

PRINTED CIRCUIT

AMP'S Monthly Newsletter

July 2005

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Aero Modelers of Perrine
An AMA Chartered Club



Volume 46 Number 7



President's Plugs by Mike Laughlin

I would like to begin with several items for this month's newsletter.

First I would like to thank Vicar for coordinating the fantastic 4th of

July Picnic.

The food was great and the overall attendance was down from previous years. I did see many club members I have not seen for many years come out and enjoy the festivities.

Thanks Vicar, Butch and all the wives who assisted with the serving, raffles and everything which made this years club picnic a fantastic event.

I would like to congratulate our own Tony Fandino for his first place finish in the IMAC Sportsman class at the AMA Nationals in Indiana. WAY TO GO TONY !!!!

I am sure many of you aware of the current frequency interference problems we are encountering at the field. We are very fortunate to have several

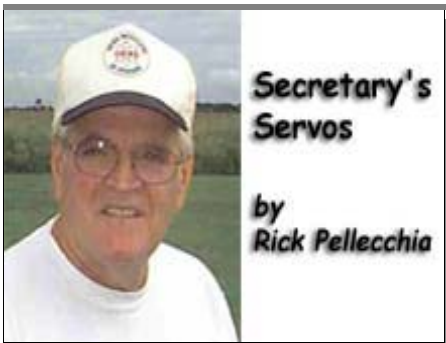
ham radio guys who are very familiar with how to identify the problem and find a solution. Cliff Root has been instrumental in finding the cause of the interference and is currently working on a solution. We will be discussing this at the July Business Meeting,

Plan on attending this meeting for additional information.

I am extremely grateful for many fellow club members who would like to contribute ideas and suggestions for how to improve our field, and facility.

We all want to have the best facility, and for those of you who do get to travel to other flying events, you find out how good we have it

(Continued on page 5)



Secretary's Servos by Rick Pellecchia

MINUTES JUNE 2005

- 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 June 2005 was read and accepted
- Introduction of guests

OLD BUSINESS

NEWSLETTER CORRECTION:

Secretary/Treasurer Rick Pellecchia has held the position for ten years; he has been a member for the past eighteen years.

FIELD MAINTENANCE: No Report. Member Chip Cipolato reported that the barriers have grown above the mandated 30" minimum, and has requested that Field Engineer Bob Cox contact our vendor Ryan Boone to trim the hedges down to the 30" minimum. Secretary/Treasurer will contact Bob to initiate this request.

FOURTH OF JULY PICNIC: Event Coordinator Vicar Hernandez has suggested, and the membership concurred that the Club will provide at no charge food for all members and their *immediate family*. All other guests will be asked to provide a donation of \$ 5.00 per person. Vicar also announced that we will also be doing a "Fun Fly" as well.

MAIN SHELTER: Member Mark Clark inquired as to whether or not the Main Shelter roof was secured to the base. Member Chip Cipolato who designed and managed the complete construction of the Shelter confirmed that the roof was indeed anchored to the base.

ARCHIEVES: Webmaster Vicar Hernandez is in the process of creating a Club History in pictures. So if you have any old pictures of activities, antics, whatever at the field (100th Street, Lindberg's Landing, the Potato Patch, and of course our current location), please get them to Vicar. This is not going to be an easy task, and we all owe Vicar a debt of gratitude and support in getting him a good start on this very ambitious project.

IMAC 2006: No Report

NEW BUSINESS

(Continued on page 3)

Thursday Night is Club Meeting Night at Continental Park clubhouse — Starting Time... 7PM!



I'VE FLOWN THE COOP....
by Tom Caldwell

.... Ercoupe, that is. Finally, after two years of construction, on and off, mostly off, I flew my 23% scale plans built 1946 Ercoupe model at the AMPS field on Sunday June 12. Two flights were made without any significant problems. A few clicks of trim were needed to have it flying hands off. It handles like a trainer. The model spans 80 inches which makes it IMAA "legal". The wing is in 3 pieces with the two outboard sections plugging into the center section with the use of aluminum tubes.

The color scheme was copied from a full scale Ercoupe, N2485H, which is based in Cadillac, Michigan (see in-flight photo). I checked out a lot of photos of Ercoupes on <http://www.ercoupe.net/M1/PhotoAlbum.html> before deciding on the color scheme. I was a bit concerned about the plane being mostly light blue since sometimes such a plane can be hard to see against a blue sky but when flying the Ercoupe it proved to not be a problem. When deciding to build the Ercoupe, as well when choosing the color scheme, I wanted to have something different and in that regard I think I succeeded. Its not often at the AMPS field that one sees a light blue double rudder plane. Another consideration that helped me to decide to build an Ercoupe is that in years past I flew a full scale Ercoupe, while in Palatka, Florida.

The plans that I used to build the plane were prepared by Nick Zirolu who is of course well known as a premier scale model designer. In my opinion the plans were very good and even came with a separate sheet of templates (very helpful), some instructions and a shopping list of materials needed to construct the model. Using mostly a hand saw, and to a lesser extent a scroll saw, I cut out the parts after lightly gluing the patterns onto the wood. The final precision shaping was done using a bench sander.

