

# PRINTED CIRCUIT

AMP'S Monthly Newsletter

March 2004

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Aero Modelers of Perrine  
An AMA Chartered Club



Volume 45 Number 3



## President's Plugs

by  
Wally Crichton

Boy, this has been a busy month! What with building the new shelter roof, getting ready for the Swap Meet and swinging into high gear for AeroFest 04.

On top of all that, Rick and I have been finalizing the membership roster and getting out the last of the new membership cards. The official 2004 roster is now posted in the "Member's Only" section of the web page, with 192

member's names there. There was some concern that the Mako's Jet Club might attract some of our members, but it looks like that didn't happen. We have about as many members now as we had last year at this time. Each year, at renewal time, we drop back to a little less than 200 and grow back to about 250 by the end of the year.

I hope everyone is planning to attend and help at this year's AeroFest. It's a one day event on April 3rd and less than one month away, so this is the last newsletter notice you'll get.

Nick Capone and Mike Laughlin have been busy planning a great event again this year. Rick Pellecchia and Bill Lancaster have revamped the judging forms and categories, so it looks like that's going to work better than ever. Not that it didn't work well in the

past, but we learn something every year and use that to make it even better the next.

Lately, several members have asked me about developments with the Everglades Restoration program and if anything has changed with respect to our field. At the present time, we haven't heard anything from the state or any other agency. The last thing I've heard is, the 8 square mile area has been settled to the satisfaction of the residents, the Corps of Engineers and the Courts. I printed an article on that last year and it's in the "Members Only" section of our web page if you wish to read it again.

I'm sure we'll be hearing something in the future, but for right now there's nothing we can do, so don't worry. We'll deal with it when it happens.



## Secretary's Servos

by  
Rick Pellecchia

### MINUTES February 2004

- Meeting called to order at 7:15 PM
- Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM
- The minutes were accepted as printed in the Club Newsletter.
- Treasurer's report for January 2004 was read and accepted

### OLD BUSINESS

**FIELD REPORT:** Wally reported that Art Silver continues to pursue answers regarding access/egress to our property from the East. This property is more specifically described as the most eastern corner property that has been fenced off by the owner. This is not the property directly north of the East/West runway

**MAIN SHELTER REPAIR:** Chip advises that on Saturday, February 21st, phase 1 will begin. This will be

the demolition of the existing roof. Following Saturday, February 28th will be phase 2, which is the construction of the new roof. We are really going to need some help as we must have both phases completed on scheduled in time due to the swap meet the following Sunday, on March 4th. Chip will have a sign-up sheet at the field.

**SAFETY COMMITTEE:** Chris Marsh has satisfied the recommended action by the Safety Committee, which had been approved by the BOD. Chris has now rejoined the Club as an Associate Member in good standing.

**MEETING FORMAT:** Tony Fandino conducted this evening's workshop, and the topic being transitioning from glo to gas engines. Tony did an excellent job, and I think we all came away with a little more understanding of what gas engines are all about. Next week Chip Cipoloto will discuss flight-trimming techniques.

**AEROFEST 2004:** AeroFest 2004 will be a single day event on April 3, 2004. We need volunteers; please contact Nick, Mike or any Club Officer.

**2004 SWAP MEET:** Sunday, March 7, 2004. Loretta Westphal has sent out mailers to local area clubs

and hobby shops. Hot Dogs, Chips, Muffins, and Soft Drinks/Bottled Water will be available for sale. Port-O-Lets will also be available.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### 2004 MEMBERSHIP CARDS:

Effective March 1, 2004 anyone not displaying a current 2004 AMP's membership card **BLUE** in color, or an Associate Card **GREEN** in color should be challenged. The yellow 2003 card is no longer valid, and identifies a member who has not paid his 2004 dues.

