

# Peoria R/C Modelers

AMA Chapter 313

www.peoriarcmodelers.com

September 2004

## NEXT MEETING

**Tuesday, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m.**

### **At the club field**

In the event that the weather does not cooperate, the meeting will be held at the Chillicothe McDonalds.

**\*\*\* We have a request that you wear your Peoria RC Modelers Yellow shirt so we can get a group picture \*\*\***

### It's All About The Rules

It appears that some club members are "forgetting" the rules of the field. Here are the club rules, as well as the AMA rules which we all must follow.

INTRODUCTION: Under the by-laws established in the constitution of the Peoria R/C Modelers, the club is required to maintain an up-to-date set of rules governing the club's flying activity at the club flying site. The club is also required to make such a list available to each and every member of the club. The following list of rules is hereby established to govern the flying activities of the Peoria R/C Modelers members, at the S&S Mini Airport, Peoria County.

- 1) While operating model aircraft at Peoria R/C Modelers Field, all fliers (members and guests) shall practice and obey the rules outlined in the official "AMA Safety Code".
- 2) All club members and guests must abide by the sound level and muffler restrictions as stated in the "Peoria R/C Sound Program". \*
- 3) Guest flyers must be AMA members, must be accompanied by a club member, and must sign the registration board in order to be eligible to fly at Peoria R/C Modelers field.
- 4) Observe frequency control at all times:
  - A. Obtain the frequency pin from the board.

B. Clip your current AMA card in its place. Do not turn on your transmitter before you have possession of the frequency pin. In the event another flier is using the pin for your frequency, coordinate flights with that flier, using this system. In the case of an organized activity, the contest director will determine the method of control of frequencies. Failure to properly use the systems will establish responsibility in the case of an accident.

- 5) Point your plane away from the spectators and pits when (a) starting the engine, (b) doing run-up checks, or (c) adjusting the needle valve.
- 6) Operation of combustion engine powered aircraft before 9:00 AM is prohibited.
- 7) The boundaries of the flying area are the flight line, the tree line, and the power lines on the North and South. Never fly outside the 80 acres. Takeoffs, landings, and all flight operations shall take place in front of the pilot stations. Low passes are to be done parallel to the centerline of the runway, (North/South) at a safe distance from the pilot stations.
- 8) If two or more model aircraft are in operation, the operators will space themselves at a minimum separation of 25 feet as indicated by the pilot stations (radio interference concerns).

\* The sound program dictates a limit of 98dBA at 9 feet when the airplane is sitting on a hard surface.

## **2004 Official AMA National Model Aircraft Safety Code -- Effective July 2, 2004**

***I understand that my failure to comply with the Safety Code may endanger my insurance coverage.***

### **GENERAL**

- 1) I will not fly my model aircraft in sanctioned events, air shows, or model flying demonstrations until it has been proven to be airworthy by having been previously, successfully flight tested.
- 2) I will not fly my model higher than approximately 400 feet within 3 miles of an airport without notifying the airport operator. I will give right-of-way and avoid flying in the proximity of full-scale aircraft. Where necessary, an observer shall be utilized to supervise flying to avoid having models fly in the proximity of full-scale aircraft.
- 3) Where established, I will abide by the safety rules for the flying site I use, and I will not willfully and deliberately fly my models in a careless, reckless and/or dangerous manner.
- 4) The maximum takeoff weight of a model with fuel is 55 pounds, except models flown under Experimental Aircraft rules, Document Number 549.
- 5) I will not fly my model unless it is identified with my name and address or AMA number, on or in the model. Note: This does not apply to models while being flown indoors.
- 6) I will not operate models with metal-bladed propellers or with gaseous boosts, in which gases other than air enter their internal combustion engine(s); nor will I operate models with extremely hazardous fuels such as those containing tetranitromethane or hydrazine.
- 7) I will not operate models with pyrotechnics (any device that explodes, burns, or propels a projectile of any kind) including, but not limited to, rockets, explosive bombs dropped from models, smoke bombs, all explosive gases (such as hydrogen filled balloons), ground mounted devices

launching a projectile. The only exceptions permitted are rockets flown in accordance with the National Model Rocketry Safety Code or those permanently attached (as per JATO use); also those items authorized for Air Show Team use as defined by AST Advisory Committee (document available from AMA HQ). In any case, models using rocket motors as a primary means of propulsion are limited to a maximum weight of 3.3 pounds and a G series motor. A model aircraft is defined as a non-human-carrying device capable of sustained flight in the atmosphere not exceeding the limitations established in this Code, exclusively for recreation, sport, and/or competition activities. The operators of radio control model aircraft shall control the aircraft from the ground and maintain unenhanced visual contact with the aircraft throughout the entire flight operation. No aircraft shall be equipped with devices that would allow for autonomous flight.

