

# FARM Newsletter

AMA Charter 1654

April 2022

## VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Ernie Padgette



## My 2022 Flying Season (Or, How hard does the wind blow?)

Thus far, the 2022 flying season is off to a roaring start. No, I haven't been flying much. Neither has anyone else as far as I know. The problem is the wind. It's been roaring most of the time. Of course, there have been days when the wind wasn't blowing. Those are the days when it's been cold. Or rainy. Or both. I've heard a lot of comments about how 2022 is probably off to the worst start for many years. Of course, those comments are mostly from those people who said 2021 was bad. And they're probably pretty close to the truth. Well, as Mr. Clemens famously said: "Everyone complains about the weather, but no one ever does anything about it".

This year I have a plan. I had a plan last year. And the year before that. I always seem to have a plan. Usually, several plans. And then there is reality; sometimes referred to as "real life". Which seems to be that I never get as much done as I plan to do. And that's okay. A few of life's lessons I have learned pretty well. One is "I don't *have to* fly today". That has saved me from trying to fly when the wind sock is fluttering above the horizontal and the pole holding the sock is waving back and forth. And it's probably saved me a few planes. The other is: "This doesn't have to get done today". That has saved me from beating myself up too badly when my plan doesn't go to form.

This year I plan to not buy any more airplanes. I have plenty of airplanes. I have plenty of airplanes I bought, hung up in the basement and forgot about. I can get those planes ready to fly and fly them. I don't need any more airplanes. Thus far, I'm doing pretty well with that plan. I've only bought a few new planes. I have bought an old plane. Maybe two. And a few used planes. One or two kits. Maybe an ARF or two. But only a few actual new planes. The idea is to concentrate of some planes I bought, flew a few times, and put away. I'm going to get those planes up in the air and spend the time necessary to get them flying the way they should fly. You know, get them balanced properly, trimmed exactly, flying well.

Right now, I have several planes I've been working on. I've been enjoying the Extreme Flight Turbo Duster. Gordon did a good job putting that one together for me. The wingspan is 65" and the plane is very light for its size. Add in a 6S 5,000 mAh battery and a motor that will take it straight up until it gets really, really, small and it's a blast to fly. The plane flies well, good flight envelope, both slow and fast. Now I'm trying to get the flaps worked out. The first time I flipped on the take off flaps while flying

along nice and high, not too fast, was interesting. The plane headed up steeply enough I thought for a moment I was going to stall the plane. Maybe mix in some down elevator with the flaps? I did that a few days ago. Now if the wind will just let up a bit.

The Freewing Me-262 is ready to maiden. It's a pretty airplane; 59" wingspan, twin 70mm fans and lots of power. I've trimmed it out as well as I can on the ground. Now I just need to get it into the air. And hopefully, back on the ground in one piece. That will require a day with less than 15 MPH winds, though. And I changed the thrust angles on the 6S Mamba biplane. It's ready to fly as soon as the wind gives me a chance to get it up. Same with the E-flite Phantom F-4. It's ground trimmed, just need to get it in the air for the first time.

I just went on the Motion RC website to see if they have the nose gear parts for the F-18 back in stock. A friend was nice enough to take out the nose gear on takeoff. As soon as I get the new parts in hand I can get it back up. Hey! They have still don't have the nose gear parts I need, but they do have a very nice B2 in stock. 86" wingspan with twin 70mm fans. And that 90mm F-22 really looks nice. Hmm... Maybe I can fit a couple of new planes into the plan.

Thanks,

**Ernie Padgette**

## ***EDITOR'S NOTES – Upcoming Events***

**Jeff Killen**

- 1. Club Meeting, Warrenton Community Center, 7:00 PM, 4/26/2022**
- 2. FARM Club Day & Fun Fly #2, at the field, all day, 5/1/2022 - pilot training and flight check day**
- 3. Joe Nall at Triple Tree Aerodrome, Woodruff, SC, all day, 5/6-14, [www.tta.aero](http://www.tta.aero)**
- 4. Firetower Pattern Contest, NC, all day, 5/14-15/2022, CD: Tim Pritchett  
[tjpritchett@aol.com](mailto:tjpritchett@aol.com)**

## ***SECRETARY'S REPORT***

**Jeff Killen**

The March club meeting was held via zoom on March 22. I was committed to family matters and could not attend. So Nic Burhans took notes for me. Thanks, Nic. Here is what he captured:

- Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM.
- We had one visitor, Steve McFarland, who lives in Warrenton and is interested in the FARM Club.

### **OFFICER REPORTS:**

- Member at Large, Charlie; had nothing to report.
- Field Marshal, Ralph Graul; will be rolling the field a couple of times.
- Safety Coordinator, Gordon Collyer; had nothing to report.
- Treasurer's Report:
  - - We lost long time member Hal Howard last January.
  - - We have one new member, Dan Nalley, who is waiting for a good fly day to complete his check flight.
  - - Our membership is now 54.
  - - Our State Corporation Commission registration has been renewed and fees paid for 2022.
  - - Nic Burhans will be the CD for both FARM Float Fly events.
  - - - All the fees for the spring Float Fly have carried over from our 2021 COVID event cancellation.
  - - - The deposit for the fall Float Fly event has been paid.

- - The 26 April Club meeting at the Warrenton Community Center has been scheduled and paid for.

- - As of 22 March we have \$6,948.53 in the bank.

- Secretary, Jeff Killen; not present.
- Vice President, Ernie Padgette; nothing to report.
- President, Dave Rothbart;
- - - Working on a Buddy Box fly day for the Mitre working group - waiting to coordinate schedules and a good flying day.
- - - - The April Club Meeting will be at the Warrenton Community Center and will be for members to show off their winter projects and interesting finds in person a show-and-tell format. Bring YOUR projects to share at the 26 April Club Meeting.

## ***EVENING PRESENTATION***

- Ernie Padgette was the evening presenter on the subject of the history around the Fokker Dr.1

Triplane.

- - Designer Reinhold Platz.

- - - Top speed 115 mph, range 186 miles, weight 895 pounds, Le Rhone 9J engine.

- - Ernie gave the derivation of the manufacturing numbering system.

- - The evolution to the triplane was discussed. It was noted that the first triplane was from the Sopwith company and was out of service before the Fokker triplane and WWI.

- - Ernie discussed rotary engines and their WWI evolution.

- - The DR.1's war record and the Black Flight 10 Squadron was discussed.

- The meeting concluded at 8:57 PM.

## ***FUN FLY #1 RESULTS***

**Nic Burhans**

- We had an interesting day today.

- While it was calm at the start of the day, our newest member, Dan Nalley, completed his required field orientation and solo check flight.

- Congratulations Dan!

- Shortly after Dan completed, the wind started up as the rest of us got test flights out of the way.

- To say the least, it got interesting as the day and the wind progressed.

- FARM 2022 Fun Fly #1 results:

1st. Dan Nalley 7 points

2nd. Doug Cash 6 points

3rd. Nic Burhans 5 points

4th. Ralph Graul 4 points

5th. Ernie Padgett 3 points

6th. Les Broaddus 2 points

7th. Gene Flynn 1 point

Be Safe

Nic

## FARM OFFICERS for 2022

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