



# PLANE TALK



PROP MASTERS R/C NEWSLETTER

AMA CHARTER # 397

SEPTEMBER 2008

## Club Officers:

**President:** *Bob Mosinski*

630-820-3202

**Vice President:** *Tom*

*Camp*

630-305-9422

**Treasurer:** *Marv Luebbert*

630-420-7499

**Secretary:** *Dave Cotton*

630-637-0354

**Safety Officer:** *Fred Page*

847-715-9863

## Fun Fly Committee:

*Jason Boettcher*

*(Director)*

630-892-4738

*Larry Dudkowski*

*Doug Vallee*

*Dave Carlson*

*Blee Nichols*

## Publicity Director:

*Marv Luebbert*

630-420-7499

## Nominating Committee:

*Rich Schaeffer (Chair)*

## Forest Preserve

### Relations:

*Bob Mosinski*

630-820-3202

## Flying Instructors:

*Ivan Cankov (Chief*

*Instructor)*

630-236-5642

*See club's Web Site at*

[www.propmastersrc.org](http://www.propmastersrc.org)

*For complete list of*

*Instructors.*

## Fund Raising Committee:

*Larry Dudkowski*

*Bob Mosinski*

**Librarian:** *Dave Carlson*

**Webmaster:** *Bob Mosinski*

## Newsletter:

*Ray Luchetti (Editor)*

*Ed Calahan (Circulation)*

This is the month boys. If you aren't flying you might miss your chance for mild days and cool evenings. September usually affords us some spectacular flying weather. I have been so busy, that getting to the field is hard. I have however become a regular at the park by my house and an attraction for the local kids. I try to get two or three flights in everyday, wind and weather permitting.

As mentioned last month we did get approval for the addition of two more starting benches. Carl Crownhart has generously donated his skills and time to the project. I hear Harlan Davis is his willing assistant. Thanks guys for going the extra altitude for the club. We will be planning the installation and other small projects at this month's meeting.

We have a busy schedule this month with our regular club meeting on September 10<sup>th</sup>, then we meet to do battle against the Barnstormers on the 14<sup>th</sup> and we wrap it all up on the 21<sup>st</sup> with our club picnic. Hope you all have marked you calendars and are practicing for the competition, I don't want to lose that trophy.

Keep those planes coming to the meeting we all love to see and hear about them.

Fly Safe. Regards, The Pres.



The group at our August 17th Fun Fly.





# Financial Report

## By Marv Luebbert



### Financial Report September 1, 2008

<b>Field Fund</b>		<b>Operating Fund</b>	
Balance August 1, 2008	\$ 4,702.22	Balance August 1, 2008	\$ 693.36
Three new members @ \$65	195.00	Income	
Striping Paint	-53.90	Dues	120.00
		Hats & Shirts - Sales	85.00
		Hats & Shirts - Refund	73.55
Balance September 1, 2008	\$ 4,843.32	Total Income	278.55
		Total cash available	\$ 971.91
		Expenses	
		Name Tags	-37.33
		Hats & Shirts - Purchase	-209.99
		Total Expenses	-247.32
		Balance September 1, 2008	\$ 724.59

### **Newsletter Contributions**

Send articles or pictures of interest to the club to:

[newsletter2008@propmastersrc.org](mailto:newsletter2008@propmastersrc.org)

The deadline for submissions is the 21<sup>st</sup> of the month.

Club Newsletters are posted at the club website:

[www.propmastersrc.org](http://www.propmastersrc.org).



# Meeting Minutes By Dave Cotton



## Meeting minutes, August 13, 2008

### **Opening:**

The meeting began at 7:35 p.m. and ended at 9:00 p.m. at Dean's Dugout. The July Minutes were approved as published and the July Treasury Report was approved as read and published in the newsletter.

### **Committee**

#### **Reports:**

Newsletter	Ray Luchetti requested that everyone who participates in the Show and Tell part of the meeting should remember to fill out an information sheet and return it to Dave Cotton so we could accurately report their presentation in the newsletter.
Safety	Fred Page mentioned that during crowded events such as our Fun Flies, we should not mill around the flight line and that only pilots and spotters should be at the pilot stations. Also, when gathered in a group, make sure that someone is aware of the airplanes in the air just in case of an emergency.
Fun Fly	Jason Boettcher stated that the next Fun Fly will be the Pattern Contest and will be held on August 17 <sup>th</sup> . Larry Dudkowski reported that our upcoming contest with the Barnstormers will be a 3 minute timed flight and spot landing. Since we will be practicing for the Barnstormers contest after our Fun Fly, Dave Carlson announced that there will not be a Top Gun event on the 17 <sup>th</sup> .
Forest Preserve	Bob Mosinski reported that the Forest Preserve has approved our request for two additional starting benches and that Carl Crownhart has offered his woodworking expertise to construct the stands. Thanks Carl! The Forest Preserve has also agreed to seal our runway using their contractor for a cost of \$296.00. The membership approved this expenditure.
Website	Dave Carlson announced that he is in the process of developing a new Prop Masters website which should soon be operational.
Library	Dave Carlson mentioned that he has one simulator available; the other one is being used. Dave also said that if anyone needs something from the library, please e-mail him and he will bring the item to the next meeting.
Instruction	Ivan Cankov reported that training sessions continue to be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.
Fundraising	No report.
Publicity	No report.
Nomination	No report.
Air Show	No report.

