



June 2025 Edition

Field Marshal's Corner: Ralph Graul



Flying season is upon us once again and everything is greening up nicely from the weed and feed that was applied to the runway. The runway has been rolled a few times. Some of the bare and low spots were filled with soil and seeded on the east end of the runway and is less bumpy from the winter freeze and the holes that were made by wild life. The east end of the runway still has a lot of bare spots making that area more rough than the rest of the runway.

The mowing schedule is on the club website so review it for when you are scheduled to mow. I highly recommend that you pay attention to weather reports for the week you are scheduled to mow and plan according. Be sure to check oil levels on the mowers before mowing and clean the grass off of the mower and under the mower deck.

Remember to use the @The-Field sign up on the club web site so other members know who will be out flying. If you are the last one to leave the field be sure to secure the flying site before leaving for the day, Insure the Flag is taken down and lanyard is wrapped around the flagpole to prevent the wind from banging it against the pole. Locked up the green box, chairs & BBQ grill, porta potty insuring the locks are zero out. These are all things that we know but just a good reminder.

See you at the field.

Fly Safe.

Ralph.

President's Pilot Box: Ernie Padgette

- No Club specific items this Month.
- However,

If you fly at an AMA field that's part of the national altitude extension in Class G airspace released in April of 2025, there are important rules you need to follow — especially when flying above 400 feet. These guidelines help our fields to continue to operate safely and legally under the FAA authorization so future modelers can enjoy the extensions as well.

Follow USC 44809 and AMA Safety Guidelines: You need to be aware of and follow all AMA safety code practices, USC 44809, and any rules that apply specifically to the flying site in question.

Be Aware of Nearby Aviation Activity: Clubs should be aware if their field is within 2 nautical miles of charted, manned air traffic (such as small airports) and inform you of any safety mitigations or site-specific rules you need to follow in case of possible aircraft nearby. The increased altitudes do not constitute waivers from any other law or safety rule. [See the FAQ link for documentation requirements.](#)

Know Site-Specific Limits: Some sites have altitude or area restrictions based on their size or location. This might change during an event vs. daily flying if the local leadership feels it is necessary or is required by a separate local agreement. Remember, even if a field has received 700-foot or 1,200-foot above-ground-level (AGL) clearance, the club might have restrictions on when they allow pilots to utilize the space above 400 feet. Ask before you fly.

Understand the National Authorization: Especially if you don't regularly fly at a field covered by this authorization, you might not be familiar with all stipulations. Make sure you read through the authorization and seek guidance from local club leadership if you don't understand a section. AMA and District leadership will be available for questions as well, but local restrictions could apply, and club leaders should advise members prior to operation.

Be FAA Registered: Make sure you've registered with the FAA as a recreational flier if operating UAS above 250 grams or 0.55 pounds and are following registration requirements.

Have Completed the The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST): The FAA requires all recreational drone and model aircraft pilots to pass the TRUST safety test. If you haven't done this yet, it's quick and free to complete on AMA's website.

Other Items About These Sites:

Flying Above 400 Feet Is Only Allowed During the Day: The altitude extension only applies between civil sunrise and civil sunset. If you're flying at night, you must stay at or below 400 feet AGL unless otherwise specifically authorized.

Fixed Sites, Not All Class G: This authorization applies to registered AMA sites within Class G airspace that have been submitted for review; it does not authorize altitude extensions for all modelers in Class G airspace. [Members can easily view approved sites on the FAQ page.](#)

You Must Always Stay Within Visual Line of Sight: You or your spotter need to be able to see your aircraft clearly with your own eyes.

Operations Must Follow the Weather Rules: If operating during an event at an applicable site, look to your event managers, contest directors, and FAA national altitude extension for guidance on weather and visibility conditions.

NOTAMs: A NOTAM must be issued for any AMA Sanctioned Event in Class G airspace when flying above 400 feet AGL.

Ernie P.

Vice President's Pilot Box: Nic Burhans

- No specific items this Month.

Nic

Secretary's Pilot Box: Nic Burhans

- NOTE:

- Our Club cooking guru, Bill Towne, has retired and turned in his spatula. President Padgette is still in search of a new "Club cook" for our scheduled Club events.
- We are looking for a CD and a Cook for the Sunday, 27 July Club Field Day.

