



The Flightline



Volume 45, Issue 3 Newsletter of the Propstoppers RC Club AMA 1042 March 2015



President's Message

The indoor picnic turned out well we will see about having it at the Dec. meeting.

There was a great turn out 24 members..

Anyone with show +tell bring them in , if you have something you want to get rid of bring it in.

We will be back to coffee and doughnuts .

We will talk about layout of Elwyn field and what to do with it

Dick Seiwel, President

Agenda for March 10th Meeting At Gateway Community Church, At our CA Field site; Meeting 7pm till 8:30?

1. Show and Tell
2. Membership Report
3. Finance Report
4. Club Calendar Review
5. Elwyn Field Discussion
6. 2015 Dues Reminder

Minutes of the Propstoppers Model Airplane Club February 10, 2015 at the Christian Academy meeting room

The meeting began with a club picnic in the meeting room at 6 PM
Call to order by Vice-President Chuck Kime took place at 7:10 PM
Roll call by membership chair Ray Wopatek showed 23 members and 1 guest present

Minutes of the January meeting as published were approved
Treasurer's report was presented by Pete Oetinger

Old Business:

President Seiwel presented an accounting of the 2014 club expenses.

New Business:

The president said that Elwyn has given us permission to fly on their property for 2015. The fields however are still not flyable due to the winter weather.

Show and Tell:

Joe Mesco showed his prototype tilt rotor airplane. It is a homemade profile foam model with motors at both ends of the wing. It is still not ready to fly.
Joe Secunda showed his makeover of a glow model which he has converted to electric. In the process he lightened the structure markedly to make it more flyable.
Duane Myers showed the motor mount he formed for conversion of the glow plane to electric. He used a three D printer to make the custom mount which fits his newly purchased outrunner brushless motor.

Adjournment took place at 8:20 PM a a

Dick Bartkowski, Secretary

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Calendar of Events

Club Meetings

Monthly Meetings

Second Tuesday of the month.

Gateway Community Church at the Christian Academy. Doors open at 7:00

Next Meeting; 10th March

Tuesday Breakfast Meeting

Tom Jones Restaurant on Edgemont Avenue in Brookhaven. 9 till 10 am. Just show up.

Flying after in the summer at CA or Elwyn Field 10 am. Weather permitting.

Indoors at the Brookhaven Gym in bad weather 10:30-11:30 See dates allowable.

Regular Club Flying

At Old Christian Academy; **Electric Only**

Monday through Friday after school till dusk

Saturday 10 am till dusk

Sunday, after Church; 12 pm till dusk

At Elwyn Field; Gas or Electric

Monday through Saturday 8 am till dusk

Sunday 12 pm till dusk

INDOOR Flying, see attached dates.

Special Club Flying

Saturday mornings 10 am

Wednesday Helicopter evening in summer

Thursday evenings in the summer

Tuesday mornings 10 am weather permitting after breakfast.

Check our Yahoo Group for announcements;

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/propstoppers/>

Beginners

Beginners using due caution and respecting club rules may fly Apprentice or similar models without instructors at Christian Academy Field.

The club also provides the AMA Introductory Pilot Program for beginners without AMA insurance.

Propstoppers RC Club of
Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

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Elwyn Field Discussions

As I understand the situation at Elwyn, we will have full access to the field we currently use, with no farmer accommodation: it is ours!

