



November 11, 2019

AMA Chartered Club # 4095

MD

New: Indian Town Road, Vienna,

38°30'30.76"N 75°48'51.66" W

IGNITER

Dear Member,

Certain times of year trigger a philosophical perspective in me- and being part of an ongoing team of Officers nominated for another year is one of those times. The original newsletter format had a section called- "The President's Podium". Sorry, but I will ask your acceptance for thoughts not directly concerning model airplane flying. I am sensing some larger life issues which need their dots connected. If I had a title for this column, it would be "The Meaning of Life and How to Get Through it Without Breaking a Sweat". If you don't care about my rambling dot connection, feel free to skip ahead to the photos.

- A friend of mine made a convincing argument about how God was made up to satisfy weak human minds that were unable to make sense of the world. 'How can you possibly believe in some invisible all powerful being with all of the scientific proof to the contrary? The earth came to be in a giant explosion and all life continues to evolve. Our ears have been proven to have developed from gills back in the evolutionary chain.'
- Another friend told me that he had figured out how to 'Turn off his Give a Shit Button'. This skill allows him to tolerate other people and situations that normally gets him into arguments. And I understand that the younger generation have a term called 'canceling someone', which is when someone in the group is erased so that they no longer matter in response to something they have done or said.
- Did you have a classmate in school who had figured out how to put just enough effort in to get that B- when he was smart enough to get the A? I did, and I have a business partner who did just that.
- I read a book that proclaimed that Understanding is the basis of modern life and of modern relationships. We now have access to every bit of information from our phones, so understanding everything is just a click away. (But having information does not necessarily result in understanding. And unfortunately, after accessing info by a click on the phone, the clicker often cannot determine whether the information is accurate or relevant.)

On the surface, these dots seem normal and even reasonable if you don't connect them. The problem for me is that I do tend to look for connections. When you replace the Golden Rule with Math, aren't we then supposed to pick the one right answer- maximum/minimum, either/or instead of 'treating others as you want to be treated'? The concept of Minimalism has taken over our culture- the notion that you get ahead by doing the bare minimum required rather than doing your best. But take that frugal idea to the limit and apply it over your whole life and you have nobody helping a neighbor, nobody volunteering, everyone is just above average with that B- since working hard for

the A or helping is for stupid people unless properly rewarded. Turning off your Give a Shit button is not the same thing as accepting or tolerating a different point of view. Canceling someone because they disagree is the opposite of accepting them. It amounts to Minimalism again- not putting the effort into life that tolerance requires. Not caring makes the other person feel invisible. Math says that 50/50 is the one point where two people are in balance. What does it feel like to be in a 50/50 relationship? Isn't it about the line between mine/yours, my turn to do the dishes/yours, my job/yours? Equivalent fractions are 50/50; 1/1 or 100/100. What is more satisfying in a relationship- putting the minimum in equally 1/1 or having partners willing to do whatever it takes? So now I wonder which system is supporting the weak human mind - The Golden Rule or Math? The one that requires hard work or the Minimalist life solution? Understanding is important, but cannot substitute for acceptance and loving your neighbor. Everybody gets louder and louder demanding understanding and the audience has their give a shit button turned off for efficiency sake. What if we all turned the button back on and did the hard work of accepting others? We can still disagree, but without the idea of being accountable for loving our neighbor, we are encouraged to make them irrelevant if they don't see things as we do. It has been said that we love things and we use people to get ahead. (he who dies with the most toys wins) How much better would life be if we turn that upside down and love people and use things? The death of a friend caused me to think about her life. From the outside, she died with a very very small pile of things to show for a whole life of toil, but she left many people whose lives were better because of her.

In the club, I see that 'do unto others' way of life in action. We have had a pretty stressful year getting a new field in operational shape, and we have had members putting time, energy and cash in to make things happen. Many members have their give a shit buttons turned on, a willingness to do more than the minimum required – we love people and use the things we have at our disposal. We demonstrate acceptance - that some of us like our planes going around in circles while others insist on soaring with the eagles. Acceptance--

not just tolerance. Maximum effort-- not the bare minimum. This is what makes for a rich life and what makes the club so special for me. And to be clear, I am accepting of the Minimalists among us. They pay their dues and enjoy the benefits of membership. For me, I only want to do something if I can be "all in".

See you soon,

Jack

[Renewal Membership Form Link](#)

Photos this month courtesy of Jerry Sciortino and Jack Upchurch









A Meeting was called to order on . . .

October 9, 2019 at the Train Station at 6:55pm with 15 members present. The Treasurer reported \$641.24 in checking and \$1186.07 in savings.

As called for in the Club Corporate Bylaws, members present discussed the dues structure with the Board and decided to keep dues at current levels for 2020. While the club is in need of funds, some members have already paid for 2020 and the club looks in line to squeak by when rent is due in December.

Dennis updated the club on the Jet Rally with final email reminders to pilots going out next week. Members were urged to attend as spectators.

Per Club Corporate Bylaws, nominations for 2020 club officers were opened. The current slate of officers was nominated and after brief discussion about other interested members adding their names, nominations were closed. Current officers: George Fox- Safety Officer; Jack Rosemere- Treasurer; Duane Lundahl- V.President; & Jack Upchurch-President have all indicated willingness to serve in 2020 if asked. The official vote will be held at the November meeting.

New field projects were reviewed. All maintenance/project activity at the new field should be coordinated through Matt Sebring- Field Marshall. Matt reported that both mowers are in good working order, all structures are complete. New

potential project ideas were solicited: Skip wanted to extend the shade over the front side of the pit at the control line area and was asked to provide drawings and costings to the Board; Matt asked members if there was support for tilling up half of the runway so that it could be made smoother, followed by the other half once grass had regrown. A majority of those in attendance expressed a desire to hold off and see how the runway worked out when the current grass filled in. There had been prior discussion about submitting our field construction costs to AMA for Field Site Assistance. George Fox had started the process when we lost the first new field and began looking for where we are now. Perhaps that process can begin again- paperwork is due by February, and we should certainly see what AMA can do to help us out.

Club finances were discussed. The new field is flyable, the old field has been cleaned out and left in good condition for the landlord. Actual rent due to both landlords was discussed. We agreed to see if the old landlord would accept 6 months rent rather than payment through August. While there are not sufficient funds to pay 3 months of port-o-pot rental and rent on the old field and new field, members paid dues for 2020 at the meeting in sufficient numbers to get close- one member actually paid dues through 2021 to help out.

The meeting was called to a close at 7:42.

The Official 2019 Club Calendar- Check the website for more up to the minute schedule changes.

- November 13 - Club meeting at the Train Station 7pm

- December 11 - Christmas Party Meeting 7pm — at the Train Station - potluck

**Support Our Local
Hobby Shops**

Hobby Stop

22762 Sussex Hwy
Seaford, DE
302-629-3944

**Hobby Town of
Easton**

106 Marlboro Ave
Easton, MD
410-822-7800

Happy Birthday to You . .

- Bob Boyer
- Jerry Sciortino
- Tim Stagg
- Maurice Taylor



Links

[AMA Website](#)

[AMA - District IV](#)

[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

