



# PLANE TALK

PROP MASTERS R/C NEWSLETTER



AMA CHARTER CLUB #397

NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS

JULY 2025



This edition of our newsletter is dedicated to John A. MacPherson, better known to our membership as "Jack".

**November 27, 1944 – June 5, 2025**



Jack was a very active member of our club for over 5 years. Although it took him a while to get the hang of it, he was a good pilot with admirable safety habits. Jack's contributions to our club include being the chairman of our Fun Fly committee, which he handled quite well, and made our fun flies quite fun and enjoyable! One of my own fondest memories of Jack was his participation in our annual Christmas auction, where he made the most of his meager amount of points to the delight and enjoyment of all.

His wit, humor and participation will be sorely missed!

Farewell Jack, your memory will be with us forever!

Your President

Michael D. Pfeifer



# Financial Report

## Bill Hickey



### Financial Report

6/01/2025 thru 6/30/2025

Description	Operating Fund	Field Fund	Total	Comments
Balance June 1, 2025	\$2,092.28	\$3,722.94	\$5,815.22	
Income:				
Dues	80.00		80.00	50 members paid to date
Total Income	80.00		80.00	
Total Cash Available	\$2,172.28	\$3,722.94	\$5,895.22	
Expenses:				
Brand Items	(30.15)		(30.15)	Paper for Tri-Flyers
Board Expenses	(55.50)	(83.23)	(138.72)	Badges, Training cards
Total Expenses	(85.65)	(83.23)	(168.88)	
Balance 06/30/2025	\$2,086.63	\$3,639.71	\$5,726.34	

Bill Hickey, Prop Masters Treasurer 305 White Oak Drive Naperville, Illinois 60540

[treasurer@propmastersrc.org](mailto:treasurer@propmastersrc.org)

### We Are Collecting Dues for 2025

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. A copy of the membership form is included with this newsletter.

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](mailto: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.



# Meeting Minutes

Jeff Cowan



## Meeting Minutes – 06/24/2025

### Opening:

The meeting began at 7:30 PM at Community United Methodist Church, 20 N Central St, Naperville IL. 20 members and no guests were in attendance. President Mick Pfeifer presided.

A moment of silence was held for departed member Jack MacPherson.

The May 27 meeting minutes were approved as published in the June Newsletter. The June financial report was read and approved. Bill will be starting the process of removing members who have not paid their 2025 dues by the end of June.

### Committee Reports:

Safety	<p>This month is National Safety Month. There was a discussion on Slack about what the actual boundaries of the field are, and what areas (such as over the path or over the road) are clearly “no-fly” areas and off limits.</p> <p>Dave Cotton shared an incident at FVAC where a turbine jet came close to hitting some people on the ground. The lesson to learn is that it’s important to prioritize people over airplanes.</p>
Forest Preserve	<p>Mick Pfeifer: Keely Doran, our new FP liaison, has been in contact. Will be attending a future club meeting to get to know us.</p>
Publicity	<p>Bill Hickey has updated the “hobby shop” flyer. We also have “tri-fold” flyers that are targeted toward people who aren’t familiar with the hobby. Bill will have copies of each printed up for distribution.</p>
Raffle	<p>Harlan Davis: Previewed contents of the evening’s raffle.</p>
Newsletter	<p>Dave Cairns: All good. This month’s issue went out several days early!</p>
Website	<p>No report. We should update the site to reflect the way training is being handled by appointment now.</p>
Library	<p>Bill/Dave Cairns: Would like to find a new home for the library books, and his collection of Model Airplane News.</p>
Instruction	<p>Peter Fales: Training has been going well. A little slow over the last few weeks due to vacation schedules and the weather, but we have a lot of interested students on the mailing list.</p>
Fun Fly	<p>Dan Nosek agreed to take over the Fun Fly committee, at least on a temporary basis.</p>
Picnic	<p>No report.</p>

### Old Business:

- Max Janda led a very successful Cavalcade! A good time was had by all. A half-dozen or so folks expressed serious interest in the club.