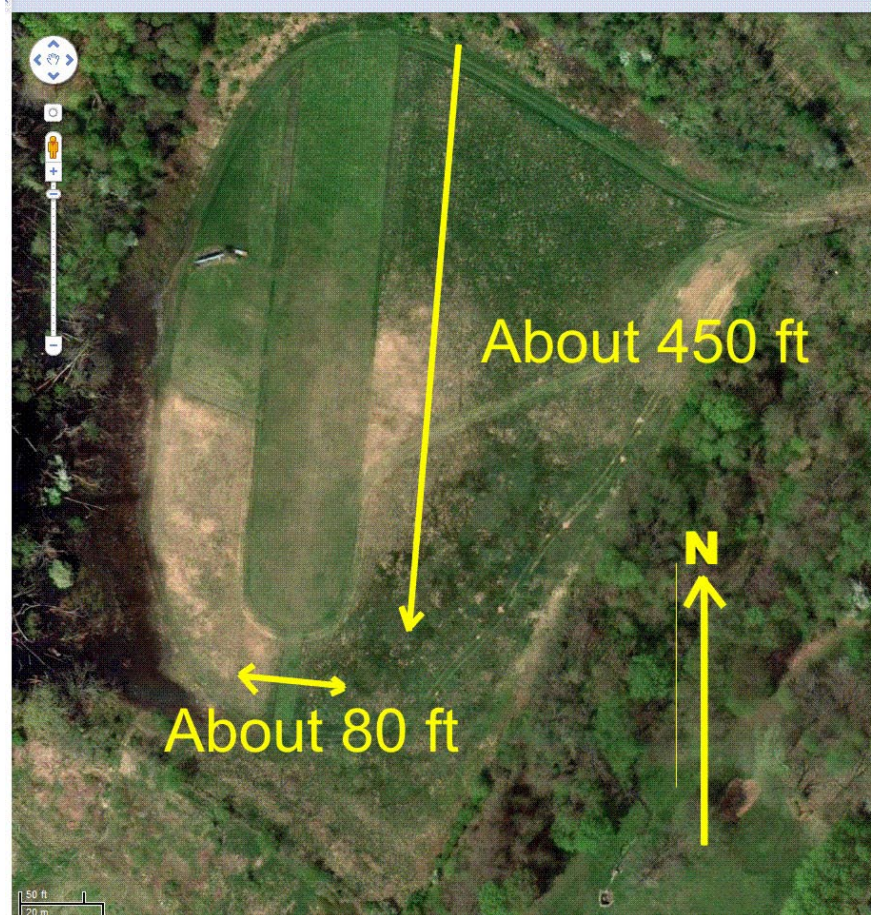
So in preparation for the discussions at the next monthly meeting here are some pictures of what we now fly with at Christian Academy Field together with current and prior strips at Elwyn.

Also included are a few possibilities for further discussion.

