



Hangar Talk

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Historic Aviation

March is one of my least favorite months! The weather is usually cold and blustery and not very good for flying and there is more white stuff and wind than anyone needs. We have, however, had some nice warm days during the week for our retired members to enjoy. Next year I too will be retired and I am looking forward to joining the Tuesday flying fraternity. Breaking news: Groundhog Day 2014: Punxsutawney Phil sees shadow, 6 more weeks of winter. Ugh!

The Aeromodeling Expo @ Wings Over The Rockies has come and gone and as always, we had a great turnout of members at the show. There was a record for attendance this year, but alas, there is trouble in River City. The museum's management and the show coordinators are not sure if there will be another show next year. The dedicated people that run the Expo are not getting the support they feel is needed to promote the show and serve the general public or the modelers. A final decision has not yet been made. I hope a compromise can be found to continue the show. On a brighter note, as always, there were some spectacular models on display and it is definitely worth the time to see everything and visit with old friends from other clubs. If you didn't make it this year, I encourage you to put it on your calendar for next year.

I have been thinking and talking about an idea that has been evolving since last year. In a nutshell, a few club members, myself included, like to fly at other airfields around the Denver area. Most clubs have a limit on how many times a visitor can fly at their airfield without being a member, the limit at MAS is 3 times. This makes sense because airfield maintenance is a major expense. I think most R/C modelers are conscientious and want to contribute to the maintenance costs of the airfields they visit, but, belonging to every club you visit can get expensive. Some of us do belong to multiple clubs and pay the full membership fee. I think there is a better way, Associated Memberships. I spoke to the officers of many Denver area club at the Wings Over The Rockies show and we also discussed it at the February meeting. A number of ideas on how to structure it have been discussed and these are the three common goals: 1. reduced membership fee. 2. Regular airfield privileges. 3. Non voting member on club business. I originally thought a percentage of the normal club dues was the way to go, but that varies so widely, that I now think a flat rate of \$25 or \$30 is affordable yet meaningful. There is more in Tom's minutes. There will be an AMA sponsored Denver area Council meeting on March 22nd at the Wing Over The Rockies Museum at 10am. I am going to propose this idea at the meeting. If anyone would like to join me, please let me know, so I can provide a count.

Upcoming meetings and events

Dues are Due January 1st

March 27th meeting

April meeting

May 3 & 4 IMAC

President letter continued:

At the February meeting we discussed the calendar of events for the year. We touched on our Spring Cleanup day, April 19th, the Lamar Steen IMAC, May 3-4, the family picnic in June and the Pattern event in July. A copy of the calendar is attached. We have again extended an Honorary membership to Rocco at Aeroworks. Rocco's knowledge of the hobby and generous support of MAS over the years are much appreciated. Be sure to read Tom's minutes for a full review of the meeting. There will be a test. Just kidding.

Events in March. I couldn't find any info about the Northern Colo RC Swap Meet at the Larimer County Fairgrounds this year, not sure it is happening

February Meeting Notes

A motion was made to grant Rocco a guest membership as we've done for the past few years. Mark Dennis is no longer with Aeroworks (he's in the military and will fly drones. Very cool). The motion passed for Rocco.

The Adams County Fair will be July 30th - August 3rd. The following are the times of the Fair itself. More details on our participation as we get closer to the date.

July 30 5pm-9pm
31 10am-9pm

August 1 10am-10pm
2 10am-10pm
3 10am-8pm

Our IMAC Contest is the first weekend in May. The sanction has been applied for and approved. George will do the donation requests. Steve G. is doing the flyer. At the next club meeting we'll have a sign-up sheet for volunteers. Larry said he would like to organize more this year. Last year was a bit too from the hip.

Both Larry's gave a rundown on the museum show at Lowry: they had a huge attendance increase. The event made about \$12k for the museum. There was a webcast radio program at the event, so the event technically went national. Tom Neff (AMA guy) was running the Buddy box flying which was very popular.

The members think we don't get a lot of mileage out of the event. Not a lot of people came to the booth. If we had a trainer or sim, that would help. Also, a video of the club site. We could also do a poster for Kids Day.

