

THE FLYER



FLIGHT FOR ALL

Prince George's Radio Control Club, Inc.

AMA Club #334

May 2008

The May PGRC membership meeting will be held *at the Club House*, Tuesday 20 May 2008 at 7:00 PM.

New keys to the field gate are available for sale to solo-certified, paid-up members. The lock was changed immediately after the March meeting. If you missed the meeting, you can purchase a key from a Board member for \$4.

APRIL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Recap by Carl Siefring

Reports. The April meeting was held at the Club House. We started with reports from the Treasurer Steve Baker and Secretary Carl Siefring. Steve reported that PGRC currently has 131 members and would soon pass the membership level at the end of last year. Carl reported on odds and ends including receiving the club charter, insurance certificates, and renewal of Gold Club status.

Club Simulator. Carl managed to piece together an "old technology" computer – think 400 MHz, 128MB of RAM – that is being donated to the Club. It will be used to run a flight simulator donated by Jake Flory. We have set up the computer and simulator in the Club House and will use it to give visitors and new pilots some stick time before their first flight or when Tuesday training sessions are not possible because of weather.

CCRC Guests. Dave mentioned that CCRC is adding a new runway to their field. During the construction, we have invited their members to fly at our field as guests.

New Board Members. We've recently had two board members step down. We thank Jake Flory and Harvey Gross for their commitment and efforts on behalf of the Club. Byron Smith

THE FLYER is published to provide information of interest to the members and friends of PGRC. Any opinions expressed are those of the Editor (and anyone else who submits material fit for printing), and not necessarily those of the Board.

PGRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dave Turner (President)	(301) 855-7796
Charlie Gettier (VP, Newsletter)	(410) 757-3195
Steve Baker (Treasurer)	(301) 352-4580
Carl Siefring (Secretary)	(301) 855-9226
Alan Goodman (Safety Officer)	(410) 867-7281
Steve Whitecoff (Field Marshall)	(410) 280-5372
Rodger Binger	(301) 261-7976
Eric Holmes	(301) 776-2827
Rick Hagen	(410) 257-5327
Wayne Butler	(301) 420-8412
Byron Smith	(301) 390-8712

PGRC DUES SCHEDULE

Initial Assessment (New First-Time Members)	\$100
Annual Dues (General)	\$75
Annual Dues (Junior)	\$10
Annual Dues (Senior w/ at least 5 yrs in the club)	\$45
Annual Dues (Senior w/ less than 5 yrs in the club)	\$60
Annual Dues (Family)	\$85

Annual dues are considered late if paid after the January general membership meeting. An additional \$25 late fee will be assessed.

Dues can be paid at the meetings, or can be mailed to:

Steve Baker
12215 Malin Lane
Bowie, MD 20715

Be sure to include your address, phone number, **and AMA Number** on the check. You **must** be an active AMA member to fly at the field.

DIRECTIONS TO THE PGRC FLYING FIELD

(South of Bowie, MD) Take US Rt. 301 south approx. 3 miles south of Rt. 214. Turn east on Swanson Rd. and follow the PGRC signs.

PGRC'S WEB PAGE

Visit with PGRC on the Internet:
<http://www.pgrclub.com/>

and Roger Binger will replace Jake and Harvey, filling out their terms. We are fortunate to have two such talented people willing to step-up on relatively short notice.

Runway Cracks. Dave Turner reported that most items were completed during the March Spring Clean-Up Day. We thank all who showed up and helped. One item still on the list of things-to-do is sealing runway cracks. Rodger Binger has volunteered for the task. When he does the sealing, the field will be closed for several hours. He will try to pick a time on a windy weekday when the field is not busy.

Tractor. Rodger announced that the new-to-us tractor has received all necessary repairs and upgrades (mostly some new tires and rims) and is now at the flying field. Reports are already coming in as to how pleasurable and relaxing mowing and bush-hogging is compared to the old machine, which was typically described as under-powered, exhausting, and back-breaking. Rodger is always willing to show off the tractor if you are interested. The club is looking to sell the old 1939 Ford 9N tractor, which has some value because it is considered an antique. If you know anyone interested in this functioning classic, please have them contact Dave Turner or Rodger Binger. The club paid \$900 to purchase the 9N and would like to recover most of that in a sale, but any serious offer will be considered.

