



Hangar Talk

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This is the first newsletter of 2015. Thanks for placing your trust in me. As in past years, my goals remain simple: Continue doing the things club members enjoy and maintain our airfield as one of the premier flying sites in Colorado.

First and foremost, I want to thank Rocco at Aeroworks for opening up his shop for our meeting in January. We got some bad news from Gander Mountain on the 2nd of January when I learned that a remodeling project in the store would mean that the meeting room we used for many years was not available this year. I was not expecting it, but understood that things change. I thanked the manager for all the years they had provided a “free” facility for use by ourselves and other groups and expressed my hope that their company continues to be successful. So, now we need to get busy and find a new meeting location. Rocco has graciously taken us in from the cold for January, and February, if we can't find a new location. We are looking at several possibilities, but if you know of any potential location, please let me or one of the officers or board members know.

Our annual Snowbird event was cold and there was fresh snow on the ground that had to be cleared so we could get to the model benches. Not too many pilots came out this year, lots of members were under the weather so to speak. In a testament to MAS's longevity as a club, Lee Overholt won this year after a 20 year drought. Congrats to Lee. Meanwhile, the stove kept everyone warm inside and there was plenty of food. Thanks to everyone that came out to support the event and to everyone that brought food and helped cook.

Tom Neff, our AMA District 9 AVP, came out to update us on the status of the FAA and AMA. Important info that we all need to be aware of. Thanks Tom.

Larry Fuehrer gave an update on the upcoming “2015 Aero modeling at the Hanger” event. This is the same event held every year at the Wing Over the Rockies Museum. The date is only 2 weeks away on the 21st of February. If you are not on the list, contact Larry F. or myself ASAP so we can add your name. I sent out some additional info on the event a few days ago, be sure to read it so you know when to arrive and where to park. See you there.

There was a town meeting in Thornton last week. The main topic of discussion was should there be another RC Modeling Airfield in Thornton? Many of our members attended as did Tom Neff. Tom made a great presentation about AMA and its benefits and urged the city to establish a new flying site. There was no guaranty anything will happen, but there is hope.

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Next month we will be talking about our 2015 activity calendar. Here is a tentative list.

Spring cleanup at the MAS Airfield – April 18. We will put together a list of chores and post it at the field. If you see something specific that needs attention, please let me or one of the board members know about it. The weather alternate date is April 25.

4th Annual Lamar Steen IMAC event – May 2 and 3. The AMA sanction has been submitted and we are registered on the IMAC website.

Annual family picnic (pot luck) – June 8.

3rd Annual Prairie Dog Classic Pattern event – July 11 and 12

Adams County Fair – August 5-9.

Annual Kids Day Event – August 15.

January Club Meeting Minutes

- Lee won Snow Bird contest. Congratulations Lee
- Treasurers Report given/ Jeff Osborn
- Special Guest: Tom Neff AMA Region IX Vice President. Tom gave talk on legislative update and possible impact to our club.
- AMA Charter and agreement will include questions regarding the proximity of clubs to public airports. MAS is within the 5 mile limit. It was encouraged we enter a working relationship with DIA tower. We need to get with them in order to file agreement.
- Group of citizens have asked to speak at the Thornton City Council Meeting 1/27/14 6:30 pm Thornton Rec Center to discuss the possibility of the City Sponsoring a Club for flying site.
- Wings over the Rockies is Feb 21st at Lowery. Sign up Please. Call Larry Fuehrer 720-353-9824.
- We have drop power for our booth at the event.
- Jeff Osborn offered motion to grant Rocco complementary membership. Motion seconded. All approved.
- Next meeting February 26, 2015. Location TBD.
- Motion to Adjourn, seconded. Motion to adjourn approved.



HISTORIC AVIATION

History: First flown on 1 August 1941, the three-seat Grumman **TBF-1** Avenger torpedo-bomber entered US Navy service just in time to participate in the Battle of Midway in June 1942. During its World War II lifespan, the Avenger design changed very little, and this allowed it to be built in huge quantities. Demand for the airplane was so great that the General Motors Company was also contracted to build it, under the designation **TBM-1**, beginning in September 1942.

Over 1,000 TBF/TBMs (initially called **Tarpon Mk I**, and later designated **Avenger Mk I**) were also used by the Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm in both Atlantic and Pacific theaters. The Avenger was also used by the Royal New Zealand Air Force.

The second major variant was the **TBM-3**, which featured strengthened wings to allow rockets and radar pods to be carried. A large percentage of the TBM-3s were delivered with their large dorsal turrets removed.

The Avenger's torpedo-delivery capability had a huge impact on the Japanese fleet during the war, and its rugged simplicity made it highly resistant to enemy air defenses. After the war, the Avenger continued to find niches in naval aviation. The US Navy maintained it as a search-and-rescue aircraft, an all-weather night bomber, an electronic countermeasures platform, a Carrier On-Board Delivery (COD) aircraft, and a target tug.

In 1953, the Royal Navy began acquiring anti-submarine warfare versions of the Avenger under the Mutual Defense Assistance Program (MDAP). These aircraft were designated the **Avenger AS Mk IV** or **AS Mk V**, and were used in the ASW role until the introduction of the [Fairey Gannet](#) in 1955. Avengers were also exported under MDAP to France, Japan, Canada, and the Netherlands.

Unbelievably, some Avengers continued earning their keep until more than sixty years after their debut. Until recently, at least one aerial firefighting operation used Avengers as firebombers and/or fire spotters over the woods of Canada. Many more have found their way into the caring hands of collectors and warbird museums.



2015 Club Officers

President **Larry Ott**
Vice Pres **Jeff Griego**
Treasure **Jeff Osborn**

Board **Earl Keffer**

Board **Steve Graham**

Board **Lee Overholt**

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.