



Pit Talk

Q1 2019



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



Check us out on



Or at madisoncorc.com!

Meetings held the second Monday evening of each month at 7:30pm at the flying field north of Elwood. The public is encouraged to attend!

Waiting on the weather.....

Hi everyone, hope that you are all having a good Spring. So far the weather has been awful for flying, with plenty of wind, rain, and cool temperatures. Hang in there summer has to arrive eventually, doesn't it?

In this issue we have some pictures of the Toledo show, courtesy of Jon Fish, some of Tom Seres' projects, and a link to a hundred year old film of the Red Baron.

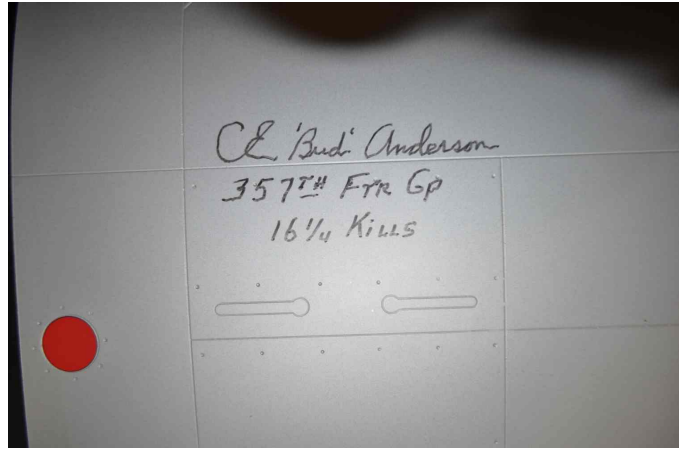
Enjoy!

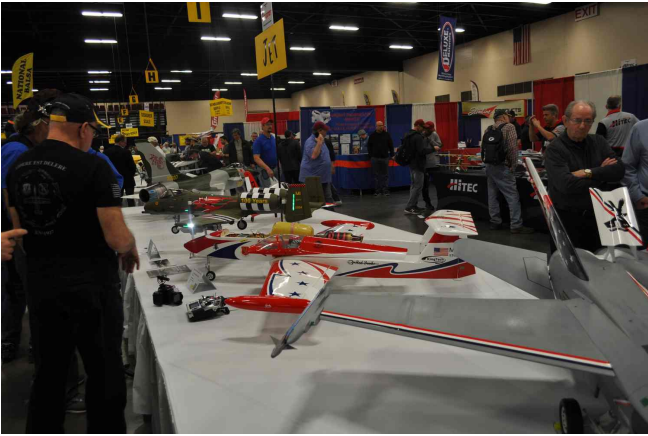
Toledo 2019

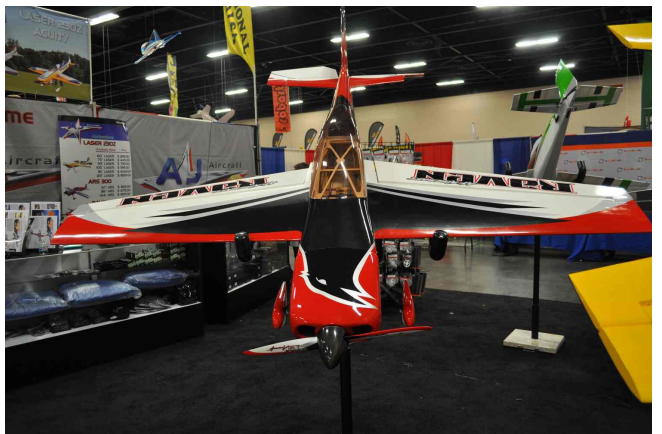
Photos courtesy of Jon Fish

From the reports, it seems that the Toledo show has gotten a bit smaller in recent years, mirroring the overall decline in the sport (at least in the Midwest). However, it's still a lot of fun and worth attending!









100+ year old Red Baron video

courtesy of Tom Kelley

This is straight up the coolest video that I've seen in a long time. Actual vintage footage of Von Richtofen and his Dr. 1. Thanks to Tom Kelley for sending us this video and description!

To view, just copy and paste the address at the bottom of the page above the photo into your browser.

