



Official Publication of the January 2008

Southern Tier Aero Radio Society

AMA Gold Leader Club - Charter #563

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V. President: Walt Hibbard 585-968-0027
Treasurer: Tom Orcutt 716-373-3190
Secretary: Jamie Bowen 716-378-5860

Planning Board: Jim Goodemote 716-372-1137
Planning Board: Clifford "Kip" Karn 716-968-1395
Planning Board: Don Wehlage 585-968-3067
STARS Webmaster: Bob Bush 716-372-1718

STARS Website: www.rcstars.org

Welcome to January 2008! With January comes a change in the office of President, Vice President, and Newsletter Editor. We need to recognize the outgoing President—Richard Say and Vice President—Don Wehlage. We thank you for your efforts! Both men spent several years as an Officer and/or Board member, helping lead this proud organization. Congratulations to Walt Hibbard being elected V.P. and to Tom Orcutt and Jamie Bowen for being re-elected to their respective offices. It looks like Tommy is setting a longevity record at the Treasurer's helm, surpassing the 20 years that the late George Privateer was President. To Gary.....what are you thinking???????????

It is the intent of the new administration to renew some of the longstanding STARS traditions. In this epistle you will see a gradual change in what is reported in our Newsletter. Of course, the meeting minutes will be provided so everyone can stay current on STARS business. Events that take place around the region, as well as happenings at our field, will also be reduced to print. This to include the time honored tradition of "The Telling of the Flying Tales and Mishaps", as reported by numerous creatures (snitches of the two legged, four legged, and winged variety) that inhabit and visit the STARS field. Of course, the United States Constitution will protect all sources of this information from being disclosed, and they/it will remain forever nameless. Also, many of the STARS members are without STARS given "Nicknames" and we hope to resolve this issue over time.

We are also looking to encourage multiple contributors to STARS DUST. "How To" building articles from the numerous master builders that are part of our Club's membership, would be a good place to start. Any smart idea that we can

conjure up or borrow that makes our airplane building, storage, etc. easier, no matter how simple, is invited. As STARS members, most of our ideas are simple anyway!

So from this point, let's see where the journey takes us!

The Prez Sez: We have all heard this adage, "if we fail to plan, then we plan to fail". This is so true not only in our own personal lives, but the STARS organization as well. Like many other clubs we have seen a decline in membership due to people moving from the region and from old age. If our club, and indeed our hobby is to survive the next 20-30 years, we need a steady influx of young people. So how do we accomplish this? No one person has all the answers, but together we can develop a solution. I believe this is the single most important issue our club faces today and I propose @ the January meeting that we set a special meeting to develop a STARS Strategic Plan or SSP. If you like to fly, and want to know that STARS will continue to be viable then we need your input.

Minutes from the STARS Meeting, December 12th, 2007:

Attendance: Gary Baker, Brad Davis, Randy Bitteringer, Bob Bush, Jamie Bowen, Bob Means, Charlie Cappellino, Gary Fitch, Clark Follett, Ramona Follett, , Jim Goodemote, Walt Hibbard, Gene Hickey, Kip Karn, Jim Keough, Bob Means, Tom Orcutt, David Pratt, Dick Say, Mike Zias

Minutes: The minutes of the November meeting were read by Secretary Jamie B. approved by Gary F. and seconded by Jim G. All were in favor.

Treasurers Report: Tom O. gave the monthly report. Motion to approve by Jim G. and seconded by Dave P. All were in favor.

Safety Report: Nothing at this time.

Flight Instruction: Nothing at this time.

Air show/Rally: Nothing at this time.

Old Business: Nothing discussed.

Winter Indoor Flying: Next 1-6-08 @ 1:00

Winter Party: Date: January 19th
Cocktails- 5PM; Dinner- 5:30PM
Winter Party Committee Members - Tom O., Kip K., Dave P. and Clark F. Price is \$25.00 per person and reservations and payment have to be made to Tom Orcutt by the next meeting night January 9th 2008.

STARS Officers: Newly elected Club officers have been sworn in by current president Dick S. Members present thanked Dick for all he has contributed to the STARS during his term as club president.

