



# The Pinnacle

Volume 53 Issue 3

March 2022



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

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



**On the Cover: Italian Banquet**

Photo Credit: John Morley

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)

### In This Issue:

<b>495th Club Info .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>From the Editor .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2022 Event Calendar.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>From The President .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Live from Italian Banquet (Ralph Dionne) .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Alton Bay, NH Inc Runway Report (John Morley) .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Blast from the Past (2007) .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Calendar and Links .....</b>	<b>16</b>

### 495 R/C Squadron, Inc.

**Next Meeting .....** **Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> 7:30 P.M.**  
Next Events ..... Winter Show-n-Tell  
Club web site ..... <http://www.495thsquadron.org>  
Club Facebook ..... <https://www.facebook.com/495th-RC-Squadron-240759615414>

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

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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](mailto:sales@advancednotebook.com))

I am so happy that our friend, Life Member Ralph Dionne helps me to write a live report from Italian banquet. The way he illustrates the whole event, along with John Morley's photos and we have a nice articles to read. For people like me who did not have the luxury to be there that night can definitely get a very close feel for what we missed. Hopefully next year when all this COVID gone we will have a even bigger banquet night

**Blast from the past** this month we will check out the fun we had back in 2007

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



**Top Flite 82" Douglas DC-3 kit w/ Electric Conversion (Discontinued)**

Photo took before Maiden (crashed at maiden 2013. 11.12)

## 2022 Club Calendar

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 Dionne!
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™

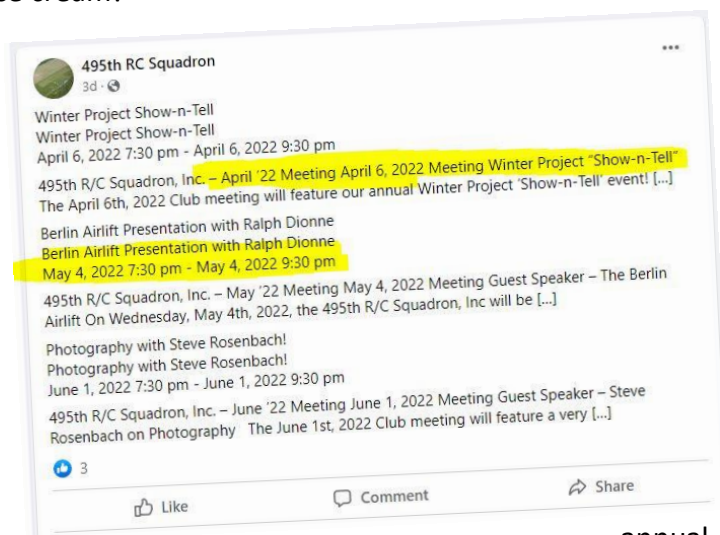
By

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

As I write this newsletter column, we are almost halfway thru the month of March. While March is still a long month and anything can happen, there is no denying that the Spring is just around the corner! The long range forecast for the second half of the month suggests a period of somewhat unseasonably warm weather, so it's even more important than ever to get ready for the upcoming flying season! With all the challenges we have all faced in the past two years, we – your Board of Directors – are determined to make this one of the best years ever!

This is a very big year for the club in another very important way! Many of you may know that the 495<sup>th</sup> R/C Squadron, Inc. gets its name from the fact that our founders originally flew off a completed, but not yet opened stretch of Interstate 495 in the Lowell/Tewksbury area. That year was 1972, making this our 50<sup>th</sup> year of existence! We are planning a number of celebratory events throughout the year to mark 50 years of flying and fun. This will culminate in a celebration at the annual September picnic, including cake and ice cream!

The club held a very successful *Italian Banquet* at the March meeting. This annual event is much anticipated by the membership, and is always a great time! In addition to all the fun we have flying our models as part of the club, many of us also enjoy the great camaraderie and friendships with our fellow club members. A full banquet report appears later in the newsletter!



At the April club meeting, we will have the annual *Winter Project Show-n-Tell*™. This once-a-year event provides a platform for members to show-off and discuss their latest creations! Anyone that wishes to participate will receive ample time to show their project and answer any questions that other members may have. Each presenter will receive a gift from the club, and refreshments will be served to all in attendance! Please see the website for more details on this event!

