

# Just PLANE Talk



Official newsletter of the  
**Mid-State Aeroguidance Club**

307 W. 5th St.  
Marshfield, WI 54449  
AMA chartered club #1098  
Since 1973

**January 2018**



## *A few words from the editor*

**President**  
**Tony Lewis**  
715-506-0886

**Vice President**  
**Steve Sanford**  
715-650-2979

**Secretary**  
**Jim Rasmussen**  
715-387-6561

**Treasurer**  
**Sandy MacDonald**  
715-387-4712

**Safety Officer**  
**Rod Seehafer**  
715-252-8591

**Newsletter editors**  
**Jack Walden**  
715-384-5658

**Jim Rasmussen**  
715-387-6561



I don't know about you, but I'm in a holding pattern at this time of year and I've been

thinking about going back to the flight simulator I have on my computer with the idea of keeping the flying reflexes sharp and still enjoying some flying in the comfort of your home. There are really some good simulators out there and I think they're worth the time and effort to use them. I have a few maneuvers that bother me and the simulator is a good way to work on them, and besides if you crash, it doesn't cost an arm and a leg.

This also is time for most of us guys here in the north to look at that project that's been laying around for a while or even choose a new project and either build or assemble it this winter. Now that we have the time it really

would be worthwhile going over our planes carefully looking for problems. For those of us that fly with electrics now is good time to put those lipo batteries in the "storage" mode.

Sitting in my shop right now I have two planes that I have to finish. One I have to finish assembling it, and the other I have to finish building it.

Have you noticed that the AMA has told us that we have to register our planes again since the FAA has dictated this to us.

Now that we all have some extra time on our hands, check out some of the videos on the net showing some big engine starts. I love watching the big radial engine starts and remember the smell of the exhausts too.

*Jim*

Visit The Club Web  
Site At:

<http://www.msaero.com>

# The Prez Has been Hard at work for the Club

by Jack Walden



**Tony Lewis**, our club president, has put a lot of extra time in to doing special actives for the club. One of these in particular was to represent the club at the annual “*Great Things Are Happening Here*” program at the Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library on November 5, 2017 from the 1 to 4PM open house.

In case you aren't familiar with this event, it is designed to showcase to the community, clubs and

organizations, which help to make Marshfield a “*Great Place To Live.*” This is the second year Tony and Mid-State Aeroguidance Club have participated in this event. Tony’s display had several airplanes, his computer with a simulator program loaded on it, and several other airplane related programs. In addition, information flyers he and his wife & dad designed and printed were available.

Many people stopped to ask questions about model airplanes, the display, and our club. The library suggested we have a give away drawing to attract visitors. Tony provided a small drone which was more interesting than the plant at the next door table. Good job Tony! I was at the “Second Chance” organ donation display next door to Tony, and people were much more interested in the airplanes than donating their organs.

Thanks again, Tony

*Jack*

# Tech talk

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By: Jim Rasmussen



Few things irritate us modelers more than people calling our activities playing with **toy airplanes**. As we well know, our hobby/sport is a truly scientific endeavor, requiring a working knowledge of aerodynamics, meteorology, electronics, metallurgy, chemistry, physics, and other technologies. However, model airplanes are also an art form, and a fine art at that!

My definition of an art is zany, creative human activity with tire purpose of effecting emotions. That covers a lot of territory: literature, graphic arts, music, sculpture, architecture, ballet, and more. Commercial art (of whatever kind) differs from fine art, at least in its purpose. Commercial art is performed primarily to satisfy a customer's requirements, while fine art is done to please the artist himself. Of course a fine artist can get paid for his work, and sometimes does. But he's the one, not his client, who decides what the artwork will be, and how and when to do it.

Now consider model airplanes again with the preceding paragraph in mind. The miniature aircraft that we build and fly surely involve as genuine of an artistic effort as the work of any painter or musician. Even when we don't have the time available to let us enjoy the complete experience of designing and building a model from scratch, and instead, assemble one from a commercial kit, we make the decision whether to substitute a curved wing tip for a rectangular one or to revise the entire shape of a vertical tail.

Model airplanes might very well represent the highest (pun intentional) form of fine art. Our aircraft involve every one of the techniques of tire graphic arts like drawing, painting, and photography, as well as tire three-dimensionality of sculpture, the practical values and uses of architecture, and the dynamic qualities of ballet!

I can't think of any other art form with so much complexity and variety. From simple all-balsa hand launched gliders (throwing these for maximum duration is an art form in itself!) to four-engined, multi channel RC models. The range of possible projects, materials, and techniques is almost infinite. Miniature aircraft that fly can be as tiny as the popular' eight-inch wingspan rubber-powered models, or as large as 20 ft. radio-controlled Giant Scale model.

I've seen model airplanes constructed from paper, plastics, metals, and woods ranging from balsa and bamboo to pine, spruce, basswood, mahogany, maple, and birch. Finishes show as much variety. The craftsmen that the public usually think of as artists have no wider selection of media to work with than modelers do.

The dynamics of flight are exquisitely artistic too. Aerial maneuvers of a control line stunt model or an RC acrobatic airplane exhibit as much grace, symmetry, and balance as ballet does. It is also easier to appreciate. A ballerina's triple entrechat, for example, occurs in about half of a second. That's too fast for most human eyes to register, but anyone can see and follow a model airplane doing a spin, slow roll or horizontal figure eight.

Considered as a fine art, model airplanes are a great deal more comprehensible than most others to laymen. Modern painting and sculpture have lost all relation to reality. No one looking at examples of these types of art knows quite what their supposed to be experiencing. That's never the case with model airplanes! Even "far-out" modeling projects like a flying doghouse, or a radio controlled bat are instantly recognizable for what they represent. They may or may not be well executed, but it's easy to tell the difference. You can't say that about much in the way of modern art!

The only major dissimilarity between airplane modelers and the people the general public considers to be artists is that we're obviously having fun in our activity. It's hard to visualize Frank Lloyd Wright humming a happy tune while designing Falling Water, Michelangelo grinning as he painted the Sistine Chapel ceiling, or Beethoven chuckling while composing a symphony. Maybe if they had done that, they'd have been accused of playing with toys too!

author: Joe Wagner

**CALVIN AND HOBBS**



# Shawano R/C Flying Club

**\*\*\* 33rd Annual \*\*\***

**Swap Meet and Auction**

**February 25, 2018**

**Doors Open 7:30 AM**

**Swap and Auction 8:00 AM to 12:30**

*Admission - \$5.00 12 (and under free)*

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225 S.. Main St.. Shawano**

**Directions to Civic Center  
From Hwy 29, take Hwy. 22  
North to Downtown Shawano,  
Turn left at the light on Division  
Street, than left on Washington  
Street. To parking lot behind  
Civic Center.**



## **For Information:**

**John Gooding - Club President  
jgooding@charter.net**

**Blair Johnson - Secretary  
bjohn2469@hotmail.com**

**Jim Vanderwalker - Treasurer  
jimmyr2@charter.net**

**Bob May - Vice President & Safety**

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Mid State Aeroguidance Club

AMA CHARTER #1098

M 538 Cayman St  
 Marshfield, WI. 54449  
 Jack Walden, Editor

Address correction requested

