck to the field and took me to the ER. The prop had clipped an artery; four hours and 15 stitches later I was sent home to recuperate for a few weeks.



Why did this happen? I can think of some possible causes:

- Deciding to run the engine for someone impressed by the plane,
- Using an electric starter with a cone a bit smaller than optimal, and
- Hurrying to start the engine while a window between other flyers opened.

It's not all bad - there were some good decisions made by me that day and by our Club over the last few years:

- I wasn't going to fly unless other pilots were at the field. I hate to think how things would have turned out had I been alone.
- The Club had a fresh first-aid kit in the impound stand that was easily accessible and well-stocked.
- The Club had recently decided to put our emergency contact list on Slack. That made my wife's mobile number accessible while I was in the ER.

Many other good points were made when I wrote of this topic in 2005. These cautions hold true for electricians as well as engine-powered planes; electricians are even more insidious because they can start up unexpectedly. Back then, according to the AMA, prop incidents were by far the most common accidents in the hobby.

In this update, the photo is *my* hand a day after the incident. Don't let this happen to you, or your friends.

After all, we're the PROP MASTERS!



Propeller Safety

Bill Hickey



PROPELLER SAFETY¹

- *Cracked, nicked, or unbalanced propellers should be replaced and not reused!*
- *Stay clear of the propeller arc while starting or running any engine or motor.*
- *Do not stop engines by throwing rags or other objects in the propeller.*
- *Painting tips of propellers a bright color helps you to better see the propeller arc during rotation.*
- *Check the propeller and spinner for tightness before each operation.*
- *Learn about and check for the proper grain patterns in wooden propellers to ensure strength in high rpm operation.*
- *Exercise extreme caution adjusting needle valve settings on engines. Most adjustments should be performed from behind the model, avoiding reaching around a spinning propeller*

1) AMA Safety Program Handbook, p.7



Shots at the Field

July 2024

Dave Cairns





Shots at the Field

July 2024
Dave Cairns





Prop Masters Organization & Contact Information

Board of Directors/Officers

Position	Name	Email address
President	Mick Pfeifer	president@propmastersrc.org
Vice President	Peter Fales	vice-president@propmastersrc.org
Treasurer	Bill Hickey	treasurer@propmastersrc.org
Secretary	Jeff Cowan	secretary@propmastersrc.org
Safety Officer	Mike Pettinger	safety@propmastersrc.org
Board/At Large	Dave Engel	board@propmastersrc.org
Board/At Large	Esther Bourassa	board@propmastersrc.org
Board/At Large	Ray Luchetti	board@propmastersrc.org
Honorary Board Member	Harlan Davis	board@propmastersrc.org

Committees:

Publicity

publicity@propmastersrc.org

Harlan Davis

Nominating

nominations@propmasersrc.org

Ray Luchetti

Forest Preserve Relations

field@propmastersrc.org

Mick Pfeifer

Air Boss

Dave Engel

Deputy Safety Officer

Dave Cairns

Raffle

raffle@propmasrtersrc.org

Harlan Davis, Chairman

Mick Pfeifer

Membership Relations

membership@propmastersrc.org

Harlan Davis

Instructors

learntofly@propmastersrc.org

Peter Fales, Chief Flight Instructor

Mick Pfeifer

Ron Monsen

Mike Pettinger

Jim Mendygral

Dave Cairns

Jeff Cowan

Chris Hopwood

Fund Raising

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Harlan Davis

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Bill Hickey

Webmaster

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Mike Pettinger

Newsletter Editor

editor@propmastersrc.org

Ray Luchetti

Air Show

airshow@propmastersrc.org

Dave Engel

Visit the Prop Masters R/C Club Web Site at <http://www.propmastersrc.org>

Support your local Hobby Shop

Leisure Hours Hobbies
16300 South Lincoln Highway (US Rte. 30)
Plainfield, IL 60568
815-439-1477

Walt's Hobby Shop
2207 Plainfield Road
Joliet, IL 60435
815-741-0043

HobbyTown USA
341 N. Randal Rd.
Batavia, IL 60510
630-587-1256

HobbyTown USA - Orland
15551 South 94th Avenue
Orland Park, IL 60462
708-349-8697

Next Meeting:

Next meeting Tuesday August 27th 7:30 PM at the United Methodist Church, 20 N Center St, Naperville IL, 60540, Fellowship Hall.