



The Flightline



Volume 48, Issue 16 Newsletter of the Propstoppers RC Club AMA 1042 July 2018



INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
1	President's Message
2	July Meeting Agenda
3	June Meeting Minutes
4	Editor's Note: Larry Woodward
5	Report From Crosby Landing Beach Larry Woodward
6	Bylaw Revision: Process and Progress: Larry Woodward
7	The Great Escape Larry Kuzman

President's Message

Well, I want to start off on two very important subjects. First, the weather. I don't think I have to explain the weather, but I will. All the weather stations are warning to stay hydrated, and in the shade. I know it is difficult to do, and fly models, but at least TRY. At the club picnic we will have plenty of cold water. Will those with tents please bring them along?

Also, something not often given thought, Ticks!! I will bring some insect spray, but an extra spray or tube wouldn't hurt..

Now, with that out of the way, HAVE A GREAT TIME !!!

Chuck Kime

Vice President

Agenda for July 10th Meeting At *Gateway Church Meeting Room* 7:00 pm till 8:30

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Approval of minutes
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Old Business
By Laws Committee Report
Picnic Planing
5. New Business
6. Show and Tell
7. Adjournment

Minutes of the Propstoppers Model Airplane Club

June 12, 2018 at the Christian Academy meeting room:

Call to order took place at 7:10 PM by Vice-President Chuck Kime.

The meeting was conducted by the vice president in the absence of the president.

Minutes of the May meeting as published were approved by the membership.

Treasurer's report was presented by Pete Oetinger.

13 members were present in the room.

Old Business:

Chuck Kime discussed the issues about possible new model regulations from the government that the AMA is following. He will continue to inform us of their status. He also discussed the status of the bylaws that appear to be almost complete. The next phase of this project is to deal with the rules and regulations of the club that are in a separate document.

Chuck also reported that Elwyn has told us they plan to trim the high grass surrounding the runways to about 1 foot.

New Business:

The Tuesday morning indoor flying at the Brookhaven gym has ended for the season. Mick Harris told us it will resume in September.

Adjournment took place at 750 pm

Dick Bartkowski
Secretary

Propstoppers RC Club of Delaware County, Pennsylvania. Club Officers

President

Dick Seiwel
(610) 566-2698

Vice President

Chuck Kime
(610) 833-5256

Secretary

Richard Bartkowski
(610) 566-3950

Treasurer

Pete Oetinger
610 627-9564

Membership Chairman

Ray Wopatek
610 259-4942

Safety Officers:

Eric Hofberg
610 566-0408

Ryan Schurman

Newsletter Co-Editors:

Dave Harding
(610)-872-1457

Larry Woodward
610 891-7936

Propstoppers Web Site: www.propstoppers.org

Material herein may be freely copied for personal use but shall not be reproduced for sale.

FLYING PRIVILEGES ARE NOW SUSPENDED FOR ANY MEMBERS THAT HAVE NOT PAID 2018 DUES

Membership renewal for 2018 is now required. You can renew by mail or at the club meeting

Bring cash or check and your AMA card.

Dues are \$60.

To renew by mail, please send a check made out to the ***Propstoppers*** 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 Chairman

Calendar of Events

Club Meetings

Monthly Meetings
Second Tuesday of the month.
Gateway Community Church. Doors open at 7:00

Gateway Church Meeting Room

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 winter
10:00-11:00 (subject to availability of the gym).

Regular Club Flying

At Old Christian Academy Field; 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.

Editor's note:

Well, it has been another month without any club event contributions to the Newsletter. It is my understanding that there was a picnic. Although, I can't show any evidence of it. I am certain there were camera equipped smart phones at the event.

So, I hope you enjoy the news from Crosby Landing Beach.
Thanks to Larry Kuzman for sending us an interesting clip on The Great Escape.

Larry Woodward
Editor
Woodward.larry@gmail.com

Report from Crosby Landing Beach

By Larry Woodward



Another summer has officially opened here on Cape Cod.

