

AMA Charter 1983 - Founded March 30,  
1938 - Cleveland, Ohio

**The Plane Facts - American  
Airlines Gas Model Club  
February 2000**

## NEXT CLUB MEETING

Will be on Friday, Feb. 4th, 8:00 p.m., in the North Community Room of the Busch Funeral Home at 7501 Ridge Rd, Parma, OH.

The American Airlines Gas Model Club meets here on the 1st Friday of each month during the winter. The AAGMC welcomes visitors at all regular meetings.

## Y2K AAGMC OFFICERS

President	Bob Prince (216) 476-3523
V.Pres.	Marvin King
Secretary	Sheila Ann Prince
Treasurer	Henry Horn
Sgt. at Arms	Roy Abbott, Jr.
N/L Editor	Larry McFarland (330) 225-7360

## Y2K MEMBERSHIP DUES

Open Members	\$50.00/yr.
Senior (17-18)	8.00
Junior (<17)	5.00
Initiation Fee	\$25.00 (New Members)

Hi - Happy Winter!! Guess we're building again? Some important items from Paul Bianco concerning the upcoming model show: Paul advises that there exists an **urgent** need for judges. Our Club needs to have three judges, as do the other clubs. Currently, we may not have any yet committed for this show. If there's a chance that you can help with this, please contact Paul at 440/845-5954. Paulie recently got "wired", so if you are set up accordingly, he's reachable at <[p.r.bianco@worldnet.att.net](mailto:p.r.bianco@worldnet.att.net)>.

Some other notes from Mr. B: **The Show needs display aircraft** - and if you're able somehow, get them to the show on Thursday night.. As in the past, the show really begins on Friday! There will be AC power available for T.V. display stuff, as we've had in the past.. Need a TV, etc! The next **CAS** (Cleveland Aeromodeling Society) meeting is slated for Feb. 7th - Paul isn't sure where yet.. Finally - sell those tickets you received in the last mailing of the Newsletter early, and get the \$\$\$ to the meeting; The **CAS**

needs the bucks! Paul will have sign-up sheets at this month's meeting for volunteers to work the **AAGMC** tables for that weekend.

Also a couple things first regarding some issues raised last time: One was discarding those 3 - year old NiCads you have, and the second was about where does one unload her/his *old* batteries??

Jim Knodel and I had a discussion at the last meeting on the finer points of the newer cells from Sanyo (funny how no one has come along to compete in the rechargeable battery arena since GE left it some years ago!). Jim posed the idea that my admonishment to pitch those cells after 3 years might be a little overly conservative.. And I must admit he has some support for the notion.. The problem is: If **you** don't have the wherewithal to check those cells for their present capacity, and have been watching them since you bought them for any "funny" behavior (pack suddenly drops its total voltage a volt or so.., etc.), and you've kept them charged up (or at the very least, cycled them periodically), then don't take chances... Use them in your *boats*!

The other item concerned how to **safely** unload your stash of hazardous waste (LOTS of old NiCads, Lithiums, and other disagreeable thingies which you shouldn't put in your weekly trash!). Just about all **Radio Shacks** are drop off points for old batteries. I know the one in Brunswick is.. So the one near you should be, too. Ask the next time your near there.. Then hand them off to the chap. They don't charge for the service, as they get reimbursed I think when they turn in a load..

Last, but not least: I finally got over to the Zednik's **Parma Hobby**! Nice... Very Nice.. We finally have a hobby shop over here on this side of town whose specialty isn't plastic or toys!! These people are very knowledgeable, and just nice, helpful folk.. I hope you will join me in helping to keep their lights on (figure of speech!)... Think we ran a note about them a few years back. In case you haven't got the particulars, Parma Hobby is at 216/741-6440; Located at 5275 Ridge in Parma, and they read **their** email at <[Zedniks@aol.com](mailto:Zedniks@aol.com)>.