Supposedly Hermann Goering is also in this video, but I'm not seeing him (No, I'm not looking for the portly bozo of WW2 - a sad shell of the dynamic ace of WW1 due to heavy drug usage. Goering became addicted to drugs combating the pain of the wounds suffered when Goering was involved in the Nazis' Munich Putsch attempt in Bavaria back Nov/1923.) I think that he might have been in the very brief section showing a lot of pilots in uniforms - as opposed to flying togs. The final section shows - I believe - Anthony Fokker looking at a downed Sopwith (Pup ?> 1 machine gun or a Sopwith 1 1/2 strutter, 2-seater? - although only 1 British airman is shown a little later amongst the German pilots.)

I found it "amazing" {hadn't really thought that ANY of them would be alive; as WW1 was "ancient history" in my youth] that there were so many of the "Red Baron's" victims (shot down opponents) were still alive in the 1950's, 2-3 died in the '60s, and two died in the 70s (from a book >>**Under the guns of the Red Baron.**) Because about 50% of the Red Baron's victories were over 2-seater reconnaissance aircraft, it increases "the size" of potential survivors.

If you're not interested in aviation or military history, please let me know; and I'll spare you the email. Hope this finds you in good health and spirits,

Military Historical Video

A century-old footage of the Red Baron during WW I

A patient who was in mid-eighties (1970) needed a tooth replaced on his upper full denture. When the lab sent it back for his dentist to give it to him, the dentist asked when he'd received this plate. His answer was"

Right after the war!” The dentist said “you’re not talking ‘46 are you?” He said “heck no, I mean in 1919”.

The dentist asked how it was that he had every one of his lower teeth in excellent condition but none on top. He asked if I had heard of the Red Baron and then told me that he had the dubious distinction of having been the Baron’s last victim and when he crashed, the control stick knocked out most of his upper teeth, thus the full upper denture.

He told the dentist what you all may have missed when they were working on the engine!!! If you watch it again you will see that the propeller AND the engine rotate together. He said there was no throttle..... just a kill button to stop the engine as needed to descend then it would start up again. Notice them squirting oil... on the valve stems I would guess, prior to spinning the prop.

The following is a very rare piece of film, 99 years old. It shows Baron Von Richthofen, doing an external prior to a mission, as well as his putting on a flying suit prior to flight in cold weather. If you look closely you will notice Hermann Goering.

The Aussies claim that one of their machine gunners on the ground shot the Baron down on 4 June 1915...

To think this film is over 100 years old!

If you're interested in history or aviation, you cannot miss this footage. It was just posted online, and I've never seen anything like it. It's from 1917, and it's an up-close and personal look at the most legendary combat pilot who ever lived, the infamous Red Baron, Manfred Von Richthofen.

Watch the extremely rare, extremely old footage and re-live history. ULTRA-RARE footage of the most famous fighter pilot ever.

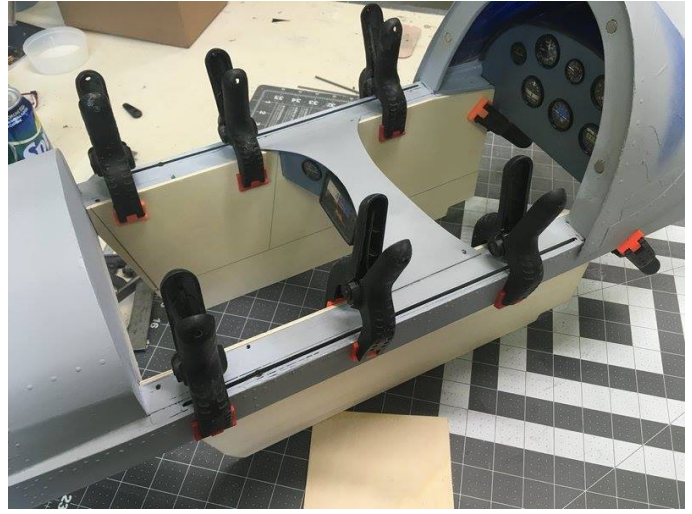
<https://shar.es/12Ag7e>



Tom's Super Chipmunk update

Seems like Tom Seres always has a few projects going, and he's generous about sharing pics on social media. And I'm always generous about swiping them for use in Pit Talk.

Looks like the Chippie is coming along!



Possible donation from Greg Thompson

This info may be outdated, since Greg sent it to me over a month ago, but I'll include it just in case...