Covering Class. Dave Turner is willing to continue covering lessons on Tuesday evenings at 5:00 pm at the club house. These may be held on the second or fourth Tuesday of the month. Contact Dave if you are interested and to make sure he is actually available on a specific Tuesday. Dave also mentioned he'd be willing to do a fiber-glassing class if there is enough interest.

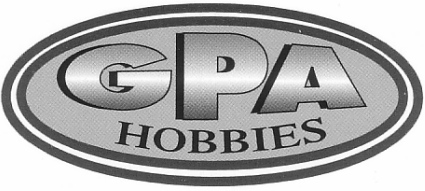
The Three Rs. Steve Baker related news on Racing, Rudder (only) and Robbery. In reverse order, we start with Robbery.

Our friends at the GPA Hobby Shop in Bowie/Crofton were recently robbed at gun point. Apparently, on April 6th, several armed and masked young men entered the store in the middle of the day. Employees and customers

were forced to lie face down on the floor while cash and RC car equipment were rounded up. The good news is the culprits were later apprehended by the police!

It's hard to express the importance of having local hobby shops with employees knowledgeable enough to help the serious hobbyist. The hobby shop business is very tough, especially these days competing against the big mail order shops. The employees and owners of hobby shops are not getting rich and are certainly not getting hazardous duty pay. The next time you are at GPA, lend a sympathetic ear and let them know that they are appreciated by the RC community. The best way to express appreciation is to spend a few more dollars at the local shops. The next time you're thinking of ordering from Tower, Horizon, Hobby-Lobby, etc., get in touch with your hobby shop and see if they can give you a competitive price; very often they can.

"Maryland's Largest Hobby Selection"



M-F 11-7 SAT 10-6 SUN 12-4	2431 Crofton Lane, Suite 6 Crofton, MD 21114 (301) 858-0004 / (410) 721-2010 http://www.gpahobbies.com
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Steve related that Don Grey of DCRC is sponsoring a Rudder-Only event at DCRC in July – see your AMA magazine for details. Don taught Steve when he was learning how to fly with a rudder only plane known as Patty's Pig.

Steve also reminded the members of the years racing schedule. The first was on May 3rd and was highlighted with some spectacular crashes. The next will be on June 14th. Steve is looking for course workers for this event.

Welcome Back, Jeff. Jeff Chumley rejoined the club after a few year hiatus from the hobby.

Jeff is an excellent builder and known for his unique and creative projects, and was also responsible for construction of the "Geezer Stands". We look forward to some interesting future show-and-tell sessions.

Show-and-Tell. Dave finished the meeting showing off the beginning of a 7th-scale full-body pilot he is making. He compared it to a pilot bought from Tower which seemed unnecessarily heavy. Dave also demonstrated some scale lights manufactured by RAM. They are quite bright. Navigation lights, landing lights and MARS strobes are all available. He also showed some small diode lights made by RC Airplane Beacon that come with their own power source. All of these products are available at Tower Hobbies.

50/50 and Raffle. Crystal DeBeary missed out on the staggering sum of \$19 in the 50/50 drawing. Charlie Gettier won a donated raffle prize -- an amphibious airframe.



24404 Three Notch Rd
Hollywood, MD 20636
301 373-6674

TUESDAY AFTERNOON FLIGHT INSTRUCTION. Now that daylight saving time has returned, we have resumed our Tuesday afternoon flight training sessions. Generally, the sessions start when instructors can arrive after work - typically ~5:00 pm. Last year, instructors Dave Turner, Alan Goodman, Charlie Gettier, and Steve Baker soloed nearly a dozen new and returning members. We are hoping for similar success this year, and urge members needing instruction to come on out. Additional volunteer instructors would also be welcome.

FOR SALE. JR Extra 5-cell 3000 mAh NiCad battery pack. Brand new. Purchased in March 2008. \$32. Call Bill Baldiga, 703-931-1338.

GRASS CUTTING SCHEDULE. The field will generally be closed from early morning until 2:00 pm on Fridays. Rodger Binger, with occasional help from other volunteers, will be cutting the grass and performing other field maintenance during this time. Note that if rain is predicted for Friday, we will attempt to perform this maintenance on Thursday morning. Your cooperation is appreciated.