You will know it is “officially” summer because the police start monitoring the beach parking lot for parking permit stickers. Among other things, that means we have to be finished flying by 9:00 am, unless we want to pay the heavy seasonal parking fee. Actually, it works out well for me. We fly between 7:30 and 9:00 when the winds are low and the people are few on the beach. And, we finish with the rest of the morning still available for other pursuits. The ritual repeats itself seven days a week all year long, weather permitting. Numbers vary from two to a dozen or more, depending on seasonal migratory patterns.

With nothing to serve as a runway, the choice of plane can be limited. Nonetheless, the challenge of flying from a four foot wide strip of sandy gravel lined with small trees and shrubs is great fun for the STOL guys. But, what we lack in amenities is more than made up for by the sheer majesty of the location

The beauty of the place is nicely captured in this great little video made this spring by Bob Mauterstock, our resident DJI Mavic addict. Poor Bob, a former Navy pilot, he was a prodigious RC fixed wing flyer for many years with a hanger /shop facility to be envied by all. But, these days you will find him on the field in his folding hammock-chair with eyes glued to the video screen or FPV goggles. Does anyone know if there is a twelve step program out there that could help him? But, you gotta love the footage he brings back.

[“Crosby Morning”](#) by Bob Mauterstock

In spite of the limitations, we always have a great day when at the field, no matter what. Partly it is the location and certainly it is the people. None of us would even consider flying alone; not just for safety sake, but because there would be no joy without the camaraderie.

Every day is a challenge and the windy conditions keep us on our toes. It is a competitive bunch and if there are limits to be pushed you will be encouraged. There is keen competition for the coveted “Most Spectacular Crash of the Year” award at the annual Fall Banquet. But sometimes we need to formalize the stakes a little. That is when we declare a Fun Fly.

The Fun Fly is an informal event with only one objective, to have even more fun. With only a modicum of planning and a few props you can spice up any day at the field with events like balloon



breaking and limbo poles. Ribbon combat and touch-n-go competitions require even less organization. So Propstoppers, maybe adding a little fun competition to the summer weekend flying would help to bring up the participation numbers and get members talking. Here is a quick review of the way it plays out at Crosby Landing Beach with a simple balloon event.

The setup is simple, a bamboo pole covered in foam “pool noodles” and a few balloons tied at the end.

Select your favorite (expendable) plane:

Here, the Fenix from Lazertoyz is a perennial favorite for the event due to its docile dependability and forgiving EPP construction.

But, there are others who just crave speed for any event.





Break a balloon, but crash doing it: win a half point.

Break a balloon and stay up to fly again: win a whole point.



With multiple planes in the air at the same time, the excitement level increases.



One benefit of the location is the fact that even non flyers enjoy a morning walk on the beach. So, we often have spectators show up, either from the families of those flying, or just regular morning beach walkers that get caught up in the spectacle. Either way it adds to the social event and gives the group visibility in the community. That might be another valuable lesson for Propstoppers. The more visible your flying is in the community, the more likely you will be to pick up new members.



One of these “Walk-ups” is Gavin Whitlock, who has been showing up on weekends with his son. They are gradually getting initiated with occasional buddy box flights. They have purchased a Fenix and hope to have it ready for flight shortly. At the Fun Fly Gavin showed up with an interesting 3D camera system and took this video of the event. If you experiment with the controls at the bottom of the video screen, the results are loads of fun.

<https://theta360.com/m/bySEseJiwd2EHHtE0R3E766TY>

If the link fails: Copy the URL and paste it to your browser



Bylaw Revision: Process and Progress: Final Review

by Larry Woodward

I have just received the Bylaws review comments from AMA in time to make the July meeting.

The AMA suggested a few minor corrections regarding inconsistent language and procedures, but found no substantive problems with our draft. Corrections have been made based on the AMA suggestions and we now have a final draft ready for membership approval.

