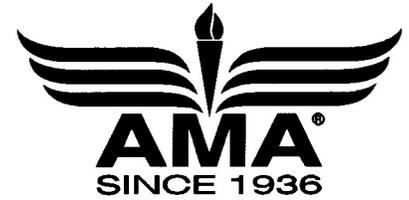


The Seminole Flyer



Charter member of the Academy
of Model Aeronautics since 1969

AMA Charter Club 216



April 2018 Issue



New aircraft hold downs installed by Jim Ogorek

Blown Away!

Glow Clinic

April 14th was absolutely beautiful. The sun was shining and the temperature was right, but it was windy, too windy! Still, the Seminole Radio Control Club glow clinic was a very enjoyable event. There was lots of fellowship and good food on the grill. Rhrett cooked some special Louisiana style sausages and the meandering discussions led us to the best solutions for world problems.

Jim Ogorek installed some really nice hold-downs for larger aircraft. They feature square steel stock that will not dent stabilizer leading edges and fold down very neatly. There is one at each end of the flight line now .

Pancake Races Update

There was a lengthy discussion with suggestions for our upcoming pancake airplane races. Theo Titus put our club order in, twenty Foaminator airplane kits are arriving this week. Plus, a couple of members have ordered aircraft separate from the club's order. This amounts to a sizable group and the contests should be great fun. If you missed the club's order, but would still like to participate, you can order Foaminator kits or completed aircraft from rcfoamkits.com. There is still plenty of time.

Club Meeting News

Jeff Owens, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM on Thursday April 19, 2018 by President Jay Wiggins. Jay expressed thanks on behalf of the club to Jim Ogorek for installing two new starting hold downs for large models, Jeff Owens for renewing the Club's Gold Leader status, and Rhett Boudreaux for running the Glo Clinic. There were 14 members in attendance at the meeting. Jay introduced new member Sandy Jaffe who then gave a brief description of his RC history and interests.

Vice-President's Report – Rhett Boudreaux reviewed the successful Glo Clinic that was held on Saturday April 14, 2018. Eleven members braved the high winds, but none chose to fly. The food was good as were the discussions, so everyone had a good time. The next event is the Memorial Day Fly-in on Saturday May 26 starting at 10:00 AM.

Secretary's Report – Jeff Owens – The minutes of the March meeting have been published in the March newsletter that is posted on the web. The minutes were approved as posted. A brief description of the AMA Gold Leader Club program was also given.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Bill Ashbaker gave the Treasurer's report. The report was approved.

Safety Officer Report – Jim Ogorek reported that everything is going well and that there are no outstanding safety concerns.

Field Marshall Report – Gordie Meade – Fertilizer has been applied and the grass is greening up. The lawnmower is having a fuel problem due, perhaps, to trash in the tank or the fuel filter. Geoff Lawrence will check it out and return the mower to Ag-Pro if more work is needed.

Training Officer Report – Geoff Lawrence reported that two trainers are ready to go.

Old Business – Theo Titus reviewed the Pancake Racer program. Nineteen members have signed up for kits. He described some features of the kit construction and also described the structure of the pylon events.

New Business – The old PA system is need of work and a local museum is looking for an inexpensive PA system. A motion was made and passed to donate the old system.

Show and Tell – Sandy Jaffe had a bag of light bulbs of various types that were left over after he converted his house to LED lights. They were free for the taking.

Jim Ogorek showed his 44" Extreme Flight Turbo Duster ARF. \$100 for the airframe only. He reported that it flies well and is a lot of fun.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Time to Support Our Hobby

There are national interests that are lobbying congress to take away our right to freely fly radio control aircraft as a hobby. Our right to fly radio control aircraft as a hobby is spelled out in federal law in the FAA Modernization and Reform Act (FMRA) of 2012, which is part of Title 49 of the United States Code. The latest extension of this law is valid until September 30, 2018. Because the current version, which protects our hobby, will expire, congress is drafting a new version of the law called an FAA reauthorization. Anytime politicians start messing with legal language, things get scary.

