

# FARM Newsletter

AMA Charter 1654

February 2020

## VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Bill Towne



I haven't been able to fly very much since Thanksgiving. Weather has not been great and I had a health problem. Bad sprained ankle and knee, then a rash and skin infection on that leg. All cleared up now though, and waiting for better weather to fly. I did get out early in February on one nice day and flew my old timer the electric Majestic Major II with elevator and rudder only. It's rainy and cold this week though, maybe March will come in like a Lamb not a Lion.

**Signup Genius.** We are currently setting up the mowing schedule for this year so if you can mow on some Friday mornings please let John Gilbert [jagewhiz@yahoo.com](mailto:jagewhiz@yahoo.com) (703-582-7144) or Bill Towne [bbtowne@comcast.net](mailto:bbtowne@comcast.net) (540-428-1053) know what Friday mornings you would be available. With at least eight or more mowers everyone will only have to mow once a month or less. This year we have decided to use a free app "Signup Genius" to send out reminders several days in advance when it's your turn to mow.

**Scag Welding.** Last year a rusty hole developed in the front of the Scag Mower's deck. So it wasn't very effective in blowing the grass clippings to the side of the runway. Bill McMullen has volunteered to weld up that hole as soon as we can get the Scag over to his shop. Thanks in advance Bill.

**Winter Project.** This winter's projects are coming along. My friend John Gilbert (the one with the Mustache) was presented with a World Models 80.5 inch wing span Super Frontier Kadet ARF for Christmas. This is the Chinese version of the original Sig Kadet Senior Kit or the recent Sig Kadet Senior Sport ARF. We have been impressed with the World Models ARF. It's well built and complete including ailerons, pull pull rudder, and pinned hinges already glued in on all control surfaces. It is designed to fly with a 2 stroke fuel 0.46 engine but we decided to electrify it! That's where the fun started, as Dick Sutton always said it takes almost as long to build an ARF as it does a kit!

Gordon Collyer and Dan Jones helped us out with choosing a motor, Esc, and Battery. Gordon ran several MotoCalc and e-calc computer runs with this large plane and we settled on a Great Planes Rimfire 55 out runner motor, a Castel Edge ESC and a 6S 5000 HRB Lipo battery! Now the big challenge. The Battery comes with EC5 connectors. We felt the Deans plugs that we have used in the past were marginal for this size motor so John decided to stick with the EC5 connectors. With no experience soldering these we went to U-Tube and found 5 or 6 videos on how to solder these. It looks like every one of these authors originally had trouble soldering these connectors until they developed their own favorite methods. So of course we played along and had lots of trouble with these as well and it took us three different soldering sessions and several ruined connectors, until we figured out how to do these

properly. (Probably should have asked some of you electric guys how this is done first!)

**That's it for now hope you are all well and getting those planes ready for or next flying season which should start soon I hope.....**

**Bill Towne**

### ***EDITOR'S NOTES – Upcoming Events***

**Jeff Killen**

- 1. Club Meeting, at Warrenton Community Center, 7:00 PM, 2/25/2020**
- 2. Valley RC Swap Meet, Weyers Cave, VA, 9AM-1PM, 2/22/2020, [vrcfc.com](http://vrcfc.com) & Kevin Grapes [k.grapes41@gmail.com](mailto:k.grapes41@gmail.com)**
- 3. Newport News Swap Meet, Newport News-VA, 9 AM, 2/15/2020, [rustyk716@gmail.com](mailto:rustyk716@gmail.com)**



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### ***SECRETARY'S REPORT***

**Jeff Killen**

I had to be away for the January 28 club meeting, so here are some notes provided by Nic Burhans.

- Meeting held in the Community center conference room.
- Meeting started at 7:05 PM.
- Called to order by Dave Rothbart
- Gordon Collyer joined the club at the meeting.
- 8 members were present.

#### **Old Business:**

- Scagg mower repair - Bill Towne reported
- - Bill McMullen has offered to do the deck repair.
- - - We will have to trailer it to his house for the welding repairs.

