

FARM Newsletter

AMA Charter 1654

May 2017

MEMBER-AT-LARGE'S CORNER

Charlie Koustenis



Hot, cold, wind and rain. What a way to start the new flying season. The weather gods haven't been so good this spring. But the good news is all the rain has been great for our runway. The grass is green and growing.

I have been busy this winter with a few builds for me and some customers. Some of the things I found and you can watch for on today's ARFs are bad hardware and the price of the plane, which has bearing on hardware quality. Inspect every part and if it doesn't look good, don't use it. Go buy Dubro or some other USA-made hardware. I've seen pull/pull cable that's half the size that's needed. Other things are the fuel tank and stoppers are not the best quality. Look at them close if you have any questions. Just put in a new Dubro tank or if your tank looks good change the stopper to a Dubro or Sullivan. Both have great stopper kits and use good quality fuel tubing.

My biggest complaint has been the covering. Even the highest priced ARF needs a lot of help when it comes to getting a nice looking finish.

These are some of the things I do: first thing – DO NOT use a heat gun. For the best and longest-lasting results, go over the entire model with a covering iron with a sock cover. I use a 21st Century iron because it has a contoured shoe and a calibrated temperature dial. If your iron doesn't have a calibrated dial, use a coverite pocket thermometer to get the best temp to use for the covering that's on your model. Most coverings work best using as much heat (280 to 325F) as possible but not so much it causes a seam to pull away. If bubbles do appear, the iron is too hot. If no bubbles appear, go hotter. When you find what temp works best, go for it. For any model that has multiple colors, go slow. You don't want to shrink the top color away at the edges. Keep the iron moving all the time. Don't let it stay in one place too long or you'll get a hole in your nice finish.

If you get some bubbles on the solid areas, you can use a pin to punch a hole to let air out and go back over that area. This can take more than one try. Don't worry about the holes. They will close up with the heat. TAKE YOUR TIME. You'll be glad you did. If you have any questions about covering, let me know and I'll try to help you out.

Till next time, keep the wrinkles out and have fun !

Charlie Koustenis

HOBBY HANGAR

Specializing in Radio Control Models
Cars • Boats • Airplanes • Helicopters

14014-D Sullyfield Circle Chantilly Va. 22021
(703) 631-8820 FAX (703) 631-8808

EDITOR'S NOTES – Upcoming Events

Jeff Killen

1. **Club Meeting, at Warrenton Community Center, 7:00 PM, 5/23/2017**
2. **Spring Pattern Contest, at the field, All Day, 5/19-21/2017, CD: Don Szczur**
3. **Fun Fly #3, at the field (and AM Pilot Flight Check Day, 1:00 AM, 6/4/2017**
4. **Shenandoah Pattern Contest, at Harrisonburg, VA, All Day, 6/9-11/2017, CD: JR Varela at ovjrfly@comcast.net**
5. **Club Picnic & Float Fly #1, at Lake Ritchie, 9:00 AM, 6/24/2017 (our field closed to 72 Mhz; open to 2.4 Ghz), CD: Bill Towne**

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Jeff Killen

The April club meeting was held on April 25 at our usual location in Warrenton. Twenty members were present, including all of the club officers. Two members (Chris and Joan) from the CMB were with us for the evening.

Reports were brief as the bulk of the meeting was devoted to a guest (Tom Ciarula) and his presentation (see below).

Bill Towne reported that the lawn equipment is now in good shape for cutting our field.

Jeff Killen and Keith Crabill (officers) had no reports. Dick Sutton had no report on the web site.

Nic Burhans gave a treasurer report. We now have \$2503 in the bank. Membership count stands at 91. All fees for the first float fly in June have been paid and prizes and fuel have been bought. We will have a new roster out next month. Hobby Hangar has contacted us; their next open house is on May 21. There will be a helo spring fling by FARC on 4/28-5/7.

50/50

Nic Burhans won the money.

Presentation

One of the docents from the Udvar Hazy Air and Space Museum (Tom Ciarula) talked on the history of aircraft engines. He was a Navy pilot, has flown off aircraft carriers, is a retired Navy Commander, worked for defense contractor SAIC, and has been a docent at the

museum for 8 years. Nice job, Tom, and thanks ! Also, thanks to Ernie Padgett for arranging the talk by Tom.

