

PRINTED CIRCUIT

AMP'S Monthly Newsletter

December, 2007

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Aero Modelers of Perrine
An AMA Chartered Club



Volume 48 no. 12



President's Plugs -by Tom Caldwell

At the beginning of the year I predicted that 2007 would be an interesting year for the AMPS club and how correct I was. The most important development was the forced sale of AMPS' land to the South Florida Water Management District and the leaseback of the

same property, plus an additional 8 acres to the Club. These transactions resulted in AMPS making a tidy profit from the sale of its land while continuing to fly at Silver Field without missing a beat.

AMPS members also enjoyed many excellent events in 2007 including the IMAC contest in February and the Aerofest event in October. The mid-summer party in July was also a great success and I know that the upcoming holiday party on the afternoon and evening of Sunday December 16th will also be a fine event. This year AMPS has invited members of the Southern Cross Astronomical Society to join us at the holiday party so there will be lots of flying in the afternoon and then star gazing in the evening through the awesome telescopes of Southern Cross members. Dinner will also be

served free of charge to AMPS and Southern Cross members and their immediate families. We had a similar event with the Southern Cross members a while back and it was a lot of fun so don't miss this one since I know it will be equally as good, if not better.

Dues for 2008 are due. Please see the notice elsewhere in this edition of the Printed Circuit. There is an important change in the bylaws for the payment of dues: If your dues aren't paid by December 31st your flying privileges END until your dues are paid, along with a \$10 late fee. If you don't pay by January 30, 2008 you are out of the Club and must reapply.

For those who have to reapply,

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Business Meeting November 8th

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm

Welcome new members: Paul and Derek Pagent and guest Bill Stern.

The Minutes for the October Business meeting where accepted as printed in the club newsletter.

Treasurer's report was given by Treasurer Vicar Hernandez. The treasurer's report was accepted as read.

Old Business

Aero Fest Report: Nick Capone wish's to thank everyone who helped make the Aero Fest a great success. There were a total of 38 registered pilots who enjoyed perfect weather.

IMAC Report: The IMAC contest will be held February 22nd and 23rd, 2008.

New Business

South Florida Water Management District Board of Directors has asked the club to supply a Waiver of Release of Damage to the Board for every club member.

Tom Caldwell made a motion to send each member a waiver that must be signed and returned with their Membership Renewal in order to retain membership for 2008. Motion was seconded by Paul Gast. A vote was called for. Measure passed unanimously.

Renewals for AMPS membership

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Secretary's Servos -by Bob Cox

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and for totally new members, please note that at the last meeting the Club passed a motion requiring that for the first year of membership only dues be increased to \$200 for open members, but \$100 will be refunded to the new member when he completes his obligation to work one day for the Club within his first year of membership. The increased dues do not apply to junior members or non-resident members. Obviously this is a measure to provide some additional incentive for new members to comply with their obligation to work one day for the Club.

The past year could not have been a great success without the hard work of many AMPS' volunteers. I always hesitate to name those who have volunteered their time and efforts for AMPS since I know that however hard I try to include everyone who significantly contributed that inevitably someone will be left out. I'm going to name names anyway, in no particular order, but if you contributed to AMPS' success during the past year and aren't on the list please accept my apologies (and send me an email telling me of your contributions) tcaldwellmiami@juno.com.

- AMPS treasurer and my right hand man, Vicar Hernandez
- Bob Cox, Club secretary
- Tony Fandino, vice president and IMAC contest director
- Butch Wenrich who helps with all Club events
- Cliff Root, field engineer

- Chris Hogan, newsletter editor
- John Mitchell, safety committee chairman
- Nick Capone, Aerofest contest director
- Mike Hunt who provided bush hog services and help with the property transfer
- Rey Mesa, Mariano Barrios, Juan Vallejo and Gus Garcia, all AMPS instructors
- Sam Matos, Tom Wulff and Hermie Perez who year after year help with event parking
- Jose Sarmiento, John Vargas, Mike Laughlin, Jeff Johnson, Paul Gast, Richard Ferrer, Charlie Driggers, Moises Siamana, Christian Baradit and Jaime Reyes, all of whom helped with Aerofest
- John Czencz AMPS' chief chef
- Chip Cipolato, AMPS' construction expert and key member of the field improvement committee and
- Everyone else who contributed to AMPS' success by being good members of the Club and flying in a safe manner.

