

# Pikes Peak Radio Control Club

## Newsletter



Volume 44 / Issue 08 / August 2016

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



Club President – Romi Lucas / Club Vice President – Rob Latkovich  
Club Safety Officer – Hector Real / Club Treasurer – Adam Heffington  
Club Airfield Maintenance Team – James Murphy, Chuck Brath, Kevin Kinzel  
Club Secretary – Keith Davis / Club Newsletter & Website Manager – Keith Davis

**Next PPRCC Meeting:**  
7:00pm / August 2<sup>nd</sup> (Tue) 2016  
@ Antelope Ridge Community Center

**Local RC events happening this month:**

- PPRCC Family Day & Swap Meet
- Pueblo Big Birds Fly-In

### Last Month's Minutes . . . (July meeting)



Meeting Started: 7:00 pm  
Meeting Adjourned: 8:20 pm

Members Attended: 16  
New Members: 0  
Visitors: 0

#### New Business:

- 1) Club President Romi Lucas, introduced a new proposal for discussion and re-introduced an old proposal for discussion. See page 2 for those proposals.
- 2) Club President Romi Lucas, stated that he is in contact with an asphalt company that could possibly repair all the east runway cracks and seal the west runway for a reasonable price of \$2700. The discussion is still in progress.
- 3) Club Treasurer Adam Heffington, spoke about the club's June finances. Adam also announced that the club owns a single axle, 5x8(?), flatbed trailer that is now for sale. The registration has expired but PPRCC is asking \$100 for the trailer. If interested, contact Adam.

4) With the hot summer and numerous forest fires that has recently taken place throughout the state, the FAA has warned that all sUAV's to avoid firefighting operations areas. If caught, a person could get fined up to \$27,500.

#### Old Business:

- 1) Club President Romi Lucas, spoke about the recent Electric Father's Day event and thanked everyone that participated.

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### Airplane Anomalies . . .



**"A gear-up landing doesn't mean that you're supposed to land with the gear up!"**

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## Two Proposals for Discussion and vote



Two proposals, one new and one old, were brought up during the June club meeting. The issues will be discussed and voted on during the August club meeting.

**Proposal #20160601:** Proposed by club member James Murphy; **PPRCC will purchase a 25 gallon water tank for firefighting.**

**Discussion:** During the June club meeting, club member James Murphy, brought in a 25 gallon water tank, purchased from Big "R" supply store at a cost of \$151.



It was determined from the last fire that occurred at the airfield, the club's fire-fighting equipment was marginal. The tank will be mounted on a trailer with large wheels that can be pulled by two people or possibly towed by a vehicle.

Murphy purchased the tank with his own money and if the club decides to buy it, Murphy will get reimbursed from the club of \$151. If the club decides not to buy it, Murphy will take the tank back to the store for a refund.

**PRO:** The 25 gallon water supply would greatly enhance fighting future fires that may occur.

**CON:** The water tank will require a power supply and pump setup to spray efficient water on the fire.

**CON:** The tank will require draining and security during the winter months and back to operational status during summer months.

**Proposal #20160602:** This proposal was re-introduced by club member Romi Lucas; **To install shade tents on the east and west pit areas.**

**Discussion:** The initial proposal (#20160202) to install shades on the east and west runways was voted "NO" back in April 2016. The primary reason for the "NO" vote was because the general membership decided that the runway repairs should be the primary consideration as to where the maintenance budget should be focused on. The other issue was that the club did not have accurate numbers on the remaining maintenance budget balance at the time of the April vote.

Now that the maintenance budget is up to date and club Treasurer Adam Heffington now has those figures, it appears there may be money available to purchase east and west shading.

The proposal would add one new shade tent, maybe two, to each of the pit areas, adjacent to the current shade stands. Romi will have exact sizes and cost during the August club meeting.

**PRO:** Having additional shade during the summer months is always a plus. More of the work tables can be placed under the shade tents.

**CON:** The east and west runways still require maintenance to be completed. The east runway needs the cracks filled and covered and the west runway still needs to be sealed.

**CON:** Several club member has expressed their concern about having the new shade tents not in uniform with the current shade stands. (Shape, color, size, etc).

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

**[Lkdavis03@hotmail.com](mailto:Lkdavis03@hotmail.com)**

**Keith Davis PPRCC Newsletter Editor**

*Don't forget, last one out, please lock the gate. Thanks!*

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# It's a Bird, it's a Plane, It's a Drone!



