



July 2024 Edition

Secretary's Corner: Nic Burhans



AMA began working with Congress as soon as the last FAA bill passed in 2018, advocating to make much needed changes to the law. On Thursday, May 16th, 2024, the President signed the FAA's Re-authorization Bill into law. Although the new bill is not perfect, AMA is happy that it was able to address many of the challenges facing our hobby. This is a summary of the section on recreational UAS operations:

- Maintains the 400-foot altitude restriction but now allows for a process to request flights above 400 feet in Class G airspace.
- Requires that the FAA coordinate with Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), like AMA, to develop and implement an approval process for operations in controlled airspace above the UAS facility map altitudes.
- Language is included that specifically allows for above 400-foot operations at Class G sites with authorization from the Administrator.
- It better clarifies that Large Model Aircraft (LMA) operations are permitted at fixed sites in both controlled and uncontrolled airspace.
- Requires the FAA to prioritize the FAA-Recognized Identification Area (FRIA) review and adjudication processes.
- Allows for elementary, secondary, and institutions of higher education to all fly under recreational rules.
- Extends the "Know Before You Fly" Campaign funding through 2028.

Although AMA don't expect any major issues, there are other portions of the bill that will impact our hobby. Because of the uncertainty, AMA will be keeping a close eye on the FAA's interpretation and implementation of the following:

- Explore if network Remote ID solutions can satisfy the existing Remote ID rule.
- Develop the Airspace Modernization Office within the FAA to streamline Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) integration.
- The Administrator shall establish a process to approve and publicly disseminate fixed flying sites.

It's important to remember that these changes will not be immediate. However, AMA has already begun working with the FAA on processes to obtain approval over 400' AGL in uncontrolled airspace and above the UAS Facility Map altitude in controlled airspace.

What does this all mean?

Q. What are the available FAA waivers/authorizations for AMA sanctioned events?

A. AMA sanctioned events are eligible for both Remote ID authorizations and/or altitude waivers. Remote ID authorizations are for any AMA sanctioned event. This authorization allows AMA members to operate at sanctioned events without broadcasting Remote ID information.

Presently, Altitude waivers are only for events in uncontrolled airspace (Class G). They allow operations at these sanctioned events up to the upper threshold of Class G, either 700 feet or 1,200 feet, depending upon location.

Q. Who can receive the Remote ID authorization?

A. Any Contest Director (CD) or Event Manager (EM) that sanctions an event through AMA's sanctioning process.

Q. Can a CD receive a Remote ID authorization for my sanctioned event in controlled airspace?

A. Yes.

Q. An event is at an FAA-Recognized Identification Areas (FRIA). Do I need to request a Remote ID authorization? Do I need to file a Notice to Air Mission (NOTAM)?

A. No. FRIA sites have already been authorized to operate without broadcasting Remote ID information. No further steps are necessary.

Q. An event is at a FRIA. Do I need to request an altitude waiver and file a NOTAM?

A. If your FRIA is located in uncontrolled airspace and you want to operate over 400 feet during a sanctioned event, you must request an altitude waiver, file a NOTAM, and provide that NOTAM number to AMA at waivers@modelaircraft.org.

Q. Is a Remote ID authorization all that is need to conduct a sanctioned event in controlled airspace?

A. No. The Remote ID authorization only allows operators at the sanctioned event to fly without broadcasting Remote ID information. Sites in controlled airspace must also receive an airspace authorization. The three ways to do so are:

- Operate at a site that has an existing LOA/7711-1.
- Contact AMA to start the process to receive an airspace authorization.
- Have all pilots at the sanctioned event request authorization through Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability (LAANC).

Q. CD plans to file a NOTAM for an event's altitude waiver. Does he need to file another one for Remote ID authorization?

A. No. One NOTAM will satisfy both requirements. Just be sure when you send the NOTAM number to waivers@modelaircraft.org, you include that your sanctioned event needs both the Remote ID authorization and altitude waiver.

Q. Do CDs need to complete this process for all of their sanctioned events?

A. Yes. A new NOTAM must be filed for each event and that NOTAM number must be provided to waivers@modelaircraft.org in order to receive the Remote ID authorization and/or altitude waiver for each event.

To remain current with the most recent government-related news, regularly visit the AMA Government Affairs blog. If you have any further questions or concerns, contact the Government Affairs department at (765) 287-1256 or amagov@modelaircraft.org.

Nic

President's Pilot Box: Bill Towne

- The first of FARM Club's Summer Saturday membership Meetings at the field was held on June 29th.

The Meeting started at 10:00 am with the following members present: Bill Towne, Ernie Padgette, Dick Sutton, Dave Rothbart, Charlie Koustenis, Mike Dale, and guest Greg.

No new or old field issues were discussed.

Dave Rothbart indicated the Float fly was successful.

