



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 January 29, 2008 MEETING is the annual banquet to be held at Keenans Restaurant at 1010 East Ridge Road in Irondequoit. The meal will start being served at 6:30 PM

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

RAMS 2008 Banquet	Jan. 29
Canandaigua Chiefs Auction	March 15
RCCR Indoor Flying at the Armory	March 16
Dick Parshall Float Fly	May 17 & 18
RAMS Fun-fly at Williamson Airport	Tentative June 14- RD - 15
Canandaigua Chiefs E Fly	June 21
RCCR Ray Edmunds Memorial Fun Fly.	June 28 & 29
GENESEO AIR SHOW	July 11-12-13
Canandaigua Chiefs Air Show	July 19 & 20
IRCHA Jamboree	August 14-17
RAMS Open House	Tentative Aug. 23 & 24
RAMS Northeast Heli Jamboree	Aug. 29, 30 & 31
Interclub picnic	??????????????
RD – rain date	

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Alex Antonelli

- Please take note to the plans Andres has put into place for programs for the coming year one of which will take place at the February meeting. The January meeting is the banquet therefore there will not be any program other than the awards.

- A committee is working out plans with the people at the Williamson airport to have a fun-fly at their facilities in June. The folks there enjoyed having the RAMS there last year they have extended an invitation for 2008 as well. More to follow as plans are confirmed.
- Andres Rodríguez reports the following: “Horizon Hobbies is marketing a series of electric park flyer type models under the brand ParkZone. These models come complete with a radio system installed. Some models in this line operate on 72 MHz. It's possible (expected) that some who purchase these models may be operating them at places other than what we think of as traditional model flying fields. Horizon recognizes this and in an effort to minimize the potential of radio interference they have limited the channels these models operate on to six channels - 17, 19, 21, 50, 52, & 54.
- The 2008 membership application can be downloaded from the RAMS web page on www.ramsrc.org . You can fill it out on line then print it. It will automatically fill in your costs as you select your membership category. Don't forget! To avoid any late fees you must pay your dues by the February meeting February 26, 2008.

PROGRAM

Andres Rodriguez

Updated list of subjects for 2008 programs

February (CONFIRMED)	ARFs, Kits, Radios, and other <u>new products for our hobby joint presentation</u> by: <i>Performance Hobbies and Dan's Crafts 'n Things</i>
March (CONFIRMED)	Presentation by: AMA Regional VP and President elect <i>Dave Mathewson</i>
April (CONFIRMED)	RAMS safety regulations and flight line courtesy by: <i>RAMS Safety directors</i>
May (CONFIRMED)	Electric power, motors, batteries, speed controls (ESC) by: <i>J. Clark</i>
June (CONFIRMED)	All about Jets, Turbines, airplanes, etc. by: <i>Dominic Cognata</i>
July (CONFIRMED)	Basic structural issues (where to beef up and where to lighten) by: <i>Andrés</i>
August	You can take off and land...what is next by: <i>TBD</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 Curtiss Museum
- Tour of the Williamson airport
- Miniature replica engine collection by a Rochester master machinist.
- Restoration of MIG (Full size)
- I will consider any additional ideas or suggestions.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dave Playfair

Welcome to 2008! It is with great honor I begin my presidency to the club devoted to a hobby which has become such a large part of my life over the past 4 years. But my interests in flying do go back a little further than that...

As a young child, I can remember long trips with my family where I would pass time pretending to circle our car with a radio controlled airplane. Four gas engines, ten foot wingspan, multiple angle cameras, and a briefcase-style control box complete with video monitors. Not a bad dream setup by those or today's standards! I'd hold my flattened hand out the car window to feel how its control surfaces worked, and land it on the highway when we stopped for fuel or lunch. To this day, I've never figured out why I didn't pretend in full scale?



Fifteen years later I purchased a plastic 3 channel electric airplane from a catalog. It came ready to fly and included 3 propellers, 2 of which were broken within the first 2 minutes of the first 2 flights. The highest altitude this plane achieved was the top shelf where it sat for 10 years. “It's just a toy plane, don't let it bother you.” I would tell myself. In the back of my mind though, it was always chalked up as a “failure”.