Hi all,

It has indeed been a long winter and a way longer time since last up at the field. "Life happens."
But I do have something for the newsletter: Some furniture items that may be suited to enhance a building/shop space.

The below show two "flat file storage cabinets for drawings and blueprints" and two wooden utility storage boxes that I acquired a few years ago when wife's engineering firm moved offices. I found these useful in model construction as small items storage and improvised table support . We acquired 3 and I gave one to Bill Hallsworth who may comment on their utility.

The cabinets measure 14 1/2" tall by 40 3/4" wide by 27 1/2" deep. Each have 5 drawers that are 2" deep.

The wooden boxes measure 17 1/2" tall by 40 5/8" wide by 27 1/4" deep.

Additionally, there is an 8' by 3' door that was used as a table top set on the boxes and cabinets.

Please let me know if these might be appreciated.

Regards,
Greg Thompson

APB's from Jon Fish

A couple of requests from our club's Secretary/photographer/all around #1 supporter:

Hi Dave hope its not too late for this. I am putting something together for the club's 50th anniversary. i want to get an article into the AMA magazine. if anyone out there has nay info on the clubs early days. be photos or stories please get in touch with me. you may call me on cell or e-mail me at jon.r.fish@outlook.com. thanks for your help in advance. **Jon**

Hey Dave could you get out an e-mail to all members and beyond . I am need of a couple of electric hot plates for use at the Dawn Patrol meet in May. I plan on serving a pancake breakfast that Saturday morning. will just need them for that morning only. So if anyone has a couple that we could borrow that would be great. Contact me by my phone 765 635 4540 or by e-mail at fish.r.jon@outlook.com
Thanks in advance **Jon**

Q1 meeting minutes

January

President Art Frye brought the first meeting to order with 9 members present

January's meeting was once again hosted by Art in his garage and provided us with hot dogs and pop to help beat the winter chill.

Secretary Jon Fish read the minutes. Motion was made to accept the minutes as read. It seconded and voted unanimous the minutes will stand as read.

Treasurer Mike Sharp gave the treasurer's report , Wee a had check that was returned from the swap meet. The person who the check will be questioned about making it right. Byron assured us that was the only case. We only lost \$15 on it. Otherwise all is good financially. Motion was made to accept the treasurers report as read. It was seconded and voted unanimous, the treasurers report will stand as read

New Business

Jon Fish has a new wind sock that he will donate to the club.

Jon also stated that he has the the gate combination and building combination has been changed. The dead bolt still not changed. Jon will get it taken taken care of soon.

Jon also mentioned the possibility of having a vintage fly in at the field. Moans and groans were heard from the gallery. Jon said he would check on rules for such an event..

Bill Dewitt cashed in the aluminum cans from our can bank and we netted \$27.00.

Art Frye now has a CD license

Jon Fish donated 2 microwave ovens to the club and yes they work.

There was no old business

Byron Hamrick made motion to adjourn and we finished off the hot dogs and vacated the premises.

February

President Art Frye brought the meeting to order with 12 members present. Once again Art was a gracious host and held the meeting in his garage, and yes he fed us again

Secretary Jon Fish read the minutes from January meeting. Motion was made to accept the minutes as read. It seconded and voted unanimous. The minutes will stand as read.

Treasurer Mike Sharp Gave the Treasurer's report. Money was spent on our web site services and money was spent on sanction for the Dawn Patrol meet. Mike has expressed problems with AMA's website trying to secure a sanction for the fun fly.

New business

We tentative date for the fun fly sometime in June. Mike says stayed tuned for the actual date,

Jon Fish brought up the possibility of a vintage event again. But was met with little enthusiasm. Jon said he will not mention it again.

There was a discussion on batteries usage charging and how long you should keep them the spring Dawn Patrol meet was brought up Tom Seres said he is trying to secure dates about mid May. Tom also mentioned that someone should check with Jeff Montgomery to see if he can make plaques for the meet. Tom also mentioned that help for the dawn patrol concessions especially. Friday and Saturday concessions sales with breakfast in the morning is badly needed no reasonable offer for help will be refused.

There was no old business

Byron Hamrick made motion to adjourn everyone grabbed a hot dog and left. Thanks for dinner Art

March

President Art Frye brought the meeting to order with 12 members present. Art Played the gracious host again. Once again Hot Dogs and Sausage was on the menu.

