



2007 RAMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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AMA CHAPTER 468 CHARTERED IN 1971

AMA Gold Leader Club for 13 years since its inception in 1993

WEB SITE: WWW.RCPLANE.COM

THE RAMS JANUARY 30 BANQUET MEETING – JADE PALACE RESTRUANT, West Webster, NY 6:00—9:00PM. Visitors are welcome. See details below.

CALENDAR OF BUSINESS MEETINGS FOR 2007

RAMS MEMBERSHIP MEETING SCHEDULE (TUESDAYS)

Jan. 30	Feb. 27	Mar. 27	Apr. 24	May 29	June 26
July 31	Aug. 28	Sep. 25	Oct. 30	Nov. 27	Dec. 18

BOD MEETING SCHEDULE (MONDAYS)

Feb. 12	Mar. 12	Apr. 09	May 14	June 11	July 16
Aug. 13	Sep. 10	Oct. 15	Nov. 12	Dec. 03	

2007 CALANDAR OF EVENTS

Banquet meeting	Jan. 30
Indoor Flying – Roch. Armory	Feb. 4
Meeting at Macedon Field	June 26
RAMS Open House	July 21 and 22.
Meeting at Fordham Field	July 31

***RAMS sponsored events

- Don't forget that the banquet is scheduled for the January meeting. It is also awards night. Tom Starsmore has booked the Jade Palace in West Webster. Old Ridge Rd. and Gravel Rd. Tues. January 30th 6-9:00 p.m. More info in the newsletter.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Alex Antonelli

- Tom Starsmore informed me that the menu for the banquet at the Jade Palace will be **“YOU CHOOSE FORM THE RESTRUANT MENU”**. There will be individual checks so you can eat as much or as little as you want and pay for what you eat and drink at the bar. The banquet will be in the private room downstairs. It is my understanding also that they offer more than Chinese food on the menu.
- There is indoor flying held at the Rochester Armory on the first Sunday of the month from 12- 5 pm, the cost is \$10 per person.
- **The 2007 membership application is available on the RAMS web page at: <http://www.rcplane.com/Application2007.pdf>**. You can download a copy to print it at home. The BOD wants to remind you that the 2007 dues is due by Dec. 31, 2006 but there is a grace period of up to Feb. 27, 2007. After this date there will be a late fee of \$25.00. As stated in previous letters from the President there are NO exceptions to this rule. If you can't pay your dues prior to the 2/27/07 date, it would be best to pay it early to avoid the late fee.

Note: The application is to be sent to our new membership director, Jose Soler. His address is on the form or you can pay it at the meeting.

January Program

John Dennis

- **There will be no program for the January meeting. Awards will be presented at the end of the banquet.**

President's Letter

Al Bensley

As I look out my window this morning the temperature is in the 20's and there is snow on the ground. Winter has finally arrived. It was a lot different on January 1st at the Freeze-In. The weather was warm for this time of year and those who came to the event stayed outside most of the time. It was well attended and everyone seemed to have a good time. To those who brought food to share, THANK YOU. And a special thanks to Rod Curtis who hosts the event each year and fuels everyone with a large pot of chili.

A reminder to all members, a group of us meet at the Macedon Field every Thursday morning regardless of weather conditions. All are members are welcome to show up. Last week there was snow on the runway and Dennis Ekwortzell and Tex Mantel flew floatplanes. I was surprised how maneuverable the planes were on the snow with rudder-only steering.

This is the first President's Letter of 2007. I enjoyed my first year as president and learned a lot about the club. In another section of this newsletter is a list of the activities we participated in or hosted in 2006. I want to thank all of you who made these events possible. We continue to represent our club and our hobby very well in the community.

The Board of Directors met on Monday night and the new members of the board were welcomed. As of the December membership meeting, the Vice President position was vacant. Bob Hendrickson volunteered to fill the role. The BOD approved Bob in late December. And now, thanks to Bob, all the BOD positions are filled with no "double-hatting". Welcome and THANK YOU Bob.

The BOD is working on some issues that you may be interested in. The first is a different/lower dues structure for first time members. We are also thinking about eliminating the initiation fee. We did not jump to any conclusion or recommendation at the meeting since this needs to be well thought out with all consequences taken into consideration. Dave Ottney and I will think through this and bring a recommendation to the BOD. If there is agreement, we will vote on it at the March membership meeting. The by-laws require membership approval of changes to the dues structure. So if you have energy regarding this topic, mark the date on your calendar.

