



President's Plugs

by
Wally Crichton

I guess the most important topic of discussion this month is finding a new meeting place. We've been using Pro-Scale Models for the past couple of years and it's been great holding our meetings there. However, John Wannamaker is changing the direction of his business from models to full size aircraft. To do this he may need to change locations and if he does he'll need to do so quickly. John told me he didn't want

to leave AMPS high and dry, so he urged us to find another meeting place before he had to make a decision.

We'll hold the July meeting at Pro-Scale, but that will be the last one. If you have suggestions or know of a place please come to the meeting. We'll decide on the new location that night and send out notices to everyone before the August meeting. Be sure to check the Members Only section of our web site for future updates.

I'm not sure everyone knows how our flying field stays so clean. It's not because we have a crew of maintenance people who come out during the night and it's not because most members clean up their own trash. No, it's mostly because of one member's efforts. He hangs a fresh trash bag in the main shelter and takes away the full one

every week. In addition, he polices the entire pit area for pieces of paper, drink containers, rubber bands, broken props, etc. He's done this for many years, without being asked, and with almost no recognition. I would like to thank, long time AMP'S member, Bill Green for his unselfish dedication to our Club and for his efforts to maintain a clean flying field we can all be proud of.

However, I don't think Bill should have to clean up after us. Each and every one of us should be picking up our own trash (this includes cigarette butts) and taking it home. I know many of you do, but way too many do not. Also, if you crash your plane, don't leave the broken pieces for Bill to carry off for you. Several times I've seen

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Secretary's Servos

by
Rick Pellecchia

MINUTES JUNE 2003

- Meeting called to order at 8:15 PM
- Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM
- The minutes were accepted as printed in the Club Newsletter.
- Treasurer's report for May was read and accepted

OLD BUSINESS

WINGS OVER MIAMI: Well this year's event definitely had some problems; on the plus side, our static, and flight participation was well represented; unfortunately the R/C flying event was rained out. Seems that one of the owners of a full scale vintage Cessna made a big deal about Vicar's model's "balsa" wing tip coming into contact with his aircraft's aluminum wheel pant. His demeanor was less

than professional, and very hostile toward Vicar. Some of our members have the perception that maybe we as a club are not very welcomed by the owners of the full-scale aircraft. We discussed the possibility of not participating in any of their future events. Secretary/Treasurer volunteered along with Vicar to meet with "Wings" management to express our concerns, and to try getting things back on a positive track. We would like to look beyond these issues to the public who the club wishes to promote the hobby. However, if "Wings" hopes that AMP's participates in any future events, they must provide the club with a friendly environment.

FIELD REPORT: Field Engineer, Frank Drewniany reported on the following projects:

Safety Barriers: shrubs have been planted along the flying spots on the East/West Runway...will evaluate prior to planting on the North/South Runway

Roofing Project: Frank provided a detail cost analysis, which amounted to \$ 1,006.74. He will coordinate with Chip to set up a date for a work party.

Reseeding: Frank provided an estimate for seed, which is well under the

budgeted amount.

Vandalism: North/South runway was damaged (doughnuts again) by vandals; our bulletin board was also damaged.

Work Parties: We are going to need good participation from the membership to get these projects completed and the damage to the runway fixed. We will get the word out as to when we are going to set up work dates; please help if you can when asked.

FOURTH OF JULY PICNIC: Vicar has confirmed this year's menu, which had us all salivating. We are going to be feasting on some serious Cuban Cuisine.

NEW BUSINESS

T-SHIRTS & HATS: Wally has informed us that club member Loretta Westphal has now taken on the responsibility of handling the purchase and sales of the club's tee shirts and hats. We want to thank Adrian DiPrima who initially got the program started.

INVITATION: The "Ultra-Lite" Flyers Club has contacted Vicar. They've asked AMPS to participate in their event on July 5th and 6th. Unfor-

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Thursday Night is Club Meeting Night — See You There!

Secretary's Servos

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tunately, it conflicts with our own event.

MEMBERSHIP

Let's extend a warm AMP's welcome to the following new members: F. Heredia, J. Heredia Kenneth Key, Alex Martinez, Pablo C. and Pablo F. Pando, and Erbin Ramirez.