#### **New Business:**

- - Dave Rothbart noted Andy Kane's passing and read his obituary.
- - - It was noted that DCRC will be holding a memorial service at their field in the future.
- - Nic Burhans pointed out that the comment period on the FAA's proposed ID rule extends until 2 March 2020.
- - - An all hands discussion about the proposed rule ensued.
- - Bill Towne and John Gilbert discussed the need for additional members of the mowing crew to reduce the number of times crew members have to mow during the season.
- - - They will be using Signup Genius this year for the scheduling.
- - - Friday mowing will again start between 8:00 and 8:30 AM to allow it to be completed before the normal start of flying.
- - - Nic Burhans will put out an all hands call for mower crew members.

#### **Treasury Report:**

- - - \$6575.06.
- - - Still waiting on ten possible renewals.
- - - Possible 2020 membership around 72.
- - Dick Sutton reported that he has again updated the website and removed code for old Windows versions to keep it within specs required by our web host.
- - - It was announced the Charlie K. will be the February speaker on the care/repair/feeding of four stroke engines.

#### **Show and Tell:**

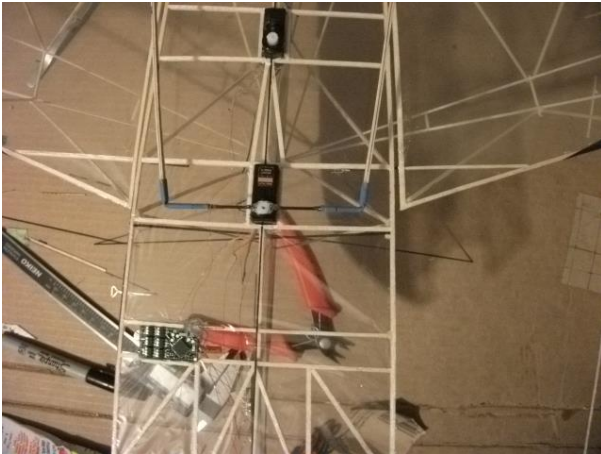
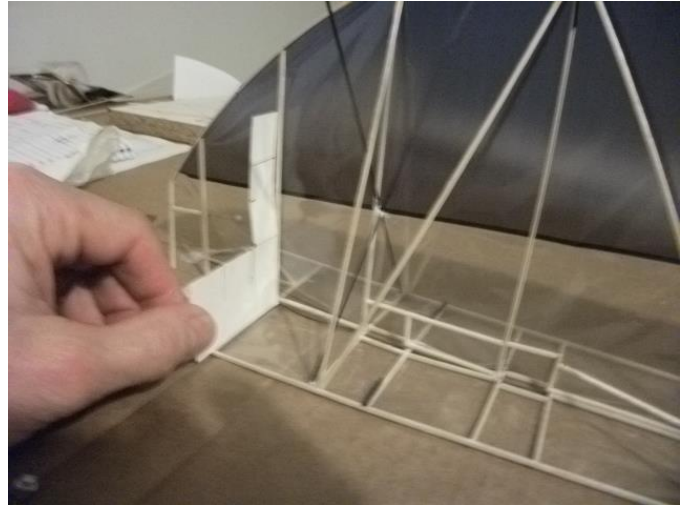
- - Ralph Graul showed his foam jet and discussed the limitations of each of its gyro modes and how to switch them.
- - Charlie K. showed a MK-III Orbit Guidance Systems transmitter/receiver/battery/servo system from 1970 [still in the original shipping box from Orbit] that came from John Muller's estate - we are going to contact the AMA museum to see if they are interested in the system.
- - Duane Beck showed a prototype sailplane holder/transporter that he is constructing using his CNC router system.
- The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

## ***INDOOR PATTERN Balsa F3P BUILD***

**Don Szczur**

Some input for the club newsletter. Wanted to share progress on an evening building project I'm working on. It's for indoor aerobatic plane that flies in an event called F3P. It's a fairly simple construction from 1/16 balsa strips and very simple mylar covering. Plans can be downloaded off of RC Groups, "indoor pattern balsa F3P build". This thread is pretty popular with over 42000 hits. The planes like this are not difficult to build if you've ever built a rubber band powered free flight model as a kid. Servos are Spektrum 2010 and motors range from Eflight 250 size to more elaborate contra powered units. Overall weight comes out around 45 to 60 grams typically, if you are careful with applying CA. Balsa strips are cut with a simple Dubro balsa stripper and one sheet of balsa makes a model.

If you want to see what one looks like while flying, checkout <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f0Pk6xi12wI>



**Don Szczur's handywork !**

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< USAF Jet by Ralph Graul from the January club meeting.