

# the PINNACLE

Volume 32 Issue 2

The Official Journal of the 495<sup>th</sup> R/C Squadron. Inc - Our 32<sup>nd</sup> Year!



[www.495thsquadron.org](http://www.495thsquadron.org)

## Quest for Gold Leader

AMA Safety Benches

Meeting Minutes from January

Auction - February 18<sup>th</sup>

Art Alfano Scale Show – April 7th

\*\*\* NO MEETING on Feb 4<sup>th</sup>! \*\*\*



Pursuing R/C Excellence. Everyday.

AMA CHARTER #340

**THE 495TH R/C SQUADRON, INC.**

Since 1972!

**the PINNACLE**

Post Office Box 426  
Tewksbury Mass 01876-0426  
[www.495thsquadron.org](http://www.495thsquadron.org)



February 2004

**The PINNACLE Newsletter**

Volume 32 Issue 2

Contact: [pinnacle.newsletter@verizon.net](mailto:pinnacle.newsletter@verizon.net)

617.543.7011 Voice Mail

Contact us at: [495thrcboard@yahoo.com](mailto:495thrcboard@yahoo.com) or write c/o address above:

Dick Adams - Director	Jim O'Neill - Secretary
Paul Gosselin - Treasurer	Ron Quattrochi - President
Adam Lynch - Director	Dave Swanay - Director
John Morley - Vice President	Jim Thompson - Chief Instructor

---

'04 Groton Field Marshal - George Werber  
'04 Pinnacle Street Field Marshal - Adam Lynch

Newsletter Staff Editor - Ron Q, Associate Editor - Roy Arsenault  
Internet Specialist & '04 Webmaster - John Morley  
Chairman of the 2004 Noise Committee - J. Benincasa

## Upcoming **EVENTS** in 2004

**FEB 18<sup>th</sup> AUCTION - \$2.00 admission.** Registration (1st come 1<sup>st</sup> served)  
For sellers at 6:30PM - 7PM Auction Start - Complimentary coffee and  
Donuts - FUTABA COMPUTER RADIO Raffle! See Web for Complete RULES  
This is Joe Ramaci's 26<sup>th</sup> consecutive year as auctioneer. Come join the fun.  
You may just receive one of Joe's famous "dum-dum" lollipops!

**WRAM Trip** - Friday February 20<sup>th</sup>. See the website or John Morley.  
A group of us are paying our own fare to the R/C show in New York.  
It would be fun if you fellows (who are also going down by two's) could join us.  
We could shed the 'van' for a luxurious motor coach....You're call boys!

**Art's ALL Scale Show** - Wednesday April 7<sup>th</sup> Starts at 5PM  
Art has pulled out all the stops and has a full house of scale airplanes,  
WW1 & II WARBIRDS, boats and ships, and a few NEW ALL scale items  
are coming - The Best scale modelers from New England will be on hand to  
answer your questions!

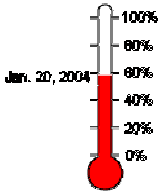
\*\*\*\*\*

**FEBRUARY COVER** - Pica AERONCA 15AC scale 'bird by past President  
**David Swanay** of Tyngsboro, MA. Dave is an avid flyer at the Groton Field.

\*\*\*\*\*

(D. Swanay Photo)

Gold Leader Club



# AMA Gold Leader



## Quest for Gold – summer '04!

In order to recognize the leadership of the best model clubs, the **Academy of Model Aeronautics** has established the **AMA Leader Club Awards**. The AMA has established 14 goals for Leader Club status. Five of these goals are required. A club that meets the required five goals, plus three of the electives, qualifies as a Bronze Leader Club. Meeting the required five goals, plus six electives, qualifies the club for the Silver level. **The ultimate recognition, Gold level, requires that ALL goals be met. We have met 57% as of January 20, 2004**

The membership of the 495th R/C Squadron has been challenged by our President to "**Go For The Gold in 2004**", to satisfy all 14 of the Leader Club activities BEFORE the Annual Family Style Picnic! By achieving this important goal, we will not only will be improving the club, but we will be helping the Tewksbury community at the same time! Won't you help with this extremely worthwhile activity?

