

The Seminole Flyer

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Academy of Model
Aeronautics
AMA Charter #216, 1969-2010



"The Seminole Flyer" is a publication of the Seminole Radio Control Club of Tallahassee, Florida

MAY 2010

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Letter from the Editor- Stephen Warmath

What?.....May Already? My goodness how does the time slip away? Just as well, I'm particularly glad to have April behind me for personal reasons, but I'm hopeful for the future. I can at least get my usual therapy session as close as the garage by tinkering with my RC planes. I have an E-flight Stearman on the bench at the moment and it is a very pretty plane. I hope it flies as well as it looks. If you think Mac Hodges has a big B-29, check out this month's video selection. This B-29 is **huge!** It's so big, it takes two pilots to fly it. <http://www.wservernews.com/4HA6HM/100405-RC-Plane>

Theo Titus sent in a report of his visit to the SEFF 2010 gathering in April and provided some impressive pictures of the event. Thanks, Theo.

With the proliferation of ARFs these days, some of you like me, want to add some easy details to make them just a bit better looking. This month's article on **Making a Simple Instrument Panel** is one easy mod that adds a little touch of scale realism to that pretty bird of yours.

Finally, Jim Ogorek @ **HobbyTown** checks in with latest reviews on some hot new products.

Safe and Happy Flying- Steve.

Chief Pilot- Mike Atkinson

My report this month will be brief. I've had a ton of other activities going on, so I've not been able to get out to the field as much as I'd like. I understand the fencing has been completed by the county. We're looking forward to developing some guidelines for airfield parking and walk/run trail parking. Hopefully, having the walkers park and enter the area on the westernmost section will provide an additional safety measure for the helicopter pad and landing approaches. The club lock will be placed on the gate, but we should not have to open the gate except for aircraft retrieval and/or event overflow parking. Otherwise, the gate should remain locked. The walk-thru gate by the wooden shed was necessary to keep the general public from being able to drive onto the runways.

The school air shows have been cancelled. We really needed 4 pilots to commit to flying in the event, and we were down to 2. John Hall and I tried to put on a show at Crawfordville Elementary, but it was simply too hectic. Maybe we can get a little more involvement next year and resume the program.

Out of the blue, the administration at Quincy airport decided not to allow ANY RC flying at Airfest this year. We had been told earlier that all aircraft would be allowed. At least in Tallahassee, we were permitted to fly electrics throughout the day. As a result, we have decided not to participate. Several of the main organizers had additional activities from which to choose, and a static display for the club did not seem that important. We'll keep our options open for next year.

Finally, our annual Flying for a Cure is scheduled for May 22nd. This is our largest fundraiser of the year and all of the net proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society. I'm sure everyone has had this dreaded disease affect you in some way, so let's all work together to make this year's event the best ever. Last year, we raised \$1200 to donate to the society, so we should easily surpass that total this year. See the flyer at the end of the newsletter.

Happy Flying, Michael Atkinson- President, Seminole RC Club

Chief Copilot- Mike Kinsey

[Club Calendar](#)- The schedule reflects current Club events planned for the year to date. Check monthly for additions and deletions at the meetings and in the newsletter. For regional, sanctioned AMA events, see your AMA magazine or visit the AMA website section "Calendars".

May (Note- Airfest event has been removed.)

- 6- Monthly Meeting- 7:00 Field
- 22- Flying for a Cure Fly-In

June

- 12- Warbird Fly-In
- 16- Aviation Camp 12:00- 2:30

August

- 11- Aviation Camp 12:00- 2:30

September

- 25- Club Fly-In

October

- 9- Field Closed for Runners
- 16- Float Fly

November

- 20- Toys for Tots

December

- 4- Field Closed for Runners

Chief Treasurer- Theo Titus

Editor's Note: The Treasurer's report is published for Members only. The public version of the Newsletter does not include account balances.

Seminole RC Club Treasurer's Report

Period Ending

30-Apr-2010

**Checking
Accounts**
Capital City
Bank
Premier
Bank

**Savings
Accounts**
Capital City
Savings
Premier
Bank CD

**PayPal
Account**

**Funds for
Deposit
Petty Cash**

Total

**Checks
Outstanding**

**Net Funds
Available**

Income

Dues / New Memberships	0.00
Activities / Fly-ins	0.00
Sales (Hats-shirts-etc)	0.00
Contributions and Donations	0.00
Interest on Savings	
Interest on Checking	0.00

Expenses

Plaques and Awards
Field Maintenance
Repairs and Supplies
Miscellaneous Expenses
Bank Charges

Total Income for Period	0.00	Total Expenses for Period
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See you all at the meeting this Thursday.

