

The official newsletter of the Rochester AeroModeling Society

The RAMS HORN

Dedicated to the safe pursuit and advancement of model aviation.

January 1998, Volume 16, Issue 1

Time & Date of this month's meeting:

Thursday, January 29, 1998

DINNER: 6:00 P.M. (PORK CHOPS)

MEETING: 7:00 P.M.

PROGRAM: **AWARDS CEREMONY**

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The Club By-laws require that the by-laws be printed this month. Because of space some of our regular features will not be seen. They will return next month. The Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is a new experience for me, being responsible as president of the RAMS. I've got some pretty big

shoes to fill. . . We've got a good club, and I'm hoping for support from all of you as members, neighbors, friends, and interested newcomers to help out wherever you can.

We owe many thanks for the job well done by our departing board members, Jim Prindle and Bob Nilsen. Much could be said, but I thank both Bob and Jim on behalf of the club for their almost tireless support of the club activities and work contributed on special committees.

The new year started out pretty well for the RAMS. The *Freeze-In* was a successful flying event again. I was told that, although the competition was rough, Dennis Connelly had the first flight in 1998. The wind was a bit rough, but it was fun!

The Board of Directors has assembled a list of award recipients for contributing to the RAMS in some special way during 1997. We will be recognizing these individuals during the program portion of our next meeting. I hope everyone will come to the membership meeting to help show appreciation of the efforts of these individuals.

The BOD has appointed Dane Ottney as coordinator for our flight training program. Dave will be sharing some ideas and requesting support for the 1998 flying season.

I've had quite a few discussions lately from members that are interested in various forms of flying and events. These included pattern, combat, indoor flying, fun flies, mall shows, programs for flight instruction, etc. I hope the membership carries out some of these interesting ideas.

A few of these conversations ended up as requests for a second club flying event. A presentation for a funfly event was given at the last board meeting. The attending board members unanimously voted to support the event and to have the idea brought up at the next membership meeting.

We will be reviewing the club activity schedule during this month's meeting. We will need interested and/or willing volunteers to help plan, coordinate, and carry out each of these activities.

It is a new year and time for new as well as old flying ideas to be discussed. You all should be getting a special invitation from Hugh Jones, past RAMS member, and current member of chapter 44 of the EAA for a trip to Oshkosh.

Keep building and flying. See you at the flying fields!

Ron

RAMS Freeze-In 1998

About 25 RAMS members braved the elements to have a great time flying. The chili was HOT and the food was good. The first flight up for the year 1998 was at 9:20 a.m. The first landing in a tree was made by Rod Curtis the new field Director. Our new president Ron Swift made the first attempted carrier landing of the year on the pavilion. We all look forward to a safe flying year.

RAMS RETIREES

The annual winter luncheon for RAMS Retirees will be held on Wednesday, February 4, 1998, at 12:00 noon, at The Log Cabin Restaurant. No reservations are required and food will be ordered from the menu. The Log Cabin is located at 2445 West Walworth Road, Macedon, NY. Join us for some winter hangar flying and good fellowship. Non-retirees are certainly welcome to join us. If there are any questions concerning this luncheon, call Warren Boudrie, 248-5591 or Bud Seaberg, 586-7324.

Upcoming Events

January 29, 1998 Awards Banquet and Presentation Dinner @ 6:00 P.M. Business meeting follows

April 29, 1998 RAMS Annual Flea Market – During the regular club meeting

July 25 & 26, 1998 RAMS Open House & Air Show at the Macedon Flying Field

August 29, 1998 RAMS Annual Fun Fly at Fordham Field

RAMS Regular Business Meeting

December 19, 1997

The December regular meeting of the **RAMS** was called to order by President **Jim Prindle** at 7:10 P.M. Jim introduced the Club Officers and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Visitors were Gene Faust, Jim Roy and Lindsey Cooper.

Jim Roy was elected to membership.

The minutes were approved as published.

Bud Seaberg presented the Treasurer's report which indicates we are on budget. The proposed Budget was discussed, voted on and approved.

Bob O' Neil reports that we have 26 renewals so far.

Len Kmiecik Jr. reports that Fordham Field is open and flyable.

Jim Prindle has received a report from Bob Nilson stating that the runway extension work has been started. Also, orange pylons have been placed at each end of the runway to assist in defining the field. Jim again requested that we do not overfly the construction operations.

Ron Swift reports that Ed Markowski is taking over as Newsletter Editor. Ron will continue to operate our Web site. As 1998 President, Ron invited any interested member to attend the Board meetings. The Freeze In is on schedule. We need a volunteer Co-ordinator for the Open House in July.

The 50/50 Raffle was won by Dave Redden.

The coffee Host Award was won by Jim Roy.