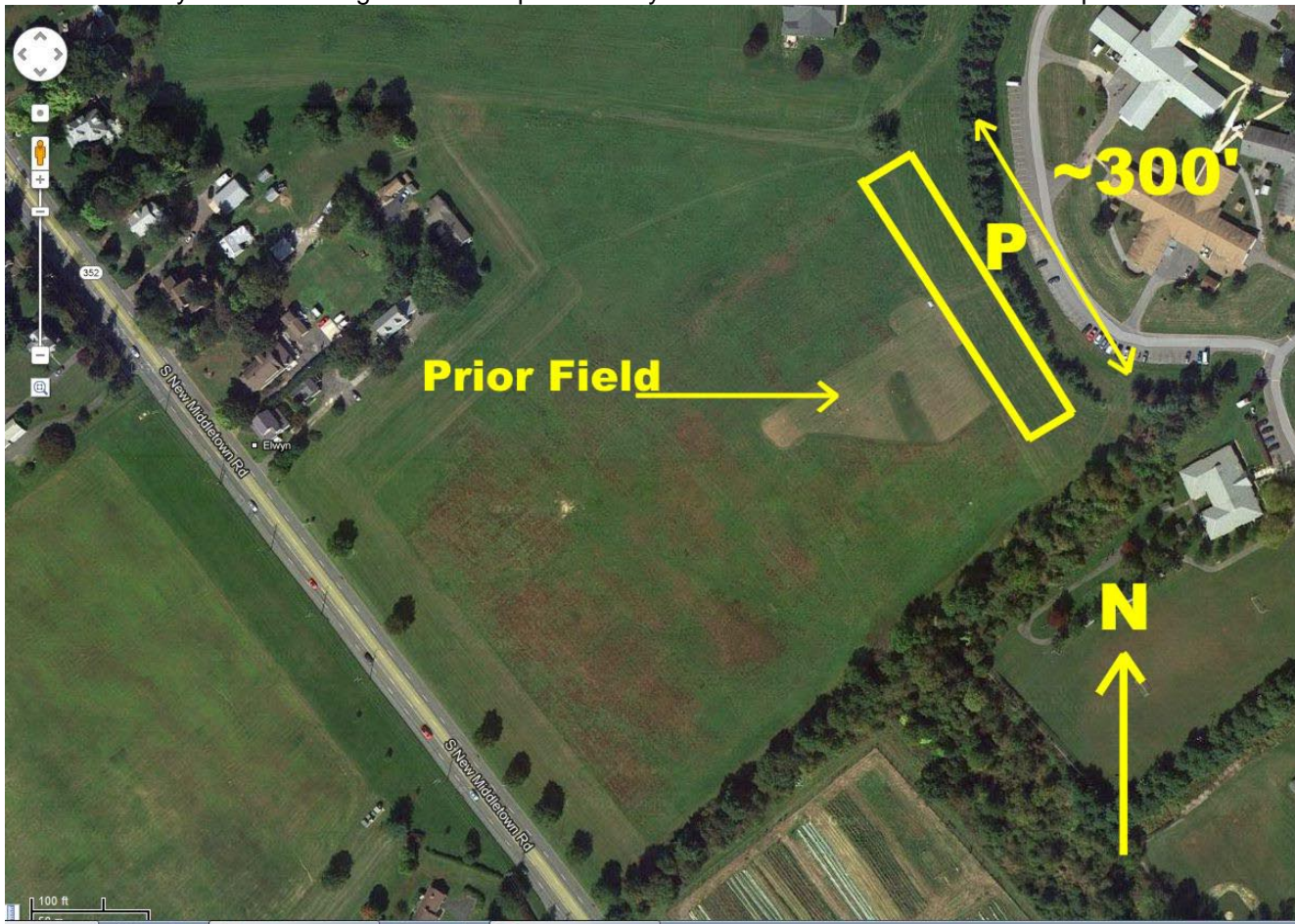
One of the issues with the current Elwyn strip is the sun position. This strip is great first thing in the morning but hopeless in the afternoon and evening. This issue should of course be factored into any new strip decisions.