The following Associate Members were scheduled to be voted in, but failed to show up for the meeting: K. Blount, J. Guarch, R. Lopez, B. Lopez, and N. Mazzarelo.

The following Associate Members are due to be voted into the club at our next meeting on 10, 2003: J. Fernandez, M. Gonzalez Sr., J. Koch, R. Koch, J.M. Koch, T. Kux, H. Kux, E. Salettel Jr., and L. Tellez.

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 in **July 10, 2003** will be: **\$50.00**. 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 are mandated to 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.

President's Plugs

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them laying on the floor under the bag because the parts were too big to go inside. Another thing, don't put food scraps of any kind in the bag. It just attracts animals, which rip it open and scatter trash everywhere. And guess who ends up picking it up... that's right, Bill does.

A few weeks ago, AMPS member, Tony Fandino was looking forward to flying his new IMAC plane for the first time. It was carefully tucked into his trailer which he was towing behind his pick-up truck. As he started to make the left turn off 168th Street into our entrance road another vehicle passed him and struck his left front wheel, completely ripping it off the truck. The other vehicle, badly damaged, slid off the road and came to a halt in the weeds. The two men inside gathered their belongings, removed the license

tag and jumped into another vehicle that had apparently been following and sped away. Tony was able to get the tag number of that vehicle, but he said the police have, so far, been unable to find any of the individuals. The bottom line for all of us is... be careful! Watch ahead and behind when driving to the field because, apparently there are some pretty unsavory characters out there who don't take responsibility for their actions.

As reported in Rick's Minutes this month, we had another incident of vandalism at the field. As it turned out damage to the north/south runway was minimal, thanks to Tom Schur and some of the other members who discovered it. They replaced the grass divots that were torn out and now you can't tell anything ever happened.

However, our bulletin board didn't fare so well. They took a tire-tool or something and broke the Plexiglas panels in the doors (see picture on the



Vandals broke the Plexiglas panels in both doors of our Bulletin Board at the field. Repairs shouldn't be difficult as nothing else was damaged. We plan on using Lexan replacement panels this time.

right) and then set off a cherry bomb inside. Fortunately, there was no damage to any of the metal parts, so all we have to do is replace the Plexiglas panels and everything will be good as new.

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, **Carlos Zuniga** — (305) 856-4157
 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

Crown Hobbies	Hobby Nut
7439 Coral Way	12679 Dixie Hwy
(305) 264-3964	(305) 235-9584
Pro-Scale Models	Warrick Hobbies
13912 SW 139th Ct	7676 Peters Road
(305) 234-9939	Ft Lauderdale
	(954) 424-0604

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 **Pro-Scale Models, 13912 SW 139th Court**.

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**

AMP'S 4th of July Party

We Celebrated The 10th Anniversary of Our Flying Field
With Food, Flying and a Swap Meet, Members and Their Families Had a Wonderful Day

by Wally Crichton

As the 4th of July weekend grew closer and closer, I watched the weather with greater and greater foreboding. Each afternoon, around 2 PM, storm clouds would roll in and unleash such torrents of rain and lightning that I just knew our big day would be a wash-out. However, all week the weatherman kept saying Sunday would be a good day and, lo and behold, he was right. It was a little windy, but the rain stayed away.

It was Sunday, July 6th and many members came out early, taking advantage of the calm morning air. Their planes were unloaded and assembled as quickly as possible to see who could get a plane up first. From that time forward there were planes in the air almost constantly. Frequently, all four flight stations were in use with pilots waiting for a spot.

We had intended to have an electric park flyer Fun-Fly contest, but the wind was a little too strong. The regular Fun-Fly event didn't get off the ground either (no pun intended). It seemed most everyone just wanted to fly a little, shoot the breeze a little, shop a little and eat a lot! The only exception was Doc Leidner, who kept asking, "When's the Fun-Fly going to start?" Doc has been flying this kind of event for many years and is a top contender. No one enjoys competition more than he does, so I know he was very disappointed when the event didn't materialize.

