



## PARTICULARS

AMA Charter 331

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### Flying Field Location

The flying field is located off Old Galena Road, ½ mile north of the Caterpillar Technical Center on the west side of the road.

**GPS Location: N40 51.844' W89 33.788'**

### Flying Hours

Flying hours are 8am until dusk, Monday thru Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

### Membership

Club dues are \$100/year. All members and flyers must belong to the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA). A \$100 new field assessment will be initiated for all new club members in 2011. Beginning in 2012 the new field assessment will expire.

### General

We are committed to having fun and the safe operation of model aircraft. The Peoria RC Modelers is an equal opportunity, not-for-profit organization and welcomes all new members.

### Flight Instruction

The Peoria RC Modelers offers flight instruction as a free service to members. However, flight students are urged to supply their own aircraft, radio and support equipment. Students should also coordinate training schedules with the instructor. A club trainer aircraft is available for special situations. Questions pertaining to flight instruction can be directed at any of the officers listed above.

## PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Fieseler Fi-156 Storch

The editor took this photo of a full scale Fieseler Storch while visiting Kermit Week's "Fantasy of Flight" museum in Polk City, Florida. As part of the program they roll out one of the display airplanes every day at 1:30 and fly it for the crowd. On this day they demonstrated the STOL capabilities of the Storch. It hopped off the ground in about 30 feet!

A total of about 4000 were produced from 1937 through 1945 and beyond under special contract. A Storch was the victim of the last dog fight on the Western Front and another was downed by a direct Allied counterpart of the Storch – an L-4 Grasshopper – from the L-4's crew directing their pistol fire at it. The pilot and co-pilot of the L-4, Lts, Duane Francis and Bill Martin, opened fire on the Storch with their .45 caliber pistols, forcing the German air crew to land and surrender.

## THE FLIERS & LIARS CLUB

(Light on flying, long on Lying)



Meet for breakfast every Saturday morning at the Bob Evans on Allen Rd.

Arrive any time before 7:00 AM or you will be severely heckled.

# REAL AIRPLANES HAVE TWO WINGS

A monthly study on biplanes and other early aircraft



The "Weeks Special" on display at "Fantasy of Flight" in Polk City, Florida.

After completing his first home built at age 17, Kermit Weeks began taking to the air in aerobatic flying competitions while perusing an aeronautical engineering degree at Miami-Dade Junior College, the University of Florida and Purdue University. By 1977 Kermit had built the "Weeks Special", an aerobatic aircraft of his own design and qualified for the United States Aerobatic Team. In 1978 he was runner-up among 61 competitors worldwide, earning three silver metals and one bronze metal in the World Aerobatics competition staged in Czechoslovakia. Over the span of a dozen years, he placed in the top three in the world five times and won a total of 20 metals in World aerobatics competition. He has twice won the United States National Aerobatics Championship and has won several Invitational Championships in different worldwide competitions.



Kermit Weeks with "Weeks Special" Biplane



# FROM THE PREZ

Scott "The Ferg" Ferguson

Fellow Club Members,

Well, spring is officially here and we are on our way to another season of outdoor flying at our field. I was at the field a few weeks ago and several club members were enjoying the warm Saturday afternoon flying electric, glow and gas. The field looked great. Hopefully you are getting your planes ready to go as more steady warmer temperatures are just around the corner. I'm still building my Venus II pattern plane and looking forward to getting it in the air.

I'd like to bring all club members up to date on a couple of topics. During our last monthly meeting, we discussed having additional gravel put on our lane to continue to build up the base. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of March Galena Gravel came out and applied another 17 tons of gravel to the lane and it is really looking good. Getting this down in advance of heavy spring rains will help keep the lane in good shape. Also, I wanted to give an update on the petromat status. John Hoelscher and Jon Dewey are planning to go look at petromat samples at Contech, a company in Metamora, to insure it meets expected specifications. Assuming it meets our requirements, we will purchase a roll and have it delivered to the field in early April. We will have more to update in our next club meeting.