The procedure requires that there is a one month delay between the release of a revised Bylaws and the ratification vote. Therefore, the final revision is being distributed below for the July meeting with expectation that a ratification vote will be held at the August meeting.

If there is substantive concern presented at the July meeting that warrants additional revision to the final draft, it will be revised and re-presented in August with a ratification vote in September.

Although the new Safety Committee will not be officially created until after the ratification, there is no reason that the Safety Officers and VP could not begin researching and deliberating proposed changes to the Safety Rules at this time. That way they will be prepared to proceed efficiently once the ratification has been made.

Proposed Bylaws 2018

Rev. 07-04-18 Membership Review

Propstoppers Model Airplane Club BYLAWS

1. Article I - Name and Location

- i. The official name of the club shall be "Propstoppers Model Airplane Club", aka "The Propstoppers", hereafter called the "Club".
- ii. The location of the Club shall be Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

2. Article II – Purpose

The mission of the Club is:

- i. To acquire, maintain and operate flying sites for the operation of radio controlled model aircraft.
- ii. To promote the flying hobby.
- iii. To encourage and educate members and others in model aviation.
- iv. To promote model aviation at local events and civic activities whenever possible.

3. Article III - Membership

a. Becoming a Member

Prerequisites for membership shall be:

- i. A demonstrated desire to participate in Club activities.
- ii. Agreement to abide by all Club rules and regulations.

- iii. Possession of a current Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) membership.
- iv. Attending three Club functions and making themselves known to current Club members present.
- v. At least two of the three must be official Club meetings. Others can be impromptu flying or casual events such as Club breakfast gatherings.
- vi. Persons wishing to join the Club after completing the above prerequisites must then complete an application form (available from the Membership Chairman) and pay the current year's dues. Dues will be prorated by quarters (e.g., if joining in the last 3 months of the year, pay 1/4 of that year's Club dues). Prorated dues are provided only when first joining. All subsequent membership renewals will be full year terms.

b. Membership Cards

- i. Membership cards will be issued when Club dues are paid.
- ii. Membership cards will be changed in color each calendar year from the previous year.

c. Dues and Assessments

- i. Dues shall be assessed annually as determined by the Executive Committee for the upcoming calendar year.
- ii. Dues shall be based on the projected budget of the upcoming calendar year.

d. Resolution of Grievances

Shall be in accordance with Article XI

e. Resignation

- i. Any member in good standing may resign his/her membership by giving written notice to the Membership Chair.
- ii. In the event a member voluntarily terminates his membership, he or she forfeits any claim to a pro-rated return of the annual Club dues.

f. Termination & Disciplinary Action

- i. If any member ceases to maintain membership in the AMA, his/her membership in the Club shall be automatically terminated. If the member's AMA membership is reinstated, he/she is subject to reinstatement of Club membership.
- ii. The Executive Committee shall have the power to recommend termination of any Member for just cause, if such individual willfully commits any act or omission which is a violation of any of the terms of the club's Bylaws or Rules, the Rules of the AMA, or which is detrimental to the Club, the AMA, or to model aviation. Termination for cause shall be subject to the procedures provided in Article XI Grievance Procedure.
- iii. A Member terminated under this provision shall have a prorated portion of his or her annual dues refunded. Proration shall be by quarters.

g. Reinstatement

- i. Terminated members may reapply for membership one year following termination.
- ii. Reinstatement shall be subject to approval of the Executive Committee.

4. Article IV - Officers

a. Number of Offices

The official Offices of the Club are (an asterisk * denotes elected Offices. See Article IV b. and c.):

- i. *President
- ii. *Vice-President
- iii. *Treasurer
- iv. *Secretary
- v. Membership Chairman
- vi. Safety Officer
- vii. Webmaster
- viii. Newsletter Editor

b. Executive Committee (See Article VII-Committees)

- i. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary.
- ii. The Elected Officers of the Executive Committee shall be elected in accordance with Article VIII - Nominations, Elections, and Recall.

c. Appointed Officers

The following Appointed Offices are appointed by, and serve at the direction of the Executive Committee. They may be removed or reassigned at any time. The Executive Committee may, at their discretion, assign more than one Member to share duties and responsibilities for a single Office and/or may appoint one Member to serve in more than one Office simultaneously.