#### CLUB FLIGHT INSTRUCTORS:

Vice President/Chief Pilot Bill Bishop advises that any certified Club instructor exempted from paying dues, and fails to meet his instructor requirements, will be required to pay a pro-ration of the annual dues for the remainder of the year.

**TRASH:** As noted in February's President Column, trash a problem that needs to be addressed by all members. Field Rule #20 is quite specific in addressing this matter. If you bring it with you, take it home. Smokers note; please field strip your cigarette butts. Take the filters home with home; they

*(Continued on page 2)*

*Thursday Night is Club Meeting Night at Cutler Ridge Mall — Starting Time... 7PM!*

**Secretary's Servos — Cont.**

are not biodegradable, and quite unsightly.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Let's extend a warm AMP's welcome to the following new member(s): Luis Garcia

The following Associate Member(s) were scheduled to be voted in, but failed to show up for the meeting: Sebastian Pombo, Eric Tamayo, and Dion L. Valencia.

The following Associate Members are due to be voted into the club at our next meeting on March 11, 2004: Marten Verheggen.

Associate Members being voted into the club are expected to remit their annual dues at that time. Annual dues are prorated for the month an Associate Member is being voted into the club. The prorated dues for associates being voted into the club on **March 11,**

**2004** will be: **\$83.00.** Dues not received by the last day of the month in which vote in date occurred will result in the immediate revocation of membership, and loss of all flying privileges.

**REMINDER: YOUR SPONSOR IS REQUIRED TO BE AT THIS MEETING IN ORDER FOR YOU TO BE VOTED INTO THE CLUB. SPONSORS THAT ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND MUST CONTACT ANY CLUB OFFICER WITH A RECOMMENDATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.**

Any Associate Member who is scheduled to be voted into the club on their designated meeting date, but is unable to attend that meeting, must call their sponsor, and the Secretary/Treasurer at (305) 232-4827. The Associate Member will be represented for the purpose of being voted into the Club. Failure to contact the Secretary/Treasurer, sponsor, or any other club officer will terminate the Associate Members affiliation with AMP's, and

will also result in an immediate revocation of all flying privileges at the field.

**ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES**

**FREQUENCY PINS:** Rick Pellecchia has taken over the responsibility in the administration of the Club's frequency pin program. If you have ordered a frequency pin(s) and have not received it, please contact Rick at (305) 232-4827. Please be reminded that Club Rule #6 was amended to require that all members use the **AMPS STANDARD APPROVED CLUB PIN.**

**Guest Pilots:** All members are encouraged to brief their guests to familiarize themselves with the Club's posted field rules, and to have their AMA card displayed **prior** to any flying activities. Reminder: The member sponsoring the guest **must** be present at the field when the guest is flying.

**I'm Looking For A Few Good Pilots!**

by Vicar Hernandez

I am trying to get a group together to go to Cape Coral on March 20 to attend the "10th Annual Gathering of Giants". Cape Coral is about 2.5 hours from Miami on the West Coast of Florida. I have been told their facilities are first rate and it would be a great way to advertise our own "AeroFest". The idea is to leave here early Saturday morning (5:30 AM or so) and return in the evening. However, the event lasts two days so we may decide to stay overnight and fly again on Sunday... if there's enough interest.

Contact me using my home phone number: 305-666-2126 or my email vicarh@bellsouth.net for further information.

**Swap Meet 2004**

*AMP'S Member Loretta Westphal (right) suggested we host an annual Swap Meet, which was approved. She and Vicar Hernandez planned and executed a very successful event with an excellent first year turnout. Vendors said they were pleased and shoppers carried away great buys! Full coverage of the event will be in next month's Printed Circuit.*



Club Management

- President — **Wally Crichton**
- Vice President — **Bill Bishop**
- Secretary Treasurer — **Rick Pellecchia**
- Safety Committee Chairman — **John Mitchell**
- Field Engineer — **Frank Drewniany**
- Event Committee Chairman — **Vicar Hernandez**
- Chief Instructor — **Bill Bishop**
- Newsletter Editor & Web Master — **Wally Crichton**

