



# THE FLIGHTLINE



**AMA CLUB 668 SINCE 1968**  
**RACINE RADIO CONTROL CLUB INC SINCE 1968**

**RRCC January Issue**  
**Next Meeting January 17, 2021**

**WE ARE ON THE WEB**  
**www.racinerclub.com**

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**Racine R/C Club Meeting Minutes**

Sunday: December 20, 2020

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: R/C Flying Field

**Open Meeting - Welcome - New Members & Guests** – Jim opened the meeting at 1:00PM. 23 members were present. Richard Stapleton’s son Joe attended as a guest and were no new members in attendance.

**Minutes - Last Meeting –Reports-** There were no changes to the minutes from the last meeting.

**President-** Jim Litwin informed membership that Jim Lewandowski died, and his name was added to the “Missing Pilots” board just outside the entry to the club house.

Jim also stated he did not hang Christmas decorations this year inside the shelter due to the fact there will be no “First of the Year” party and COVID is keeping a lot of our members away from the field. It just does not seem needed this year.

Jim stated he will save discussion on dues for 2021 and compost site information for new business.

**Vice President-**Roger Nickolaus, nothing new to report

**Secretary/Treasurer-**Bob Johnson

New checking account has been set up and our balance is healthy. The US Bank account has been closed.

New Membership cards will be printed and ready for the January meeting where we can start signing up for the 2021 flying season. Current membership is at 62. 2021 is anticipated to be approximately 48-50 members.

2020 Annual report will also be given at the January meeting.

**News Editor-**Dennis Vollrath, nothing new to report

**Field Chairman**-Darrel Hossalla, nothing new to report

**Tractor Chairman**-Eric Armantrout, all equipment has been put away for the winter and all is good.

**Web Master**-Justin Francisco, web site is good. Justin encouraged us all to post new and interesting items on our Facebook site to improve our presence in the community.

**Safety Officer**-Dan Pozel, nothing new to report

**Compost Director**-Jerry Rose, the year went well, and the village had positive comments about our participation in the compost site in 2020.

**Old Business**- None

**New Business** – Two topics shown below.

**Item #1**-2021 Dues

**Current Dues:**

**(This issue is covered under “Jim’s Corner” listed next in the newsletter.**

Jim stated the club’s finances are in good shape. There are no new major projects or unusual expenses planned for 2021 and that it seems there is no reason to change the current dues schedule. A vote was taken, and the members voted to keep the dues for 2021 “as is” was passed.

**Item #2**-Compost site commitments for 2021.

Jim passed out an overview of the 2021 compost site hours RRCC will be responsible for on Wednesdays from April 7<sup>th</sup> to December 1<sup>st</sup>.

That is a total of 278 hours. And, a total of 139, 2-hour slots.

Based on an anticipated membership in 2021 of 48 to 50 members we would only enable to provide 200 hours at 4 hours member. (50 members x4hrs). This leaves us 78 hours short.

We discussed the following 3 options to provide the extra 78 hours.

**Members volunteering for additional Hours.**

**By motion of the members, a lottery would be put together to fill the unselected compost site duty slots. Increase the number of hours each member is required to work from 4 to 6 hours.**

There was a lot of discussion amongst the membership present at the meeting. The consensus was the 3<sup>rd</sup> option seemed to make the most sense. It would be the easiest for Jerry Rose to plan and require the least management/supervision during the compost season. Members can sign up for (3) 2-hr sessions.

A vote was put forward and option 3 was voted in. This vote approval was in accordance with the language in Article 1, section 1.01 Eligibility.

**New Pilots** – Chuck Roberts. Hoss’s student.

**Show & Tell – None**

**Raffle Drawing** – Jerry Rose won and donated the entire \$20.00 back to the club. Nice job Jerry!

**Close Meeting** – Jim closed the meeting with a reminder that the next meeting is Sunday January 17, 2020 and that some members are getting together on January 1<sup>st</sup>, New Years Day for some flying fun. Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Happy New Year to All!

## **JIM'S CORNER**

The year 2021 is here and I certainly hope it is a better year than the past 2020 was. Snow on the field, but planes are flying with skis and the shelter is warm, and people sitting around the stove solving a lot of problems.

In case some of you missed the special notices that were sent out, the 2021 membership dues are the same as last year. Please note the new 6 hours compost site requirement.

### **RATES:**

**ANNUAL REGULAR MEMBER \$ 70.00**

**FAMILY RATE (Two adults residing at the same address) \$80.00**

**JUNIOR RATE (Under the age of 19, or Full Time Student under age of 22) \$1.00**

**SENIOR MEMBERS (65 years old & over) \$40.00**

**NON-FLYING MEMBER \$30.00**

**\*After August 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, dues are 50% of the shown schedule for new members.**

Note: Membership in the club is conditional upon agreement to assist with staffing the Mt. Pleasant Compost Site for a total of 6 hours per year, on scheduled Wednesday afternoons, Noon - 6 PM, and AMA membership.

Please make checks payable to RACINE R/C CLUB, INC.

