



# The Flightline



Volume 45, Issue 10 Newsletter of the Propstoppers RC Club AMA 1042 October 2015



### Condolences for Our Club President's Loss

Most of you know our President, Dick Seiwel, lost his wife Coralynn recently. We had just enjoyed her presence at the last club picnic where she engaged in lively conversation with various club members and their wives. This sudden unexpected loss was a shock to all of us and of course a profound loss for Dick.

A number of club members attended the services and the club sent a nice array of flowers.

Dick has given an enormous amount of effort and support to our club so I hope we can support him as he copes with his new circumstances.

Dave Harding, Editor.

### Agenda for October 13th Meeting At the Church Room, CA Field Meeting 7pm till 8:30?

1. Show and Tell
2. Membership Report
3. Finance Report
4. Club Calendar Review
5. Indoor Flying Program

### Indoor Season Begins in November

Tinicum School Friday 6<sup>th</sup>

Brookhaven Gym Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>

6:30 till 9:30 pm

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### Minutes of the Propstoppers Model Airplane Club September 8, 2014 at the Christian Academy meeting room

Call to order took place at 7:08 PM by President Dick Seiwel after great outdoor fly at the field.

Roll call was not done but there were 17 members and 3 guests present

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

#### Old Business:

The club continued the discussion about filling in the tire ruts along the field. No definite conclusion was reached.

The Fall fun fly with the church on September 26 and 27<sup>th</sup> has been canceled because of security for the Pope's visit.

John Moloko is working with a Cub Scout troop and is looking for a volunteer to help them get their aviation badge.

#### New Business:

The membership agreed to give a contribution to Elwyn Institute in appreciation for their allowing us to use their field.

We have approval for indoor winter flying for both Fridays at Tinicum and Saturdays at the Brookhaven gym. Dates are going to be posted in the newsletter.

Dave Harding solicited a volunteer to become the club webmaster. There were no takers!

#### Show and Tell:

Al Tamburro showed a newly built Simplex old timer model. He scratch built it and covered it with Monocote and powered it with an Electric System. He flew it at a meet in New Jersey in August where it performed well.

Adjournment took place at 8:15 PM.

Dick Bartkowski Secretary

## 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; 13<sup>th</sup> October at 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 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.

### Club Officers

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## Show & Tell

*Al Tamburro with his scaled Simplex Old Timer*



**Late Season Flying at CA**



Great stuff, but hold on guys, those little screamers are beginning to give us concerns about noise. We and many other clubs have lost fields due to noise bothering neighbors. It doesn't have to be loud, nor does it have to be a bunch of neighbors, just one can complain to the right person and you are out. It happened to us at our last gas field.

The great thing about CA field is nobody knows we are there, and we would like to keep it that way. So please, no very high frequency (small props turning fast, or fans doing the same). And even if you think the noise is not objectional please keep your model within our field area. Take a noisy model very high and the sound will carry much further, same goes for flying way over the trees, particularly in the direction of the school.

So have fun, but be mindful of our great privilege in having a field that is so close.

Dave for President Dick and the Board



**Late Season Flying at Elwyn on a Magnificent October Day**

Al Tamburro and Mike Keenan with their Cubs



Chuck launches Wildcat ? for Larry





Larry with Wildcat ? foamy and glider.  
Thermals were great.



Eric with De Havilland Venom (Vampire?)  
Flies, looks and sounds great.







Editor Dave with his new 1/3 scale Boehle Giant test flown and ready to be packed for the flight to California and then on to Las Vegas and the El Dorado Dry Lake for the 2015 SAM Champs. The model will be flown in two events, A Texaco with his 1962 AM 10 diesel engine and Speed 400 with a venerable Mabuchi 400 brushed electric motor. The full sized Giant is already on the West Coast along with the Weather's Westerner powered by a 1935 Brown Jr. Ignition engine and the TU-ANT-25 Scale model.

## We Need a Volunteer Webmaster

Our club website is an essential part of our ongoing health. It is the prime method through which we attract the constant stream of new members essential for our long term health.

The website was set up about fifteen years ago by a long departed member. I have made some updates on occasion and I post the newsletter each month.

But the site could do with a regular webmaster that could bring it up to date and maintain a current calendar among other things. For instance, we will shortly have an Indoor program with dates to be posted.

Ideally one of our IT professionals could volunteer for this role, but failing that if anyone has the inclination to learn how to do it we will provide the necessary lessons and software.

Please remember the club functions through the efforts of a few volunteers. Want to join us?

