

Pikes Peak Radio Control Club Newsletter

Volume 43 / Issue 08 / August 2015

AMA Club Number 179 / 2616 Glen Arbor Dr. / Colorado Springs, Colorado 80920
Phone: 719-329-1600 / Website: www.pprcflyers.net



Club President – James Murphy / Club Vice President – Romi Lucas
Club Safety Officer – Ben Woofter / Club Treasurer – Adam Heffington
Club Secretary – Keith Davis / Club Newsletter & Website Manager – Keith Davis

Next PPRCC Meeting:
7:00pm / August 4th (Tue) 2015
@ Antelope Ridge Community Center

Local RC events happening this month:

- PPRCC Family Day & Swap Meet
- Pueblo "Big Birds" event

Last Month's Minutes (July meeting)



Meeting Started: 7:00 pm
Meeting Adjourned: 8:40 pm

Members Attended: 29
New Members: 0
Visitors: 0

New Business:

1) During the July club meeting, the attending members voted for the 2015 club Vice President. The candidates were Tom McCallum and Romi Lucas. Romi Lucas has been voted in to be the 2015 club Vice President. Congratulations Romi!

2) Club Treasurer Adam Heffington, reviewed the club's June expenses. All the numbers are not in yet, but this year, it appears that the club could be on the positive income, after the PPRCC warbirds event. Exact figures will be announced at the August club meeting.

3) Club President James Murphy, brought up the issue of First Person View (FPV) drones operating at the airfield. Further discussions of the matter will be brought up at the next club meeting. Responsible flyers and liability are a few of the concerns.

Old Business:

1) The club is still planning on sealing the east runway. Now that the rains are residing, hopefully the asphalt company will get caught up on its schedule and we will soon be next!

2) Club President James Murphy, once again, thanked everyone that assisted in field maintenance day, warbirds over Pikes Peak and the continual upkeep of the airfield (mowing, trash pick-up and spot repairs).

Airplane Anomalies



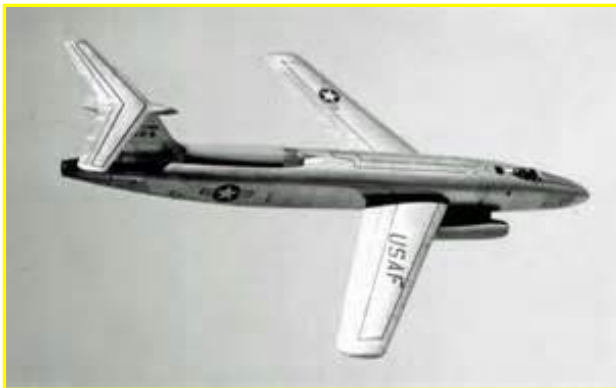
**"Many novice pilots insists landing is the
hardest part of flying!"**

+++++

Can You Name that Plane?



Clue #1: This Tri-jet plane first flew in 1949, designed to replace the A-26 Invader. But the jet was beaten in a military competition and the project was cancelled in 1952.



Clue #2: The jet had a crew of two; the pilot seated under a bubble-type canopy and the bombing system operator/navigator sat lower and to the rear of the cockpit with only an observation window above his head.

Clue #3: Two were built. Today, only one exists and is on display at the National Museum of the USAF in Dayton, Ohio.

Last month's Airplane: The Italian made Stipa-Caproni. There were no correct answers.

+++++

+++++

Show & Tell

Item - I
Larry Sipes' Zirolti B-25B Project



"Larry brought in the nearly completed tail section of his B-25B Mitchell. All the servos are well concealed inside the tail and will be hard to notice once the covering is complete. Larry said the project is coming along just fine, still no completion date yet."

+++++

2015 PPRCC Electric Fly-In



PPRCC completed another fine electric event for 2015. We only had about 16 pilots to sign up, but there were so many electric planes out there, it seemed like there were 50 pilots out there!

Most of the electrics consisted of military planes but there were several civilian and sport electrics too.



