



The Flightline



Volume 45, Issue 2 Newsletter of the Propstoppers RC Club AMA 1042 February 2015



President's Message

At the February monthly meeting we will hold an indoor picnic from 6 to 7pm. Club members are providing the food and drink but you can bring something extra to share if you wish. The business meeting will start following the picnic.

Please bring your models or model related stuff for show & tell at the meeting. We have some news about our fields to discuss at the meeting.

Don't forget the Tinicum indoor flying on Friday 6th.

See you at the meeting.

Dick Seiwel, President

Agenda for February 10th Meeting At Gateway Community Church, At our CA Field site; Picnic 6 till 7, Meeting 7pm till 8:30?

1. Indoor Picnic
2. Show and Tell
3. Membership Report
4. Finance Report
5. Club Calendar Review
6. 2015 Dues Reminder

Minutes of the Propstoppers Model Airplane Club January 13th, 2015 at the Christian Academy meeting room

- The meeting was called to order at 7:10
- 22 members were present.
- Roll call was taken, and the treasurer gave his report.
- Al Tamboro reported back that he was unable to obtain a club table at the Lebanon show, but he will try again later in case one becomes available due to cancellations.
- No information is yet available on our hopes of getting a better flying area at Elwyn now that the farmer has gone
- To show our appreciation to the church we made a donation of cans of soup for their food drive.
- Next month we will hold an indoor picnic before the meeting - so be early !!! Plan for 6:00 PM.
- Bill Fili a WWII B-24 bomber crewman has agreed to be a speaker at a future club meeting to recount his war experiences.
- Eric Hofberg opened his model train display to visitors at Xmas time which is always a success and much appreciated. This time he introduced a food and cash collection for a local charity, with excellent results.

Show & Tell

- Eric Hofberg had a WW II range finder for determining if attacking aircraft were within range of the defenders guns. (looked like a sophisticated version of the Dam Busters bomb sight, which I believe was two dowels in a piece of wood!)
- Al Tamboro showed his Kaos vintage pattern plane, updated to electric with a motor that showed no lack of urge.
- Dwayne Meyers showed parts for a twin rotor helicopter he is building, including some produced with his 3D printer.
- Ron Lauser showed his battery discharger.
- Larry Woodward brought two of his foam board flyers built with combat in mind. He issued a challenge to club members to join him in battle.

Mick Harris for Dick Bartkowski, Secretary

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Calendar of Events

Club Meetings

Monthly Meetings

Second Tuesday of the month.

Gateway Community Church at the Christian Academy. Doors open at 7:00

Next Meeting; 13th January

Tuesday Breakfast Meeting

Tom Jones Restaurant on Edgemont Avenue in Brookhaven. 9 till 10 am. Just show up.

Flying after in the summer at CA or Elwyn Field 10 am. Weather permitting.

Indoors at the Brookhaven Gym in bad weather 10:30-11:30 See dates allowable.

Regular Club Flying

At Old Christian Academy; **Electric Only**

Monday through Friday after school till dusk

Saturday 10 am till dusk

Sunday, after Church; 12 pm till dusk

At Elwyn Field; Gas or Electric

Monday through Saturday 8 am till dusk

Sunday 12 pm till dusk

INDOOR Flying, see attached dates.

Special Club Flying

Saturday mornings 10 am

Wednesday Helicopter evening in summer

Thursday evenings in the summer

Tuesday mornings 10 am weather permitting after breakfast.

Check our Yahoo Group for announcements;

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/propstoppers/>

Beginners

Beginners using due caution and respecting club rules may fly Apprentice or similar models without instructors at Christian Academy Field.

The club also provides the AMA Introductory Pilot Program for beginners without AMA insurance.

Propstoppers RC Club of
Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

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Indoor Report

The last indoor event was held Saturday night 1/17/15 at the Brookhaven Municipal Building. It was probably the best indoor this year with 14 flyers, most with multiple planes.

Every session had 4 to 6 models flying, and minimal crashes, LOL, and lots of spectators. There were at least as many spectators as pilots. And that was just family, and friends, of club members. There were at least that many, mostly children, from another event that was going on in the building. Several were R/C pilots from The South. They weren't familiar with indoor flying, but, they were having a great time, and we had some good conversations.

