



Pit Talk



August 2016



www.madisoncorc.com

The official newsletter of the Madison County R/C Flyers, AMA sanctioned club 291

Meetings held on the second Monday of each month at 7:30pm at Anderson Municipal Airport. Everyone is welcome to attend!



Art Frye
President



Dave Morris
Vice President



Bill Hallsworth
Secretary



Byron Hamrick
Treasurer



Mike Sharp
Safety Officer



Tom Kelley
Field Marshal



Dave Johnston
Newsletter Editor



Joe Bays
Webmaster

Summer is "flying" by!

Hope you all are getting out there and enjoying the great (if a bit warm and humid) flying weather. I know that I have, and have seen a good number of club members out at the field..

This month marks the the 50th anniversary of our club- In this issue ia a report on our first meeting! Also in this issue are som great articles from Members, and a newspaper article from 1998 announcing the opening of our current flying field north of Elwood.

Hope you enjoy this month's issue!

Remembering after 50 years this month.... The First Club Meeting of the Madison County R/C Flyers by Member Jon Fish, concept by Joe Bays

I got a call from Joe Bays a couple of days ago asking me if I could write something about the first meeting of Madison County R/C Flyers which was 50 years ago. Asking quite a lot Joe, since I was only 12 years old at the time and had (and still have) the attention span of a goldfish. So will do my best to recollect what went on. My dad Dick Fish took me to that first meeting. The reason I think was Mom's insistence to dad to get me out of the house that she had enough of my antics for one day. The meeting was at Jim Mahoney's house in Anderson. He was living near Athletic Park at the time. The guys met in Jim's kitchen and dad told me to sit in a chair in the corner of the kitchen and to keep my mouth shut. I think Jim's wife felt kind of sorry for me and gave me a couple of cookies and some lemonade. Not a bad trade off for not having to do anything. Now the scene I will try to depict will be that of a painting showing the framers of the constitution at one of their early meetings. There was a lot of cigarette smoke, coffee cups clanking, and what I thought at the time was a bunch of "old" guys talking about model airplanes "of all things".

I can't remember what all was discussed at that meeting, but perhaps the club's name or a flying site or both was discussed. I am sure there those who would remember. I'm sure I will be corrected if wrong but some of guys there was Don Huffman, Manual Cantrell, Marvin Leazenby, Norm Peters, Dick Brenner, my dad, and others I cannot remember. After that meeting Jim took us to his garage to show us his latest project. The garage seemed a dark and foreboding place to a 12 year old. But once there I marveled at all the planes sitting around. A couple of early R/C types and some control line models. There was also the smell of balsa, Testers wood glue, and Sig dope. Some smells you just don't forget. There were a few more meetings at Jim's Kitchen then they were moved to Don Huffman's basement in Elwood for couple of years until we out grew that venue and moved to the conference room at the Anderson Airport.

Jon Fish

MYSTERY CRASH!



Do you know whose plane this is, and what happened to it? -Hint: if you read our club's Facebook group, "*Madison County R/C Flyers AMA chapter 291*" you would know!

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August 1998, the new flying field! - submitted by Tom Kelley

Well, the title kind of tells the story... but anyway here is the article from the Elwood Call Leader (our local paper way up here in the NW corner of the county). Due to the limitations of my publishing software, I have had to separate the article onto multiple pages so that the print is large enough to read. A big thanks to Tom for sending this in!

The
CALL-LEADER

• the LEADER in Northern Madison County •

USPS 174-640 VOLUME 108 NO. 186

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 1998 ELWOOD, INDIANA 46036

R/C Flyers 'swarm' to new home field

By L.A. WAYMIRE

A new sound is coming from the northern part of Madison County...like a huge swarm of bees or a bunch of overgrown mosquitoes.

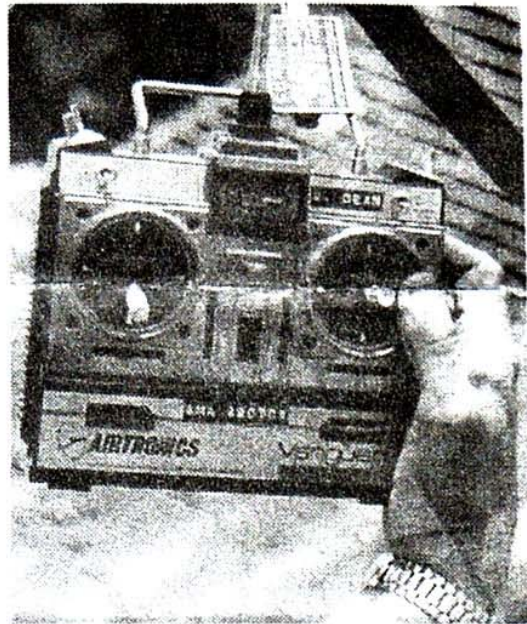
Neither pesky bugs is the culprit, however. The new sounds are being made by the Madison County R/C Flyers, a club that flies radio-controlled aircraft. And, they hold their noise levels below 98 decibels, which is more than you can say about this year's mosquitoes.