To all of you, on behalf of myself and all other AMPS members, THANK YOU! Note that I am now planning a volunteer appreciation dinner so that we can further recognize your efforts on behalf of the Club.

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Servos, con't from page 1

will be mailed to membership within the next couple of weeks. Members are reminded that membership is due by December 31st. An additional fee of \$10 will be added to any membership renewal that is received in January. This is not a grace period. If renewal is not made before January 1st that member no longer has right to fly at the club field. The new membership cards will be blue.

Tom Caldwell made a motion to raise membership dues for new members to \$200. If a new member works one day at a club activity, weather at an event or field maintenance, would be reimbursed for \$100. This motion does not include Junior memberships. Motion was seconded by Nick Capone. A vote was called for. Measure passed unanimously.

Tax Report: Tom Caldwell has met with Tax attorney, Ivan Gomez to discuss the clubs position. If the club does nothing concerning it's tax status, it will have to reinvest the profits from the land sale in like property that will be used for model aircraft use or be required to pay as much as \$150,000 in taxes. If the club does reinvest the moneys in property, the club would pay approximately \$10,000 or more a year in property taxes. Tom would like to have Mr. Gomez prepare written recommendations for the club. Mr. Gomez's fee for prepara-

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<u>Club Management</u>	<u>Flight Instructors/Check Pilots</u>	<u>Sponsors</u>	
President: Tom Caldwell	Chief Instructor, Rey Mesa (305) 388-5564	Crown Hobbies	Hobby Nut
Vice President: Tony Fandino	Instructor, Tom Caldwell (305) 251-4136	7439 Coral Way	12679 Dixie Hgy.
Secretary: Bob Cox	Instructor, Juan Vallejo (305) 293-6278	Miami, FL	Miami, FL
Treasurer: Vicar Hernandez	Check Pilot, Tony Fandino (305) 693-1374	(305) 264-3964	(305) 235-9584
Safety Chairman: John Mitchell	Check Pilot, Mike Cipolato (305) 274-3835		
Events Committee Chairman: Vicar Hernandez	Check Pilot Abraham Horta (305) 209-2906	Warrick Custom Hobbies	
Newsletter Editor: Chris Hogan		7676 Peters Road	
Webmaster: Vicar Hernandez		Ft. Lauderdale, FL	
Annual dues are \$100. for Open Members, \$25. for Non Resident Members and \$25. for Juniors.		(305) 424-0605	
Club approved frequency pins are required and cost \$2.50 for each channel used. Meetings are held at 7:00 PM the second Thursday of each month at the historic Dice House on the Southeast corner of S.W. 82nd Ave. and 100 St.			
Please address inquiries to Aero-Modelers of Perrine 6925 SW 65 Ave. South Miami, FL 33143-3246 (305) 666-2126.			



Leidner's Roasted Limericks

A Mosquito has bitten Paul Rice.
It flies through the air very nice.
He radio controls it,
And even rolls it,
Using Zenoa power, not once, but twice!

A Ryan STA held the cure for Sam Matos.
The medicine came in one very large dose.
His plane was surprising,
'Cause what kept it rising,
Was a battery pack formed out of Lipos

It seems AeroFest guest Shani Studnik,
Took his F8F Cougar off too quick.
The Aux fuel tank topper,
Hung on as a flopper,
Then he landed through bushes too thick

This act was followed by our own Butch Wenrich,
Who flew unimpeded by the Studnik

trick.
Though I didn't see it,
Nick did agree it,
Was an Aeronca that flew very slick!

The best military Award went to Mike Haspas,
Whose plane showed its' form on each pass
The P-47,
Carried Mike up to heaven,
With its' landing grace on our grass.

