



# The Sunbeam

Lowell Kenneth Mathison  
September 8, 1935 - May 18, 2015



## Obituary

Lowell K. Mathison age 79, of Ames, died May 18, 2015 at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines, a celebration of his life will be 11:00 am Friday May 22nd, at United Church of Christ Congregational, 6th and Kellogg in Ames. Inurnment will be at Ames Municipal Cemetery.

*Lowell cont'd on page 2*

## President's Column

by Craig Krueger

One of our members has passed. Lowell Mathison will be remembered as one of the kindest, most gentle of persons. He was ill for the past year, but still his presence will be missed. Our sympathies to his family.

Doesn't seem like it has been a month since the last newsletter article. Hope everyone has had a chance to fly. (In between high winds and rain!) June looks to be a busy month for events, so be sure to check the club calendar.

I just found out the Jacobsen mower is back at the field. It's almost ready to use, except the battery needs to be replaced. Many thanks to Frank Annett and Kent Woods for getting the mower back into service.

Club members and guest pilots, please read/review the Field Rules 5 and 6 for our club. They are printed later in the newsletter for your convenience. Of special interest are rules #6 and #7 under the section "Field Rules". <http://centraliowaeromodelers.weebly.com/field-rules.html>

Be sure garbage, waste, etc is properly disposed of. A garbage can is provided in the pit area. Animal waste should go in the

## Club Calendar

**June 9** Club meeting at the Field  
7:00 p.m. Come early to fly!

There will have training on using the mowing equipment for those interested.

**June 12** 2:00 p.m. Demonstrations at  
the field of Agricultural UAV  
applications.

ditch or the porta-pot. Please use it, or take the garbage/waste with you upon leaving the field. Your understanding to this matter is much appreciated.

I was looking for some RC humor on the internet and happened to come across this.

If you witness the crash of a fellow modeler's aircraft, there are some things you shouldn't say... at least not right away. For example:

1. LOWER!
2. Once again-the plane will be arriving at your home in a box.
3. That hit so hard dirt flew out of the transmitter!
4. Replace your divots.
5. Will that be paper or plastic?

Take care,  
Craig

*Lowell cont'd from page 1*

Lowell was born September 8, 1935 on the family farm in Baldwin, WI; the son of Levi and Lettie Mathison. He graduated from Roberts High School and received his BS in Biology from University of Wisconsin/River Falls in 1961. On June 23, 1962 he married Heather Lea

Berggren in Roberts, WI and she preceded him in death on December 26, 1995. Lowell and Heather moved to Ames in 1962 when he started at Ames Laboratory, Iowa State University retiring in 1997, as manager of the Laboratory's Environment, Safety and Health Group. He then was the building superintendent at United Church of Christ Congregational until 2009. He also enjoyed volunteering teaching beginning computers of Iowa State University College for Seniors.

Lowell enjoyed traveling to Norway, California, Arizona, Black Hills, Washington DC, and Door County WI. He enjoyed his Amateur Ham Radio, Radio Control Airplanes, gardening, being the on call care giver to his granddaughters, Heather and Morgan, and trying to make lefse, his words of wisdom were "life is short, eat lefse first."

Lowell is survived by his children, Andrea Mathison Egeland and Mark Mathison both of Ames, granddaughters, Heather and Morgan, longtime companion Carol Slater of Ames, sisters, Doris (Emery) Sobottka of Ames, Harriet (Herbert) Day of Sturgeon Bay, WI; and Gail Mathison of Madison, WI.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife Heather.

Memorials may be directed to: Ames United Church of Christ Congregational.

Online condolences may be directed to:

[www.grandonfuneralandcremationcare.com](http://www.grandonfuneralandcremationcare.com)

## Executive Council Minutes

The Executive Council met on 5/28/2015 at the field. Present were Craig Kreuger, Mark Taylor, Dennis Goodrich, Kent Woods and Dave Popelka.

We noted the passing of Lowell Mathison. Somehow everybody missed the notice and the funeral, too. This is very sad for us. Lowell was well liked by everyone and was a great asset to the club. We will all miss him.

Frank has repaired the Jacobsen. Has not run yet. To have had this done commercially would have cost \$1,000-\$1,500. We need to pay Frank. The head needed milling. The block is flat. \$70 for head planing. Looking at the treasury and estimating remaining expenses for the year the board voted to award \$500.

More people need to take part in mowing. This is partly about citizenship. Please do your part. Lessons offered!