- i. Membership Chairman
- ii. Safety Officer
- iii. Webmaster
- iv. Newsletter Editor
- v. Other Temporary Officers as determined necessary by the Executive Committee.

d. Term of Office

- i. Officers shall serve for 1 calendar year.
- ii. Officers may serve as many terms, consecutive or not, to which they are elected/appointed.

e. Duties & Responsibilities

The Officers of the Club have the following duties and responsibilities:

President

- i. Schedule and conduct regular Club meetings.
- ii. Oversee the other Officers in their duties.
- iii. Lead the effort to attain and retain flying sites.
- iv. Obtain a meeting room for the regular Club meetings.
- v. Be the spokesperson for the Club when interfacing with other clubs, organizations, and the general public.
- vi. Serve as Chairperson of the Executive Committee.

Vice-President

- i. In the absence of the President, assume the President's duties and responsibilities.
- ii. Approve the Treasurer's Financial Accounting Process.
- iii. Perform the Annual Audit of the Treasurer's books. Appoint another Club member to assist in this task.
- iv. Approve the Membership Chair's Membership Information Privacy Policy and Procedure.
- v. Supervise the Grievance Procedure as provided in **Section XI - Grievance Procedure**.
- vi. Serve as Chairperson of the Safety Committee (**See Article VII Committees**).

Secretary

- i. Record minutes during the regular Club meetings and amend previous meeting minutes when warranted.
- ii. Transmit the meeting minutes to the Editor for addition to the Club newsletter.

Treasurer

Create and execute a written Treasurer's Financial Accounting Process, approved by the Vice President, designed to:

- i. Receive and properly account for dues collected by the Membership Chair.
- ii. Deposit and record dues and other income into a proper Club bank account.
- iii. Make and record payments, by check, for qualified expenses.
- iv. Balance the check book monthly.
- v. Receive and store expense receipts, bank statements, etc..
- vi. Maintain monthly a Club Financial Statement that shows income, expenditures, and balances.
- vii. Report the Club's cash balance at the Club Meetings.
- viii. Participate willingly and openly in the Annual, and any ad-hoc, Audit of the Treasurer's books.

Membership Chairman

- i. Oversee the membership process.
- ii. Collect Club dues and transmit them to the Treasurer, following the Treasurer's Financial Accounting Process.
- iii. Issue annual Club Membership Cards.
- iv. Maintain a Membership Roster, including all pertinent contact information.
- v. Create and follow a Membership Information Privacy Policy and Procedure, approved by the Vice President, which controls how the membership's personal information will be kept and used.

Safety Officers

It is recommended to have, at minimum, one Safety Officer per flying field.

Working through the Safety Committee:

- i. Maintain and enforce the Club's Rules, Safety Regulations and Guest Policy documents, including periodic review and revision.
- ii. Investigate any Safety Grievances, or any safety related concerns/incidences reported by anyone (Club members, neighbors, etc.).
- iii. Bring safety issues and concerns to the attention of the Safety Committee.
- iv. Organize capable supervision of the safety procedures at official Club flying events.
- v. Recruit, train, and assign additional Safety Officers to assist as required.
- vi. Oversee Club safety in general and implement the Safety Grievances Procedure.

Webmaster

- i. Establish and maintain the Club's official web presence on all suitable and relevant internet platforms and media as directed by the Executive Committee.
- ii. Post regular newsletters, forwarded by the Newsletter Editor, on the Club web site.
- iii. Receive and forward to the appropriate Officer(s) any emails, inquiries, requests, etc. posted via the Club web site.

