



# The Sunbeam

## President's Column

Mark Taylor

Spring Greetings to All:

I hope you and your families have managed to stay safe and well and employed for the last 14 trying months.

Weather is beginning to look a lot like flyable already. I've had a couple of enjoyable, yes, even exciting outings (right, Raymond?) and look forward to many more. Many more than the dumpster fire that was 2020, I hope!

Which brings to mind the serious business of Covid Field Rules, last year annoying to us all, enough to keep some folks away completely: some felt the rules too lax, others felt too strict.

I'm pretty sure 2021 will be easier. Just by the numbers, the vaccine seems to work and seems to have no serious side effects, we (as a nation) have given vaccines to about 100 million people and if you add that to the 50 million + who caught the crap, that means almost HALF of Americans have at least temporary immunity.

Boots-On-The-Ground proof of improvement is that new cases and hospitalizations and deaths are at less than 1/4 what they were at our holiday peak. MGMC for example, Covid census peaked in the 30's, now more like 2-5 daily. So even at the bottom of the funnel, it feels like we're returning to normalcy. Vaccinating the old and the weak first seems to be paying off with falling death counts.

*Pres. continued on Page 3*

## Club Calendar

**APRIL 13** Meeting at the FIELD!

Agenda: SPRING WAKE-UP

Bring along your building stoppers. Get ideas to get you over that hump and onward to completion.

Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.

From past (bad) experience:

Meetings at the field are contingent on weather.

If a **Thunderstorm Warning** or a **Tornado Watch** is in effect near the start time of the meeting, the meeting shall be cancelled!

## The Scrap Bin

by Denny Goodrich

We now mark the beginning of a second year of flying in a world-wide pandemic, BUT, vaccines give us a shot at a return to normalcy. Pun fully intended. Even if vaccinated, mask wearing is encouraged for the near future. If you have not been vaccinated, I encourage you to get vaccinated.

I hear that around 25% of the population does not intend to get vaccinated. To that I will only say, if you want to be assured of neither dying from, or being hospitalized because of a Covid-19 infection, get vaccinated. It is that simple.

Why is it that planes and other equipment that was put away in fully functional condition, now require maintenance in order to be functional again? But so it is.

Don Sprague is leaving the hobby this year. He plans to donate many of his planes to the club. He hopes you will donate money to the club in exchange.

The first one up is a Miss Texas, designed by Chuck Cunningham, longtime columns for RCM (Radio Control Modeler) magazine. It is pretty big, with wingspan a little over 6-feet. It has a Super Tigre .75 and Airtronics servos.

I will have it test flown soon. The plane was built by a former club member. We discovered that the wing was either warped or twisted when joined. A number of years ago, I carried out a remedial repair for Don, and it seemed to be mostly OK. We want to double check that feeling, however. Come to the meeting and look it over!



*Pres cont'd from Page 1*

Two months ago, CIA leadership, including all three docs on the roster, agreed to the following 2021 modification of last year's restrictive guidelines:

1) continue to use "common contagion sense:" don't come to the field sick, be respectful & considerate of people who still feel the need to shield and isolate (they'll be easy to spot). Don't "share breath" unless you have to: that's how this disease spreads. No French kissing!

2) you may go without a mask IF:

\*a: you are fully vaccinated

\*b: you swab-tested + Covid last 12 months (and more than 4 weeks ago)

\*c: you had a + serum antibody titer in the last 14 months.

Note that: "I'm pretty sure I had it, felt like I did!" is NOT on the list.

FORTUNATELY, because these new rules are so hard to police, and can so easily be rendered useless by liars and self-deluders and conspiracy theorists:

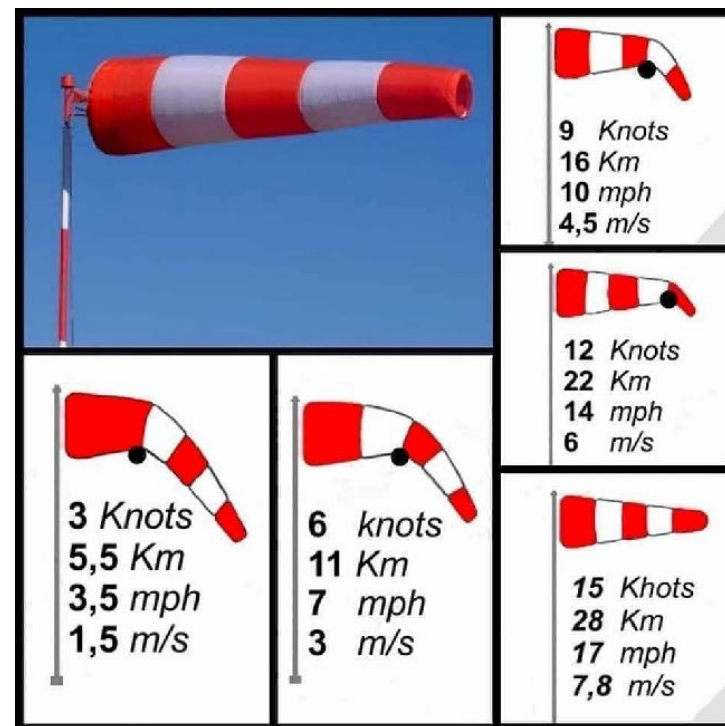
I believe that rapidly mounting vaccine numbers, IF SUPPORTED by continued falling community disease levels, we may be in the clear by June 1, 2021. So we can slack the rules even more, like maybe: "Don't come out and mingle if you feel sick."

And get yer danged vaccine! Even if you had the wild disease and have antibodies, the vaccine MIGHT protect you and others you care about from the "variants," which are NOT just a CNN scare tactic, that's the way the common cold and other Coronaviruses keep coming back to get us, and the more "wild disease" we allow to propagate, the more gazillion replications it gets to try and mutate!

I have motel reservations for both Owatonna and Fond du Lac this year 😊. I hope I remember how to fly!

Love You All,

Mark



## The Central Iowa Aeromodelers

<http://centraliowaeromodelers.weebly.com/index.html>

This club has been established to promote all facets of the hobby/sport of model aviation and to provide assistance and fellowship for its members. AMA Charter 2091.

For information about modeling or this club contact:

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### 2019 Central Iowa Aeromodelers Membership Form

**Annual Dues:**

Open Member	\$100 - Any Open AMA member.
Student	\$ 35 - Full time college undergrad/school student of any capability
Family Membership	\$100 - Includes spouse and all in household 18 & under.
Newsletter Subscription	\$ 10 - For non members only.

NO REFUNDS ON DUES PAID

THESE DUES ARE ADDITIONAL TO ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS MEMBERSHIP

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

All except newsletter subscription require proof of current Academy of Model Aeronautics membership.

Make checks payable to Central Iowa Aeromodelers. Mail to: Kent Woods, 4709 Twain St., Ames IA 50014.

Please note reason for payment.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ AMA No: \_\_\_\_\_

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CIRCLE MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY(S):

OPEN

STUDENT

FAMILY

NEWSLETTER

### Comments to the Editor

Any comments concerning this issue of the Sunbeam can be made via email to Denny Goodrich at [dennyginia@yahoo.com](mailto:dennyginia@yahoo.com). You can also call: (515) 292-6326.