Oh, lots of flying. Quads are becoming more popular all the time. Even several totally built out of 3-D printed parts. Very unique

Larry Woodward is going wild building dollar store foamies, even getting together with Al Tamburro to build some models for R/C combat. Larry is also building ultralight models; basically rubber models converted to electric. Joe Paradine is also getting into rubber models. He really likes it.

We had several junior pilots. Larry Kuzman's grandson, Evan, who is quite a flyer. We also have a young lady, Katie, Kevin Murphy's niece, who is working hard to get real good with her heli.

The homemade quad was built by Dwayne Meyers. He also designed and built the 3-D printer. really cool to watch it work.

Next month's dates are;

TINICUM 2-6-15 6:30 TO 9:30
BROOKHAVEN 2-17-15 6:30 TO 9:30

Come on out. Best \$2.00 you can spend

Chuck

Tech Input Needed

Those who attend the monthly meetings at the Church know we keep the front door closed during the meetings. Some even know that if you arrive late you might not get in because it is hard to get the attention of the members who are engaged in deep debate.

Well we need a solution, a way someone at the front door can get the attention of those inside. One way is to call President Dick Seiwell on his cell phone; (610) 322-7496 but we would rather have another method.

Apparently a cordless bell push has insufficient range to reach all the way from the front door to the meeting room. Can you extend the range?

Perhaps an old transmitter left at the door with a receiver and servo banging a gong would work.

Taut string and two cans?

A can of small pebbles and a mark on the target room window?

Come on guys, there has to be a solution out there.

Report from NoCal - Slope Soaring at Fort Funston

Al Cheung

Just returned from a trip to Fort Funston in Pacifica today for a walk with our dogs at the beach and brought along my Radian and the Adagio.



The conditions were perfect for entry level slope soaring at the ocean with 0-5 mph onshore winds. It was nice to have the motor just in case. The Radian was awesome. The plane's performance continues to amaze me. I flew it with a 1800 3 cell battery for weight and it is heavily reinforced with packing tape but it still seems to float effortlessly in response to the smallest hint of lift. It was my first experience soaring off the ocean cliffs and it is as great as I had imagined.



The Adagio also flew well in the conditions, but was much more tricky to fly and required constant inputs to keep it from crashing onto the beach.

I just posted a video of the Radian. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2bqLyWeVsKc>

Flying out here is very different than in PA. Last weekend there was a quad copter expo at the Baylands park in Sunnyvale and pylons were set up on the field for FPV quad copter races.

Al

Drone maker DJI bans Washington flights after White House crash

From BBC News website; <http://www.bbc.com/news/technology-31023750>



The Secret Service found a DJI Phantom drone on the White House's south lawn

The Chinese manufacturer of a drone that crashed into the White House lawn earlier this week is taking action to prevent repeat incidents. DJI said it would publish a firmware update in the "coming days" that would prevent its kit flying inside Washington DC's restricted airspace. It added that a later update would stop aircraft crossing national borders.

Owners of the Phantom 2 family of drones will need to download the firmware and install it for the restrictions to take effect, and it is possible that programmers will be able to de-activate the limitations in new models, which will come with the code pre-installed.



Phantom 2 models will use GPS data to check whether they are entering a restricted zone

But the Shenzhen-based firm said it would tell customers that the update was "mandatory", making it impossible for them to add other future features if the firmware was not already in place.

"With the unmanned aerial systems community growing on a daily basis, we feel it is important to provide pilots with additional tools to help them fly safely and responsibly," said Michael Perry, a DJI spokesman.

"We will continue co-operating with regulators and lawmakers to ensure the skies stay safe and open for innovation."

He added that the firm had already intended to expand the kit's no fly zone system - which works by checking a drone's GPS location data to ensure it is not taking off from or flying into a restricted area, such as an airport runway.

But he told the BBC that the safety features were being "pushed out a bit earlier" than originally planned following the recent incidents.