OPEN HOUSE RECAP. Despite terrible weather for the first half of the day, our 17th Annual Open House Fly-In went off with modest success on Saturday 10 May. By noon, the rain and wind stopped, the ground started to dry out, and flyers and spectators began appearing. By late afternoon and early evening, the sky became clear, providing for excellent flying conditions. As usual for this event, several members brought trainers and buddy boxes to give spectators an opportunity to try their hand at flying and hopefully precipitate interest in the hobby. Instructors included Tim Williams, a first-year solo pilot, who brought his trainer and provided stick time for several spectators. Mike Fitzgerald set up his RC simulator, together with PC, sound system and big-screen monitor. As in past years, this was a big hit with the spectators all day long. Thanks go to Dave Turner and Dan Myer for much of the planning, and many others who helped with field preparation and food preparation for the event.



Rodger Binger prepares for the start of the 2007 Bowie Memorial Day Parade. See Dave Turner to help PGRC participate in this year's Parade on 24 May. *PGRC Website photo.*

PGRC HALL OF FAME. The Board has deemed it appropriate to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the Club and to model aviation over the years. In that regard, we have established the PGRC Hall of Fame with an initial slate of inductees. Some are still with us and others have passed on, but each has made a mark on the Club that deserves this recognition. The Board has commissioned a plaque, a facsimile of which is shown below, that has been mounted under the pavilion at the field. In previous months, we have published a short paragraph highlighting the accomplishments and contributions of each inductee that led to his selection. This month we recognize Hall of Fame inductee Joe Solko.

Joe Solko.

Joe Solko has participated and competed in virtually every dimension of model aviation during his long history with the hobby and with PGRC. An excellent and prolific modeler, Joe helped usher many current and past Club members into the hobby - imparting his knowledge of both building and flying. As a WW II air combat veteran who logged flying hours in just about every US fighter aircraft in the campaign, Joe has been a role model for many PGRC members; and helped many of us establish a link with the past that provides added meaning to our building and flying activities. Joe was one of the Club's prime movers in the early years, helping to establish the Pylon program, and compete in scale and pattern contests. He is one of the club's most venerable and longest-term members.

Prince George's Radio Control Club Hall of Fame

In recognition of those individuals who have made significant contributions to PGRC and have distinguished themselves by their accomplishments in model aviation.

***Eric Baugher
Don Beach
Rodger Binger
Bob Cain
Lloyd Charles***

***Doug Moran
Rick Moreland
Joe Solko
Bob Violett***

**PGRC and Area Events Schedule for 2008
(Current as of May 2008)**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Contest / Event Director</i>	
March 22	Spring Field Clean-Up Day	Dave Turner Charlie Gettier	(301) 855-7796 (410) 757-3195
March 25	Covering Class at the Club House	Dave Turner	(301) 855-7796
May 3	AMA 424 Quickie 500	Neal Rehm Dave Beazley	(703) 856-2417 (434) 806-6262
May 10	Open House Fly-In	Dave Turner	(301) 855-7796
May 24	Bowie Memorial Day Parade	Dave Turner Charlie Gettier	(301) 855-7796 (410) 757-3195
June 7	Bowie Fest at Allen's Pond Park	Dave Turner Charlie Gettier	(301) 855-7796 (410) 757-3195
June 14	AMA 424 Quickie 500	Neal Rehm Dave Beazley	(703) 856-2417 (434) 806-6262
August 2	Electric Fly-In	Dave Turner	(301) 855-7796
TBA	PGRC Family Picnic	Carl Siefring	(301) 855-9226
TBA	CAPI IMAC Aerobatic Contest	Steve Whitecoff	(410) 280-5372
September 6, 7	AMA 422 NMPRA Q40	Rick Moreland Steve Baker	(301) 261-7366 (301) 352-4580
September 20	IMAA Giant-Scale Fly-In	Steve Whitecoff	(410) 280-5372
September 21	War Bird Scale Rally	Alan Goodman	(410) 867-7281
October 4	NMPRA District 6 Championship AMA 424 /428 Quickie 500	Steve Baker	(301) 352-4580

In general, field preparation and setup will occur on Friday afternoon preceding Saturday events. General flying may be curtailed.

Please notify Charlie Gettier of any schedule changes.