Another factor is the amount of effort and cost required to prepare any of the new alternatives.

But to set a basis for these discussions here is an aerial of our Current CA Field.



Here is the Elwyn Field showing current and prior runway locations and size. P is the current pits location.



For those not familiar with the current strip here is a view from the southern end. The farmer's prepared areas may be seen but this was before he installed the electric fence.

Mike Keenan surveys the strip and enjoys the good weather so he can remember Pennsylvania the way he likes it while watching the news with pictures of the interminable snow and ice from his sunny spot in Florida.

But this must be a late afternoon shot by the look of his shadow.

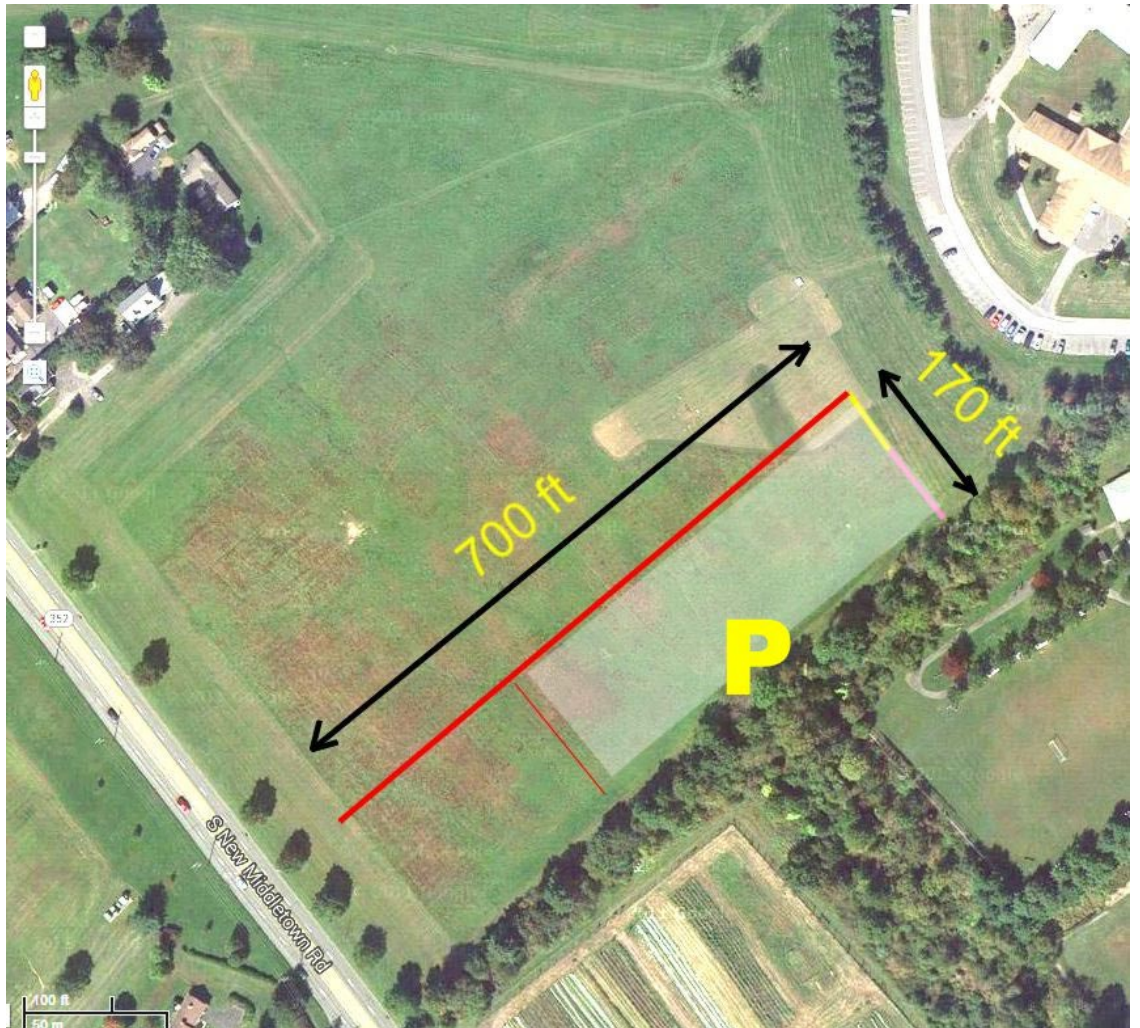


A possible strip location avoiding the sun problem is shown below. The biggest drawbacks for this location are the burden of carrying your model stuff from the parking area to the pits, unless we could get permission to park in the pits adjacent to the tree line. But President Dick Seiwel tells me they don't want us to park on the grass, so it comes down to carrying your stuff.

Second drawback is there would be more hard boundaries to the flying area formed by Rt. 352, the houses across the field and the tree line/parking area. Going out of bounds in any of these directions would be a real problem. So this seems like a non-starter.

Now our current CA field has a smaller area than this Elwyn field, but then we overfly the trees opposite the runway and trees and Sweeny's lot at the ends.

But then maybe we should consider some variation on what we started with accommodating morning and evening flying with two pit areas.





Here is a layout similar to the one we started with before the farmer squeezed us. Leave the pits where they have been but fly from the yellow F in the afternoon and evening. But this does leave a very small flying area if you stay out of the sun.

This could be increased by moving towards the tree line but this can only be accomplished if the wet spot (dark green area) could be filled and leveled. President Dick Seiwel is itching to do this as he has a big tractor he wants to put to work. But this requires he borrow a disc harrow from a farmer friend. He is trying to pull this off for us.

Don't ever forget we, the club members owe Dick a huge and continuing thanks for finding and maintaining our fields over many years.

Let the conversations begin.

Dave from California.

The End of a Great Indoor Season

.....and these are stayed neither by snow nor rain nor heat nor darkness from accomplishing their appointed course with all speed..... Well, it didn't stop the stalwart few, or more than a few, making the most of the final session of our regular indoor season. Indoor director Chuck Kime tells me that Tincum may have been the only school open on Friday eveing, but it was and the guys flew. Here are the final few closing the place up. Picture by Larry Woodward.

