



# The Pinnacle

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The Official Journal of the 495th R/C Squadron

AMA Gold Leader Club, Charter #340



**Sunday Morning**

Photo Credit: Calvin Hsieh

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, August 3<sup>rd</sup> 7:30 P.M.</b>   |
| Next Events .....         | August 13 <sup>th</sup> , Model Aviation Day Fun Fly  |
| 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>         |
| Vice-President .....   | Bob Goulet .....       | 978-957-5236 ..... | <a href="mailto:vp@495thsquadron.org">vp@495thsquadron.org</a>             |
| 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>       |
| Chief Instructor ..... | Mihran Tenekedzhyan .. | 617-461-2271 ..... | <a href="mailto:chief@495thsquadron.org">chief@495thsquadron.org</a>       |
| 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))

Member Jerry Pacelli proposes to host a new section in the newsletter. We all know that Jerry is always involved selling/buying R/C activities and personally has lots of inventory to offer. I really can't think of a better person to take care of this new idea.

### **"Buy, Sell, Swap and Wanted"**

Anyone interested please send email to: [jerrypacelli@yahoo.com](mailto:jerrypacelli@yahoo.com) with following info:

Name

Email address

Category

Price if applicable

Phone number

This month I want to thank Mike and Jerry for writing great story to share with members, don't miss it!

Stay cool ~

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



Relaxing Sunday morning w/Hagar 9 Corsair 50



## 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 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.

**A**s I write this newsletter column, we are closing in on the end of July! Boy, like most years, it sure seems like the summer is flying by, so be sure to take advantage of everything it offers!! In spite of the unusually dry conditions and some extremely hot weather – it's 95° at the moment! - the flying field and the car track are getting a lot of use! To be sure, these conditions can be challenging, but early morning and late afternoon flying/driving make them bearable! Not to worry though as the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the summer – August and September – are truly the best outdoor months in New England! 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!



**Bill Smeltzer Operating Our New Tractor and Water Wagon!**

We have had a lot of new members this year in our flight training program! I've been doing a ton of flight training on Thursday nights, and have really enjoyed flying with all these new pilots! Advances in technology have really accelerated the flight training process! Flight simulators and onboard stabilization have allowed new pilots to reach 'solo' status in about ½ the time of years past. My time horizon in flight training goes back about 20 years, where the only advantage available to a student was the 'buddy box'! While the buddy box is still around, it's now possible – and safe! – to use a single transmitter in many instances. Students are now taking off and landing within a few short flights, and doing it safely without undue risk to their model investment! In spite of all the good news, some of the same 'age-old' flight training issues still exist! First and foremost, virtually all new students grossly over-control their airplanes, and everyone has at least momentary suffers a loss of orientation while flying! Happily, the on-board 'magic' saves the day

until these tendencies can be overcome with practice! The one concern I have is that modern R/C pilots can become over-reliant on the electronics in their airplanes! I always recommend that over time they slowly 'wean' themselves off of these systems to avoid becoming dependent on them! Use the electronic systems in the beginning, but don't allow them to become a 'crutch'! Ultimately, this makes better pilots in the end!

Many of you are now familiar with our R/C car track adjacent to the model flying field! Although the track is in its 2nd year of operation, it's still a 'work in progress', and a learning experience for many of the folks that maintain it! Achieving the perfect driving surface has been the biggest challenge that has been faced so far! With frequent use, the track quickly becomes rutted and bumpy, making it difficult to use. This requires re-grading with our new tractor and plow blade. The dry weather conditions cause the parched soil on the track to become too dusty for use. To counter this concern, we recently purchased 20 yards of clay which hopefully will create a lot less dust! We've also built a 'water wagon' with an ingenious spray bar system to wet the track in extremely dry conditions! We are having a great deal of fun with the track, but it's been a ton of work!



### **Our New Poly-John Portable Restroom!**

As most of you know, the club decided to purchase a Porta-Potty' last year for permanent placement at the field. I placed an order for a Poly-John PJN3 Portable Restroom back at the end of April 2021(!), and it was just delivered in July of 2022, some 15 months later! Wow, talk about 'supply chain' issues! The plan is to place this new restroom approximately adjacent to the helicopter 'hover circle' and just inside the guardrail. We are going to pour a concrete pad and then anchor the restroom firmly to the concrete! Several times in the past, vandals have tipped our rental restroom, and even dragged it away far into the woods! We hope to avoid this in the future! Once in place, we plan to install a three-sided stockade fence around the restroom so that it is only visible from the field side. This will help to avoid making the restroom a tempting target for vandals, and reduce usage by non-members! – sorry to all the delivery drivers for whom it became a regular stop! Most likely, the restroom will be locked except during regular field hours! We are taking applications now for any member that wishes to 'christen' the new restroom!

