

THE FLIGHT LINE



MID-HUDSON RADIO CONTROL SOCIETY

AMA CHARTER #703

February 2006

PRESIDENT: BOB MAGEE

VOLUME 49, ISSUE 2

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS MONTH...

- ▶ MHRCS Website
- ▶ The 'Treasurer's Chest' – Fiscal Policy News
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- ▶ Thermals: The Monthly Sailplane News
- ▶ Unique Request for Help: AMA Gold Leader Club
- ▶ AMA Safety Alert: Lithium Battery
- ▶ President's Corner
- ▶ Updated 2006 Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY EVENTS

- 3 Regular Meeting 7:30 PM
- 4 - Indoor Flying 9 AM - Noon
Old Beacon High School
- Swap Shop 2 - 6 PM
Community Methodist Church
Rt 376 Poughkeepsie
- 12 NCRCC Auction/Swap Shop
Vernon, CT
- 21 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
- 24-26 WRAM Show
County Center, White Plains

The meeting Friday, Feb 3rd will feature the

JIM WOOD "SKUZZY HAT" CONTEST

Bring in your skuzziest hat in a brown paper bag for the judges to determine this year's winner. The only prerequisite for entry is that the hat be related to RC Modeling. Participants are requested to bring appropriate protection (i.e. clothes pins, gas mask, latex gloves) for onlookers and judges.





THE 'TREASURER'S CHEST'

Update on MHRCS Fiscal Policy

To all MHRCS members:

We have been blessed with a low-turn-over of officers, so a lot of "corporate knowledge" has been retained without ever writing it down. Since we are in a transition phase to some new officers I have written down a few of our long-standing financial policies so we are all on the same page moving forward. Most of these are already "known" and "done" but not written down in the club by-laws.

These policies were reviewed and agreed upon at the last board meeting and are to be added as an attachment to the current by-laws.

- Whitney Philbrick

REMINDER:

I.D. your planes for the 2006 Flying Season

Please contact Mark Monroe, Membership Director, for new plane I.D. labels. Mark will be at monthly meetings or can be reached via email at mlmonroe@optonline.net

THE FLIGHT LINE

This is a monthly publication of the Mid-Hudson Radio Control Society, an organization established for the promotion of the hobby of radio-controlled model aircraft.

President	Bob Magee	845-462-0955
Vice President	Bob Allen	845-473-5611
Secretary	Lou Callan	845-496-6038
Treasurer	Whitney Philbrick	845-463-0805
Membership	Mark Monroe	845-227-6212
Field Directors	Bob Zuznis	845-221-2603
	Victor Horton	914-525-7833
Flight Instructor	Whitney Philbrick	845-463-0805
Safety Officer	Jerry Rohling	845-297-7827
News Editor	Thea Kjellstrom	914-980-9871
Directors at Large		
	1 Year	Norm Coard
	2 Year	Dick Kalbfus
	3 Year	Jim Wood

Regular club meetings are held on the first Friday of the month at All Saints Evangelical Lutheran Church on Rt. 82, one mile north of Rt. 55 in LaGrange, NY at 7:30PM.

FLIGHT LINE submissions are accepted as ASCII, RTF or word processing file. Typed or clearly handwritten paper copy is also accepted. Input must be received by the 15th of month preceding publication to be included.

Please e-mail input to MHRCSFlightLine@aol.com or send to Thea Kjellstrom, 81 Montrose Point Rd. Montrose, NY 10548.



READY..SET..GO to

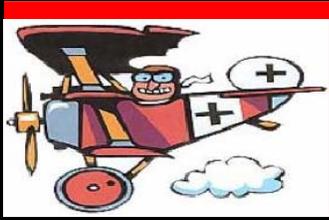
WWW.MHRCS.COM

The new Mid Hudson Radio Control Society website is up and running thanks to the efforts of Flavio Ambrosini.

This web site will be the most important communication link you have with the club. All the current news, descriptions of upcoming events both within and outside the club, maps to events, and other club related information will be posted on this site.

If you have not visited the site, please take a moment and let us know what you think. (flavio@flavio.us).

Take a look at the snapshot of the homepage below and go to www.mhracs.com today and browse the site for yourself.