Talked over a ker-fluffle between two people at the field. One person did not take kindly to being asked to put his pet on a leash. Then animal waste was "disposed" of in an inappropriate manner. Review field rules 6 and 7. Rule 6 does not name animal waste specifically, but common sense might lead one to pick up after one's pet.

These rules exist so that many individuals of independent view can together use this space constructively and with respect to one another. Enforcement of this rule should have resulted in a leashed pet. Proper disposal of animal waste is common courtesy.

# Lowell Mathison

September 8, 1935 - May 18, 2015

Gone Flying



June 20, 2006



September 8, 2012 - his birthday



December 10, 2013 - Christmas



## The Care & Feeding of Rechargeable Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH) Batteries

This information pertains to Ni-MH battery packs & cells. To utilize the full capacity of the Ni-MH battery, it is recommended to charge the battery at the rate listed on the product label. Results may vary according to charge rates and charging conditions. For battery cells with no labels, the typical recommended charge rate is 10% of battery capacity.

It is recommended that a "smart peak detecting charger" designed for Ni-MH batteries be used to charge Ni-MH cells. Using chargers not designed for Ni-MH cells may result in under-charged cells, overheating, and/or rupture/bursting of the battery cells. Chargers that operate at limited selectable rates and/or fixed charge times may result in incomplete charge or overcharge to the battery pack, resulting in unpredictable charge capacities.

To achieve a complete and thorough charge, the Ni-MH battery must be charged at a rate equal to or greater than C/10. "C" = cell capacity in mAh. For example, a 1000mAh cell or pack requires (1000/10) or 100mA charge rate or greater. Charging at significantly lower rates than C/10 may not result in a completely charged battery, no matter how long the charging time. The charge rate for Ni-MH cells/packs should meet or exceed the minimum C/10 rate to effect the charging process.

Ni-MH batteries benefit from conditioning cycles. A conditioning cycle first discharges the battery pack to approximately 0.8VDC per cell, followed by a complete re-charging. Three discharge/charge cycles usually constitutes battery conditioning. Conditioning is recommended for brand-new batteries before being placed into service. Conditioning is also recommended when returning a battery pack to service after periods of inactivity or idle storage.

Fast-Charging or Rapid-Charging (i.e. C/1 or C/2 rates ) should only be done to Ni-MH batteries designated as fast-chargeable. If a non-fast charge battery is subjected to excessively high charge rates, it can be damaged from overheating, leaking, bursting, or can exhibit reduced capacity. There are no returns or exchanges on any batteries damaged in this way.

Soldering directly to battery cells is not recommended. The heat of soldering may damage battery cells and/or cause venting of the seals at the positive end. Soldering directly to cells voids any and all warranties or guarantees. Spot-welded solder tabs are the accepted method of making connections to battery cells. Cells with solder tabs are available from Batteries America. Regular Ni-MH batteries exhibit "dissipation" or "self-discharge". This means that they lose their stored current (their "charge") over a period of time. In these instances, the Ni-MH battery must be re-charged again before using. The exception is in the case of "low self-discharge" batteries, such as SANYO eneloop Ni-MH cells. These batteries are usually able to retain most of their charge for up to a year. This charge-retention feature often provides more reliability, less required battery maintenance, and generally greater satisfactory performance.

Do not short-circuit, overcharge, incinerate, or puncture battery cells. Ni-MH batteries MUST be recycled/disposed of properly.



## Additional Charging Notes

For satisfactory and expected service it is very important that battery cells be properly and thoroughly charged, but NOT overcharged.

Very few low-cost mass-market chargers and dischargers have reasonable accuracy over their full range, and in fact may often be operating inaccurately by a considerable amount. Inaccurate charge or discharge rates will result in misleading capacity values.

Many battery users are inclined to believe that if they have clicked to a setting, or adjusted a knob or two, then their charging device will produce exactly the desired values. In truth, many factors influence the capacity values measured or produced. These values can only be verified when calibrated and compared against higher-quality electrical measuring instruments such as the Fluke brand, West Mountain brand, or the AstroFlight brand.

Battery capacity ratings are typically based on full potential storage capability down to voltage levels which are often below the operating cut-off level of devices. This is why full potential battery operating capacity is often not experienced. In many circumstances (i.e. flying a model airplane) it is simply unwise to utilize the battery until it is fully exhausted. In the real world, using rechargeable batteries is somewhat comparable to re-fueling your vehicle; we should re-fill the tank BEFORE it becomes completely drained.