“This was just a snapshot of the many electrics that participated in the event.”



“One of our very own club members did a nice helicopter show for the crowd.”

The electric event was scheduled from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. But as 12:00 noon came around, it began to get windy and overcast, not a good combination for the small electric flyers. So the event was completed around 12:00 noon.

But we still got plenty of flying in during those 3 short hours and maybe only one or two planes were damaged but all repairable.



“Big brother Me-262 follows little brother Me-262 onto the flightline. Both jets flew very well.”



“Tom was happy to see his AMA magazine project electric Coyot-e fly for the first time.”

Besides all the flying, it was a nice “Get Together” to socialize and meet some of the club members that some of us didn’t know they were club members!

Also throughout the morning, the pilots got to view other electric planes and vote for their favorite planes. The plane with the most votes was awarded the “2015 Best electric” award. Dave Storey with his P-51 Mustang with on-board sound system, won the award. Congratulations Dave!

The club hopes that everyone had a good time and hope to see them again next year. Check out the club website for more photos.

North Poles



If you haven't notice yet, powerline poles are quickly being installed to the north and northwest of the flying field. I haven't heard the exact distance from the flying field but it appears to be around 1 mile away.

The power lines will be installed shortly but not sure when they will become live wires. For those who may think they have weak or questionable radio reception, this may be an area that you might want to avoid!

Do you have a story, article or a photo that you would to share with the club? Get it to me at:

Lkdavis03@hotmail.com

Keith Davis: Newsletter Editor

And remember, Don't forget, lock the gate!

Show & Tell Item - II



Brian Wooliams' Super Samurai



"Brian brought in a very nice looking Samurai airplane. It has a foam-core wing and uses a 4-cell battery to turn the 3-blade prop. The plane has a 1500mm ws and Brian has not flown the plane yet."

FAA's Latest Ruling On FPV Aircraft



The FAA Released a 17 page memo on June 17, 2014 titled Interpretation of the Special Rule for Model Aircraft. This is essentially a memo where the FAA states how they interpret the rules and regulations regarding model aircraft flights in US Airspace. They state that this is a "Notice of Interpretation with Request for Comment" meaning they are looking for feedback from the community at large. If you fly First Person View (FPV) at all, this affects you. Take a look at this snippet from the memo:

By definition, a model aircraft must be flown within visual line of sight of the person operating the aircraft. P.L. 112-95, section 336(c)(2).1 Based on the plain language of the statute, the FAA interprets this requirement to mean that: (1) the aircraft must be visible at all times to the operator; (2) that the operator must use his or her own natural vision (which includes vision corrected by standard eyeglasses or contact lenses) to observe the aircraft; and (3) people other than the operator may not be used in lieu of the operator for maintaining visual line of sight. Under the criteria above, visual line of sight would mean that the operator has an unobstructed view of the model aircraft. To ensure that the operator has the best view of the aircraft, the statutory requirement would preclude the use of vision-enhancing devices, such as binoculars, night vision goggles, powered vision magnifying devices, and goggles designed to provide a "first-person view" from the model.

This essentially says we cannot fly FPV at all, in order to maintain a direct visual line of sight with our aircraft. If you don't like their interpretation, they are giving you a chance to comment.

AMA's Latest Ruling On FPV Aircraft



AMA Document #550: Radio Controlled Model Aircraft Operation Utilizing "First Person View" (FPV) Systems:

2. General: FPV of radio control model aircraft by AMA members is allowed only for noncommercial purposes as a hobby/recreational and/or completion activity and must be conducted in accordance with AMA's current National Model Aircraft Safety Code and any additional rules specific to a flying site/location.