Chief Scribe- Geoff Lawrence

The April meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm on Thursday, April 1, 2010. Welcome new member Wallace Watson and Ernie Duarte.

Geoff Lawrence read the minutes of the March, 2010 meeting.
Motion to accept the minutes was made, seconded and passed.

Theo Titus read the treasurers report and reported an update in the currently published version. Motion to accept the corrected treasurer's report was made, seconded and passed.

Old Business:

- Mike Atkinson reported contractors have the new fencing in place. Mike reviewed the proposed layout with Pat Plocek and confirmed we will not need a separate gate for Club access. There will be a gate between our field and the track and we will have our lock on that gate.
- Upcoming schedules were discussed. The Club Swap Meet and Fun Fly is on April 10 and The Warbird Fly-In is moved to June 12. We'll be hosting Camp Aviation at the field on June 16 and August 11. The Lake Monkey Business Float Fly is set for April 24.
- Park Pilot membership was discussed. It was emphasized. Park Pilot flyers cannot fly at our field without at least an AMA Park Pilot license. Our Club dues are \$1 monthly for Park Pilot membership.
- Mike A. reported the Gold Leader Club plaque is up at the shed. Many thanks to Jeff Owens for his efforts with the AMA to get this award for the Seminole RC Club. From the AMA announcement: "In order to recognize the leadership of the best model clubs, the Academy has established the AMA Leader Club Awards. These Awards can be earned by an AMA Club by meeting certain standards of community service and activity."
- Jeff Owens discussed the EAA AirFest on May 15.
- Mike A. reported having received positive comments from three people about how helpful members have been at the field.

New Business:

- New keys have been made for the storage container and issued to those needing access for mowing or training with the Club trainers.
- Mike A. requested volunteer flyers for the Elementary School Air Shows in Wakulla County.
- Mike A. reported receiving a letter from the US Control Line Team raising funds with a raffle to send members to the Worlds event in Poland. He has 12 tickets available for \$5 each or three for \$12.

Announcements:

- Gordy Meade placed third in an F3C Helicopter competition.
- Jeff Owens placed first in a Senior Pattern competition held in Prattville, Alabama
- John Saddler reported having a transmitter case with two JR transmitters stolen from his truck. Be on the lookout.
- Bob Burke reported Justin has up for sale his 140" one third scale World Models Super Cub with Zenoah GT80 for around \$1000.
- The new Safety Rules are posted at the shed thanks to Steve Warmath and Apogee Signs. Apogee Signs also prints our newsletter for no charge. Please support them if you have a need for a sign.

With no more announcements and no more business, the motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn at 7:43 pm.

SEFF Report by Theo Titus

Southeast Electric Flight Festival (SEFF) 2010

Over the period of April 22 through 25, Hodges Hobbies again hosted the annual SEFF at the Andersonville site. This year's participation was as good as previous years and showcased a variety of electric airplanes, motors, batteries and eye popping flight demonstrations.

For those not familiar with this event, this is the premier electric flight event in the eastern US and is sponsored by the Fayette Flyers. It is purely a fun fly type of event and has only one competition. The hosts give a best of show award but the remainder of the weekend is devoted to just flying. All aircraft are electric powered so there was none of the characteristic engine growls but the whine (and sometimes shriek) of the electric motors was everywhere.

Ed Budzyna and I pulled out of Tallahassee at about 7 AM on Friday for the trek up to Andersonville. The weather was great with clear, blue skies and a very comfortable temperature. Three hours later with a breakfast stop on the way, we pulled up to the driveway at Hodges Hobbies. This was Friday, the first official flying day of the event and the parking lot and flight lines were jam packed from one end of the runway to the other. Motor homes, camper trailers, and tent sites were stacked on top of each other so tightly that it was difficult to navigate between them. Vehicles were from all over the eastern half of the country. Fliers from Michigan to Massachusetts to Texas and Florida and all points between were present. We were both amazed by the crowd size and the unbelievable mix of aircraft displayed in front of the flight line tents.

The usual safety and registration requirements (AMA, Park Flyer, IMAC, etc) were mandated and all flyers had to be registered. The event is sold out well in advance and pre-registration is almost a must do thing. Radios were constrained to 2.4 GHz so that a frequency control was not needed. Separate areas were designated for park flyers, sport planes, and 3-D so that no one had to contend with the other classes of aircraft and maneuvers. A special



helicopter area was also designated, and one sort of spontaneous area cropped up out in the back side of the parking area for unidentified flyers. The sport plane area was temporarily converted to a pylon course for a speed event at mid-day.