The club is not new to the county, but its location is. The club flew out of Frankton for 30 years. The owner of the Frankton property died last December, leaving the club searching for a new location.

A site for the new airfield was found March 26. The 4.2 acres located on CR 1850N between Ind. 13 and CR 800W was so full of brush and trees that neighboring homes could not be seen. A lease was signed with landowner Sharline Webb and the work began.

Between the bouts of wet weather since March, the brush and trees were cleared and the ditches were cleaned. Randy Webb, Sharline's son, helped by plowing and working the ground. B & E Landscaping was contacted to finish working the ground and plant the grass seed.

Club members also pitched in to build the clubhouse and put up fences. Four months of hard work finally has paid off. Now the members have a place to call their own again. The grand opening of the new airfield was July 25.



Radio-controlled airplanes are operated by a four-channel radio.

According to Jim Luurtsema, current president of the club and model airplane flier for 10 years, the new site is better, because it has fewer obstructions and is more wide open without any power lines.

Spectators at the airfield can see model aircraft from a small one that can run up to 100 mph to one of the more expensive aircraft owned by a member, which is worth about \$3,000 to \$4,000. The largest plane being flown at the airfield has a 10-foot wingspan.

Usually no more than three or four planes are flying at one time, but if that not enough, visitors are welcome to walk around and look at planes on the ground. Clubmembers fly several different categories

Please see *FLYERS* on page two

✓FLYERS

continued from page one

of planes, such as sport, scale aircraft, war planes, and racers to name a few. There's bound to be a plane to catch your interest.

Elwood's Bob Tolbert is another member of the Madison County R/C Flyers and is president of Chapter 48 (of Converse) of the International Miniature Aircraft Association, which consists only of one-quarter scale aircraft. Tolbert builds one plane a year during winter months and then enjoys flying them in the summer.

Memberships in the R/C Flyers and in the Academy of Model Aeronautics are required to fly at the airfield. The academy's headquarters is in Muncie.

Of course, an aircraft is needed, which, according to Luurtsema, can cost as much as one is willing to spend. A beginner's plane with a medium-sized engine, a radio and

fuel will cost around \$400. "Plus you'll want to bring 'at least one bottle of glue!' member Bill McGuire quips.

"There's nothing more exciting than a new guy with a new plane. Everyone stops what he's doing to help get him in the air," Luurtsema said. "Everyone wants to help the other guy."

Even children are encouraged to join in the fun. Luurtsema said children are the easiest to teach, because "they tend to have better eyesight and their hand and eye coordination is better."

Safety always is emphasized at the field, Luurtsema said. The chainlink fence that was put up is to keep spectators off the field and safe. A prop on a 0.5-cubic-inch engine on one of the planes turns 14,000 to 16,000 revolutions per minute, which could definitely cause injury.

If that's not reason enough to stay off the field, think of what fuels these planes. The fuel is a combination of alcohol, nitromethane and synthetic castor oil. Likewise 14 mechanical factors must work together for a plane to fly, and even then pilot error, or "dumb thumb," also must be considered.

In addition to all of the fun club members have in their spare time, the club also serves as host to two contests each year. A contest in the spring benefits a local charity. Proceeds from entry fees, giveaways and concession sales are always

given to a local charity. The past three spring events netted a total of \$3,400, which was donated to Gateway Association of Anderson. The proceeds from the fall contest go to the club for upkeep of the grounds and other club activities. The date for this year's fall event has not been set.

The public always is welcome to the airfield to enjoy the planes and talk with club members. The club currently has 65 members, down from 80 members last year. The youngest member this year is Travis Smith, 16, of Frankton, who has been flying for 3 to 4 years. The oldest member is Marion Perry, 74, of Anderson, who has been flying for 25 years. According to Luurtsema only two women pilots have ever joined the club.

It takes time and patience to learn to fly well, but the R/C Flyers,

good instructors and many nice people willing to lend a hand (or spare parts) with a fascinating hobby.

