



ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS CHARTERED CLUB #1255

## *SERVO CHATTER*

A PUBLICATION OF:

ANOKA COUNTY RADIO CONTROL CLUB, INC.

**MAY 2025**

***THE MAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MEETING IS AT THE FIELD!!***

### **PRESIDENT'S CHATTER**

#### **A FEW ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Gary Titus has secured the Andover community center for Wednesday coffee meetings 9:00AM-12:00 noon for September through April of the next year. We will have coffee meetings at the field every Wednesday from May through August. If you are available come on out and join us. We usually find some time to fly. Weather permitting.

I have also secured the Coon Rapids community room for September through April, 2025 monthly meetings. May through August meetings are held at the field. Monthly meetings start at 7:00PM. Remember Show-N-Tells are always welcome.

I have put up the training flag sign for the season. It is by appointment this year. Anyone interested in instructing please contact one of the Board members so we can add your contact information (of your choosing) to the training column on our web page. Thank you for volunteering.

For the mowing crew. I posted the schedule by the mower on the wall. Bob Barton and I exchanged dates.

I mowed the field for the first time this year April 29th. It looks great. We have a great flying site so let's get out and enjoy it!!



New Training Flag is Up

Jeff Slater

#### **SIMPLE IS BETTER**

The subject of simplifying our membership application process was discussed. Our By-Laws do not match our application. The By-Laws were established in 1979 and a lot has changed since then. It was proposed that we make some minor changes to both the membership application and the By-Laws so they would include the same language for the 2026 membership.

Editors Note: The following page 2 of this newsletter is dedicated to the proposed changes to the By-Laws. Please review them carefully.

IN THE BY-LAWS:

ARTICLE I Section 3 would change the Renewal deadline from January 1 to January 31. That doesn't mean that you have to re-new in January. You can re-new for the next year any time after September so, we have actually 5 months to re-new to keep your membership current. We need as many members as possible paid by January 31 so we can budget for events, Etc. It would also eliminate the \$5.00 late fee. It has been both a waste of time and a great hassle to chase down that \$5.00 for those that either forget to add it or ignore the line item on the application.

NEW ARTICLE I SECTION 3:

Members are responsible to pay membership dues on time and in full. New members must pay at the time of application. For new members joining after September 1, the dues will include the following year. Renewals are due on or before January 31st of each year.

ARTICLE I SECTION 4 would change (in a calendar year) to (by January 31st).

NEW ARTICLE I SECTION 4:

Membership in ACRC will terminate if there is no payment of dues by January 31st. If a member is dropped for any reason, reinstatement shall be on the same basis as a new member.

NEW MEMBERSHIP PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

MEMBERSHIP DUES\_\_\_\_\_ \$75.00 (new member after Sep.1 will include following year

INITIATION FEE\_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00 (new members and renewals after Jan. 31st

JUNIOR MEMBER DUES\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 (under 19 and parent not an ACRC member

FAMILY MEMBER DUES\_\_\_\_\_ \$5.00 (member's child under 19 or spouse

Runway donation\_\_\_\_\_ Optional for future runway replacement

These changes will be read at the May meeting and voted on at the June meeting requiring a two-thirds vote of the attending members to pass.

See you all at the June meeting. GONE FISHING 😊

Jeff Slater

## FROM THE VEEP

I wanted to summarize and explain the discussions from this winter's club meetings about RC flight training for the upcoming year and beyond. In an effort to increase the efficiency of our trainers as well as reduce the time load on their schedules, we have adopted a "By Appointment Only" approach to training. Along with this decision, we have dropped our participation in the AMA's Introductory Pilot Program.

The appointment style training will allow trainers to offer sessions that fit with their schedules and the students', rather than requiring several members to be available at the field every Wednesday during the summer. In many cases few to no people showed up to train on those nights over the last few summers, which can be a let down for those offering the training.

We understand that the AMA's program did provide the lessons at no cost to the student, and we did not decide to drop our participation lightly. In our new format, we will require students to be AMA members and members of the ACRC club. For the younger students, AMA membership can be secured for \$15 per year (under age 19). Add to that the ACRC Junior Member dues of \$25 and you have a very reasonable entry into the hobby (try being on the local youth hockey team for a mere \$40). Also, I was on the AMA website and discovered that there is a Three-month Trial membership for those who want to try their hand at flight without the full year cost (while ACRC does not have a similar trial, it would still help reduce the financial burden of trying it out).

