



The Pinnacle

Volume 53 Issue 5

August 2022



The Official Journal of the 495th R/C Squadron
Tewksbury, MA

AMA Gold Leader Club, Charter #340



On the Cover: Multi-Club Fun Fly

This newsletter is e-mailed to whomever wants a copy each month. If you would like to be added to the list (or if you are receiving a copy and would like to be removed from the list) please contact the Editor at sales@advancednotebook.com

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495 R/C Squadron, Inc.

Next Meeting	Wednesday, September 7st 7:30 P.M
Next Events	Swap Meet
Club web site	http://www.495thsquadron.org
Club Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/495th-RC-Squadron-240759615414

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From the Editor

Newsletter is for everyone. If you have great ideas, stories and photos to share, please do email me @ (sales@advancednotebook.com)

Look at Bob Merino's new work shop! I believe every one of us all has a plan for making that but he actually made it happen! Nicely climate control and even and a dust collection system. I remember in 2013 I occupied the whole dining table for about 5 months to work on the club build competition, wife wasn't too pleased! Maybe I should check with Bob for renting this place to finish my projects !

Check it out! Bob puts all the details in his article, just in case his writing motivates you to do the same!

Calvin Hsieh
495th Newsletter Editor



Ice Cream Social

2022 Club Calendar

Please be sure to check the 'Events' page on the club website on a regular basis, and stay up-to-date with all the fun and important activities we have planned this year

Date	Location	Event Description
Jan. 5, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - Pizza Party!
Feb. 2, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - Zoom!
Mar. 2, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - Italian Banquet!
April 6, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - Winter Project Show-n-Tell!
April 19, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Car Night Begins for 2022!
April 21, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Training Night Begins for 2022!
April 23, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Opening Day and Field Cleanup!
May 4, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - Berlin Airlift Presentation with Ralph Dionnel
May 14, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Spring Fun Fly
May 21, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - 2nd Annual Car Track Rally
June 1, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - Photography with Steve Rosenbach!
June 4, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - 'Kid's Day' Fun Fly and BBQ
June 11, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Summer Fun Fly - Mike Pangione
July 6, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - TBD!!
July 9, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Scale Fun Fly
Aug. 3, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - Ice Cream Social
Aug. 13, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - National Model Aviation Day Fun Fly
Aug. 20, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Multi-Club Fun Fly and BBQ!
Sept. 7, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - Annual Swap Meet
Sept. 10, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Annual Member Picnic!
Oct. 5, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - TBD!!
Nov. 2, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - Annual Business Meeting and Elections
Dec. 7, 2022	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - TBD!!

View From The Left Seat™

By

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

As I write this newsletter column, we are just about one week away from Labor Day, which for many is the traditional end to the Summer! It seems like the summer has flown by, so it's even more important now to take advantage of everything it has left to offer!! The weather has cooled a bit, and we've actually received a little bit of rain, so the flying field and the car track are both in excellent condition! As we enter the month of September – which I consider the final month of Summer – the weather can be ideal for flying and driving! The days are typically cooler and much drier than earlier in the Summer, so it's much more comfortable to be outside! Personally, I consider September to be the best outdoor month in New England! Considering what comes next – hint: Winter! - I encourage everyone to get out and enjoy this time as much as possible! I look forward to seeing you all out at the field this season!

A number of new members have recently achieved 'solo' flight status at the Pinnacle St. field. That means that they can fly at the field anytime without the supervision of an instructor. The first and foremost consideration when granting solo status to a new pilot is whether they can operate in a consistently safe manner, both to themselves, and to other members! An ability to demonstrate the ability to take-off, fly, and land safely without endangering anyone is always the goal! As always, safety is our number one priority for all concerned. Although injuries do happen, accidents and incidents are thankfully extremely rare! Still, we must all do our part to ensure that safety is always 'Job 1' at the field!

In spite of the severe drought conditions, the runway at the field is in remarkably good condition. Under the current conditions, mowing operations have been severely curtailed except for periodic mowing for weed control. The runway continues to remain smooth and hard! As I mentioned in my column last month, the car track recently received approximately 20 yards of clay to improve the driving surface. The clay packs harder, is pushed around less, and produces significantly less dust. Overall, it's a win-win-win for the drivers!