Anyone who wants more information about the club can drop by the airfield, attend one of the club meetings at 7:30 p.m. the second Monday of the month at the Anderson Airport, or call club officers: President Jim Luurtsema, (765) 552-9541; Treasurer Alan Canan, (765) 778-3003; Editor Ron Pierce, (765) 649-5782; or Vice President Steve Remington, (765) 734-1448.



This model plane, owned and built by Bob Tolbert of Elwood, has a 10-foot wingspan and can fly 60 mph. It took Tolbert about 10 hours a day for about eight months to build.



Aroma resident Charlie Collins, spent one and one-half months, working three to four hours every other day, to build his plane from a kit. Collins has been a member of the Madison County R/C Flyers for two years.

Article and pictures by Member Tamas (Tom) Seres

It's been a while since I wrote an article for the news letter. Joe Bays sent me an email saying I should. Joe has always been the one pushing me to write articles. I think he's right. It's time for another one.

About 3 years ago I built my Fokker D-VII. I had bought a Zenoah 38cc engine for it. However I didn't like the way it fit in that airframe so I replaced it with a ZDZ-40. Now I had this brand new engine that had no airframe to go in. I was contemplating round cowled WWI planes but none of them appealed to me enough to build one... Then Balsa USA came out with a brand new Camel Kit. Ureka. That's exactly what I wanted. Ordered the kit right away. Started building it that winter. Other projects took time away from the build so I decided in the spring to let it go for the Summer and resume it when the weather turned into building season again. That was this past winter. I finished the plane late in the Spring this year, but it had it's teething pains. The ignition I got with the engine didn't work right from the start. Since it was 3 yrs old I decided to just order another one. The new ignition worked great and the plane flew spectacularly. I was very happy with the scheme I chose for it and the way it flew. Had 4 different outings with the plane. 3 flights the first day that left me with nothing but a big smile on my face. So the next time I went out I had great expectations. But and there is usually a but. The plane came loose in the trailer on the way to the field and it broke the tail skid. Rest of the plane was fine. No flying that day. I fixed the tail skid and the 3rd time was the Charm. Not only did the plane fly great but I got to fly with Greg Hahn who has a 1/4 Scale Scratch built Gotha Bomber.. What a great day that turned out to be. Smiles once again

Mike Sharp is also building one of these Camels. My Son Decided to come out to the flying field with me on Fathers Day. So I called Mike to make plans on Flying the Camel at MADCO. After assembling the plane. I found the ignition stopped working again. Big disappointment. This time I Called Horizon and they told me they would replace the both ignitions.

The ignition got replaced and I got it back together for the Converse Eagles and friend fly in. Once again I'm a happy Camper. It flew great and everything worked as it should.

The point behind this story is that sometimes you have to work at a project. Things don't always come easy. If you put your mind to it, you can accomplish what you set out to do. This holds true for us in our hobby. We need to remember when we see one of those great big beautiful planes flying through the air. Somebody may have worked pretty hard to make that happen.

I'm looking forward to once again trying to make a flight at MADCO. I will post on our Facebook page to let you know when that will happen. Hope to See you there.

Tom Seres

Tom's awesome Sopwith Camel (described on preceding page)



And some of our friends!



From Member Randy Thomas

Hi all, this is Randy Thomas. Joe Bays and I have been working on some little foam indoor airplanes. He has a couple Zeros and a BF 109 Messerschmitt.

Not sure how they'll fly but we've replaced the brushed motor with a brushless motor and speed control. Still haven't found the center of gravity, but have flown the BF 109. Hope to see you all at the meeting! **-Randy**



Seriously Randy, pink scissors??? The fried chicken fingers look good though and the 109 looks great so I guess you get to keep your "man card". -editor

Officers' reports

President:

Greetings.

I want to thank everyone who turned out in support of our club at the HOOSIERLAND CAMPGROUND INVITATION FLYIN. Yes there were some obstacles to fly around there but we managed to get several planes and helicopters in the air and the spectators loved it. It was a beautiful day and Bill Hawsworth even put on an exhibition with his Sailboat on the lake at the campground. This is just another way of getting information about our club out there and hopefully gain some more new members. Hope to see you at the meeting Monday. This will be the last meeting before the Glass Festival so if you have ideas or input bring them to the meeting. If you are planning on putting a plane on display this year bring the information and we will get signs made up. People love to see the different planes and the planes do draw a lot of attention. We have a brand new plane to raffle off this year and we have some new members to help sell tickets. The raffle plane will be at the meeting if you want to see it.

See you Monday!