The mysterious CAP of Chris Hogan,
Carried no ammunition belt and no gun.
It made a loud sound,
As it flew around,
Just doing loops and spins in the sun.

Club required frequency pins are now available with or without the club logo. The standard pin is \$5.00 and it includes your first initial and last name. Now available also is the one with the club logo which can be engraved with your first initial and last name for a cost of \$10.00. Please email the club treasurer for ordering directions.



NOMINATION FOR LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

-by Tom Caldwell

Ralph Leidner's lifelong fascination with model airplanes began in his hometown of Cleveland in about 1935 when Ralph was eight years old. Ralph, now 80, has been a modeler extraordinaire ever since, 72 years! He was even at a model airplane contest on December 7, 1941 when Pearl Harbor was attacked.

Back then control line speed events were the rage. Many of the control line models were powered by Hornet 60 ignition engines and were capable of 200 mph. Model engines of that vintage used gasoline and had an ignition system with points, coil and condenser. Ralph remembers that glow fuel engines came into use somewhere between the late 1940s and the early 1950s and due to their simplicity and economy there was an immediate shift away from gasoline powered engines to glow engines.

Ralph joined the Navy at age 17 during World War II and became a radar repair technician but fortunately the war ended not too long thereafter thus he was able to stay stateside. One benefit of Ralph's Navy service was entitlement to the GI bill under which he went to dental school. Upon graduating he became a dentist and practiced dentistry in Miami for over 50 years.

Ralph moved to Miami in 1953 and soon became a part of the south Florida model aircraft scene. Not only that, he learned to fly in a J-3 Piper Cub at Brown's field which was located near the intersection of SW 72 Avenue and 107 Terrace. Today there are only houses there. As a boy of about 10 years old the author's father took him to Brown's field. Small Pipers and Cessnas were shooting touch and go's at a beautiful small grass field. AMPS lifetime member Bill Bishop also used to fly at Brown's field. Ralph eventually advanced to a Cessna 170 which he and a fellow dentist flew to California two times.

You will never guess the reason why Ralph took flying lessons in the J-3 Cub--so that he could use an aerial platform to locate his lost free flight models! This was before any radio control systems were available for hobbyist. But soon thereafter the first rudimentary radio control systems became available. The radio receivers were suspended on rubber bands, to protect against vibration from the engine, and the single movable control surface, which was the rudder, was moved by an escapement.

Ralph remembers when Orange Blossom hobby shop, which I'm sad to say closed a few years ago, was on the south side of N.W.36th street, and when there was a bowling alley on the north side of the street across from the hobby shop. When the bowling alley vacated the owner, Bob Quick, moved Orange Blossom Hobbies into the bowling alley building. OB Hobbies then proceeded to become a hobby institution for many years. Les McDonald and Sam Ellis were some of the modelers who worked there that knew Ralph.

Ralph doesn't remember when he joined the AMA but it was a while back as you can tell from his AMA number which is 4041. He also doesn't remember when he joined the AMPS club but it also was a while back, anywhere from 30 to 40 years ago. Ralph was also a member of the Tropic Aeros club which was then affiliated with Orange Blossom Hobbies. Ralph has flown at any number of model air fields in south Florida over the years including Masters Field and the old Tamiami Airport (did you know that the word "Tamiami" comes from combining Tampa with Miami?).

Ralph told me, and AMPS member Jeff Johnson confirmed it, that when Jeff was 7 years old Ralph used to give Jeff a quarter to clean the oil off his plane after a flying session. Jeff is a bit older now. Ralph was flying models with Jeff's father in those days.

The free flight models that Ralph flew in Miami in the early 1950s often had Ohlsen engines. An Austin timer would limit the engine run from 15 to 20 seconds at which time the ignition system would be shutdown stopping the engine. These engines had no throttle and used a mixture of $\frac{3}{4}$ white gasoline and $\frac{1}{4}$ SAE 70 weight oil. They had Champion spark plugs that cost \$.50. Some other free flight engines were, however, diesel engines, designed by Leon Shulman, who was famous for the "Zomby" free flight aircraft.