The FARM membership meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

- No other Club specific items this Month.

Bill 7

Vice President's Pilot Box: Ernie Padgette

- **More Stuff You Probably Already Know**

Ever so often, I come up with what I call one of my "better ways of doing things". Quite often I start telling one of you about this wonderful new way to do something that saves me time, energy and frustration. Whereupon the person to whom I am speaking generally looks at me and responds: "Duh! Everyone knows that". Which of course, begs my standard follow-up response of "Well, why the heck didn't one of you tell me"? This is the story of my latest innovation and subsequent embarrassment. But at least half of the people to whom I spoke said "Hey! That's a great idea. I'll start doing that myself". So, here you go.

I decided to replace the cheap, sub-standard and not really working very well any more Velcro straps in a couple of my airplanes. These are the straps used to hold the battery in place. Like most of you, I use a stick-on piece, or two, of "loop" Velcro on the battery and a corresponding piece of "hook" Velcro on the battery tray of the plane. That makes sure the battery doesn't slide around. Then, I use a couple of Velcro straps to make sure the battery is held firmly in place against those pieces of Velcro. The Velcro straps are fed through a couple of slots in the battery tray, or floor of the plane. Feeding the two Velcro straps through those slots is often a frustrating exercise all in its' own, since their isn't usually a lot of room in which to work; and the straps are seldom willing to bend in the exact place I need them to bend. This is, of course, further complicated by the unwillingness of my aged fingers to work the way they used to work.

I wasn't looking forward to the exercise, and was thinking about the exact way I would do it, when an inspiration came my way. Rather than removing the old straps and then replacing them with new ones, why not attach the new strap to the old strap, and use the old strap to pull the new one through the route and into place? Eureka! I have so far done this on both planes, and it worked like a champ!

So, a few days later, I casually mentioned what I had discovered to Charlie. Charlie looked puzzled and responded "Ernie; that's the only way I've ever done it. Why would you do it any other way"? But another nearby member spoke up and said "Well, I didn't know it. That's going to make it a lot easier for me when I do it next time". And so, some of you now have reinforcement that you've been doing it correctly all along. And the rest of you who share my genetic proclivity to start out doing things the hard way and trying to improve as I go along, now know an easier way to replace Velcro battery straps. Thanks; Ernie P.

- No Club specific items this Month.

Ernie

Secretary's Pilot Box: Nic Burhans

- Wings, but no bird!



A set of Cub/Bird Dog wings appeared in the storage garage two months ago.

As you can see the cats have investigated and the dust is just starting to accumulate.

The situation:

- If you are the owner and want them back, let me know.
- If I have not heard from the owner by the end of the month, they will go on the swap table at the next FARM Float Fly.

2024 Spring FARM Float Fly Event was successful.

- This year the FARM Club is celebrating seventeen years of Charity Float Fly events at the Lake Ritchie Pavilion.

Originally, the spring only events raised money for the Pilots For Christ support program.

In 2010 the club expanded its charity float fly events to two-a-year schedule exclusively in support of the Fauquier County, Virginia's Community Food Bank.

Over the years the FARM Club has conducted thirty of these charity events and expanded them to include all kinds of radio controlled aircraft, boats, and sailboats.

This year's eight hour sanctioned event included an FAA NOTAM designation and associated AMA waived altitude and remote ID restrictions.

We provided a picnic lunch followed by raffle and 50/50 drawings.

Aircraft pilots and boat captains and their required spotters all operate from a single launch area to allow for constant communications.

This year's new and old aircraft were from Virginia, Maryland, DC, and Delaware.

The tugboats from Delaware were not able to make their regular water spray demonstrations due to other events.

The new speedboat configurations that allowed for self-righting, which required the Club's rescue boat captain to make far less number of run.

No major aircraft crashes or boat sinking's were recorded by recovery captain Ralph Graul.

The twenty six pilots/captains and thirteen observing guests donated 15 pounds of non-perishable food and funds for the Fauquier Food Bank to purchase \$800.00 of food for distribution to the Fauquier community.

A very pleasant and successful day at Lake Ritchie was had by all at this year's FARM Spring Float Fly event.

Summer Club Meetings

- We are now in the summertime FARM Club meeting mode.

- - For June (reported above), July, and August, the FARM Club meetings will be **HELD AT THE FIELD** the Saturdays after their normal meeting dates starting at 10:00 AM:

- - This means that for this month and next month, the FARM Club meetings will be:

- - - Saturday, 27 July, starting at 10:00 AM at the field.
- - - Saturday, 31 August, starting at 10:00 AM at the field.
- Mark your calendars, now!

- FARM Club Day & Fun Fly:

On Sunday, 7 July, we held our fourth Club Day and Fun Fly of the 2024 flying season. Nine Club members participated in Ken Bassett's day's events.

