



The Signal

February 2008

Volume 4

Of Special Interest:

- Dean Pappas Speaks
- Next Club Meeting on **Wednesday**, March 26th at the Bridgewater Library at 8:00pm in Rooms A & B.

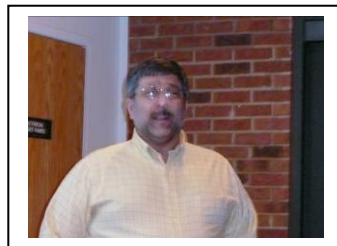


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Dean Pappas Speaks – On February 27th at our club meeting, we were very fortunate to have guest speaker Dean Pappas. If the name sounds familiar it's because you've probably seen it in print dozens of times. Dean writes regularly for Model Aviation magazine, the AMA's official publication. He also writes for Flying Models magazine.

Dean gave a very informative talk on the engineering behind spread spectrum technology which is having major repercussions throughout our hobby. The technology is based on the work



of Hedy Lamar (not Hedley!). In addition to being a film star, she was apparently a brilliant engineer too.

Because of the increase in band width and the allowance of bi-directional signals (which were specifically not allowed under 72 MHz) Dean predicts that we'll have radios that have features like force feedback. The ability to feel your airplane fly is possible and could happen in the next ten years.

The club is grateful to Joe Lachowski for arranging to have Dean come and speak.

Anyone else have an idea for a guest speaker? Contact one of the officers or Jim Vigani and we'll work to get it scheduled.



AMA District II Fly-In

Mark your calendars and get your planes ready because our club is hosting the 2008 AMA District II Fly-In on July 19th and 20th.

The club has arranged for the field, the camp grounds, and the soccer field, which will be used for U-Control flying. There will be activities at the rocket field as well. Hookups for RVs will be available and the park commission has volunteered the rangers to help with the parking situation.

What do we need? **YOU!** This is a two day event that could see over a hundred flyers and spectators throughout the weekend. What we need are volunteers. We need those of you haven't volunteered to help out in the past. It's time to get involved with your club. Whether you want to do a lot or a little, we can use the help.



Please contact Len or Tony to let them know how you'd like to help out.

"Many hands make light work." – John Heywood



If you have any items that you would like listed in the For Sale section of the newsletter, forward them to the newsletter editor. Items will be listed for a three (3) month period. After three months they will be deleted from the newsletter. If you would like your ad to run longer you must make your request again.



O.S. FS-70 II 4 Stroke Engine
New In Box \$150

Magnum XL 36A
Two Stroke Rear Needle Engine New In Box \$50

Contact Paul Brill @ 732-805-9122

- Lanier Lazer 200. Webra 120. Ready to Fly less receiver \$350
- Somenzini 72 Inch Yak 54 Moki 1.8 Ready to fly less Receiver \$450
- Great Plane Eagle ZDZ 60 CC. Ready to fly less receiver.
 - 2 Flights on airframe. Make Offer
- Great Planes Pitts Special ARF. Never out of box. Brand New \$275
- Midwest Giles 202 Kit New In Box 72 inch wingspan \$150
- Goldberg Chipmunk Kit with fiberglass (Never Opened) \$150
- Thunder Power Foam Eagle (Never Flown!)
 - Complete with outrunner brushless and servos. \$120
- 2 Thunder Tigre Raptors 30's Ready to fly less receivers
 - One with OS32 and One with Thunder Tigre 36 \$250 Each

Contact Bob Afflerback @ 609-871-8777

More Club Business...

Boy Scouts – The boy scouts of Clinton, NJ have asked if our club would be willing to do an RC presentation on a Monday in May at around 7 or 7:30pm. The club voted on the idea and it passed.

Volunteers will be needed to bring their models, show a flight simulator and talk to the boys. Those who are interested in helping out should contact Len Cacciatore as soon as possible.

New Hobby Shop – A new RC hobby shop opened on Route 29 at Union Avenue in Bridgewater. The shop's number is (732) 377-9060. Len said they don't have much airplane stuff yet – but they hope to in the future.

Build Class – The build class is always looking for new students. If you've ever been interested in learning how to build, repair or even assemble those ARFs better, this is the class for you.

Contact Jim Vigani or Marc Julius for meeting dates and location.



2008 Club Events

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| May 18 th | Opening Day |
| June 22 nd | Warbirds II |
| July 19 th , 20 th | AMA District II Fly-In |
| August 17 th | eFly V |
| September 21 st | Glider Fly IV |
| September 28 th | Closing Day |
| November 16 th | Annual Turkey Fly |



Spring Fashion

Show – Augg! Where did the winter go?

All those models you were going to build and repair and Spring is here already. Well time to get a move on because at the April club meeting is your chance to show off your new models.