Ralph remembers that one time, before Castro came to power, he flew from Key West to Cuba and back in a C-46 for a total fare of \$10.

Chasing after free flight models gave way to flying radio controlled aircraft once radio systems became available which Ralph remembers as being about the same time that glow engines became available. The early Kraft radios used a reed system. Ralph remembers that the early proportional escapement radios were not very reliable—they rarely worked. According to Ralph the forerunners of the servos that are used today came into being in the early 1960s.

As the airplanes and engines and radios got better Ralph became interested in flying pattern and pylon aircraft and often entered contests. With regard to modeling, he is most proud of being the Georgia state pattern champion in his skill level and the Georgia FAI pylon racing champion, both in about 1974. He also placed first in his skill level 2 or 3 times at the Tangerine pattern contest held in Orlando. He often flew Phoenix pattern planes.

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Nomination, con't from page 4

According to Ralph, in the early days AMPS was a small club with about 15 to 20 members which moved around a lot from flying field to flying field. Back then Bill Finney and Pete Hendricks were the main movers and shakers in the club.

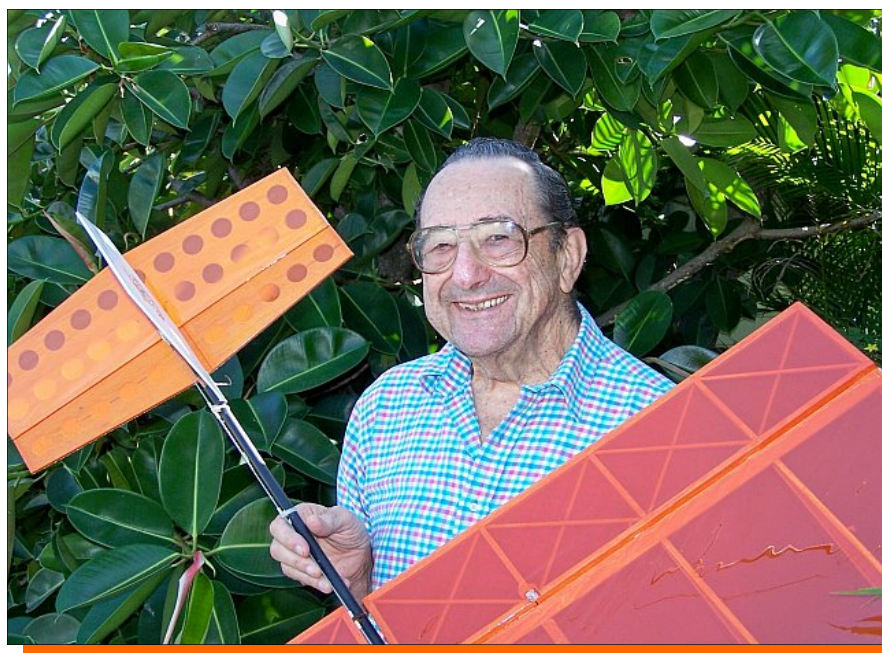
Years later in the summer of 1992 AMPS was looking for a new field. Ralph reports that not long after hurricane Andrew in August of 1992 that Donna Ray, of the Hobby Nut hobby shop, advised that she had located some property that might serve AMPS' needs. To make a long story short, AMPS ended up buying 5 acres in the Redland which it continues to use as premier flying field to this day, albeit the property is now owned by the South Florida Water Management District.

The original purchase price for AMPS' 5 acres was \$42,000. In order to raise the funds for the purchase AMPS borrowed the money by creating 42 \$1,000 shares. AMPS members were encouraged to each invest in a share and of course Ralph Leidner was one of the original seventeen AMPS investors as was AMPS president Art Silver who was the main architect of the purchase plan and after whom the flying field is named. Ralph also says, however, that AMPS was not able to raise all the money that it needed from selling shares to AMPS members so the shortfall was made up by selling some shares to members of Art Silver's family who were not modelers.