'The eagle has crash-landed'

On Monday, the US Secret Service launched an investigation after one of DJI's Phantom drones was found on the grounds of the White House in the early hours of the morning.

It later emerged that [the device had been flown](#) by another government worker - an unnamed member of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency - while drunk, operating the device through the window of a nearby apartment.

He was not arrested, but the incident prompted calls for new rules to safeguard the President and others.

"The eagle has crash-landed in Washington," declared Senator Charles Schumer. "There is no stronger sign that clear FAA guidelines for drones for needed."

The Federal Aviation Administration is currently working on controls to govern the commercial use of small drones, but [there have been reports](#) that it might not be ready to issue them until 2017 or later.

In the meantime, DJI's firmware should prevent at least some of its drones from being able to take flight within the 25km (15.5 mile)-radius zone of restricted airspace centered on the Washington Monument.

So, Propstopper IT experts, how about developing the code to keep them on the patch at Christian Academy Field?

Dave

Fun in the Arizona Desert Sun 2015 Style

Once again your editor made the pilgrimage to the Arizona Desert in Eloy to fly at the Southwest Regionals model contest. We fly Old Timers but there were contests for the latest free flight models too. This year the weather was outstanding; overnight in the high 40s and into the sunny 70s during the day. Winds were mostly light to moderate with periods of calm during midday. Indeed, the typical weather is for a wind from the East in the morning then becoming calm followed by a change in direction and slight increase in speed in the afternoon. I expect this is one of those rotation of the earth effects where the desert to the east is heated and the air expands driving into the cold western land. Then the reverse later in the day. Anyway, the conditions were ideal for flying.

I had shipped my contest models to Los Angeles by Greyhound as I will use them in



Dave and old Seattle friend Colin Widdison with the Boehle Giant getting ready for a check flight

Eloy then later in the year at the SAM Champs in Boulder City. Here are a few shots of flying and the customary BBQ under the desert night sky.



Weather's Westerner with a Brown Jr. Ignition engine ready to fly at Eloy



Pure Magic under the Western Desert Stars



East Meets West at the Rose Bowl

Dave meets with Al Cheung and West Coast flying, eating and drinking buddy Mike Myers for a flying session at the Rose Bowl. Al came down from Palo Alto to visit his folks and took the opportunity to do some SoCal flying.





Well, it was a bit nippy at 7:30 in the morning at 45 degrees but the southern California sun is strong at any time of the year so the flying conditions were almost perfect. Almost you ask? Well the sun was a bit of a problem from the model visibility point of view.

All flew most of our models including my West Coast Delta, similar to my East Coast one but with thinner blue foam. The Mountain Models Magpie has seen a long and rough life in Pasadena but it was in good flying shape this morning and Al put it through its paces.

He then flew Mike's T-28 and Hellcat (?) foamies. They performed well too.

So we earned a fine Sunday breakfast after flying, sitting outdoors of course!

It was great meeting up with Al, who asks to be remembered to the Propstoppers members.

Dave

Larry Woodward's Foam Works

This plane was my Show-n-tell at the last meeting. It is my first attempt at a build from the web forum Experimental Airlines. This guy is the original developer of the "Armin Wing" design for folding airfoils from sheet foam and packing tape, which is now an industry standard.

His approach is to create a "kit" of generic components, wing, fuselage and control surfaces, that can be freely combined in many ways to "experiment" with alternative designs. This plane is his basic "Noob Tube" fun flyer with 30" straight wing and 3"X3" fuselage tube. I then made up