Jim Prindle reported on the clay removal offer from Mr. Burkwit. This offer will be discussed with Mr. Burkwit after the runway extension work has been completed---- probable meet soon after January 1 st. The committee will then make a report to the club.

Ron Monroe reports that the February program will be about Combat Airplanes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M. and followed by Show and Tell and the Program.

Show and Tell: Ron Monroe brought a seaplane which he built from a Japanese kit. He said it was quite a challenge since he doesn't read Japanese. 59" wingspan OS 25 FSR engine. Covered in Monocote. Len Kmiecik Jr. brought in a

Great Planes Learjet in the course of construction. OS 46 FS engine planned. 55" wingspan. Ron Swift brought in a tiny Jet-X engine whose operation he explained and passed around for examination. He also brought a Fiberglass bodied glider. 139" foam wings sheeted in Obechi. 24 volt geared electric motor. 14x8.5 prop. He plans to fly it at our Open House.

The Program on Laminating was presented by Ed Van Wagner. Ed demonstrated the lamination of the outer framework of a vertical stabilizer. He made it seem simple.

Respectfully submitted,

RAMS Secretary, *Carl Van Voorhis*

RAMS Board of Directors Meeting

December 11, 1997

ATTENDING: Jim Prindle, Ron Swift, Len Kmiecik, Jr., Bob O' Neil, Dave Ottney, Bob Nilsen, Bud Seaberg, and Carl Van Voorhis.

ABSENT: Ron Monroe and Ken Scott.

The meeting was called to order at Bob O' Neil's house at 7:05 P. M.

Bud Seaberg rendered his Treasurers's report that indicates we are in line with our budget. He will contact Warren Boudrie about the annual audit.

Dave Ottney had no safety problems to report. He suggested that we warn newer members about the hazards of older radios which may not meet present standards.

Len Kmiecik Jr. reports that Fordham Field is open. Also, a new windsock is being sewn.

Ron Swift reports that the Annual Auction produced a profit of \$693.35.

Bob O' Neil reports that we have 19 renewals so far.

Jim Prindle reports that Mr. Burkwit is sending us \$1,100.00 for gravel that he has taken out this year. He also, would like to buy 1000 yards of clay @ \$1.00 per yard. Apparently the area he would like to draw from is the hill to the West that we are using as a source for our runway extension. A committee is to meet with Mr. Burkwit to explore the proposition.

Awards for 1997 which are to be presented at the January meeting were discussed and voted upon. Ron Swift is making the arrangements for the Awards Dinner to be held at the Masonic Temple at 6 P.M. on January 29 th.

The Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

The efforts of all the club members who made this a success are greatly appreciated.

January 15, 1998

Attending: **Bob O' Neil, Dave Ottney, Ron Swift, Ken Scott, Ed Markowski, Ron Monroe, Bud Seaberg, Len Kmiecik Jr., Andres Rodriguez, Rod Curtis, Bob Nilsen, and Carl Van Voorhis.**

Absent: Paul Spara & Jim Prindle.

The meeting was called to order at Ron Swift' s house at 7:10 P.M.

It was agreed that Board meeting dates would be on the Wednesday two weeks prior to the meeting date each month. Ron Swift will provide a schedule of the Board meeting locations during 1998. It was agreed that the June 24 th regular business meeting will be held at the Macedon field.

Andres Rodriguez proposed having a Rams Fun Fly with low key competition. The event would be intended for the entertainment of our members and guest flyers. This would not be intended as a money raiser. The Board was in favor of this proposal and suggested that August 29 th at Fordham Field would be suitable. This is intended to be a sanctioned event and will be proposed to the membership for approval.

Ron Swift distributed proposed By Law changes for review. Action, if any, will be at a later date.

Dave Ottney made a proposal for reinvigorating our Flight Training Program. The basic ideas were to regenerate our Sponsor and Instructor membership, appoint a Flight Instruction Coordinator, review the course of study, and develop a flight log to be used by each student pilot. Dave Ottney was appointed to be the Flight Instruction Coordinator. More information will be provided to the membership at the next meeting.

Bob O' Neil reports that we now have about 35 renewals. Bob requests a completed application and a copy of your AMA card with all renewals.

Bob Nilsen reports that the Annual Freeze-In was great. Good turnout. Super weather-- about 15 Fahrenheit. Great food. First flight for '98 was by Dennis and Rod had the first crash. The runway extension is progressing but with some difficulty because of rain and snow. May need to delay until early Spring. Bob suggested that we review Mr. Burkwit' s gravel operations.

Bud Seaberg presented the year end financial report which indicates a small surplus for 1997. He also announced the Annual Retiree' s Lunch is scheduled for Feb. 4th at the Log Cabin Restaurant. Everyone is welcome.

