



# The Pinnacle

Volume 53 Issue 6

September 2022



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

**AMA Gold Leader Club, Charter #340**



(Photo Credit: Mickey Shih)



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](mailto:sales@advancednotebook.com)

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### 495 R/C Squadron, Inc.

<b>Next Meeting .....</b>	<b>Wednesday, Oct 5th 7:30 P.M</b>
Next Events .....	Special Talk: AMA and State of Model Aviation in General
Club web site .....	<a href="http://www.495thsquadron.org">http://www.495thsquadron.org</a>
Club Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/495th-RC-Squadron-240759615414">https://www.facebook.com/495th-RC-Squadron-240759615414</a>

### 495 R/C Squadron, Inc. - Club Officers:

President .....	John Morley .....	978-821-0258 .....	<a href="mailto:pres@495thsquadron.org">pres@495thsquadron.org</a>
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Secretary .....	Bob Merlino .....	978-640-3854 .....	<a href="mailto:sec@495thsquadron.org">sec@495thsquadron.org</a>
Treasurer .....	John Joyce .....	978-407-0342 .....	<a href="mailto:treas@495thsquadron.org">treas@495thsquadron.org</a>
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Field Marshall	Mike Pangione .....	978-771-3379 .....	<a href="mailto:marshall@495thsquadron.org">marshall@495thsquadron.org</a>
Director .....	Bill Smeltzer .....		
Editor .....	Calvin Hsieh .....	617-719-5929 .....	<a href="mailto:sales@advancednotebook.com">sales@advancednotebook.com</a>



## From the Editor

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

We had a blast on member picnic day. Not only it was a nice day to have a BBQ, we also had a cake of our club's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary! 50 year, Can you imagine that! With our special guests showing their professional 3D stunts, we can't ask for a better day.

I got help from my fellow photographers Steve Setzer and Rita Smeltzer that day. Simply because there're way too many activities going on for me to capture all of them! So we have lots of great photos to show in this newsletters. For those who that can't make it that day, you will have a very good idea on how much fun we're having. So take a look !

Calvin Hsieh  
495<sup>th</sup> Newsletter Editor



**3D Fixed Wing Demo by Cody Wojcik**

Photo Credit: Rita Smeltzer

## 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 495<sup>th</sup> R/C Squadron, Inc.**

**A**s I write this newsletter column at the end of September, the first few days of Fall are upon us, and the weather has turned decidedly cooler! It has now become undeniable that the summer of 2022 is over, and that the colder weather is fast approaching! Thankfully, we have received a bit of rain this month – more than 5 inches! – so the field is much greener and healthy, and the track is less dusty! Although the club activities for the year are winding down, there are still opportunities to get outside and have fun! In spite of the impending Winter months, the Ogonowski field is open year-round for flying and driving, so I encourage everyone to take advantage of our wonderful facilities! Weather permitting, we will still be hosting outdoor activities at the field, and as always, offering fun and exciting entertainment at the monthly membership meetings through-out the Winter! As always, I look forward to seeing you all out at the field, and at all upcoming meetings!!

I've noticed recently that very few members are displaying their membership cards at the field as required by our field rules! With a lot of new faces at the field, it's more important than ever to have your membership card each time you show up to fly or drive at the Ogonowski field! Membership in the 495<sup>th</sup> R/C Squadron, Inc. is a prerequisite to use our facilities – it's primarily a matter of fairness that users support our facilities, and it's also the only way to ensure that each user is insured! I recommend that each member attach their membership card to a lanyard – we have these available for free in four different colors – and wear the card around your neck at the field. However you chose to do it, you must display your membership card when using the club field!

The November meeting is the annual business meeting for the club. At this meeting, you will have an opportunity to discuss anything/everything about how the club is run, to heap praise for a job well done, or to cast arrows when it was not! As always, we will also be holding elections for the upcoming year. This is one of the most important meetings of the year, because it is an opportunity for your voice to be heard – by raising topics of concern for discussion, and by casting your vote for the individuals who will run your club! Please plan to attend this meeting, and if you are so inclined, please consider running for an elected position on the BOD. Remember, the club is only as good as you make it!!

There are a number of important activities coming up in the next few weeks! At the next membership meeting on Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>, AMA District 1 Associate Vice President (AVP), Daren Hudson, will join us to discuss AMA District 1 happenings, and the state of model aviation in our area! Following his presentation, Daren will be happy to take any questions from the membership! On Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>, we will host the final work party at the field this year. Goals include the replacement of three guardrail support posts, and spreading the remaining clay on the car track. A barbeque lunch will be served! On Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>, we will host Cub Scout Pack 76 of Andover for a rocket launch day! Be sure to come out to enjoy more than 100 model

rocket launches by the kids! Again, a barbeque lunch will be served! Finally, on Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will be hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Fall Classic Car Rally! All are invited to attend!