Same rules apply as always – the model must be something that has not been shown or flown before. There will be two different judging categories: one for ARF and one for scratch/kit.

Plan on attending and let's see what you've been procrastinating over all winter!

RC Airplane Definitions

Stall: What you tell your wife when you want to take it up "one more time."

Tree: Implement used to separate wings from fuselage.

Upwind Turn: Same as downwind turn. NO, IT ISN'T! YES IT IS!! NO, IT ISN'T! etc.

Wing: A device that, due to its airfoil, allows air to flow faster over the top, thereby allowing you the opportunity to pour excess funding into the resulting low pressure area.



Get "Cawtt" Up in Safety by Jim Rice (courtesy of *AMA Insider*)

I have a checklist to go through before every takeoff. If you get in a habit like that, you can head off problems on the takeoff/flight. Since I was a soldier for 26 years, I am accustomed to acronyms so my checklist is C.A.W.T.T. I tell my students "Don't get CAWTT taking off without using your checklist. Go through the checklist before you take the main runway!"

Controls: Check control direction and all switch positions. With computer radios, you can have the wrong airplane or you may have changed something you didn't want to while changing a mix or throw between flights. Check for high/low rates, mix switches, or trim positions.

Antenna: I don't like to work on, start, or tune the engine with the antenna out so I keep it collapsed until I am ready to take the runway and I am safely behind the airplane and propeller. Make sure the antenna is completely pulled out and screwed in tightly.

Wind: Check the wind direction so you know in which direction to take off. If there is no wind, take up the same pattern other pilots in the air are using. Note the wind check is after the antenna-up check so that you can use the antenna flag as your wind sock.

Time: Start your timer or check your watch so that you will know when to land.

Traffic: Clear yourself to taxi with other pilots. We don't have air traffic controllers so you have to do it yourself. Ask loudly enough for all other pilots to hear if you can come out. Do not take the runway until all pilots at flight stations—or their spotters—clear you. So many times I hear people yell "coming out" then they add power and run out on the runway. Not only might that startle other pilots, distracting their attention from their own airplane but, maybe your airplane will die or flip over on the runway creating a hazard for others who might be at the end of their fuel. Besides, it is more courteous to ask. After you are cleared by the others, quickly take the runway and get in the air. They didn't clear you to sit in the middle of the runway and do more checks. That is why I say to go through the checklist before you take the runway.



Somerset Signal Senders



Support your local Hobby Shop:

The Hobby Hut
567 Route 23
Pompton Plains, NJ
(973) 835-2077

Your RC Headquarters

Linda Ciesla, proprietor

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Miscellaneous Club Business

January 50-50: The club took in \$34. First place (\$23) went to Lyn Alford and Second place (\$10) went to Rich Negran who donated his winnings back to the club treasury. Thanks Rich!

New Member – The club is happy to welcome our newest member, Sam Rollino. Sam has been active helping out at events and learning to fly under the guidance of his father Dave. Welcome aboard Sam!

New Lock on Pin Board – There is a new combination lock on the pin board down at the field. You will find the combination conveniently located on the back of your 2008 membership card.

“The Scratch” – In the May Issue of Fly RC magazine, you will find the pull out plans feature our own Jim Viganì and his plans for “The Scratch” airplane. This was the subject material for the first build class and the plans for it along with some great photos were finally published in Fly RC. Congratulations Jim! Well done.

WRAM “No”-Show – Several members attended the 2008 WRAM show and expressed their disappointment at the size of it. The number of vendors was down by over 30% from last year and attendance was off as well. While the inclement weather may have had something to do with it, it’s apparent that the WRAM show’s best days are in the past.

It’s time to renew your club dues.

You can pay your 2008 dues (\$30) by mailing a check made out to the Somerset Signal Senders to

Marc Julius
45 Stephen Terrace
Parsippany, NJ 07054.

You must include a copy of your 2008 AMA membership card.

Any questions can be directed to the club Treasurer, Marc Julius.

Club Information

- The Somerset Signal Senders will meet **Wednesday**, March 26th at 8pm at the Bridgewater Library in Meeting Rooms A & B.
- Our club website is <http://www.somersetsignalsenders.org>
- Questions concerning our website can be directed to: webmaster@somersetsignalsenders.org
- Head Flight Instructor: Tony Rossi
- Field Safety Officer: Len Cacciatore
- Newsletter Editor: Marc Julius, newsletter@somersetsignalsenders.org
- Questions can be directed to: President@somersetsignalsenders.org

Upcoming Events

April 30, 2008

Annual Fashion Show

May 18, 2008

Opening Day – Rich Plavnicky Honorary Fly-In

June 22, 2008

Warbirds II