## Meeting Minutes

Jeff Cowan



### New Business:

None.

### New Members & Guests:

None.

### Society of Aircraft Demolishers (SAD):

Bill Hickey lost his Pietenpol when it lost control and turned into the ground under power. Dave Engel's Curtis Robin ground looped on takeoff and sustained significant damage. Dave Cairns put his Mini Ultra Stick into Ray's tree after putting in a 4S battery and finding it to be much faster. Pete Fales went through three noses on his Value Hobby Saber after installing a bigger engine and prop. SAD patch shared by Bill and Dave E.

### Show and Tell:

Alex Dribinsky	Wilkro Razor plane (tool) that uses standard safety blades.
Darrell Zeri	"Lucky Gallon" Corsair Racer. 4S hand tosser will fly 100mph. \$169 from HobbyKing.
Peter Fales	AtomRC Penguin. \$160 PNP including electronics and flight controller.

### Raffle:

B-25 plastic model, collection of small parts, OS 120 engine, rubber bands, bag of balsa, spinner.

### Closing:

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, July 29, 2025, 7:30 PM at Community United Methodist Church, 20 Central St, Naperville IL.



## Photos

Dave Cairns



Pete and his AtomRC  
Penguin with FPV  
nose camera



Darrell with his Lucky  
Gallon Corsair



Alex shows the vintage  
razor plane tool







## Photos

Dave Cairns



### Instruction Days



Bob A and his guest – Bob's Carbon Cub was flight readied for instruction!



Mick instructs Byron N.



## Photos

Dave Cairns



A sunny Friday afternoon found many fliers at the field.  
Dave E. brought out his beautiful Kadet Senior.



Pete and Greg – Pete with a new Trainer Alpha. Darrell flies  
his jet in the background (above Pete's head)



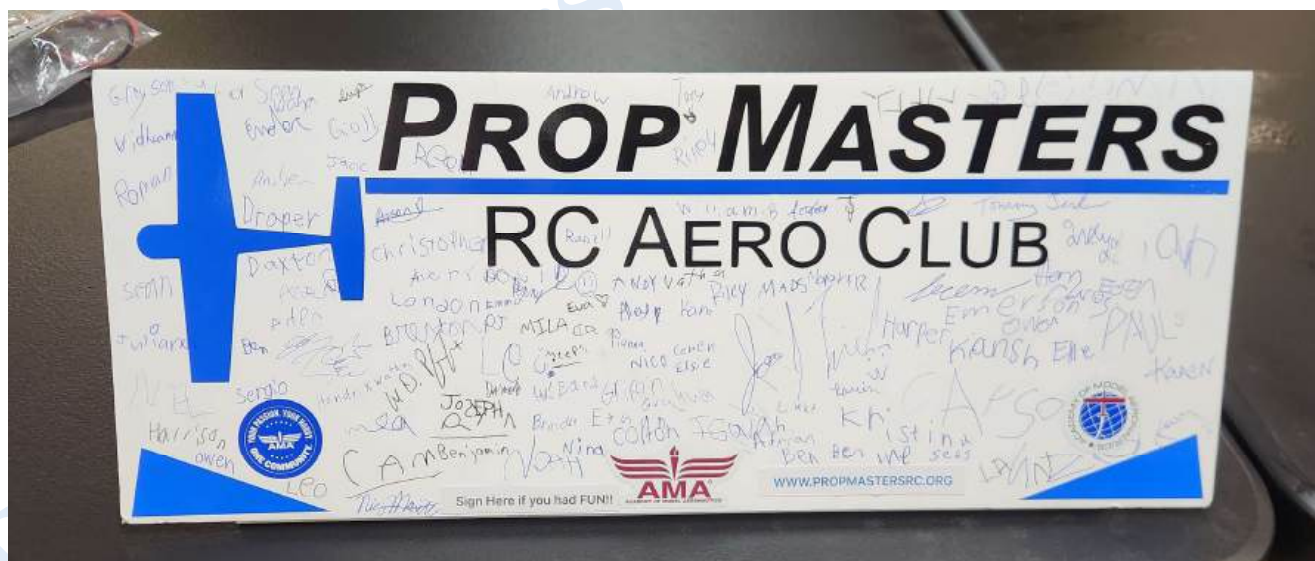


## Photos

Dave Cairns



Bill Hickey brought out his Giant Telemaster with rotary engine. What a sight to see! 144" wingspan.