Article sent in by Greg Moore

A bird-shaped robot crashed in Mogadishu earlier this week. It was covered in dirt and grime, with signs of heavy wear, shoddy construction, or both. The bird-bodied drone looked tired, if it's possible for a machine to look tired. In that weary, mechanical body, we glimpse the art of hiding robots in plain sight.

Within hours, observers on Twitter noted that the crashed bird-drone looked a lot like a prototype floated by the U.S. Air Force Research Lab in 2010, though the existence of a U.S. prototype doesn't mean all future designs are derived from it. (There are plenty of bird-shaped model airplanes, too):

Local reports associate this drone, which came down on May 1st, with Somalia's National Intelligence and Security Agency (NISA). It's unclear exactly how it was downed, or if similar drones have been used in the country before.

What's most interesting about this particular drone are its wings: in addition to looking like a bird, the wings will flap, although it looks like it's actually powered by two sets of propellers. A quick glance at it flying overhead likely won't attract a lot of attention, which is exactly what you'd want for a surveillance robot.

From afar, there are no more secrets this weary robot can tell us. Was it a spy? For whom was it spying?



We may know the answers, in time (and with more local reporting). For now, we have a mysterious robot, with a new-yet-familiar body, and a mystery in its sleeping circuits.

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# Show & Tell Item - I



Romi Lucas' P-38 Lightning



**"Romi brought in a very nice vintage Royal Models kit P-38 Lightning, that he had built. It is electric powered with two G32 electric motors and a central 4-cell battery. The plane has a 72" ws, electric retracts and weighs about 13 pounds. Romi made the fiberglass cowls and intakes himself. Romi is still looking forward to its first flight. One more example of Romi's excellent RC building skills."**

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## FAA's Explanation on 400ft Ceiling

AMA email dated 20 July 2016



Dear Members,

Our hobby has faced many challenges this year as we address an increase in government intervention and proposed regulations. AMA has been aggressively advocating for our hobby, and during the past few weeks, we've been happy to report successful progress.

Today, our members have yet another AMA government advocacy victory to celebrate.

There has been confusion among our members as to whether operations above 400 feet are permitted by the FAA. AMA has remained steadfast that the Special Rule for Model Aircraft (Section 336 of the 2012 FAA Modernization and Reform Act) permits operations above 400 feet if conducted within our safety program requiring the pilot to be an AMA member, to avoid and not interfere with manned aircraft, and to keep the model in visual line of sight of the pilot/observer.

In January of this year, the AMA requested that the FAA clarify the 400-foot issue in writing. We are happy to share that in a recent letter to the AMA, the FAA recognized AMA's role as a community-based organization and acknowledged our safety program, including allowing flight above 400 feet under appropriate circumstances.

In this letter, dated July 7, 2016, the FAA states:

*"...model aircraft may be flown consistently with Section 336 and agency guidelines at altitudes above 400 feet when following a community-based organization's safety guidelines."*

*"Community-based organizations, such as the Academy of Model Aeronautics, may establish altitude limitations in their safety guidelines that exceed the FAA's 400 AGL altitude recommendation."*

Essentially, this letter confirms that sailplanes, large model aircraft, turbines, and other disciplines can responsibly operate above 400 feet if the AMA member is operating within our safety programming. Equally important, the FAA again acknowledges AMA as a community-based organization.

This victory falls on the heels of other successful AMA efforts, including an AMA member exemption from the FAA's Final sUAS Rule (Part 107), the removal of problematic text in the 2016 FAA Reauthorization Bill, and preserving the Special Rule for Model Aircraft through 2017.

These successes do not transpire easily and our advocacy efforts are not over. We will continue to work with the FAA toward reducing the burden of registration requirements on AMA members. Throughout the next 14 months, we will continue to work with Congress toward a long-term reauthorization bill that will further strengthen the Special Rule for Model Aircraft.

We want to extend our appreciation to all of our members and donors for your support throughout this process. To read the letter from the FAA clarifying the 400-foot guidance, visit [www.modelaircraft.org/gov](http://www.modelaircraft.org/gov).

Thank you,

AMA Government Relations Team

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## Bleacher Beautification



**"Club member Duane risks life and limb while painting the airfield bleachers."**

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## Warbirds over Pikes Peak

Occurred July 16-17 2016



Last month, PPRCC held its annual warbirds event that gathered about 30 registered pilots and 70 airplanes. All types of aircraft were flown, from WWI and WWII to modern jets (turbine and electric).