Secretary Jon Fish read the minutes from the February meeting motion was made to accept the minutes as read. It was seconded and voted unanimous, the minutes will stand as read

Treasurer Mike Sharp gave the treasurer's report we made some money and spent some money, motion was made to accept the treasurer's report as read. I was seconded and voted unanimous. The treasurers report will stand as read.

New Business

Mike Sharp Confirmed the Date for the fun fly June 23rd.

Jon Fish brought in flyers for the Dawn Patrol meet and flyers for the Fun Fly. The these two events will be needing help in all areas. Please plan to help and let let contest directors know so they can plan accordingly.

Question on when we pay the field rent, it appears we pay that in May.

Bill Dewitt mentioned that the wind blew the fabric runway up Bill said he staked down the runway as best he could. But the taxiway still needs taken care of.

Dave Johnston mentioned that he will be putting out the Pitt Talk soon and he needs everything he can get. Photos stories projects anything model related.

Bill said he will need help with the taxiway, he said he will pick a day when the weather is good,

Mike Sharp mentioned a hobby shop in California, called General Hobby, he said they have a good selection of planes and prices aren't bad. Mike did mention he did have issues with a kit he bought and is still trying to get things resolved. So buyer beware.

There was no old business

Motion was made to adjourn everyone grabbed a hot dog and left. Thanks again for dinner Art!

A pleasant afternoon at the flying field

Just some pics of one of the few flyable days we have had this Spring. Photos by Tom Seres



The Peashooter

The Peashooter

Dick Fish

It was a new design by Hal Debolt, a 60 inch low wing beauty with a Super Tiger 60 up front and had a brand new Citizen Ship digital proportional radio installed. Joe and I had made a trip earlier in the week to the small Indpls., company to pick up the new radio he had ordered, but it wasn't built yet so we got to watch while they finished the wiring and tucked it all into the big red box. It was to be one of the first radios built on the new 72 mghz band.

So the bright red Peashooter set on Joe's work bench ready to make its 1st flight. It was his first low wing airplane and also his first proportional type radio control, until now all his flying had been with single channel and reed bank control systems.

He was a very good flyer using the old complicated reed system but made it look easy. On this beautiful fall Saturday evening in Oct. 1967, Joe was excited and nervous about flying the new plane tomorrow. We made plans to meet at the flying field Sunday afternoon and I went home to get my plane ready for the big day.

The telephone was ringing at 7:am, it was Joe, he said " the wind is blowing and the weather man says it will rain here most of the day but it will be sunny in Michigan so Nancy and I are driving up to visit my mom and dad in Michigan, Nancy wants to see the leaves in full color. I will wait for a nice calm day next week to fly the Peashooter, see ya later"

Well, Joe never did like to fly on windy days but by noon it turned out to be a real nice autumn day, warm with hardly any wind.

There was several flyers there that afternoon at the old flying site across the creek beside the gravel pit. It was a fine day with much flying and few crashes, but at about 4:00pm my wife arrived at the field to tell us that there had been an automobile wreck and our friend Joe and his wife Nancy had died that morning near Peru, Ind. Sadly every one in stunned silence packed up and left. On the way home I just couldn't believe that Joe was gone.

On the day of the funeral it was raining and cold and very windy as six R.C. friends carried Joe and Nancy to their final resting place.

Joe had been instrumental in getting the local R.C. flyers to agree to get together and form a Madison Co R.C. club during the coming winter. His efforts resulted with the forming of the Madison CO R.C. FLYERS CLUB early the next year 1968.

Joe's family gave me the Peashooter and the big red radio control box and I set it on a shelf over my work bench. I charged the batteries several times that year but it was always too windy to fly. I still have the Peashooter up there on a high shelf and some day when the wind stops blowing Joe and I will finely at last fly the Peashooter. I often wonder, What if Joe had'nt heard that erroneous early morning weather report?

Early RC club members will remember Joe Holtsclaw of Elwood, he was 29 years old that fateful fall day.

Is today too windy? Hmm... see you at the field.

73s Dick

Wrapping it up

Before sending this out I want to remind you all of a couple of important upcoming events:

May 17-18 Dawn Patrol

June 23 annual Fun Fly

Hope you can make it to those events!

Thanks for checking out this issue of Pit Talk, catch you in Q2!

Dave