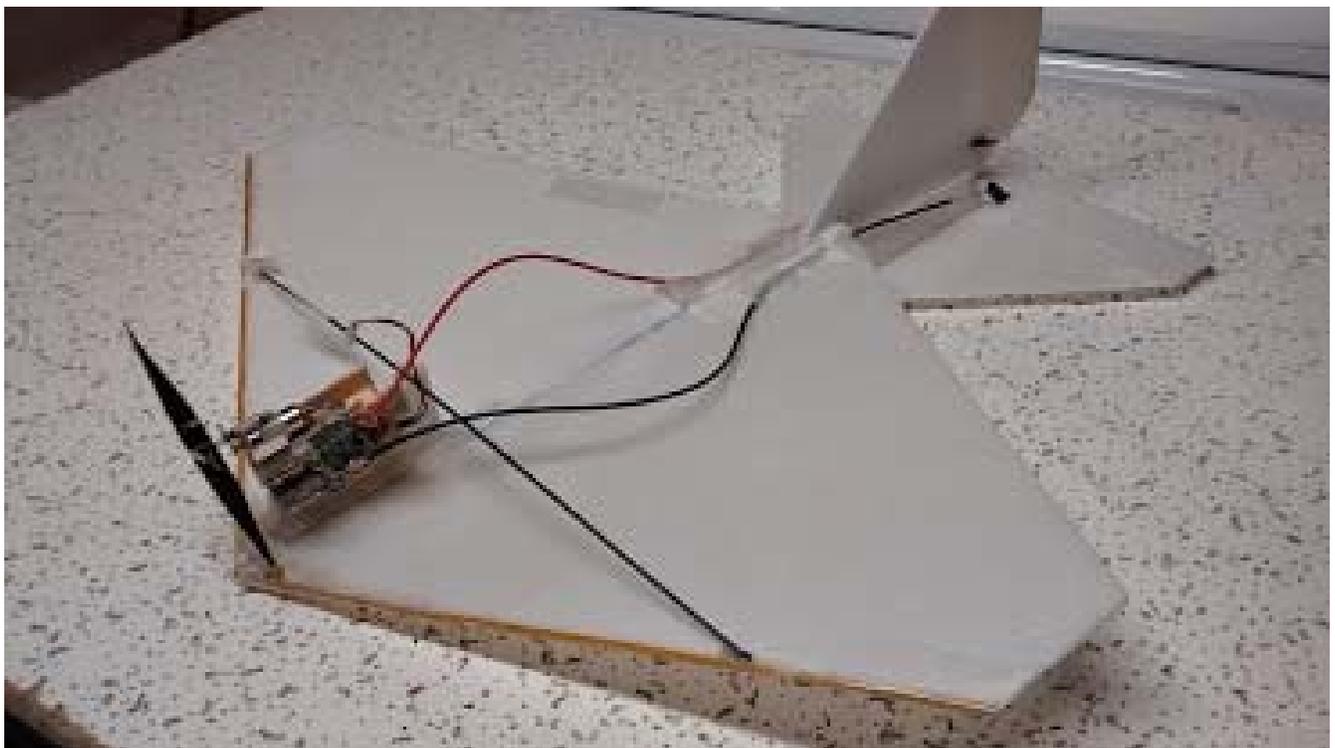
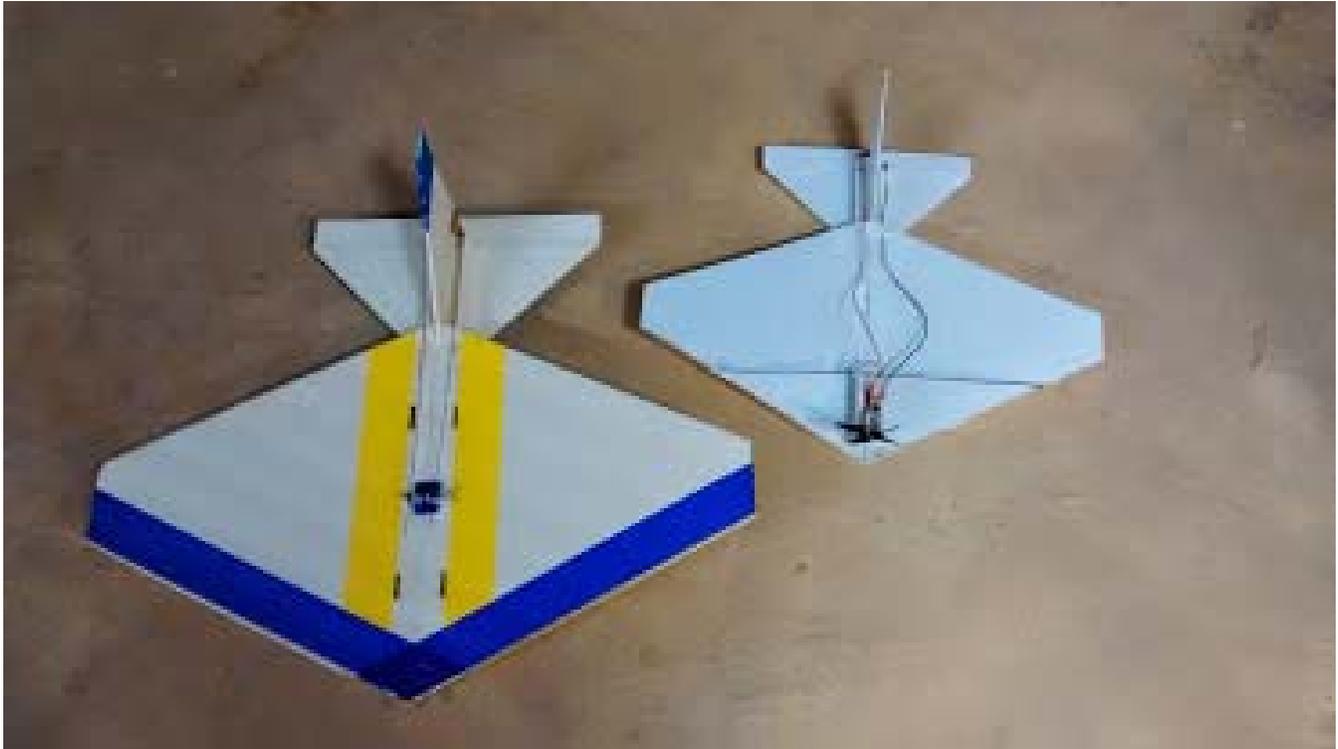
my own wing tip extensions that turn the fun flyer into a motor glider. I also incorporated my version of the Dave-Harding-removable-tail-surfaces design for easy break-down and transport.