Here is a little background. There are two paths that enable us to fly radio control aircraft legally in the U.S.:

1. Under Section 336 which currently prohibits the Federal Aviation Administration from regulating qualifying model aircraft such as ours. Section 336 is included in the FMRA of 2012.
2. Or under the FAA's Small UAS Rule. This rule is codified in the Code of Federal Regulations Title 14, Part 107.

If Section 336 is repealed, everyone will have to take an in-person test, pay for a remote pilot's certificate and fly under Part 107 rules. Under Part 107, an individual must be at least 16 years of age to obtain the remote pilot's certificate, so this path leaves AMA's 50,000 youth members unable to fly.

Some groups such as the Commercial Drone Alliance are calling on congress to repeal Section 336. Since the implementation of the FAA's Part 107 rulemaking in 2016, which broadly authorized commercial drone operations in the U.S., drone use has been growing at an exponential rate. Consequently, basic "rules of the road" are needed to manage all this new air traffic, the alliance says. The alliance is asking congress to repeal Section 336 and include new language in the 2018 FAA Reauthorization Act to enable the agency to regulate unmanned aircraft systems

(UAS) in what the alliance says would be a common-sense way.

The alliance claims Section 336 of the 2012 FMRA has been "misinterpreted and abused" – giving all model aircraft users, including those not participating as part of a community-based organization as required under the law – the mistaken impression that they are flying legally.

Furthermore, according to the alliance, the sheer number of hobbyist aircraft taking to the sky now makes exempting model aircraft from regulation "nonsensical." As of Dec. 31, 2017, more than 873,000 hobbyist owners had registered with the FAA, which, according to estimates, amounts to more than 1.1 million aircraft. Over the next five years, the FAA predicts this number will more than double to 2.4 million aircraft.

The alliance argues that an approach giving preferential treatment to hobbyists has clear and adverse implications for the safety and efficiency of the National Airspace System, public safety and efficacy of future UAS traffic management systems.

On the other hand, the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) is pushing for preservation of Section 336 to ensure our hobby is "protected" in the FAA reauthorization. Over the next five months, the AMA will continue to work with congress for a long-term reauthorization bill that will strengthen the Special Rule for Model Aircraft and affirm the role of community-based organizations.

Most of you have probably read the recent letter to AMA members, requesting help to protect the Special Rule for Model Aircraft (Section 336). Each of us needs respond to AMA's requests for assistance by sending a letter to our elected representatives in support of the Special Rule for Model Aircraft. In addition, you may be asked to call your representatives. We encourage everyone to take the time to do whatever is needed.



Seminole Radio Control Club

Tallahassee, Florida

Officers

President	Jay Wiggins moonangelb@gmail.com
Vice President	Rhett Boudreaux geobatch@aol.com
Secretary	Jeff Owens jfolso@comcast.net
Treasurer	Bill Ashbaker bill.ashbaker@comcast.net
Field Safety Officer	Jim Ogorek jim.ogorek@yahoo.com
Field Marshal	Gordie Meade lmeade@fsu.edu
Training Coordinator	Geoff Lawrence k4nkc@comcast.net

Media Managers

Web Master	Jeff Owens jfolso@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor & Publisher	Bill Ashbaker bill.ashbaker@comcast.net

Flight Training

Primary flight training is available by appointment on Saturdays from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm when the weather is nice and not too breezy. Contact the Training Coordinator or one of the instructors to make an appointment:

Geoff Lawrence 850-591-6879

Bill Ashbaker 850-656-5932

Jeff Owens 850-545-7482

Jim Ogorek 850-766-2477

Field Hours

Electrics/Sailplanes	30 minutes before sunrise until 30 minutes after sunset 7 days/week
Gassers/Nitros	10:00 AM until 30 minutes after sunset except Sunday. Sunday gasser/nitro flying begins at 12:00 PM. All gassers and nitros must have a suitable muffler.

The Seminole Flyer is a publication of the Seminole Radio Control Club of Tallahassee, Florida. We welcome and encourage items for publishing in *The Seminole Flyer*. Please submit your suggestions to SeminoleRadioControlClub@gmail.com in Word format. Thank You.

www.seminolerc.com