As I mentioned in the last issue, our 'Porta-Potty' portable restroom has arrived! Although we had planned to have it installed by now, it's just been too hot to do the work required! As the weather cools, we will have a work crew out at the field getting the portable restroom installed. The goal is to have the restroom installed and fully operational by the September picnic on Sept. 10th!

Coming up in the month of September, we have the annual 'Swap Meet' at the monthly meeting on September 7th. This is the meeting where we encourage members to bring unused and unwanted planes, engines, tools and supplies to sell and/or give-away to their fellow members! This is a great opportunity to clean out your workshop or garage, or to acquire a new model for your collection! At the Swap Meet, I will have a number of very high

quality airplanes donated to the club by a former member that I will be 'auctioning' away for a modest donation to the club! Finally, on September 10th, we will celebrate 50 years of continuous operation by the club at our annual member picnic!! In addition to a great barbeque, we will have 'buddy box' training, flight demo's – airplanes and helicopters – a kid's candy drop, and cake and ice cream for all! Please be sure to put all these great events on your calendar, and I look forward to seeing you all at each one of these events!

Membership renewals for 2022 continue to come in at a brisk pace! Even before the flying & driving season has 'officially' begun, we already have more than 125 members who have joined or renewed for the 2022 season! At the current pace, we expect to easily repeat the 'high water mark' of 150+ members again this year! Don't forget though, if you haven't already renewed your membership, please do so today!

**495th R/C Squadron, Inc.
PO Box 426
Tewksbury, MA 01876**

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



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

March 14th, 2022

C-123B Aborted Landing in South Vietnam 1963

John Joyce

After several manufacturers failed in negotiating a contract with the Air Force for the C-123B it was finally awarded to Fairchild in the early 1950's. It was designed for transportation of personnel and equipment and aerial delivery of paratroopers and cargo. It was also capable of short field takeoffs and landings. The crew consisted of a pilot, co-pilot, engineer and loadmaster and in case of drops, a navigator. It was a basic airframe with no pressurization, no autopilot and two R2800 engines from the WWII era. For its time and mission, it was a solid bird. How solid I was going to learn.

The mission of the day was a simple transportation of supplies to a forward Army base located in a remote area. I was the co-pilot on this trip. The landing field was grass and about 3,000 feet long with brush and small trees at each end. The approach was normal, but the landing was not. Now, for the moment, I'd like to leave the real world and enter the realm of large fish, namely the porpoise. It's a magnificent animal that appears to greatly enjoy leaping in and out of the water. This movement has been translated from the ocean to aircraft, including model aircraft. Remember that there are two kinds of model airplane pilots. Those that have porpoised and those that are going to. Back to the story.



The traffic pattern was normal with the only exceptional procedure of lowering assault landing or barn door flaps on final approach for a short field landing. Wind was not a factor. It was light

and variable and the skies were pretty much clear. The pilot started the flare and that was where the trouble began. The runway was not perfectly flat, which was usually the case with remote fields. It was on an upslope so if you are close to being in level flight you are set up to land nose gear first then the main gear next, the perfect setup for a porpoise. The one thing I didn't mention above was anything about the appetite of the aircraft porpoise. They are voracious eaters of runway and this porpoise was hungry. The pilot gave the command to go around.

I grabbed every lever in the cockpit I could find and pushed them to the fire wall. I sat back, locked my shoulder harness then said goodbye to my pregnant wife. As we ran out of runway and hurtled into the overrun you could hear the underbrush banging against the bottom of the aircraft. Somehow, we made it and staggered into the air. Gear and flaps came up and the pilot made a left turn onto crosswind getting ready for another go at that runway. I suggested that we head to a nearby large airfield and check the airplane out and he agreed.

