

# The Flightline

Volume 31, Issue 4

Newsletter of the Propstoppers RC Club

AMA 1042

April 2001

## ***Fields of Dreams, But We Need Help***

Outstanding work by Chris Catania has resulted in an agreement with the tenant farmer of Sleighton Farm and the Sleighton School administration for the Propstoppers to lease a new flying field. The final lease together with the AMA insurance policy is under review for the necessary legal provisions. By the time you read this we expect to be the legal tenants of the new "Sleighton Field Flying Site" although this is currently a temporary name.

Work is planned to prepare the site for an expected mid May operational condition.

Initially a work party is necessary to conduct the primary preparation of the surface to lay the foundation for a superb grass finish.

More details inside

7 **Mike Black** ✈️



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## **Field Work Days Scheduled**

### **Moore Field**

**Sat 24<sup>th</sup> March 10 a.m.**

### **Sleighton Field**

**Sun 1<sup>st</sup> April 12 noon**

Bring your rakes, gloves and strong backs to help in the Rites of Spring.

## Calendar of Events

### Field Preparation Events

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 10 a.m.  
Clean up at Moore Field

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April, 12 noon  
Sleighton Field preparation.

### Club Meeting

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2001  
Marple Newtown Library 7:30 p.m.

### Regular Club Flying

At Moore Field  
Every Saturday and Sunday weather permitting

Daily	10 am til Dusk
Saturday	10 am til Dusk
Sunday	12 p.m. till Dusk

## Propstoppers RC Club of Delaware County, Pennsylvania. Club Officers

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## The President's Message

**Mike Black**

Dear Fellow Propstoppers

It has been a busy month trying to make the final arrangements for the workdays and the new field.

Chris Catania has been the busy one. His meetings, writing, and phone calls to Mr. Schlossberg (the farmer), Mr. Cramp (the man in charge at Sleighton School), the AMA, and myself have occupied much of his time. We have just received the insurance certificates from AMA.

Mr. Schlossberg and Mr. Cramp are having the lease reviewed and we hope to have it in place by the end of the month. If all goes according to plan we should be flying at the new site by mid May.

Chris feels it will take a month to six weeks for the grass to take hold and be able to be mowed for the first time. The timing is good, now we just have to say a prayer for favorable weather conditions.

We are planning an intensive workday at Moore Field on Saturday, March 24 at 10:00 AM. We need as many members as possible with steel rakes, shovels, gloves, and muscle. We will cut down and remove two small clumps of trees below the runway. We also plan to knock down the old bird tree.

The work-intensive part will be raking out the newly cut area after Dick Seiwel goes over it one more time with the brush hog. There will be a few small root systems that need to be removed. If you have a good pry bar, please plan to bring it.

Plan to use some Deep Woods Off or other tick repellent and make sure to apply it to your cuffs, collar, hat, socks, etc., as the ticks are already active.

If you have been unable to help with other projects, here is your chance to make a contribution.

The workday at Sleighton School will be Sunday, April 1 at noon. The work will consist of removing small stones from the new runway, raking, seeding and covering it with straw. The size of the new runway, 50,000 square feet, will require many hands. Please bring your rakes, shovels, and gloves. The more members who show up the easier and faster it will be.

I want to thank all of you in advance for your help and for giving Propstoppers your time and labor. We are all indebted to Chris Catania for the time, effort, and planning involved in this acquisition.

We need to bring our calendars to the April meeting to finalize our flying season events.

I will see you at the fields at both workdays. Lets get out there and get the job done.

**Mike** 

## March 6th, 2001 Meeting Minutes

### **Russell Neithammer**

Vice President Dick Seiwel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM at Marple Library.

Membership Chairman **Ray Wopatek** read the roll call - there were 24 members and 2 guests present.

The minutes of the February 6, 2001 meeting were approved as published in the March 2001 newsletter, by the membership.

Treasurer **Al Gurewicz** gave the treasurer's report with income of \$662.60, expenses of \$69.70 and a new balance of \$3908.53 reported.

8 new members were welcomed to the club.

