

the PINNACLE

Volume 31 Issue 12



**Picnic
September 14, 2003**



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• **Board Meeting - Wednesday Oct. 15, 2003**

Tewksbury Library

Called to order at 7:00 PM

Present D.Swanay, J. Morley, R. Quattrochi, R. Carignan

Absent: K. Griffin, Z. Chutchian & G. Deltwas

Brief Minutes:

Board discussed 2004 budget; per in-force club bylaws. Discussed recommendations to membership outlining structure of dues for the December renewals.

Decision: Motions passed to approve the recommendations listed below. Also, Board grants Art Alfano 495th Life Member(LM003) Status.

Meeting Adjourned around 9:00PM

• **Minutes of the Monthly Business Meeting - Nov. 5, 2003**

Called to order at 7:30 PM

President's Agenda:

- Dues Structure \$40.00 recommended for 2004 - Approved
- One Time Initiation: Remove \$30.00 re-initiation - Approved
- Late Fee reduced to \$10.00 - Approved

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ELECTED OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Election Results: 59 members in attendance*

✓	<u>Dick Adams - Director</u>	WINS SEAT with 50 votes
	Fred Brouillette - Director	21 votes
	Brian Chapman - President	21 votes
✓	<u>Paul Gosselin - Treasurer</u>	WINS SEAT (Un-contested)
	Kevin Griffin - Dir. (Not Present)	6 votes
✓	<u>Jim O'Neill - Secretary</u>	WINS SEAT (Un-contested)
✓	<u>Adam Lynch - Director</u>	WINS SEAT with 39 votes
✓	<u>John Morley - Vice Pres.</u>	WINS SEAT (Un-contested)
✓	<u>Ron Q. - Pres.</u>	WINS SEAT with 38 Votes
✓	<u>Jim Thompson - Chief Inst.</u>	WINS SEAT (Un-contested)

(Dave Swanay - Director slot guaranteed as 2003 President)

*Highest member turnout in 3 years

Un-finished Business: None

Meeting Adjourned 8:15 pm



A View from the Sidelines



As a long time Club member with several years of experience as the Pinnacle Field Marshal I offer the following comments.

To reduce the risks and increase the safety of flying field activity we have developed a set of rules that requires us to behave with some discipline. Observing the rules makes us aware of our own actions and the actions of others. Not observing the rules makes us a danger to others and to ourselves. So the very real risks we face just by being at the field are greatly reduced when everybody observes the rules.

Making sure that we can enjoy our hobby in a safe environment is everyone's responsibility, not just the Field Committee's. If you do something that is not permitted by the rules you should expect to get a gentle reminder from a fellow club member. Likewise, if you see a fellow club member doing something, which is unsafe, then you should speak up. Hopefully nobody will deliberately endanger others at the field but we all have lapses now and then so we should be grateful if we get a friendly reminder from a flying pal.

Leaving the responsibility for enforcing the rules to the Field Committee is a non-starter. This approach does not encourage members to take responsibility for safety and is the perfect way to create tensions and a sour atmosphere at the field. It also discourages members from volunteering their time and effort to serve on this important committee. We do not need policemen or a police mentality; we need everyone's goodwill to make the rules work so that we can all participate in a safe flying environment. Fortunately, we now have a fair and open way to deal with any member who decides to be a persistent or willful rule breaker or other such problem people. (Agreeing to observe the rules is a condition of membership of the AMA and The 495th.)

In case there is any doubt about what the responsibilities of the field committee are, the following is quoted from the Club Bylaws:

Field Committees - *For each of the Club's flying sites, the field committees shall be responsible for field maintenance and for establishing the rules governing the activities at that field including flying hours, noise control, safety, frequency control, and contest coordination. Rules set by the field committees shall be approved by the Board of Directors and be made available to the membership by publication in the newsletter.*

The need to observe our field rules is made even more important by paragraph 3 of the AMA Safety Code which says:

Where established, I will abide by the safety rules for the flying site I use, and I will not willfully and deliberately fly my models in a careless, reckless and/or dangerous manner.

This means that if an accident happens and a claim on the AMA insurance results, the claim will be denied if it can be shown that our own field rules were broken. That's food for thought!

The rules themselves are based on common sense and experience and are not difficult to follow. There is a reason for every rule and if you are not sure what that reason is then ask a member of the field committee for an explanation. Clubs and organizations like ours depend completely on the good will of their members to be successful, if that goodwill is not there then the members deny themselves the pleasures and rewards that come from sharing a common interest.

Rupert Kosmala
Tewksbury, Massachusetts

11-18-03

Tewksbury's Deli King COFFEE & Dunkin DONUTS will be available
DONATIONS \$1.00 Coffee & \$0.75 Donut

Next Meeting: December 3rd, 2003 7:30 PM

Stephen Faust will give us a demo on Giant Scale R/C. As you will see if you check out his web site, he is a very active and accomplished modeler!!
www.giantscalerc.com

Coming January 2004 - Talk on R/C Turbines!

AERO MODELING RETURNS TO THE 495TH!