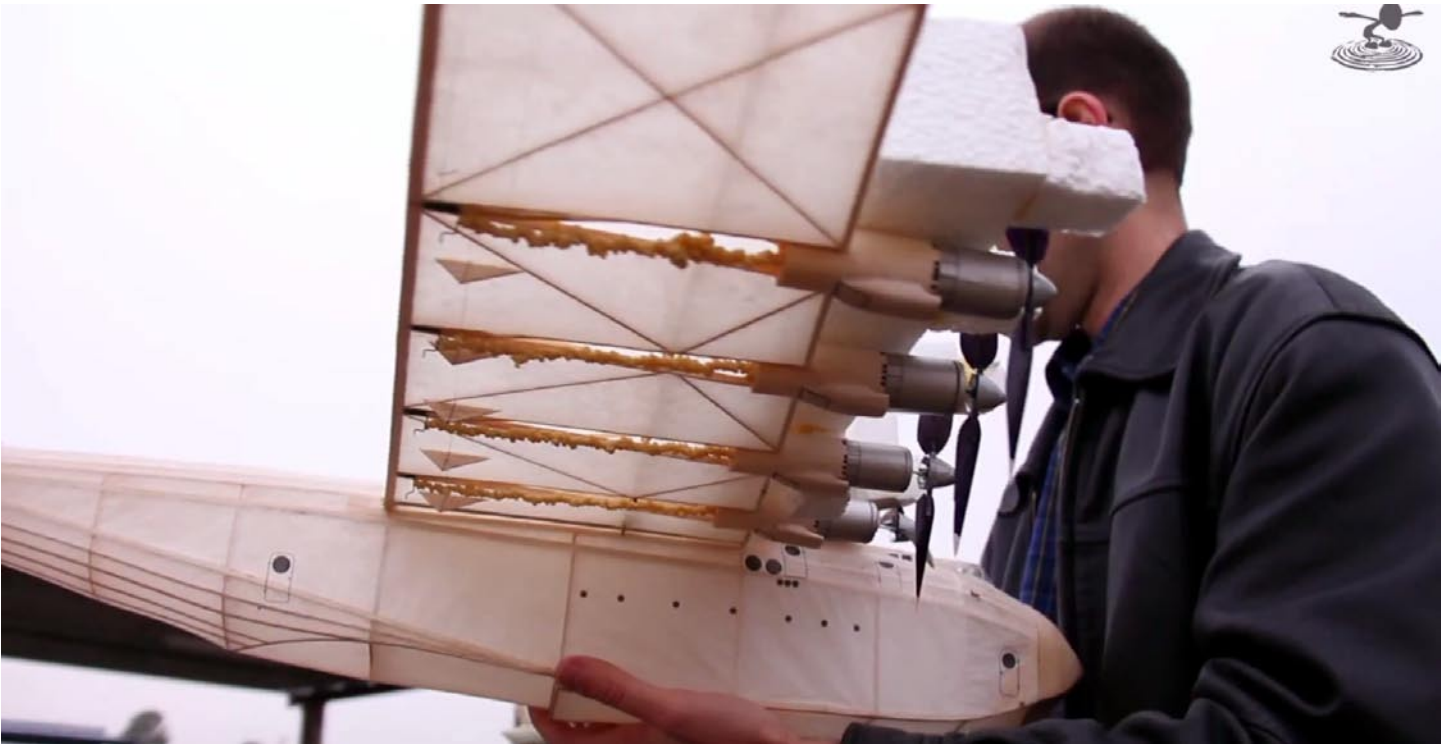


Extreme Aircraft Modeling as few can do it anymore.

This outlandish rubber powered model came to me from someone's link and I was awed by it. Both in terms of the audacity to attempt such a model but then going on to execute to perfection. You may watch the video at the end of this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=67fpOi5i9mM&feature=youtu.be&t=7m42s> but here are a few shots to indicate the scope and success.

This is a rubber powered Spruce Goose with eight separate rubber powered propellers. The trick is to wind them all to the same tension, hold every one of them and release them all at once.







Ready for a real challenge Larry? Joe M? Mick?