Those who take the time to read AMPS' excellent newsletter, "Printed Circuit", know that each month for the past three to four years there has been a column of clever limericks dealing with anything and everything that happens at the AMPS field. All of these limericks are written by Ralph Leidner.

A few remarks about Ralph's personal life are also in order. He has been married to Ellen for 56 years. He has 4 children and 7 grandchildren. His oldest son, Richard, won the AMA scholarship in 1971. Ralph has lived in the same house in Pinecrest for over 40 years. He suffers from a condition known as spinal stenosis which impairs his mobility but not his spirit. Now days it is hard for him to load and unload his planes in and out of his car so his model flying has decreased but he comes to every AMPS meeting and often contributes valuable ideas which help further the goals of AMPS.

The AMPS bylaws provide for lifetime memberships. Those who achieve this level of membership are of course members for life and are entitled to all privileges of open members but do not have to pay yearly dues. After reading Ralph's long history in modeling and with the AMPS club in particular I know that you will all agree with me that Ralph Leidner is clearly deserving of lifetime membership in AMPS and thus I hereby nominate Ralph Leidner for lifetime membership. At the December 13, 2007 meeting I will make a motion that Ralph Leidner be voted in as a lifetime member of the AMPS club. Please be sure to attend this meeting so that you can join me in honoring Ralph by voting in favor of the motion. And while you are at it, if you take a few minutes to talk with Ralph you will probably learn something interesting about aero modeling that you didn't know. After all, Ralph has lived almost the entire history of aero modeling and that's saying something in my book!



What's the Future of Our Flying Site? -by Tony Fandino

Hello everyone and I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving. I thought it was time for me to ask the question of this to all our members. I have been having conversations with many of our fellow members who are under the impression that our days are numbered and the prevailing sentiment that we are going to lose our field. Nothing could be further from the truth! Here we stand just a couple of months after closing our deal with the SFWMD and do you really think that they would have leased us back the property if their intention was to eventually kick us out? I think that the clear answer is no.

Yes we have a contract that states either party can terminate the contract on a six month notice but this in no means says that we have a six month lease in fact our lease is for five years with a another five year option. Furthermore if you examine the agreements that other clubs have across the state you will find that this is a normal clause in all the contracts. For example The Ocala Flying club in central Florida is also located on state owned land. They have the same clause and should they have to leave the property must restore it to the way it was. That means tear down shelters and dig up their beautiful 600' paved runway.

Another example of this is the Jacksonville club who has a contract with the Jacksonville parks department with a 30 day clause. Unfortunately for the Jacksonville club the government needs to create a new national cemetery for our fallen soldiers and they will be losing that field but even as a public park the club has control of flying activities at the park and the city of Jacksonville is going to relocate the park so all is not lost. So let's all start looking at this in terms of us having a ten year lease.

Now with that being said, we now find ourselves at a crucial point in our club's history. With the added property we have acquired, we really have an unprecedented opportunity to transform our facility into something very special. I think we all have had dreams that some day we could have electricity at the field or have some real restroom facilities for men and women with sewer and running water. Some in our club say this is impossible and I just don't accept that. I am a solutions based person and believe there are solutions to even the most difficult problems.

I would like you to think of the idea of possibly partnering with the Southern Cross Astronomical Society and Dade county parks and recreation to create a Science Park where we can have model aviation and astronomy in a dual use facility. Again this is an idea which already has precedent having been accomplished in Pensacola, Florida and Camden, South Carolina. This is a great opportunity to bring our local park system into the picture because with all our combined resources I believe we can make all our goals possible.

Now that's not to say this will be easy; we really need to show our state and local governments that we run a responsible facility where safety is paramount. So I say to every member that now it's more important than ever to follow all our safety rules. After all they were created for the very purpose of keeping our operations safe. I am in no way being naïve, we all know accidents happen, but we all must do everything in our power to minimize the risk. Another thing I would like everyone to consider is that we have no real place to accommodate visitors to our facility.

