



# The Transmitter

Suburban RC Barnstormers - P.O. Box 524, Bloomingdale, IL 60108

AMA CHAPTER 640

IMAA CHAPTER 194

September 2011

<http://www.suburbanrcbarnstormers.com>

## Coming in September and October

**September 12<sup>th</sup>, Membership Meeting, Streamwood Public Library, 7:00pm**

**September 18<sup>th</sup>, Fun Fly # 5, Pratt's Wayne Field, 9:00am trim flights, 10:00am first pilot off**

**September 24<sup>th</sup>, Woodland Aero Modelers, Swap Shop, Trinity Church, German Church Rd, Burr Ridge**

**September 25<sup>th</sup>, Giant Scale Fun Fly, Pratt's Wayne Field**

**September 26<sup>th</sup>, Board Meeting, Bloomingdale Public Library, 7:00pm**

**October 10<sup>th</sup>, Membership Meeting, Bloomingdale Public Library, 7:00pm**

**October 24<sup>th</sup>, Board Meeting, Bloomingdale Public Library, 7:00pm**

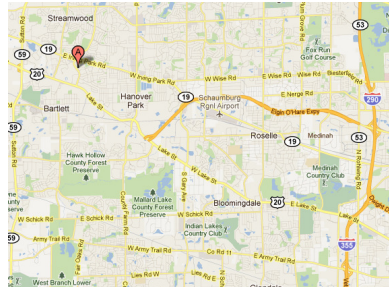
## IMPORTANT!

### September Meeting Moved

*By Dave West*

Due to scheduling issues, our September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held at the Poplar Creek Library.

Poplar Creek Library  
1405 S. Park Ave.  
Streamwood, IL 60107  
(630) 837-6553



The library ("A" on the map) is on Park Ave. between Lake St. (Rt. 20) and Irving Park Rd. (Rt 19). It is about a mile and a half east of Route 59. From the Bloomingdale Library it is about 7 miles west on Lake St. Turn right (north) at the traffic light at Park Ave. The library is on the right (east side of the street); the parking lot is on the left (west side of the street).

We will be in Meeting Room 1. The meeting will begin at the regular time; 7:00 PM.

## September Entertainment

*By Dave West*

Thanks go out to **Alex Sowa** for his presentation on FPV (First-Person View) flying at the August meeting. He introduced us to an exciting new branch of the hobby. So much cool equipment!

For September we will look into the longevity of our Lithium Polymer (LiPo) batteries. As R/C modelers we already have much more knowledge and experience with LiPo's than most people. However, I've been doing even more research lately. So, at the September meeting I'll present "How to make your batteries last 8 years (or 100,000 miles)".

There was no winner in the roll-over raffle in August -- so it rolls over to September. It is a two-prize special. Steve Dietrich has donated two new-in-the-box kits: a Great Planes PT-40 trainer and a Four Pi (Charlie Bower) OT-40 old-timer. Both are for .40 size engines (or electric equivalent) and are traditional balsa kits; each worth well over \$100. Isn't it time you experience (or re-experience) the joy and pride of building your own plane? We will have two winners at the September meeting. First drawn (if in attendance) will get his choice; we will then draw a second winner. Last month's entrants need not be present to win -- but first choice of plane will go to the winner in attendance.

# Notes of the Suburban RC Barnstormers Membership Meeting

August 8, 2011

## ATTENDANCE

There were 38 members in attendance. New member **Dan Caruso** introduced himself. He is a fireman/paramedic. Has been flying on simulators and recently bought some planes on Craig's list. Mike Cannata says he flies great.

**Steve Merrill** and **Barry McConnell** are RC pilots that have been flying for 30 years and recently decided to join our club. Welcome!

**Ruth Egging** was able to attend our meeting for the first time in several months. She is slowly improving and thanked everyone for their support and concerns. Great to see you!

## OFFICER REPORTS

**President: Mike Maciejewski** presided over the meeting.

Mike had the Prop Masters/Barnstormer plaque to show members. We all took a good look as it was going back to the Prop Masters after their win.



**Vice President: Dave West** said tonight's door prize was X1A foam safe glue and activator plus some heat shrink tubing. The rollover prize is a PT 40 and OT 40 donated by Steve Dietrich (Thanks!). Both go or both roll.