As the end of the year approaches, please keep in mind that club memberships expire at midnight on Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>! This means that unless you've renewed your AMA and club memberships before then, you are no longer eligible to fly at our club fields beginning on Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023! Please don't wait, and get your renewal done as soon as possible! AMA renewals are now being received, and we will start club membership renewals at the November 2022 club meeting! As we have done in the past several years, we also plan to host several 'renewal' events at the field in December and January!

**495<sup>th</sup> 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 495<sup>th</sup> R/C Squadron, Inc.

August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

# The Annual Membership Picnic

The 495th R/C Squadron, Inc. held its annual member picnic on Saturday Sept. 10th, 2022, which turned out to be an absolutely beautiful, sunny, and warm day. The annual picnic is one of the most popular, and highly anticipated events in the Club calendar each year, and this years' event was one of the best! The picnic was well attended by approximately 150 people, and a good time was had by all!

Beginning at 10AM, there was a constant buzz of activity at the Ogonowski Memorial Flying Field lasting all day long. Some of the highlights of the day included:

- **Intro Pilot Flying**
- **Static Model Display**
- **3D Fixed Wing Demo by Cody Wojcik**
- **3D Helicopter Demo by Andrew Merlino**
- **Huge Family Style Picnic**
- **Huge Raffle 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cake and Ice Cream**
- **Candy Drop by John Morley**

For the past few years, the club has decided to return to the concept of a "family style" picnic by hosting a barbeque at the picnic. This effort is a lot of work, but ultimately helps to create a family atmosphere that is more in keeping with the mission of the 495th R/C Squadron, Inc. Besides, it is a lot of fun!! The picnic could not have been possible without the help of these dedicated members:

## **Picnic Committee**

John Morley - Food Purchase & Cooking, Buddy-Box Flying, Clean-Up

Bob Goulet - Sound System/Setup/Food Purchase/Clean-Up

Bob Merlino – Raffle Purchase & Cooking

John Joyce – Raffle Sales

Bill Smeltzer – Setup and Clean-Up

Calvin Hsieh - Photography

The final food consumption tally for the picnic was: 80 hamburgers, 80 hotdogs, 60 bags of potato chips, 2 bags of salad, 1 sheet cake, 1 gallon of ice cream, and 12 cases of soda! Wow, you should have seen that BJ's basket!!

**Note:** I know that I have surely forgotten to list some of the people that helped to make this picnic such a great success!! I assure you that any omission on my part was purely accidental, and no offense should be taken! I will correct any omission that is brought to my attention as soon as possible.

Submitted by: John Morley

**Dated:** Sept. 22, 2022



## 495<sup>th</sup> R/C Squadron, Inc. – Member Picnic ~

The annual **Member Picnic & 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** will be held on Saturday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> from 10AM to 4PM. Featuring open flying all day, buddy box trainers for new pilots, flight demos by Cody Wojcik and Andrew Merlino, and a candy drop for the kids by John Morley, this is sure to be a great event! At noontime, we will have our traditional barbeque of hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken, salad, soda and water! For dessert, we will have a large 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cake with ice cream!!





## Member Picnic











**Member Picnic**  
(Photo Credit: Stephen Setzer)











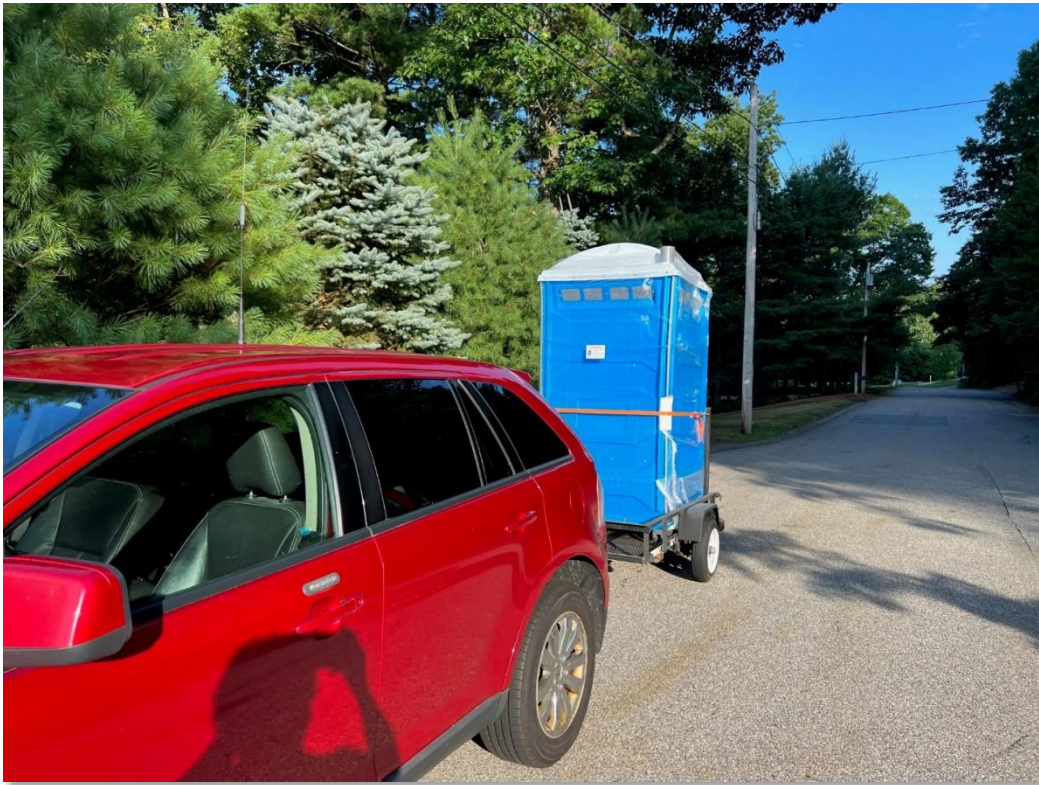
**Member Picnic**  
(Photo Credit: Rita Smeltzer)



