

The Pinnacle

The Official Journal of the 495th R/C Squadron
Gold Leader Club AMA Charter #340



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March 2008



The Reason We Do This...

Contact us at: <http://www.495thsquadron.org/Officers.htm>

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'08 Pinnacle Street Field Marshal – Steve Jackson
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Calendar

- **March 30th (Sun) – Rescheduled Spring Fun Fly, Pinnacle Street Field.**
- April 2nd (Wed) - Art Alfano's Annual Invitational Scale Show, 5:00 pm @ CCT.
- May 7th (Wed) - Monthly Member's Meeting and Winter Project Show n' Tell, 7:30 pm @ CCT.
- May 10th (Sat) - Opening Day and Spring Cleanup, Pinnacle Street Field.
- June 21st (Sat) - Summer Fun Fly, Pinnacle Street Field.
- July 2nd (Wed) - Monthly Member's Meeting and Ice Cream Social, 7:30 pm @ CCT.
- July 27th (Sun) - World War I and Golden Age Fun Fly, Pinnacle Street Field.
- September 3rd (Wed) - Monthly Member's Meeting and Swap Meet, 7:30 @ CCT.
- September 6th (Sat) - 495th Annual Picnic, Pinnacle Street Field.
- September 27th (Sat) - 495th Annual Helicopter Fun Fly, Pinnacle Street Field.
- October 11th (Sat) - Annual Groton Fun Fly, Groton Field.

First Aid Presentation by Tewksbury Firemen

Tony DiFinizio



At the March members meeting we were treated to a fantastic first aid presentation by two local firemen from the town of Tewksbury.

The scheduled entertainment for the March meeting had a conflict and had to cancel about a week before the meeting. A first aid discussion was an idea that I had for a summer meeting, but with no topic for the March meeting I made a few calls. Within a day I had two local firemen lined up and ready to come spend their free time talking to us about these important subjects. Fireman Tom Murphy and Fireman/EMT Jon Viscione were both kind enough to respond to our needs and come to our meeting. These guys really stepped up and helped the club.

The presentation was excellent and if you missed the March meeting then you really missed something special. Jon and Tom gave a great overview of some basic first aid and we discussed a few of the typical injuries and issues we might see in a day at the field.

The presentation was well received and a lot of questions from the members were answered.

The entire club extends a sincere thanks to Tom and Jon for their service to our town and for their assistance to the club. I hope we can return the favor in some small way by getting these guys up on buddy boxes in the spring.

These web links were provided, so if you want to read about how to handle some of these situations please click the links below.

Severe allergic reactions: <http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/first-aid-anaphylaxis/FA00003>

Chest Pain: <http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/first-aid-chest-pain/FA00036>

Cuts and Scrapes: <http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/first-aid-cuts/FA00042>

First Aid kits: <http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/first-aid-kits/FA00067>

Hypothermia: <http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/first-aid-hypothermia/FA00017>

Heatstroke: <http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/first-aid-heatstroke/FA00019>

Insect Bites and Stings: <http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/first-aid-insect-bites/FA00046>

View From The Left Seat™

John Morley, President, The 495th R/C Squadron, Inc.

Well, the snow is now (mostly) gone, and the weather is finally starting to warm up! If you are like me, you didn't fly much this winter, and you're now eagerly anticipating the upcoming flying season! If so, now is the time to thoroughly inspect all your models and to prepare them for a busy season ahead. At a minimum, I inspect the fuel system (fuel tank, and fuel lines), and the power system (battery and switch harness), and the flight controls on each model before the 1st flight of the spring. A little bit of preventative maintenance goes a long way here toward a successful and crash-free year. Be sure that everything is tight on the model, and if the battery is more than 2 or 3 years old, consider replacing it as cheap insurance! In the world of full-scale aviation, the vast majority of accidents continue to be pilot related (fuel exhaustion, flight into poor weather, etc.), and I suspect that the same holds true for our models – ala the 'dumb thumb' syndrome. With this in mind, I would also encourage you to spend a little bit of quality time with your favorite computer R/C flight simulator (the finest R/C invention since CA?) to shake of the inevitable rust and cobwebs that have formed after a long winter. Most of all, our #1 club priority is **safety**, and we can all do our part in this effort by ensuring that our models **and** our piloting skills are ready for the new year!

Continuing with our theme of an activity filled year, the club will be hosting a Spring Fun Fly on March 30th beginning at 12 noon. This event was supposed to be held a few weeks ago, but was re-scheduled due to poor weather. Hopefully, the two-week delay will ensure some warm, sunny weather for the event! On Wednesday April 2nd, the club will be hosting the much-anticipated 19th annual Art Alfano Invitational Scale Show. As the name implies, this is an *invitation only* event, open only to the finest scale modelers in New England! Please make a point to stop in and see the exquisite collection of models scheduled to appear! On May 10th, the club will be hosting the 4th annual *Opening Day Celebration and Field Clean-up* where we will

clean-up the field, and officially kick-off the 2008 flying season at the Ogonowski Memorial Flying Field. A free barbeque lunch will be served to all participants following the clean up. Finally, in early June (date to be announced), the club will be hosting a "scout day" at the field to allow local cub scouts and boy scouts the opportunity for some "hands on" model airplane activity. We will have a number of trainers and instructors on hand, and a barbeque lunch will be served for all the scouts!! Please watch the website (<http://www.495thsquadron.org>) for more information on these activities!