Toward midday, when appetites began to sharpen everyone started asking, where's the food? Vicar Hernandez, our Events Coordinator, who planned and organized the event assured everyone the food would be arriving shortly. Sure enough, the caterer's van was spotted turning into

our entrance road and soon the food was being unloaded. The first thing out was the whole roasted pig (see the top right picture below) and several people reached for a piece of the delicious rind (roasted pig skin). Next were the big containers of baked chicken, white rice, black beans, plantains, yuca (with mojo) and moros. Before the last container was opened, Bill Bishop had his plate and was first in line. That's all it took, for soon the line extended out of the main shelter clear back to the pits on the north/south runway (see lower right picture below). Fortunately, everyone was hungry, so they filled their plates quickly and then found a good place to sit and eat. It's amazing how quiet it can get when everyone is munching.

After lunch, flying began again, but by then the wind was blowing really strong out of the southeast, which

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As you can see, we had a good turnout for our flying field's 10th annual Birthday Celebration and 4th of July Picnic. It was great seeing all the member's wives or girl friends and children at the field. It's a shame we can't get them out more often. We had lots of good conversation, neat stuff to look at and buy and best of all, lots of food! With a whole roasted pig, chicken, rice, beans, plantains, yuca and an unlimited supply of soft drinks we all stuffed ourselves. Vicar Hernandez, our Events Coordinator, outdid himself again this year. Let's all urge him to do it again next year!

made landings difficult. Several pilots panicked their planes just before touch down when downdrafts caused an instant loss of altitude. Jim Blinco lost his landing gear when this happened to him. He said, one instant the plane was flying and the next it was skidding through the grass. No one was more surprised than he was.

All day members had been selling their old equipment and "stuff". If you were in the market, great deals were available everywhere. Loretta Westphal, our new tee shirt lady, was selling her wares. The new hats, in a variety of colors, and tee shirts really look great. If your old Club ensemble is beginning to look a little seedy now's the time to replace it. Many members took advantage of the opportunity and grabbed theirs at the picnic. Loretta says, she'll be at the field, weather permitting, almost every Sunday, so don't put it off any longer.

By late afternoon, most of the members had packed up and headed for home. The leftover food had been distributed to anyone who wanted to take

some and the clean up was in progress. Several members bagged up the trash and Harry Hawthorne hauled it away. Harry does this at most of our events and is a master at making trash disappear. Until he's better paid, he has our undying gratitude for performing this thankless task. After the chores were done, several of us sat around and just shot the breeze. It's really peaceful at the field and one can reach a state of relaxation there that is hard to find anywhere else. As I sat there listening to the guys discuss servos, airplanes and a host of other things, I looked out over our deep green, manicured runway and wondered why I didn't spend more time there. If you haven't been out lately, or even if you have, next time take a few moments, just sit and really look around. I think, like me, you'll find a feeling of inner peace will settle over you. I found myself thinking, "There's just no place like our flying field!" But, that's enough of this kind of talk.

For several years now, Vicar has planned and organized our 4th of July

celebration. Each year it gets better and better and each year he says he won't do it again, but to our delight, he does. When you see him, slap him on the back or shake his hand and tell him how much you enjoyed it. After all, we've got to make sure he does it for us again next year... thanks Vicar!



Anyone who says Doc Leidner isn't an avid party animal, just hasn't seen him in action. Here, we see him at the picnic, whooping it up and having a great time. Pleasant dreams Doc!

Have You Read The AMA Newsletter?

I'll bet you didn't know AMA puts out a quarterly newsletter. Well they do, and it contains lots of great information we can all use. It's reprinted articles from Club newsletters around the country and gives us a good idea about what other modelers are doing, working on or are concerned about.

The newsletter is in PDF format (just like our newsletter) and each quarter, when it's released, it's posted on our web site in the "Newsletters" section, as a downloadable file. The July issue has just been received and posted. Take a few minutes and check it out. I think you'll be pleasantly pleased.

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FOR SALE

Club Tee Shirts & Hats

Tee Shirts

Small to Extra Extra Large! \$15

Hats

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



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