

# Pilot Briefing

Volume 3 Issue IIII

April 2011



## Upcoming Events

**April 1-3**– Toledo Show– Toledo, OH

**April 4**– **Next Meeting**- 7 PM Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church

**April 16**– **Wallkill Field Work Party**– 9 AM

**April 18**– **Board Meeting**- Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church

**April 23**– **Redwing Field Work Party**- 9 AM

**April 27-5/1** Top Gun Scale Invitational Lakeland FL

## Officers:

President :  
Warren Batson

Vice President:  
Vic Horton

Secretary:  
Flavio Ambrosini

Treasurer  
Whitney Philbrick

Membership:  
Rob Stubbs

Field Director-Wallkill  
Rick Rizza

Field Director– Red Wing  
Rob Shulze

Flight Instructor  
Walt Ericson

Safety Officer  
Jerry Rohling

News Editor  
Ron Revelle

Directors at Large  
Bob Allen  
Rick Knight  
John Philbrick

## President's Corner

Spring is in the Air??? However you would not know it with these low temperatures. I hope everyone is looking forward to this years flying season. It has been a long white winter and I am looking forward to flying again.

Not much to report on the last 2 months. However we do have the 2 field work parties scheduled for April.

Field work parties.

Wallkill April 16<sup>th</sup> at 9AM

Red Wing April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9AM

More on the work to be done at each field in a follow on club mailing.

I do hear that Mr. Dorherty will be over seeding and liming the field. I will confirm this so it does not interfere with our plans for rolling the field.

## April Meeting is Project Night

Feel free to bring out your winters project or projects. Business portion of the meeting will be very short.

On another front I was up at the Rhinebeck Aerodrome this weekend. Mike asked me if I could arrange to get some of the modeling community to help out with some of the winter damage. See the pictures beginning on page 5.

If you are interested in helping at the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome April 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9AM each day, Let me know so I can plan the work accordingly. Every time I go to the ORA I hear about what a great job was done on the painting of the caboose by the MHRCS members and the rest of the modelers.

Once again this year MHRCS will hold its summer meetings (June, July and August) at the fields. In the past we have made this an evening of food and good friendly conversation and lots of flying. Unfortunately last year we had lots of conversation and flying but no food. I am looking for 3 volunteers that would be willing to coordinate one of the 3 summer cookout meetings. This is not something you need to do all by yourself. You can get a few other members to help you.

I hope we can encourage some people to get involved with doing this as it was very much missed last year.

One last thing! I would just like to remind everyone to police our fields. If someone is on one of our fields and you don't know who they are, please ask them politely why they are there. Politely remind them that the field is not open to public flying. They must be a member of MHRCS to fly. This is property Owner's requirements. Also remember to follow the field & safety rules. Fly safe but most of all "Enjoy your flying".

Warren Batson  
MHRCS president

### 2011 WRAM Show



The Show seen from above!



Our own Jonathan volunteering to promote the hobby

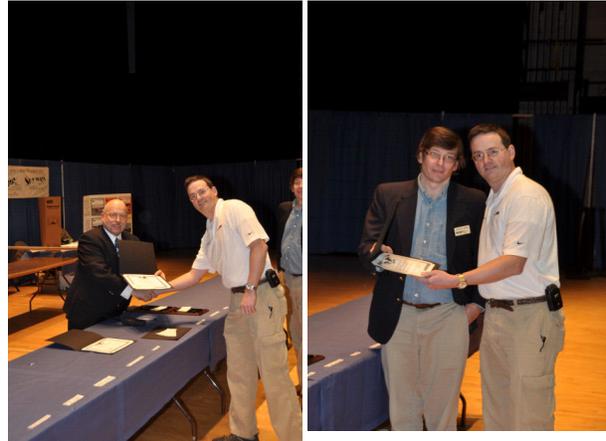


Warren and Bob in deep contemplation



Whit, Amy and John's 28 making an appearance!

And the winner is!! A Balsa USA Nieuport 28



Built by MHRCS's own Whitney Philbrick! Best WWI airplane of the show! We are very proud of you, Whit!

What a beautiful plane. It took three years to put together! You obviously did an outstanding job! But **three** years?

Come on, Amy put together two human beings in less than one year! Couldn't resist that! We are so happy for you and Amy on the birth of your new son and new daughter! Better buy them AMA life membership now!

The following notes were taken by Jesse Aronstein regarding Eric Williams presentation at the club's March meeting:

### **COMMENTS BY ERIC WILLIAMS, AMA Associate VP for District II**

**NEAMA** - North East Aeromodelers Association is a regional chapter AMA of the AMA serving Northeastern-Upstate New York . The mission of NEAMA is to promote aeromodeling in the region and support the activities and programs of area AMA clubs.

Share info -- they have a website all member clubs listed, learn to fly section, events section,etc.  
<http://www.neamaclubs.com/>

Become known to the community - make sure that invite the neighbors, do some sort of community program - reach out

(Advertise to the members - AMA scholarships - do our young members know of it?)