### **Old Business**

New field selection chairman **Chris Catania** had the following news to report:

The Sleighton field sublease terms with the farmer were presented. The club will be able to take possession on April 1, 2001. The site location was explained and Chris had an aerial photo marked to show the proposed runway size and orientation. Fieldwork will be required. Chris has arranged for the use of a bulldozer and a rockhound. Hay will need to be applied after the grass (triple threat) is sown, and fertilizer will also be needed. It is expected that the runway will be usable in about a month after preparation.

The Central Penn Aeromodeler's Flea Market at the Lebanon Fairgrounds is this Saturday, March 10.

Send classified ads for sale items or items wanted, to newsletter editor **Dave Harding**, for free publication in the newsletter.

### **New Business**

Fieldwork days:

Sat., March 24, 10:00 AM at Moore Field - Please bring rakes, pry bar and or picks to dig up a few roots.

Sunday, April 1, 12 Noon at Sleighton Field - Please bring rakes, and shovels. If you have access to a spreader for seed and fertilizer, Especially a large one that could be towed behind his Cadet tractor, please call Dick Seiwel.

In order to cover the cost of leasing the Sleighton Field without depleting the club treasury, a \$20.00 per member dues assessment was proposed by the board. A motion was recommended and seconded, and was approved by membership vote.

A plan for activities involving the Sleighton Students, based on prior programs the club has conducted in other schools, will be given to the Sleighton School officials for their consideration.

Club activities for the 2001 flying season were planned.

- Picnic – June 23 (tentative) – location TBD
- Electric Fun Fly – Need to consult with Dave Harding and Walt Bryan
- Some sort of July event – ideas?
- Combat event?
- Night flight – on hold until the club becomes more established at Sleighton
- Mall show – or could show planes at the Marple Library?

### **Break**

The 50-50 winner was **Al Tamburro**.

### **Show and Tell**

**Mark Berkmeier** (guest) had borrowed the new videotape of WWII aircraft, and reports that there is lots of great footage, including unlisted coverage of the B25.

Vice President Dick Seiwel adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM.

**Rusty** 



## The New Club Field Project

By Mike Black

Sleighton Field (Temporary Name)

The new field will require a great deal of work. If you look at Dave's photo and imagine a 500 foot long by 100 foot wide runway you will realize that the new runway will be almost four times the area of Dallett Field, which was approximately 330 feet by 40 feet.

The pits will extend approximately 60 feet wide to the Southeast of the runway. The driveway and parking 40 feet to the Southeast of that bringing us to the tree line. Our lease will give us a total of 600 feet by 200 feet.

We are planning to rent a bulldozer and level it on Saturday, March 31. The field is already flatter than Dallett, however we want to re-grade some of the area for the possible future addition of a structure and for pilot stand locations.

The runway has and will have a tilt toward the pilot from the Northwest to Southeast. We do not feel that this will pose any serious problems.



After the bulldozer, we will rent a rockhound to dig up and collect rocks and stones. These will be deposited in the driveway area to fill in a few ruts and make driving in easier.

After the rockhound we will need to rake out the entire field. We hope to tow a rake behind Dick Seiwel's Cadet garden tractor to do most of this work. If you have access to a large seeder it may come in handy. If you

know where we can rent or borrow one for the day, please contact Dick.

We will then seed and fertilize the entire area. The grass we plan to use is called triple threat. It is perennial and with a little help from Mother Nature should fill in and grow quickly in the spring. We will then need to put down straw over the entire field to keep moisture in, the birds out and help protect from any heavy rainfall. Then its wait and see time.

Hopefully, we will be able to cut it for the first time in three to four weeks, a second time two weeks later and begin flying immediately after that.

The cost of the above is approximately \$1,500. That is assuming no problems, washouts, etc. The rent on this field is \$1,400. If you had any question about the dues assessment this should answer them.