**BATTERIES AMERICA 8845 S. Greenview Dr., Ste.2, Middleton, WI 53562**

**www.batteriesamerica.com. Ph: 608-831-3443 / Fax: 608-831-1082 / e-mail: sales@batteriesamerica.com**



# Skunk River Valley Days

Cambridge, IA 1PM-3PM, June 13, 2015

Methodist Church, 215 2nd St. Free Admission—Good will offerings accepted



## UAV Agricultural Event for farmers and crop consultants Iowa Flight Team Drone Race



**Bill Northey, Iowa Secretary of Agriculture: Iowa Drone Outlook**  
**Meet first Iowa UAV Commercial Operators for Agriculture**

### Drones benefit Iowa Farmers

*Vendors showcase UAV Ag Systems, Connect with Subject Matter Experts*

*First Ever International Drone Community sanctioned event*

*AMA sanctioned flight demonstrations*



10AM Cambridge Parade  
12PM Lunch in the Park  
1PM Benefits of UAVs for precision agriculture - FAA Proposed Rules, Best Drone for your farm.  
2PM UAV/UAS Exhibitors Demonstrations on Cambridge Farm—Local Airfield: Agri-Image Ag Scout Drone, eBee Ag UAV, From Drone to Tractor Quad-Copter for Crop Scouting, DJI Inspire, Remote Sensing software, Hobby Haven DIY kit  
2:30 FPV Drone Race

Note: Flying and vendor displays at Ballard Community School if it rains

Norsemen MC Facility - Cambridge,



Photo by: Civil Air Patrol

2:30 PM 515 FPV Drone Race  
Cambridge ATV park outskirts of town  
That Drone Show Televised in Cambridge!

Contact: Scott Olson, 515-250-1143, [scotto0125@gmail.com](mailto:scotto0125@gmail.com) [www.dronesharks.org](http://www.dronesharks.org)  
IDC (say DRONE) Group rate at Best Western Metro North Ankeny, IA Call 800-903-0009  
Organized by Cambridge VA Medical Foster Home, Disabled Veterans, International Drone Community

# NATIONAL DAY OF FLYING

AUG 15TH AND 16TH

## SUPPORT THE WOUNDED WARRIORS

OTTUMWA REGIONAL AIRPORT OTTUMWA IOWA

GATES OPEN @ 8AM \$5.00 DONATION @ THE GATE

"Dino" Is Back Again!!!!



AIRSHOW STARTS @ 1PM



STRIKING BACK SHOW TEAM REUNION



"Pete Rosa" One of the best pilots you will ever see!!!



FEATURE SHOW PILOT



STE MANUFACTURING

RASCAL 110 RAFFLE

\$10 PER TICKET ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE WOUNDED WARRIORS



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ROSEMANN INC.

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OPEN TO ALL

RC PILOTS

AMA REQUIRED

STRIKING BACK TEAM REUNION  
INFO

CONTACT BILL BOTTS

bfjbotts@mcchsi.com

Or call rick marble @ hobby haven

515-276-8785

PILOTS INFO

LANDING FEE \$20.00

L  
P  
R  
C

PILOTS DINNER PROVIDED

REGISTRATION STARTS AT 9 AM

CAMPING ALLOWED ONSITE

FOR INFO CALL CHARLES PAULK

641-799-4920

## 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:

Craig Krueger	- President	231-7047	<a href="mailto:rcflyer02@gmail.com">rcflyer02@gmail.com</a>
Mark Taylor	- Vice President	232-0848	<a href="mailto:mktaylor145@earthlink.net">mktaylor145@earthlink.net</a>
Kent Woods	- Treasurer	232-8180	<a href="mailto:woods229@msn.com">woods229@msn.com</a>
Dave Popelka	- Field Marshall	515-231-8924	<a href="mailto:dmpopelka@gmail.com">dmpopelka@gmail.com</a>
Dennis Goodrich	- Secretary / Newsletter	505-0408	<a href="mailto:dennyginia@yahoo.com">dennyginia@yahoo.com</a>
Dave Sult	- Safety Officer	490-4662	<a href="mailto:wings4fun60@gmail.com">wings4fun60@gmail.com</a>

### 2015 Central Iowa Aeromodelers Membership Form

Annual Dues: Open Member \$70 - Any Open AMA member.  
 Student \$35 - Full time college undergrad/school student of any capability  
 Family Membership \$70 - 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ R/C Channels You Use: \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_

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.