



PLANE TALK

PROP MASTERS R/C NEWSLETTER



AMA CHARTER CLUB #397

NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS

MAY 2025

Presidents Letter



May 2025

Welcome to a WET and Windy May! Although good flying days have been few and far between, it's given us all some time to work on our projects for the flying season which has really just begun. Surely, June has to be better!

Speaking of June, The Clow Airport Cavalcade of Planes is coming up soon on Saturday, June 7, and Sunday, June 8. Propmasters is planning to attend and has a booth in one of the hangars. Max Janda is spearheading this effort. Many of us have already volunteered time to staff our booth, but for those of you have not, please notify Max so that he can coordinate the effort and procure our vendor badges prior to the event.

Also, **June is observed as National Safety Month (NSM)**, an annual initiative led by the National Safety Council (NSC) to raise awareness and promote safety in various aspects of our lives and within workplaces. Our Safety Officer, Mike Pettinger, has intensified his efforts recently to assure that our club continues to be one of the safest clubs around, so let's work with Mike to make sure we keep in mind our goal of zero accidents, not only in club activities, but at home and work as well.

As a final note, remember in our last meeting Bill Hickey presented the final numbers from our Snag-A-Deal auction, which had a significant increase in revenue over the previous years. This money primarily goes toward purchasing items for our annual club Christmas Auction. To bid on these items, you use your points accumulated during the year. Points are earned by PARTICIPATION in club events, which includes the Cavalcade of Planes, flight training and attendance at club meetings. It's early in the year, so I encourage your participation in as many club activities as you can. You will be rewarded!

Your President

Michael D. Pfeifer



Financial Report

Bill Hickey



Financial Report

4/01/2025 thru 4/30/2025

Description	Operating Fund	Field Fund	Total	Comments
Balance April 1, 2025	\$2,423.36	\$3,705.42	\$6,128.78	
Income:				
Dues	40.00		40.00	42 members paid to date
Auction Event	140.00		1,526.00	Snag-A-Deal post sales
Total Income	180.00		180.00	
Total Cash Available	\$2,603.36	\$3,705.42	\$6,308.78	
Expenses:				
Swap	(232.20)		(232.20)	Snag-A-Deal dinner/church donation
Brand Items				
Board Expenses	(275.88)		(275.88)	Website renewal
Total Expenses	(508.08)		(508.08)	
Balance 04/30/2025	\$2,095.28	\$3,705.42	\$5,800.70	

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

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. 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 – April 29, 2025

Opening:

The meeting began at 7:30 PM at Community United Methodist Church, 20 N Central St, Naperville IL. 25 members and 4 guests were in attendance. President Mick Pfeifer presided.

The March 25 meeting minutes were approved as published in the April Newsletter. The April financial report was read and approved.

Committee Reports:

Safety	Mike Pettinger: Summarized reason we've been discussing safety equated to risk management, hazard management, and mitigation strategy. Discussed tick threat and mitigation at field. Dave Cairns: Reviewed importance of calling out actions at field, especially giving "heads up!" when planes are not where they are supposed to be.
Forest Preserve	Mick Pfeifer: Met with FP. FP applauds club for approach to encouraging compliance with FP regulations with public.
Publicity	Harlan Davis: Nothing to report.
Raffle	Harlan Davis: Previewed contents of the evening's raffle.
Newsletter	Dave Cairns: First newsletter issue from new editor. Check spam/junk folder if you haven't received it. Otherwise, contact Dave to investigate it.
Website	Mike Pettinger: OK.
Library	Bill Hickey: New library index forthcoming on Slack.
Instruction	Peter Fales: Really busy Saturdays. Lots of interest in training from field walkups and the website, raising concerns about the challenges of keeping up with the demand. Reviewed current and evolving instruction scheduling practices.
Fun Fly	Mick Pfeifer: Keep an eye on Slack for any upcoming events.
Picnic	No report.

Old Business:

- Max Janda: Cavalcade of Planes - Provided an update. Max asked for volunteers for this year.
- Mick Pfeifer: Discussed an issue with previous Snag-a-Deal event. Club left the front door propped open. Apparently wasn't noticed until the next morning. Thankfully nothing was lost as a result. Mick is leading the club effort to ease the concerns of the church by assuring it won't happen again. A new club checklist and formal process to be followed by the club when leaving the facility is being developed and implemented at the club board level. Details forthcoming.



Meeting Minutes

Jeff Cowan



New Business:

None.

New Members & Guests:

Club welcomed new member Oliver Gresham, and guests Tejas Shau, Ali Masood.

Society of Aircraft Demolishers (SAD):

With the new flying season underway, we issued 2 SAD patches this month. Carl Wacker described misfortune with his Stearman that seemed to come apart on takeoff, and another plane he got too adventurous with at too low an altitude. Arjav Jain lost his glow powered Super Sportster (?) when it lost power too far away to glide back to the field. At the time of this meeting, Arjav is still looking for that plane.

Show and Tell:

Peter Fales	Futaba 72mHz "wireless" buddy box
Chris Hopwood	Goosky RS4 helicopter, EP, pink/blue
Chris Hoekstra	Pitts Bipe plane, GP -> EP conversion, red/white
Dave Cairns	Uproar V2 ARF, EP, white/red/blue
Joe Bartek	R/C Model Aeroplane magazine
Darrell Zeri	Shared story of a 22" prop from 1/3 scale Pitts w/DLE55 engine that almost bit him during a ground test run with throttle mistakenly configured backwards
Mick Pfeifer	K&B .40 glow engine, getting ready to clean it up

Raffle:

Dynam Tiger Moth RTF plane, Super Tiger .40 glow engine, Air Alert, battery checker, aluminum spinner, 1931 Stearman Biplane static model. Darrell Zeri got the Tiger Moth and gave it to Ollie.

Closing:

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, May 27, 2025, 7:30 PM at Community United Methodist Church, 20 Central St, Naperville IL.



Meeting Photos

Dave Cairns



Show 'n Tell



Darrell Z. – Killer 22" prop



Chris H. – Goosky RS4 heli



Pete F. – Buddy Box system
w/ 72Mhz receiver



Chris H. – Pitts biplane
electric conversion



Meeting Photos

Dave Cairns



Dave C. – Uproar V2 ARF
electric power



Mick P. – K&B .40 engine



Joe B. – British RC magazine



Meeting Photos

Dave Cairns



New Members & Guests



New Member Ollie G.



Guest Tejas S.



Guest Ali M.



Ollie helps Harlan with the first raffle pick. Darrell graciously passed his winner to Ollie, who went home with a new plane!



Shots at the Field

Dave Cairns



April/May 2025



Another blue-skies day at the field. Busy with instructors, students, and maiden flights!





Shots at the Field

Dave Cairns



Impound stand/ bird sanctuary. Robins are here.





Shots at the Field

Dave Cairns



Instructors and pilots enjoy
a sunny day.





Shots at the Field

Dave Cairns



Another rare engine sighting, courtesy of Bill Hickey. A Wankel engine.



Shots at the Field

Dave Cairns



Prop Masters



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		

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

Support your local Hobby Shops!!

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:

Tuesday, April 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 1st,

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