In addition to the fine activities being hosted at our flying fields, we will continue to try to provide interesting and stimulating guest speakers at the regular membership meetings. At the March meeting, several Firefighters/EMT's from the Town of Tewksbury joined us to discuss potential health and first aid issues that may arise at the field. It is my belief that a discussion of these issues is very beneficial, and might someday benefit one of our members! We will be holding our annual Winter Project Show-n-Tell at the May meeting – this is a great time to show off your latest "creation", and/or an opportunity to see what your fellow members have been building! At the June meeting, we will be having a guest speaker on Ham Radio, a topic that many of our technically-inclined members are sure to enjoy!!

With the weather warming up, please remember that you must renew both your AMA and club memberships for your club privileges (primarily access to our flying fields) to remain in-force. Failure to do so will mean that you are not permitted to fly at either of our AMA sanctioned club fields! Again, this is primarily a matter of AMA insurance coverage for the club, and we will not make any exceptions in this matter. So far, our "club-issued" combination frequency pin and membership card program has working very

smoothly! These pins will be mandatory when using either of the two club fields after Jan. 1, 2008.

Again, a reminder that each month the BOD will meet on the **Thursday** evening immediately preceding the regular club meeting. This is a change from the previous schedule of meeting on Wednesday evenings, so take note! Occasionally, the BOD does not meet in a given month due to schedule or calendar conflicts, and every effort will be made to notify the membership by email when this happens. We have recently changed the BOD meeting venue to the 99 Restaurant in Tewksbury. The new location provides the peace and quiet

necessary to efficiently conduct the business of the club. As always, there is plenty of room at every meeting, and the atmosphere is informal, so we invite interested members to attend! The next regular BOD meeting will be Thursday May 1st, 2008 at 7:30 PM.

I hope you see all of you at upcoming club meetings, and at the field!

John Morley March 23, 2008
President
The 495th R/C Squadron, Inc.

Field Marshall's Corner

Steve Jackson, Pinnacle Street Field Marshall

Starting to get excited here, the good flying weather is coming. I had a chance to put a glow in the air last week and it felt good. There's still some snowpack on the ground surrounding the starting benches but the runway has been clear for some time and is certainly usable. With that in mind at this time winter flight rules are suspended and the field shall return to all rules and regulations of an active flying season. That means we must use the flight stations and operational controls that apply. If you're not sure, check the web site for clarification. Familiarize yourself with the pin pole procedures and Ogonowski Field Rules and use them. In particular I want all members to be aware of the field layout, where you can start your engines and where you can fly.

We now have new neighbors to the left side of the field. Yup, the condos are under construction. We will soon have another area that may become sensitive to the left back corner of the allowable flying area (as you stand at the flight line). It may require more diligence of the membership to stay within the allowable flight envelope of the field. Please check out the included map of the field layout so you know what I'm referring to.

NOISE CONTROL will continue to be enforced this year. Until we find out the reaction of our new neighbors the club will have to be more forceful this year regarding noise. If we expect to keep this

flying site we are all going to have to keep the control of these issues. The club is going to need your help more than ever to regulate and control the activity at the field, please do your part.

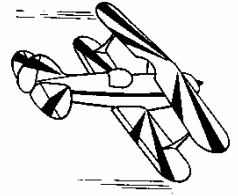
Several members have asked me to address the presence of pets at the field. At this time there are no rules or regulations regarding such, I'm going to ask for common sense and consideration to apply. If you do bring a pet to the field it should be on a leash. The board is going to require that all pets must be in the social area only, that's the visitor area around the pick nick tables! At no time are pets allowed on the flight line or the area in and around the starting benches. This is a safety issue! All pet owners shall be required to pick up after their pet. This is a health issue!

The club is for all to enjoy, let's work together and create a safe, clean and healthy environment.

Steve Jackson
Field Marshall
The 495th R/C Squadron, Inc



Poker Fun Fly! ***Sunday March 30th, 2008***



On Sunday March 30th 2008, the 495th R/C Squadron, Inc. will host a *Fun Fly* at the Ogonowski Flying Field in Tewksbury, MA. This fun fly is open to all current Club members, and promises to be a fun-filled and exciting time for all!

The fun fly will begin at 12:00 noon.

Did I mention PRIZES and FREE FOOD!?

The Fun Fly will consist of 3 events. Events are a mixture of luck and skill. Prizes will be given for the best Poker hand created by earning cards for completing the events. The Poker Fun Fly is a great event where any pilot can win big!

