



The Pinnacle

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

AMA Gold Leader Club, Charter #340



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 6th 7:30 P.M.**
 Next Events Annual club member picnic
 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)

Last month I was talking about the Apple Air Tag idea as “plane locator” in the newsletter. I thought it was a great idea. On Saturday, August 12th, club member Greg crashed his go-to plane “E-flite Timber” into the corn field and he did have the air tag installed inside. While we all felt confident retrieving this plane would not be an issue but reality always threw you a curve ball. After spending a while in the corn field, using iPhone APP to spot the air tag, we realized that the air tag needs to be within 30 feet from your iPhone to provide precise location. With the corns are now taller than most of us, it is almost impossible for this application to work. The plane could not be found.

Greg quickly acquired another Timber from club member so he is back to action

Calvin Hsieh
495th Newsletter Editor



2023 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. 4, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - TBD!
Feb. 1, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - Italian Banquet!
Mar. 1, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - Scale Building with John Hayes!
April 5, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - Winter Project Show-n-Tell!
April 18, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Car Night Begins for 2023!
April 20, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Training Night Begins for 2023!
April 22, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Opening Day and Field Cleanup!
May 3, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - TBD!
May 13, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Spring Fun Fly
May 20, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Heli fun Fly!
June 7, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - TBD!
June 10, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - 'Kid's Day' Fun Fly and BBQ
June 17, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Summer Fun Fly - Mike Pangione
July 5, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - TBD!!
July 8, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Scale Fun Fly
Aug. 2, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - Ice Cream Social
Aug. 12, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - National Model Aviation Day Fun Fly
Aug. 19, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Multi-Club Fun Fly and BBQ!
Sept. 6, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - Annual Swap Meet
Sept. 9, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field - Annual Member Picnic!
Oct. 4, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - TBD!
Oct. 14, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Ogonowski Field Work Party!
Oct. 15, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Andover Pack 76 - Rockets!
Oct. 21, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Fall Classic Car Rally!
Nov. 1, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - Annual Business Meeting and Elections
Dec. 6, 2023	Tewksbury, MA	Club Meeting - TBD!!

View From The Left Seat™

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

Wow, it seems that just when we were starting to get used to some decent weather, the summer is already over! I guess you just can't win in New England! In spite of the shorter days, and the falling temperatures, we still have a lot of great flying weather ahead of us before winter! Actually, the months of September and October are probably the two nicest months on the calendar. The weather during these months is generally sunny, dry and cool – a perfect mix! Personally, I have mixed feelings about this time of year – on the one hand the weather is great, and on the other hand, the winter is just around the corner! Well, at least we have the winter building season to look forward to! My main focus this winter will be the completion of my Juniaer Models Tucano turboprop! This project has been a bit on hold for some time due to my busy schedule, and I hope to re-start it soon! If you are like me, you are already thinking about how you are going to spend the upcoming cold winter months! All I can say is “get building!”

FRIA Status Update - As I have written before, all UAS (unmanned aerial systems) weighing more than 250 grams (approximately 0.55 lb), and operating in US National Airspace system, must comply with the Remote ID requirement as of Sept. 16, 2023. Remote ID is the ability of the UAS in flight to provide identification and location information to a third party via a broadcast transmission. Our R/C models are considered UAS for the purpose of this rule, and must carry Remote ID technology to be compliant. Numerous manufacturers, including Spektrum and others, are scrambling to make broadcast modules available by the required date.

The only exception to the Remote ID requirement is for modelers to fly inside a Federally Recognized Identification Area (FRIA). An FRIA is an FAA-recognized geographic area that allows UAS operation without Remote ID compliance. These FRIA's are established based on data provided to FAA-approved Community Based Organizations (CBO's), such as the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA), by R/C model clubs like the 495th R/C Squadron.

Our club, the 495th R/C Squadron, applied in early 2023 for our flying field at 200 Pinnacle St., Tewksbury, MA (the Captain John A. Ogonowski Memorial Model Field) to become a Federally Recognized Identification Area (FRIA). In mid-August 2023, I was notified by the AMA staff that our application for an FRIA had been vetted by AMA, and had been forwarded to the FAA. Our FRIA application is currently 'pending', and as long as it remains this way, or is 'approved', we may fly at the Pinnacle St. field as we normally do. In the unlikely event that our application is 'denied', I will notify the membership. A denial is extremely unlikely, and would occur only if there was some error made in the application process. The AMA has currently submitted a

number of successful FRIA applications to the FAA, and is very aware of the 'red flags' in the process that might cause denial.

All UAS, regardless of flying with Remote ID, or within an FRIA, must be registered with the FAA. As of Sept. 16th, 2023, the 495th R/C Squadron will mandate that all models flown at the club field display the FAA registration number on the outside of the aircraft. One FAA registration is good for all your models, and lasts three years. The cost for FAA registration is \$5.00.