Scouts: aviation merit badge- one of the items that they look for is involvement with a model airplane club.

### **FAA situation**

Proposed regulations for Small unmanned aircraft for commercial purposes. Required pilots to have special certification. AMA is part of the discussion process - giving input. but we don't really know what the final rules will be. June or July the proposed rules will be published, then there is a round of comments & etc.

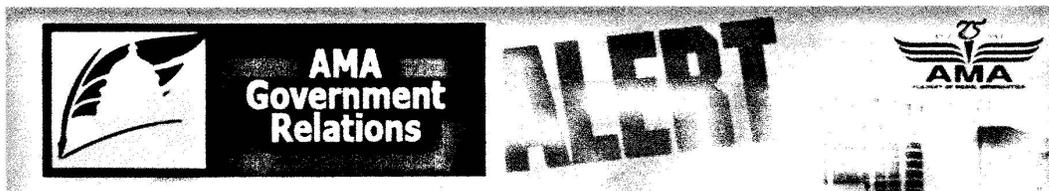
Legislation in process (passed senate) with amendment that exempts model aviation from FAA regulation. S.223 is the bill.

Write congressmen to support the amendment to exempt model aviation from FAA regulation.  
 Every voter - not just AMA members.

Discussion of several incidents, including the flight around the Statue of Liberty  
AMA is on top of the incidents - gathering information, etc. they are dedicated to the concept that we are the guys who fly safely. Opened up FAA eyes as to what our organization is and how well it is functioning toward flying safely.

Proposed rule as to how close a model flying site could be to a full-scale airport. Ignores the fact that many flying sites are actually on full-scale airports. A five mile from an airport rule would wipe out all but one model field.

Aviation safety seems to be the FAA focus, not homeland security.



Model aviation needs your help NOW! Modelers, family members, and friends of model aviation must contact their elected representatives and encourage them to support critical pending legislation!

On February 17, the US Senate passed S. 223, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Air Transportation Modernization and Safety Improvement Act. The Senate bill included an amendment that provides an exemption from regulation for aeromodeling activity "conducted in accordance with a community-based set of safety guidelines within the programming of a nationwide community-based organization." This was a huge step forward in AMA's efforts to protect model aviation from unnecessary and potentially debilitating federal regulation.

Although S.223 was a significant accomplishment, we are far from being out of the woods on this issue. A similar amendment needs to be filed and passed by the House of Representatives before going to conference committee. AMA and our political liaison will be working diligently on accomplishing this in the next couple of weeks, with the hopes of having the amendment included in the bill when it leaves Congress.

AMA has initiated a Congressional Awareness Campaign, aimed at educating Congress on the social, cultural and educational attributes of model aviation and making it aware of our concerns. In the suggested letter to Congress on AMA's website is a paragraph advising that "We are pleased the U.S. Senate has adopted an amendment to the FAA reauthorization bill exempting the operation of model airplanes from unnecessary and onerous federal regulations." And, "We urge you to ensure that this amendment is included in the legislation when it is sent to the Executive branch for signature."

Model aviation needs your help now! Modelers and friends must contact their elected representatives and encourage them to ensure that the amendment is included in the final legislation when it is sent to the Executive branch for signature. AMA has provided easy to use tools to both look-up and write to your Senators and Congressional Representatives, including a suggested letter. While the AMA website provides functionality to email your representatives, it is highly recommended to **send hard-copy letters**. Letters carry a great deal more weight than do emails. Either way, email or letter, please write today. The future of model aviation is in your hands!

Thank you for your support of our hobby!

**Northeast Aeromodelers Association - NEAMA**

CAVU till next time.... Ron



AMA District II Associate Vice President Eric Williams is shown addressing club members at the March 2011 meeting. Thank you Eric for bringing us up to date on the AMA's efforts with regard to the impending FAA rules proposal and the NEAMA group. One hundred percent of our members and their family members need to contact our congressional representatives on this issue. If you have not done so yet, go to the AMA or NEAMA website-click government regulations and follow the easy steps to contact your representatives.

## Rhinebeck– Photos and Comments–

It is confirmed. A small tornado hit the Aerodrome area in Nov 2010 about ¼-½ mile away during that fierce wind storm that hit the North East.



This is the hanger right opposite the ticket booth. The wind pickup up the roof and blew out the walls. It was not too bad but the heavy snow loads this winter brought the roof to the ground. This is on the Top of the list of things needing fixing at the Aerodrome as it houses at least 3 of their vehicles.



The Tower was completely blown over.



As you can see Madam's Fifi's house is in complete shambles. Everything can be cut into sections to rebuild it but will require a good amount of helpers.



Another view from the back side.

Let's hope Madam Fifi was not in the house at the time!-editor

CAVU till next time.... Ron