A great vendor area was set up under the covered barns behind the hobby shop and the tables were well stocked with just about anything your little electric airplane heart could desire. Aircraft, radio equipment, motors/batteries/speed controls/connectors and all sort of instrumentation were on display. Most of the prices were very competitive. The major players in the vendor group also set up their venues along the inner flight line. Horizon, Hobby Lobby, and a bunch of others with whom I was not personally familiar had their wares on display and then demonstrated during the noon demo period.. Horizon showed up with 62 different aircraft and flew every one of them, although not at the same time. The air was constantly filled with aircraft on the 5 flight lines set up along the 1700 foot grass strip that fronts the hobby shop at Mac's place.

The aircraft ranged from the simplest park flyer to 40% Extras with unbelievable performance. For a gas buggie guy, it was amazing to see the flight power and the deafening silence (relative to gas engines) that was demonstrated. A number of nationally recognized pilots put the vendor aircraft through their paces with the range running from the full AMA pattern to eye popping 3-D stuff to just plain old fun flying stuff.. Some



of those little pilot guys surely lost their heads in the high G flying that went on.

The personal aircraft on display were also fantastic. All types of models from Cubs to a C-130 radar picket plane were flown and displayed. A number of historic models were also shown. There was just too much to take in at one pass so several trips up and down the flight line were required.

Of course, Mac flew the big B-29 and did the usual unbelievable maneuvers with this monster. He had added smoke capability which certainly enhanced the sight of a giant B-29 bomber doing a flat spin and inverted passes at about 10 feet high. I am always amazed at the performance of the aircraft and Mac's control of it.

Several hours of adventure later, and several dollars worth of new goodies as well, Ed and I pulled out for the return trip. With the requisite stop at the Camilla Dairy Queen for an ice cream treat, we successfully used up the entire day. The trip was well worth the effort and produced a much enhanced appreciation for the wonders of electric flight. Make your plans to take in this event if at all possible in the near future.

Making a Simple Instrument Panel

If you're like me, and I think a lot of you are, you just can't help but add a few easy details to your airplanes. One of the easiest way to add detail, without spending countless hours and dollars, is to install an instrument panel in the cockpit.

Now, the Super Cub I'm using for this article came with an instrument panel decal. I installed it when I built the plane, but after sitting in the sun at the field, the decal started coming loose and rolling up. At the time, I just pulled it out and threw it away, but it always bothered me to have that spot open on the dash.

I thought about purchasing an instrument panel, as there are a few places online that make them, but I thought "Why can't I just make it myself?" So that's just what I did. Follow along with me and you too can make your own instrument panels!



If you're adding your panel to a new airplane before you finish assembly, install it before the windshield/ canopy. If you're adding the panel to a finished airplane, remove the windshield/ canopy. Trace the outline of the panel on to a thick piece of cardstock- I just happened to have an empty check book cover handy, so I used it to trace on. After you have your pattern, simply cut out the pattern.



Make sure that your pattern fits, and trim any additional material if necessary. Once you're satisfied with the fit, trace the outline on to a piece of Balsa. The nice part here is that almost all modelers have some balsa on hand, regardless whether you build from scratch, kits, or even ARFs.



Cut out your panel from the piece of balsa, and sand it to fit. It's nice to have some basic building tools at this point, but a block and a piece of sandpaper will work fine too.



Double check the fit of your new panel at this point. One thing I did on my panel was to sand the top edge flush with the curve of the decking on the nose of me Super Cub.

It is time to figure out the layout of your instrument panel. The internet is a great place to find illustrations for this purpose, and that is where the gauges for my panel came from. You can just print out a panel and glue it in place, but then it's no different than having a decal. After I found the layout I wanted, I cut the holes in my panel with a piece of brass tubing sharpened to cut circles.



Next up was to finish trimming the holes to the correct size. This is easily done using a rotary tool and a sanding drum or grinding bit. I used two different bits and beveled the edge of each hole to give it a more finished look. Sand the panel flat now, and get it ready for painting.



Depending on the panel you're making, and the plane it's part of, you can paint your panel any color you want. I chose to paint mine with a flat black acrylic crafting paint. If your panel is in an open cockpit, you will want to use a fuel-proof paint if the plane is powered by a glow engine.

As I wanted to have two different sized gauges on my panel, I printed two different sizes, and cut the gauges out, leaving some paper around them to glue them to the back of the panel.



Here's the mostly finished panel. The gauges are glued to the back of the panel with CA. I chose to cut a strip out of a small plastic bag and glued that strip to the panel before the gauges. This gives the gauges a shiny look. After the panel was installed, I drilled two holes and glued in small nails. these simulate the knobs and switches on a real instrument panel.