### **Old Business:**

The tee shirts are in and can be purchased for ten dollars, hats are twenty dollars. See Bob Mosinski or Marv Luebbert.

### **New Business:**

No new business.

### **New Members &**

#### **Guests:**

Welcome to Zacktar, Jeff and Dave. Thanks for attending the meeting.

### **Lost Horizons:**

The SAD patch was won by Instructor (just promoted) Dave Pancake Carlson.



# Meeting Minutes By Dave Cotton



## Show and Tell: (See photo section)

Tom Camp	Avistar by Hobbico with a SuperTigre 45 engine.
Carl Crownhart	Sig Kadet Mark II built from a kit, in cream, orange and brown colors with 46 size engine.
Rich Schaeffer	Great Planes amphibian ARF, electric powered in blue and white.
Dave Engel	Tamecat ARF with a Rossi 45 and tuned pipe.
Blee Nichols	Tribute FX by E-Flight in red and white.
Dan Nosek	Electric powered Blade Dancer ARF by MS Composit.
Kaifu Chena	A RTF Electric Mini by Horizon in white.
Ivan Cankov	Unfinished glider made of carbon fiber with balsa wing ribs.
Mel Ziska	Discussed the upcoming Windy City Jets Event to be held at the FVAC field on August, 15 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup> . Also showed a Hanger 9 volt meter used to aid in setting up multiple servos.

## Raffle:

Lots of stuff was won by the kids.

## Closing:

Many thanks to Alex for the pizza! The next meeting will be held at Dean's Dugout on September 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.



Dave Carlson proudly displays his SAD patch as he and Mick Pfeifer celebrate their promotion to Instructor level pilots.

## 2008 CLUB CALENDAR

Monthly Meeting	Fun Fly Date	Fun Fly Event
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	September 14 <sup>th</sup>	Contest with the Barnstormers
	September 21 <sup>st</sup>	Annual Club Picnic
October 8 <sup>th</sup>	October 12 <sup>th</sup>	Qualification Sunday
November 12 <sup>th</sup>	November 16 <sup>th</sup>	Mystery Contest
December 10 <sup>th</sup> (Christmas Auction)		No Fun Fly (Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!)



# August 13<sup>th</sup>. Meeting Photos

By Ray Luchetti



Blee Nichols and his Tribute FX by E-Flight.



Dave Engel showed this Tamecat powered by a Rossi 45 with a tuned pipe.



Rich Schaeffer with an electric Great Planes amphibian. (Takes off great from grass.)



Carl Crownhart built this Sig Kadet Mark II from a kit. Nicely done!



Tom Camp with an Avistar ARF from Hobbico.



Dan Nosek and his Blade Dancer by M S Composit.



Kaifa Chena showed his RTF Electric Mini Horizon.



Ivan Cankov discussed the construction of this carbon fiber/balsa glider.



Mel Ziska discussed the upcoming Windy City Jets Event at FVAC on 8/15 to 8/17.



# Fun Fly Committee



## August 17th. Fun-Fly Report

### Pattern Contest:

Larry Dudkowski explained and demonstrated the maneuvers with his “plane on a stick”. Bob Mosinski brought some munchies and ice cold soda for us to enjoy – Thanks for the refreshments ‘Pres, they hit the spot! And the Fun Fly Committee wishes to thank everybody who helped out and volunteered to judge the event.

Hopefully the pattern contest encouraged you to push your skills a little, and maybe even learn a new move or read a little about Aresti diagrams – the system of “diagramming aerobatic figures”. You could really see the Prop Masters who put some time into practicing their routine.

Participation and points were also awarded for those who flew in the Barnstormer’s practice event. We want to hang on to that trophy – and are not above bribing our members with points to practice.

I have found that the “First U.S. R/C Flight School” books by David A. Scott (available at HobbyTown) really help in understanding how to execute a maneuver. An interesting quote is “Everything happens for a reason. When a deviation occurs, the lasting solution is to find out why the plane lost direction in the first place and correct the situation ...”

### Barnstormer’s Practice:

Bill Hickey took 1st place with a score of 3 minutes, zero seconds, and 10/100’s of a second! The man keeps time like a machine! Jason Boettcher and Tom Camp took 2nd and 3rd with 3:04 and 3:12.

