

# Pikes Peak Radio Control Club

## Newsletter



Volume 45 / Issue 03 / March 2017

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



Club President – Rob Latkovich / Club Vice President – Kevin Kinzel  
Club Safety Officer – Greg Moore / Club Treasurer – Adam Heffington  
Club Airfield Maintenance Team – Chuck Brath, Kevin Kinzel, Dan Brunson  
Club Flight Instructor – Ben Woofter / Club Secretary & Club Newsletter Editor – Keith Davis

<p>Next PPRCC Meeting: 7:00pm / March 7th (Tue) 2017 @ Railroad Station / 555 E Pikes Peak Ave</p>	<p>Local RC events happening this month:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>
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### Last Month's Minutes . . .

(February meeting)



Meeting Started: 7:07 pm  
Meeting Adjourned: 8:10 pm

Members Attended: 35  
New Members: 1 – Holden Wright, welcome!  
Visitors: 0

#### New Business:

- 1) Club president Rob Latkovich, could not attend the February meeting, club vice president Kevin Kinzel conducted the meeting.
- 2) Club Treasurer Adam Heffington, spoke about the club's November finances. Adam then discussed the proposed club budget for 2017. It was voted on, and passed by the club members present at the meeting.
- 3) Club member Dan Brunson, said that he is now accepting broken and unwanted/unused RC airplanes. The items will go to the military for training on how adversaries use RC airplanes as weapons. The unwanted airplanes can be brought to Dan's RC store or dropped off at the airfield.

#### Old Business:

- 1) Club Secretary Keith Davis, is still compiling the PPRCC president's list. If you have ever been the club president during the 1980's or 1990's, let him know your name and the year you were president.

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#### Airplane Anomalies . . .



"Houston Center, I have a problem!"

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## PPRCC 25 Year Members Club



**“Twenty-Five year club members: Dan Brunson, Gus Gustafson, Frank Tuxworth, Doug Beacham, Greg Moore and Harry Lehman.”**

Starting in 2017, PPRCC will begin recognizing and awarding club members that have been a PPRCC member for 25 years or more. The intent of the award is to show our long-time club members that PPRCC recognizes and appreciates all the time and support club members has given to the club for 25 years or more.

In order to get the award program started, club secretary Keith Davis made several inquiries and phone calls, to determine which club members would be the first to receive the PPRCC 25 year membership appreciation award. Within a few weeks, Keith came up with the first seven members to receive the award, just in time to present it during the February club meeting.

The first Congratulations goes out to; Dan Brunson, Gus Gustafson, Frank Tuxworth, Doug Beacham, Greg Moore and Harry Lehman. Austin Cleis also received the honor, but he was not present at the meeting.

The club hopes to continue this tradition on an annual basis, given out each year, either during the December or January club meeting.

If you are a 25 year club member and I did not get your name or you will soon be a 25 year member, send me your name and how many years that you have been a member, it does not have to be concurrent, and I will get your name on the list for 2018! (Keith Davis – [kdavis03@hotmail.com](mailto:kdavis03@hotmail.com) )

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## PPRCC Events For 2017



Although you will see these events posted again with more details as the dates get closer, here is what the club has planned for 2017:

**June 17<sup>th</sup> (Saturday):** Father's Day Fly-In / Donations welcome.

**June 24<sup>th</sup> (Saturday):** Airfield Maintenance Day. No flying will be permitted while maintenance is in progress.

**July 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> (Sat-Sun):** Warbirds over Pikes Peak / \$25.00 pilot's registration fee.

**August 13<sup>th</sup> (Sunday):** Airfield Family Day & Swap Meet / Donations welcome.

**September 10<sup>th</sup> (Sunday):** PPRCC Electric Fly-In / \$5.00 pilot's registration fee.

**October 14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> (Sat-Sun):** PPRCC 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Jet Rally / \$10.00 pilot's registration fee.

Friends and guest pilots are welcome to participate in flying events.

AMA membership is required to participate in flying events.

If you would like to see other events for the club, please get with any of the club EC members for discussion.

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## Vintage RC Show & Tell



During the March club meeting, there will be an emphasis on displaying vintage Show & Tell items. Bring in any vintage, antique or rare RC items that you may own and would like to share with the club. New items are still welcome for Show & Tell also!