Our Club Sign from the Cavalcade of Planes event, signed by all of the guests who tried out the simulators during the weekend.





## Photos

### Dave Cairns



### Search & Recover



Drone recovery mission – Pete and Dave braved the bugs and bushes to locate the DJI drone for Jeff A. He was very thankful to the entire Club for sticking with this locate and recover effort.

**Helping others is what Prop Masters do!**



## Club Calendar

### 2025 Calendar

Date	Event Type	Event Details	Notes
Jan 28	Monthly Meeting		Annual Christmas Auction at the meeting.
Feb 25	Monthly Meeting		
March 25	Monthly Meeting		
March 29	Special Event	Snag-A-Deal Auction	
April 29	Monthly Meeting		
May 27	Monthly Meeting		
June 24	Monthly Meeting		
July 29	Monthly Meeting		
August 26	Monthly Meeting		

#### **Newsletter Contributions**

Send newsletter contributions to the Newsletter Editor at  
[editor@propmastersrc.org](mailto:editor@propmastersrc.org)

The deadline for submissions is the second Tuesday of the month. Past Club Newsletters are posted at the club website:  
[www.propmastersrc.org](http://www.propmastersrc.org)



## 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	Harlan Davis	board@propmastersrc.org
Board/At Large	Open	board@propmastersrc.org

### Committees:

#### Publicity

publicity@propmastersrc.org

Harlan Davis

#### Nominating

nominations@propmasersrc.org

Open

#### 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

Pete Fales – Chief Instructor

Mick Pfeifer

Ron Monsen

Mike Pettinger

Jim Mendygral

Jeff Cowan

Chris Hopwood

Dave Cairns

#### Fund Raising

fundraiser@propmastersrc.org

Harlan Davis

#### Librarian

librarian@propmastersrc.org

Bill Hickey

#### Webmaster

webmaster@propmastersrc.org

Mike Pettinger

#### Newsletter Editor

editor@propmastersrc.org

Dave Cairns

#### Air Show

airshow@propmastersrc.org

Dave Engel



Visit the Prop Masters R/C Club Web Site at [www.propmastersrc.org](http://www.propmastersrc.org)

**Support your local Hobby Shops!!**

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

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

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

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

**Next Meeting:**

**Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at:**

United Methodist Church  
20 N Center St.  
Naperville, IL 60540  
In Fellowship Hall

# Prop Masters R/C Aero Club Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

AMA #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(required)

*In addition to Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) membership, a valid DuPage Forest Preserve Permit and Federal UAS registration is needed to fly at the Springbrook Prairie Model Airplane Field. The Club will gladly explain and assist with these requirements.*

*Please Choose Between:*

- ☐ Youth Membership (Age 1 to 21): \$15.00,
- ☐ Full Membership (Age 22 or Older): \$40.00, or
- ☐ Family Membership (Two or more living at the same residence): \$50.00

Additional Member Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Member AMA #: \_\_\_\_\_

*There are two ways to pay your dues:*

1. via personal check payable to **Prop Masters R/C Aero Club**

*Please mail check to* Treasurer – Prop Masters R/C Aero Club  
305 White Oak Drive  
Naperville, IL 60540

2. or via **PayPal** payment to “treasurer@propmastersrc.org”

*Please make PayPal payments as “Friends & Family” (that is, no fees to Club) and also email your application form to treasurer@propmastersrc.org*

**DUES SHOULD BE PAID BY April 1<sup>st</sup>,**

*dues paid after October 1<sup>st</sup> carry over to the following year.*