	<h1>Mid-Hudson Radio Control Society</h1>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">HomeBulletinsSchedulesDirectionsOfficersFlightlineField RulesJamboreePhotosFor SaleLinks	<h2>Welcome</h2> <p>The Mid-Hudson Radio Control Society is located in Dutchess County, New York.</p> <p>Chartered, #703, under the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA), the club has been in existence since 1964. We are an organization established for the promotion of the hobby of radio-controlled model aircraft.</p> <p>MEETINGS: Generally the first Friday of the month, year round.</p> <p>OUTDOOR FLYING: Field located in Hopewell Junction, NY.</p> <p>Comments / Suggestions? E-Mail to flavio@flavio.us</p> <p>Last Updated: 1/24/2006</p>



INDOOR flying at BULLDOG STUDIOS

- Bob Magee

A great Indoor venue right in our own backyard...! Yep...that is right...right in our own backyard...!!! Through the efforts of one of the more senior leaders in our organization, Bernie Liquorman, it looks as though we may have an amazing indoor facility for our use on Wednesday mornings and hopefully an occasional evening and/or weekend.

Bernie, through his own initiative, approached the current owners of the old Beacon High School to inquire if the former gymnasium in that facility could be used for indoor rubber and R/C flying. The former High School is now occupied by the Bulldog Studios for the Creative Arts and is funded by State and Federal grants for the Arts. The building is also partially occupied by the Beacon Academy, an adjunct facility of the Beacon School district where the district maintains classroom facilities for the educationally challenged.

Bernie convinced the administrators to allow a trial session to take place on Wednesday, January 11th. On very short notice, the club responded with about fifteen attendees flying both indoor rubber and R/C. Teachers brought many of the students into the gym to see the action and some of them were actually invited to participate by launching the rubber-powered craft. I could go on for pages about the successes of the day but suffice to say that when all was said and done, the most important folks in attendance, the administrators of the facility, were both impressed and appreciative, so much so, that they invited us back. Bernie, accompanied by Jim Wood and Dick Kalbfus met with the Administrators the following day and proposed that they teach interested youngsters how to build and fly rubber powered aircraft much the same as the do for the Science Olympiad students in Marlboro and other schools.

The net of all this activity was that the Administrators discussed the idea of Indoor Rubber and R/C with the Board of Directors of the facility and the Board recently voted to allow us to use the gym every Wednesday morning from nine to noon



Front Row L-R: Lloyd Quick, Jim Wood, Bernie Liquorman, Bill Rebb
Back Row L-R: Joe Miller, Bob Magee, Dick Kalbfus, Don Typond, Jessie Aronstein.



from Jan 25th thru Feb 22nd on a trial basis and if everything works out as planned, a more permanent arrangement will be discussed.

This is great news for the MHRCS...an indoor facility that most others can only dream about. The gym is about the same size as the Wappingers Junior High School, (formerly Wappingers high School) has a high but flat ceiling with no girders or beams exposed and is more than adequate for our models. Ask the folks that have already flown there.

I realize that this may conflict somewhat with our Wednesday morning breakfast routine but until we can get all the details straightened out and perhaps change the day or whatever, let me propose the following. **How about everyone joining us at the Old Beacon High School for some indoor flying and camaraderie followed by lunch instead of breakfast at one of the many diners in the area like the Yankee Clipper or the Route 84 Diner?**

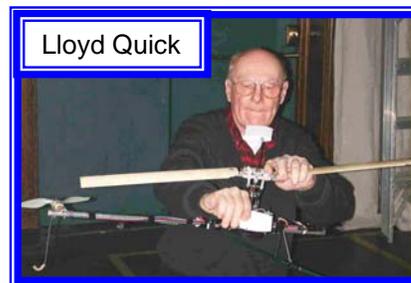


Ed Perls and Bill Rebb

For those that might be interested in an entry level Indoor Rubber model, let me suggest the ARF "Bulldog" available from Penn Valley Model Center for eighteen bucks or so. Yes...that is ARF...and the price tag is \$18...and it flies great...!!!! I can speak from first hand knowledge on this one...!! If the master, Bernie Liquorman, flies one it is good enough for me. The plane comes fully covered with some sort of micro-film, has all the hardware and accessories and is easily assembled in about one evening. If enough of these show up, we could start having some one design competitive events just for the fun of it all.