The model is powered by an OS 91 four cycle engine, mounted inverted. It is covered with monokote and the cowl is painted with Chevron "perfect paint" which I found to be not so perfect; maybe that's why Tower doesn't sell it anymore. The fiberglass cowling was purchased from Nick Zirolu. He also offers scale landing gear which are fixed gear for about \$240. That amount for fixed gear in a "fun scale" plane prompted me to seek another solution for the landing gear which resulted in (1) the use of a Fults nose gear and (2) for the main gear I purchased a wire bender tool and used it to fashion the Main gear out of 3/16 music wire. This proved to be quite a chore because the main gear have a complex shape. Using home made main gear also required some design changes to the center section of the wing so that it would accommodate a typical torque rod main gear system.

When the Ercoupe was first introduced as a production plane in the mid 1940s it caused quite a stir be-

(Continued on page 4)



Club Management

President — Mike Laughlin
Vice President — Tom Caldwell
Secretary Treasurer — Vicar Hernandez
Safety Committee Chairman — John Mitchell
Field Engineer — Bob Cox
Check Pilot, John Mitchell — (305) 388-2763
Event Committee Chairman — Vicar Hernandez
Chief Instructor — Bill Bishop
Newsletter Editor — Chris Hogan
Web Master — Vicar Hernandez

Club Flight Instructors and Check Pilots

Chief Instructor, Bill Bishop — (305) 221-7291
Instructor, Gus Garcia— (305) 255-9425
Instructor, Mike Laughlin — (305) 234-8200
Instructor, Tom Caldwell — (305) 971-9113
Instructor, Rey Mesa— (305) 388-5564
Instructor, Juan Vallejo— (786) 293-6278
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 7439 Coral Way (305) 264-3964	Hobby Nut 12679 Dixie Hwy (305) 235-9584
Warrick Hobbies 7676 Peters Road Ft Lauderdale (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 7:00 PM every Second Thursday of each month at Continental Park Clubhouse, 10000 SW 82 Ave.

Please address inquiries about the club to: Aero-Modelers of Perrine, 6925 SW 65 Ave. South Miami, FL 33143-3246 or call (305) 666-2126

(Servos, con't from page 1)

DEDICATION & RECOGNITION OF SERVICE: Secretary/Treasurer Rick Pellecchia made a motion to name the AMPS flying field after President emeritus Art Silver. As all of our senior members know, Art has held the President's office longer than any person in this Club; probably in excess of 15 years. It was Art who was instrumental in finding the property, and negotiating the finances to purchase it. We sincerely wish Art and his lovely wife Carol, a well earned retirement for both of them as they make their move to Beverly Hills, Florida. Art, the Club will miss you, and this is a small way to thank you for your dedication and service to the Aero Modelers of Perrine. The motion was seconded by Vice President Tom Caldwell; motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER REPORTS: Secretary/Treasurer Rick Pellecchia made a motion that the monthly Treasurers Reports be available to the membership through the "members only" portion of the web-site. Other financial data will also be posted. He also motioned that the member password be changed after each calendar year due to the proprietary nature of the information contained therein. The motion was seconded by Chip Cipolato motion passed.

NEW MEMBERSHIP CARDS: At the request of the Secretary/Treasurer, Vicar Hernandez new interim Treasurer has obtained preliminary information regarding new membership cards (similar to the AMA card) which would minimize a very time consuming procedure for the printing, cropping, and laminating the current cards in use. Vicar presented some samples to the membership, and was asked to continue to pursue this matter, and to make recommendation to the BOD for a final product to be used.

CHANGE OF DUTIES: Effective June 30, 2005 the following changes will occur: Interim Secretary, Tom Caldwell. Interim Treasurer, Vicar

Hernandez. Events Coordinator: Reinaldo (Ray) Mesa Jr. T-Shirt & Hat sales: Wagner Machado. We want to thank Ray and Wagner for taking off some of the workload from Vicar.

AMPS TAIL MEMORIAL: Vicar Hernandez has initiated an AMPS "Tail Memorial". For those members who have the misfortune of having their aircraft meet "terra firma" in a manner that would not allow for further flight, this memorial is dedicated to those "fallen angels". Just one thing that in order to claim a fitting place on the rafter of the Main Shelter, the rear fuselage and empennage **must** be in pre-crash condition. Simply square off the remaining portion of the fuselage, and apply a base so that it can be mounted. Refer to the several examples already on display. A motion made by Vicar to make the AMPS Tail Memorial official was seconded by Juan Vallejo, and passed.

SUMMER EVENING FLYING: Vice President Tom Caldwell has announced that he will be out to the field on Wednesday, June 22nd at about 6:30 PM (with a buddy cord for those of us in training) to kick off the summer flying season. Hope to see you there.

FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR ISSUES: Associate Members have reported that due to scheduling conflicts and other situations, they have not been able to coordinate their flight training with the Club assigned instructor. When this occurs, the assigned flight instructor for that particular student should contact Bill Bishop so that another instructor can be assigned. It should not be left up to the student to find a flight instructor. Any questions, please contact Bill Bishop.

WORKSHOP: Vice President Tom Caldwell showed off to the membership his beautiful scratch-built Er-coupe from Nick Ziroli plans. Tom answered member's questions regarding the assembly and finishing of this beautiful aircraft.

MEMBERSHIP

Let's extend a warm AMP's wel-

come to the following new member's: M. Alvarez, J. Basulto, E&E Concepcion, W/ Machado, V. Meray, W. Oberpriller, , and R. Wong.

The following Associate Members were scheduled to be voted in, but failed to show up for the meeting: These individuals having not contacted any of the Club Officers, nor their sponsors are dropped from the membership roster, and will have to re-apply for membership at a later date if they choose to re-join the Club: R. Bennett, A. Soto, and E. Vazquez.

The following Associate Members have requested that their probationary period be extended: Luis Chau,

The following Associate Members are due to be voted into the club at our next meeting on July 14, 2005: M. Herum, E. Macia, G&G Martinez, A. Pascual, and G. Soto.

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 **July 11, 2005** will be: **\$42.00**. Dues not received by the last day of the

(Servos, con't on page 4)**FOR SALE****Club Tee Shirts & Hats****Tee Shirts: Small to Extra Extra****Large! \$15****Hats: One Size Fits All! \$5 & \$6**

See Vicar Hernandez or go to
<http://www.amps-rc.com/TradingPost/AMPSWear.html>



**New R/C Rhymes
Leidner's Roasted Limericks**

Wish "Luck" to returnee, Horace
Entin'
He flew here a lot 'fore he went
in.
But 'Good Luck" and Horace,
Soon got a divorce,
When three planes "Bought the
Farm" he was rentin'.

(Servos, Con't from page 3)

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 Secre-

Things got hot for Herminio
Perez,
When he didn't quite do as the
book says.
Alas the dumb Lug,
Reversed the battery's plug,
And the fire matched the height
of the antenna's!

To start the summer, Teacher
Angel Toledo
Taught his airplane the old
"Mashed Potato"
While doing his "Thing",
He smashed the whole wing,
Which bled, just as red, as to-
mato.

Hurrying pilot "Tricky" Luis Al-
varinas,
Taxied out as soon as he'd seen
us.
But as happens to dolts,
He failed to insert the bolts,
So only the wing took off, and
fluttered down, in between us!

tary/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

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.

(Ercoupe, Con't from page 2)

cause of several features, including the lack of rudder pedals. The Ercoupe does indeed have rudders but they are interconnected to the ailerons and are thus activated using the control wheel as is also the case with the nose gear steering. This elimi-

nated the possibility of the pilot cross controlling the plane thereby making it much less likely for the plane to enter into an inadvertent spin. Limited elevator throw also reduced the chances of inadvertently stalling the plane. Another new feature for a general aviation aircraft of that era was the use of tricycle landing gear as well as the use of a low wing made mostly of aluminum. Interestingly, the ribs in the Ercoupe wing, both in the full scale as well as in the model version, run diagonally rather than parallel to the chord of the wing. The twin rudder design was employed to keep the rudders out of the turbulent and high speed propeller propwash.

The full scale Ercoupe has two seats and cruises at about 100 mph. Out of the thousands that were built, many survive; several were seen recently at Sun 'n Fun in Lakeland. Some have been retrofitted with rudder pedals and later versions came out of the factory with rudder pedals. As the in flight photo shows, the Ercoupe is a convertible in that one can easily fly "with the windows down" making for an open air cockpit experience.

If you've got the construction of a few RC aircraft made from kits under your belt, don't be afraid to build a plane from plans, assuming you've got or are willing to get the necessary tools to do the job. A good thing about belonging to a great club like AMPS is that there are Club members who can answer questions and assist with almost any problem. This Ercoupe project proved to be quite enjoyable for me and I'm getting a lot of satisfaction flying it, hopefully for many years to come.

The four most common expressions (or famous last words) in model aviation are:
"Why is it doing that?"
"Where is the plane?"
"Oh shit!" and
"Hey, watch this!"
(You didn't really expect to see
"I ain't got it!" did you?)

(Plugs, con't from page 1)

here at amps.

The one benefit to our organization over others is that we have a dedicated, and experienced Field Engineer, who has provided the design, and implementation of several field improvements which the club has requested. These improvements have added functionality while improving the overall appearance of the field.

Please remember that any suggestion or request pertaining to field, maintenance, and upkeep will be reviewed by our Field Engineer, along with the administration prior to any changes made.

I have missed last months meeting, and I look forward to seeing you all Thursday July 14th.



Tom Caldwell's new Ercoupe at the AMPS July 4th Picnic.



Back in the shady pits, Tom's Ercoupe crew is bear-ly visible