

The Sunbeam

President's Column

Mark Taylor

Deep, Meaningful Thoughts:

Changes in the hobby, on a national level and a personal and local level have caused me to reflect upon the wisdom of maintaining an old-fashioned approach to RC flying.

Clearly, demographics of the hobby have changed dramatically in the last 20-30 years. Most of us who have been RC flying those 20 to 30 years, tend to stick to the old ways and express dismay and contempt for "the kids" who fly electric and drones and "don't build their own stuff."

Maybe, like Clint Eastwood showed in the movie Gran Torino, that's not such a wise or practical mindset, even for the pure of heart. Building giant historical machines from the ground up may be noble and for brief moments satisfying when we're done, but then flying them with minimal electronic assistance puts them at tremendous risk for being turned to dust for any tiny little mistake. The endless result is that we spend enormous amounts of time building and fussing and fixing, but only get a few precious moments of actual flying time.

Maybe the wholesale conversion of the hobby to ARF's and GPS-assisted devices is not so much a youthful abdication of aviation responsibilities, but is just a practical and logical way to enhance the hassle-to-fun ratio and minimize expense.

Maybe we're just being stubborn old farts and not benefiting from technology and societal evolution. (cont'd on Page 2)

Club Calendar

December I I 6:00 p.m. at the West Towne Pub, 4518 Mortensen Road, in Ames.

Eat and drink for a goodwill offering! There will be no gift exchange this year.

Christmas Party/Meeting and Voting for 2019 Executive Council.

January I Penguin Fly ? Say at 1:00 p.m.?

February 2 - Saturday - Iowa City Aerohawks Swap Meet & Auction. Coralville Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, 300 East 9th Street http://www.iowacityaerohawks.com/ See page 4.



Like us on FaceBook! Join the group, make a reasonable comment, upload a photo!

President's Column cont'd

Haven't a lot of you guys gone out to the field with some cheap little airplane that you just threw in the van and just had an enormous amount of fun with it and thought to yourself: "I could've stayed here all day setting up my multi-engine oil-spitting thunderous historical classic and flown it maybe eight minutes?"

Additionally, the infrastructure required for flying the huge old models is logarithmically more expensive and difficult to maintain than for the smaller cheaper Electric Kittens. And you know what? At about 150 feet away, you can't tell the difference between them. How much field and runway and mower would we need if everybody flew 60 inch wingspan electric's?

I have personally considered changing my strategy to just flying the big warbirds at the half dozen or so big fields in the Midwest, where still 100 or more pilots gather for big events and we all relish each other's noisy oil spitting, prone-to-crash monsters. Then, maybe it would be more financially and socially reasonable to have a small shop, fly small airplanes off a smaller field closer to home.

As you know, those who still fly the monsters are becoming a steadily older demographic and perhaps we could attract more young participants if we deemphasized the monsters and promoted the smaller friendlier easier models. Also, a steadily older demographic also means that we're going to die off, or at least become too feeble to load and unload 50 to 70 pound models and get them ready to fly.

Dave Popelka, as you know, is a little bit of a hybrid genius at this game. He still flies warbirds, but he has a lot of fun with the newer electric models and he still puts on quite a show when he goes out to the field.

I welcome your thoughts and comments

Now: "Get Off My Lawn!"

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ADHESIVE PROPERTIES

| Glue type | Common names | Common application | Drawbacks | Advantages |
|-----------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Canopy glue | Pacer Formula 560 | Attaching plastic detail parts | Overnight drying time | Water soluble; dries clear and flexible to finished models |
| Cellulose glue | Ambroid, Duco Cement | Wooden airframe assembly | Flammable when wet because of acetone | Lightweight and easily sanded |
| Contact cement | GWS Glue, UHU por | Applying wood sheeting to foam wings | Requires a two-step process | Bonds are typically instant and permanent |
| Cyanoacrylate | CA, Super Glue, Zap, Hot Stuff, Jet Glues | Nearly everything | Can be an irritant; joints are brittle | Fast cure time |
| Ероху | Z-Poxy, two-part epoxy, 5-minute epoxy, finishing resin | Bonding high-stress joints; applying fiberglass cloth | Heavy; requires precise mixing | Robust |
| Goop | Amazing Goop, Shoe Goo | Joining vibration- prone components | Strong odor; somewhat heavy | Strong, flexible joints |
| Hot glue | Hot glue, low- temperature hot glue | Sheet-foam models | Brittle in cold weather | Allows for fast building |
| Polyurethane glue | Gorilla Glue, Elmer's Pro-Bond | Crash repairs | Typically has a short shelf life | Expands to fill gaps |
| PVA glue | White glue, Elmer's Glue, carpenter's glue, aliphatic glue | Wooden airframe assembly | Slow drying; other glues do not stick well to cured PVA | Non-toxic; strong bonds |
| Water-based polyurethane | Minwax Polycrylic, Rust-Oleum Varathane | Applying fiberglass cloth | Finish is prone to dings and hangar rash | Lightweight; inexpensive; easy to apply |

Scenes from a previous Aerohawks Swap Shop and Auction





Mower and Container Fundraising Campaign

Renew Your AMA membership!

We have a debt to retire. Spontaneous donations have made a big dent.

Now we need YOUR participation.

Send your donation to Dave Popelka. (see last page)





THE SUNBEAM

The Central Iowa Aeromodelers

http://centraliowaaeromodelers.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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2018 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: Dave Popelka, 1616 Amherst Dr., Ames IA 50014.

Please note reason for payment.

| Name: | | |
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| 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.
You can also call:

(515) 292-6326.