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## Night Fly'in Riley Ross



One of PPRCC's newest youth club members, Riley Ross, joined the club just a few months ago, learning to fly on the Apprentice with flight instructor Ben Woofler.

Within a few flights, Riley had mastered the Apprentice and was ready to move on to greater challenges.

Soon after that, I received a few photos from Riley. He had installed lights on his Apprentice and had already tried his skills at dusk/night flying!



**"Riley said the flight went well, a bit hard to see the plane at times but enduring the cold at night was really the hard part."**



I then spoke with Riley during the February club meeting and swap meet, he was getting ready to buy a Habu jet. Riley, keep up the enthusiasm and the club is honored to have a new and exciting member like you!

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## It's a Parent's Hobby Too!



In the past few months, the PPRC club has gained several new youth members, under the age of 16. Being young and trying to get into the RC airplane hobby can be a challenge; needing funds to get into the hobby, needing a ride to get to the airfield and fly, attending club meetings and still required to attend school, homework and chores around the house.

But it would be almost impossible for a youth to get into any hobby or sport without the support of their parents. The parents will be the ones to drive their young flyers to the hobby store, out to the airfield and even to a few club meetings. And in most cases it will be the parents making the financial decisions on what can be purchased for the hobby.

Therefore, the PPRC club would like to thank all the parents out there that has recently assisted in getting their kids into RC airplane flying and joining the club, in particular the parents of Fox Romano (Foster Romano and his wife) and the parents of Riley Ross (Rick and Wendy Ross).

Even though as a parent, you may not actually be flying the plane, you are now part of your child's hobby too. You will be the first ones to hear about how the flying went, what went right and what went wrong. And of course what will be the next plane to buy!

There will be plenty of good days in this hobby and hopefully not too many bad days but it will be a great learning experience for the flyer and the parent.

So once again, thanks to all the parents for allowing your child to participate. And of course if there are any questions about joining, expenses, etc, the parents or kids can talk to any club member. If they don't know the answer, they will find someone that does!

Keith Davis  
PPRCC Secretary



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## Can you Name That Plane?



**Clue #1:** This plane was designed for the U.S. Navy during WWII. It was a single pilot, armed scout seaplane but a bunk was provided in the aft fuselage for sea rescue or passenger transfer.

**Clue #2:** The center float was built with an internal bomb bay. But it leaked so badly, it was decided to install an extra fuel tank inside and seal the float shut.



**Clue #3:** The plane was delivered to the Navy squadrons with wheels for shore operations. It was up to the units to reconfigure the plane with floats for ship operations.

**Clue #4:** Over 570 were built. However there are no known existing examples left today.

**Last month's airplane:** The French Bloch MB.81 Air Ambulance. There were no responses for that airplane.

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## Show & Tell Item - I



Doug Ransom's Sig 4-Star 40



**"Doug presented his leisure project, a Sig kit 4-Star 40. He was in no hurry to complete it, but he finally did. The plane has a 60" ws and powered by an O.S. 46FX engine. Doug said the covering took almost as long to complete as building the plane."**

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## Why are Airplane Windows Round?

Article from Wikipedia



Whether you love your window seat or prefer to stay far away and forget you're in flight, you've no doubt noticed that all airplane windows are round.

But why? Does the shape actually help the plane stay up, or are the curved edges just more aesthetically pleasing? And if you flew in the early days of air travel, you'll question it even more. Airplane windows used to be square.

It turns out, when airplane windows were square, the planes flew slower and lower. As flying became more popular, airlines began to fly at higher altitudes to cut costs (there's less drag up there, which limits unnecessary fuel use). The planes themselves also had to be increasingly pressurized.

That's when square windows began to prove deadly. Two planes disintegrated in midair because of stress concentrates caused by the sharp edges of their windows. The analysis of each crash led to the oval design you see today. With this new and improved shape, stress can flow smoothly, and we can fly safely.