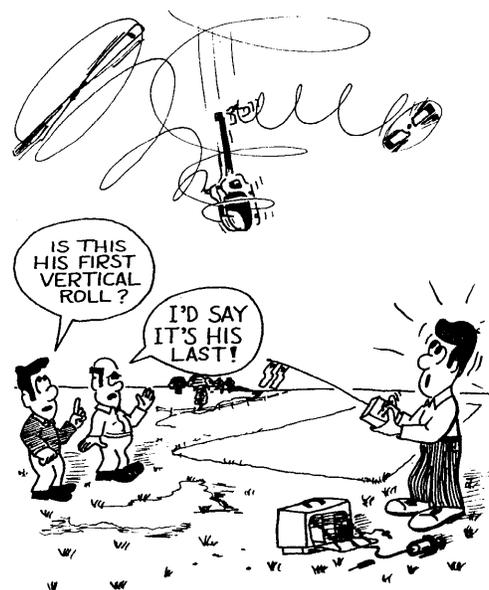
Chris priced the equipment rental, seed, fertilizer and straw costs.

We are putting plans for a structure on hold until we get in there and build up a report with the farmer and with Sleighton.

The lease is year to year, because the farmer's lease is year to year. We may want to wait until this time next year to plan and construct a structure. We can talk about that at the meeting.

Please plan to come out and help out on Sunday.

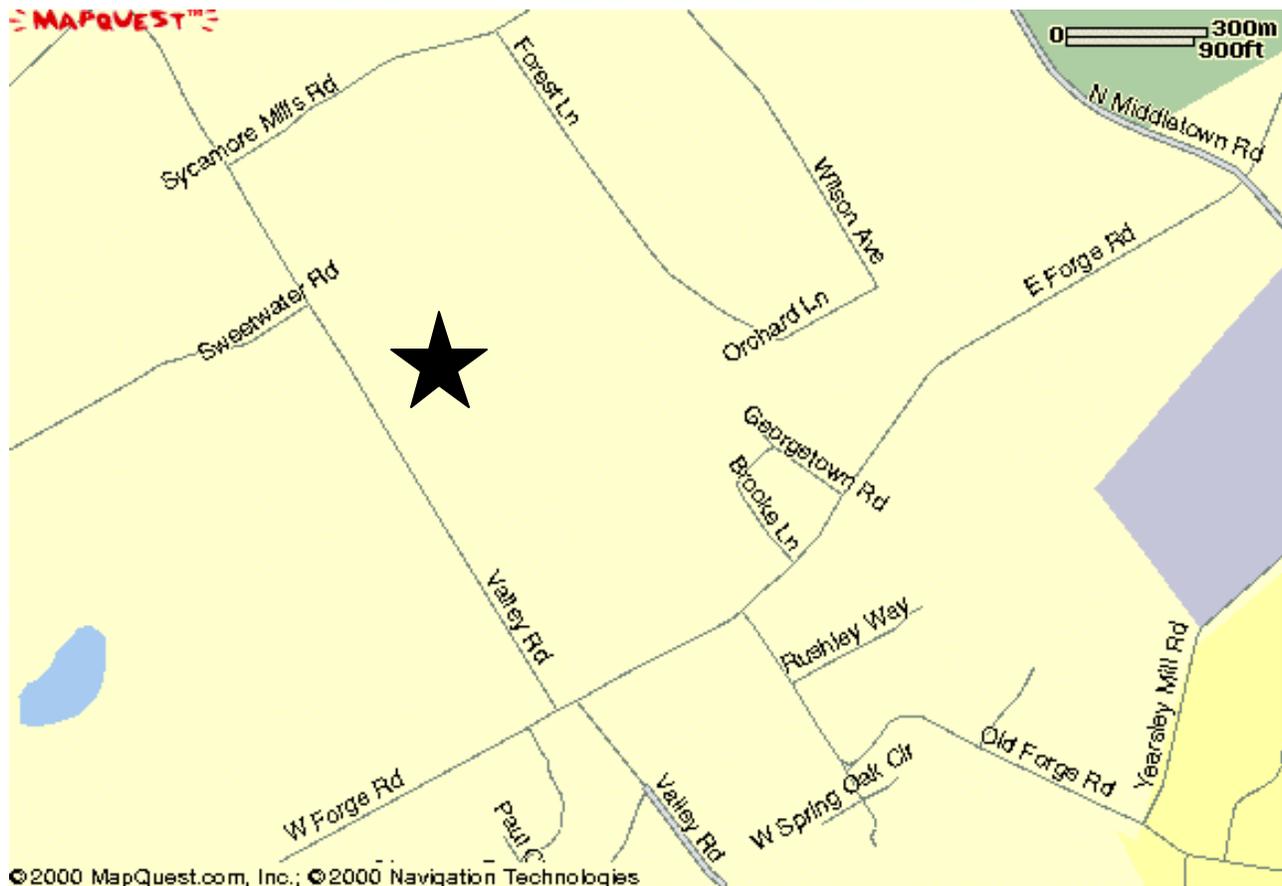
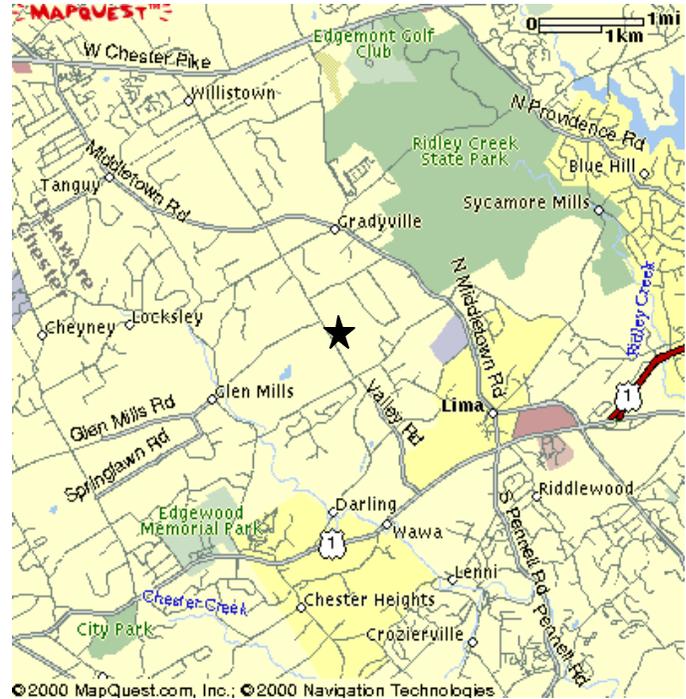
Mike 