This is a very basic, straight forward instrument panel. From here, your panel is limited only by your imagination. You can make your panel as real as you want. There are different ways to make the gauges- I've heard of people using the plastic blister packs from cold medicine to make more realistic gauges.

I don't like to spend my hobby money on items that I can make myself. If you're like me, and you enjoy detailing your planes without spending a lot of money, the you'll definitely like making your own instrument panel!

HobbyTown Corner by Jim Ogorek (SRCC Safety Officer)

With SEFF just being over there is not much I can tell you about new items. Frank saw many of you at there and I am sure there was a lot to talk about. We did bring back the new Profile model from SAPAC, the Knife Loop YAK 3D RR.

This is one fine looking 3 D profile plane. The entire framework is built up balsa and ply and is covered with a heat shrink film. The kit comes complete with all servos, ESC motor and hardware needed to assembly. Add your own radio gear and Lipo battery and you are flying. Recommend assembly time is about 6 hours, though I think an experienced modeler can do it in 3. With a selling price of \$149.99 your dreams of flying 3D are in hand.

Specifications:

Wingspan: 38.6 in.

Wing Area: 480 sq in.

Weight: 18 oz Length: 36.6 in.

Motor: Included 2815 1050kv 366 W @18A

Max Lipo Cells: 4

Shaft size: 3mm

Dimensions: 28mm x 30mm

Weight: 55 grams

ESC included 18A min.

Battery (recommended) NOT included in ARF: 800mAh to 1650mAh 3 cell

For additional information stop in and have a look. We at Hobbytown are always willing to assist you with your hobby needs.



The Seminole RC Club in conjunction with
HobbyTown USA, Presents:

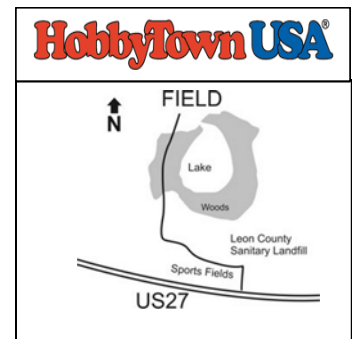
Flying for a Cure

2010 Walter H. Dodson Memorial Fly-In

May 22, 2010: 9 am- 6 pm



- Seminole RC Airfield
- AMA Membership Req'd.
- \$10.00 Landing Fee- Pilots Only
- Visitors Welcome- Free Admission
- Concessions, Facilities



**All net proceeds to be donated to the
American Cancer Society**

For information contact: Frank Bastos, HobbyTown 850-671-2030
fbastos@comcast.net or Michael Atkinson 850-656-2200 nexnbax1@comcast.net

Seminole Radio Control Club Tallahassee, FL

AMA Charter #216, 1969-2010

SRCC Officers

President – **Mike Atkinson**
Vice President – **Mike Kinsey**
Secretary – **Geoff Lawrence**
Newsletter Editor – **Stephen Warmath**
Treasurer – **Theo Titus**
Field Safety Officer- **Jim Ogorek**

Field Hours

Electrics/ Sailplanes- 9:00 am till dusk.
Gassers and Nitro- 12 Noon till dusk.

Training Notes

To schedule a training time contact Mike Atkinson.

Flight Instructors

Mike Atkinson- Primary/ Advanced Flight Instructor (Coordinator)	926-4692
Geoff Lawrence- Primary/ Advanced Flight Instructor	942-9807
John Hall- Primary/ Advanced Helicopter Flight Instructor	893-6457
Jeff Owens- Ground School/ Airworthiness Instructor (Fixed Wing)	894-2504
Frank Bastos- Hobby Town Flight Demonstrator	671-2030
Jim Ogorek- Primary/ Advanced Flight Instructor	766-2477

Club Meeting Location and Time

November- March: The regular club meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at **7:00 PM** at **HobbyTown** on Thomasville Road. The Club offers food and drinks for a small charge at 6:30.

April- October: The regular club meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at **7:00 PM** at the Flying Field. The Club offers food and drinks for a small charge at 6:30.

Newsletter Submissions- Submissions are requested to be in M.S. Word format or via e-mail text. Photos should be in .jpg or .tif format. Vector art accepted in Corel, Illustrator and AUTOCAD format. We will, however, accept anything to make it easier for those who wish to contribute. Submissions are due no later than the 28 th of the month. Send your submissions to Stephen Warmath sswarmath@comcast.net

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ap-o-gee (n) - The farthest or highest point; the apex.

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