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We had a small incident at the field. A battery on a charger in the building started smoking. Herb proposed keeping the batteries out of the building. That was not passed, but the members agreed to put some fireproof material on the shelves where the charging stations are located. This will be done at the next work party. Lastly, if you're charging a battery in the building, make sure somebody is with the battery at all times. This goes for charging batteries anywhere.

The date for a Spring Work Day was set: April 19th. Rain date of the 26th. Hot dogs for lunch.

Larry brought-up associate membership that was proposed last fall. To qualify, a person must be gone from MAS for at least two years. If you go to Arvada and try to join MAS on a cheap price, you have to have been gone from MAS to do it. Associate members would get no voting rights. Larry proposed that associate members pay 30% of dues of the regular dues.

There was lots of discussion on this. Steve G. mentions doing a daily fee for people to come out with a current member (in leu off the associate member deal). This would be hard to police. Bob S. proposes just a donation jar. Again, hard to police.

I brought up the what I mentioned last October. I don't have the time to monitor additional people and rules. If the club wants to do this, that's fine, but I will resign as secretary/treasurer.

Larry has talked to a bunch of clubs on this. He has done his research.

If a MAS member goes to Mile High, pay 30% of their dues. If you then go to Crosswinds, it would be 30% of theirs.

Members ask if our club's 3 flights for free still apply? Yes. This associate membership is for people who fly more than 3 times.

Larry L. suggests that this goes through the AMA council (Tom Neff runs) and see what all their ideas are. A motion was made: to table this until after the council meeting. The motion passed.

Herb brings-up issues with the gate combo. We don't give the code to non-paying members, why would we give it to people who are only partial members?

Bob S. suggests a central kitty. All clubs share the kitty and split it at the end of the year. Who maintains the kitty? Also, clubs don't have to have the same associate price.

a show of hands for interest in the idea showed that pretty much everybody was interested in the idea.

Larry will publish the club calendar in the next newsletter.

Steve G. asks about doing a heli day this summer. Not a competition, just an invite for a fun fly. People said yes. Details later.

Steve also brought up some vets that are using helis for rehab/therapy. Steve was thinking about some local groups that could be exposed to RC. Could we do something for them? Just some thoughts. Members say we'd be happy to help.

We still have some Kings Soopers cards if anybody wants them. See Larry O.

Proposed Activities Calendar for 2014

February 27th, 2014**April**

5 open
12-13 open
19 Spring Airfield Maintenance
26 Weather alternate for Airfield Maintenance
26 Standley Lake Float Fly

May

3-4 Lamar Steen IMAC – M.A.S
10 open
17-18 Albuquerque Spring Pattern contest
24 open
31 open

June

7-8 Lama IMAC
6-8 Warbirds of Denver - Jefco
14 MAS Family picnic (pot luck)
15 Father's day
21-22 Arvada Pattern Challenge
28 open

July

5 open
12-13 M.A.S. Pattern
19 open
26 open
30 Adams County Fair

August

1-3 Adams County Fair
2-3 Mile Hi IMAC
9 Annual Kids Day Event
15-17 The Rocky Mountain Airshow
23 open
30 open

September

6-7 Kansas Pattern
12-14 Warbirds Over the Rockies
13-14 Albuquerque Fall Pattern contest
20 open
27 open

October

4 open
11 open
18 open
26 open

Denver Area Calendar for 2014

February 27th, 2014

Front Range RC Flying Events for 2014

by Mike Cross - LAMA (Mar 9, 2014 Rev 1c)

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Note 1: This events calendar is very dynamic and being updated frequently, bear with me on changes.

Note 2: Some of these events are not firmed up ---- **verify before you plan to attend.**

Note 3: The events with a (C) = are AMA sanctioned events. Or (I) = are IMAC sanctioned events.. The rest were gathered from the club web sites and Emails .

April

4/26 - Standley Lake Float Fly Arvada Associated Modelers

May

5/03 -04 - (C) 4th Annual Lamar Steen IMAC Miniature Aero Sportsters (M.A.S.)