3. Operations – Requirements – Limitations:

- a) FPV novice pilots undergoing training at low altitude must use a buddy-box system with an FPV spotter or must go to a safer altitude if no buddy-box system is used.
- b) All FPV flights require an AMA FPV pilot to have an AMA FPV spotter next to him/her maintaining visual line of sight (VLOS) with the FPV aircraft throughout the flight.
- c) The FPV pilot must brief the FPV spotter on the FPV spotter's duties, communications and hand-over control procedures before FPV flight.
- d) The AMA spotter must communicate with the FPV pilot to ensure the FPV aircraft remains within VLOS, warning the FPV pilot of approaching aircraft and when avoidance techniques are necessary.
- e) During FPV flight, the FPV spotter must be prepared to acquire the transmitter/control from the FPV pilot and assume VLOS control of the model aircraft at any time safe operational of the flight is in question.
- f) If an FPV pilot experiences a safety issue that does not appear to be a brief glitch, they must abandon FPV mode and fly VLOS.
- g) Before the initial FPV flight of an FPV model aircraft and/or after any changes or repairs to essential flight systems, the FPV model aircraft must have an R/C test flight by conventional VLOS.
- h) FPV model aircraft must use frequencies approved by the FCC for both the RC system and the wireless video system.
- i) AMA FPV pilots must first be capable of flying their FPV model aircraft manually before utilizing FPV flight.

4. Range – Altitude – Weight – Speed:

- a) One of the requirements in Federal Law (Public Law 112-95 Sec 336(c) (2) Feb 14, 2012) for model aircraft to be excluded from FAA regulations is that the model aircraft must be flown within VLOS of the operator.
- b) Model aircraft flown using FPV must remain at or below 400 feet Above Ground Level (AGL) when within 3 miles of an airport as specified in the AMA Safety Code.
- c) Model aircraft flown by FPV are limited to a weight (including fuel, batteries and onboard FPV equipment) of 15 pounds and a maximum speed of 70 mph.

5. Recommendations & Information:

- a) AMA FPV novice pilots should consider using a cockpit view flight simulator to become accustomed to FPV flight.
- b) AMA FPV pilots should consider using a programmable autopilot (AMA Document #560) with a failsafe “Return to Launch” (RTL) feature that will maintain control of the aircraft in the event of signal loss.
- c) When purchasing FPV operational systems, always try yo select quality equipment, verify its compatibility, install components for interference rejection and determine that signal range is adequate for maximum VLOS range.

6. Privacy Protection Safeguards:

- a) The use of imaging technology for aerial surveillance with radio control model aircraft having the capability of obtaining high-resolution photographs and/or video, or using any types of sensors, for the collection, retention or dissemination of surveillance data information on individuals, homes, businesses or property at locations where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy is strictly prohibited by the AMA unless written expressed permission is obtained from the individual property owners or managers.

**PPRCC's Latest Ruling
On FPV Aircraft**



Ok, so after reading all those rules about FPV flying, what does that mean to us? As an AMA member, a PPRCC member and a FPV pilot, it means that you are required to follow the above rules.

Several RC clubs in the front range area have already banned FPV aircraft from flying at their airfields, this includes Chatfield and Cherry Creek flying fields.

The reason being FPV's are becoming a high liability issue/risk to full scale air traffic and privacy laws. A violation could cause the loss of a flying field.

At the moment, PPRCC does allow FPV aircraft and does not have any additional rules than what is stated in the previous articles. However, during the upcoming August club meeting, this issue will be discussed and the possibility of banning FPV's from the PPRCC airfield will be a major topic.

So if you are an avid FPV flyer at the PPRCC airfield, you may want to attend the August club meeting and plead your case.

**Under the
Rainbow!**



"My neighbor sent me this photo of a C-130 departing Peterson AFB. Very nice!"

+++++

Show & Tell
Item - III

Ed D'Andrea's Giant Dust Devil



“Ed brought in a very nice 1980's Dust Devil kit that he built years ago. 22 years later, he finally has time upgrade it and get it ready to fly. It has a 76" ws and powered by a Super Tigre .90. Ed hopes to get it airborne real soon!”

