

AMA Charter 1983 - Founded March 30,
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- The Plane Facts -
August 2002

NEXT CLUB MEETING

The *American Airlines Gas Model Club* has suspended its Club meetings until October. This newsletter and our **AAGMC** web site will however, continue to apprise the members of **Club** related activities and news.

2002 AAGMC OFFICERS

President Paul Bianco
(440) 845-5954
V.Pres. Dick Matejka
Secretary Jim Knodel
Treasurer Henry Horn
Sgt. at Arms Mike Labosky
Club Photog. Adam Snelly
Elec. Media Coord. Don King

2002 MEMBERSHIP DUES

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

Remember: The **Club** will not be meeting until October (when it'll be back to Busch's)! For the interim, we'll continue shipping out the **Plane Facts** on a regular basis, and Don's **AAGMC** Web site will keep folks up to date on scheduling changes, etc.

Sheesh! We sure did goober up the Buzzard and Picnic dates last month! Lots of apologies for all that misinformation... I think I was looking at my notes from one of the early Spring meetings, rather than the correct dates noted in the May ***Plane Facts***!! Even if I'd have looked at the calendar... Hmmm.

- FROM THE BOARD -

From the Pres......the first order of business is to send out a big **AAGMC** THANK YOU to the Sykora family for recovering the west portion of our runway! Due to the abundant rain this spring, Don was unable to cut that end of the runway and of course the grass grew to a height that required special equipment. That's where Jay and family came to our rescue and took on

this enormous task (took almost an entire day) so we all can enjoy our long runway again. While on the subject of grass cutting, our lawn tractor engine is currently in a machine shop for an intake valve seat repair. Although a new engine is our goal, Warren offered to repair the engine at no cost to the club. The thought is that the repair will get us through this year and we can save for and buy a new engine next year, at the beginning of the grass-cutting season and get full use of the warranty. Well, another Buzzard Air Force fun fly and **AAGMC** family picnic has come and gone. We had perfect weather (a little warmer on Sunday) and about 20 folks showed up on each day. There was some awesome flying on Saturday as we welcomed a gentleman from the Erie County Cloud Dancers (hope I got that right) who brought two 40% scale models. If you watch the R/C magazines, I am sure you have seen pictures of these giants hanging on the propeller / hovering just a few feet from the ground. Well, that's the type of flying we witnessed with these 37 lb plus aircraft. Just incredible. As for the **AAGMC** family picnic on Sunday, thanks to Dick & Rose Matejka for donating the main food items, and for baking some summer time yummy items too! As usual, Chef Marvin did the grilling and wife Rita brought a yummy Italian bean casserole in a 1/4 sale dish! (Man, I will never lose weight with Rita and Rose making all these goodies?what a way to go). Anyway, we are tossing around a date (September 29th) to have our Pasta fun fly at our field. Many folks are interested in attending this family event and in case you are wondering what a Pasta fun fly is: Simple, if you have a homemade pasta sauce that is just the best on earth, just cook up a pot full and bring it on out to the field. We have 3 grills a blazing to keep everything warm. I must stop talking about food this late at night. Keep an eye on our Web site and please drive and fly safely at our field. Later?.

Paul's Events for August:

Electric open contest~
Sunday 4 Aug. 10:00 am
Sunday 18 Aug. 10:00 am

Have You Heard?

And the Marv adds his observations for the end of July's festivities.. You will recall that those are the ones for which I had totally hosed up the dates for... Yeppir!

...Hi Lar (He likes me!!)

I did get out on Saturday. Sunday was warm, ok very warm with a breeze now and then. The electric contest went off without any problems. Finished up and went right into cooking burgers for the attending members and families. We had someone new

on the hotdog grill: Ruth (Harry's wife). A big thank you to Paulee and Rose and Dick for seeing that most everything was there and ready for consumption. Some lucky guy won a pre-built 20 size trainer with a motor already installed. I think we all enjoyed ourselves and even got in a little flying while we were at it.

Thanks to all who helped and attended.

Uncle Marv

[*Thanks for the commentary, Marv... ed.]*

On a slightly different tack, I'm wondering if you'all read the really nifty article in the July 14th, Sunday **Plain Dealer** about the North Coast Conrtoliners Club? I thought that piece was an excellent PR job for those folks, as well as modeling in northeast Ohio in general. My hats off to Mr. Brian Albrecht for writing a quite in-depth, and upbeat column particularly with all the negativity one is being bombarded with these days! Even the color pics included were great - and one of a Bendix racing Corsair ought to get Mr. Snelly's blood going... If you missed it, I saved the whole section and will bring it to a meeting this Fall once we get back in that groove...

Speaking of neat things - model aviation wise, in a real recent issue of one of the mags I get at work (job related stuff!) was a big article on "mini UAVs". The title, check this: "*War on Terrorism Boosts Deployment of Mini-UAVs*". The magazine, the prestigious **Aviation Week & Space Technology**, July 8. Over the next couple issues of the Plane Facts, I'll try to get some of the pics from this piece in here so you can see what Uncle Sam's Army, Navy, and Air Force has been "playing" with. These model sized unmanned (sic!) vehicles are being used as battlefield surveillance weapons among other purposes. Imagine a 4 foot span electric that looks for all the world like an ARF one

could get from Tower! Seriously. The article goes on to say that these airplanes - hate to call them models!, are being used most likely already in Afghanistan... Outfits like Lockheed-

Martin's Skunk works and AeroVironment are among a couple of those mixed up in their production and development. Ya gotta luv it. Can't wait until I can get some pics in here!

Speaking of pics, this thing is brewing a peeve (SP?) on my part: It's supposed to be a Cessna L-19 Bird Dog from the late 50's through the Vietnam era. What I object to, and this model is from a construction article in this month's **Model Airplane News**, is that it's billed as a "sport scale" L-19. Hey - it doesn't look like any L-19 I ever saw! There are a growing legion of kids and older modelers who've never seen a real Bird Dog, and this sort of mis-identification will certainly degrade the zest for building a real sport scale model!! The sad part is that one of the co-authors ought to know better! He sells scale model kits for combat, that aren't that bad on average...

... OK.. I said it. I feel better. Having a semi soft spot for the old Bird Dog didn't help any! Hey - for those who have an electric-bent, has anyone seen the new GWS (makers of the infamous "Lite Stick") model of the DH Beaver? L-20 I think... Anyway, it doesn't **remotely** look like a Beaver!! Not sure what it *does* look like - but it ain't a DeHav. Beaver! Yuk.

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Even if you're not a motor-glider driver.. Do make it a date to head out to some of Phil's "contests" just to gawk and chat, as well as possibly lend a hand at timing and such (Toth & them guys usually make you do things like that!). These are a great bunch of guys (Well.. OK - Some of them are...) and it's a lot of fun anyway.

Yo..Veronica - Gotta land this, ya know. 8^}