There are plenty of winders so don't be concerned about any of the peripheral gear at this time. Here are some web sites for you to look at and decide which indoor ARF you plan to bring to the next Wednesday fly-in:

- www.PennValleyHobbyCenter.com
215-855-1268
- www.IndoormodelSupply.com
541-902-8508
- [www.FAI ModelSupply.com](http://www.FAIModelSupply.com)
570-882-9873
- www.FreedomFlightModels.com
770-460-0939



For those of you too sophisticated to fly Indoor Rubber or R/C let me just say, you are missing one heck of a good time. There is a ton of science and technology in getting these models to fly really well...an entry-level model for \$18 that flies well...how can you pass it up. Of course Indoor R/C is always welcome. Small park fliers, indoor helis...what a venue for small electrics! No need to elaborate on this.



Thanks again to Bernie...hope to see you all support this activity...even as an interested spectator...come on out...!! We will be moving towards evenings and weekend dates as soon as we can but we need to make the next four weeks successful. One step at a time. In closing let me propose this question. Is Indoor Rubber and/or R/C an art form...? We argue whether our activity is a sport or a hobby but how about an Art Form...? Maybe we fit right in with the artists in-residence at the facility...! **Are Berets the uniform of the day...!**



Father's Day Fun-Fly Jan 21st, 2006



The club's Father's Day Fun Fly was originally postponed and re-occurred partly by planning and partly by good weather! It was well attended as the below picture illustrates.

The wind came up a bit strongly in the afternoon and grounded most of the planes, though Vic Horton flew his Super Sportster Bipe a few times and Bob Allen flew a high-wing trainer (which belongs to his daughter, I wonder if she was aware of the "loan?" My Ultrasport Sixty made three flights before the crosswind component grounded it. Several other planes flew as well, including a maiden flight on a new club member Ron Ambrosio's trainer!

The wind seemed to bother the heli's less and many heli sorties were made. Mark Russo and Joe Malouf as usual made it look easy. One heli was lost in the far field at mid-day but that wasn't a wind issue.

The food was a high point with Steve Declar, Joe Malouf, Mark Russo, Roger Stabe and others contributing to the cuisine. Jerry Rohling ran out later and returned with reinforcements and coffee. Thanks to all who brought food and to Jack Robinson and our two field directors Vic Horton and Bob Zuznis for setting up the snow fence in the morning.

- Whitney Philbrick



Thermals

The Monthly Sailplane News

- Bob Magee

Soaring has finally received the endorsement of some big time sponsors as well as JR and Horizon Hobbies and will hold its own National Masters class competition similar to the Pattern Tournament of Champions in Las Vegas. The event known as the "Soaring Masters" will be held annually and this year will take place September 21-24th in Muncie. The true National Champion will most likely be crowned at this event rather than the Traditional AMA Nats as the Nats have become what most would say is a World Class fun-fly fly with the emphasis on fun and camaraderie rather than all out competition. I am not throwing stones at the Nats here because I think there is great value in the format the AMA has chosen to follow but the hard core competitors and those aspiring to reach International recognition will now finally have their venue. Should be an interesting few days in Muncie. We will see if the Eastern Soaring League will prevail in this environment.

As I mentioned in an earlier newsletter, we have closed the deal on obtaining a retriever and will be going to New Jersey in the next week or so to pick up the unit. We have been able to locate and buy one of the original VMC retrievers from a fellow in the Sussex County Thermal Sniffers club who has had the bad luck of having some serious health problems and would like to see the unit put to good use. The VMC unit is the BMW of the retriever world and is known for its reliability and ease of use. They have been out of production for some time now because of escalating

manufacturing costs but I am sure with the talent in this organization, we will be able to keep this unit in top condition.