*Dave Harding*

# Propstoppers RC Club

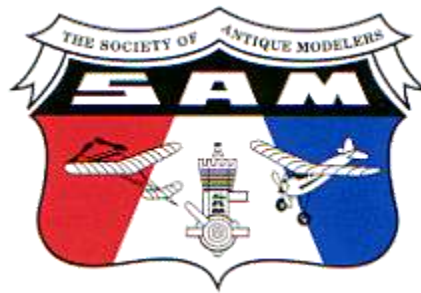
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[SAM 76 Chapter web page](#)

The Propstoppers RC Model Airplane Club has been in continuous operation in Delaware County Pennsylvania, located in the Philadelphia metro region, for over thirty years and is chartered by the AMA as club #1042 . Please come out to one of our [fields, meetings, or events](#) to see what we do and meet some of our very friendly club members.

[Contact The Propstoppers.](#)

## The Drone Curse to Model Aviation

The FAA recently made a news release of the results of a study into UAS near misses; [Federal Aviation Administration reported](#) that so far this year there have been 650 such claimed sightings and near misses, a considerable increase over the 238 that were reported in 2014.

Unfortunately for the model airplane fraternity this report was woefully misleading and the National press simply reported these headlines without further study. Fortunately the AMA did their own study of the data [http://www.modelaircraft.org/gov/docs/AMAAnalysis-Closer-Look-at-FAA-Drone-Data\\_091415.pdf](http://www.modelaircraft.org/gov/docs/AMAAnalysis-Closer-Look-at-FAA-Drone-Data_091415.pdf)

The American Helicopter Society also simply repeated the FAA claim in an article on “Flying the Crowded Skies” in their monthly magazine. I sent them the following letter which summarizes the AMA report and highlights the FAA misleading claims.

I read with interest your lead article “Flying the Crowded Skies” in the latest Vertiflite. Indeed it is a subject of much interest to many organizations and groups because it directly concerns them. Since I have moved on from my professional life in the rotary wing business I am engaged in the designing, building and flying of model aircraft, a pursuit common to so many engineers in the aviation profession. We too fly in the Crowded Skies and through our National organization, The Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA), which represents 180,000 members, we are participating in the FAA process to develop a national rule set.

Nobody suggests this is a simple task, but I must bring to your attention how grossly misstated is the FAA news release claiming “more than 650 sightings of drones near manned aircraft in the US”. Your article has repeated this poorly founded figure, as have the media in general and it is very prejudicial. The model airplane community has been flying safely longer than the aviation industry and the FAA have existed and is keenly aware that the introduction of poorly conceived rules could needlessly curtail its activities.

The AMA has made a thorough analysis of the data on “Drone Sightings” from which the FAA claim emanated. The resulting report is available to read here: [http://www.modelaircraft.org/gov/docs/AMAAnalysis-Closer-Look-at-FAA-Drone-Data\\_091415.pdf](http://www.modelaircraft.org/gov/docs/AMAAnalysis-Closer-Look-at-FAA-Drone-Data_091415.pdf)

AMA’s analysis of the FAA data shows that the number of “close calls” and “near misses” is substantially lower than the headlines would suggest. Some of the key observations are:

*Many things in the air – from balloons and birds to model rockets and mini blimps – are mistaken for, or reported as, drone sightings even when they are not. One pilot in Minnesota even reported seeing something that “resembled a dog.”*

*Some sightings appear to involve people flying responsibly and within the FAA’s current recreational guidelines.*

*Not every sighting or report was a “close call.” Many were just that – sightings. Only a small fraction was legitimately reported as “near misses” or “near mid-air collisions.”*

*It’s not just uninformed hobbyists causing problems; the records include several reports of incidents caused by authorized or unauthorized public entities and commercial operators. Given the widespread interest in commercial applications, unidentified operators cannot be presumed to be “hobbyists.”*

*Some of the most serious incidents in the FAA data – including two actual crashes – involve government-authorized military drones, not civilian drones.*

*A number of sightings have occurred over or around stadium events, wildfires, power plants and other critical infrastructure. These raise different concerns from pilot sightings.*

*Despite the FAA’s stated desire to find and punish rogue operators, in almost 20% of reports – 142 reports, to be exact – local law enforcement either wasn’t notified or it was unknown whether local law enforcement was notified.*

Of all the nearly 700 “incidents” included in the report just ten resulted in evasive action. Now this is obviously ten too many and we will not minimize the seriousness of them but one hopes the FAA and other authorities’ deliberations will consider facts, not fictions and result in rules which allow all interested parties to fly safely in the Crowded Skies.

Dave Harding and Murray Wilson



# 1909 British Model Airplane Advertisement

The price of these models in £ s.d. or Pounds Shillings and Pence were quite expensive in those days. Twenty shillings to the pound and twelve pennies to the shilling. Shillings and Pence shown as 8/6. Work it out as the Pound was worth five dollars at that time and the average US wage was about \$4 per week!

## Flying Machines & Aeroplanes.



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Murray Wilson