The events will be:

1. **Loops** – Take off and perform 3 loops. Earn cards for takeoff, landing and completing the loops.
2. **One Minute Flight** – This is a mixture of luck and skill. Each pilot will take off and attempt to fly for exactly one minute. Time begins with wheels up and ends when the plane touches down. (Crashing does not count!) Count off one minute to yourself and land as close to one minute as possible. Your actual time will be recorded on a stopwatch and you earn more cards for coming as close to one exact minute as possible.
3. **Spot Landing** – A target mark will be made on the field. Pilots will take off and try to land as close as possible to the target (bullseye). The location where the wheels or plane first touch counts. More cards are earned the closer you get to the bullseye!

Prizes are provided by Bill's Hobby Barn in Salem NH!

The event coordinator for the Fun Fly is **Long Vu**. If you have any questions please see the 495th website.

Long Vu and his friends will be serving Chinese Food for lunch! Finally something besides hot dogs!

Food will be served around 11:30 so get there early! We'll have a nice lunch and then get flying at noon. For this special event food will be provided for Fun Fly participants only.

Mark your calendars for what is sure to be a **sunny** day of fun flying!!!!

ANNOUNCING

Art Alfano's 19th Annual Scale Show

A static display of radio controlled
scale aircraft

Wednesday April 2nd, 2008 @ 5PM

COME AND MEET THE CRAFTSMEN
WHO BUILD THESE EXQUISITE MODELS

Raffle and refreshments

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH - TEWKSBURY CENTER, NEXT TO BANK of AMERICA

RT495 Exit 38 South or Rt93 Exit 42 Dascomb Rd/East St to Tewks. Center

Sponsored by the 495th R/C Squadron

Contact Art Alfano at 978 851 9829



Every year, the 495th R/C Squadron, Inc's own Art Alfano (Life Member 003) hosts a superb *invitation only* Scale Model Show for the membership of the club. Each year only the finest model craftsman are invited to attend, and display their magnificent models. The show will get underway at 5 PM, and is sure to be a fun filled event for all model aviation enthusiasts, both young and old! Please be sure to **mark your calendars** and **don't miss** this exciting event! This year the club will host a raffle at the show. Coffee, donuts and other refreshments will also be served.

Art Alfano's Scale Show 2008 - *See You There!*
The Biggest and Best Ever!! - Wed. April 2, 2008 at 5 PM

Opening Day and Spring Cleanup

This year the 495th R/C Squadron will hold an "Opening Day" celebration on Saturday May 10, 2008 at the "Captain John A. Ogonowski Memorial Model Flying Field" (Pinnacle Street) beginning at 10AM, and running until 4PM. After a long winter, it's a good excuse for everyone to come out, show-off their Winter projects and enjoy some relaxed spring-time flying and a **free** lunch! We'll be serving up grilled hot dogs, potato chips, cookies and soft drinks beginning at 12:00 noon to anyone with an appetite. Please bring your own lawn chair.

Our Opening Day celebration will be held in conjunction with our annual spring cleanup of the Pinnacle Street field. If you are able, please bring a rake and a trash bag to help us with the clean up. Remember that the 495th R/C Squadron, Inc. is the chief custodian of the Pinnacle Street field, and keeping it looking nice reflects well on our organization with the local community, the State Hospital, and the Town of Tewksbury. Won't you please join us for a little bit of cleanup, and a lot of fun, food and flying!!

Free Hotdogs, Chips, Cookies and Soda!!

Members Projects

If you have a project you are working on, please share it with the rest of the membership! Don't be intimidated by Tony's article below – simply a picture of your project and a short paragraph telling us why you picked it and how you are planning on outfitting it. Please send submissions to newsletter@495thsquadron.org.

Marketplace

Submissions for the newsletter are greatly appreciated and can be sent to newsletter@495thsquadron.org. Send in photos, stories, projects, tips and anything else related to RC or the club. This is your newsletter so please contribute early and often! Submissions are due the third week of each month. Thank you.

Handy links to great places:

[495th Website](#)

[495th Club By-Laws](#)

[Pinnacle Street Field Rules](#)

[Bill's Hobby Barn](#)

[R/C Groups](#)

[Hobby Fever](#)

[495th Monthly Newsletter page](#)

[495th Membership Application for 2007](#)

[R/C Buyer's Warehouse](#)

[Bill's Hobby Mail Order Site](#)

[Renew your AMA Membership Online](#)

PLEASE PATRONIZE our LOCAL R/C Suppliers!

Bill's Hobby Barn
326F South Broadway
Salem, NH 03079
Ph: 603-898-9241

RC Buyer's Warehouse
95 Northeastern Blvd
Nashua, NH 03062
Ph 603-595-2494

Hobby Fever
279 Boston Rd. (Rt 3A)
Billerica MA 01862
Ph 978-667-1600