Finally, I want to remind everyone that our guest speaker for the March Club meeting will be Adama Allmond from Allmond Aviation. Aviation, LLC conducts flight instruction at Mt Hawley Airport, Peoria, Illinois. This should be an interesting presentation, so mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Again, hope to see you all at our April 5th meeting at TGIF's (6pm dinner, 7pm meeting) Remember, this will be the last meeting at TGIF until next October. Club meetings will resume at the field on Tuesday May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Scott Ferguson

**Don't be a Luddite!**

**Sign up for PRCM FaceBook today!**

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Peoria-RC-Modelers/151007523059>



EYECATCHER

# FROM THE VEEP

JD "Capt Crunch" Keenan

Hello fellow modelers! I write this column from my hotel room in the City of Brotherly Love. Mother nature has played a cruel trick on us. Teasing us with a nice weekend only to follow it up with another windy winter weekend. Some of us were able to take advantage of the nice weekend. No one knows that better than our own Joe Lang who maidenized his 55cc Aeroworks Yak. Anyone who knows Joe can imagine how well this meticulously built model flew. Congratulations Joe!



A couple of weeks ago I was at indoor and an unexpected special guest showed up. John Adams, of Spektrum and Horizon Hobby fame. He brought a brand new helicopter from Eflite. The mCPx!

This helicopter is only a little bit larger than the Eflite mSR. It can sit on the palm of your hand. What sets this apart from other micro heli's is that it has a collective pitch. That means you can change the pitch of the blades. Inverted flight and light 3D is possible with this amazing little machine. Anyone with interest in RC helicopters should pick one up. It would be an inexpensive way to see what heli flying is all about. Please feel free to drop me a line if you have any questions.

John is one of the nicest guys in RC. He helped me get into helicopters over 12 years ago. I asked him if he would be interested in coming to our club fun fly. He showed some interest and said he would try to come. If he is able to attend I would bet he would bring some pretty cool stuff.

I hope that all 3 of my column readers will let me use a couple of sentences to vent on something, not related to RC, that's been bothering me for a couple of years. Most of you know that I spend a lot of time in airports. I would like to ask all three of you, For the love of God!, don't stand on the WALK way and completely block it for everyone else that is trying to get by. There I feel better already.

I hope to see you all soon at the field.

Your Airworthiness,

J.D.

## Be a PRCM Bagel-Biter

Join the retired, laid off, laid up, lame, unemployed or unmotivated PRCM crew at Paneras on Knoxville every Thursday morning at 7:00 AM.



Have a cup of Joe and a bagel, check out the chicks and listen to all the world's problems being solved.

If you're not there, we're going to talk about you!



## PRCM SECRETARY/TREASURER

### Fourth Indoor Flying Season Ends

The fourth year of indoor flying came to a close on Friday, March 25, 2011 with a crowd of 13 paid pilots on hand to close out the season. The night saw lots of action with high speed pylon racing, ducted fans screaming and micro collective pitch helicopters flipping. The odor of CA and accelerator filled the air as did flakes of Depron. With all of the new models, new motors and amazing batteries, indoor flying options have exploded. The capabilities of today's models is remarkable. With all of the options and lower cost you might expect indoor flying attendance to balloon. That is not the case, in fact this season had the lowest average turn out of any year.

Since we started the indoor flying we have been charging \$10 to fly for what started out as 2 hours and this year turned into 3 hours of weekly flying. Our rental rates have increase and this year at \$130 a night we needed 13 pilots to break-even. Our average fell short of that level.

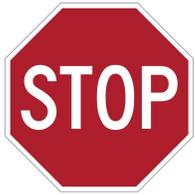
I enjoy the indoor flying, perhaps not as much as outdoors but in central Illinois outdoor flying is not really an option November through March. So for me indoor is about the only RC flying alternative. Through our indoor venue we have met a lot of area fliers and a number have joined the hobby and joined our club as a result. Our annual First to Fly New Years Day event is made possible rent free because we rent the facility on Friday evenings.

