



**President's
Plugs**

by
Wally Crichton

By now everyone should have received their notice in the mail about the new Club meeting location. On the outside chance some haven't checked our web site or received the notice, starting this month we're meeting at Cutler Ridge Mall. That's on US 1 at exits 11 or 12 just off the Turnpike. Come to the Community Room just outside the Sears Store in the Mall.

The room isn't big and is somewhat

irregular in shape, but it's air conditioned, quiet and best of all... free! Plan on attending this month's meeting and see what you think.

As I was writing this, I was musing about how long I've been publishing the Club Newsletter. Just for kicks I went to the file and pulled out the first issue I did... it was April 1996! That's a little over 7 years ago. My, how time flies when you're having fun! Chris Hogan was the Editor before me and I remember thinking for many months I would like to be Editor, but I didn't want to hurt Chris' feelings by saying so. Eventually, I discretely asked a few of the more "connected" members what they thought and they in turn talked to Chris, who, as it turned out, was quite pleased to hand off the job.

It occurs to me, there may be mem-

bers out there who would like to try their hand at Editor or Web Master, but don't want to hurt my feelings. Well, let me assure you... it won't! Don't get me wrong, I'm not trying to beg out of either job, but I think it would be great to have some new blood and fresh ideas for either or both. So don't be shy, step right on up and say something. If not the whole job, maybe someone would like to be a reporter with regular input to the web site and/or the newsletter. I can always use the help and it would be greatly appreciated.

Well, that's it for another month. Be sure to read the article about the 8.5 square mile area starting on page two. This eventually is going to impact AMPS, so we need to stay informed. As they say, knowledge is power.



**Secretary's
Servos**

by
Rick Pellecchia

MINUTES JULY 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 June '03 was read and accepted

OLD BUSINESS

FIELD REPORT: Reseeding: Frank's report tabled until next meeting.

MAIN SHELTER: After more discussion on the repair of the main shelter roof, it was decided that it would be more cost effective to replace the entire roof. A motion was made by Mike Laughlin and seconded by Scott Driesse to slip the work until winter 2003/2004. Further, Chip Cipolato will submit a couple of options on the new

roof plan that would address protection of the cooking area. The motion carried unanimously.

FOURTH OF JULY PICNIC: Great food! Good time had by all. Hope we have better attendance next year.

NEW BUSINESS

AUDIT: Pursuant to AMP's Club Bylaws, Article 2: Audit, paragraph 1, President Wally Crichton, Vice President Bill Bishop, and Club Member Mike Laughlin conducted an audit of the Treasurer's books on July 10, 2003. The audit concluded that the handlings of club finances have been in accordance with sound financial practices, and that all funds, and expenses have been properly accounted for.

2003 BUDGET: Secretary/Treasurer, Rick Pellecchia briefed the membership on the mid-year budget review. So far, we are still under budget despite the revenue short fall of Associate Members who drop out before being voted into the club. Our forecast for the remainder of the year reveals a budget surplus barring any unforeseen expenses.

NEW MEETING FACILITY: Effec-

tive with the next meeting on August 14, 2003, the new club meeting place will be held in the Cutler Ridge Mall. Wally will post map on our web site as to the exact location of the meeting room. Due to the closure of the mall at 9:00 PM, our meeting are now **MOVED ONE HOUR EARLIER TO 7:00PM.**

PRO-SCALE MODELS: The Club wishes to express its sincere thanks and gratitude to John Wanamaker, Pro-Scale Models for his support to AMP's during the period we have been meeting at his shop. We wish John all the best as he focus' his business in a new and exciting direction.

MEMBERSHIP

Let's extend a warm AMP's welcome to the following new members: J. Fernandez, M. Gonzalez Sr., R. Lopez, B. Lopez, T. Kux, H. Kux, E. Salettel Jr.

The following Associate Members were scheduled to be voted in, but failed to show up for the meeting: L. Tellez

The following Associate Members are due to be voted into the club at our next meeting on August 14, 2003: M. Findler and J. Vallejo.