An option I threw on the table was to possibly use our existing shelters as a visitor viewing area and construct new shelters located closer to our new runways. I heard this did not meet with much warmth from our field improvement committee but again I need to remind everyone that we must do everything in our power to promote model aviation, the future of our hobby depends on it. Having a place that people can come and sit under a shelter and watch and enjoy our hobby is a plus for our hobby and the AMPS club. I urge all our members that want to see the AMPS and our facility really blossom to please get involved.

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tion of such documents would be \$10,000.

Tom asked for a motion from any member who believes the club should spend the money to have Mr. Gomez prepare said documents. No member would voice a motion to spend the money. As such the club will get recommendations from Mr. Gomez in voice

communications only.

Holiday Party: Sunday, December 16th, 2007

The club will have its annual Christmas holiday party at the flying field. The event will be catered. All members are encouraged to attend and immediate family members are welcome. The Southern Cross Astrologi-

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Servos, con't from page 6

cal Society will be invited to attend and bring their telescopes as well a join the AMPS members in enjoying the meal. The meal will be served at 4:00pm. There will be open flying until dusk when star gazing will start.

Tom Caldwell made a motion to set a budget of \$800 for food and other necessities. The motion was seconded by Butch Wenrich. A vote was called for and passed unanimously.

A Dinner will be enjoyed by board members as well as club members who have been instrumental in supporting the club through their hard work and support of club events. A location has yet to be chosen, but is expected to be held at a local steak house.

Tom Caldwell made a motion that the club set a budget of \$700 for this dinner. Sergio Schinoff seconded the motion. A vote was called and passed unanimously.

South Miami Art Festival: Tom Caldwell received an e-mail from Diana Mark asking the AMPS club to participate in the festival. If the club were to have a booth at the festival, there would need to be volunteers to man the booth. The club would display model planes as well as have a simulator available for the public.

Tom Caldwell made a motion to have a booth at the South Miami Art Festival. The motion was seconded by George Brod. A vote was called for and passed unanimously.

Winterfest Carnival at Archbishop Coleman F. Carroll High School: Mike Cipolato made a motion to participate in the carnival and share a booth with the high school physics club. The club would also make a donation in the amount of \$150. Nick McCord seconded the motion. A vote was called for. The measure was defeated.

Nick Capone made a motion to not attend the carnival but to donate \$150 to the high school. Nick McCord seconded the motion. A vote was called for. The measure passed.

New member Steve Stienbring has volunteered to remove the old safety fence at the field and replace it with new fence. The cost to the club would be \$250. He is also asking for two volunteers to help with the project.

Tom Caldwell made a motion to spend \$250 to replace the old fence. The motion was seconded by Rene Alvarez. A vote was called for and the measure passed with one no vote.

Butch Wenrich made a motion to reimburse the board members for their AMA dues in recognition of their hard work this year. The motion was seconded by Chip Cipolato. A vote was called for and passed unanimously.

Tony Fandino would like for the club to sponsor a Trainer Day for high school students on January 13th, 2008. The club would treat the students to lunch and trainer flights.

Tom Caldwell made a motion to budget \$200 for a Trainer Day on January 13th. The motion was seconded by Vicar Hernandez. A vote was called for. The measure passed.

Tony would also like to see another Trainer Day some time during the summer months for the general public. The membership was asked to make a motion. No motion was made.

A member has asked the board to clarify the field rule concerning the active runway. After some discussion it was decided that the safety committee would address this issue at a later date.

Spectrum Radios: All members using Spread Spectrum radios should be impounding their radios. There have been extra spaces added to the Frequency Board for use by pilots using Spectrum. All members are required to use a membership pin and impound their radios.

The clubs liaison to the South Florida Water Management District is Mr. James Humble. Mr. Humble has received approval from the SFWMD for the club to apply herbicide to the extra acreage in preparation for the planting of grass seed for the improvements of the clubs current and new runways. They are currently considering the installation of barricades or gates at the two entrances to help stop dumping along the drives and vandalism of club property.

