



2007 RAMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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AMA CHAPTER 468 CHARTERED IN 1971

AMA Gold Leader Club for 15 years since its inception in 1993

WEB SITE: WWW.RAMSRC.ORG

THE RAMS December 18, 2007 MEETING at the Webster Volunteer Firemen's Building, Sanford Street, Webster, NY 7:00 PM—9:00PM. Visitors are welcome

CALENDAR OF BUSINESS MEETINGS FOR 2007

RAMS MEMBERSHIP MEETING SCHEDULE (TUESDAYS)

Dec. 18

CALENDAR OF BUSINESS MEETINGS FOR 2008

RAMS MEMBERSHIP MEETING SCHEDULE (TUESDAYS)

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

BOD MEETING SCHEDULE (MONDAYS)

Jan. 14,	Feb. 11,	Mar. 10,	Apr. 14,	May 12,	June 9
July 14,	Aug. 11,	Sep. 15,	Oct. 13,	Nov. 10	Dec. 15

2008 CALANDAR OF EVENTS

Freeze-in	Jan. 1
Indoor flying	Jan. 20
2008 Banquet	Jan. 29
RAMS Open House	Tentative Aug. 23 & 24
Northeast Heli Jamboree	Aug. 29, 30 & 31

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Alex Antonelli

- Freeze-in is as usual January 1, 2008 at the Macedon field. Our gracious host again this year will be Rod Curtis. Rod informed me that flying can start as early as 9:00 AM and food will be available after 11:30 AM. This event is held SNOW or NO. There is plenty of wood for the fireplace to keep you warm.
- Don't forget to contact Tom Starsmore **at 585 872 3193 or email starsmore@peoplepc.com** by January 15th to confirm your reservations for the 2008

banquet. Take note to the extensive menu and I can attest to the quality of the food to be had at Keenan's.

- I would like to take a moment here to thank the outgoing BOD members and our president Al Bensley for 2 great years in this position. Al had donated many hours and his own money in many cases to benefit this club. He has gotten things underway to get our taxes at Macedon field reduced by having the land now being tilled by the farmer reclassified by the Macedon tax assessor, this still has some work to be completed but Al has agreed to continue with this task. Al has submitted the paper work to get money from a court case where AT&T placed fiber optic cable on our land along the railroad tracks, without our consent, this looks promising for next year's income. I could go on but take some time when you see Al to thank him for his work. Also thank John Coushaine for his many years as treasurer. I can tell you from experience it is a thankless job and requires hours of work to insure the record keeping is correct and that our club funds are managed correctly.
- Please take note to the plans Andres as put into place for programs for the coming year one of which will take place at the December meeting.

PROGRAM

Andres Rodriguez

See the list below for proposed programs for 2008. Also note that the January program will be presented at the December meeting because the January meeting is the annual banquet.

Suggested subjects for 2008 programs From Andrés Rodríguez

January (1)	winter flying <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) General considerations and safety issuesb) Battery issues in winter by: <i>Clayton Wheaton</i>
February	ARFs, Kits, Radios, and other <u>new products for our hobby</u> joint presentation by: <i>Performance Hobbies and Dan's Crafts 'n Things</i>
March	AMA and RAMS safety regulations and flight line courtesy by: <i>RAMS Safety directors</i>
April	Electric power, motors, batteries, speed controls (ESC) by: <i>TBD</i>
May	You can take off and land...what is next by: <i>TBD</i>
June	Basic structural issues (where to beef up and where to lighten) by: <i>Andrés Rodríguez*</i>
July	All about Jets, Turbines, airplanes, etc. by: <i>Dominic Cognata (RCCR member)</i>
August (2)	AMA past present and future Presentation by <i>AMA Regional VP</i>

The dates are subject to change depending on when the BOD decides to hold the meetings at the flying fields. I am still trying to identify/confirm the presenters for the April and August programs.

Other subjects under consideration are:

- Engines, running, maintenance, repairs and storage.
- Flying off water, floats, flying techniques, safety
- Presentation by the Manager of the Curtis Museum
- Tour of the Williamson airport
- Miniature replica engine collection by a Rochester master machinist.

I will consider any additional ideas or suggestions.

(1) Will take place in December 2007 because the January meeting is our annual dinner.

(2) Dave may not be available since he just won the presidential election for the AMA.

2008 BANQUET

tom Starsmore

The 2008 RAMS banquet will be held at Keenan's Restaurant located at 1010 East Ridge Road in Irondequoit. It is located between Carter St. and Portland Ave. in the Georgetown Plaza next to Harbor Freight.

The Banquet will be held on Tuesday January 29, 2008. The meal will be buffet style and will start at **6:30** with the business and awards meeting starting immediately after the last person has eaten their fill.

The following is the menu:

Relish tray
Tossed salad
Chilled fruit
Oven roasted potatoes
Mexican corn
Home made cole slaw
Vegetable du jour
Baked pasta
Bread and Butter
The 2 meat entrees are: Carved Roast Beef and Chicken French.
Desert: Orange Cream Sicle Cake
Beverage: Coffee, Tea, Soda

The cost is \$20.00 per person which includes tax and tip.

A full **cash** bar service is available.