The May club meeting will feature a very special treat! Longtime friend, all-around good guy, and Life Member Ralph Dionne will present a video on the Berlin airlift. Ralph served in the US Air Force as a C-54 flight engineer during the airlift, and is currently the President of the Berlin Airlift Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the history of this historic time period! Please join Ralph as he recounts how a brave and dedicated cadre of Allied airmen saved the

city of West Berlin in the first real skirmish of the Cold War, and likely preserved democracy for us all! Refreshments will be served at this event! Please see the website for more details on this event!

Looking forward a little bit to the month of June, member Steve Rosenbach will join us at the June meeting for a presentation on photography! Steve is a relatively new R/C pilot who has had a life-long passion for aviation. More details of this event will be posted to the website soon!

I recently updated the 'Events' page on the club website. This section, and the 'sidebar' on the website will have details of the events listed above as well as many other club activities throughout the year! Please check the website periodically to stay up-to-date with all the fun and important activities we have planned this year – our 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee year!!

Membership renewals for 2022 continue to come in! Well more than ½ of the membership has already renewed for the new year, and new renewals are being received daily! Last year we hit a 'high water mark' of 150+ members, and we expect to reach at least that number again this year! If you haven't already renewed your membership, please do so today!

In closing, I want to remind all members that you **must** renew your club membership by Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>. Early renewals dramatically reduce the work load of the club secretary and treasurer, so don't wait to renew! As always, renewals can also be sent to the club post office box, or brought to a membership meeting.

**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.

March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022



# Annual Italian Banquet

## Ralph Dionne

On the evening of Tuesday March 2nd, I drove from Nashua to Bob Goulet's home in Dracut. Together we proceeded in his vehicle to Tewksbury, in order to attend and enjoy a special gathering of the 495th members and the Annual Italian Banquet!

Arriving early, we hoped to be of assistance. As we descended the stairs into the hall, we found that the tables were already all set-up, neatly covered, and with chairs and the serving tables already in place! Wow, somebody had already accomplished a lot of preparation! There were only a few members present, including John Morley and Jennifer who were busily working away, with cooking, and preparations for this special evening!

Meanwhile the hall began filling up with many long time members, including relatively recent members, with youngsters as well! Were ladies in attendance? You bet, can't do without them! Soon, a long food line formed and the efficient serving began through the efforts of Jennifer, John and Bob!

Plates were abundantly filled, and members returned to their chosen places at the tables. The menu consisted of Rigatoni in a delicious tomato sauce, also Italian meatballs, a fresh salad, dressing, rolls and butter, including water or soda of your choice. And yes, deserts consisting of chocolate chip cookies and "Oreo Lasagna" (layers of Oreo cookies and Cool Whip) courtesy of Bill Smeltzer.



As expected, there was much conversation during the banquet, a hallmark of a successful event, and with no one in a hurry to leave! The fare was generously provided gratis, from the shopping, to food preparation, cooking and serving, essentially through the "working as a team" efforts of both John and Jennifer.

A Thanks to both and others, for years of enduring support! This reminds me of a great, true friend of mine who's life motto was "Attitude, Gratitude, and Service! There's also a special "couple" and a certain V/P associated with the 495th, who currently live and think likewise!



Looking back over the years, and the full dedication of the many past and present members that it required, it is really significant that the 495th has been in continued operation for 50 years! And for sure, still looking forward to its special activities of R/C flight and Car Racing into the future!