Newsletter Editor

- i. Prepare a periodic newsletter containing a review of the previous Club meetings and activities, both formal and informal, as well as other items relevant to the Club's Purpose.
- ii. Solicit and assign co-editors and writers to develop newsletter articles and news of interest to the membership.

Exercise editorial authority over all newsletter content in the best interest of the Club and, where requested, in consultation with the Executive Committee.

f. Office Vacancies

- i. Vacancies in any Appointed Office shall be filled by Executive Committee appointment.
- ii. Temporary (midterm) Vacancies in any Elected Office, other than regular term vacancies governed by Article VIII - Nominations, Elections, and Recall, shall be filled by appointment by the remaining Executive Committee Officers.
- iii. Any temporary appointment under section ii above shall serve until the end of the term for which the predecessor was elected/appointed.

5. Article V - Meetings

- i. General Club membership meetings are held regularly on the same day and time (e.g., second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.) as determined by the Executive Committee.
- ii. The general membership meetings will be at a location obtained and designated by the Club President.
- iii. Meetings shall be conducted under the President's, or is designee's, supervision in an orderly and inclusive manner that serves the agenda and the Club's Purpose. The President may, at any time, elect to temporarily impose procedures in accordance with "Robert's Rules of Order". Similarly, any Club Member present may, at any time during a meeting, move to temporarily impose "Roberts Rules of Order", with a "Second" and a simple majority vote of those Club Members present.

6. Article VI - Record Keeping

a. The Officers are responsible for maintaining the following records:

- i. Approved Club Meeting Minutes.
- ii. Financial reports and records generated by the Treasurer's Financial Accounting Process.
- iii. Grievances
- iv. Membership Rosters

b. Officers will endeavor to preserve prior Records and pass them forward to successive Officers.

7. Article VII – Committees

a. Standing Committees

Executive Committee (See Article IV - b):

- i. Shall serve as the executive head of the organization with responsibility and final authority for the proper management of all organizational actions and decisions.

- ii. Shall be the final arbiter of internal disputes and the final appeal for Grievances brought forward in accordance with Article XI- Grievance Procedure.
- iii. Executive Committee decisions shall be by majority vote. In the event of a tie, the President's vote shall determine the outcome.

Safety Committee (See Article IV - e - Safety Officers):

- i. Shall manage and perform the necessary activities for maintaining a safe flying environment in all club activity.
- ii. Shall investigate and make determination in regard to Safety Grievances as provided in Article XI - Grievance Procedures.
- iii. The Safety Committee members are all appointed Safety Officers, Assistant Safety Officers and the Vice President.
- iv. Vice President shall serve as Chairperson of the Safety Committee.

b. Temporary Committees

- i. Any Temporary Committees deemed necessary by the Executive Committee shall be announced/appointed by the President at a general Club membership meeting. If requested, and "Seconded", by a Club member, at the meeting, a vote shall be taken to approve the appointments with a simple majority vote of the Club members in good standing that are present at the meeting. Examples of temporary committees might be an event committee or a field location search committee.
- ii. Committees will have a termination date defined at the time the Committee is named.
- iii. Committees will select a Chairperson, from its membership, with responsibility for making periodic reports to the Membership at a regular Club meeting.
- iv. The Secretary shall maintain a list of all active Committees and their Chairpersons and shall include with the Meeting Minutes any periodic reports presented by these Committees at regular Club meetings.

8. Article VIII - Nominations, Elections, and Recall

a. Nominations

- i. Any person running for an Elected Office must be a Club member in good standing.
- ii. An individual may run for only one office in an election.
- iii. Notification of upcoming nominations and the annual election should be posted in two successive newsletters (e.g. August, September).
- iv. Nominations must be presented at the third successive meeting (e.g. October) either in person or by written statement. No nominations will be accepted after the third meeting.
- v. Nominees can post their views and platform in the newsletter following the third meeting (e.g. November).
- vi. At the fourth meeting, (e.g. November) prior to calling for a vote, all nominees will be given the opportunity to reiterate their views, and to answer any questions from the members present,.