Ron Monroe is considering a future program

on radio problems and preparing your equipment for the new flying season in the Spring.

Len Kmiecik Jr. reported that Interstate Batteries on Jefferson Rd. has a varied supply of lead acid batteries (such as field box or starter box type). If you tell them that you are a member of RAMS, special reduced prices will apply.

Arrangements for the Awards Banquet on January 29th are set.

The Special Events Calendar was discussed as follows:

1. Brighton Festival of Ideas --- Will do
2. Mall Shows--- ask members about interest
3. Fun Fly --- see proposal
4. Annual Open House --- will do
5. Macedon Canal Days --- is this an opportunity for us ?

The Field Development Committee needs to be appointed. Jim McCarty will be asked to continue as Chairman.

Ron Swift has provided our mailing list to a firm soliciting flights to Oshkosh for the Fly In this summer. He felt some members might be interested.

The Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 10:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Van Voorhis

RAMS Secretary

RAMS Flight Training Program by Dave Ottney

The RAMS has a course of study for the training of new RC pilots included in its Membership Package. This course of study outlines the checkout of new equipment, preflight checkout, field protocol and safety procedures, a uniform set of commands for instructors, a sequence of steps leading to proficient flying, and a proficiency test as a goal for students. The Membership Package also states that one of the benefits of membership in the RAMS is a flight instruction program and building instruction program.

Unfortunately this course of study and an associated program to assist new RC pilots have been neglected, leaving new members confused and in some cases frustrated when trying to learn all that is associated with the hobby as a beginner. Therefore in the interest of promoting the hobby and assisting new members/pilots the following is proposed:

1. The regeneration of the list of building instructor club members who will be willing to assist new members in building their models and ascertaining the flight worthiness of new models.
2. The regeneration of the list of flight instructor club members who will be willing to take on the task of teaching new pilots using the course of study outlined in the Membership Package.
3. The appointment of a flight instruction coordinator by the Board of Directors, who would assist new members in linking with a sponsor and flight instructor. The holder of this position will report to the Board of Directors, may attend Board of Director meetings but will not be a voting member of the Board of Directors.

4. The review of the course of study by the flight instructors and the flight instruction coordinator .

5. The development of a 'flight log' for use by student and instructor to track the progress of the student through the pilot course of study.

The following is a time line for the implementation of the five proposals listed above:

1. During the January and February membership meetings a sign up form for potential building instructors and flight instructors will be available for interested club members to indicate that they would like to volunteer their services in this program.

2. During the January and February membership meetings any member who would like to volunteer to be the flight instruction coordinator can make his/her interest known to any member of the Board of Directors.

3. Depending on the show of interest for the position of flight instruction coordinator, the Board of Directors will appoint a coordinator no later than the March Board of Directors meeting.

4. Upon appointment of a flight instruction coordinator, this coordinator will convene a meeting of as many flight instructors as soon possible to review the course of study for flight instruction and development of a 'flight log' to be used by students.

The following are some items that members should consider when giving thought to volunteering to be a building instructor or flight instruction coordinator. This involves some real self examination and you should try to put your ego aside when evaluating your knowledge and skills.

1. Flight instructors should understand that this position holds a lot of responsibility and commitment of time. Any member considering volunteering for this position should weigh the following:

- Are you willing to commit to the time involved in taking on a student pilot(s)? New pilots are generally very enthusiastic and will want to get as much instruction and flight time as possible, thus often taking away from the instructor's own flight time.

- Are your skills in flying really up to teaching.? Are you comfortable with all the aspects of flying and are you a competent flier?

- Are you comfortable teaching? Do you have the patience to assist new pilots, can you communicate effectively in a non threatening and helpful manner, can you evaluate a situation and adjust your teaching style and/or what you are teaching to meet a student's needs?

- Do you know the club Field Rules and Safety Regulations?

2. Building instructors should understand that this position ties in closely with the flight instruction and also should be willing to commit time to new members.

- Are you willing to commit time to answering questions and reviewing the progress of new members. This includes taking telephone calls, possibly inviting new members to your house or going to a new member's house to assist them in building or checking their models and equipment.

- Are you willing to make yourself available to do final checkouts of models and equipment so that instruction time at the

field is not taken up with this task?

- Do you have the knowledge to assist a new member in building, checking out for safe operation and answering operational questions of models, engines, motors, radio equipment, etc.?

- Do you know the club Field Rules and Safety Regulations?

3. The flight instruction coordinator also must understand that this position involves a time commitment.

- Are you comfortable meeting new people and assisting them?

- Are you willing to make some telephone calls if necessary to link students with instructors?

- Can you assist building instructors or flight instructors so they don't get overloaded with new pilots?

- Are you willing to lead the instruction program while not necessarily being a building instructor or flight instructor?

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