Once AMA and ACRC membership are secured, a student can train with one of our trainers for as many sessions as they need before they feel confident taking that first solo flight. I hope that this new training format will bring in dedicated students who will stick with the program and become excellent RC pilots.

One request from the board (as stated in the April meeting minutes below): If you are interested and willing to train beginners this summer, please get in touch with Marc Tellevik so that he can add your contact information (of your choice) to the club

website. People interested in learning to fly will be directed to the website's training page (including by our new red flag at the field entrance) and will be able to use the list of trainers to find someone who can accommodate their schedule.

A couple of things that will not be changing.

1. One free introductory flight is available to each individual, prior to signing up with the club.
2. Rules regarding other pilots' flight activity while a student is being trained will still apply, even though we don't have the dedicated Wednesday training night. Please be courteous and do not fly close to the student's plane or perform aerobatics near the runway.

Thank you for your understanding as we make these changes. I look forward to the summer ahead and hope to be able to see many new students join the club and get valuable training from our experienced pilots.

For our first 2025 monthly meeting held at the field, I plan to bring another great smattering of raffle prizes. I have another ammo can, which can be used to protect you from inadvertent battery fires, as well as some glue, tools, and even some CA de-bonder for those of us that tend to glue our fingers together more often than the intended balsa! I'm also going to bring a foam airplane kit that was donated to the raffle collection. I've been told it is a combat plane.

By the time you read this, I will have hopefully had a successful re-maiden flight of my Trainer after her upgrades. I really hope that the increased power system will offset the weight gain she has experienced. I'll have a full report to share at the next club meeting. See you there and bring your finished winter builds!

Ryan Kontak

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Four ACRC Board terms are up this July. Nominations are accepted through May & June and will be voted on at the July meeting. The four positions are Vice President, Recording Secretary, Safety Officer, & Membership Secretary. Nominate yourself or someone else with their permission.

I will not be returning as Membership Secretary; I volunteered to take over Stan Zdon's term after his passing to keep membership moving uninterrupted. With the help of the board, especially Marc Tellevic, we have updated and reorganized the membership process.

Please consider attending our meetings. Starting this month, the meetings will be at the field. Get in a few flights before the meeting!

- Current 2025-Member Count: 77

The next meeting will be at the ACRC Field April 15th at 7:00pm.

Scott Oleson

## **EVENT COORDINATOR**

The time is upon us. By the time you're reading this, the Spring Fly-In will be just days away. Saturday May 17th. Pilots meeting will be at 9am.

Landing fee is 5 Dollars which includes lunch. Non-Flyers can pay the 5 Dollars to join in on the lunch. I am Smoking a Couple Boston Butt's on Friday for pulled pork sandwiches and Tim and his wife will be making a batch of their famous flying beans.

This is an AMA sanctioned open flying event. Club membership is not required but AMA Membership is required to fly.

We also have several excellent raffle prizes to give out after lunch.

So, come on out and let's kick off the flying season together.

Also, on a not unrelated side note. The week of the Fly-In is my week to Mow the field, so I will be doing that Thursday so it is freshly mowed for the event.

Mike Reinert

## **A LOOK BACK**

**MAY 2007**

18 YEARS AGO

Unfortunately, my copy of this particular newsletter is MIA, like last month's. With that in mind, I've created another Generic Newsletter for your enjoyment.

We had a meeting. Discussion ensued.

We have money in the bank

We have lots of members

A Fun-Fly happened

More events are planned for the summer months.

**MAY 1997**

28 YEARS AGO

Prez Spence Minear, hurried home, then out to the field to get more flights on his SciFly canard airplane. While prepping his plane, Brian Dorff launched a SIG Wonder that promptly went into the ground. Unfazed, Spence rolled his SciFly out onto the runway. Shortly after takeoff, the engine sagged. Spence knew he had to get the plane down, however his color scheme of grey and white was not an optimal choice for an overcast evening. Disorientation soon followed, and sacrifice was paid to the turf Gods.