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 – our 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee year!! This section, and the 'sidebar' on the website will have details of the events planned, as well as

many other club activities throughout the year! August and September are both going to be very busy months for club activities! Starting on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will host our annual Ice Cream Social at the August membership meeting. Featuring Richardson's ice cream, hot fudge, and real home-made whipped cream, this is always a popular event! On August 13<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate 'National Model Aviation Day' with an informal fun fly and a barbeque! On August 20<sup>th</sup>, we will host a 'Multi-Club Fun Fly and barbeque! On September 7<sup>th</sup>, we will hoist our annual member 'Swap Meet' at the September membership meeting! Finally, on September 10<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate 50 years of continuous operation by the club at our annual member picnic!! 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!

**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.**

**July 20, 2022**



# On the field

(Photos from members and Club Facebook)













# Joe Nall

## Michael Pangione

Once a year, on Mother's Day weekend, over 1,000 pilots gather to fly all day, enjoy each other's company, meet new friends and help each one another when something goes wrong. The call the event; JOE NALL.

My son and I have been regularly attending this great event every other year. The first time we went, in 2015, we were going to stay in a hotel. That night it was raining cats and dogs as they say. The hotel messed up and turned away a bunch of us as they mixed up dates and had to assign our rooms to an ongoing wedding party. Those of us at the hotel were scrambling with our phones trying to find another hotel that could put us up for the night. My son and I had just driven 15 hours to get to Woodruff SC and we had no place to stay!



What should have been a bad thing ended up being the best screw up one could imagine. You see we were going to stay in the hotel for one week and then camp out the last night. So we had brought a tent. Oh, it was a new tent by the way, so we had never even put it up or had an inkling on how to put it up. We ended up going to Joe Nall, explaining our predicament, and the welcome center told us we should be camping out the whole time anyway. They said it would have been terrible for us to stay at the hotel and have to come to the field every day, and we would miss out on all the camaraderie that occurs.

As fate would have it, there was one spot right on the electric line that was not taken. Lots of set ups to the left and right this lone spot just empty. We pulled up and asked the person to our right if the spot was taken or reserved and he said it's all yours. That is when we met Mark. Mark

ended up helping us put up the tent in the pouring rain. That was the beginning of a friendship that has lasted to this day and the beginning of our trips to Joe Nall.

This past May Jared and I attended once again. The turnout was a little less than normal, around 1,100 pilots. Usually there is between 1,500 to 2,000 registered pilots. In previously attended events, Jared and I have witnessed a lot of and some serious carnage. This years event did not experience the same carnage that Jared and I have witnessed in the past. The volunteer staff was very active this year. They were on top of everyone taking off, landing, taxing and such to keep the mishaps from occurring.

If you are not familiar with Joe Nall it is hosted at the Triple Tree Aerodrome in Woodruff SC. They have three flight lines: The main line, Electric line, and the 3D line. In order to fly on the main line, the requirements are to have a wingspan of 80" for a mono-wing plane or 60" for a bi-plane. The electric and 3D line have no such requirements. Other requirements for the main line: Ignition cut-off switch and throttle fail safe turned on for your transmitter. These two requirements were checked out by staff during the week.



The week was pretty windy and at times there was nobody flying. This just gave you time to work on your planes and walk the flight lines to view the planes. Some of these planes are also for sale.

The past two events we attended, 2019 and 2017 the main line was mayhem. Those years it got pretty scary trying to fly as no one was listening or obeying any of the rules and there were a lot of accidents. Jared and I ended up flying the electric line a lot during those two times. This past year was one of the best since 2015. Jared and I love this event and hope to see more club members down there in 2023.

The date is easy to remember; every Mother's Day weekend it starts. Expediency



**Michael Pangione**





# R/C ..... As Some Remember

**Jerry Pacelli**

I was introduced to R/C modeling in 1974. My first plane was a SIG Cadet and that was the staple for a lot of us just getting into the hobby for the first time. Sure we probably built some early Guillows<sup>®</sup> rubber band powered planes and they were great.

We painstakingly built these early SIG planes over the winter months and hopefully could complete 2 before flying season. I could remember building as many as 2 Top Flite Contenders over the winter and was amazed that we went from paper and dope covering to iron on Monocote<sup>®</sup>, wow easy and great looking!!!

Ah, the radio gear. My first recollection was my 4 channel system from Kraft. The system consisted of transmitter, receiver, charger and 3 servos, yes 3, hoping you would need more.

Kraft systems looked neat with a mustard yellow color.

Along comes JR system giving Kraft and another entry Futaba a run for their money and then came Spectrum. I would guess Spectrum today makes up about 60% of the hobby today. You can actually today, literally, take a plane off, fly almost on it's own and basically land on it's own!