Now our club will have to consider what we want to do next season. We will need to let the Midwest Sports Complex owners know if we want to reserve a weekly flying time for next season. Our club has some options to consider like increasing pilot fees, reducing the length of the season, selling prepaid flying among many other alternatives. And we could simply drop indoor flying. But the basic question we need to have answered is do we have enough members interested in indoor flying to make it work. We have had enough participation in prior years but for this season just ended the answer was no.

Thanks to all who supported our indoor flying by volunteering to help open and close and for flying with us. A special thanks to John Adams, Horizon Hobby for joining us and showing what the new Blade mCP X can do. John drove from Champaign a number of times for 3 hours of indoor flying, when you enjoy flying as John does you make the effort to fly.

I hope this was only the end of the PRCM indoor flying season and not the end of PRCM indoor flying.

Jim Fassino



## THE SAFETY OFFICER SPEAKS



### Outdoor Flying Again – Finally!!!

We can officially say the outdoor flying season has begun! Even though the weather can still be quite unpredictable, Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> was a beautiful day. According to our sign in sheet, we had eleven people fly that day. It was great to see that many people out this early in the season. It was also good to know I was not the only one that came down with a serious case of cabin fever over the winter months!

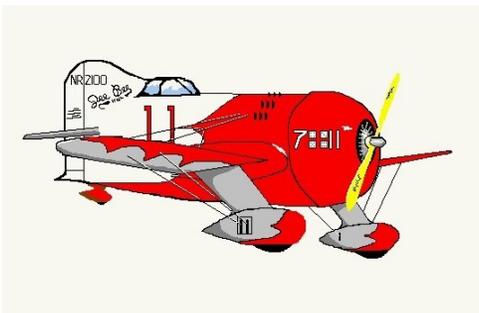
As you make your first trips out to the field in the coming weeks, make sure to take the time to reacquaint yourself with the field, your airplanes and equipment. It also doesn't hurt to go over the airplanes carefully after they have been sitting for a while. I have about 300 flights on my Venus II and it was running perfectly at the end of last season. On a whim a couple of weeks ago, I decided to kill some time and check over the fuel system. When I pulled the stopper from the tank, the fuel line attached to the clunk disintegrated into about 43 pieces! It was completely rotten through and definitely would have failed the first time out this year. A little 5 minute inspection certainly paid off this time! Even assuming a masterful dead-stick landing, I am sure I prevented an unsafe rise in blood pressure trying to figure out why it wouldn't run right. ;-)

We also have many more gas powered airplanes showing up lately. These larger, more powerful engines demand a lot of respect. A separate switch for electronic ignition power and an electronic kill system controlled from the radio are must haves for a safe gas power system. Also make sure you know where the fire extinguisher is located (right next to the first aid kit on the door of the mower shed). Finally, make sure the airplane is well secured and cannot roll forward before you kneel down in front of it and start flipping that prop!

I could go on quite a while, but since I know everyone is reading through this as quickly as possible in order to get on to Amelia's much more interesting column, I'll end it here for this month. Remember to take the extra time to make sure everything is right before starting up – electric, glow, gas – it doesn't matter, they can all bite!

FLY SAFE!!

Joe Lang



Email HobbyDeals@computerdeli.com for price quotes. Please include the Horizon Hobby part number for the items you are asking for a price on. Thanks!

## Hobby Deals!

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## A SPECIAL PROJECT

By Jim Martin

I recently built this 1:72 scale B-24D Liberator model for Robert Lehnhausen of Peoria.

Bob served in the 44th Bomb Group during WWII and was co-pilot on the B-24 "Natchez Belle" during the mission to bomb the Ploesti oil refinery on August 1, 1943. During that mission they lost 40% of their aircraft. Bob later went on to command the 68th Bomb Squadron of the 44th Bomb group. He was also awarded the Soldier's Medal for his service

After leaving the Army Air Corps as a Lt. Colonel, Bob returned to Peoria where he served as Mayor of the city in the 1960s. I enjoy having breakfast with him, my father, and several other veterans on Thursday

God bless our veterans,  
Jim Martin



B24 and plaque commemorating Robert Lehnhausen's great contributions during WWII.



