

FARM Newsletter

AMA Charter 1654

June 2022

FIELD MARSHAL'S CORNER

Ralph Graul



Well this year has been an interesting one so far for me. It started with Cataract Surgery on my right eye on Feb 7th and the left eye on March 14th. Hooray no more glasses for reading. I should have listened to several members that told me that the surgery is nothing to worry about. I should have had them done two years ago. Oh well, hind sight is 20 20. I do need a slight correction for distance reading of road signs and more importantly seeing the models flying.

As for our flying site, Ernie and I seeded and filled in a lot of the rough spots in the middle of the runway to the east end of the runway. The grass seems to be filling in nicely so far. There are still spots that need to be attended too. When cutting the grass yesterday (May 26th) I noticed there are a lot of areas on the west end of the runway that need attention too.

On May 15th I was flying my 35% PAU Extra and had an inflight failure of the wing tube and the right wing. Part of the fuselage departed the airframe, and needless to say, the plane is a total loss. As of this writing I have not found a replacement and may need to resurrect my old J-tech Extra. Not sure why the wing tube failed unless there was other undetected damage from the hard landing at this year's first fun fly that damaged the landing gear mount in the fuselage. I repaired this and have flown the plane several times since. It was quite spectacular seeing it happen and wondering what the heck happened. It was a very long walk to find the majority of the plane; the right wing was much closer to the runway.

Fly Safe,

Ralph Graul

EDITOR'S NOTES – Upcoming Events

Jeff Killen

1. Club Meeting, at the field, 7:00 PM, 6/28/2022
2. FARM Club Day & Fun Fly #4, at the field, all day, 7/10/2022 - pilot training and flight check day, CD: tbd

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Jeff Killen

The May club meeting was held via zoom on May 24. Ten members were on the call.

Dave Rothbart began with a brief summary of our time with John Gilbert who had passed shortly before the meeting. John supported our mowing schedule

with help from Bill Towne. He worked tirelessly to get his flying qualification. He was also noted for his cooking skill, medical skills, and baritone voice. He will be missed.

Then Dave identified a few Heroes of the Month. His picks were:

- Ralph Graul and Ernie Padgette – for seeding the field

For the upcoming float fly on June 25, we need help. Please contact Nic Burhans if you can lend a hand.

Our monthly meetings are now a board meeting. Our next meeting at the field will include the Phil Coopy plaque presentation.

Officer Reports

Treasurer – Nic Burhans - We have 55 members now. The bank balance now sits at \$6017 which is \$7 ahead of budget for the year. We need help with ice, sodas and water for the upcoming float fly event.

Secretary – Jeff Killen – No report

Vice President - Ernie Padgette – absent, no report

Field Marshall – Ralph Graul – absent, no report

Field Marshall – Gordon Collyer – no report

Member-at-Large – Charlie Koustenis – He mentioned that he could do more articles like his lead article in May.

Web Master – Dick Sutton – No Report

Presentation

John Hunton gave a talk on the OQ2A target drone. This was the first such device of its kind built for the military in WW2. John shared many stories of his connection with this drone and the history surrounding its use. He also got to work with such planes as part of his working years in the 1970s and 1980s.

FUN FLY #3 RESULTS

Nic Burhans

We had a beautiful day for the event.

FARM 2022 Fun Fly #3 results:

- 1st. Ernie Padgette 3 points
- 2nd. Nic Burhans 2 Points
- 3rd. Doug Cash 1 Point

We had an additional 5 spectators.

The next FARM Club Fun Day and Fun Fly is scheduled for Sunday, 10 July.

We are still looking for a CD for the day's events and Fun Fly.

Be Safe

Nic

TJ UAV FLIGHT READINESS REVIEW

Don Szczur

Thanks for the support to all from NVRC, FARM club and LCAA for the support of this team. It has become a multi-club endeavor. I am really blown away by the professionalism and attitude of these young team members!

Here is a video documenting their aircraft which they intend to fly in the national (college level) UAS competition next week in St. Mary's airport in MD.

[TJ UAV Flight Readiness Review - AUVSI SUAS 2022 - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mSemTWy3eB4)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mSemTWy3eB4>

<https://southernmarylandchronicle.com/2022/05/03/st-marys-department-of-economic-development-announces-aeropark-innovation-district-will-host-2022-auvsi-suas-competition/>

Wish them the best!

Don

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