Dave

The Mexican immigrant who set up a global drone firm

By Regan Morris BBC reporter, San Diego

Less than 10 years ago Jordi Munoz left Mexico for the US and is now boss of one of the world's biggest commercial drone makers. Mexican immigrant Jordi Munoz says that waiting for his green card after he first moved to the United States made him feel as if he was living "in a big jail". At the time he was 20 years old, and he and his girlfriend had set up home near Los Angeles. Yet he could not legally work, or even enroll at a college, until he got the identity card that proved his right to live and seek employment in the country.

But instead of just sitting around during his frustrating seven-month wait back in 2007, Mr Munoz, a keen model plane enthusiast and computer programmer, started to build his own drone in his garage.

A drone, technically an unmanned aerial vehicle, is essentially a very high tech and stable version of a remote-controlled plane with a camera attached to take aerial photographs or record videos. Using what parts he had to hand, Mr Munoz made the drone's autopilot system by taking the motion sensors from a games console remote control. To attach the microchips to circuit boards he heated them up in a domestic oven.

Fast forward to today, and Mr Munoz, now 28, is the co-founder of the largest US-owned manufacturer of commercial drones. The business, 3D Robotics, is expected to enjoy sales of \$50m (£33m) this year.

Key investment

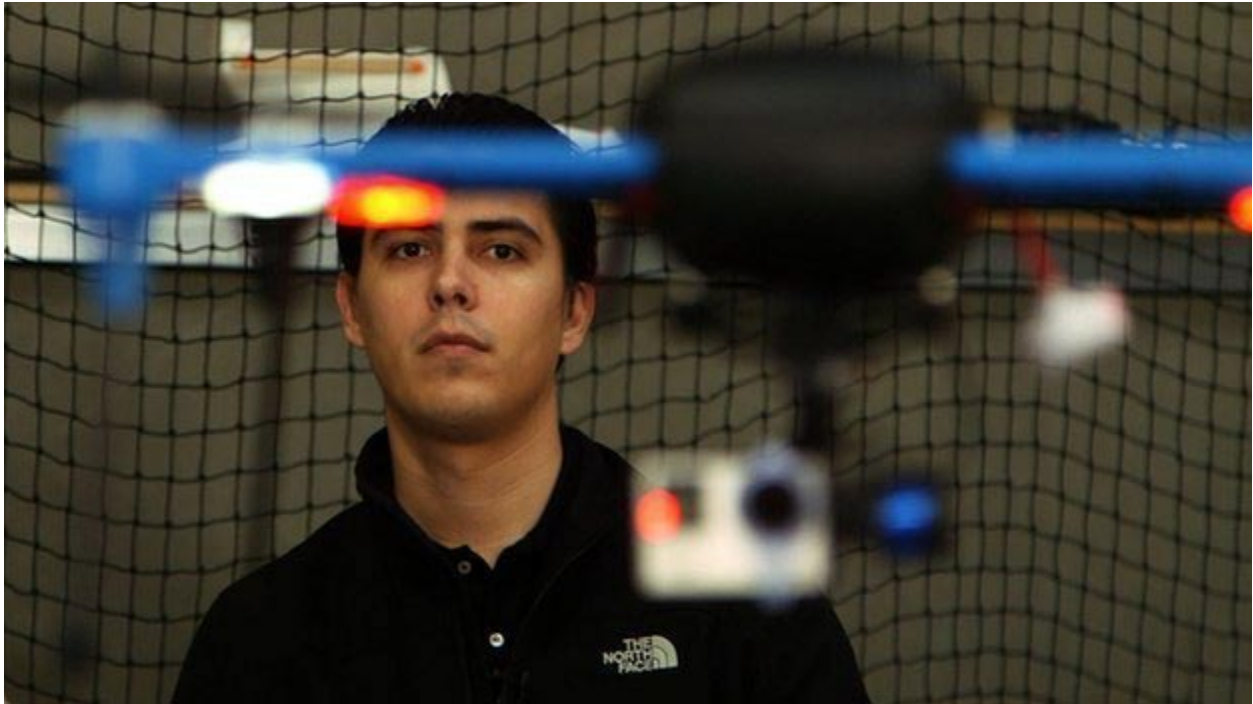
Back when Mr Munoz was working on his first prototype, he started to put up posts about his progress on a website for other DIY drone enthusiasts. In addition to the advice and encouragement he got from fellow hobbyists, one man was so impressed that he sent Mr Munoz \$500 (£325) to help carry on his work.