**"The De Havilland Comet, the world's first commercial jetliner. Note the square windows."**

**The De Havilland Comet, the reason for round windows:** Entering commercial service in 1952, one year later, the Comets began suffering problems, with three of them breaking up during mid-flight in well-publicized accidents. Two of these were found to be caused by catastrophic failure resulting from metal fatigue in the airframes, not well understood at the time. The other one was due to overstressing of the airframe during flight through severe weather.

The Comet was withdrawn from service and extensively tested to discover the causes of the fatigue failures. Design flaws, including dangerous stresses at the corners of the square windows and installation methods, were ultimately identified.

As a result, the Comet was extensively redesigned with oval windows, structural reinforcement, and other changes. Rival manufacturers meanwhile heeded the lessons learned from the Comet while developing their own aircraft and designed all future jetliners with oval or round windows to this date.

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**Do you have a story, article 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 - Newsletter Editor**



**"Sorry, the PPRCC airfield does not have automatic gate closing, so last one out, please remember to close and lock the gate!"**

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# PPRCC February Swap Meet

Event occurred during the February club meeting



The next swap meet will be during the May PPRCC meeting.

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## A Visiting P-51 Mustang Photos by Rod Hart



PPRCC member Rod Hart, works as a volunteer at the Colorado Springs National Museum of WWII Aviation. From time to time, he gets to see visiting WWII airplanes that stop in for repairs or upgrades.

Last month the P-51 Mustang “Francis Dell”, stopped in for renovations. Rod happened to be there and sent me a few photos. Beautiful airplane! Thanks Rod!



The museum and restoration facility has planned a spectacular airshow at the Colorado Springs Airport / Peterson AFB on 23 & 24 September 2017. More details will soon be out. Can't wait to see the show! It's called the “Pikes Peak Regional Airshow”.

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## U.S. Aviation Milestones in March



- **March 1912** – American captain Albert Perry, makes the first parachute jump from an airplane.
- **March 1914** – The first U.S. commercial aeroplane passenger service begins between St. Petersburg and Tampa, Florida.
- **March 1922** – The first U.S. aircraft carrier, the converted collier ship, the *U.S.S. Langley* is commissioned.
- **March 1939** – The first Boeing 314 flying boat for Pan Am, is named the *Yankee Clipper*.
- **March 1943** – The first U.S. guided bomb, named the *VB1 Azon*, is used in action by the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force in Italy.
- **March 1945** – The U.S. Navy test fires the *Gorgon*, the first air-to-air missile, from a PBY Catalina. The missile gets poor results and does not reach production status.
- **March 1959** – The first flight of the *Sikorsky S-61*, later known as the *H-3 Sea King*, flies for the first time.
- **March 1965** – The *Sikorsky H-3 Sea King*, crosses the U.S. from the carrier *U.S.S. Hornet* on the west coast, to the carrier *U.S.S. Roosevelt* on the east coast.
- **March 1968** – The *General Dynamics F-111* enters combat in the Vietnam War. But its career begins with several mysterious, unsolved crashes.
- **March 1976** – A *Boeing 747SP* flies from Everett, Washington to Cape Town, South Africa, setting a non-stop distance record for a commercial aircraft, traveling 10,290 miles.
- **March 1977** – The USAF receives its first delivery of *Boeing E-3A Sentry* AWACS aircraft. Production ended in 1992, with a total of 68 built.
- **March 1980** – A pair of B-52's, makes a non-stop circumnavigation of the world, taking 42 hours, 30 minutes to complete.
- **March 1989** – The Bell/Boeing V-22 Osprey flies for the first time.
- **March 2003** – Just after launching an air-to-air missile, a Predator drone (UAV), is shot down by an Iraqi *Mig-29*, in the first known air-to-air combat with an UAV.

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# Pikes Peak RC Hobbies

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## Upcoming RC Events:

- **March 7<sup>th</sup> (Tue) 2017 - PPRCC meeting**
- **April 4<sup>th</sup> (Tue) 2017 - PPRCC meeting**
- **April 29<sup>th</sup> (Sat) 2017 - Dawn Patrol Swap meet @ Douglas County Fair Grounds, Kirk Hall, Castle Rock, CO. 9am till 3pm**
- **May 2<sup>nd</sup> (Tue) 2017 - PPRCC meeting**
- **June 6<sup>th</sup> (Tue) 2017 - PPRCC meeting**