5/ 08 - Swap Meet and open Fun fly Crosswinds

5/10 - (C) 3rd Annual WarBirds Warm up SkyCoral RC Club - Pueblo

5/10 - LAMA 2nd annual swap meet (9-5PM) LAMA

5/17 - Electric FUN FLY Jefco Aeromod'lers

5/24 - Long Lake Float Fly Arvada Associated Modelers

June

6/06 -08 - (C) WarBirds Over Denver Jefco Aeromod'lers

6/07 -08 - (I) LAMA IMAC Jim Ziegler zjimzz@yahoo.com LAMA

6/07 - Fun Fly/BBQ (8:30 – 1:00) Denver RC Eagles

6/07 - Long Lake Float Fly Arvada Associated Modelers

6/14 - Pluckrose Memorial Fly-in & WarBird Demo ` Mile Hi RC club

6/21-22 - (C) 2014 AAM Colorado Pattern Challenge Arvada Associated Modelers

6/21-22 - (C) WarBirds Over Pikes Peak Pikes Peak RC Club

6/22 - Long Lake Float Fly Arvada Associated Modelers

6/26 - June BBQ & Evening/Night Flying (7:00-8:30) Denver RC Eagles

July

7/09 - Park Ranger Fly Jefco Aeromod'lers

7/12-13 - (C) 2nd Prairie Dog Pattern Classic Miniature Aero Sportsters (M.A.S.)

7/12 - 8th Annual Heli Fun fly Crosswinds

7/12 - Long Lake Float Fly Arvada Associated Modelers

7/19 - PPRCC Electric Fly-In Pikes Peak RC Club

7/24 - July BBQ & Evening/Night Flying (6:00-9:30) Denver RC Eagles

7/26 - PPRCC Scale Fly-In Pikes Peak RC Club

7/26 - Old Farts Fun Fly Jefco Aeromod'lers

7/27 - Long Lake Float Fly Arvada Associated Modelers

August

8/02-03 - (C) Mile Hi IMAC Challenge 2014 Mile Hi RC club

8/02 - Vintage and Old-timers Fly-in Arvada Associated Modelers

8/09 - (C) Jefco Aeromod'lers Big Bird Fly In Jefco Aeromod'lers

8/09 - Annual Kids Day Miniature Aero Sportsters (M.A.S.)

8/09 - Long Lake Float Fly Arvada Associated Modelers

8/15 - National Model Aviation Day AMA

8/16 - Vintage RC Fun fly Arvada Associated Modelers

8/16 - Annual WarBirds Fun fly Crosswinds

8/23 - August Airshow (11:00 – 12:30) Denver RC Eagles

8/28 - August BBQ & Evening/Night Flying (6:00-9:30) Denver RC Eagles

8/23 -24 - (C) Sky Corral "Big Birds" (IMAA) SkyCoral RC Club - Pueblo

8/24 - Long Lake Float Fly Arvada Associated Modelers

8/30 -31 - (C) 2014 WarBirds over Pueblo (All Military acft) SkyCoral RC Club - Pueblo

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September

9/06 - Harvest Festival Air Show Arvada Associated Modelers

9/12-14 - Golden, CO (C) WARBIRDS OVER THE ROCKIES Arvada Associated Modelers

9/21 - Long Lake Float Fly Arvada Associated Modelers

9/27 - September Fun Fly & BBQ (8:30 – 1:00) Denver RC Eagles

October

10/04 - Standley Lake Float Fly Arvada Associated Modelers

November

11/29 - Turkey Wing Fun Fly Arvada Associated Modelers

Note: There are quite a few Free flight & Soaring events in the area.

Rocky Mountain Soaring Association <http://www.rmsadenver.com/>

Magnificent Mountain Men <http://www.themmmclub.com/>

Indoor Flying – almost monthly <http://www.bozarthhomes.com/IndoorRC.htm>

Note: This information was collected by Mike Cross (LAMA) – I don't mind if you use it in your club calendars but please give me credit for putting it together.