FUN FLY RESULTS

Nic Burhans

Here is the latest 2017 FARM Fun Fly results update:

---- FARM's Fun Fly #2 on Sunday, 7 May 2017:

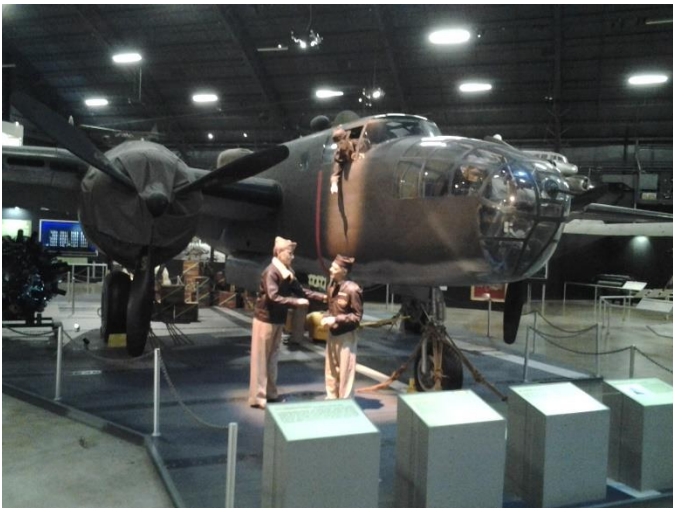
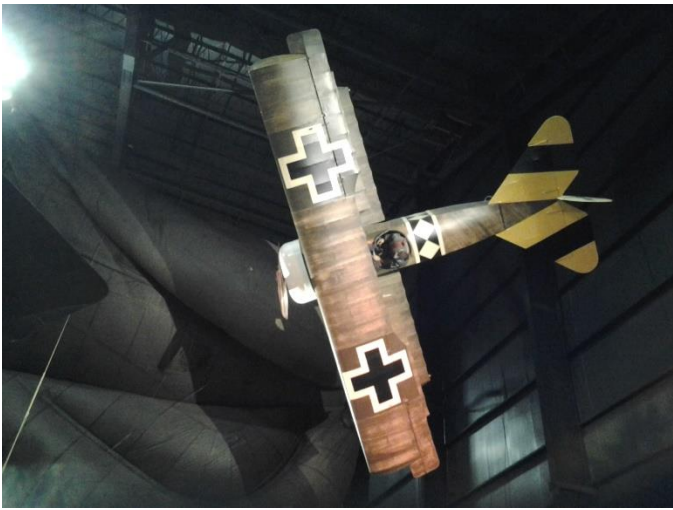
1. Ernie Padgett
2. Bill Towne
3. Ralph Gaul
4. Nic Burhans
5. Dave Rothbart
6. Charlie Koustenis

---- FARM's Fun Fly #1 on Sunday, 2 April 2017:

1. Charlie Koustenis
2. Ken Bassett
3. Nic Burhans
4. Ralph Gaul
5. Les Broaddus
6. Vince Tabacco
7. Doug Cash
8. Dave Rothbart
9. Ernie Padgett

Pictures provided by Ralph Gaul, from the USAF museum.





FARM OFFICERS for 2017

President. Dave Rothbart 703-327-0476
Vice President Bill Towne 540-428-1053
Secretary Jeff Killen 703-369-0807
Treasurer Nic Burhans 540-349-2733
Field Marshall Ernie Padgette 540-439-6085
Safety Officer Keith Crabill 703-929-5602
Member at Large. Charlie Koustenis 703-378-6214

FARM Newsletter Staff

Editor Jeff Killen

Printer: UPS Store
Manassas, VA

The FARM Newsletter is published monthly by the Fauquier Aero Recreation Modelers, AMA charter #1654. It is mailed to FARM members and to other clubs on an exchange basis. Articles related to all types of aviation are welcome. Opinions expressed in the newsletter are those of the individual author and do not necessarily reflect those of FARM Inc. Publishing deadline is the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Please mail all input to:

Jeff Killen
10297 Woodmont Ct. E-Mail: killenjeffrey@gmail.com
Manassas, VA 20110-6164
703-369-0807 Our web site is: <http://www.farmclubrc.com>

FAUQUIER AERO RECREATION MODELERS

Jeff Killen
10297 Woodmont Ct.
Manassas, VA 20110-6164



Beautiful, but deadly !