## Porta-Potty Installation at the Ogonowski Field

The 495<sup>th</sup> R/C Squadron, Inc. recently completed the installation of a 'permanent' PolyJohn brand PJN-3 Porta-Potty at the Ogonowski Flying Field. The porta-potty was ordered in April 2012, but due to supply chain issues was not actually delivered until the end of July 2022, some 16 months later!

The porta-potty was shipped from the manufacturer in Indiana via Motor Freight carrier. I had the unit shipped to my office in Wakefield to take advantage of our loading dock and the staff required to unload the unit, which weighs about 180 lbs. Once received, I transported the porta-potty upright on a small utility trailer to Tewksbury! What a sight that must have been on I-93N!



**Over-Road Transport!**

To avoid theft and vandalism, the club decided to pour a 5' x 5' concrete pad at the field, and to bolt the porta-potty to the pad. The entire installation went flawlessly! A 'privacy screen' will be erected around the installation later this Fall to shield the porta-potty from vehicles passing on Pinnacle Street. We hope this will also discourage vandalism, un-authorized use, and improve the aesthetics for the nearby neighbors!

The installation of the porta-potty was primarily made possible through the generous efforts of three club members; John Morley, Bob Goulet, and Bill Smeltzer. John handled the purchasing of the porta-potty, and all the materials necessary to construct the concrete pad. He also helped to dig the foundation hole, and frame and install the concrete forms. Bob Goulet helped to dig the foundation, and to frame and install the concrete forms. Bill Smeltzer was in charge of the concrete pour, and the surface finish of the concrete pad!





**The 'Porta-Potty' Crew – Bob, John and Bill!**

**Submitted by:** John Morley  
**Date:** Sept. 22, 2022

## Photo Caption Contest - Announcement

Starting with the Sept. '22 issue, the 495<sup>th</sup> R/C Squadron, Inc. is announcing a 'Photo Captioning Contest' to be published monthly in the club newsletter, ***the Pinnacle***. We thought it would be fun to sponsor this contest as a way to encourage all members to download and read the club's monthly newsletter! The club newsletter contains a lot of useful information, such as club activities and upcoming events, and requires a lot of effort to create, so we want to be sure all members are getting it! So, each month, we will publish a new *uncaptioned* photo, and your job will be to come up with an original witty and unique caption for the photo! All caption submissions will be printed in the next monthly newsletter, and a winner, selected by the club board of directors, will be announced! Caption submissions are only limited by propriety, and can range from the serious, to the outrageous, and anything in between!

**Photo Caption Contest winners will receive a \$25 ABC Hobbies gift card each month.**

To get this started, the first photo, submitted by Corky Lowe, is shown below:



**Photo Credit: Corky Lowe © 2022**

An example caption might be: "I know our club has a lot of old buzzards, but this is ridiculous"!

Send Photo Caption Contest entries to: [pres@495thsquadron.org](mailto:pres@495thsquadron.org)

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## Club Calendar

### Monthly Zoom Club Meetings

Every 1st Wednesday – Zoom or Congregational Church

### Club Events

Oct. 5, 2022 Club Meeting

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

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

## R/C Suppliers:

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### 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:

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Renew Your AMA Membership Online

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

495th Membership Application

[http://www.495thsquadron.org/PDF\\_Files/Membership\\_Application.pdf](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

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