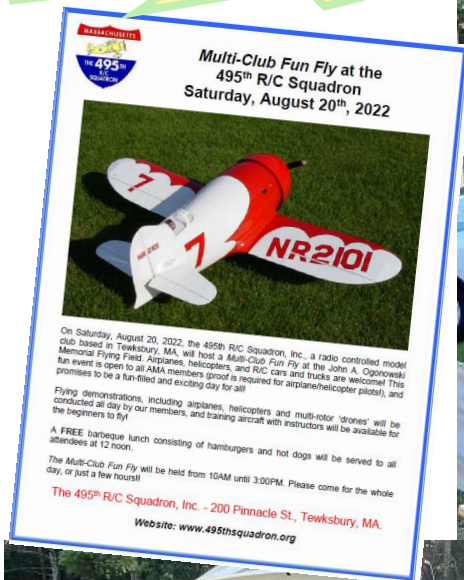
As we climbed out, the number 1 engine oil temp started to heat up out of limits, which would normally require a shut down, but we were still heavy since we were unable to off load our cargo. Reducing power on the engine kept the oil temperature within limits. We landed at the larger field with no further incidents.

We inspected the airplane on landing and were immediately able to see why the number 1 oil temperature was out of limits. Each R2800 engine had a cooling system for the engine oil. The main component was a radiator of about 4 square feet in area that kept the oil cool. The whole front area of the radiator was filled with leaves. That's why the engine oil temperature went out of limits at climb power. This is an indicator as to how close we came to being a lawn mower and that is not all. An examination of both propellers revealed grass stains on all six blades. I guess maybe we were a lawn mower after all.



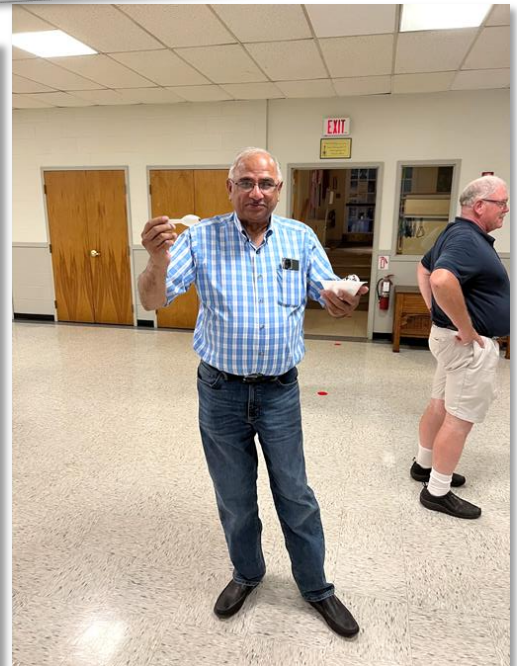
John Joyce

Multi - Club Fun Fly



495th R/C Squadron, Inc. – Ice Cream Social ~

August 3rd Meeting – This is a reminder that the next club meeting is Wednesday, August 3rdth at 7:30PM at the Tewksbury Congregational Church. We are hosting the annual **Ice Cream Social** featuring Richardson's Ice Cream, Hot Fudge, and real Whipped Cream! Please plan to join us for this delicious treat!!



A New Work Shop

Robert Merlino

Well, it's been a long time coming, but I finally have a new workshop for my hobbies. For many years my R/C modeling and electronic projects took place in a corner of my unfinished basement. This was only meant to be a "temporary hobby space", but you know how things go... I ended up using this makeshift shop for much too long. The place was cluttered and dusty with non-optimal lighting. The worst, however, was always the coldness of the basement in the winter. During the coldest part of the winter I found myself either avoiding going down there altogether or endure working on a project wearing a coat, with a space heater by my side. A hobby space should be fun and inviting... this was definitely not!



But no more! Earlier this year, it was time for action. Nothing exotic, I planned the construction of a finished room in the same corner of the basement. Just big enough, about 14'x13', but this time with all the comforts of home:

- Dry wall finish all around, suspended ceiling, laminate floor, window and door
- Electric baseboard heating
- Optimal lighting
- Dedicated vacuum system
- Two workbench setups: one dedicated to R/C modeling, the other to electronic projects
- Tool cabinet and a miscellaneous cabinet

I debated how to get the work done. I had two choices: do all the work myself or bring in a contractor and watch his crew do all the work, while I sipped on a cappuccino... I went with the cappuccino approach. A wise decision! Main construction was over in a week. The next step was the suspended ceiling. I did this myself... well, at least I can say I did something.