b. Election

- i. Any electable position that has only one nominee can be voted on at the nominating (e.g. October) meeting. A simple majority of Club members present will elect that nominee.
- ii. By vote of a 2/3 majority of the members in good standing at the final election meeting (e.g. November), election may be held by voice vote instead of by a written ballots method. A simple majority will elect the Officer from the slate of nominees.
- iii. If a voice vote at the election meeting is not approved, The President will appoint a three person ballot committee who will prepare, distribute and receive written ballots at the same meeting. The ballot committee will tally the votes and report the results to the Meeting.
- iv. A simple majority of the returned ballots will elect each Officer.
- v. Absentee or proxy votes are not accepted.

c. Recall

- i. Any Elected Officer may be subject to a recall vote by a signed petition of 20% of the Club membership.
- ii. A recall petition may, but is not required to, contain a nomination for replacement candidate.
- iii. The recall vote shall be conducted by secret ballot at a general Club meeting no less than two months following submittal of the petition. Notice of the recall vote must be published in at least two successive newsletters prior to the vote
- iv. At the recall vote meeting, all parties will be given the opportunity to reiterate their views and to answer any questions from the members present.
- v. A simple majority of Members in good standing at the recall vote meeting will affirm the recall.

vi. In the event a recall is affirmed without an alternate candidate, the remaining Executive Committee members may appoint a Member to complete the term of office.

9. Article IX - Miscellaneous Provisions

a. Fiscal Year

The Club fiscal year shall be the calendar year.

b. Newsletter

- i. The Club shall maintain and publish a periodic newsletter.
- ii. The newsletter shall contain a copy of the prior meeting minutes and an agenda for the following meeting.
- iii. The newsletter will be posted on the Club's internet website no less than one week prior to the next Club meeting.

c. Use of Club Mark and Logo

i. The official colors of the Club will be orange, white and black and should be used on all signs, jackets, insignias, etc.

d. Standing Rules

- i. All flying will be in accordance with current AMA regulations along with Propstopper regulations defined in Appendix I. "Propstoppers Safety Regulations and Guest Policy".
- ii. Only members in good standing of the Club and their Guests (in accordance with the Club's Guest Policy) are allowed to fly at the Club fields.
- iii. No alcoholic beverages or recreational drugs are permitted at the flying field. No-one may fly at the field while taking medications, prescription or patent, that are typically distributed with a warning regarding impairments to activity such as the operation of a motor vehicle or machinery.
- iv. All members will be responsible for the condition of the flying field and will clean up any debris at the end of the flying session.
- v. Membership cards must be available for inspection at the field at all times when flying.
- vi. Any incident where an aircraft crashes in the pit or outside of the field boundaries must be reported as soon as possible to the field Safety Officer, or any Executive Committee member.

e. Dissolution of Club

- i. The Club may be dissolved with the approval of 2/3 vote of the full Membership.
- ii. If the Club charter is cancelled or the Club terminates its activities, the remaining Club assets will be determined by the Treasurer and will be divided equally among the current remaining members in good standing.

10. Article X - Amendment of these Bylaws

When deemed necessary, the Club's By-Laws may be updated by the Executive Committee at a general Club membership meeting, with a minimum of one month notice, by the approval of a 2/3 majority vote of the members in good standing that are present.