Not much in the way of flying activity to report on this month. Ray Meyer, Don Chickering and I have been up to Red Hook to fly several times this month taking advantage of the incredibly warm temperatures. I flew my electric powered Sailplane for the first time. The plane is a 2M Wind Dancer from Polecat Models built from a kit. A Speed 400 on a seven-cell NiCd pack powers it. The rate of climb is acceptable but nothing to write home about. The first flight was wild as I had about four times the control throw needed and so the flight was herky-jerky beyond belief. Back in one piece however and subsequent flights were better but certainly not up to par yet. After the flight trim is set I have to think about converting to a brush-less speed 400 equivalent with LiPo's to get some climb performance. The Red Hook facility is in excellent shape and is a great place to fly.

Get those batteries recycled...The days are getting longer if you haven't noticed and we have some serious challenges from the Pine Island group to live up to this Spring. Speaking of batteries, I found both my transmitter and receiver pack in my Super Mantis not performing up to level. I guess the repeated fast charges of the long flying season had built in some permanent memory and I can't bring these cells back regardless of how many times I charge and cycle them...even the old MEN charger won't eliminate the memory. Both packs had lost about 25% of their rated capacity, however voltage was fine. Batteries are the number one cause of lost planes followed closely by having your programmable radio on the wrong aircraft number according to a national poll I saw recently. Have fun and green air...BOB



AMA GOLD LEADER CLUB

A UNIQUE REQUEST FOR HELP

- Bob Magee

The AMA recognizes clubs with outstanding programs and activities as Gold Leader Clubs. To qualify for this National recognition, we must complete a multi page application, which serves to document the aspirant's qualifications and accomplishments.

I have been working on this application and have one and only one area where we fail to meet the criteria. Without this one area of accomplishment we would qualify for silver or bronze recognition status but hey...that is second or third place...!!

We can do better that that so here is what we need.

We need a flyer (hand-bill) that could be handed out to prospective members, interested individuals or whomever. The flyer should contain a simple map showing the location of the flying field, a simple map showing the meeting location and basic verbiage describing the Club to a total outsider or new-comer to the hobby. The flier should be written so as to answer most of the basic questions an individual might have about us. The intended use of the flier is to leave a bunch of them at the two local hobby shops, pass them out at Rhinebeck or where ever it is appropriate to attract new members and give them information about how to contact us. I have seen many of these in the past in my travels on the Sailplane contest circuit. Some clubs have two or three page fold-outs, some clubs use one page, one side.

We need some one to step up and commit to produce such a flier. Some one that has some computer graphic skills would be most desirable. We just need a master...the club will get them reproduced and the distribution will take care of itself. We can format the flier by committee but we need someone to produce the master. This can be done to your schedule....

Any one interested please contact me.

I think I have some of the fliers from other clubs somewhere in the shop. Does anyone else have any examples...?

FOR SALE

- (1) Scratch built Fokker EIII Eindecker. Complete, ready to fly. Great indoor flyer. \$135.00
- (2) Diddle Bug with Cirrus Micro Joul radio, ready to fly, indoors or out. \$150.00
- (3) Demoiselle from Dare kit. Excellent scale indoor flyer. RTF \$125.00
- (4) GWS Douglas DC3, complete, ready to fly park flyer. \$150.00

None of the above comes with a transmitter. All are in excellent shape, and fly very well.

Contact Tom Smith (tande896@bellsouth.net)

Central Connecticut RC Club's 5th Annual Multi-Wing Fly In

June 26, 2006

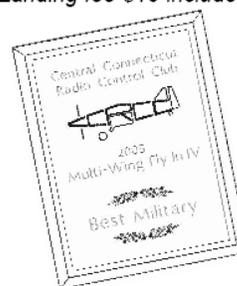


Raffles, Prizes, Pilot Awards!!!

Farmington CT,

At the CCRCC Club flying field on Meadow Road

Landing fee \$10 includes pilot's lunch AMA Sanctioned, AMA card required



Best of Class Awards for:
Military ~ Civilian
Sport (non-scale)
Aerobatic ~ Electric
Best of Show

radio frequency channels 14 & 22 prohibited,
30 thru 35 no recommended

650 x 150ft. sod runway
unlimited parking, campers welcome but no over-night stays

All registered pilots are entered in to a raffle for a ride in a full size Stearman PT-17 biplane. The ride coupon is supplied by "Preston Aviation" at Candlelight Airport, New Milford, CT

For more information, contact Contest Director Gerry Yarrish, (860) 354-6273 evenings; (203) 894-3661 day-time. www.gerry@airage.com



AMA ALERT

Emergency Safety Alert: Lithium Battery Fires

(12/16/05) Lithium batteries have become extremely popular for powering control and power systems in models because of their high energy density (capacity/ weight ratio) compared to Ni-Cds or other batteries. With high energy comes increased risk in their use. The principal risk is *fire*, which can result from improper charging, crash damage, or shorting the batteries.