## Directions to The New Propstoppers Sleighton Field

From Granite Run Mall, take Rt. 352 North to Forge Road on the left. Turn on Forge Road to Valley road on the right. Turn right onto Valley road then drive past the school on your right and turn in right on the gravel road in front of the church. Follow the road into the field.

From West Chester Pike, take Rt. 352 South to Valley road. Take Valley road past Sweetwater Road (on the right) and turn left into the gravel road in front of the church.



Aerial photo of Sleighton Farm and the field site downloaded from the Microsoft Terraserver web site. Photo is from the USGS National Aerial Photography Program. The field is located at; **75W 28' 17 "**,**39N 55' 48"**  
**The region of our lease is shown approximately on the picture. In the future we will develop a map with the local residences so we know the areas to avoid.**



## Central Penn Flea Market Trek

By Mike Black

**CENTRAL PENN  
AEROMODELERS ASSOC.**

**21st Annual Radio Control  
FLEA MARKET**

<p><b>PLACE:</b> LEBANON FAIRGROUNDS Intersection of Cornwall Road and Rocherty Road, Lebanon, PA</p> <p><b>DATE:</b> Saturday, <b>MARCH 10, 2001</b> (Regardless of weather)</p> <p><b>TIME:</b> 9:00 A.M. for General Admission 7:00 A.M. for Table Renters Only til 3:00 P.M.</p> <p><b>PUBLIC INVITED !</b></p> <p><small>Admission: \$5.00 Donation (Under 12 free) Tables: \$10.00 (5 ft. long) Wall Tables: \$14.00 each (5 ft. long)</small></p>	<p>Easy access from PA Turnpike Exit No. 20</p> <p>See Map on Back</p> <p>Table Reservations Recommended !</p> <p>To Pre-Register for tables, send table rent plus \$5 per person (payable to CPAA) with S.A.S.E. to: CPAA P.O. Box 1303 Carlisle, PA 17013-1303</p> <p><b>For Info, Call:</b> <b>(717) 960-8170</b></p>
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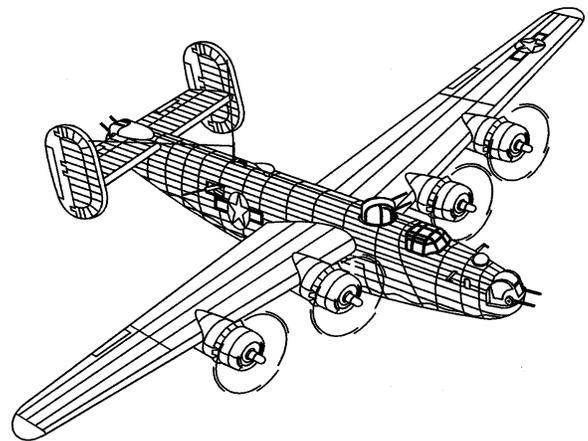
... featuring : Radio Controlled airplanes, sailplanes, cars,  
boats, control-line airplanes, and related accessories.

models from rekkited oldies to brand spanking new quarter scales with \$1,400 price tags. One interesting table offered many new models of old time kits.

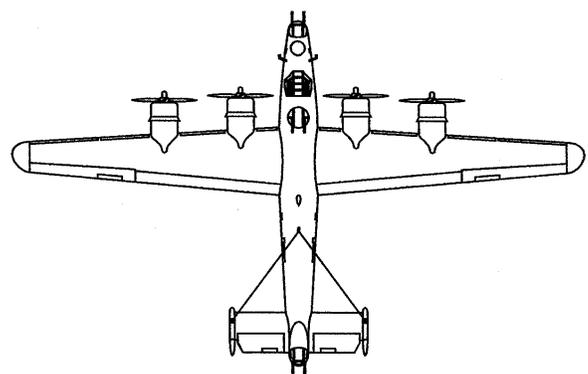
I brought home a kit and a rebuilt Sportster biplane. There were some nice tools and accessories for sale. If you haven't been to the Central Penn Aeromodelers Sale before, plan to go next year. You won't regret it.

**Mike**

## 80 inch B-24 Electric?



Four speed 400 motors direct drive, eight cells and a modest speed controller. Foam wing and fuselage and balsa empennage. Should be an inexpensive way to participate in the Warbirds Over Series. It should fly as well as my "Bristol Freighter". Anyone care to join me?



**Dave Harding**

Many members made the annual trek to Lebanon for the Central Penn Aeromodelers sale. We could have held a meeting.

Several members had sale tables. Marty Bakalorz was peddling his two different combat ship kits and various other items with the help of Ray Wopatek, John Mulliken and J D Mulliken.

New member, Warren Barrick had a table with some very nice models for sale and Ed Goretzka had a table hidden in the annex.

This was the first time that I witnessed the crowd and brisk activity in the annex. This event has definitely grown over the last three years.

I also saw Chris Catania looking for electric motors, Adam Kraut and father Bill looking for planes and for a starter kit for his younger brother, Al Tamburro and girlfriend looking for and finding a two for one kit deal of the century, and John Zebuski and wife.

I heard that Bob and Charlie Crowell were both there, but I didn't run into them.

Jess Davis and Al Gurewicz joined me for a pleasant ride up and back. We stopped for breakfast on the way up and lunch on the way back. . It made for a nice day of comradeship and modeling fun.

The show had a wide array of old and new

Dave Harding – Editor  
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# Propstoppers R.C. M.A.C

**Field Work Days Scheduled**  
**Moore Field**  
**Sat 24<sup>th</sup> March 10 a.m.**  
**Sleighton Field**  
**Sun 1<sup>st</sup> April 12 noon**

If you have an item for sale please call or e-mail me so I can include it in the newsletter.  
  
Dave Harding  
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[Davejean1@home.com](mailto:Davejean1@home.com)

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