Dave West said we have another member undergoing medical treatment, Ed Wonnacott. Please keep him in your thoughts as he addresses a recent clot issue.

Dave reminded everyone that next month's meeting would be at Poplar Creek Library in Streamwood due to a scheduling conflict at the Bloomingdale Library. Details will be in the September newsletter.

Dave said tonight's entertainment would be a presentation by Alex Sowa on "First Person View" or FPV flying.

**Treasurer: Bob Elsner** mentioned the Woodland Aero Modeler's have their annual Swap on September 24<sup>th</sup> in Burr Ridge. You can get more details from their website: <http://www.wam-rc.com>.

**Secretary: Scott Taylor** said his collection of nametags was growing. If anyone has not gotten their nametag yet, please let Scott know, at a meeting or by email.

## COMMITTEES

**Fun Fly's – Mike Maciejewski** talked about the interclub fun fly between the Prop Masters and the Barnstormers on Sunday August 7<sup>th</sup>. It was great event and the weather cooperated despite some early rain. We were even visited by a hawk. There were some complaints about the parking, and we hope to make sure the auxiliary lot is available for future events.

Scott Stampfli was going to be out of town during the August 14<sup>th</sup> Fun Fly, so we are looking for a volunteer or two to run the event.

**Dome Flying – Stan Warden** talked about the upcoming flying season in the dome. Most of the arrangements will remain the same, but the discount pass will go from \$10 to \$15. Season pass will be \$175. The White Pines dome is the biggest in Illinois and will be open for 6 months. Flying is free the first week and we plan to try opening on pre-holiday Sunday (probably before Martin Luther King's birthday). Stan had dome season posters to be distributed. Grab some if you have a place to put them!

**Dome eNiter – Ivan Phipps and Alex Sowa** said the Dome eNiter would be held the weekend of Thanksgiving. They have got the AMA sanction paperwork ready. They have some new ideas they will share as we get closer.

**Safety – Tom Lyons** had nothing new to report, but did express some concern about the pathway at the end of the Spring Brook runway. Be very aware of pedestrians!

## ENTERTAINMENT

**Alex Sowa** showed off his inexpensive First Person View system. This consisted of a foam electric powered plane with two cameras mounted on it. These cameras transmit on 910 MHz using about 200 milliwatts of power. He flies the plane using a computer and pair of color monitor goggles. His set up is low price but the "sky" (so to speak) is the limit on options and equipment prices. Very interesting presentation. Thanks Alex!!



## PLANES

Marty Schrader showed the club his latest foam plane, the "Supervisor". It weighs 148 grams, uses a C20 motor and 3 cell 370-1000ma battery, and sports a Klein-Vogelman airfoil. Marty says, "Don't



be afraid to build a plastic airplane!"

## RAFFLES

**Scott Taylor** was the winner of the turkey. **Chuck Weibler** won the heat shrink tubing and **Tom Lyons** won the glue. No winner in the rollover.

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## Fun Fly #4 Results

*By Mike Maciejewski*

There wasn't a large group to participate in the Fun Fly. Only ten pilots showed up upon a breezy morning. A vote was taken by the pilots on whether or not to have the event because of the windy conditions. The vote came up to still hold the event.

The contest was a timed event; the field was split into two sections with a line going north to south. You had to take off from a landing box, do two laps and land. If you landed in the box ten seconds were taken of your time, if you landed outside of the box but west of the north south line you time did not change. Then if you landed to the

east of the north south line, then ten seconds was added to your time.

Two rounds were completed and the each pilot's times were added together. Dave West had the fastest time at 1:24 with Steve Merrill at 2:02 coming in second and Art Wojda at 2:04 in third.

Ron Hilger picked up a couple Rare Bear kits for prizes for the participants. A roll of the dice gave you a chance to win one of the kits.

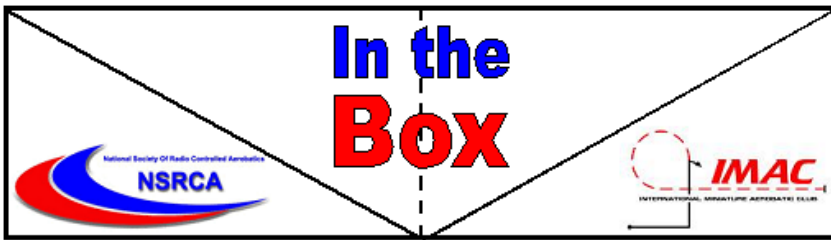
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## Pictures from the 2011 Interclub Fun Fly

*(We lost...)*







## Pattern Flying - Precision Aerobatics

Taking your passion for flying RC airplanes to the next level!