The lighting was next. Having been a sore spot in my old shop, much better lighting was a key requirement here. I ended up selecting two Lithonia 4' direct LED units, one over each workbench. Each unit delivers 3500-7000 lumens (selectable brightness), with a color temperature of 4000K. Perfect, properly lighted workbenches at last!

The heating was also critical. I spent too many winters freezing. An oversized electric baseboard with a digital thermostat was a simple and effective solution. The baseboard was purposely oversized so that the temperature in the room comes up quickly when I go in the shop.



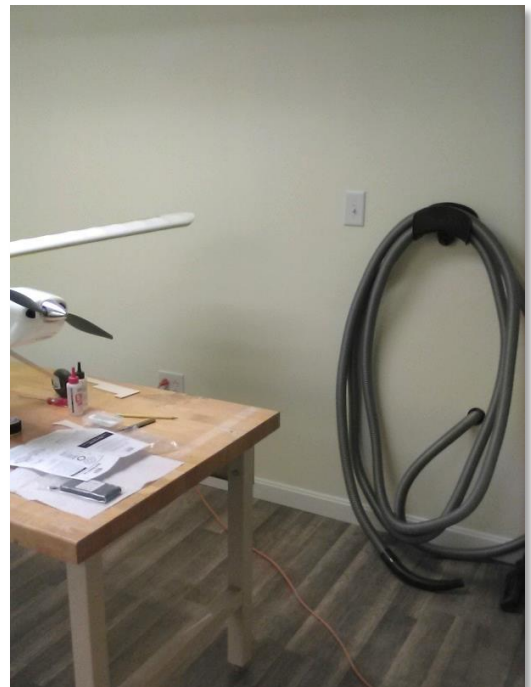
The next order of business was the dedicated vacuum system. Building planes constantly generates dust. Dragging the shop vac into the workshop every time I want to clean up is a big hustle. Instead, I just wanted a vacuum hose hanging in the shop, with a switch next to it. When I want to do a quick cleaning, I just grab the hose and flip the switch. The vacuum unit itself sits outside the shop, avoiding clutter and noise inside the shop. I selected a Bissell Garage Pro

unit, which comes with 32 feet of hose, perfect for my application.

The Garage Pro has multiple filters and a sizable dust collector. Of course, for my needs, it would have been perfectly fine if I just left at that. But that would have been too easy, after all this is a gadgeteer's workshop. As a suggestion from my electrician, I started reading about how professional wood shops manage dust. I quickly discovered that they use something called a "dust separator" to prevent their heavy duty vacuum systems from quickly becoming clogged and overwhelmed by the large amount of saw dust generated. The Dust Separator is a clever passive device, which is installed inline before the vacuum unit. The hose is the input to the separator. The output of the separator goes to the vacuum unit.

The separator has its own dust collection bucket. The pressure and dust received from the hose spins in a cyclone vortex inside the separator, causing virtually all dust to drop into the separator collection bucket, before it has a chance to travel to the vacuum unit. Since virtually all dust is prevented from going to the vacuum unit, the latter keeps working at full capacity, without degradation due to clogged filters.

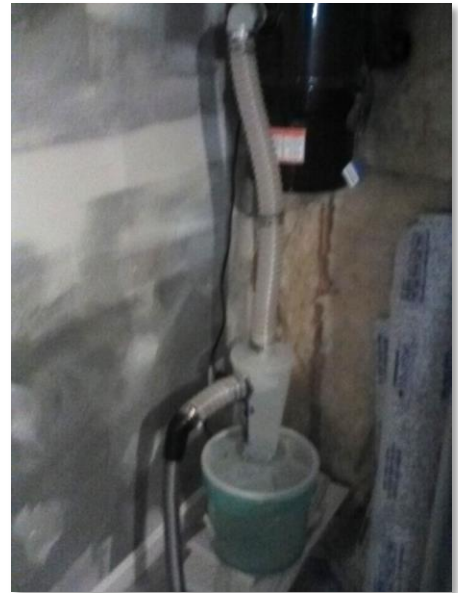
Sure enough I found Oneida Systems that sell the "Dust Deputy", a small cyclone suitable for DIY dust



separator... couldn't resist, had to get one of these. It's working as advertised, so far it has collected an inch of wood dust in the separator bucket and virtually nothing has reached the vacuum unit.