(Continued on page 2)

Thursday Night is Club Meeting Night at Cutler Ridge Mall – New Starting Time... 7PM!

Secretary's Servos

(Continued from page 1)

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: **\$42.00**. 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 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 Pellec-

chia 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 them 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.

The 8.5 Square Mile Area

Settlement Possible; What Affect Will This Have on AMPS Flying Site?

by *Wally Crichton*

On or about May 19, 1997 AMPS was notified, by the state of Florida, it intended to acquire our land. The acquisition was to increase the hydroperiods of the marshes in the eastern Everglades National Park and improve freshwater flow to Taylor Slough and Florida Bay. However, things ground to a halt shortly after that when residents of the 8.5 Square Mile Area (directly north of us) refused to sell and their appeal was upheld by a Federal Judge. Since then the US Army Corps of Engineers has been working on a solution to the problem. Several alternatives were proposed and on February 20, 2003 Congressional direction was given to the Corps to immediately resume implementation of "Alternative 6D". A map, outlining the areas affected, is shown on page 3 and was printed in The Herald on Thursday July 31st. Alternative 6D, "Has been designed to

minimize the acquisition of properties within the 8.5 SMA to the extent that can be accomplished consistent with the project's authorized purpose." The notice further stated, "Within this area, perimeter and interior levees, a seepage canal, a pump station and a storm water treatment area will be constructed." Which, makes it look like things may start happening soon.

The big question is, how will this affect us? Our property is on the southern boundary of this area (SW 168th Street.) and that's where the seepage canal is going to drain to. If you look at the map you can see the canal crosses 168th Street just west of our entrance road. It looks like a new bridge will be constructed there (which is good news). For some time now, there has been concern the existing bridge over canal L-31N just east of our property was going to be removed. This would have pre-

vented access to our field. Their plan to build a new bridge on 168th Street means (to me) they intend to keep it open.

Of concern, is that portion of the canal that extends south of 168th Street. Is that the site of the proposed pumping station and storm water treatment area? If so, where is it in relation to our flying field and where does the water go that's being pumped? Assuming this is the site, we can glean a little information about the first part of the question by examining the map again. Look just east of the proposed seepage canal. There is a band of land about a block wide running north and south from the top of the map to 168th Street. Nothing crosses the strip except major roads and the canal itself. I believe this is the FP&L right-a-way for the highline wires that run just west of

(Continued on page 3)