By: Bob Sarley  
AMA 909308

Welcome to the first of what I hope will be many articles related to the special interest group (SIG) of the AMA known as pattern flying or otherwise known as precision aerobatics. In this inaugural article I will present some descriptions, definitions and terminology related to pattern flying, which is the colloquial term for precision aerobatics.

### What is Pattern Flying/Precision Aerobatics?

Precision aerobatics is an RC airplane flying discipline where pilots strive to precisely execute a series of aerobatic maneuvers. There are two existing genre of precision aerobatic competitions sanctioned by the AMA in the United States, both of which are represented by their respective special interest groups. The National Society of Radio Controlled Aerobatics (NSRCA) governs Pattern Flying RC airplane competitions. The International Miniature Aerobatic Club (IMAC) is dedicated to Scale RC airplane aerobatic competition.



The primary distinction between Pattern (NSRCA) and Scale (IMAC) competition is the RC aircraft themselves. NSRCA pattern RC airplanes are designed specifically to fly the geometry of required aerobatic maneuvers as accurately as possible. These designs are not scale representations of any full size aircraft. The maximum wingspan and length of a pattern plane is 2 meters (78.7 inches), and the maximum total (ready to fly) weight is 11 lbs. (4,990 grams). Other than that, there are really no other restrictions. Power systems and airframe configurations are at the discretion of the pilot.

IMAC, on the other hand, requires that the RC airplanes be miniature versions of full-scale aerobatic airplanes such as an Extra, Edge, Cap, Sukhoi, etc. As such, the scale model will typically have all of the undesirable characteristics of its full-scale counterparts to add to the challenges presented to the RC pilot. The Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA), which is the overall sanctioning body, limits takeoff weight to 55 pounds. IMAC RC airplanes with sizes approaching 40 percent of the full-scale counterpart weigh 35 to 40 pounds. This seems to be the practical maximum, and this combination of power, weight, and size perform the best.



### Why Fly Precision Aerobatics?

Precision aerobatics imposes a purpose and a set of goals to work towards when flying your RC airplane. You not only compete with others, but you compete with yourself as you strive to perfect each maneuver by practicing them over and over. Most pattern pilots consider themselves their most aggressive critic!

It takes a lot of discipline and practice to get really good at pattern flying and an accomplished pattern flyer is a pleasure to watch. But there's more to it than just flying. You will develop long lasting friendships with NSRCA and IMAC competitors as you strive to become a competent aerobatic pilot. This type of RC flying is represented by a huge family of pilots that share a common interest and strive to help one another succeed by sharing their experiences with different types of aircraft, set-ups, and flying techniques. I was privileged to personally experience this while observing the Nationals in Muncie. Even as only a spectator, my questions were welcomed and answered with enthusiasm. It is a significant extension of the kind of camaraderie we all share with our fellow pilots at Pratt's Wayne Woods and elsewhere.

### Governing Bodies for Pattern Competition

The National Society for Radio Controlled Aerobatics (NSRCA) is a special interest group of the AMA that governs pattern competitions in the United States. The FAI-F3A is the governing agency for international level of competition for pattern-type precision aerobatics. That commonly used acronym means the following: FAI is the "Federation Aeronautique Internationale", also called "The World Air Sport Federation" and it holds international contests for all areas of aviation. The F3A component of the FAI is specifically for "Aerobatic Power Model Aircraft".

### Next Time:

In the next installment I will expound on the different classes of NSRCA competition and show some of the maneuvers.

## The Transmitter

This newsletter is published monthly by the Suburban RC Barnstormers, Inc.

We reserve the right to edit all information forwarded to us. Permission is hereby given to reprint any article that we publish as long as proper credit is given.

Material can be submitted for publication: (1) at a meeting, (2) by mailing to Suburban RC Barnstormers, Inc., P.O. Box 524, Bloomingdale, IL 60108, (3) sending it to the email of the editor, Scott Taylor, at [taylorstr@core.com](mailto:taylorstr@core.com)

Articles must be received by the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

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