## FOR YOUR INFO

A thought to pass along to those of you inclined to attend regular meetings: Roy Abbott is running an ongoing raffle for a Futaba radio set - he's selling tickets at the usual \$1 each/ 6 for \$5. This will press on until 250 tickets are sold off... Get yours...

A couple items of interest which I picked up from the myriad of mail lists I'm on: One deals with a readily available product, which can be used to clean those tatty old engines of yours. It's Castrol's "Super Clean" engine cleaner - get off to your local auto parts dealer. The second is a new decal paper (of all things!), which works in those inkjet printers (the color kind) you have attached to your computers. Print on this new transfer paper, and you have a water-slide decal for your models! Neat for detailing up those scale machines of yours still in the hopper. Course.. This stuff would work for other model decorating jobs, as well! Here's some relevant info:

*MICRO FORMAT INC.*, 830-3 Seton Court, Wheeling, Illinois 60090 has announced success in creating the first real water slip decal that can be printed using a color ink-jet printer: SuperCal Ink Jet Decal Paper and Last-Step Decal Spray.

To create your own decals, simply print photographs and graphics on SuperCal Ink Jet Decal Paper. Next spray the entire sheet with Last-Step Decal Spray; cut the image to size, and place the decal in a saucer of water. Within ten seconds a thin decal film will begin to slide along the backer sheet. Slide the decal off onto a smooth surface and let set for 24 hours. SuperCal Ink Jet Decals will adhere to metal, plastic, glass... The kit contains five sheets of Decal Paper, a can of Last-Step Decal Spray, and instructions. The kit price is \$20.00.

For additional information, contact Micro Format at (800) 333-0549 or visit their Imagination Gallery web site at <<http://www.paper-paper.com>>.

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**ETC.**

Imagine that! Batteries that you pour "fuel" into, rather than hitting them with a charger! What won't they think of. Gives a whole new meaning to "hit the switch and go!" Found this on the slow-fly mail list I'm on..

SCHAUMBURG, Ill., Jan 19 (Reuters) - Motorola Inc. said on Wednesday that researchers developed a powerful, miniature fuel cell that may one day replace traditional batteries in laptop computers, cellular phones and other devices.

Motorola, the world's No. 2 wireless phone maker and a major computer chip manufacturer, said scientists at its labs and at Los Alamos National Laboratory used liquid methanol to power the cells, which last up to 10 times longer

than existing rechargeable batteries. Liquid methanol, a wood alcohol, is also used in windshield wiper fluid.

The fuel cells, which are still about three to five years away from the store shelves, could power a wireless phone for more than a month and keep a laptop running for 20 hours, Bill Ooms, director of Motorola's material, device, and energy research, said in a telephone interview.

They would use small plastic canisters similar to those used for fountain pen ink. Consumers could easily check the methanol level to find out when to replace the fuel cell, which will likely cost as much as or less than traditional rechargeables, Ooms said.

"Manufacturers are constantly developing new features for portable electronic equipment that require more power and longer operating life," Ooms said. "These fuel cells have an amazing ability to produce energy for longer periods of time while weighing far less than conventional batteries."

Fuel cells convert chemical energy directly to electrical energy. The basic concept of a fuel cell originated in 1839, but practical applications came from NASA in the early days of space flight, Motorola said.

These new miniature cells, each measuring about one inch square and less than one-tenth of an inch in thickness, use a reservoir of inexpensive methanol that, when combined with the oxygen in the air, produces electricity.

The "air breathing" fuel cell was developed at Los Alamos National Laboratory. The highly simplified and miniaturized design eliminates the need for air pumps, heat exchangers and other complex devices that previous fuel cells required and therefore disqualified them from successful use in small portable electronic products.

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Remember the Cleveland Model Show coming up.. The AAGMC and the CAS needs *your* support. Sure was good to see the Old Professor and Shirley at the January meeting! They both looked pretty spiffy to me... Give Pauley a call if your able to be a Show judge - there is a REAL shortage for this somewhat thankless task.. Lots to do.. Little time - Ain't we been there?

See ya... Gotta go build... Build. **HAPPY WINTER!** **8^}**