The drones are mainly manufactured in Mexico, with additional production now being done in China

The person who provided the money was influential journalist and author Chris Anderson, who at the time was editor in chief of technology magazine Wired, which is based in San Francisco. The two men started a regular email and telephone correspondence, and Mr Munoz eventually built and sold several dozen prototype drones.

Then in 2009, Mr Munoz and Mr Anderson decided to go into business together, and co-founded their own drone-making company. So despite not actually having met in person at that point, they started 3D Robotics.



Jordi Munoz relied on the help of other drone enthusiasts to develop his drone software

Mr Munoz, as chief technology officer, would be the engineering brains while Mr Anderson, as chief executive, would focus on the business and investment side of things. The co-founders eventually met, their partnership worked, and the company started to quickly grow rather quickly - as global demand for drones has risen strongly over the past five or so years.

'Google PhDs'

Being the joint boss of a fast-growing corporation was however a cultural shock for Mr Munoz, who had no prior business training nor leadership experience, and had not been to university. He had instead been used to working on his own, and learning from the internet.



Engineering work and product design is done in San Diego

"I come from a generation where we have Google PhDs, we can virtually figure out everything by just Googling around and doing some reading online," says Mr Munoz. "But in my case, the company started growing so fast I couldn't keep up... It was just 'boom' and finally I have a big corporation." Thankfully, says Mr Munoz, he realized that he needed to bring in "super-experienced people" to do the work that he couldn't. The company now employs 357 people across four main sites. Mr Munoz is based in San Diego, southern California, at the company's engineering centre. Production takes place just across the Mexican border in Tijuana, Mr Munoz' home city, while the company's sales team is based in Austin, Texas.

Mr Anderson, 53, leads 3D Robotics' business operations centre, which is located in Berkeley, near San Francisco. He stayed in the San Francisco Bay Area to be both close to his home, and the all important investment community of Silicon Valley, which has helped fuel the company's growth.



The drones have cameras attached to film or take photographs

3D Robotics now makes five different types of drones, with prices ranging from \$740 to \$5,400. Mr Munoz says that sales first reached the \$1m mark in 2011, before hitting \$10m in 2013, and being on target for \$40m this year. To meet increasing demand, additional production is now being done in China.

Open-sourced software

For all 3D Robotics' success, there is one part of its business model which might unnerve bosses in other industries - the operating software of its drones is freely available to any other company that would like to have a go at making its own. The software is publicly available or "open sourced" because ever since his earliest efforts in his old garage, Mr Munoz has published his work online, and asked for help and feedback from other drone enthusiasts. While this means that any competitor can use the software, such as a number of Chinese copycats, Mr Munoz says that the operating system is better as a result of all the input of others in its development. "I wouldn't be able to sell as much if I had prototyped it alone," he says.

As 3D Robotics continues to grow, Mr Munoz says that despite a tough start dealing with immigration authorities, the US has been good to him. "It really is a land of opportunities," he says. "So it doesn't matter what is your background. If you work hard and do the right thing, and you're honest, you can always do what you want in the US. "You get a lot of support - 'hey, this is awesome! Keep doing it!' - that is a different mentality compared to my [home] country, which is the opposite way around."



The company makes drones which hover like helicopters and others which glide like planes

To see the whole article and videos click here; <http://www.bbc.com/news/business-31356080>

Come on guys; re-up!

Membership Renewal For 2014

Membership renewal for 2015 is now required. You can renew by mail or at the club meeting in March.

Don't lose your club privileges!

Bring cash or check and your AMA card.

Dues are \$60.

Please send a check to;

Ray Wopatek
1004 Green Lane
Secane, PA. 9018

Please enclose a **copy** of your current
A. M. A. Membership card,

**And Please, Please enclose a
Stamped self- addressed envelope.**

Ray Wopatek Membership