



The Flightline



Volume 49, Issue 8 Newsletter of the Propstoppers RC Club AMA 1042 August 2019



President's Message

I'm a little late getting this out to Larry. I can blame it on the heat but even I wouldn't believe it. This has been a good summer, at least as far as the weather has gone. I did manage to break a few planes. But who hasn't ?

I'd like to get more guys flying indoors this year. We can have a few contests. A lot of the guys have indoor models. Even if some don't fly, we can still have a good time. And ---- most of the small planes BOUNCE well. We REALLY could use a few more pilots. Last of the begging for the night.

Chuck Kime
President

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Agenda for August 13th 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:
Safety/Rules Committee review:
Status report on FAA registration for our fields.
5. New Business:
6. Show and Tell:
7. Adjournment

Minutes of the Propstoppers Model Airplane Club
(to be approved in August due to cancellation of the July meeting)
June 11, 2019 at the Gateway Community Church meeting room.

Call to order took place at 7:04 PM by President Chuck Kime
Minutes of the May meeting as published were approved.
Treasurer's report was presented by Pete Oetinger who noted that the finances seemed adequate.
Present were 12 members and two guests.

Old Business: The club discussed the picnic scheduled for July 20, 2019. We are planning hoagies and snacks for this event. Plans for the August picnic will be determined later.
The president noted that in spite of the rain both fields are in good shape, even the entrance road.

New Business: Tuesday, June 11, 2019 was the last day for this season of Tuesday morning indoor flying. The next season will begin approximately at the beginning of October.

Show and Tell: Dave Harding delivered a report on a Drexel university course in aviation design. He showed several fuselages that he had made with motor receiver and servos installed. These serve as a beginning for the student project. The students design wings, tail, and accessories and calculate performance based on their design. The course has been successful and popular with the students especially when they get a chance to actually fly their creation. Dave plans on continuing this into next semester.

Adjournment took place at 7:58 PM.

Propstoppers RC Club of Delaware County, Pennsylvania. Club Officers	
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**Indoor Flying at the
Brookhaven Gym**

All indoor flying events are suspended
through to October during the outdoor
season.

Calendar of Events

CLUB MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Second Tuesday of the month.

Gateway Community Church. Doors open at 7:00

Gateway Community Church Meeting Room

TUESDAY BREAKFAST CLUB:

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.

Flying Indoors in winter at the Brookhaven Gym 10:00-11:00 (subject to availability of the gym).

REGULAR CLUB FLYING:

At Old Christian Academy Field (Gateway Community Church); Electric Only- Monday through Friday after school till dusk

Saturday 10 am till dusk

Sunday, after Church; Noon till dusk

At Elwyn Field; Fuel or Electric

Monday through Saturday 8 am till dusk

Sunday 10 am till dusk for Electric, Noon till Dusk for Fuel.

INDOOR FLYING:

See notice of dates, pg. 2.

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.

2019 DUES ARE NOW REQUIRED

Membership renewal for 2019 is now past due. 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:

Pete Oetinger

202 Fox Lane

Wallingford PA 19086

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

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

Pete Oetinger Treasurer

Editor's Note:

Reporting From Crosby Landing Beach, Cape Cod, MA

July has been a mixed bag for me with less flying time overall than I would have hoped for. It began with great promise. The weather was great and the flying conditions perfect. The prolific wild roses that surround what serves as our "pit area" were giving up their blossoms to the large green seed pods that will become the cherry red Rose Hips by August.

You've got to love a place where you can miss the runway, but end up literally "in a bed of roses."

By mid-month though, the temperature and humidity were way too high, by local standards anyway. The flow of invited family and friends that seemed like such a great idea in the winter now hit a high mark with ten guests in residence for the better part of two weeks.

Then, you may have heard, a tornado hit Cape Cod for the first time in recorded history! One of the two spots that it "touched down" was little more than a block from my place. It dropped into a wooded park in the historic town Center of Harich MA and literally blew it to bits. It left a huge hole in the middle of this ancient woods as though a bomb had been dropped there. Nothing was left but the uprooted bases of giant trees and splintered wood everywhere. I was very lucky to get away at my place with only four trees knocked down and loss of power for a couple days. Miraculously, there were no deaths or injuries in the whole town.

So, flying sort of took a back seat for the rest of the month.



Passing the baton

We have the sad duty of mourning two of our members who died recently. Ray Wopatek and Garrett Rice are celebrated in the memorial tribute written by Dave Harding for this issue. They were our good and dear friends who will be missed a great deal.

The widows of both men have contacted the club for help in finding a home for their respective collections of models and equipment. Dave came up with the excellent idea of donating this material to the two student aeronautical engineering clubs operating at Widener and Drexel Universities.