Saturday started out quite foggy in the morning but soon turned into sunshine and modest winds by noon. Fortunately the winds were always down one of the two runways, so flying was not affected too much. Sunday started out clear, warm and windy!



“Several Denver flyers participated in the warbirds over Pikes Peak this year.”



“Former PPRCC member Rick Paquin, now living in Arizona, brought a few of his planes for the event. Shown above, Rick is taxiing out with his P-47 Thunderbolt.”

Flying throughout both days were uneventful, despite a few crashes here and there. And fortunately, there were no fires because Colorado was in a “High Fire” warning both days because of the winds and dry environment.

On Saturday, Kim Lucas and Cindy Zinke (Romi and Duane’s wives) came out to cook for everyone. And once again, they did an outstanding job, Thanks!

There were several versions of the P-47 Thunderbolt and the F4U Corsair at the event, still the most popular choice of pilots. And of course there were several less common models there; Ben Woofter’s Fokker DVIII, Randy Oswald’s DC-3, Larry Sipe’s B-25 Mitchell, Hector Real’s German Eindecker and Keith Davis’ Westland Lysander. All the planes looked good.



“Although Larry Sipe’s B-25 was partially completed, it was flyable and it looked quite impressive in the air.”



“Ben Woofter’s Fokker DVIII, was one of the more colorful planes flying during the weekend event.”

The warbirds event concluded on Sunday around 1:00 pm, it was really getting hot (around 94 degrees) and windy, a bad combination for afternoon flying. But before everyone went home, several awards were given out and are listed below:

**Best Electrics:** Tom Sisk’s P-51 Mustang and Rob Latkowski’s F-14 Tomcat.

**Best Turbines:** Dan Brunson’s F-16 and Kevin Kinzel’s F-15.

**Best Large Scale:** Rick Paquin’s Japanese Zero and Ken from Denver and his F4U Corsair.

**Best Small Scale:** Ben Woofter’s Fokker DVIII and Rod Hart’s F4U Corsair.

**Pilot’s Choice:** Keith Davis’ Westland Lysander and Kevin Kinzel’s Supermarine Spitfire.

Once again, it was a really good weekend event and the club wants to thank everyone and anyone that participated in airfield maintenance prior to the event and those who participated in the event!

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## Can You Name That Plane?



**Clue #1:** Built during the 1950's, this plane was designed as a carrier-borne strike airplane and saw action during the Suez Canal conflict.



**Clue #2:** This plane had one unique feature; it had contra-rotating props. It also had one major flaw; during catapult launches from the flight deck, the engine at times would flame out because of the high-g launches, preventing fuel from reaching the engine.

**Clue #3:** Of the 127 aircraft originally built, only one exists today, located at the Fleet Air Arm museum in England.

**Last month's airplane:** Known as the Bristol Tramp, this tri-wing plane never flew. There were no correct answers.

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## Giant RC's from Around the World



**"Viper Jet"**  
Country - Unknown



**"Supermarine SB6"**  
Country - England



**"Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress"**  
Country - USA

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## Warbirds over Parker

Occurred July 23 - 24 2016



Back in July, the Crosswinds RC club out of Parker, CO, held its annual warbirds over Parker event the following weekend after PPRCC held its annual warbird event.

PPRCC members Ben Woofter, Larry Laughlin and myself (Keith Davis), participated in the Crosswinds' warbird gathering along with about 20 other pilots. And the weather, it was a mere 97 degrees in the shade with no overcast and little to no breeze!



**"PPRCC members, Keith (L), Ben (C) and Larry (R) enjoying what shade they could find. That is Clark from Denver on the far right."**

Larry made himself at home with his mobile home and airplane trailer, consisting of several gas and glow airplanes. Ben brought his popular J5 Medical Cub and I had my fairly new Westland Lysander. Other pilots had lots of electrics and mid-size gas and glow powered airplanes.

Everyone flew throughout the day, taking a break for lunch, then back to flying, then taking more breaks from the heat. The Crosswinds club had plenty of free bottled-water for everyone to prevent any heat injuries, everyone really appreciated that!

It was a two-day event but Ben and I stayed just for Saturday. Larry spent the night and continued flying on Sunday.

The event's Contest Director (CD) Wayne Perry did a great job and thanked everyone that came out to fly. We hope to see him doing it again next year!