Flight testing of the basic 30" fun flyer proved successful, but not enthusiastic. Let's just say it can be flown. The first tests of the glider wing extensions, however, were not successful. Take-offs reliably cartwheeled to the left and then straight into the ground. I'll try again after VERY careful inspection of the alignments and airfoil consistency as well as CG adjustments.



This is video of my latest indoor project that was maiden at Tinicum gym. This is a 75% reduction of the FT Flyer that I showed at the last club meeting. It is powered by a UMX 3X brick that was salvaged from a member's crashed micro park flyer. I built this in response to a challenge made on the Flight Test web site for someone to build an FT design model that will run on a 1S system. The maiden flight was a little tail heavy, but I think does show proof of concept. With further adjustments to CG and thrust angle it was flying very well. No accounting, however, for lack of pilot skill.

http://youtu.be/I7A_5CFH4Lc



Larry Woodward.

WWII US Navy Rangefinder Built by Model Train Constructor Gilbert Company

This is a newly acquired WWII U.S. Navy Range Finder that also has a connection to my toy train hobby. The range finder was made by the A.C.



Gilbert company who in peacetime produced chemistry sets, erector sets, lead soldier molding sets, various other toys, and American Flyer toy trains.

During WWII wartime production of metal toys and real automobiles virtually ceased, because metal was considered a strategic material. Major production was shifted to government contracts for war material. The range finder is apparently dependent on first determining the type of aircraft attacking, selecting that aircraft type on the rotary dial, selecting the altitude/range at which you want to commence firing, and finally fitting the wingspan between the two vertical wires in the sight aperture. The wires previously mentioned move closer together or farther apart, depending on the rotation of the selector ring.

Eric Hofberg

Membership Renewal For 2014

Membership renewal for 2015 is now required. You can renew by mail or at the club meeting in February.

Don't lose your club privileges!

Bring cash or check and your AMA card.

Dues are \$60.

Please send a check to;

**Ray Wopatek
1004 Green Lane
Secane, PA. 9018**

**Please enclose a *copy* of your current
A. M. A. Membership card,**

**And Please, Please enclose a
Stamped self-addressed envelope.**

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