11. Article XI – Grievance Procedure

a. Purpose

The grievance procedure provides a mechanism to enforce existing rules by providing a progressive disciplinary system when needed.

b. Procedure

i. Although most complaints are preferably resolved informally, if a complaint is serious or cannot be resolved informally, the matter should be referred for consideration by means of a Grievance Form (see Amendment 1, below) to be filled out and turned in to the appropriate Officer. At least one Club member witness (Other than the Grievant) is required to sign the Grievance Form. In the event that the procedurally designated Officer under this article is the Grievant, then another Officer must forward the Grievance for action.

ii. For purposes of this Article, the term "Grievant" shall refer to the party who is making the complaint. The term "Accused" shall refer to the person who is alleged to have violated policy or procedure.

iii. Grievances may be divided into two basic types and will be processed separately:

a. "Safety Violations" include any behavior or condition under a member's control that is a direct violation of the Propstoppers Safety Regulations & Guest Policy or which otherwise presents a hazard to the safe operation of club facilities, events and activity.

b. "Social Violations" include any behavior or condition under a member's control that may materially affect the ability of another member to safely, equitably and freely enjoy the benefits of membership and is not otherwise covered under Safety Violations above. Examples might be, but are not limited to, rude, discriminatory or disorderly conduct, disrespect for property or orderly process.

iv. The Safety Officer will investigate allegations and review rules and regulations with all parties, and shall use his/her judgment in recommending action on Safety Violations to the Safety Committee.

v. The Vice President will investigate allegations and shall use his/her judgement in recommending action on Social Grievances to the Executive Committee.

vi. Progressive Violations must occur within a 2-year moving timeframe for the violation escalation process, described below to be in force. Both Safety and Social Violations will be combined successively for purposes of this provision.

FIRST VIOLATION

a. Viewpoints of both Grievant and Accused will be considered.

b. Grievant's name will be disclosed.

c. A verbal reprimand will be given to the Accused by the Officer, and this will be recorded in the Grievance Files.

SECOND VIOLATION

a. Grievant's name will be disclosed.

b. The Accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Officer.

c. If the Officer so decides, the flying privileges of the Accused may be suspended for no more than thirty (30) days.

d. Written notice of this shall be issued and a copy published in the Club newsletter, including the name of the Accused

THIRD VIOLATION

a. Grievant's name will be disclosed.

b. The Accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Officer.

c. If a finding is made against the Accused, the Officer will notify the Accused, in writing, and the Club members, via the Club newsletter, that the Club will vote on the possible termination of the accused at the next meeting.

d. Termination will last for a one-year minimum (longer if deemed necessary by the Executive Committee).

e. A member may be terminated from the Club only upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Members present at the Club meeting.

f. Voting will be by secret ballot.

g. The terminated member may reapply for membership after the expulsion time period has passed.

vii. Any member receiving a Grievance, who directs any retaliatory action against the person filing said Grievance, will be subject to immediate expulsion from the Club. This includes threats, intimidation, physical harm, intentional equipment damage, or any other action deemed to be retaliatory by the Executive Committee.

c. Appeals

i. With regard to Social Violations, the decision of the Executive Committee shall be final.

ii. With regard to Safety Violations, the Grievant may submit a written appeal to the Executive Committee within two weeks of receipt of a final decision of the Safety Committee. The decision of the Executive Committees shall be final.

The Great Escape

Untouched for almost seven decades, the tunnel used in the Great Escape has finally been unearthed.

Submitted by Larry Kuzman

The 111-yard passage nicknamed 'Harry' by Allied prisoners was sealed by the Germans after the audacious break-out from the POW camp Stalag Luft III in western Poland. Despite huge interest in the subject, encouraged by the film starring Steve McQueen, the tunnel remained undisturbed over the decades because it was behind the Iron Curtain and the Soviet authorities had no interest in its significance.



But at last British archaeologists have excavated it, and discovered its remarkable secrets.

Many of the bed boards which had been joined together to stop it collapsing were still in position. And the ventilation shaft, ingeniously crafted from used powdered milk containers known as Klim Tins, remained in working order.

Scattered throughout the tunnel, which is 30ft below ground, were bits of old metal buckets, hammers and crowbars which were used to hollow out the route.

A total of 600 prisoners worked on three tunnels at the same time. They were nicknamed Tom, Dick and Harry and were just 2 ft square for most of their length. It was on the night of March 24 and 25, 1944, that 76 Allied airmen escaped through Harry

Barely a third of the 200 prisoners many in fake German uniforms and civilian outfits and carrying false identity papers, who were meant to slip away managed to leave before the alarm was raised when escapee number 77 was spotted.