**"Larry logged several flights with his speedy T-28 Trojan."**



**"Ben's highly detailed and unusual J5 Cub received lots of nice comments."**



**"Keith's Westland Lysander smoke really stood out in the clear blue sky."**

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PPRCC Family Day  
& Swap Meet  
August 14 (Sunday) 2016



**PPRCC Family Day & Swap Meet**



**August 14<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) 2016**  
Time: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
Location: PPRCC Airfield

- Open to all; family, friends, guests, visitors
- Free admission, donations welcome!
- Lunch will be available for a small fee.
- Sell, buy or trade your new and used RC items.
- Runways will be open for flying, any type airplanes.
- PPRCC airfield is located 4 miles east of Meadow Lake airport.



Pueblo's Sky Corral  
Big Birds  
August 27-28 (Saturday-Sunday) 2016



**SKY CORRAL R/C CLUB**  
EST. 1970



**PUEBLO, CO**

**BIG BIRD AND FUN-FLY**

(No Big Bird? Come fly what you have!)

**August, 27 and 28, 2016**

At **BRAD DOLLIVER FIELD, Pueblo CO**

(38° 18' 13" N; 104° 41' 40" W)

**Featuring a Display Of Model A Fords**

*presented by*

**The So. Colo. Model A Club**

*Along with*

**The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Barbecue**

**\$10 LANDING FEE INCLUDES SATURDAY BARBECUE**

**AMA REQUIRED to FLY**

**GREAT Raffle and Door Prizes**



EARLY ARRIVALS OK

RV Parking but no services

**BARBECUE AT 2:30PM SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Directions**

I-25 to Pueblo; exit 101 to highway 50 west. Continue west to Purcell Blvd. (Safeway store on the right), turn left (south) on Purcell and continue about 1.2 miles to Woodleaf street. Turn left (east) on Woodleaf and continue to the end and turn right. Proceed through the gate to the field

CONTACT: Max McCartney; 719-647-9285 e-mail: mccartmx@aol.com or Larry Mathis; 719-561-8510



Warbirds over  
Pueblo

September 3-4 (Saturday-Sunday) 2016



**"Flyer not Available"**

- Hosted by the Sky Carrol RC club, Pueblo CO
- \$25 pilot's registration fee
- Open to all type military aircraft
- Lunch available both days
- For more information and airfield directions, contact Larry Osborn (Event Director) at:

[Deweys478@yahoo.com](mailto:Deweys478@yahoo.com)

Warbirds over  
The Rockies

September 22-25 (Thu-Sun) 2016



ONE OF THE  
**LARGEST MODEL WARBIRO EVENTS**  
IN THE WORLD.  
**FOUR BIG DAYS**  
SEPTEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup>-25<sup>TH</sup> 2016

**WARBIRDS  
OVER  
THE ROCKIES**

HORIZON H G B Y SPEKTRUM FTE  
Airplane AERO WORKS WEINSTEIN SCALE ARVADA ASSOCIATED MODELERS ZAP

800 foot Runway!  
Full scale Fly-overs - P-51, Seafury and a T-33.  
**HUGE** Pyrotechnics Show! Wide open flying over **200** acres.

- 3 Big Days of Non-Stop Flying!
- WWI, WWII, Fighters, Bombers, and Jets too!
- \$50 on-line pilot registration.
- 60 acres of parking and camping.
- Located at Arvada Associated Modelers Field in Denver, CO.
- Food, R/C vendors and more!
- Net proceeds goes to Colorado Mental Health.

Information and pilot registration at [warbirdsovertherockies.com](http://warbirdsovertherockies.com)

# Pikes Peak RC Hobbies



## Upcoming RC Events:

- **August 2nd (Tue) 2016 - PPRCC meeting**
- August 13<sup>th</sup> (Sat) 2016 - National Model Aviation Day
- August 14<sup>th</sup> (Sun) 2016 - PPRCC Family Day & Swap Meet
- August 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> (Sat-Sun) 2016 - Pueblo Big Birds Fun Fly
- September 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> (Sat-Sun) 2016 - Warbirds over Pueblo
- **September 6<sup>th</sup> (Tue) 2016 - PPRCC meeting**
- September 22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> (Thu-Sun) 2016 - Warbirds over the Rockies
- **October 4<sup>th</sup> (Tue) 2016 - PPRCC meeting**