Seven of those present participated in Dave's "Wind" Fun Fly with the following results:

- 1st place: Dave Dupre
- 2nd place: Vince Tabacco
- 3rd place: Ralph Graul
- 4th place: Ken Bassett
- 5th place: Charlie Koustenis
- 6th place: Dave Rothbart
- 7th place: Ernie Padgette

- Up coming events:

July 27	Saturday	FARM Club Meeting @ Club Field	10:00 AM
August 4	Sunday	FARM Club Day & Fun Fly #5 @ Club Field <i>Picnic, Pilot Training, and Flight Check day</i> CD: Bill Towne Food: Bill Towne	All Day
August 31	Saturday	FARM Club Meeting @ Club Field	10:00 AM
September 8	Sunday	FARM Club Day & Fun Fly #6 @ Club Field <i>Picnic, Pilot Training and Flight Check day</i> CD: Ernie Padgette Food: Bill Towne	All Day
September 14-15	Sat-Sun	FARM Pattern Contest & Clinic @ FARM Field CD: Don Szczur dszczur@verizon.net	All Day

Continue to BE Heat Safe *Nic*

Treasurer's Pilot Box: Nic Burhans

As of 10 July, the FARM Club presently has 58 members. (21 Regular members, 31 Senior members, 1 Junior member, 1 Associate member, and 4 Life members).

All bills have been paid and the Club presently has a balance of \$4,894.79 in the general fund.

Be Heat Safe *Nic*

Safety Officer's Pilot Box: Mike Wiczalkowski

- No Club specific items this Month.

Mike

Field Marshal's Pilot Box: Ralph Graul

- No Club specific items this Month.

Ralph

Member at Large's Pilot Box: Charlie Koustenis

- No Club specific items this Month.

Charlie

Member at Large's Pilot Box: Bill Flathers

- No Club specific items this Month.

Bill F

Web Master's Pilot Box: Dick Sutton

- No Club specific items this Month.

Dick

FARM Member "Tips & Projects" Box: Any FARM Member

-Tip

I received the following tip from a friend who was discussing aerobatics training.

We discussed how to easily set up mixes on the plane using one of the side trim levers, for those running Spektrum transmitters.

While I was setting up a mix, he suggested using the "OTF" function. What is this you might ask? You will notice the letters "OTF" in the lower portion of the screen. If you select that function it will allow you to change the amount of mix while flying. No more landing, adjusting, taking off, adjusting, etc.

Once you have the amount of mix set, you can go back and disable OTF. Very nice feature for things like down elevator to vertical for low throttle during a down line, or setting up the right amount of elevator mix when deploying flaps, rudder during knife edge, etc!

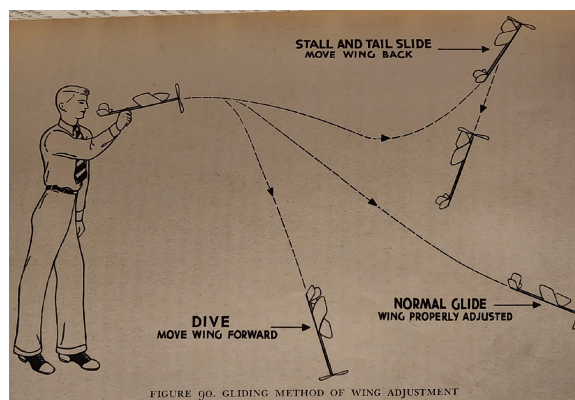
Don Szczur

"From the Field" Anything Input Pilot Box: Any FARM Member

- FYI #1

Manzano laser works has come out with a Stinson Gullwing kit that was designed by Pat Tritle. It is a superb kit. If you get the kit and want to finish it like my Gullwing A slide presentation of my old Gullwing is available. Selected slides can be printed,

John Hunton



FARM CLUB 2024 OFFICERS

President.	Bill Towne	540-428-1053
Vice President	Ernie Padgette	540-439-6085
Secretary	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Treasurer	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Safety Officer	Mike Wiczalkowski	571-437-4705
Field Marshall	Ralph Graul	540-729-1586
Member at Large.	Bill Flathers	540-272-7236
Member at Large.	Charlie Koustenis	703-378-6214
Webmaster.	Dick Sutton	rsutton43@comcast.net
Training Coordinator.	Ralph Graul	540-729-1586

The FARM Newsletter is published monthly by the Fauquier Aero Recreation Modelers, AMA charter #1654. It is forwarded 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 articles are those of the individual author and do not necessarily reflect those of FARM Inc.

Publishing input deadline is the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Please forward all inputs (Pictures in jpg format) to: Nic Burhans

6061 Captains Walk E-Mail: npb6218@earthlink.net

Broad Run, VA 20137-1959

540-219-9646

Our Club web site is: <http://www.farmclubrc.com>