- 8) I will not consume alcoholic beverages prior to, nor during, participation in any model operations.
- 9) Children under 6 years old are only allowed on the flight line as a pilot or while under flight instruction.

### **RADIO CONTROL**

- 1) I will have completed a successful radio equipment ground range check before the first flight of a new or repaired model.
- 2) I will not fly my model aircraft in the presence of spectators until I become a qualified flier, unless assisted by an experienced helper.
- 3) At all flying sites a straight or curved line(s) must be established in front of which all flying takes place with the other side for spectators. Only personnel involved with flying the aircraft are allowed at or in the front of the flight line. Intentional flying behind the flight line is prohibited.
- 4) I will operate my model using only radio control frequencies currently allowed by the Federal Communications Commission. (Only properly licensed Amateurs are authorized

to operate equipment on Amateur Band frequencies.)

- 5) I will not knowingly operate my model within three miles of any pre-existing flying site except in accordance with the frequency sharing agreement listed below in this paragraph. Flying sites separated by three miles or more are considered safe from site-to site interference, even when both sites use the same frequencies. Any circumstances under three miles separation require a frequency management arrangement which may be either an allocation of specific frequencies for each site or testing to determine that freedom from interference exists. Allocation plans or interference test reports shall be signed by the parties involved and provided to AMA Headquarters. Documents of agreement and reports may exist between (1) two or more AMA Chartered Clubs, (2) AMA clubs and individual AMA members not associated with AMA Clubs, or (3) two or more individual AMA members, Document Number 551.
- 6) For Combat, distance between combat engagement line and spectator line will be 500 feet per cubic inch of engine displacement. (Example: .40 engine = 200 feet.); electric motors will be based on equivalent combustion engine size. Additional safety requirements will be per the RC Combat section of the current Competition Regulations.
- 7) At air shows or model flying demonstrations a single straight line must be established, one side of which is for flying, with the other side for spectators.
- 8) With the exception of events flown under AMA Competition rules, after launch, except for pilots or helpers being used, no powered model may be flown closer than 25 feet to any person.
- 9) Under no circumstances may a pilot or other person touch a powered model in flight.

### **Dave's Excellent Adventure**

September 11, 2004 (by Dave Olson)

I want to describe my recent visit to Aero Sur, in Buenos Aires, but some explanations are required.

Recent advertisements in the RC magazines and online by CA Models list a contact at Aero Sur, in Argentina. CA models is the moniker of Columbo Anderson, which offers kits, or ready-to-cover planes, or ARF planes. Mr. Columbo is named as designer of several of the models, and most are of the aerobatic pattern competition variety.

I found it interesting that this outfit offers all the versions in ARF, or ARC, or build-it-yourself kits. Our US Build-It-Yourself Kit manufacturers seem to all be offering ARFs in addition to their wooden kits, but the ARC option seems to be seldom offered. The ARF's are not necessarily the same creature as the kits, in the US, either. CA Models seems to have the same models all available in the various stages of completion.

While this is interesting enough, I also have other interests in Argentina, including historical interests, geographical interests, and, now, a ladyfriend who lives in the Buenos Aires area. With all that in mind, it was logical that on my September vacation to Argentina I made an effort to visit the source of the CA advertisements. The rest of my vacation in Argentina was the subject of an Email, which you may have seen if you're on the Email list. If you are not, and you want to see it, let me know and I can send you the text.

In the first week of September, 2004, I was in Buenos Aires and needed to travel downtown. The Aerolinas Argentinas airline office is downtown, and I needed to change some tickets. While headed for downtown, my lady friend and I dropped by the Aero Sur store at 166 Talcahuano. She had called the number in the ads, and gotten the information about the street address.

The narrow 2-lane streets in this area of Buenos Aires give it a small-town appearance. The shops are small, with narrow storefronts, and the bulk of merchants in that area sell guitars – a surprising depth and breadth of offerings, and

guitars of all kinds. We must have walked past 20 guitar stores in the block before the 166 address.