Nomination of Club Officers:

Secretary: Robert Cox. There where no other nominations.

Treasurer: Vicar Hernandez. There where no other nominations.

Vice President: Tony Fandino and Butch Wenrich
President: Tom Caldwell. There where no other nominations.

The election of Vice president will be held at the December meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42

AERO MODELERS OF PERRINE, INC
6925 S.W. 65th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33143

Dear AMPS Member,

It is time to renew your AMPS membership for another year. For less than \$2 a week you can enjoy flying your radio controlled aircraft at AMPS' Silver field for a whole another year so don't delay—pay your \$100 yearly membership dues right away. Be sure to also send with your payment proof of your AMA membership for 2008 and your signed release (see below).

The coming year promises to be a good one. AMPS now has a total of 13 acres at its flying field and AMPS is poised to make many improvements to Silver Field in the coming year making a fine flying facility even better. Where else can you have so much fun for less than \$2 a week?

Of course don't forget the exciting events that AMPS has during the year including Aerofest, the IMAC competition, the holiday party (which is free to members and immediate family) and the middle of the summer party (also free).

Note that this year for the first time you are being required to sign a release in order to renew your membership. A copy of the release is enclosed. This new requirement was passed by the membership at the November business meeting. Impetus for the release came from the South Florida Water Management District. Any questions concerning the release should be directed to the undersigned.

Make your check payable to AMPS. You may mail your check, a copy of your AMA card and your signed release to the address given above in the letterhead or you may give your dues, your proof of AMA and your signed release to any Club officer.

IMPORTANT: AMPS' bylaws concerning payment of dues have changed. Now all members are required to pay their dues by December 31st. If dues are not paid by that time flying privileges end. There is a grace period until January 31 during which if dues are paid, along with a \$10 late fee, membership and flying privileges will be reinstated. After that, you will have to rejoin the Club by filling out a new membership application and by paying full dues and a late fee.

Tom Caldwell

ANTIQUÉ COLLECTION FOR SALE

1940-1950s Model Airplanes, Engines and Supplies for Sale: Representative items are:

- o 32" Pontoons
- o flight accessories
- o propellers
- o model kits
- o Austin elevator flight timers
- o Support equipment
- o 1940 Big Buzzard Bombshell with 5' wingspan
- o Super Buccaneer with 6' wingspan
- o Piper Skycycle airplane
- o Stinson Reliant airplane
- o Many more aircraft models available
- o "OK Twin" ignition 1.20 engine
- o "Ohlsson .60 Custom" engine
- o Veco .31 engine
- o McCoy .29 engine
- o Fox .29 engine
- o McCoy .098 engine
- o Many more engines

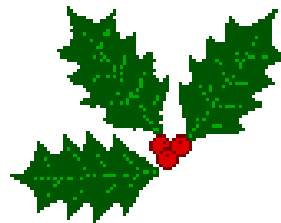
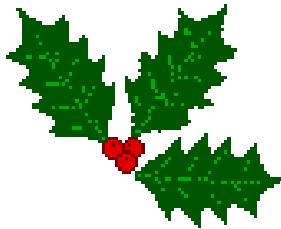
I want to sell everything in one lot and I am asking \$850. For more information please call Bill at (305) 233-3769.

Plugs, con't from page 2

In the upcoming year we hope to complete improvements to the flying field and to continue with the annual events that have proved so successful in the past. How about a swap meet? If you are interested in helping to plan and conduct a swap meet at Silver Field please contact me so that we can make it happen.

Finally, AMPS has been invited to participate in the South Miami Art Festival to be held in February and the Club has accepted the invite so we need some members to man a booth two days at the festival. Each volunteer would probably have to spend a few hours meeting with the public and answering questions. It is a good opportunity for AMPS so please volunteer if you can.

That's it for now. I hope your holidays and the coming New Year are healthy and prosperous. Good flying and I'll see you at Silver Field one of these days.



Merry Christmas