### Required Activities for Leader Club Status

1. AMA Chartered Club for a minimum of 5 years. Club membership is open to all AMA members and is not limited to a certain number. <b>(32 years - Since 1972 – 160+ members – not limited)</b>	
2. Club has developed and posted Safety and Operational Rules at its flying site. <b>(Safety sign coming!)</b>	
3. Club has filed a copy of Safety and Operational Rules at AMA HQ. <b>(Chief Instr. goal for March!)</b>	
4. Flying field has separate areas for fliers and spectators, clearly marked as such. <b>(Safety map)</b>	
5. The AMA Safety Code is posted and visible at the club field. <b>(As with #2 above...in process!)</b>	

### Leader Club Electives

1. Club has implemented and enforces a <b>frequency control plan</b> that allows all 50 R/C channels to be used at its club flying site where R/C is allowed.	
2. Club has implemented an AMA Adopt-A-School program or <b>donates a Model Aviation magazine</b> subscription to schools or libraries. <b>(Jan. '04 - Donated to the school and public library)</b>	
3. Club conducts a review of the AMA Safety code at a club meeting at least once a year. <b>(1.07.04 Meeting)</b>	
4. Club sponsors an annual public event - mall show, a flying show, or demonstration. <b>(Hospital anniv.)</b>	
5. Club monitors noise levels and/or institutes club field rules such as a requirement that models be operated at a maximum of 90 db at 9 feet. (Noise chairman appointed and EDUCATION will commence in '04)	
6. Club has created an informational handout and provides it to the public. <b>(VP in process of printing)</b>	
7. Club participates in charity programs or public fund-raising events. (Hospital donation/ LIONS/ Scouts)	
8. Club has a formal lease or agreement for use of its flying site or owns its site. <b>(license in effect)</b>	
9. Club participates in the AMA Introductory Pilot Program or has its own instruction program. <b>(Both)</b>	

# **SAFETY: EVERY MEMBER is RESPONSIBLE**

[www.495thsquadron.org/Fields.htm](http://www.495thsquadron.org/Fields.htm)

## **Rules and Operational Procedures for both of our premier flying sites located in Groton and Tewksbury, Massachusetts!**

### **Board of Directors Meeting - December 29, 2003**

#### **MEETING MINUTES**

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

Absent: Excused were A. Lynch and J. Thompson

Guests: R. Kosmala

President Ron Quattrochi called the final meeting to order at 7:00 PM

President's Agenda Summarized:

1. Frequency Control  
Fielded many phone calls regarding field behavior.  
Promotion 2004 - Your frequency **PIN IS PERSONAL**
2. Follow through on club renewals - Members Berglund and Quintal card(s) issued
3. Motion to move Auction to Feb 18 - 6 YEA 0 NEA - Approved
4. Motion to accept Auction fees and door charges - 6 YEA 0 NEA - Approved
5. Field Reporter on 12/29/03 - Newspaper story
6. Motion to appropriate funds - member recognition (<\$100)6YEA 0NEA - Approved
7. Motion to appropriate funds for AMA intro pilot and MA subscriptions to the schools - \$15.00 and \$28.00 - 6 YEA 0 NEA - Approved
8. BoD thanks John Morley for donating over \$150 towards realizing the goal of completing 2 starting benches.

R. Kosmala - Addressed the BoD on celebrating the Tewksbury Hospital 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and our role as a club. Will address again at the 1-21-04 BoD.

Un-finished Business: None

BoD Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 PM

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

### **Club Meeting - January 7, 2004**

Called to order at 7:30 PM

New Business:

1. Scale Show April 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM
2. Secretary Report - 101 members renewed as of 1/7/04
3. Treas - full accounting available in February for any member wanting to review the club finances.
4. Chief Flight Instructor - Reviewed instructor expectations and encourages a good working relationship with all students, instructors and those that express the desire and abilities to safely instruct R/C flying.
5. Field Reports - Pinnacle - A. Lynch reports a fire at the field. Field committee reports to liaison Kosmala who swiftly reports to his contacts at the field owner's location. Great job field committee!
6. VP reports web is gaining mass and encourages all to check out our website at [www.495thsquadron.org](http://www.495thsquadron.org) WRAM trip is shaping up nicely. 15 for a van
7. Ralph Dionne had a few brief announcements for a local contest in NH and also a sale of R/C gear for a dear friend.
8. President Ron Q reviewed the AMA SAFETY CODE FOR 2004 to satisfy the requirements for clubs seeking to gain AMA GOLD LEADER STATUS.

Business Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM

Set the Tone. Be the Glue!



## Why Wait?

Please... pick up your pen and send off this short letter TODAY!

(Date)

The Honorable Mitt Romney, Governor  
**State House**  
**Office of the Governor**  
Room 360  
Boston, MA 02133

**RE: Senate Bill SB 1708**

Dear Governor Romney,

Please consider the merits of Senate Bill SB 1708 and sign this bill into law.

The bill preserves parcels of open-land surrounding the Tewksbury State Hospital for educational and recreational purposes.

I support SB 1708 and would like to see this well-known and well-used tract of open-land remain in the public domain for purposes stated above.