Inside the store was a narrow walkway, about 15 ft long, with little adornment, which led to the interior of the store. Aside the walkway was an office where I presume billing and bookkeeping was done. A small counter on one wall was crowded with small parts under a glass front, and a multitude of planes hung from the ceiling. There was an engine display, with lots of OS and Saito engines displayed, and a number of radios. The planes hanging from the ceiling included an 82" Extra, a wealth of sport planes and a ton of gliders. There was one display with about 20 old handlaunch gliders hanging by their tails. A workshop was clearly visible behind some of the larger displays, and a number of foam wing cores were stacked behind the planes.

An inquiry about the manufacturing operation was referred to an English speaking technician, who said he had been with the company for many years. He told of how Aero Sur had been in business for over 45 continuous years in that same location, and that Columbo and Anderson had more like 55 years in the business. He claimed that Aero Sur is the translator for the Great Planes consortium, writing all manuals in Spanish for them. He also said that Aero Sur has been the Airtronics distributor for South America for some 20 years.

I asked about the frequencies in use in Argentina, and he said there are two available, 72 MHz and I believe he said the other was 25 MHz. He also said new sales in 25 MHz are almost nonexistent, and that only 8 of the fifty 72 MHz channels we use are supported by Argentine legislation. All are used, but only 8 are legally supported.

In the back was a CNC wire cutter for foam wing cores. They can cut any airfoil requested in any size. This was all very nice, but my interest was in the ARC's and kits, and the manufacturing process, and it was pretty obvious that the technician didn't want to talk about the manufacturing process. He just said there was no longer any manufacturing in the building, except for the foam wing work. I took the hint and stopped asking about the kit / ARC / ARF manufacturing end. One can probably

assume that the actual construction is being done in another country.

So, the visit was quite interesting, but I didn't learn anything about how they operate their kit, ARC and ARF manufacturing operation. If they had been looking for a mechanical engineer, I probably would have applied for the position! I did get to see quite an array of RC, free flight, glider and control line airplanes, and some very nice RC displays. And a whole raft of guitar stores!

# Peoria R/C Modelers

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[www.peoriarcmodelers.com](http://www.peoriarcmodelers.com)

The Peoria R/C Modelers is an Academy of Model Aeronautics sanctioned radio control model flyers club. Our flying area is located west of Chillicothe on Truitt Road, approximately 1 mile west of Route 29. We fly almost every evening throughout the summer weather permitting. In addition, we conduct several annual events. Visitors are welcome any time we are flying. Academy of Model Aeronautics membership is required to fly at the club site. To become a club member, please contact any of our officers. To become an AMA member, visit the AMA web site [www.modelaircraft.org](http://www.modelaircraft.org) or you may phone the AMA at (800)435-9262. Membership in the AMA includes insurance benefits and Model Aviation, a very nice R/C model aircraft magazine.

## Peoria R/C Modelers Officers

Pres.: Wes Miller, 1404 N 6<sup>th</sup> St, Chillicothe IL 61523, Ph. 274-3919, e-mail: [wjmillerb17@hotmail.com](mailto:wjmillerb17@hotmail.com)

VP: Mike Lusher, 7017 Concho Dr., Delavan, IL 61734

Secretary/Treasurer: Sue Wilson, 11115 Evans Mill Rd, Princeville, IL 61559 email: [Ladyastor300@wmconnect.com](mailto:Ladyastor300@wmconnect.com)

Newsletter: Kerry DelVecchio, 5902 Dickison Cemetery Rd, Dunlap IL 61525, e-mail: [kerrydel@aol.com](mailto:kerrydel@aol.com)

## Flight Trainer & Safety Officer

Bob Wilson Ph. 243-7225, e-mail [wilrc@hotmail.com](mailto:wilrc@hotmail.com)

## Web Site & Yahoogroups Sign Up Address

<http://www.peoriarcmodelers.com/>

[peoriarcmodelers-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:peoriarcmodelers-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

## Meetings First Tuesday Monthly

May-September 6:00 p.m. at Flying Site/Club grounds (If rain McDonald's Chillicothe)

October-April 7:00 p.m. Hobbytown @ Shoppes at Grand Prairie

Field Location: W 89 30.608 N40 55.128 Elevation 531

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Dues: New \$75 Renew \$50  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Mail to: Sue Wilson, Treasurer  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ 11115 Evans Mill Rd.  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ AMA# \_\_\_\_\_ Princeville, IL 61559  
E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (309) 243-7225  
Frequency Choice 1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Electronic Newsletter Yes No