Art Frye

Secretary:

Minutes are below. First, a little note from me:

The flight demo at Hoosier Land Park was a great time for all. The residents and campers enjoyed watching the antics of the pilots, especially when our fearless leader scored a direct hit on the power line. We have been invited to set up some events, like a float plane fly-in or boat racing. The owner has even offered to set up buoys for a race course. If anyone is interested, we can discuss at the next meeting.

On another note, please extend a thank you to Art, as he paid the AMA fee out of pocket. Thanks Art!

But wait, I'm not done yet. The commander of the Civil Air Patrol cadets at the airport is very interested in getting the kids out to the field for some flying. If anyone has a trainer and buddy box, I'd love to set a date, and possibly bring in some new members. You can email me at whallsworthjr@gmail.com; I'm sure we'll also discuss at the meeting.

Happy landings!

Bill

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The location of your mailbox shows you how far away from your house you can be in a robe before you start looking like a mental patient.

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Money can't buy happiness, but it keeps the kids in touch.

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Treasurer:

Slow month for finances, we bought a new raffle giveaway airplane, paid for the yearly insurance, bought gas for the mowers. We also paid for the AMA swap meet ad. Of late, flying has been less in the heat but tolerable in the mornings early 8-11 usually.

Thursday I drove to the AMA head quarters and placed our swap meet ad to appear in the Nov edition which will be mailed the last week in October. Also our swap meet ad is now on the AMA website listings of upcoming events.

Glass festival is fast approaching and I am looking forward to seeing everyone who can participate.

Dusting off the clown attire and ordering dum-dums for kids to enjoy.

A busy and tiring 3 days to enjoy and promote our hobby on the local scene and hopefully it will generate enough money to cover next year's expenses.

Happy flying!

Byron

Field Marshal:

With the hot weather and little rain we are not having to mow the airfield as much. The pit area and a landing area gets mowed once a week but the area to the east and west of the pit area and the roadside is being mowed every other week. The weeds along the creek banks were getting way to tall so Bill asked Kevin to bring his sickle bar mower to the field and give the Queen Anne's Lace a trim job which he did---Thank you Kevin!

Now a bit about our mowers. We are going to have to give some serious thought to replacing at least one this winter. I'm sure we can make it through this year with what we have but it is getting more and more difficult to keep the zero turn mower going. The newest mower, the Cub Cadet is running good and gives us very little problems. The little Allis runs pretty good but we need to check the oil level each mowing as it is using some oil and when you shut it off the engine winds down instead of stopping fast and that tells us that the compression is getting low. There is nothing much good to say about the zero turn. It has been problematic from day one. I don't know how many cables and belts we have put on it over the years but it is a bunch--and they are not easy to change. I finally welded some chains from the frame to the deck to relieve the tension on the cable that holds the deck up and that seems to have helped, as we have not had to replace a cable since. I don't want to give the impression that has a rough ride, but when you get home from mowing the first thing you do is put ice packs on your eyelids to reduce the swelling because it rides so rough that your eyelids are bruised from slamming shut because of the rough ride. Whoever is field marshal next year---and it won't be me---NEEDS a different large mower.

That's enough for this month---hope to see everyone at the meeting.

Tom Kelley

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**From Winston Churchill: Don't worry about avoiding temptation.
As you grow older, it will avoid you.**

*

Newsletter editor:

Once again our membership came through with articles and pictures for this month's newsletter. Thank you all so much for the great stuff you send me. I couldn't do this without your help!

Got to do a fair amount of flying over the last month. My Big Stik, Wildcat, Slow Poke and Super Cub have all been holding up well, and with luck should make it through the season.

Learned a couple of things this month:

First, to check my email more often. My habit has been to set aside all emails that appear to be newsletter related until I'm ready to work on it, but this month I missed an important note from Joe Bays about some of the editing he wanted to do on one of the articles, and by the time I opened the email this morning it was too late. Guess I will have to start reading them as they come in. Sorry, Joe!

Second, the perils of flying someone else's airplane. Why is it a law of the universe that another person's plane will fly fine for a hundred flights, and the moment that person graciously offers you a turn at the controls it will immediately catch fire, explode, disintegrate, or a combination of all of the above??? In my case it was Tom Kelley's Big Stik .60, and the wing came off while I was pulling up from a low pass.

Fortunately, being the master builder that he is, Tom had it rebuilt and flying again in no time, but anyone who has had the experience of crashing someone else's plane knows what a lousy feeling it is! Sorry Tom! Talk to you all again in September!