Tunnel vision: A tunnel reconstruction showing the trolley system.

Only three made it back to Britain. Another 50 were executed by firing squad on the orders of Adolf Hitler, who was furious after learning of the breach of security. In all, 90 boards from bunk beds, 62 tables, 34 chairs and 76 benches, as well as thousands of items including knives, spoons, forks, towels and blankets, were squirreled away by the Allied prisoners to aid the escape plan under the noses of their captors.

Although the Hollywood movie suggested otherwise, *NO* Americans were involved in the operation. Most were British, and the others were from Canada, (all the tunnelers were Canadian personnel with backgrounds in mining) Poland, New Zealand, Australia, and South Africa.



The site of the tunnel, recently excavated by British archaeologists . The latest dig, over three weeks in August, located the entrance to Harry, which was originally concealed under a stove in Hut 104.

The team also found another tunnel, called George, whose exact position had not been charted. It was never used as the 2,000 prisoners were forced to march to other camps as the Red Army approached in January 1945.

Watching the excavation was Gordie King, 91, an RAF radio operator, who was 140th in line to use Harry and therefore missed out. 'This brings back such bitter-sweet memories,' he said as he wiped away tears. 'I'm amazed by what they've found.'



Bitter-sweet memories: Gordie King, 91, made an emotional return to Stalag Luft III.

In a related post:

Escape from WWII POW Camps

Starting in 1940, an increasing number of British and Canadian Airmen found themselves as the involuntary guests of the Third Reich, and the Crown was casting about for ways and means to facilitate their escape..

Now obviously, one of the most helpful aids to that end is a useful and accurate map, one showing not only where stuff was, but also showing the locations of 'safe houses' where a POW on-the-lam could go for food and shelter.

Paper maps had some real drawbacks -- they make a lot of noise when you open and fold them, they wear out rapidly, and if they get wet, they turn into mush.

Someone in MI-5 (similar to America's OSS) got the idea of printing escape maps on silk. It's durable, can be scrunched-up into tiny wads and, unfolded as many times as needed and, makes no noise whatsoever.

At that time, there was only one manufacturer in Great Britain that had perfected the technology of printing on silk, and that was John Waddington Ltd. When approached by the government, the firm was only too happy to do its bit for the war effort.

By pure coincidence, Waddington was also the U.K. Licensee for the popular American board

game Monopoly. As it happened, 'games and pastimes' was a category of item qualified for insertion into 'CARE packages', dispatched by the International Red Cross to prisoners of war.

Under the strictest of secrecy, in a securely guarded and inaccessible old workshop on the grounds of Waddington's, a group of sworn-to-secrecy employees began mass-producing escape maps, keyed to each region of Germany, Italy, and France or wherever Allied POW camps were located. When processed, these maps could be folded into such tiny dots that they would actually fit inside a Monopoly playing piece.

As long as they were at it, the clever workmen at Waddington's also managed to add:

1. A playing token, containing a small magnetic compass
2. A two-part metal file that could easily be screwed together
3. Useful amounts of genuine high-denomination German, Italian, and French currency, hidden within the piles of Monopoly money!

British and American air crews were advised, before taking off on their first mission, how to identify a 'rigged' Monopoly set – by means of a tiny red dot, one cleverly rigged to look like an ordinary printing glitch, located in the corner of the Free Parking square.

Of the estimated 35,000 Allied POWS who successfully escaped, an estimated one-third were aided in their flight by the rigged Monopoly sets. Everyone who did so was sworn to secrecy indefinitely, since the British Government might want to use this highly successful ruse in still another, future war.

The story wasn't declassified until 2007, when the surviving craftsmen from Waddington's, as well as the firm itself, were finally honored in a public ceremony.

It's always nice when you can play that 'Get Out of Jail' Free' card!