



Eastern Shore Aeromodelers Club

NEWSLETTER

May 3, 2020

AMA Chartered Club # 4095

New: Indian Town Road, Vienna, MD

38°30'30.76"N 75°48'51.66" W

IGNITER

Dear Member,

What exactly should RC flying club members be doing when the world is in such an upheaval? Some of the tongue-in-cheek answers include: "Nothing, because we are ordered to stay home, and it is hard to fly your rc airplanes remotely unless you are the military or the CIA"; "Work on projects with all the new found free time, with parts and materials that you stockpiled before the crisis because you saw it coming"; "Get creative in your interpretation of what 'essential travel' means- including a trip to the field for some needed thumb flexing and neck swivel exercise."

What role can the club serve in your life at this moment? After all, our members have signed up for a year expecting to get something only to find that all club activities have been suspended until further notice (whatever that means). If you are expecting a complete answer, don't bother to read any more, because nobody has these kinds of answers. But no answer does not mean that we don't have direction. Spoiler alert- We have a newsletter to publish and we just aren't doing all that much these days, so I can only try to share some thoughts to fill some space and look to the future to when we can start flying again whenever the weather is good.

Back in ancient History, a time I call BC2019 (before covid), we were all making plans and doing things with our friends, building airplanes, saving up for a new airplane. Now, nothing is normal -- Sharing wishes to "Stay well" or feeling less angry at being on hold because it is amazing when someone actually does pick up and helps you out- or feeling more angry because the unemployment website just froze. Website crashes and glitches and systems that break under the weight of too many people needing the same thing at the same time when nobody builds these systems to handle this kind of volume is the new normal. We tolerated rush hour traffic jams because too few lanes were built to handle 8am each day, but scarcity feels different somehow with our new virtual shut in lives.

The new 'crisis normal' is starting to settle in and we are tempted to start our political finger pointing as every level of authority exercises increasing interference with our rights as Americans to be free in the pursuit of happiness. So many clashes are coming at us- my rights vs our rights; who is entitled to say 'no' or to say 'yes' to anything; and a biggie- who did this to me/us? Someone must pay! Cue the lawyers.

It seems to me that this problem is big enough that there will be blame enough for everybody, so no reason to start dividing it up now. We know that a crisis brings out the best and the worst in people. Human nature will steer some folks

to inspiring acts of self sacrifice, bravery and kindness, and others to acts of selfishness, stupidity or even unimaginable criminally looking to exploit the sick or confused. Our differing views of the role of government- should it be responsible for my well being or am I responsible or how do we share responsibility? Our old assumptions about planning and government provided safety can be challenged as we look at New York City in February with too few hospital beds and too few ventilators to handle the projected needs. Now in May, they are sharing ventilators with other states and preparing to close the extra hospitals that were built cooperatively between multiple Federal and State agencies. Who could have imagined that Feds and States would ever work together on anything? Nobody stockpiled enough supplies for a virus that did not exist before now- so whose fault is that?

The Eastern Shore medical system is holding up so far- I just heard from the Maryland Hospital Association that 80-85% of ICU beds on the shore are occupied at the moment, so we might still be ok unless we have a sudden huge need. My friend is at home recovering from Covid -didn't need a hospital, but is in day 17 and she is starting to feel a little better each day. So when we hear of the need for declining numbers for 14 days, it sounds ridiculous compared with my need to get back to work now, but maybe not when you compare it against the ICU beds filling up and staying full for 2-3 weeks before the next person can get in. How long can you hold your breath? - Seriously-- Literally !

So what is the club doing? The field is being maintained so that when you go fly, the grass and facilities are ready for you. We have taken the first step in tilling a rough area and started smoothing it for a second dedicated control line circle. Our Jim Coll event last year doubled in size and value economically to the club, and it produced increased interest in expanding the event to include more categories. We are preparing for that possibility because we have reason to believe we might need it, and if we don't do it now- it will be another year to wait. (Sort of like stockpiling an extra ventilator before it is needed) With the Brodak event cancelled, some folks have contacted us to see what we can

accommodate at Jim Coll if and when we have it next.