- FARM Club Calendar:

Upcoming 2025 events:

June 14	Saturday	Field Closed to 72Mhz; Open to 2.4Ghz: Float Fly #1 @ Lake Ritchie	
June 29	Sunday	CD: Nic Burhans npb6218@earthlink.net FARM Club Day @Fun Fly #3 @ Club Field <i>Picnic, Pilot Training, and Flight Check day</i>	9:00 AM All Day
June 24	Sunday	CD: Dave Rothbart Food: ??? FARM Club Meeting on Zoom	7:00 PM
June 29	Sunday	FARM Club Day @Fun Fly #3 @ Club Field <i>Picnic, Pilot Training, and Flight Check day</i> CD: Dave Rothbart Food: ???	All Day
July		AMA NATS @ Muncie, IN www.modelaircraft.org	All Day
July 27	Sunday	FARM Club Day & Fun Fly #4 @ Club Field <i>Picnic, Pilot Training, and Flight Check day</i> CD: ??? Food: ???	All Day
July 27	Sunday	FARM Club Meeting @ Club Field	1:00 PM
August 9-16	Sat-Sat	World Championships (pattern) @ Muncie, IN www.modelaircraft.org	All Day
August 31	Sunday	FARM Club Day & Fun Fly #5 @ Club Field <i>Picnic, Pilot Training, and Flight Check day</i> CD: Ernie Padgette Food: ???	All Day
August 31	Sunday	FARM Club Meeting @ Club Field	1:00 PM

Remember to Be SAFE

Nic

Treasurer's Pilot Box: Nic Burhans

- As of 12 June, the FARM Club presently has 57 members. (18 Regular members, 33 Senior members, 1 Junior member, 1 Associate member, and 4 Life members).
- As of 12 June, the Club presently has a balance of \$5,459.42 in the general fund.

Continue to Be Safe

Nic

Safety Officer's Pilot Box: Mike Wiczalkowski

- We had a small safety issue this month that wasn't a bad thing, but could have been.

- REMEMBER:

" All members should only start their planes in the pit area, not under the pavilion where we all sit. "Gas, Nitro, or Electric" Pilots should roll out the starting tables to the pit area to start the planes or of course use their own stands or on the ground. Pilots also need to use caution after starting their planes and stand behind them to help prevent falling into the plane or getting clothing caught in the prop after it has started."

Thank you

Continue to Be Safe

Mike

Field Marshal's Pilot Box: Ralph Graul

- See above.

- No other Club specific items this Month.

Ralph

Member at Large's Pilot Box: Charlie Koustenis

- No Club specific items this Month.

Charlie

Member at Large's Pilot Box: Bill Flathers

- No Club specific items this Month.

Bill F

Web Master's Pilot Box: Dick Sutton

- No Club website specific items this Month.

Dick

FARM Member "Tips & Projects" Box: Any FARM Member



Javelin Is Way Behind

Some of the CMB and FARM members, under the suggestion of Jay Z, bought Javelin kits from Old School Model Works this winter as a club build; so I did too! Made great progress which I chronicled on the club's Facebook page until March when things almost came to halt. A series of personnel physical problems (severely sprained ankle again!), trips to New Jersey for family medical emergencies, a trip to PA to visit with Sister in Law's family and God kids.

So finally, I started back on the Javelin I at the end of May and got everything covered but the wing. I finished sanding the wing but I am not

happy with the ribbed wing tips or the built-up ailerons. I bought some solid aileron material from Balsa USA but I'm not sure what to do about the wing tips. I may try to plank them or build some solid wing tips. I need to get after it, everyone else is finished and flying theirs!

I did purchase the recommended Bad ass Motor, ESC and Battery and also some Carrie Graphics. So, hope to get it in the air soon!

Bill Towne

- No additional items this Month.

“From the Field” Anything Input Pilot Box: Any FARM Member

We Did That:

It was during the 1940's that they came out with the "Dynajet" for model aviation. This was a tube about two feet long with a red anodized aluminum head. The design of this jet engine was based on the motor that powered the WW2 German Buzz bomb. The model Dynajet was LOUD. If you can imagine a 12 gauge shot gun going off continuously, that would be about it.

In model aviation the Dynajet could reach speeds of nearly 200 mph. It was a natural evolution to imagine a Dynajet on a bicycle. I had a Dynajet and Bobby Dent had a bicycle. We gathered at Bill Hinman's house to build a fuel tank and put the Jet Bicycle together. We test ran the Dynajet at Hinman's house and it worked fine.