Send any corrections to me via Email Hotcross.RCFlyer@Gmail.com



HISTORIC AVIATION

History: When British naval intelligence determined that a large number of Italian warships lay at anchor in Taranto harbor in November 1940, an attack was organized, to be carried out by 21 single-engine carrier-based biplanes. The operation was a huge success -- three battleships were severely damaged, a cruiser and two destroyers were hit, and two other vessels were sunk. In the space of one hour the balance of naval power in the Mediterranean had been altered forever.

The unlikely cause of this destruction was one of the warplane legends of World War Two, the **Fairey Swordfish Mk.1**, first flown on 17 April 1934. It was a three-man torpedo-bomber and reconnaissance biplane with a basic structure of fabric-covered metal. The wings folded for storage on the crowded deck of an aircraft carrier. Armament included one forward-firing Vickers machine gun and one swiveling Vickers in the rear cockpit. Primary offensive power took the form of depth charges, mines, bombs or, especially, a torpedo.

Unfortunately, this outstanding plane was too slow to withstand the punishment of German anti-aircraft fire. Long, accurate approaches to the target made the Swordfish very vulnerable when delivering its torpedo. Thus came re-deployment in an anti-submarine warfare role, using depth charges and, later, rockets.

As with many wartime aircraft, Swordfish were produced by more than one manufacturer. Well over half (almost 1700) were built by the Blackburn company in Sherburn in Elmet, UK.

The **Mk II** model was introduced in 1943, and featured strengthened and metal-skinned lower wings to allow the firing of rockets from underneath. Later that year, the **Mk III** appeared, which featured a large ASV anti-submarine radar unit mounted between the landing gear legs which allowed detection of submarines up to 40 km away. For operation over the cold waters of Canada, the Swordfish **Mk IV** was fitted with an enclosed cabin.

When production ended in 1944, the Swordfish had had been introduced into a full range of duties for the fleet: Torpedo-bomber, mine-layer, convoy escort, anti-submarine warfare (ASW) aircraft and training craft. Today, two Swordfish are airworthy -- one in Britain and one in Canada.

Nicknames: *Stringbag*; *Blackfish* (Blackburn-built Swordfish)

Specifications (Swordfish Mk II):

Engine: One 750-hp Bristol Pegasus XXX 9-cylinder radial piston engine

Weight: Empty 4,700 lbs., Max Takeoff 7,510 lbs.

Wing Span: 45ft. 6in.

Length: 35ft. 8in.

Height: 12ft. 4in.

Performance:

Maximum Speed: 138 mph

Ceiling: 10,700 ft.

Range: 1,030 miles

Armament: Two 7.7-mm (0.303-inch) Vickers machine guns (one forward-firing and one one in a Fairey High-Speed Mounting in rear cockpit); plus one 1,600-pound torpedo, or 1,500 pounds of depth charges, bombs or mines; or up to eight rockets on underwing racks.



2014 Club Officers

President	Larry Ott
Vice Pres	Jeff Griego
Treasure	Tom Glaess

Board	Earl Keffer
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Board	Steve Graham
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Board	Lee Overholt
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Field Maintenance

Newsletter Editor Gary Hodges

Web Page

<http://www.miniatureaerosporters.org>

Serving the Northeast Denver Area the Miniature Aero Sportsters flying site sits on 48 acres with a 500 foot paved runway. The club is open to all who have a current AMA membership. The Miniature Aero Sportsters consists of a group of individuals with a common interest in radio control aircraft. Club meetings are on the 4th Thursday of the month at Gander Mountain Sporting Goods located at 9923 Grant Street Thornton, CO. Meetings start promptly at 7:00 pm. All M.A.S. club members are encouraged to attend meetings, and to become actively involved in the club's activities

The first year there is a once a lifetime \$35 initiation fee charged to all new members. Total first year dues are \$125, every year after that Annual membership dues are \$90.

For membership information check out our web page:



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All articles or items of interest should be submitted to me by the 1st Wednesday of the month. Newsletter editor (that's ME) reserves the right to accept, refuse and edit all articles submitted for publication. Articles or items submitted after the deadline will be included in the following month's newsletter. Send or deliver articles to:

Gary Hodges

Published articles reflect the author's opinion and may or may not reflect those of the club in general, its officers, or the newsletter editor.