Bob Proulx, Spence Minear, Willie Allshouse, Paul Castrodale, and Bud Durant all brought airplanes for show and tell at the April meeting.

Seven pilots participated in the April Fun-Fly.

Jeff Slater brought a truckload of planes out to fly. His favorite Big Telemaster was set aside as the winds picked. Jeff brought out his Kaos only to discover a low charge in the receiver battery. A fast field charge proved unsuccessful. In the meantime, Jim Rowe lost orientation on his pattern plane because of reflective chrome striping and low sun angle. Needless to say, Jim's 8-year-old plane bit the dust. Here's the neat part. Jim gave Jeff his receiver battery so Jeff could get in some flights.

To quote Jeff: "If only the kindness and generosity displayed at our flying site could be spread to our daily lives, what a better world it would be!"

Well said, Jeff.

Tim Karash



## ACRC MINUTES

### Board members present:

Jeff Slater, Marc Tellevik, Scott Oleson, Ryan Kontak,  
Jeff Flander, Mike Reinert.

6 Member present plus board

No Guest

### Membership Report:

72 members as of this date

### Treasurer's Report:

Income: \$ 982.15

Expenses: \$316.32

### Safety Officer Report:

No issues

### Event Coordinator:

Mike Rienert has concession food ready for the Spring Fly-In. Gary Smith will bring the raffle planes.

### Training Report:

All training instructors need to contact Marc Tellvik to update the club website instructor list for the upcoming season.

### Old Business:

A retrieval boat is needed for the September Float-Fly

Multiple planes were donated for the Spring Fly-In:

- Bud Durant donated a U Can Do 60
- Bob Winkler donated a Kadet LT40
- Virgil Okeson donated a Percival

### New Business:

Class G airspace has been granted a 1200-foot ceiling for our FRIA

After much discussion, a decision was made to propose a change to ACRC By-Laws, Article 1, Sections 3&4.

The change is to simplify membership fees and application. This proposed change will be published in the May 2025 newsletter and voted on at the June 2025 meeting.

### Show and Tell:

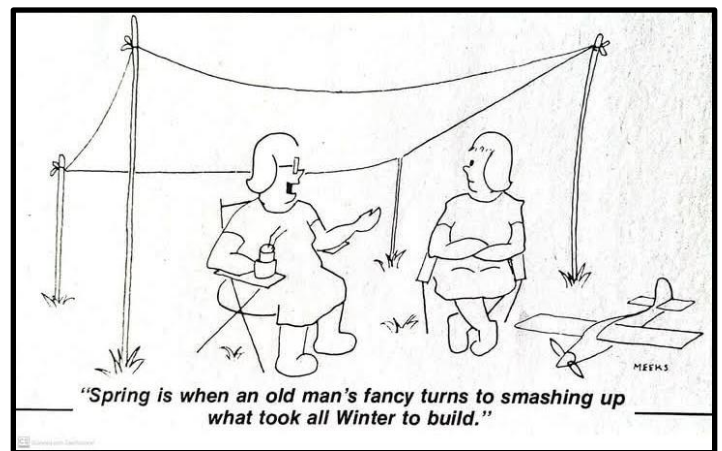
Ryan Kontak brought a rare OS .49 Wankel engine.

Ryan has finished the 3D printed reinforcement for his Coroplast Trainer.

### Raffle:

1) Foam Tac Finish	Ryan Kontak
2) Flush Cutter	Scott Oleson
3) Ammo Can	Jeff Slater
4) Aliphatic Super glue	John DeVries
5) Mini Bungee Cords	Gary Smith
6) Glue Syringe	Marc Tellevik

Submitted by Tim Karash



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Scott Oleson

Mike Reinert

Jeff Slater

## ACRC SPONSORS

King Kong Hobbies  
Woodworking Plus  
Blackjacks Asphalt  
Rivard Companies

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday – May 15

- ACRC Meeting-At the Field

Saturday – May 17

- ACRC Spring Fly-In

Saturday – May 24

- ACRC Fun Fly

Thursday – June 19

- ACRC Meeting-At the Field

Saturday – June 21

- ACRC Fun Fly

CRCC - Coon Rapids Civic Center