Please contact Tom by January 15, 2008 at 585 872 3193 or email starsmore@peoplepc.com to confirm your reservation and the number in your party.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Al Bensley

Wow, my 24th, and last President's Letter. It seems the last two years have flown by (pardon the pun). I've just reread my first letter of January 2006 and I remember asking myself "How the hell can I write 23 more of these?" That assumed, of course, that I would be president for two years and not be impeached along the way. I also found out that it was not difficult to write the letters as information, announcements, and issues were always readily available. Overall, I've enjoyed my time as president. There were many activities that could be described as "highs" and there were some actions by members that could and should have been avoided.

Our summer events have been very successful in generating income for us and allowing the club to donate generously to local Macedon charities. I hope we can continue to do this. The work that Tom Starsmore has done, with the help of our volunteers, in representing our club at many community events has been very well received. I believe our club is now a well known entity in the town of Macedon and we are viewed as an organization that lends active support to the community. We need to continue and strengthen this relationship.

One of the most important things the club has accomplished internally is the creation of a formal training program for new members and pilots. Bob Hendrickson and Dennis Ekwortzell have been the key people who recruited instructors, developed the program, and managed its implementation. I believe the success of this program is vital in minimizing membership attrition.

The conditions at the fields are improving. Through the efforts of Larry Clarke, the Ontario field runway remains in great condition and a new frequency station has been constructed. We changed our strategy for the Macedon field and have had professional application of fertilizers and lawn rolling. The soil at Macedon is not the best so it will probably take a couple years to fill in after the weeds have been killed. But we're making progress. A highlight at both fields is the addition of new tables and starting stands. We can thank Jim Meyer for designing and building these. We'll add a couple more stands to the Ontario field in 2008.

We are also trying to reduce the annual cost of membership. This is a work in progress. Our performance in 2008 will give us a clear indication of whether the "Performance Rebate" strategy is valid. The good news is that our financial position is strong enough to absorb any errors if our strategy is flawed. It's worth a try.

Looking ahead to 2008 and beyond, we should all commit to giving our new president Dave Playfair our full support. This can be accomplished in a number of ways but there are two I'd like to highlight. First, let's keep all personal interactions positive. In the last couple of years the BOD has spent an inordinate amount of time dealing with issues that shouldn't have happened. Remember that we are not trying to end the war in Iraq, solve global warming, or fix the sub-prime mess. We are a bunch of adults (I hope) who band together to enjoy flying model aircraft and we should interact with each other in positive support of our hobby. Enough said.

Second is in the area of volunteerism. To make our budget work and to reduce Dave's workload, we should all be proactive in volunteering to help with club activities. We need more help in maintaining our fields. The "core group" at Macedon is not getting any younger and a number of them are physically unable to do the work they used to. Our summer events always need more membership help. Working together on club projects is

necessary and promotes comradery amongst our members. Our new Membership Form will ask if you are willing to volunteer for various events and projects. It should not be viewed as a firm commitment since we understand there can be changes in schedule and unanticipated conflicts. It will give us an indication, however, of where your club interests are and generate a list of potential helpers.

I look forward to 2008 as club treasurer and will be in full support of Dave and the rest of the BOD.

And last, a MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY HOLIDAYS to all of you. I wish you and your families a happy and safe holiday season. See you at the Freeze-In on January 1st.

Happy Landings

DECEMBER BOD MEETING MINUTES

Jake Kirsch

The December BOD meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by President Al Bensley

Attendees:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Al Bensley (President)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bob Hendrickson (Vice President)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jacob Kirsch (Secretary)	<input 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 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 type="checkbox"/> John Dennis (Program Director)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alex Antonelli (Newsletter Editor)
<input type="checkbox"/> Carl VanVoorhis (Librarian)	

Business:

- The November BOD meeting minutes were approved
- Rubsum Award, Broken Prop Award and Junior Achievement Award nominations
 - o Voted on Rubsum Award
- Discussed dates for Open House
- Suggestion to publish a notice to members for 72MHz frequencies being used for park flyers
- Suggestion to point questions from public media to AMA

NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

JAKE KERSCH

The November business meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM by President Al Bensley.

Number of Members Present: 27

Guests: Cliff Ramsey was voted into the club; welcome!

Announcements:

- January 1st Freeze-in at Macedon; please bring a dish to pass
- January 29th @ 6PM; Keenan's in Georgetown Plaza in Irondequoit
- Wings and Certificates for successful completion of the flight instruction program were granted to Russ Waeghe and Jack Grafman



- Nominations are due for the Rubsum Award and Broken Prop Award
- December program will be on Winter Flying and cold weather battery handling
- Show-n-Tell presenters in 2008 will receive a ticket to win a Futaba 6X 2.4GHz radios

Business:

- The October Membership Minutes were approved
- The 2008 Budget was proposed, seconded and approved unanimously

Show-n-Tell:

- Bob Hendrickson presented a Great Planes Mini Super Sportster won at the RAMS Open House
- Bob Herden – Presented a record of the acquisition of the Macedon Field that he compiled; available from the RAMS Library (librarian is Carl VanVoorhis)

SHOW & TELL



Bob Hendrickson with his Great Planes Mini Super Sportster

NEW STUDENT TRAINING

Bob Hendrickson (VP)

Nothing new to report on this subject until next flying season.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR REPORT

Jose Soler

Jose Soler reported the final count for 2007 membership is 155. This consists of 134 Sr., 19 Jr. and 2 associate members.

Check the RAMS web site at RAMSRC.org for the updated RAMS membership application. You can fill it out there and it will calculate your dues and then just print it.

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



Niagara Falls... so beautiful.

RAMS
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