We will also be changing the format of our membership meetings beginning in March. The basic rationale is to have "more fun and less business". I have noticed a couple behaviors at the meetings which prompted me to make the changes. First, it is difficult at times to get the membership seated after the break, and second, it is sometimes difficult to get members to leave after the show-and tell at the end of the meeting. My conclusion is that our members enjoy the comradery and informal hobby discussion. So what we plan

to do is have the program, the visitors welcome, AND the show-and-tell prior to the break. The break will be extended so that members have more time to visit and/or discuss what has been presented. It will also be an opportunity for instructors to meet with their students. After the break, we will have a short business meeting. The risk is that many people may leave after the break but I want to make sure the membership has an opportunity to discuss with the BOD any issues that are appropriate. If there are items/motions that require a membership vote, I will make that clear to all prior to the break. I think it's worth a try.

And last, the BOD is working on a more formal flight-training program. We did not have time to discuss this in detail but we did agree that it would require more membership participation than we have had in the past few years. More to come on this very important subject. I believe good training is key to new member retention.

That's all for now.

Remember the Annual Banquet on January 30th.

Happy Landings

JANUARY BOD MEETING MINUTES

Jake Kirsch

The January BOD meeting was called to order by president Al Bensley at 7:00 PM

Attendees:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Al Bensley (President)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Hendrickson (Vice President)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jacob Kirsch (Secretary)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Coughaine (Treasurer)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jose Soler (Membership Director)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Starsmore (Community Affairs Director)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dave Playfair (Macedon Safety Director)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dave Ottney (Ontario Safety Director)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rod Curtis (Macedon Field Director)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Clarke (Ontario Field Director)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Dennis (Program Director)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alex Antonelli (Newsletter Editor)
<input type="checkbox"/> Bob Abbott (Librarian)	

Business:

- The December BOD meeting minutes were approved
- Awards Banquet – the following awards were voted upon:
 - o Rubsum Award
 - o Broken Prop Award
- Ideas needed for meeting programs
- Meeting format to change in March: Program, Show-and-Tell, break then business as needed
- Discussed changing first year membership dues and eliminating initiation fee.
- Flight Training
 - o Need dedicated group of instructors
 - o Train-the-Trainer session
 - o AMA Training Program
 - o Levels of skill: building, setup and flying
 - o List instructors in roster
- Lock combination change discussed; the lock combination will NOT be changed
- Open House: July 21 and 22.
- Indoor flying @ Armory discussed

DECEMBER PROGRAM



Dave Reidel presented his Delta Star rocket powered plane and gave an overview of model rocketry. Bob Wyman then discussed his experience with park flyers – there is a need for instructors and fields at which to fly. Dave brought this rocket plane to be part of Show & Tell because it was involved in a rocket motor fire which almost destroyed the plane. With only a moments notice Dave turned it into the program for the December meeting.

Thanks Dave:
Job well Done.

DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Jake Kirsch

The December business meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by president Al Bensley.

Number of Members Present: 21

Guests: None

Dave Reidel presented his Delta Star rocket powered plane and gave an overview of model rocketry. Bob Wyman then discussed his experience with park flyers – there is a need for instructors and fields at which to fly.

Announcements:

- Next meeting is Annual Banquet at Jade Palace; Tues, Jan 20th
- Annual New Year's Day Freeze-In Fun Fly at Macedon
- Membership issues discussed (recap from December newsletter)
 - o More focus on member recruitment and retention
 - Suggestion for a CD/DVD with video introduction of the RAMS
 - o More focus on flight instruction
 - o It's everyone's job to assist in meeting agendas (including programs, business issues and any other ideas)
 - o Dues structure

Business:

- Ed Wooten was voted in as a new member. Welcome to the club!
- The November Membership Minutes were approved

Show-and-Tell:

There were no show and tell items at the meeting.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR REPORT

Jose Soler

Jose Soler reported the membership numbers for 2007 to date are: members consisting of 71 Sr., 6 Jr. and 1 associate member.

COMMUNITY EVENTS THE RAMS TOOK PLACE IN FOR 2006

Tom Starsmore

The following is a list of community event that the RAMS participated in throughout 2006:

1. St. John's Home indoor flying for seniors and static display
2. RIT E-cube science fair static display
3. Kyle and Ray Stacy, heli demonstration for Kyle's school class
4. Rochester Museum and Science Center static display
5. Andres Rodriguez led several RAMS members in helping w/ senior project.
6. Model Airplane Show in July

- 7. Helicopter Jamboree in August**
- 8. Flight demonstrations by Kyle Stacy and Clay Wheaton for students at Macedon Public Library**
- 9. Flight demonstrations and buddy box flying for Macedon Town Supervisor, Macedon Library Director, and Wayne County press**

2007 FREEZE-IN FUN FLY

The 2007 RAMS Freeze-In fun-fly was held with NO snow. Warren reported that he counted 26 cars in the parking lot and some had already left. As usual the chili was good. Thanks again to Rod Curtis for hosting it again this year. Here are a few pictures of the good times.



PICTURE OF THE MONTH



**It appears this B1B's pilot forgot something on the check list
"PUT THE WHEELS DOWN WHEN LANDING"**

RAMS
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