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

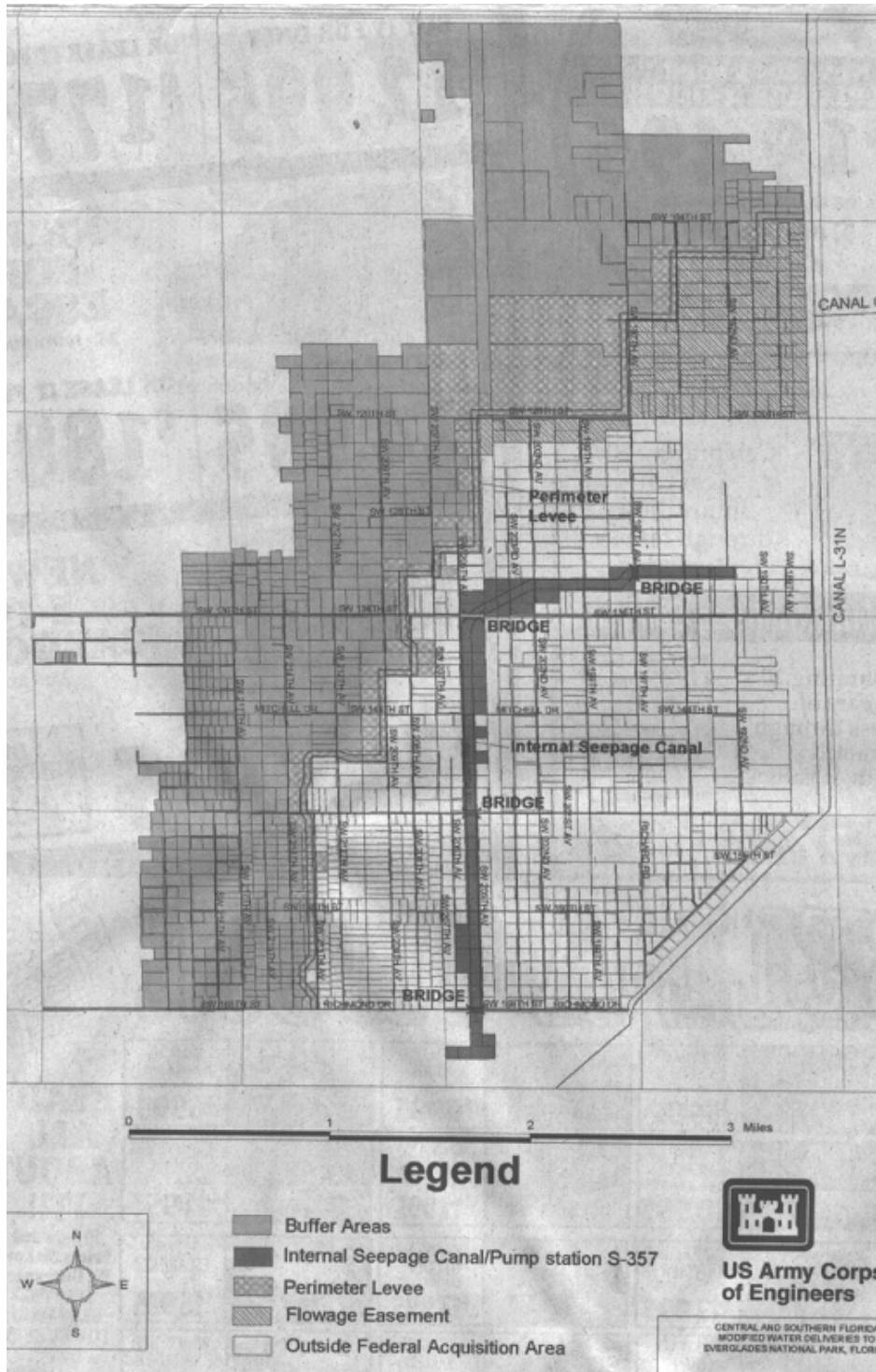
Chief Instructor, **Bill Bishop** — (305) 221-7291
Instructor, **Scott Driesse** — (305) 254-3517
Instructor, **Mike Laughlin** — (305) 234-8200
Instructor, **Carlos Zuniga** — (305) 856-4157
Check Pilot, **John Mitchell** — (305) 388-2763
Check Pilot, **Tony Fandino** — (305) 693-1374
Check Pilot, **Mike 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) 424-0605

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**



(yes, I know assume makes an 'ass' out of 'u' and 'me') the pipe will go south, staying west of the FP&L right-of-way, and dump into the L-31N canal. Again, if my assumption is correct, this shouldn't pose a problem for us.

All in all, it doesn't seem Alternative 6D will have an adverse affect on AMPS and in some ways we may even bring benefits. Only time will tell!

However, and this is a big, however, if this Alternative satisfies the homeowners, environmentalists and other special interest groups then it will remove the obstacle that has held up billions of dollars in Federal money. The State, with plenty of money in its pocket, will probably restart the land acquisition program and we have some of the last property to be acquired. I think the State will be contacting us again in the near future. The question is... how near?

I don't feel it's appropriate to speculate about what we'll do until we're actually contacted *and no one should panic*. Last time we were contacted, the State's representative said, if our property was acquired, we were desirable tenants and they would like to see us remain, because our usage would keep invasive plants from taking over. We could end up with our original investment back, including a handsome profit, and the use of our flying program through some kind of lease program. Possibly, even some additional land.