Club Flight Instructors and Check Pilots

- Chief Instructor, **Bill Bishop** — (305) 221-7291
- Instructor, **Scott Driesse** — (305) 254-3517
- Instructor, **Mike Laughlin** — (305) 234-8200
- Instructor, **Tom Caldwell** — (305) 638-0050
- Instructor, **Bob Cox** — (305) 234-2712
- Check Pilot, **John Mitchell** — (305) 388-2763
- Check Pilot, **Tony Fandino** — (305) 693-1374
- Check Pilot, **Mike Cipolato** — (305) 274-3835
- Check Pilot, **Abraham Horta** — (305) 205-2906

Club Sponsors

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Crown Hobbies</b><br>7439 Coral Way<br>(305) 264-3964                      | <b>Hobby Nut</b><br>12679 Dixie Hwy<br>(305) 235-9584 |
| <b>Warrick Hobbies</b><br>7676 Peters Road<br>Ft Lauderdale<br>(954) 424-0605 |   |

Annual dues are \$100 for Open Members, \$25 for Non Resident Members and \$1 for Juniors — Club Approved Frequency Pins are required and cost \$2.50 for each channel used. Meetings are held at 8:00 PM every Second Thursday of each month at **Cutler Ridge Mall, 20505 South Dixie Hwy.**

Please address inquiries about the club to: **Aero-Modelers of Perrine, 15425 SW 84th Ave, Palmetto Bay FL 33157-2113, Or Call (305) 232-4827**



## LEIDNER'S ROASTED LIMERICKS

*Doc Says, "They're not Chestnuts, just plane Nuts... and I just may have used your Name too!"*

A Hobby Shop owner named Clark,  
Gave his Flier a flight in the Park.  
He started to spin it,  
But a Love Bug lit in it,  
And Caused it to rest, in the nest,  
of a Lark.

Head carpenter Mike Cipoloto,  
Lives far away from our grotto.  
So, while I spoof,  
He sits on the roof,  
And hammers out a staccato.

There once was a farmer named Troy  
Who erected a watering toy  
How I raved and I ranted  
When my airplane was planted,  
As it shredded my old "Pride and Joy"

Most senior pilot, Santo Bonanno,  
Plays his TX just like a piano.  
With some plastic type pipe,  
He scratch built a pipe,  
That can challenge you, "Mano a Mano".

Non-Resident Member Herb Chutter,  
In relating this story, he'll shudder.  
He had no desire,  
To start a brush fire,  
Nor get his truck, stuck, in the gutter.

Perhaps you know that Jim Gaul,  
Finds guiding his Big Stick a ball,  
Well, you can bet your sweet life,  
That he'll bring his sweet wife,  
Or he couldn't go flying at all.

Please don't forget Vlassic or Sickle.  
The former has branded a pickle.  
And he thinks the latter,  
Could easily grow fatter,  
If he'd eat it with fresh pumpernickel.

A very old friend, Juan Velazquez,  
Learned flying the way that the book says.  
His slogan or motto,  
"This plane built by Tato,"  
Is known from here, in Miami, to Suez.

Have you seen Reggie Bottari,  
Since he took his plane on a Safari?  
Some African Clown,  
Shot the thing down,  
Without even saying, "I'm sorry."

## AMP'S Main Shelter... A New Roof And A New Look

The main shelter was the first structure built on our property about 10 years ago. Hurricane Andrew had recently blown through and our thinking, at the time, was to construct an inexpensive roof that, if blown off in a storm, would leave the posts. We could then replace it with another similar design and not be out too much money.

Someone donated the shingles, which were already six years old when we got them and after ten more years in south Florida's sun, they had pretty well had it. In addition, many had blown off and water leaks were causing the decking to rot. Also, because we used a gable roof, rain blew in from the ends causing considerable damage to the beams and the steel spreader cables. It was time to bite the bullet and replace the whole thing. But, this time we wanted a roof that was better built, looked good and included a new covered cooking area.

