



Wing Tips



January 2020

The Newsletter of the Mid-Hudson Modelmasters

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2020 Club Officers

President: Kent Wien

Secretary: Larry Kunz

Sgt. at Arms: Flavio Ambrosini

Vice President: Scott Fellin

Treasurer: Tom Eng

Club Calendar

Coming Up:

- **Extended:** Consider paying your 2020 dues before or at the annual brunch (January 19) and save. Dues paid on or before Jan. 19 are \$25. Dues submitted after are \$35.
- **CLUB MEETING , Friday, Jan. 17:** Highland Middle School Gym, 71 Main St., Highland, NY 12528. Indoor flying begins at 6:30pm, meeting will begin at 7:30pm or 8pm. *Note: Please limit flying to indoor types -- fly the larger, more aggressive models outdoors or at larger indoor sites. Sneakers or other gym floor type footwear should be worn.*
- **Annual Brunch & Auction, Sunday January 19:** Coppola's on Route 9 in Hyde Park, more information further in the newsletter.
- **February Wing Tips articles & photo submissions due, Thurs., Feb 6:** Send your submissions to wingtips@modelmasters.us Due date is first Thursday of each month.
- **Note:** AMA Expo East (formerly the WRAM Show) has been cancelled.

Other Events:

- **MONTHLY MEETINGS:** Winter meetings will be held at Highland Middle School on the following Friday night dates. Also announced via Google Groups. Feb. 28, Mar. 20, Apr. 17. Spring and Summer meetings will be at our field.
- **OUTDOOR FLYING SESSIONS AT WEST ROAD FIELD** – Every Saturday Morning, weather permitting.

MEETING MINUTES – December 15, 2019

8 members and 2 guests present.

- Meeting called to order by President Kent.
- Club treasury is at \$1722.37, 21 members have renewed so far, \$500 in escrow at Highland Schools, and mowing fund has been exhausted.
- Introduction of guests, Jim Yantz and Al Monteleone (Al has since joined Modelmasters).
- Annual brunch is scheduled for Sunday January 19, 2020. Details will be announced, but we're expecting a 10AM start time.
- Discussion about upcoming Science Olympiad. Volunteers needed, and should contact Amy Matts, Mid-Hudson Regional Coordinator, Science Olympiad, 845-242-8904
- Officer elections for 2020. Nominations as listed in November meeting minutes, no additional nominations. Unanimous approval by all members present.
- Show & Tell by Barry Knickerbocker, using "Carbon Tow" (loose carbon fiber) to reinforce Depron and to make wing ribs, etc.
- President Kent was called away and Treasurer Tom continued the meeting.
- Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, Tom Eng

Modelmasters Brunch/Auction

COME IN OUT OF THE COLD!



Date: Sunday, January 19, 2020

Time: 10:00 AM

Place: Coppola's on Route 9 in Hyde Park

Cost: \$20.00 (tax & gratuity included)

This is a great opportunity to enjoy a fabulous brunch buffet, auction and fellowship of our members and their guests.

The food selections are numerous and sure to please everyone. They include typical breakfast choices as well as made to order omelets along with lunch/dinner type dishes. Desserts and various drinks are included.

Following the brunch will be our auction conducted by our in-house and talented auctioneer, Dom Fusca. As in the past Bill Bolitho will be cranking out Modelmaster Dollars to distribute to our members at the auction.

As is in the past Lloyd Quick will conduct a gift exchange and all are encouraged to participate. Lloyd will be sending information regarding the exchange through Google Groups.

If you are planning to attend the event please make out a check to Mid-Hudson Modelmasters for \$20.00 by Sunday, January 12th and send it to: Bob Santoro, 10 Squires Gate, Unit G Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Wishing you all a very happy, prosperous and healthy 2020, Bob

Member Editorial: FAA verses AMA responsibility by Rick Rizza

In the months and years since the advent and popularization of quadcopter "drones" used for observation and photography, the FAA had to step in to regulate their use. In doing this, the FAA lumped recreational model flyers into their regulatory web, despite the fact that the flying model aircraft predates the FAA and has been traditionally a safe and wholesome hobby, enjoyed by millions. Our parent organization, the AMA, has done the best that they could to prevent the destruction of our hobby, but the FAA is a giant gorilla in the room, roaring and screaming and stomping on our fun, throwing out new rules and regulations, burdening AMA flyers. The FAA is the enemy, and a danger to our hobby. The AMA's position is weak. They attend "hearings" at which they HEAR what the FAA is going to do to us and pass that information on to us members. And inasmuch as the FAA's rules are legally binding, AMA advises that its members should do the best they can to follow them. BUT the AMA and AMA clubs ARE NOT and SHOULD NOT BE ENFORCEMENT ARMS for FAA rules. Excepting in cases of landowner requirements, no AMA club or member should ever take steps to enforce FAA rules. The AMA makes it clear that we are not REQUIRED to enforce FAA rules. But the AMA FAILS however to emphasize this point, weakening their back bone saying that "it's OK if clubs WANT TO DO THIS." I disagree. It's NOT OK. It's caving. It's inviting the fox to guard the henhouse. It's trying to appease the bully. Resistance is NOT futile. It is IMPORTANT to maintain the view that we do not want to be FAA regulated and do not NEED to be FAA regulated! It is important to remember that the FAA is the enemy and a DANGER to the hobby.

Recently, an AMA club to which I belonged and supported for many years, to the point of recruiting several new members, decided to embrace the FAA regulations regarding registration and placement of FAA registration numbers on the outside of your model aircraft and made that regulation a part of the club's official Constitution. I spoke against this idea on principle. But they had their minds made up, and chose a worthless rule, unpalatable to many (and should be to all!), a rule with zero meaning, on the theory that somehow if they kiss up real nice to the FAA than the FAA might just be extra nice to them if push comes to shove, and they chose this rule OVER a steady, dependable, supportive, dues paying event attending member and friend. They called me names and made it clear that the rule was more important than me. And I bid them adieu, and I have hard feelings over this, but that is the way it is. I WILL NOT be a part of any AMA club that without good cause makes itself an enforcer of FAA rules. That turns my stomach almost as much as the thought of people who will abandon a FRIEND for essentially, nothing.

Please make note of the fact that I am NOT advocating breaking the law. I AM registered. My airplanes DO have the number on them. But I PROTEST the fact that it is necessary because I KNOW that it is NOT! And to those who fawn on the FAA, who roll over on their backs so the FAA can rub their bellies and tell them what good little boys they are, you are only fooling yourselves. You should raise your hackles, snarl and bite when the FAA comes near you. Because if you don't, you are a part of the problem. Asking an AMA member what he/she thinks of the FAA should be like asking a fire hydrant what it thinks about dogs. The End.

Interesting stuff

New Year's Day, First Flyer of 2020: Paul Ollivett Members who came out New Year's Day:



From left to right: Lloyd Quick, Tom Eng, Brad Quick, John Knight, Scott Fellin, Paul Ollivett, Al Monteleone, Rick Rizza, Dom Fusca

Neither Cold Temperatures nor Snow will stop Saturday Morning Flying

For those who have questioned, is there still Saturday morning flying if the field is covered in snow? Yes, we will fly behind West Road School. And it is still possible to have a mishap. Brad Quick and Scott Fellin retrieve Brad's Co-ro-Cub.



Dillon Losee:

- Watch " Drone hits helicopter plus other RC plane and drone updates" - <https://youtu.be/dhLN3OQlbtg>