In the early 1990's I joined a hang gliding club and even took a sail plane lesson as a guest at another club. Before long I became discouraged by the self-centered cliques these groups had, and how the general membership seemed appreciated only for their monetary and time donations to the betterment of a few. My idea of flight became “grounded” a co-worker, Norm Roof, boasted how challenging and aerobatic model helicopters are, and how much fun

his club was. Intrigued once again, I purchased a small electric chopper and began learning to fly “the hard way” at home. Realizing a fraternal need for companionship, it wasn’t long before I accepted an open invitation and visited the RAMS Macedon site. I was impressed by the flying environment, but more so the people who so readily welcomed and accepted me. It’s funny how long those first few 17 mile trips to the field seemed, but now, after burning an average of 50 gals of model fuel a year, I have every pot hole and garden gnome along the route memorized. I consider the drive a welcome “mental flight preparation”! Last year I even dusted off that old plane and finally put on a few successful flights! It was one of the most satisfying days of my life, providing closure to a previously unobtainable skill.

Prior to the aerial adventures, I submerged into SCUBA, diving every chance I could in our frigid northern waters (which happen to contain the best preserved shipwrecks) and in warmer regions when possible. This in turn led to an addiction to salt water reef aquariums. Upkeep of a world-class 120 gallon display tank took several hours per day and great expense, but the corals that I raised were sold nationally to offset maintenance costs. Realizing the need of a local club, I co-founded the Upstate Reef Society, which united marine enthusiasts from across the state to our common interest. I also helped design, build, and maintain a 600 gallon reef system at the Seneca Park zoo for 4 years. The home tank is still running, though streamlined for minimal care as is a small reef at work. My personality only allows for one “obsession” to prevail at a time!

My spare time over the past 20 years has been spent as an electro-mechanical design technician at Xerox, where I work in a lab on the development of new products. During the mid 90’s I volunteered as a subsystem leader on a company-sponsored FIRST robotics team (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science). This organization pairs engineering mentors with high school students, and bring these teams together for national competitions.

Along the journey I met Christine, my wonderful wife of 13 years. She and my 3 children are exceptionally understanding and supportive of my interests, probably allowing daddy a little more time than he deserves to hang out at the flying field. They even show amazing patience when our plates at the dining room table are scattered amongst aircraft parts!

Well, enough about me :c) If you’re still reading, or have just skipped to the end, the bottom line is what do I see happening with the RAMS in the future? The BOD has initiated several programs to attract membership, and these will be further developed to insure the clubs future. I’d really like to see our existing members have more involvement with club activities, since it’s our people who determine the clubs health. A first step would be filling our flight lines little more. Many pilots don’t get out as often as they would like to, and I’m hoping a renewed spark for flying will bring a sense of pride for our club. Those who led before me have provided us a phenomenal resource for what we all have in common. Let’s all take advantage of it in the coming year!



JANUARY BOD MEETING MINUTES

Jake Kirsch

The January BOD meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by President Dave Playfair

Attendees:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dave Playfair (President) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Hendrickson (Vice President) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jacob Kirsch (Secretary) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Al Bensley (Treasurer) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jose Soler (Membership Director) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Starsmore (Community Affairs Director) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ray Stacy (Macedon Safety Director) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Dennis (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"/> Andres Rodriguez (Program Director) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alex Antonelli (Newsletter Editor) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carl VanVoorhis (Librarian) | |

Business:

- The December BOD meeting minutes were approved
- Broken Prop nominees were discussed
- Agricultural Exemption for Macedon taxes
 - o Need lease from farmer
 - o Deadline is March 1st
- Armory indoor flying on Jan 20th has been postponed
- Programs confirmed through July
- Williamson Airport Fly-in
 - o Planning a sanctioned event with AMA
 - o RAMS will sell food
- A motion was made as follows:

- In recognition of the job requirements of the Field Directors, the RAMS will reimburse these directors for the following expense:
- Personal auto/truck mileage traveled in connection with their duties at the rate of 50 cents per mile up to a maximum amount of \$250.00 per year.
- This reimbursement is effective for the year 2008. Field Directors will be required to keep and submit to the Treasurer an informal log to include date, activity, and mileage.
- The motion was seconded and approved eleven in favor, one against.
- Discussion around Park Flyer AMA membership's impact to RAMS membership
- New airplane stands will be made for Fordham Field

DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES

JAKE KERSCH

The December RAMS membership meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by President Al Bensley.