While everything is on hold- we are looking at what it takes to take the emergency brake off. The club is prepared to just have our events as scheduled, or reschedule as needed whenever that is possible. I personally don't plan to fly until our hospital covid admission rate is stable for 14 days. My view on this is just right for me - but I get people asking my opinion, so I am sharing. My philosophy is that fewer trips circulating with other people means that healthcare workers and first responders are safer if I err on the side of caution for now. I do not judge anybody else who decides to go fly. Nobody knows for sure how much is too much these days, and the club is maintaining the field so that members can individually choose what is right for them.

Hope to see you at the field one day soon,

Jack





A Meeting was called to order on . . . NO it wasn't !

April 8, 2020 at the Train Station at 7pm with nobody. We didn't have a meeting because the Town closed the train station and more importantly, the pizza place was closed. (probably some other reasons as well, but we can choose what to write down and what to leave out)

Treasurer reports \$888.31 in savings and \$1296.51 in checking. Field Assistance application triggered AMA to contact us with word that they never received our club charter renewal this year- nobody knows where the email application went. So we have fixed that and are legal again.

The officers are in daily communication about the field, and working so we are prepared to get back to having events and supporting member flying as usual. We need to conserve cash, but it is difficult to know what exactly that means since we don't know when we will be open for business. We have not cancelled the port o pot since it costs about 2 months rent to have it delivered back, and some members will fly when they can; we are mowing the field to help it grow in and get smoother; we are maintaining the mowers because the grass grows in the spring and summer. We are preparing to have events because that will also happen one day.

Just because we aren't having club meetings doesn't mean that nothing is happening or that we don't want to hear from members. Please reach out to an officer with any questions, comments or concerns.

The Official 2020 Club Calendar- Check the website for more up to the minute schedule changes.

Everything is on hold for now

- April 8 - CANCELLED Club meeting
- April 25 -- Field Closed- Handsel Chicone Village Day ??
- May 3 - ?? IMAC Judging School demonstration flying 9-12 noon
- May 13 - ?? Club meeting at the Train Station 7pm
- June 10 - ?? Club meeting at the Train Station 7pm
- June 20-21 ?? IMAC

- July 8 - ?? Club meeting at the Train Station 7pm
- August 8-9 ?? Jim Coll
- August 12 - ?? Club meeting at the Train Station 7pm
- August 15-16 - ?? IMAC
- September 9 - ?? Club meeting at the Train Station 7pm
- October 10 Field Closed - Handsell Jamboree
- October 14- ?? Club meeting at the Train Station 7pm
- October 17 - ?? Jet Rally
- November 11 - ?? Club meeting at the Train Station 7pm
- December 9 - ?? Christmas Party Meeting 7pm — at the Train Station - potluck

Happy Birthday to Us . . .



No Birthdays in
May- but I missed one
in April- sorry!

Links

**Support Our Local
Hobby Shops**

Hobby Stop

22762 Sussex Hwy
Seaford, DE
302-629-3944

Anthony Lane -
birthday in April

[AMA Website](#)

[AMA - District IV](#)

**Hobby Town of
Easton**

106 Marlboro Ave
Easton, MD
410-822-7800

[Know Before You
Fly](#)

[FAA- Pilot
Registration](#)

[Renewal
Membership Form](#)

[Jack Upchurch](#) -- President
410-310-2007

[Duane Lundahl](#) -- V. President
301-717-5727

[George Fox](#) -- Safety Officer
410-310-9245

CLUB OFFICERS -- CONTACT

[Jack Rosemere](#) -- Treasurer /
membership coordinator
410-330-4663

[Matt Sebring](#) -- Field Marshall
410-804-0204