Admittedly, I've used a lot of supposition and assumption to arrive at the conclusions presented here. Some, I feel, are pretty good, others are somewhat shaky, so I'll let you reanalyze the data and reach your own. I look forward to hearing your thoughts.



I Don't think Rene Alvarez of the Bad Boys Club likes Extras!

(Continued from page 2)
 us. If this is true, then the pumping station and treatment area will be on the west side of the right-of-way and shouldn't bother us. The second part of the question is more difficult. Nothing on the map gives any indication as to where the water is to be pumped. Obviously, when there is more water than the canal can dispose of using seepage the pumps will kick in.

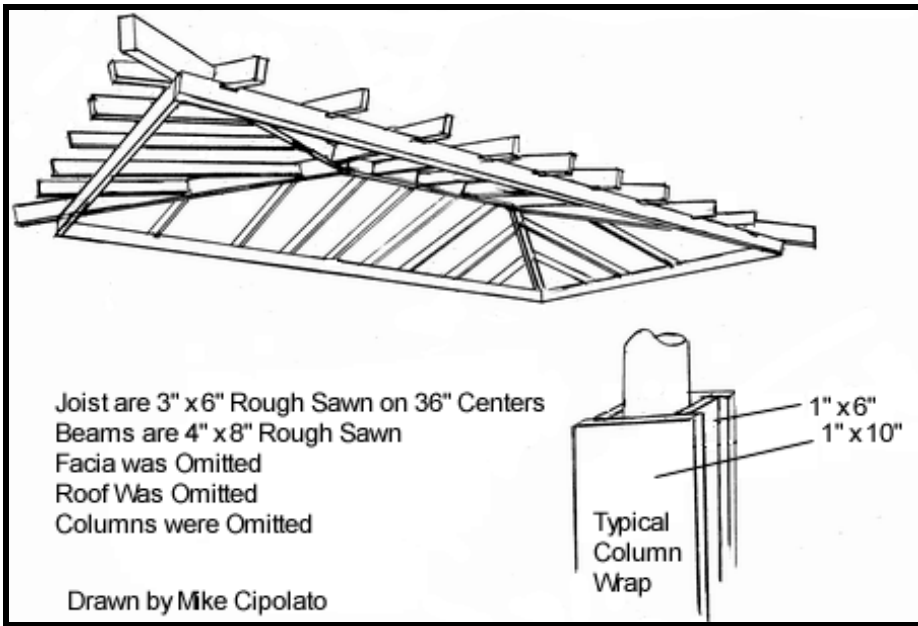
To try to find an answer, the internet was consulted. After reading lots of outdated material and searching many web sites I finally stumbled onto http://www.forester.net/sw_0106_square.html. It at least has current information and states the treated storm water will be pumped into a 96 inch diameter pipe, but doesn't say where that pipe goes. In the absence of hard data, I'm assuming



Left and below, is Charlie Driggers and his Ryan STA. Charlie made several flights and the model looked even better in the air than it did on the ground. The plane performed very well also.

Right is Juan Vallejo and he was flying the trainer shown below. However, it was clear from watching him fly he was well beyond needing a trainer. The next time he was out he had an Ugly Stick and it was definitely a better choice of planes for him.

Both Charlie and Juan are regulars at the field and are both excellent pilots.



Above, is a drawing made by Mike "Chip" Cipolato showing his proposed structure for a new roof on our main shelter. The old roof is badly in need of repairs and was never intended to last as long as it has. The original design criteria was to build the roof so every few years, if a hurricane blew it off, it wouldn't destroy the main posts. Then, all we had to do was pop on another cheap roof and wait for the next one. Well, it really hasn't turned out that way and the feeling now is, why not put on a stronger sheet metal roof that looks better and in general spiffs the place up. Chip also recommends squaring up the columns to make them look more rugged, which would be more in keeping with the rough sawn look of the proposed roof structure. We will be discussing this further at the next few meetings and there will probably be other designs studied. One possible modification could be the addition of a Bar-B-Q cooking area.

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
 (305) 451-3332