The season is almost upon us! I received the “Fat Lake Pattern Rendezvous” sanction in the mail just the other day...we are now official. As you may know, the new date for “Fat Lake” is August 13 & 14. The original date was changed so that we would not interfere with the EAA’s air show in Oshkosh during the last week of July. Unfortunately, the week before our event is the AMA Pattern National competition in Muncie, IN. Some feel that we may suffer low attendance because of “burnout”. I certainly hope not, but if so we may have to make another date change next year.

This years “Fat Lake Pattern Rendezvous” will be hosting the D4/D5 Shootout. This is a great event and we get to meet a whole lot of nice people from District 4. In preceding years District 5 has suffered humiliating defeats to District 4 and, this year, we are looking at turning that trend around.

Here is the 2011 schedule so far.

- May 21+22 Muncie D4/D5 NAT's warmup with judge training.
- May 28+29 Mokam KC contest
- June 4+5 St Charles II. New date!!!
- June 25+26 Hoffman Estates II Jim Hubbard Memorial. Same date
- July 9+10 Weak Signals Toledo/ Southern Michigan
- July 16+17 Flying Tigers Columbia Mo.
- August 2 thru 6 NAT's Muncie
- August 13+14 Peoria II. Hosting D4 v D5 Shootout**
- August 27+28 St Louis/ St Charles MO.
- September 10th and 11th Detroit.
- September 10th and 11th Springfield /Broken Arrow
- September 17+18 Milwaukee WS.
- September 24+25 D4 Championships Hebron Ky.

**NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE!**

We now have a new pattern Facebook page dedicated to District 5. Jim Fassino has worked hard to put this together. Check it out and join in with comments and photos.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Unofficial-nsrca-5/155621017832549?sk=wall>



# MARCH MEETING PHOTOS



At the March Meeting Brad Deckert conducted a great talk on his TBM Avenger. Thanks again to Brad!



Bryan “Chummer” Chumbley shows off progress on his Sopwith Pup.



Jim Fassino shows off his Wright Flier flown at this years E-fest.



Jim Fassino shows off his "Fantasy Flyer". This could be our new club pylon racing airplane...stay tuned!

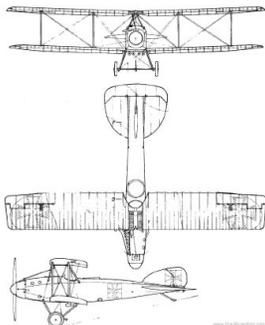
## DEAR AMELIA SUBSTITUTE

Unfortunately there were no contributions to the "Dear Amelia" column this month. However, we do understand that our resident club airline captain has submitted a request for a new First Officer. There was one applicant who seemed to really stand out from the rest. The applicant's photo is posted below.



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We encourage our airline captain, aka Capt Crunch, to seriously consider this well qualified individual.



**DON'T FORGET, WE HAVE A SUPER INTERESTING PROGRAM SCHEDULED FOR OUR TUESDAY CLUB MEETING AT "TGI FRIDAYS".**

Our guest speaker will be Adama Allmond from Allmond Aviation.

From their web site:

Aviation LLC conducts flight instruction at Mt Hawley airport, Peoria, Illinois. Their goal is now and has always been to provide the highest quality of flight instruction in Peoria at a competitive price. The training you will receive at this flight school is among the best you will find anywhere and better value than most other schools. Flight instruction is their sole purpose and it is this singular focus that enables us to offer students professional flight instruction without neglecting personal attention. We are one of the rare flight schools in Peoria that have a staff of full-time flight instructors. So whether you're starting with only a dream or you have already acquired a pilot's certificate and some flight experience, we have the ability and the desire to help you succeed.

This should be an interesting presentation. Please plan to attend.



The "GB Sportster"



**See you next month!**