Dave

Webmaster:

As usual, Joe was instrumental in getting this newsletter published, with his submissions, suggestions, and wise wise advice. In addition, this month he sent me the following notice: Thanks, **Joe!**

AMA members permitted to fly above 400 feet

There has been confusion among our members as to whether operations above 400 feet are permitted by the FAA. AMA has remained steadfast that operations above 400 feet are permitted, *if conducted within our safety program* requiring the pilot to be an AMA member, to avoid and not interfere with manned aircraft, and to keep the model within visual line of sight of the pilot/observer. In a recent letter to the AMA, the FAA recognized AMA's role as a community-based organization and acknowledged our safety guidelines, including allowing flight above 400 feet

Everyone has the right to be stupid. Some just abuse the privilege.

*

Community Service notice copied from an AMA email:

AMA is looking for volunteers to help with the buddy-box portion of our National Model Aviation Day celebration at AMA Headquarters, in Muncie, Indiana, on August 13, 2016. Volunteers must have previous experience in assisting beginners with flight and be a current AMA member. Volunteers will receive a free T-shirt and lunch. The event starts at 9 a.m. and ends at 2 p.m. Pilots must be available for two hours.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Mandee Mikulski via email at mandeem@modelaircraft.org.

Happy flying!

Upcoming event:

Henry County Wright Flyers
Present The 13th
Hoosier Dawn Patrol
August 11,12,13, 2016

New location: Henry County Wright Flyers Field
1525 N. 750 E. Hagerstown, Indiana 47346
AMA Sanction # 735



Open to WW1 and pre WW1 aircraft . Any size and any power.
Mission style flying. AMA and FAA required.
All frequencies, Limited RV hookups, Shared on field electric hook ups
Overnight storage, On field concessions

Registration fee: \$25

For more info contact CD: Steve Percifield at perciflyer50@gmail.com
Site website: <http://www.wbirthplace.com/home/4546377954>
Join us on Face Book group page, Hoosier Dawn Patrol

2016

Madison County R/C Flyers Annual Giant Scale Fly-in

Saturday Sept. 17th, 2016



“Bring your 80inch wingspan or larger single wing aircraft or 60inch or larger wingspan biplane or true quarter scale aircraft and fly with us

(Old IMAA guidelines Apply)

6 miles north of Elwood IN on C.R. 1850 N

A Day of flying - fun, and fellowship !

Unlimited Approaches to a Grass Runway

REGISTRATION OPENS AT 9 AM - FLYING AT 10 AM

**Contact CD: Tom Seres at 765-620-6483 or
E-mail: tom.seres@yahoo.com for more details**

**Concessions will be available on site
There will be a Raffle & a 50/50 Draw**

**Limited Parking for RV's — Facilities are Primitive!
No Water or electricity. — Port-a-john available.
No Handicap facilities**

Registration Fee is \$10.00 & AMA membership is required

Our Website is: www.madisoncorc.com

Map of Field Location shown below on page 2:

GPS Location: Latitude (N) 40' 22.277' Longitude (W) 85' 49.715'

Madison County R/C Flyers, Inc. Membership Application

Proof of AMA membership must be shown. A Xerox copy is OK. You may mail this application with remittance and proof of AMA membership or present it in person at the next club meeting.

Name _____

Address _____

Date _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ AMA# _____

Birthday _____ Place of work _____

Email Address _____

Homepage Address _____

**Club Secretary
Bill Hallsworth
2917 Morton St.
Anderson, IN 46016**

You give permission to the club officers to publish this information for club business?

I will follow all AMA rules for the flight of radio control model aircraft. I have read the club rules of the Madison County R/C Flyers, Inc. and I will abide by them at all times. My actions will always be in the best interest of our land owner and our club.

Signature _____ Date _____

- Regular Membership.....\$30.00**
(Received after September 30th & good for the following year)
- Associate Membership\$15.00**
(no AMA required and no voting privileges)
- Spouse Membership.....\$15.00**
(wife of a regular member)
- Junior Membership.....\$1.00**
(under 18 years and living with a regular member)
- Late Summer Membership.....\$15.00**
*(Received from August 1st through September 30th and expires December 31st
Late Summer membership applies only to those that were not members the prior year)*



Furnish a stamped and self addressed envelope with your membership application and your membership card will be sent to you. It is recommended that you attend a club meeting and pay the club secretary and receive your membership card in person. The combination to locks at the club field is on the membership card and is privileged information for club members only.

The club rules and bi-laws and this membership application can be found on the club website.
www.madisoncorc.com