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. 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!!

As the end of the year approaches, please keep in mind that AMA and club memberships expired at midnight on Dec. 31st! 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. 1st, 2014! 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 December 2013 club meeting!

A reminder that the weekly 'Car Race Night' on Tuesday evenings, and 'Flight Training Night' on Thursday night has resumed for the 2023 season! The weather has improved significantly, and we are off to a good start so far! The plan is to have an informal barbeque of hamburgers and hotdogs at each of these weekly events when the weather permits. These activities are a great excuse to get out of the house on a weekday evening, so please plan to come out and enjoy the fun on Tuesday and Thursday evenings all summer!

Again, a reminder that each month the BOD will meet on the **Wednesday** evening immediately preceding the regular club meeting. Our meetings are held at the Tewksbury 99 restaurant on Rt. 38 in Tewksbury, and begin at 7:30PM. 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. As always, there is plenty of room at every BOD meeting, and the atmosphere is informal, so we invite interested members to attend! The next regular BOD meeting will be held on Wednesday June 28th, 2023 at 7:30 PM.



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



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

August 30st , 2023

Jay Gramolini – New “Solo” Pilot

Summer 2023

New club member Jay Gramolini of Stoneham, MA just became one of the club’s newest solo pilots! Jay flew R/C airplanes previously, but hadn’t flown in a long while. After his recent retirement from the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Jay decided it was time to get back into model aviation!

Flying the Horizon Hobby ‘Turbo Timber’ airplane, Jay quickly overcame some early jitters, and soon regained the skills he had mastered long ago as he progressed at a rapid pace under the expert tutelage of John Morley!

Be sure to say ‘hello’ to Jay at the field, and congratulate him on his achievement!

Submitted by: John Morley – July 2023



New England Jets at Plum Island

7 days of flying at a newly paved private airport

Plum Island RC Group is a 501c charity to support the Airport.



Plum Island Airport Radio Control Flyer's

NEW ENGLAND JET RALLY

AUGUST 14th THRU 20th SETUP 13th

Landing fee \$80 for 7 days

\$60 Thursday thru Sunday

CD Mike Fiorito

603-770-3130

Pot luck dinner Friday night

Payment can be made to
PAYPAL.ME/PLARCF501 c3

Campers welcome no hookups

TENT'S AVAILABLE

Payments for tents must be made 2 weeks prior to event

20X20 \$500 20X30 \$650 20X40 \$800

Pilgrimage to Oshkosh

Robert Merlino



For many years I've been hearing about the EAA AirVenture, the yearly airplane extravaganza at Oshkosh Wisconsin. This year it was finally time to go check it out. This is a week long event that runs Monday through Sunday. I was there Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Amazing, if you are an airplane aficionado I can definitively say this event belongs on the "Bucket List" category.

Overwhelmed at first, I showed up without doing any homework, as if I was going to a typical air show where you see a few planes on the ground, watch the flying show and go home. This is not that... this is different... way different!



Before I went down, I remember reading on one of the EAA brochures: *"If you've never been to one of our conventions, this is important. AirVenture isn't an event you attend; it's something you do. It's not like going to a ballgame where you buy a ticket and just sit and watch. AirVenture is what you make it. It's not a spectator sport."* Paying no attention, of course, I dismissed it with a "...yeah...yeah...yeah... whatever." When I came back... Oh... now I understand what they meant... I should have paid more attention... the description was right on the money!

Indeed, this is not a simple spectator event, some planning is needed to pick and choose what you want to see and do, depending on your interest. Nobody can see and do it all. The EAA

venue is a staggering 1500 acres. Approximately 10,000 airplanes of all size and shape, civilian and military are spread out all over the place. Of these approximately 3200 total take part in the scheduled flying and static shows and the rest are “parked”, according to the officials. The “parked” planes belong to private pilots that fly in to the show. Most of them “fly in and camp” for a week long, fully immersive experience. Yes... a tent between the wing and the tail is a common sight or perhaps the wing is holding up the tent.

Near the main entrance an array of airplane vendors paddle their shiny new planes. I was going to buy an airplane but then I settled for a T-shirt instead... and an ice cream. Among all this, hundreds of forum presentations, hands-on training, movies on everything airplanes are going on throughout the venue. This is where studying the map and the program ahead of time comes handy.

There was order to the madness. The venue is organized into “neighborhoods”, such as Warbirds, Home-builds, Vintage, Boeing Plaza, Central Exhibits, Fun Fly Zone, EAA Aviation Museum and others. The EAA (Experimental Airplane Association), these are the home build guys and this is their turf. The Fun Fly zone is all about ultralight-type aircrafts, with their own runway and flying area. This is also where there was RC flying in the evening, sponsored by Horizon Hobby. Boeing Plaza is the center of the show, where the biggest aircrafts and the ones that highlight the day’s theme are parked for viewing.