The planes, jets, ah yes. Look at the time involved putting a kit together then vs what we have today.....EPO foam. I would say from my experience it took 6-8 weeks and longer to build an average kit. Today, order an E-flite plane..... open the box, unpack it, put together horizontal stab and wings on using screws, turn on your radio and bind it, maybe 45 minutes total at the most. You could do all this at the field.

Heaven forbid a crash, could be put together with foamtack, EPO glue. What a long way from CA, epoxy, etc, again taken care of at the field!



**Powering your planes, helicopters...**



At, first, I could remember rubber band powered planes. Big leap occurred when nitro power planes made the scene at around \$5-6 a gallon, today, try close to \$45-50 and more!!!

### Remembering Ernie Huber

Ernie Huber for all that knew him, was the innovator of R/C helicopters. He owned a machine shop in Salem, Ma, and designed and built all the components of the choppers. He was an avid builder and flyer with the Cape Ann Club and spent much time flying at then Sylvania parking lot in Danvers, Ma. People were at awe when he would put on a flying show on any given Saturday or Sunday morning. Eyes never left the helicopters.



One of Ernie's claim to fame was a building of two working designs for the movie "THE TOWERING INFERNO".

Several of us were invited to his house one evening to look at the surviving model. He explained in detail that he received \$600,000 from 20th Century Fox for building these two models and crashing one into the 11' model of the building. Heck, we could have, with the exception of building the helicopters, crashed for nothing. Ernie kept laughing.

Ernie went on to move to Florida and opened up a helicopter training school for beginning pilots. Ernie won 2 from the AMA hall of fame Distinguished Awards. We should all be proud of Mr. Huber for his accomplishment in the R/C world. Ernie passed away several years ago and was a great guy.

### Celebrities who were in R/C modeling

In 1986 I purchased a company with a fellow flyer called Northeast Aerodynamics, sold out several years later. We manufactured some of the best kits on the market at that time, Bel Air Bipe, Sport Air, and Train Air.

We attended and set up at a trade show in Toledo, Ohio. While walking around before the doors opened to the public, noticed an individual looking at some planes dressed in what appeared to be a Zorro suit and my partner, Rich, said, "Who that guy"?

Roy Orbison



I  
is

I proceeded to go over to see who it was and to my amazement, my favorite singer, Roy Orbison!!! I introduced myself and told him that we had a booth at the show and if he would kindly visit our booth, sure enough, he visited us and we talked for over an hour about the hobby. Explaining what a fan I was, I asked a favor. Could I come back stage at the Hampton Beach Casino in the fall when you perform and have some of my friends meet you? Roy was a

gentleman and great guy and said, "Better yet, Jerry, I would like to meet your friends at my hotel room after the Concert!" Wow, my friends could not believe it.

We contacted his manager, Bennie Birchfield, before the concert to confirm meeting him later and Bennie replied, of course, he is looking forward to it, however, could you do him a favor. Roy loves Big Macs, could you pick up 2, 2 fries and 2 strawberry shakes. What could say, here I am in line buying Roy Big Macs !!!

At his hotel room, we asked 1,000 questions, related to R/C and his world of Music. One particular question I asked "Roy, who is your favorite singer, he said, "Jerry, by far, Elvis." Our meeting with Roy lasted until 5:00 the morning and finally I said, "Roy, I have to work at 9:00" To talk to Roy was one my most memorable events of my life.

We kept in touch and I moved to San Diego. Listening to the radio I learned that the music industry lost a legend, Roy Orbison. To talk to him, great guy, down to earth, a gentleman. I will never forget him.

#### **Other celebrities that were into R/C**

Stavros from Kodak, Tony Stewart, race car driver, Pernell Roberts, Bonanza, Kenny Cheney, Danny Devito, to name a few.

**Our 495th.....** In closing, hats off to our club and it's members.

John Locke who never refuses to help his fellow members when it comes to radio issues and setting up our planes, GURU!!!!!!

Dana DellaCroce for being there to set up and test fly our gear.

Lew Anderson, just for being there for everyone for support.

John and Lou Corio for giving us hope for the future.

Dick Slomba, for my controversial counterpart in crime!

Larry Cummings, for being Larry

Calvin, for all his support in the newsletter.

And in Memory, Bruce Kilham for all his help in keeping our club what it is today.

Unfortunately, we are losing the core of our club for various reasons. There are no new younger members and soon who knows. I would guess that our average age is 50-60.

We have one of the greatest bunch of guys in the club and a great flying field!!!

**Please help support your club. Happy Flying!**

**Jerry Pacelli**



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## Club Calendar

### Monthly Zoom Club Meetings

Every 1st Wednesday – Zoom or Congregational Church

### Club Events

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:

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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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