December 3rd Meeting
Guest Speaker

Stephen Faust



Dave Swanay's beautiful TAYLORCRAFT R/C scale aeroplane is featured (as a member submitted photo) in the December issue of **Model Airplane News**...Go check it out!

Recent Solo Pilots Congratulations!

Groton Field - **Bob Specht**, Townsend, MA

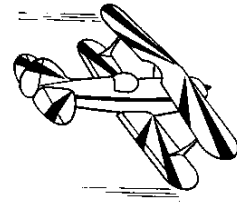
Pinnacle Street - **Paul Gosselin**, Methuen, MA

New Life Member - LM003

Art Alfano, (on the right) long time friend and volunteer to the 495th
Has been granted LIFE MEMBER status by the 2003-03 Board.
Art joins Ed Westbrook and Ralph Dionne and will enjoy dues free membership as of
1/01/04!



**Board Meeting of November 19, 2003
Tewksbury Library, Trustees Room - 2nd FL**



Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

Present: R. Quattrochi, J. Morley, J. O'Neil, P.Gosselin
J. Thompson, D. Swanay, D.Adams, A. Lynch

Absent: None

Agenda:

1. Motion to approve expense budgeted for 2004 membership cards and holders
Decision: Motion Approved

2. Appointed Adam Lynch as Pinnacle Field Marshall
Decision: Lynch Accepted

3. 2004 Field Rules discussed
Jim Thompson, Chief Instructor introduces explicit, written guidelines and offers to Lynch and the BOD for discussion.

4. Lynch names his committee members. Includes the BOD with the addition of Chris Rines, a club instructor.

Lynch discusses the proposed guidelines.

Lynch motions that we vote on guidelines

Decision: BOD approves guidelines/field rules revised Effective as of 11.18.2003

5. Art Alfano, guest, requests the BOD approve the 2004 Scale Show expenditures. Art request a sum of \$200.00 in advance.

Decision: Motion to grant Scale Show expense \$200.00 was approved.

6. John Morley discussed a yahoo group where the BOD can share information. Volunteered to create and maintain.

Decision: Motion Approved

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 PM

Monthly Raffle

Raffles have returned to the 495th

"...club raffles, by design, are fund-raising vehicles"

A fundraiser becomes a losing proposition the moment a club expends more money each month in prizes than it receives in raffle sales dollars.

This losing proposition has occurred with frequency over the past few years. Not every month - however - the record will show that we lose money a majority of the time.

Do other clubs operate in this manner?

Help us fundraise by purchasing raffle tickets and chipping in for the coffee and snacks. Surplus monies are intended to supplement the annual picnic, recognize and honor members, etc.



2004 Board of Directors?

PLEASE PATRONIZE your LOCAL HOBBY STORES!

Bill's Hobby Barn

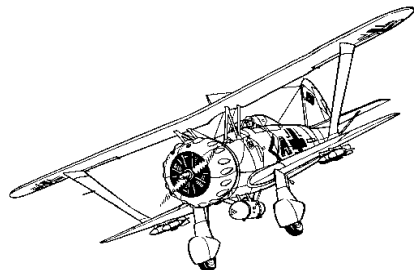
Rt 28 Salem, NH

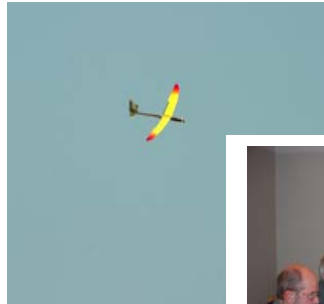
Bob Rheault R/C Model Builder

Youngs Farm Rd Methuen, MA

R/C Buyer's Warehouse

Nashua, NH





From the Skipper's Desk:

Election night turnout exceeded most expectations. (in spite of inclement weather) It was no surprise to see so many friendly faces and newfound enthusiasm! By the way...thanks to all who helped clean up Pinnacle Street on Nov 8th. The equestrians noticed and also offered a sincere "thank you".

Just 3 short years ago I listened from my berth behind a length of guardrail at Pinnacle Street. Last year I volunteered to perform the Treasurer's tasks and to continue our newsletter. Both proved to be eye-openers.

Focusing energy on R/C modeling will highlight the 2004 effort. John Morley is courting entertaining guest speakers. We will champion to become an **AMA GOLD LEADER CLUB**. Will begin a community work effort, this winter, aimed at introducing our hobby to local children, teens and impressionable scouts. Feel free to ask how you can help make a difference! We plan on working with the **D.A.R.E.** program and the schools. Let's position the club to "win" by demonstrating our "worth" to Tewksbury and the community.

A majority of members enjoy the newsletter (even when time does not permit them to frequent our flying fields)... Good News!...Adam Lynch, 1 of 2 newly minted Directors, has volunteered to pick-up and mail-out the newsletter. (Hint - Adam works across the street from the print shop!)

John Morley, VP, has worked diligently to line up speakers for 2004. Please join us next meeting for an evening of fellowship, coffee, short business meeting, Raffles, Show 'N Tell and a talk on Giant Scale R/C. See you on the 3rd!

Cordially,
Ron Quattrochi

NEXT MEETING DECEMBER 3, 2003



First Class Mail

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