Number of Members Present: 27

Guests: Ed Currier

Program: Winter flying – Safety recommendations, suggested setups and LiPo battery issues



Announcements:

- January 1st Freeze-in at Macedon; please bring a dish to pass
- January 29th @ 6PM; Keenan's at Georgetown Plaza in Irondequoit
- Nominations are due for the Rubsum Award and Broken Prop Award
- Open House may be scheduled the weekend before the Helicopter Jamboree (Aug 23&24, 2008)

Business:

- The November Membership Minutes were approved

Show-n-Tell:

- Bob Hendrickson showed a Hobby Lobby foamy Yak
- Cliff Ramsey showed his "interpretation of a B-2" foamy electric
- Bob Herden talked about the "Laker" built by Jack Graffman
- Jeff Trenkler showed his Sig Seniorita Trainer on floats

SHOW & TELL



MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR REPORT

Jose Soler

Jose Soler reported the January count for 2008 membership is 53 This consists of 48 Sr., 5 Jr. and 0 associate members to date. **DON'T FORGET FEBURARY 26, 2008 IS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO PAY YOUR DUES WITHOUT INCURING A LATE FEE.**

BROKEN PROP AWARD

Hugh Howes

Ah, the annual Broken Prop Award. Given in memory of James R. Fordham (1920 - 1989). No, it's not what some RAMS members imagine when they hear the term "broken prop". It's not at all about spectacular crashes or the most crashes. It's about what happens after a series of setbacks strike down a club member, whether new or old. Do they give up and sell their equipment, or stick with it? It's all about attitude.

The award says it all. "This is a recognition of achievement for a RAMS member who has persisted in the sport of flying model aircraft in spite of setbacks and obstacles. This award is given for the recipient's perseverance and commitment, for their unwillingness to quit despite difficulties. That person has not become discouraged, and has continued on ...

Jim Fordham was a model airplane pilot, a full scale pilot, and a superb craftsman. He built control line models, R/C models, and award winning scale models. He built model sailing ships, including one that was featured in a print ad to demonstrate the details that could be captured with Kodak film. He built furniture, such as a beautiful inlaid dining table and a king-size bedroom suite of solid cherry bed, dresser, and mirror. He even built his own house. But despite all that, Jim never became a good R/C pilot. Not for lack of trying though; he persisted nonetheless, because of his love of airplanes and flying. He was very active in the RAMS and a past president. By club vote, the Ontario flying site was named "Fordham Field" in his honor.

So how did this annual award come about? After Jim flew on to that big landing strip in the sky, we were organizing his basement workshop and upstairs office area. Amongst his myriad items and models, we found a "Broken Prop" that Jim had received as a gag trophy in 1987. It obviously meant something to him, because it was displayed in his office. We saw this as an opportunity to celebrate his memory by awarding it annually to someone, whether a beginner or a deserving R/C veteran, who exemplifies the same attitude of never giving up, of continuing on.

The recipient at this year's club banquet should be proud to be in such good company: Jim Fordham (1987), Jim Roth (1993), Norb Eder (1994), Fred Armes (1995), Jim Orbanek (1996), Sonny Freed (1997, builder of the beautiful case), Carl van Voorhis (1998), John Hutton & Jerry Wilkins (1999), John Young (2000), Rudy Steiner (2001), Alex Antonelli (2002), Rick Matteson (2003), John Coleman (2004), Judson Smith (2005), David Playfair (2006), Kevin Nassar (2007), and ??? (2008).

Oh. And yes, Jim Fordham did have some spectacular crashes!!!

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



The plane in these pictures is still officially the 'Air Vehicle Number 1', a prototype. It will be known as the F/A-37. Although specs are classified, it is believed to be Mach 3.5 (top speed in the Mach 4 range), super-cruise stealth fighter/bomber/interceptor with approximately a 4,000nm range. Awesome!

RAMS
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