## 495<sup>th</sup> R/C Squadron, Inc. – 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Italian Banquet

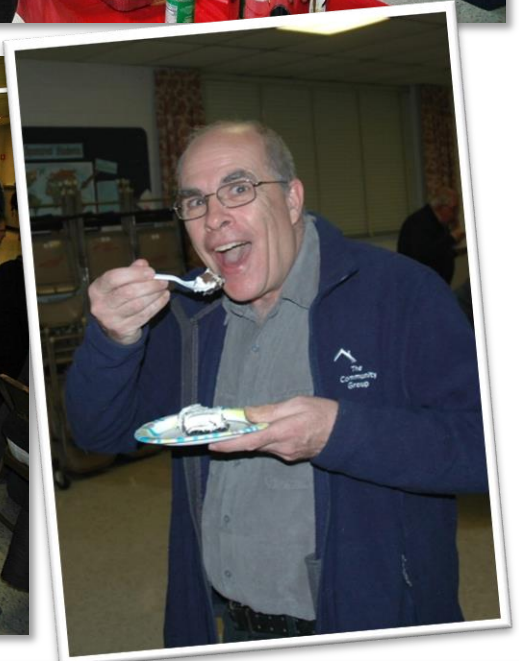
On Wednesday evening, March 2, 2022, the 495<sup>th</sup> R/C Squadron, Inc. met for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Italian Banquet. After a 1 year hiatus due to the Covid-19 pandemic, 32 club members gathered for this highly anticipated event! Starting at 6:30PM, and running until about 8:30PM, the event was an enjoyable time of good food and good friends! Hosts for the event were once again John and Jennifer Morley, who did all the food procurement and cooking. Helping with the setup and cleanup, and well as providing his signature 'Oreo Lasagna' dessert, was Bill Smeltzer!

This year, the group consumed the following: 7lbs of cooked 'Ziti' pasta, 1 gal of 'Paesano' brand spaghetti sauce, 10lbs of Market Basket premium meatballs, 40oz of crushed tomatoes, assorted spices, 48 dinner rolls, 2 large bags of garden salad, 2 bags of croutons, 1 large bag shredded parmesan cheese, 1 large bag of grated parmesan cheese, ½lb butter, 4 two liter bottles of diet coke, 2 two liter bottles of regular coke, 1 large bag of ice, 24 cups of coffee, 36 chocolate chip cookies, and 1 Oreo lasagna!

I'm quite sure that everyone had a good time, especially after almost two years of near isolation, and I'm absolutely certain no one went home hungry!













# Alton Bay, NH Ice Runway Report

**John Morley**

Each winter, the only FAA sanctioned ice runway, FAA Designator B18, opens in Alton Bay, NH. Located on the southern tip of Lake Winnepesaukee, Alton Bay is a long, narrow stretch of water adjacent to the town of the same name. In the warm months of Spring, Summer and Fall, the bay serves as water runway for recreational flyers at the lake. For a short period of time in the winter, generally from mid-January to late February, the frozen lake surface becomes an ice runway for recreational flyers from all over New England.

The ice runway is monitored and maintained by a volunteer crew approved by the Bureau of Aeronautics from the State of New Hampshire. The runway cannot open until at least 12" of ice forms on the bay, and until a runway, parallel taxiway and aircraft parking apron is plowed. It's a lot of work and responsibility, and it's become a 'labor of love' for those that do it!

I've been flying to the Alton Bay ice runway for many years – it's a yearly tradition – and on Sunday, February 20, 2022, Bob Goulet and Bill Smeltzer joined me in a flight to the ice! The conditions this year were quite challenging as the ice was uncharacteristically smooth and slick following unseasonably warm temperatures and rain a few days earlier! The standard technique for landing on ice is to be 'on speed, and avoid the brakes', steering only with the rudder, and as the plane slows, the nosewheel. Due to the slick conditions, we used up the entire runway before turning onto the taxiway at the end! After a quick lunch in a nearby restaurant, and a walk around to view the assembled aircraft, we departed for home. Later that day, a friend sent me a video link from WMUR-TV in Manchester, who was at the lake filming that day and recorded my take-off for the evening news!



**Submitted by: John Morley Mar. 14, 2022**





# **Blast from the Past (2007)**

Opening Day, Scale show, Auction, Fun fly, Picnic









## Club Calendar

### Monthly Zoom Club Meetings

Every 1st Wednesday – Zoom or Congregational Church

### Club Events

April 6, 2022 Winter Project Show-n-Tell!

April 19, 2022 Car Night Begins for 2022!

April 21, 2022 Training Night Begins for 2022!

April 23, 2022 Opening Day and Field Cleanup!

May 4, 2022 Club Meeting - Berlin Airlift Presentation with Ralph Dionne!

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June 1, Club Meeting Photography with Steve Rosenbach!

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

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July 6, 2022 Club Meeting - TBD!!

July 9, 2022 Scale Fun Fly

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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](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.snhrc.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