+++++

+++++

Show & Tell
Item - IV

Ben Woofter's GWS Me-262



“Ben recently completed a GWS Me-262 that he won at the PPRCC Warbirds raffle. The jet came all white but Ben gave it a 3-tone grey color scheme. Ben also added electric retracts and improved ESC's. The jet has flown and it is very fast!”

+++++

Addition to PPRCC Bylaws



Under Article II. PURPOSE, the following paragraph has been proposed to be added after "To generate support and enthusiasm for club member activities approved by club membership":

"Aircraft without an independent drive system are prohibited. Rockets are prohibited. Winch launching for aircraft is prohibited."

During the August club meeting, the attending club members will discuss then vote on the above paragraph and decide if it will be included into the club Bylaws.

To CD or not To CD!



The July 2015 issue of Model Aviation Magazine posted a nice article titled "Should you become a CD?" (page 83). What's a CD? A CD or a Contest Director, is an official AMA event director that runs a club event under the AMA safety rules and regulations.

Since I have been a club member for the past 12 years, I believe the club has had only a handful of CD's to run our AMA sanctioned events. Rick Paquin, Greg Moore and Larry Laughlin are 3 that I can remember. (Thanks guys!). And now that Mr. Paquin has moved, I only know of 2 CD's in the club.

The AMA article explains the purpose, the duties and how to become a CD for the club. And yes it does require an open book test! But once completed and passed, you are officially an AMA Contest Director!

If interested, contact the Competitions Department at the AMA Headquarters.

AMA Competitions Department
 1-800-435-9262 ext 232
www.modelaircraft.org

CD Application
www.modelaircraft.org/files/303.pdf

Giant RC's from Around the World



**"North America AT-6 Texan"
 Country - England**



**"BAC Comet"
 Country - England**

Warbirds over Parker



The Crosswind flyers out of Parker, Colorado, held their annual warbird event last month. PPRCC members Ben Wofter, Ron Stark and Keith Davis attended the event. They were also joined by Pueblo RC flyers Larry and Duane.



“From left to right: Ben Wofter, Ron Stark, Keith Davis and the guys from Pueblo Larry and Duane.”

The event registered about 20 pilots and a large variety of military aircraft. Ron brought his large P-51 Mustang, Ben brought his J5 Medical Cub and I brought my O-1 Bird Dog.

But unfortunately we only got a few flights in. The single runway lays north/south and the winds blew all day from west to east and it was a strong crosswind. The take-offs and landings were a challenge but once we got airborne, flying was great.



“The Bird Dog and Cub sat idle most of the day because of the high crosswinds.”

Many of the other pilots also flew, timing their take-offs with a low in the winds and hoping they could also catch a low in the winds when about to land. But all take-offs and landings were successful, with only a few planes flipping over.



“This Navy B-25 Mitchell took home a few awards and is for sale for \$2200.”

The club served lunch around noon, then allowed the pilots to line up their planes on the runway for pilots and spectators to view. Ben got plenty of questions about his J5 Cub, asking if a medical Cub really existed. And I got plenty of questions from veterans remember seeing or flying the Bird Dog during the Vietnam War.



“Ben’s Cub on final, it flew quite well in the winds!”

The warbird event ended around 4:00 pm and everyone went home with their planes in one piece. The Crosswinds club had a great weekend and plans on doing the event again next year.

You can view the PPRCC website for more photos of the event.

Pikes Peak RC Hobbies



Upcoming RC Events:

- **August 4th (Tue) 2015 - PPRCC Meeting**
- August 15th (Sat) 2015 - PPRCC Family Day & Swap Meet
- August 15th (Sat) 2015 - National AMA Day
- August 29th & 30th (Sat & Sun) 2015 - Pueblo's "Big Birds" Fly-In
- **September 1st (Tue) 2015 - PPRCC Meeting**
- September 5th - 6th (Sat - Sun) 2015 - Warbirds over Pueblo
- September 20th (Sun) 2015 - PPRCC Scale Fly-In