But my luck continued. My wife agreed to paint the room. She can outdo a professional painter... yes I know... I'm lucky.

And so, I now have a very inviting and comfortable workshop. The goal is to keep it uncluttered and pleasant. The planes I build will have to take residence somewhere else in the basement. I should have done this sooner!



Robert Merlino

Les Haley 1942 – 2022



I regret to inform the membership that longtime member, friend, and past President of the 495th R/C Squadron, Les Haley, of Hollis, NH, passed away on July 21, 2022, at age 80 years.

Les was a consummate scale modeler at heart, and years ago, while ARF type models had begun to take-over the hobby, he bucked the trend by continuing to build gorgeously detailed models that he would display at the annual 'Scale Show', and fly at the member picnic in September!

Les was the 495th R/C Squadron president for a number of years in the early 1990's, and was instrumental in recommending our own Ralph Dionne for a life membership to the club in Nov. 1993.

On a personal note, although Les's participation in the club had dropped off a bit in recent years, I could always count on him to show up to the annual member picnic in September to display and fly one of his latest creations! He was always enthusiastic and ready to help!

Blue skies and tailwinds, Les!

John Morley

President, 495th R/C Squadron

Club Calendar

Monthly Zoom Club Meetings

Every 1st Wednesday – Zoom or Congregational Church

Club Events

June 1, Club Meeting Photography with Steve Rosenbach!

June 4, 'Kid's Day' Fun Fly and BBQ

June 11, 2022 Summer Fun Fly - Mike Pangione

July 6, 2022 Club Meeting - TBD!!

July 9, 2022 Scale Fun Fly

Aug. 3, 2022 T Club Meeting - Ice Cream Social

Aug. 13, 2022 National Model Aviation Day Fun Fly

Aug. 20, 2022 Multi-Club Fun Fly and BBQ!

Sept. 7, 2022 Club Meeting - Annual Swap Meet

Sept. 10, 2022 Annual Member Picnic!

Oct. 5, 2022 Club Meeting - TBD!!

Nov. 2, 2022 Tewksbury, MA Club Meeting - Annual Business Meeting and Elections

Dec. 7, 2022 Tewksbury, MA Club Meeting - TBD!!

R/C Suppliers:

ABC RC & Hobby

11 Rockingham Rd, Windham, NH

(603) 458-6481

<https://www.horizonhobby.com>

All Around

<http://hobbyking.com>

All Around

<https://rcexcitement.com>

Cars

<https://twistedhobbys.com>

Profile Foamies

<https://innov8tivedesigns.com>

Great Motors

<https://fpvlab.com/>

FPV Equipment

<http://www.crashtesthobby.com>

Toughest Planes

<https://www.towerhobbies.com>

All Around

<http://www.amazon.com>

Extra All Around

Handy Links:

Renew Your AMA Membership Online

<https://www.modelaircraft.org/joinrenew.aspx>

495th Membership Application

http://www.495thsquadron.org/PDF_Files/Membership_Application.pdf

Online Groups

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/index.php>

<http://www.helifreak.com>

<http://www.wattflyer.com/forums>

<http://www.rcuniverse.com>

Local R/C Groups

<http://www.mcrcf.org>

Billerica, Mass

<http://www.burlington-rc.com>

Burlington, Mass

<http://www.nhflyingtigers.com/>

Derry, NH

<http://www.snhbcc.org>

Hudson, NH

<http://www.snhflyingeagles.org>

Merrimack, NH

R/C Related Podcast

<http://allthingsthatfly.com/>

Excellent electric power help

<http://rctodayshow.com/>

Mixed group with great advice