Point awards for both events are as follows:

NAME	Total Points Earned	Attend	HOW EARNED				
			Fly Pattern	Pattern Points		Practice Barnstormers Event	Barnstormer Event Points
Ed Slanina	50	10	10	30	1st Pattern		
Craig Vander Kolk	50	10	10	20	2nd Pattern	10	
Mick Pfeifer	40	10	10	10	3rd Pattern	10	
Dan Nosek	30	10	10			10	
Dave Carlson	60	10	10	30	1st Pattern	10	
Bill Hickey	80	10	10	20	2nd Pattern	10	30
Marv Luebbert	40	10	10	10	3rd Pattern	10	



## Fun Fly Committee



Point awards continued:

NAME	Total Points Earned	Attend	HOW EARNED				
			Fly Pattern	Pattern Points		Practice Barnstormers Event	Barnstormer Event Points
Tom Camp	40	10	10			10	10
Jason Boettcher	50	10	10			10	20
Ivan Cankov	60	10	10	30	1st Pattern	10	
Bob Mosinski	50	10	10	20	2nd Pattern	10	
Dave Engle	40	10	10	10	3rd Pattern	10	
Larry Dudkowski	30	10	10			10	
Mike Vander Kolk	10	10					
Jim Weichel	10	10					
Kaifu Cheng	10	10					
Carl Crownhart	10	10					

Jason Boettcher and the Fun Fly Committee

### Pattern Contest Pictures (Photos Courtesy of Larry Dudkowski & Ivan Cankov)





## Fun Fly Committee



### Barnstormers Fun-Fly September 14, 2008

This year's contest with the Barnstormers will be the dreaded **“Three-Minute Dead-Stick Spot Landing”**.

A landing spot will be marked on the field. This spot will become the target for the spot landings and all landing distances will be measured from this point. So this will be a true spot landing. We will mark a spot on the field with a stake (flush with the ground) and some marking tape. Everyone tries to land exactly on the spot. Landings will be marked where the mains first touch. We will have two guys designated as “markers”, one from each club. As each plane lands, one “marker” will mark the landing spot, while the second will measure the distance from that mark to the landing spot target. This will keep the contest moving since it would take only a few seconds to measure the landing and clear the field for the next take off.

**Here's how it works.** The object of this event is to fly for exactly three minutes and perform a “Dead-Stick” spot landing. Each pilot starts out with 100 scoring points. Scoring points are deducted from this “perfect score” depending on the pilot's performance during the event. The judges will start the clock when the main gear leaves the ground on takeoff. When the pilot has determined that the three-minute time period has elapsed, he will shout “TIME or THREE MINUTES”. At this point the judge's clock is stopped and pilot's time is recorded. When the pilot shouts “TIME”, he also must, in the case of ‘wet’ engines throttle back to idle; in the case of electrics he must stop his motor. The pilot then begins his spot landing approach. **If at anytime after shouting “TIME” the pilot changes his throttle setting or restarts his motor, he is disqualified.**

**Here are the rules.** One scoring point is deducted for every 5-second above or below the three minute time limit. Example less than five seconds no deduction, less than ten seconds one point, less than fifteen seconds two points' deduction, etc. One scoring point is deducted for every whole foot the pilot lands away from the center spot. Landings will be scored by first touch of the main gear. Examples, less than one foot, no points are deducted, less than two feet one point is deducted. Less than three feet results in a two-point deduction. Ten scoring points will be deducted if the engine is killed upon landing for “wet” engines or if it is judged that the engine would have quit upon landing for electrics.

**Best five scores from each club will be totaled; highest team score is the winner.**

Larry Dudkowski

### Prop Masters' Annual Family Picnic

Mark your calendar for Sunday September 21<sup>st</sup>. This is the date of the annual Prop Master's Family Picnic. The family picnic takes the place of the monthly Fun-Fly on the weekend after the Barnstormers event. The idea is to bring your family out to the field and spend the day together. Show them what Dad does when he runs out of the house on Sunday mornings. There is open flying all day. We will have buddy-boxes and instructors available if any of your family members want to take a test flight.

Lunch will be served starting about 11:30. There is no charge for the picnic. The club will provide food and drink. The menu is typical picnic fare, Hot Dogs and Hamburgers, fixings, potato salad, coleslaw, chips and pop. If you would like to bring a dish to share, feel free.

If you need something special grilled, like chicken or??, bring it along and let either Bob or I know so that we can allow time and space for cooking it.

The Picnic Committee, Larry Dudkowski and Bob Mosinski



## Hints Information, Tips and Stuff By Larry Dudkowski



I brought my brand new Airtronics RDS8000 for Show-N-Tell to the July meeting. This radio is Airtronics' entry into the 2.4 GHz arena. Unlike the RD8000 model radio, it has no "chrome" trim, but except for that and an extra button and light, it looks exactly like the RD8000. The RDS8000, like the RD8000, supports both helicopters and aircraft formats.