I can think of no greater tribute to them than to see their planes put in the hands of the next generation of modelers and aviation engineers. We would all be honoring their memory as well if we gave a little of our time and effort to supporting these students. Let's give some thought to how we might help them to make the most out of this generous donation of planes and equipment as well as facilitating them joining us at the fields. This could be a valuable opportunity for us to bring new blood and youthful exuberance to the club.

And while we are talking about youthful exuberance, you don't have to look very far to find it. We were excited to see Mike Black at the field this spring flying with his grandson.



When I am flying with my friends at the beach it is very common for families on vacation to stop over to watch us. I now keep a simple trainer plane and buddy box system in my truck all the time so I am always ready to give one of the curious, adult or child, a moment in the air. We have had more than a few "keepers" from this procedure.

Larry

Wings of Freedom Tour 2019

If you want to be really nice to yourself, make a point to visit the 2019 Wings of Freedom Tour when it comes to the Delaware Valley area this month. This collection of restored WW II aircraft is truly a flying museum as it travels around the country this summer. It will be in the eastern Pa and NJ area this month, including the Chester County Airport on August 26th.

See these beautifully restored aircraft up close and personal. Climb aboard and explore each plane's every nook and cranny. And if you REALLY want to treat yourself, book a half hour flight aboard one of the giant bombers. Or, for the ultimate indulgence, take the controls, of a P-51 Mustang or the newly restored P-40 Warhawk.

A promotional banner for the Wings of Freedom Tour 2019. The background is a blue sky with a blue ocean below. Several restored WWII aircraft are flying in formation. At the top, the text "WINGS OF FREEDOM TOUR 2019" is written in large, white, bold letters. In the center, a large B-24 bomber is the most prominent aircraft. To its left, a P-40 Warhawk is shown in a circular inset. Below the Warhawk, the text "NEW! TP-40 WARHAWK FLIGHT TRAINING" is written in yellow. At the bottom, a green banner contains the text "BOOK YOUR FLIGHT ONLINE! CHOOSE YOUR LOCATION BELOW" in white. The aircraft are decorated with various markings, including stars, stripes, and letters like "R" and "ANG".

**WINGS OF FREEDOM
TOUR 2019**

**NEW!
TP-40 WARHAWK FLIGHT TRAINING**

BOOK YOUR FLIGHT ONLINE! CHOOSE YOUR LOCATION BELOW

<https://www.collingsfoundation.org/event/coatesville-pa/>

Sad News for Propstoppers.

By Dave Harding

In the space of a few weeks we have lost two of our active and supportive members, Garrett Rice and Ray Wopatek.



Garrett Rice:

Some months back Garrett Rice encountered a sudden health issue which took him away from flying with us. Sadly this progressed and he passed on Monday 1st July 2019

Here is Garrett's biography that he provided to us for publication in the newsletter when he was a new member.

After attending the Institute of Far Eastern Languages at Yale University, I served as an airborne mission supervisor in the USAF, flying over 300 combat missions and 3,000 hours in Southeast Asia and elsewhere.

After discharge, while attending Temple University, I starting learning to fly at Wings Field. Ended up getting all the ratings – commercial, instrument, multi-engine, and certified flight and instrument instructor. Eventually qualified as a Gold Seal Flight Instructor.

Did some flight instructing and charter flying until I got a job selling Beechcraft for the Northeast distributor. That was a great 10 years, blasting around in new Bonanzas, Barons, Dukes, and King Airs – making more money and having more fun than a dumb hot-rodder from California had any right to expect. Then the market collapsed in the 80's.

After that, I spent a number years as chief pilot and sales engineer for a steel foundry. I have over 15,000 hours in the air and, by a rough count, have had the opportunity to fly, at one time or another, around 60 different aircraft types. Never so much as scratched the paint – which is a lot more than I say for my RC experience to date

Despite earning my new sobriquet "Lawn Dart", it's been very enjoyable getting to know some of the members of Propstoppers and digging into the intricacies of a new hobby

Ray Wopatek

Ray is often among the first members that new recruits will meet. Serving many years as the Membership Chairman meant that Ray was at the front of the line when it came to recruitment and simply making new members feel welcome.

Ray has had health problems for some years. Nevertheless he was always present at the monthly meetings working the membership process and supporting many club events. He was a regular at the weekly club breakfasts.

Recently his wife Kathy had been driving him to the monthly meetings as his health deteriorated. So while it was a shock to learn of his passing on July 18th, in hindsight it was not surprising.

We shall miss him.



A Moment in Flight:

Flight Video by Pedro Navarro

Last month you saw the maiden flight of Pedro's newest arrival, the UMX Pitts S. After a month of practice the joyous pleasure of a first flight has given way to the solid enjoyment of a reliable friend. Here is his sequel footage of the Pitts, already feeling like a comfortable old shoe.

[Click here to see this month's Moment in Flight.](#)