All Lithium-battery vendors warn customers of this danger and recommend extreme caution in their use. However, many fires have resulted from the misuse of Li-Poly batteries, leading to the loss of models and automobiles. Other properties, such as homes, garages, and workshops, have also burned.

A Lithium-battery fire burns explosively at several thousand degrees and is an excellent initiator for ancillary fires. Fire is caused by contact between Lithium and oxygen in the air. *It needs no other source of ignition, or fuel, to start.*

The following is recommended for Lithium batteries to preclude ancillary fires.

- 1) Store and charge in a fireproof container—never in your model.
- 2) Charge in a protected area that is devoid of combustibles.
- 3) In the event of damage from crashes, etc., carefully move the battery pack to a safe place for at least a half hour to observe. Physically damaged cells can erupt into flames. After sufficient time to ensure safety,

the cells should be discarded in accordance with the instructions that come with the batteries. *Never attempt to charge a cell with physical damage, regardless of how slight.*

- 4) Always use chargers designed for the *specific* purpose; it's preferable to have a fixed setting for your particular pack. Many fires occur while using selectable/adjustable chargers that are set improperly. Never attempt to charge Lithium cells with a charger that is not specifically designed for Lithium cells! *Never use chargers that are specifically designed for Ni-Cd batteries.*
- 5) Use charging systems that monitor, control, and balance the charge state of each cell in the pack. Unbalanced cells can lead to disaster if the system permits a single cell in the pack to be overcharged. This means that the charging system must provide charge cessation as each cell reaches the proper voltage. If the batteries show *any* sign of swelling, discontinue charging and move them to a safe place—outside. They could erupt into flames.
- 6) *Never plug in a battery and leave it to charge unattended;* serious fires have resulted from this practice.
- 7) Do not attempt to make your own battery packs from individual cells. Use only professionally packaged and labeled units, which contain safer charging features. Lithium batteries cannot be handled and charged casually, as has been the practice for years with other types of batteries. The consequences can be serious, resulting in major property damage and/or personal harm.

—AMA Safety Committee



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

- Bob Magee

With all the unseasonably warm weather, I hope most of you folks have found some time to get a flight in now and then. We cannot complain about this winter.

There are so many things happening in the club recently I hardly know where to begin this month.

Probably the most important event is the introduction of our new web site. WWW.MHRCS.COM. This web site will be the most important communication link you have with the club. All the current news, descriptions of upcoming events both within and outside the club, maps to events, and other club related information will be posted on this site. It is our intention to use the site as the distribution medium for the monthly newsletter "Flight Line". If you have not visited the site, please take a moment and let us know what you think. Flavio Ambrosini, the creator of the site, is always open to helpful input. Flavio attends most meetings or you can reach him at the address listed on the site.

We have added several more events to the event calendar such as the Indoor flying activities at the old Beacon High School and the Indoor event at the Anderson School. There is a separate article further on in this newsletter which discusses the recent turn of events relative to indoor activity.

The club will sponsor the annual SWAP SHOP on FEB 4th from 2PM to 6PM at the Poughkeepsie Community Methodist Church on Rt. 376. See the web site for a map if you are not familiar with the location. The meeting room at the church is quite large and will accommodate everyone I am sure. This is a great opportunity to sell surplus equipment. I encourage you to ask a reasonable price however. Nothing will sell if it is 80 to 85% of retail new.

We are looking for some one to organize the Mall Show this spring. If you have an interest in coordinating such an event, see any of the Board members. Unless someone steps forward in the next several weeks, we will have to cancel this activity from the event calendar.

The WRAMS show is Feb 24, 25 and 26. We should make every attempt to car pool as the parking at the County Center continues to be a problem particularly on Friday the 24th as that is a normal commuter work day and the White Plains train station parking is filled to capacity to start with.