I ask for your support.

Sincerely,

---

R. C. Flyer  
123 Main Street  
Tewksbury, Massachusetts 01876

# Monthly Raffle

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

*"Take the Glue!..."*

**January 2004 Winner - Jim Thompson -**

Jim won a nice .60 size set of Great Planes Floats.  
Jim plans to build the set and will appear at our Nuttings  
Lake, Billerica float fly this year!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Carlos Beltran** - Dave Brown wheels & Digi Tach!

**John Joyce** - 1200 mah rx battery

**Rupert Kosmala** - Dave Brown Wheels

**Dick Fedorchuk, Jim Thompson and David Swanay** - Took the GLUE!

PLEASE PATRONIZE our LOCAL R/C Suppliers!  
(Raffle Items regularly purchased from list below)

## **Bill's Hobby Barn**

326F South Broadway  
Salem, NH 03079  
Phone: 603-898-9241

## **Bob Rheault**

Weekend Supplier of small parts  
Methuen, MA  
Phone: 978-683-4250

## **RC Buyer's Warehouse**

95 Northeastern Blvd  
Nashua, NH 03062  
Phone: 603-595-2494  
Fax: 603-595-2559



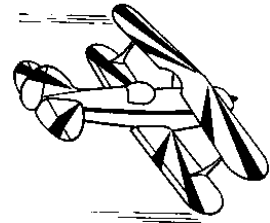
## **SHOW AND TELL**

**...Club Modeling at its best!**

# Board Meeting of January 21, 2004

## Tewksbury Library, Trustees Room

### Second Floor



Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

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

Absent: D. Adams (Excused due to illness)

Guests: R. Kosmala  
R. Fedorchuk with J. Benincasa & A. Alfano

#### Agenda - Summary of Action Plans:

1. Feb 18<sup>th</sup> **Auction**, Seller Tickets to keep orderly flow of first come first served.
2. **Picnic** - Sept 11, 2004 - Motion to approve a move to Family-Style versus catered 7 YEA 0 NEA - Motion Approved
3. **Tewksbury Library Display** - Motion to gather and display R/C craft and literature at the Tewksbury Public Library - 7 YEA 0 NEA - Approved
4. **Discussed Cub Scouting and Tewksbury Lions Club Charity**
5. Field Report - Field Committee reports dumping of washing machine off road area.

President Ron Q **TABLED** the following to the next BoD meeting in the interest of time and to allow the guest members to address the Board within the time constraints of the library ( 7 to 9 PM Slot)

TABLED - Incorporation Status? 2004 Field Maintenance and Mowing Status?

Guest Member Rupert Kosmala - 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Tewks. Hospital Addressed the BoD requesting support of the Board to follow through and to work towards a supporting role in assisting Rupert in presenting a 495<sup>th</sup> contingent this summer. Motion to Support the effort - 7 YEA 0 NEA - Board will support 100%

Guest Members Dick Fedorchuk, along with Art Alfano and John Benincasa Addressed the board with an original idea - honoring local victims of Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>

Dick and John made a personal and compelling presentation to the board. To summarize - Motion on the floor for these two gentlemen to approach a local private citizen to inquire/request the use of the victim(s) name in HONOR on a club sponsored event honoring the local victims of the horrific 9-11-01 tragedies. Board approved the motion 7 YEA 0 NEA

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:51 PM



# NEWSLETTER

First Class Mail

The 495th R/C Squadron, Inc.  
C/O Newsletter Editor  
Post Office Box 426  
Tewksbury, Massachusetts 01876-0426

## February Talking Points:

### **SAFETY UPDATE**

Website FORUM addresses safety messages for 2004. Check out what you are missing! Log onto [www.495thsquadron.org](http://www.495thsquadron.org)

### **AMA GOLD LEADER UPDATE**

The 495<sup>th</sup> donated **MODEL AVIATION** subscriptions to the Dewing School & Tewksbury Library. Club has successfully **completed 57%** of the criteria necessary to earn GOLD leader status. Find out what YOU can do to help!

### **FIELD CONSERVATION**

Have you written to Governor Romney? Ask him to sign legislation supported by Rep. Jim Miceli and Sen. Susan Tucker. **SB 1708**, if enacted, protects our flying field from being sold off to developers! **Don't Delay! Write Today!**

### **PIN POLE AND BENCHES**

Starting benches are available to assist engine starting. Pin Pole rework is underway!

### **AUCTION**

Joe Ramaci will be our Auctioneer for his 26<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. Auction starts at 7:00PM SHARP!

Pay Forward!

**Ron Quattrochi, President**



## **Club AUCTION ♦ February 18, 2004**