Running the jet bike along Great Falls Street in front of Hinman's was anticlimactic. It only had four pounds of thrust and it wasn't going to go very fast. We needed a big hill. We chose Route 50, a heavily traveled highway, with a big hill from Seven Corners down into Falls Church.

We were taking turns running the Jet Bike down the hill and bringing it back up in my mom's open top Crosley. It was Max Walther's turn to try the bike. We fired it up and shoved Max off in a cloud of smoke and noise.

Max was jetting down the hill and a cop car sped by us and after Max. With the noise of the jet Max could not hear the police car siren and did not stop, so the cop sped by Max and slowed down to try to stop him. Max just sped around the police car and this made the cop right mad. Finally the jet ran out of gas and stopped. The cop ran after Max and grabbed the jet bike and threw it into his trunk and pushed Max into his back seat, then he took off for the police station in Fairfax. We followed in the Crosley.

They booked us for no vehicle registration, no driver's licence (Max) and other things.

It just happened that Warner Path News was at the courthouse for another reason and they wanted to do some stuff on the Jet bicycle. The police let us demonstrate the Jet Bike for the news people. The sound reverberated from the walls of the courthouse and made a hell of a racket.

The VFW was a sponsor of our model club and a member happened to be there. He talked to the police and talked them onto letting the innovative kids off if they promised to never run the jet bike in Falls Church again.

The only outlet that Warner Pathe News had for releasing their news features, with no such thing as television at the time, was in movie theaters. There was always a news brief before the feature film. That is where the jet bike saga was shown.

We were very proud.

John Hunton

We can do this:

Fauquier Aero Recreation Modelers

F.A.R.M. Charity R/C Float Fly Event

AMA Sanctioned event

{NOTAM and Altitude & Remote ID waivers are in place}

14 June 2025

(Rain or Shine CHARITY event)

Open to all AMA Members

Bring the family and friends.

Fly R/C amphibians or float planes of all kinds off the lake

Run R/C boats

Sail R/C sailboats



Enjoy lunch under the shaded pavilion with indoor restrooms

Date: Saturday, 14 June (rain or shine)

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

\$30.00 pilot's fee (Air & Surface - Includes Lunch)

Extra lunches available for \$6.00

Raffle and 50/50 drawing with added prizes.

Help feed the Hungry! FARM will again be accepting "Non Perishable" food as well as monetary donations (\$1.00 buys \$4.00 in food) for the Fauquier Community Food Bank. (A free 50/50 ticket given to all donors.)

Participant SWAP Meet from 9:00 am until Noon (tables provided)

Location: Scenic Lake Ritchie, 5177 Lake Ritchie Road, Bealeton VA 22712

Directions: --From the North out of Warrenton on US-29 South, then on US-17 South at Opal, in 6.9 miles turn left onto 644 (Ritchie Road) at the Flying Circus sign. Follow signs for the Float Fly.

--From the South out of Fredericksburg on US-17 North, in 20.9 miles turn right onto 644 (Ritchie Road) at the Flying Circus sign. Follow signs for the Float Fly.

Google Link:

<http://maps.google.com/maps?q=38.541285,-77.714109&num=1&sll=38.54068,77.714624&sspn=0.016448,0.032144&hl=en&ie=UTF8&ll=38.540647,-77.713165&spn=0.526329,1.028595&z=10>

Questions? Contact: Nic at npb6218@earthlink.net or 540-219-9646

FARM CLUB 2024 OFFICERS

President.	Ernie Padgette	540-439-6085
Vice President	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Secretary	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Treasurer/Contact Point . .	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Safety Officer	Mike Wiczalkowski	571-437-4705
Field Marshall	Ralph Gaul	540-729-1586
Webmaster.	Dick Sutton	rsutton43@comcast.net
Training Coordinator. . . .	Ralph Gaul	540-729-1586

The FARM Newsletter is published monthly by the Fauquier Aero Recreation Modelers, AMA charter #1654. It is forwarded to FARM members and to other clubs on an exchange basis. Articles related to all types of aviation are welcome. Opinions expressed in the newsletter articles are those of the individual author and do not necessarily reflect those of FARM Inc.

Publishing input deadline is the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Please forward all inputs (Pictures in jpg format) to: Nic Burhans

6061 Captains Walk E-Mail: npb6218@earthlink.net

Broad Run, VA 20137-1959

540-219-9646

Our Club web site is: <http://www.farmclubrc.com>