Mike (Chip) Cipoloto, our resident contractor, engineer and all round carpenter, suggested we use three and four inch rough sawn lumber. It would be a little more expensive, but look much better and be stronger too.

Well, as it turned out, with the demand for lumber worldwide, the falling dollar and other economic factors, the cost had gone up about 50% more than we expected. Chip presented this information at the January Club meeting, but the membership voted to go ahead with the project anyway.





Demolition began early Saturday morning February 28th with Charlie Driggers, Sam Matos, Nick Capone, Scott Henry, Wally Crichton, Chip Cipolato and several other members showing up to help. Mike Hunt brought a tractor with a drilling attachment and drilled holes for the new extension's posts (see picture at the bottom of page 3). Chip, using his chain saw, began cutting the roof into manageable sections. As they fell, others would pick them up and pile them in the dumpster. The plan worked flawlessly and four hours later we were all done.

The big job was putting up the new beams and rafters, which started the following weekend. The lumber was delivered Friday afternoon, so Chip spent the night to keep it from being stolen. That night a cold front came through and Saturday morning dawned cold and overcast with a strong north wind blowing. By noon it began to warm up, but by that time we had the beams up and the ridge beam in place. That was the tricky part, placing that

beam in exactly the right location, so the rafters could be measured and cut to fit around it (see page 5). Chip proved worthy of the task and placed it dead on the money.

By the end of the weekend everything was up except the rafters and beams for the new extension. We finished that the next Saturday, before the Swap Meet.

The plan is to put up the laths and sheet metal the weekend of March 13th and 14th. There'll be plenty of work to be done, so we can use all the help we can get.

A special thanks goes to all the members who pitched in and helped and especially to Mrs. Henry for making those delicious ham and cheese sandwiches... umm good!



*Top left, Chip cuts the first sections away. Bottom left, Nick Capone on the chain saw is cutting away a section while the clean-up crew waits for it to come down. Top right, Mike Hunt drilling the holes for the new extension's posts. Middle right, Nick Capone used a long board to make the last section of roof collapse. Once down, it was cut into smaller pieces, so it could be placed in the big dumpster. Bottom right, the roof is gone with nothing but the old tie beams still standing. Those were later replaced with new ones.*



Top left, the main beams are in place and Chip is setting the ridge beam. This was the first piece of the rafter system that had to be positioned perfectly and then everything else had to be built around it. He tied two jacks to

some scaffolding and set the beam on top of that. Using a plumb bob, he was then able to position the beam directly over his layout on the floor. Top right, Mike Piotrowski uses a power wrench to drive the 1/2 inch by 8 inch lag bolts that hold the main beams together. Middle left, Chip (with his hat on backwards) supervises Tommy Schur (left) and Scott Henry (right) while they layout the compound miter cuts on one of the four hip beams. Bottom right, the hip beam is being installed. Mike Piotrowski is fitting the base and Sam Matos (middle) is holding the upper end while Chip Cipolato is nailing it in place. Chip is on the other side of Sam and you can only see his legs. All the rafters and beams were nailed together with huge spikes. They were almost a 1/4 inch in diameter and 6 inches long. When you got through driving one of these babies, your arm felt like rubber. Juan Vallejo is to the left of Sam and is fitting a rafter to the ridge beam. Bottom left, the basic structure is in place after a full weekend of work. After the Swap Meet we'll start the roofing. First, 2X4 laths will be installed and then the sheet metal will be screwed onto them. It's going to be first class when we're finished.

**FOR SALE**

**Club Tee Shirts & Hats**

Tee Shirts: Small to Extra Extra Large! \$15

Hats: One Size Fits All! \$5 & \$6

**Contact: Loretta Westphal**  
 LWestp5576@aol.com or Call