Send Application Form, Copy of AMA Membership Card or "Model Aviation" magazine address label, your check, and a self-address stamped envelope to:

### **SEND TO:**

**Bob Johnson,  
2248 Penbrook,  
Racine, WI 53406**

The FAA came out with its new rules for UAV's, and that means for us and our RC airplanes. Quite honestly, we did OK. I am not going to reprint everything the FAA & AMA has to say about the new rules, but one of the rules specifically is applicable to us at our field. Shown below is option #3 of the FAA rules. You can find the "*FAA Executive Summary Final Rule on Remote Identification of Unmanned Aircraft (Part89) December 28, 2020*" on the web if you are interested.

### **3. FAA-Recognized Identification Areas (FRIA):**

- Geographic areas recognized by the FAA where unmanned aircraft not equipped with Remote ID are allowed to fly.

- Organizations eligible to apply for establishment of a FRIA include: community-based organizations recognized by the Administrator, primary and secondary educational institutions, trade schools, colleges, and universities.

- Must operate within visual line of sight and only within the boundaries of a FRIA.

- The FAA will begin accepting applications for FRIAs 18 months after the effective date of the rule, and applications may be submitted at any time after that.

- FRIA authorizations will be valid for 48 months, may be renewed, and may be terminated by the FAA for safety or security reasons.

So, in about 18 months from now, we file the appropriate paperwork; get our site registered; get it renewed every 2 years; and we can continue to fly as we currently are, without having to install transponders and any other equipment.

We will discuss this at greater length at the meeting as there are a few issues, such as going and flying at a different site, like Bong for the Float Fly, etc., but it is manageable.

We will be looking at club awards in the coming months, but preliminary discussions seem to be that we will not be having a club banquet in 2021. Attendance issues to support our banquet and site availability are obstacles.

Those members who have been looking at getting new planes are having some difficulties. Not a lot in stock at this time. Some models are being discontinued. COVID and overseas shipping issues also seem to be a problem.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at the field at 1 PM. Don't believe we have anything major on the agenda, but you will be able to start signing up for your compost duty dates, and pay your membership dues.

See you then.

Fly Safe & Have Fun

Jim Litwin  
President

## Denny's Stuff

I've got a few things to cover this month.

First, I'm going to make a blanket order for parts to build up receiver power two cell A123 battery packs.

For those not familiar with these cells, these A123 cells are just about the most bullet proof receiver battery packs available anywhere. They hold 95% of their charge after a full year of sitting on the shelf, unused.

They last many years under the roughest use. They can be used and/or stored at temperatures at minus 30 degrees F.

And, their output voltage is hardly affected by the typical servo loads we see in our model airplanes.

I'm also going to order parts to build up those locking type toggle switches for receiver power for our models. Your editor has published many articles in our newsletters that prove that some of the slide switches used on our models are pure crap.

These cheap slide switches were directly involved in the loss of two 30 cc gassers

in our club last year.

Due to the amount of work involved in building up these toggle switches and A123 battery packs, I'm limiting selling them **ONLY** to those RRCC club members who are actively flying RC models.

Aura 5 Flight stabilizers:

Several of our RRCC members have picked up those Aura 5 gyro units. Your editor picked up three of them for trials in RC models this summer.

FYI, these units sell for \$40 each in quantities of three. They are bare circuit boards, i.e., no case.

Naturally, your editor has designed a 3D printed case for them. I can print up a few extra cases for those interested. Cost is \$1.00 each. I will have one of these at the next club meeting.

Your editor has a half dozen models that were never flown in 2020. I've got one that I'd like to sell at a substantial discount.

I'll pull the electric power out of the model, along with the receiver. That leaves a half dozen Hitec 645MG servos that are installed in the model.

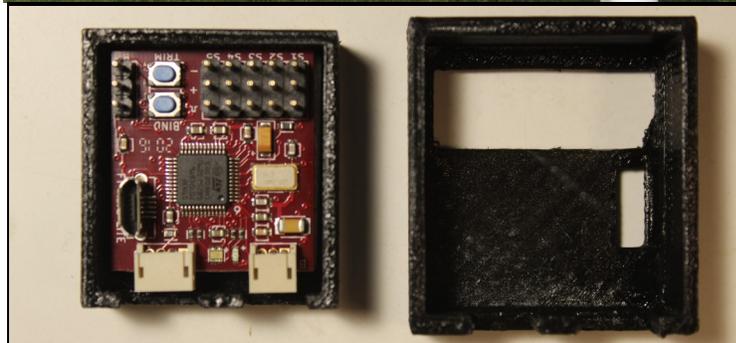
What is needed to fly it is an engine and a receiver.

This model only has few dozen or so flights on it. It is a real kite, and flies quite slowly.

I have about \$850 invested in the model along with the six Hitec 645MG servos.

I'll sell it for \$450.00, without the electric power system or receiver. Again, this price only applies to the current RRCC club members.

This model has a 110 inch wingspan. The model calls for a 20 cc to 30 cc gas engine.



At the left is the Flex Innovations Flex 5 gyro unit. As shipped from Flex, you get the bare circuit board. Your editor put together a 3D case for the Flex 5 unit.

The case shown is a preliminary version. The final case includes tabs that allow screwing the case into the model airplane.