First, let me dispel the worries about compatibility. There is no problem with compatibility between the new Airtronics receivers and any other manufacturer's servos, switches or batteries. When I first started flying Airtronics (1994), you could only use Airtronics servos, switches and batteries with Airtronics receivers. This was due to how the plugs were wired. This is no longer the case and hasn't been for many years. In 1997, with the introduction of the Airtronics 'Z' connectors, all Airtronics equipment is plug compatible with all of the other manufactures. The easiest way to tell the 'Z' connectors from the old 'X' connectors is that the 'Z' connectors are blue and 'X' connectors are black. The same is true for the receivers. Blue Airtronics receivers have 'Z' connectors while the black receivers have the old 'X' connectors. So don't worry about compatibility between Airtronics 72 MHz and 2.4 GHz receivers and any other manufacturer's servos, switches or batteries. Two quick notes here; first you can plug a male 'X' connector into a female 'Z' plug receptacle and vice versa, they will fit but they just won't work. Second, if you need some 'X' connector equipment see me since I just might have what you need lying around the shop.

Back to the RDS8000. My first radio was an Airtronics 4 channel. I still have it and it works fine. I have never experienced any problems with Airtronics equipment and I have a lot of it, including receivers, servos, switches and batteries. After reliability, the biggest selling point for me with the Airtronics 2.4 GHz radio was the price. The RDS8000 is an 8-channel transmitter with a 10-model memory. It comes with an 8-channel receiver, charger and switch harness. Not included are servos or a receiver battery, the thought being that you're most likely replacing an existing 72 MHz receiver and you already have all of the other stuff. The best part is you get all of this for \$229 plus extra 8-channel Airtronics receivers are only \$79. I looked at replacing just the module in my Futaba 9C with an 8-channel Futaba 2.4 GHz and that would run \$319 including a receiver. Extra Futaba receivers run \$129. The cost for Spektrum replacement modules with receiver are about the same. Currently Airtronics is offering only the one 8-channel receiver. These receivers are small and light weight, about 1oz, and look like they will fit into most park flyers. A smaller park flyer receiver is scheduled to come out soon.

The RDS8000 functionally is exactly like the RD8000 in all respects except for the transmitting frequency. This includes the single drawback to the Airtronics transmitters. Airtronics radios only have a 3-character model-naming field. While you do have a full range of numbers, special symbols and the alphabet in both upper and lower case, you still have only a three-character model name.

Placement of the antennas within the model seems to be of critical importance in the 2.4 GHz world. The Airtronics manual provides details instructions and diagrams on how to place the antennas so that they are 90-degrees apart. With the Airtronics receiver just the short tips, about the last 2" at the end need to meet the 90-degree rule. The manual has several suggestions on how meet the 90-degree rule.

FCC regulations require that any new 2.4 GHz transmitter not interfere with all other existing 2.4 GHz equipment. So you shouldn't be worried about interference from other manufacturers' radios. Because of this and the fact that each manufacture uses a unique encryption of the signal and transmitter ID you cannot interchange transmitter and receivers among manufacturers. So it looks like for now anyway, if you start with one manufacturer, you're going to have to stay with that manufacturer. There is an excellent article on the RDS8000 in the July issue of Model Aviation. It contains much more information than I can place in our newsletter. Check out the article and the websites listed at the end of the MA article for more information. So if you're looking to convert your fleet to 2.4 GHz, you might want to check out the Airtronics RDS8000. You get an 8-channel radio system with a 10-model memory for \$229. Best of all, extra receivers are only \$79 each. Sounds like a good deal to me!

Fly Smart, Fly Safe, Larry Dudkowski

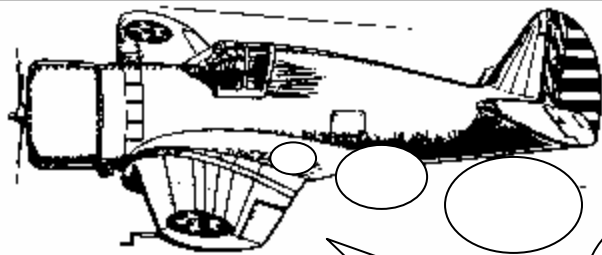
Visit the Prop Masters R/C Club Web Site at <http://www.propmastersrc.org>

## PLANE TALK

Prop Masters R/C Club NEWSLETTER

2520 College Rd.

Downers Grove, IL 60516



**Next Meeting: September 10, 2008 7:30  
p.m. at Dean's Dugout.**

**Fun Fly: September 14<sup>th</sup> with the  
Barnstormers at their field.  
Annual Club Picnic September 21<sup>st</sup>**