Given the huge attendance, I expected traffic jams getting in and out of the venue but that was not the case. The car parking lots are located along Highway 41 so driving in and out is no problem at all. From the parking lots they have efficient bussing to show center. Thursday night I decided to forgo the bus and walk back to the car... a rookie mistake. I must have walked for an hour... it didn’t seem that far on the map. But even this was interesting. As I was making my way back to Brown Lot, I came across an airplane parking lot. A sea of airplanes parked wingtip to wingtip, as far as the eye can see in all directions... well, that’s a sight you don’t see every day!



But, of course, the highlight of each day was the afternoon flying show, from 2 to 6. This is what I came for. In the afternoon it was time to find a little shade around center stage and just enjoy the flying. What makes Oshkosh flying show special is the eclectic combination of all kinds of airplanes, civilian and military, not to mention the volume of flying. From WW II to Vietnam era to a Lockheed Constellation, to some guy flying by in a jet pack... to aerobatic demos... to the latest F22 and everything in between. The WW II demos were particularly impressive. On Thursday there must have been 20 WW II airplanes in the air at the same time, making passes in groups. At a typical air show you might see a P51 or a Corsair, here you get to experience a small squadron of P51s going by in formation and hear the pure sound of the Merlin engines right in front of you... or the low-pitch growl of 1800hp Double Wasp engines in a small squadron of Corsair... pretty special, you don't see (and hear) that every day!

All kinds of impressive individual and group aerobatic demos sprinkled in... a visit by a B1 bomber, a low pass by a B52, a bee line of vintage airliners, F35s strutting their stuff and, of course, the ultimate crowd pleaser... an ear-splitting thundering performance by the F22 demo team... cool!!

Most unique, however, were the numerous Soviet planes. I had never seen MIGs up close, very interesting. Apparently after the fall of the Soviet Union, many airplanes came for sale and a lot of them ended up in the US and Canada. Particularly unique was a formation flying routine with a MIG 17 and a MIG 29, at dusk, with afterburners lit up. These were privately owned... can you imagine owning a MIG 29 Fulcrum? The maintenance bill on that must be something. That's way more impressive than me owning a Carl Goldberg Super Chipmunk!

Saturday evening, while waiting for the night flying show, I started exploring the grounds a little bit, but just barely scratched the surface, so much to see. Next year I want to explore

more. Already booked my hotel... that's right, it turns out all the hotels within a 50-60 mile radius book a year in advance, FYI.

Well, that was fun... airplanes galore... what's not to like?



Robert Merlino

Air Venture !

Photo by Robert Merlino







Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence – Chris Rines

August 2023

John Morley

Several weeks ago, longtime friend of the 495th R/C Squadron, Chris Rines, visited the Ogonowski field on a Wednesday evening with members of the Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence to launch member-built model rockets! For as long as I can remember, Chris has been involved with the Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence, building model airplanes or rockets with a large group of youngsters each year! These programs are a great way to encourage these young men and women to become active in 'healthy' and positive pursuits in life, and have been very successful to date! Kudos to Chris and all the kids!

About 25 rocket launches were conducted, and a lot of good fun was had by all! In spite of a few losses in the tall corn adjacent to the field, everyone had a great time!



Unique Guest at the Field – Bronson Hurt

August 2023

John Morley

I recently received a phone call from a long haul truck driver based in Minnesota, after obtaining my contact info from the AMA website. Bronson Hurt was traveling to the Boston area, and was looking for a place to fly while in town for the weekend. I offered to meet him at our field to verify his AMA membership, and to allow him to fly as my guest. An added complication was that Bronson needed a place to park his 18 wheel truck!

Arriving on Saturday afternoon, Bronson was able to park his rig in the grass along the guardrail at the north end of the field, where it remained until Monday morning! After his arrival, he detached his trailer, he drove the tractor portion up to ABC Hobbies in Windham, NH to purchase a new twin Timber airplane! Bronson was a very personable guy, and I enjoyed chatting with him about 'life on the road' as a truck driver, and his passion for R/C modeling! Bronson is going to stay in touch, and visit us again the next time he visits the Boston area!



Club Calendar

Club Events

Sept. 9, 2023	Annual Member Picnic!
Oct. 4, 2023	Club Meeting
Oct. 14, 2023	Ogonowski Field Work Party!
Oct. 15, 2023	Andover Pack 76 - Rockets!
Oct. 21, 2023	Fall Classic Car Rally!
Nov. 1, 2023	Club Meeting - Annual Business Meeting and Elections
Dec. 6, 2023	Club Meeting

R/C Suppliers:

ABC RC & Hobby 11 Rockingham Rd, Windham, NH https://www.horizonhobby.com	(603) 458-6481 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.snhfcc.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