The meeting Friday, Feb 3rd will feature the Jim Wood "Skuzzy Hat" contest. Bring in your skuzziest hat in a brown paper bag for the judges to determine this year's winner.



FLY G3 for FREE at:



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Radio Controlled Hobbies
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About Us At R/C World

Our Mission

The objective of our business is to provide high quality reliable service for our customers.

We hope you will enjoy visiting our web site and using our services as much as we enjoy providing them for you.

About Us

We have been modelers since the early 1950's. We have been in and out of modeling over the years due to the constraints of making a living and raising a family, like many people. However, we have always come back to our favorite past time.

Modeling has influenced my lifelong career in aviation. With 50 years of working on all phases of aviation from private, corporate, US Air Force to Commercial. We have finally brought together the best of both worlds with our business, our hobby, being brought together at R/C World.

It is a well known fact that the ideal situation is to have a job that you enjoy. This is R/C World.

WE NEED Your HELP! Stop in with your hand built model to have your picture taken. The top 12 will each represent a month in our 2007 R/C World Calendar!

February

Monthly Special

P51 Trainer by Hangar 9

Reg. \$399 **Special \$349**

1 available per month at sale price – Early Bird Gets the worm!

See future monthly specials on our website! www.rcworldusa.com



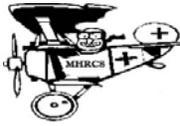
Store Hours

**Tues – Fri 12-6 PM Sat 10-6 PM
Sun & Mon Closed**

845-635-1100

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2006 MHRCS EVENT CALENDAR

Last Updated January 30, 2006

JANUARY

- 6 Regular Meeting 7:30 PM
- 14 Winter Fun Fly 10 AM – 2 PM
Hopewell Field (Weather dependent)
See email for specifics
- 21 Alternate date, Winter Fun Fly
- 24 Board Meeting 7:30 PM

FEBRUARY

- 3 Regular Meeting 7:30 PM
- 4 Swap Shop 1- 6 PM
Community Methodist Church
Rt 376 Poughkeepsie
- 12 NCRCC Auction/Swap Shop
Vernon, CT
- 21 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
- 24-26 WRAMS Show
County Center, White Plains

MARCH

- 3 Regular Meeting 7:30 PM
- 18 Mall show (tentative date)
Poughkeepsie Galleria
- 28 Board Meeting 7:30 PM

APRIL

- 7 Regular Meeting 7:30 PM
- 22 Project Night 7 –10 PM
Community Methodist Church
Route 376 Poughkeepsie
- 25 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
- 29 Hopewell Field Clean-up 8AM to Noon
- 30 Alternate day, Hopewell Field Clean-up

MAY

- 3 Start Wednesday AM Breakfast
EverReady Diner, Hyde Park,
followed by Flying at Rhinebeck
Aerodrome (*Alternates every other
Wednesday with Hopewell*).
- 4 Flight Training starts 5:00 PM
- 5 Regular Club Meeting 7:30 PM
- 23 Board Meeting 7:30 PM

JUNE

- 2 Regular Club Meeting 7:30 PM
- 10 Father's Day Picnic 10 AM to Dusk
Hopewell Field
- 24 Central Connecticut RC Club 5th Annual
Multi-Wing Fly In, Farmington, CT
- 27 Board Meeting 7:30 PM

JULY

- 7 Regular Club Meeting
Hopewell Field
Flying at 5PM, Meeting at 7:30 PM
- 25 Board Meeting 7:30 PM

AUGUST

- 4 Regular Club Meeting
Hopewell Field
Flying at 5PM, Meeting at 7:30 PM
- 22 Board Meeting 7:30 PM

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Regular Club Meeting 7:30 PM
- 8 –10 Rhinebeck Jamboree
- 15-17 NEAT Fair
- 26 Board Meeting 7:30 PM

OCTOBER

- 4 Regular Meeting 7:30 PM
- 24 Board Meeting 7:30 PM

NOVEMBER

- 3 Regular Meeting 7:30 PM
- 21 Board Meeting 7:30 PM

DECEMBER

- 1 Regular Meeting 7:30 PM
- 7 Holiday Party (tentative date)
- 12 Board Meeting 7:30 PM