



PLANE TALK

PROP MASTERS R/C NEWSLETTER



AMA CHARTER CLUB #397

NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS

DECEMBER 2025

Merry Christmas 2025!



Wishing everyone a safe, happy and healthy holiday season!

Reminder: There will be no December club meeting. Our next meeting will be on January 27, 2026, and it will include our ANNUAL CHRISTMAS AUCTION! Be there!

Your President,

Michael D. Pfeifer



Financial Report

Bill Hickey



Financial Report

11/01/2025 thru 11/30/2025

Description	Operating Fund	Field Fund	Total	Comments
Balance 11/01/2025	\$803.84	\$3,568.59	\$4,372.43	
Income:				
Dues	375.00		375.00	Dues
Total Income	375.00	-	375.00	
Total Cash Available	\$1,178.84	\$3,568.59	\$4,747.43	
Expenses:				
Field Maintenance		35.58	35.58	Go-Daddy website; re-classified
Brand Items	(24.47)		(24.27)	Hobby Shop Flyers; re-classified
Board Expense	(35.58)		(35.58)	Go-Daddy website; re-classified
Board Expense	28.00	(28.00)		Trainer Tx battery re-classified
Board Expense	24.47		24.47	Hobby Shop Flyers; re-classified
Total Expenses	(7.58)	7.58		
Balance 11/30/2025	\$1,171.26	\$3,576.17	\$4,747.43	

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

treasurer@propmastersrc.org

We Are Collecting Dues for 2026

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. Please send them as "Friends & Family" and include a short note with your name so we know whose dues are being paid.

Dues paid in December earn points that can be used for the January Auction. Renew Today!!!



Meeting Minutes

Mike Pettinger



Meeting Minutes – 11/25/2025

Opening:

The meeting was called to order at 1933 hours

There is a motion to approve the minutes as published in the newsletter a second and the meeting minutes were approved.

The Treasurers report was read motion made to approve the report and receive a second and were approved.

Safety: The safety officer cautioned all members present that during the holiday season they should use care about decorating their homes, especially while using ladders and cords.

At the airfield: The Forest Preserve is doing controlled burns and there is an active deer culling program in progress; times of the deer culling program are posted at the field.

A Slack channel was created for members to post their emergency contact information and members were encouraged to join.

There was one SAD nominee, and one winner.

Forest preserve: Positive comments were made on current forest preserve trimming.

Publicity: No updates

Snag a Deal: Dennis M. from the EAA asked for a flyer regarding the Clubs annual Snag-a-Deal event.

Newsletter: The members were encouraged to submit articles for the newsletter.

Website: no updates

Library: No update

Instructors report: Flight instruction for the season has stopped.

Fun fly: There was a brief discussion about the Polar Bear fly coming up on January 1st.

Discussion:

The club auction will be at the January monthly meeting.

There will be no Club meeting in December. Next meeting will be the Points Auction.

Dan Nosek was nominated as a board member. All officers and board members were elected.

Old business: The high school club was doing ground training.

New business: New signs through the field were discussed and also different locations were proposed.



Meeting Minutes

Mike Pettinger



Show and tell:

Mick P. - Showed off a B-17 with ornaments

Bill H. - Showed off Antoinette 3D printed model

Pete F. - Displayed the Bristol scout kit

Joe B. - Single Servo (ratchet rudder) Airplane – a free flight model

Chris H. - Lightning

Dave C. – Homemade Third Hand Tool for soldering and holding small parts

Closing: Members said what they were thankful for.

Next meeting Tuesday January 27th 2026 at 7:30 PM at Community United Methodist Church



Photos

Dave Cairns



Show & Tell



Mick with some small
aircraft toys



More of the toys



Photos

Dave Cairns



Bill worked up this 3D model of a special Antoinette. Perhaps a flying build in the future?



Photos

Dave Cairns



Pete with his Scout.
Flown indoors at the Yard.



Chris with his Light(n)ing wing.





Photos

Dave Cairns



Joe's single servo model



Who has noticed these themed socks at a meeting?

Prop Masters R/C



Photos

Dave Cairns



BUILDERS CORNER

Keeping busy inside during the winter season.



Dave Engel building something HUGE!



Ray doing some old school fabric recovering on his Telemaster.



Photos

Dave Cairns



At the Field

Cold weather doesn't stop these flyers!





Club Calendar

2025 - 2026 Calendar

Date	Event Type	Event Details	Notes
November 25, 2025	Monthly Meeting		
December 30, 2025	Monthly Meeting	--- NO MEETING ---	NO MEETING THIS MONTH
January 1, 2026	Fun Fly	Polar Bear Fly – 12:00 Noon	Fly, then to 75th St. McDonald's
Jan 27, 2026	Monthly Meeting	Annual Christmas Points Auction at the meeting	Spend those hard-earned points
Feb 24, 2026	Monthly Meeting		
March 28, 2026	Special Event	Snag-A-Deal Auction	
March 31, 2026	Monthly Meeting		

A note about the Polar Bear Fly

The New Year's Day Polar Bear Fly is a simple way for us to start the year doing what we enjoy; flying and hanging out with our fellow club members. A single flight is all it takes to qualify for participating in the event. Our last Polar Bear saw 5 or 6 pilots out to brave the light winds and cool temps. We quickly made out flights and scurried back to the cars, and then meeting at McDonald's on 75th to warm up and enjoy coffee and conversation. The event does happen quickly, ~~so when we post the event time~~ **NOON IS THE START TIME**, so be sure to arrive promptly or we might miss seeing your flights! We hope to see you out there.

Newsletter Contributions

Send newsletter contributions to the Newsletter Editor at 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



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	Mike Pettinger	secretary@propmastersrc.org
Safety Officer	Dave Cairns	safety@propmastersrc.org
Board/At Large	Jeff Cowan	board@propmastersrc.org
Board/At Large	Esther Bourassa	board@propmastersrc.org
Board/At Large	Dan Nosek	board@propmastersrc.org
Board/At Large	Darrell Zeri	board@propmastersrc.org

Key Roles

Lead Recruiter

publicity@propmastersrc.org

Bill Hickey

Cavalcade of Planes Coordinator

cavalcade@propmasersrc.org

Open

Member Engager

membership@propmastersrc.org

Open

Snag-A-Dealer

Mick Pfeifer

Webmaster

webmaster@propmastersrc.org

Jeff Cowan

Raffle Master

raffle@propmastersrc.org

Harlan Davis, Chairman

Mick Pfeifer

Instruction

learntofly@propmastersrc.org

Pete Fales – Chief Instructor

Mick Pfeifer

Ron Monsen

Mike Pettinger

Jim Mendygral

Jeff Cowan

Audrey Hopwood

Alex Dribinsky

Dave Cairns

Newsletter Editor

editor@propmastersrc.org

Dave Cairns

Visit the Prop Masters R/C Club Web Site at 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, Jan 27, 2026 at 7:30pm

**Arrive early to see the Auction items prior to
the start of the meeting.**

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 1st,

dues paid after October 1st carry over to the following year.