New Business: Board Member vacancy— The STARS By-Laws state this is an appointed position by the board members and will need to be addressed at the next planning meeting.

Membership Dues: Dues are due January 1, 2008.

Garage Door: Ed F. reported the garage door could be easily modified to accommodate a combination style lock in place of existing key lock. Motion by Walt H. to change the garage door key lock to a combination style lock and was seconded by Mike Z. All were in favor.

Defibrillator: Gary F. reported defibrillators range from \$1K to 4K. However, defibrillators will require proper training in order to be utilized. Ramona F. reported school teachers were able to apply the use of the defibrillator. Further discussion and information are required.

Show & Tell: Gary B. displayed his Seagull 54" wingspan Ultimate with a Satio 1.25 c.i. 4 stroke. It is a beautiful aircraft for a cost of only \$200.

Meetings: Next Regular STARS general meeting will be at JCC, Jan 9th starting @ 7PM.

A Motion to adjourn was made by Mike Z. and seconded by Gary B. all were in favor.

Indoor Flying: STARS members have been able to fly at the gym at the Cuba elementary school since before Thanksgiving. Turnout has been very light. The members you often see there are Walt Hibbard, Jim Goodemote, Charlie Scholeno, Gene Hickey, Kip Karn and myself. Hey guys and gals, Charlie's designed SPAD, and the double bladed heli's are a great way to fly indoors during the winter and improve your flying skills at the same time. Come on out and join in the fun, fellowship, snickering and outright laughter. The next indoor winter flying session will begin Sunday January 6th.

Notes from the Planning Board: A phone discussion and vote, by the current Planning Board members, to fill the vacancy on the Board, when Walt Hibbard takes over as Vice President, has lead to the appointment of Don Wehlage based on previous experience. Don will serve for calendar year 2008. General Planning Board elections will take place next November. Congratulations Don on your appointment.

Newsletter News: We are looking at the feasibility of having dual Editors. Tad Manske has agreed to try the position of primary Editor, in arranging the Newsletter and sending it out. We intend to have multiple sources of news and information as well. Walt Hibbard and Jim Keough will be submitting articles. Jim Goodemote—Master Builder has agreed to provide periodic Building Tips for those of you that like to build.

Illness Notes & Obituaries

On a sad note, Joyce “Joy” Peacock, of Finksburg, MD passed away last month. Joy had just turned 80 and was the wife of Milt Peacock, former “Maryland Modeler” of the Year. Milt and Joy were long time attendees of our Rally. Milt had to take the last 3-4 years off due to Joy’s condition, but said he is now planning on being @ the Olean Airport this July. Our condolences go out to Milt. If you care to contact him he can be reached at rcpilot2505@comcast.net.

Borrowed from the AMA Insider:

Glow Plug Problems — *Today’s glow plugs are well made products and they should give you good service. Although the life of a glow plug is unpredictable, you should reasonably expect a dozen or more flights out of one. It’s always best to follow the manufacturer’s specific glow plug recommendations, but if you have an engine that seems to eat glow plugs, the probability is that it is suffering from one of the following three causes:*

Overheating: *A glow plug coil will melt if it gets too hot. Reasons why this happens vary. Sometimes the combination of running an engine wide open with a lean setting before you take the glow plug heater off is too much for the element. Quite often people use a power panel which has a built-in surge feature, which sometimes results in a momentary over-voltage to the plug when the power is first switched on. When a glow plug fails because of overheating, the end of the element wire has a tear drop shape at the break. Sometimes a micro-*

scope is needed to see this affect.

Vibration: *If the engine is soft mounted the element is shaken from side to side with tremendous force. This literally fatigues the metal until it breaks. When you look at the end of the element wire break through a microscope it has a jagged, rough type appearance. The only solution is to increase the rigidity of your engine mount.*

Shockwave: *Most model engines use a steel or brass liner mounted on top of a cast aluminum case. As the engine gets older, the liner flange works its way down into the case and lowers the head with it. When the piston clearance gets too low the increase in compression forces air out of the squish band area with supersonic velocity and the action on the glow plug elements is like when a jet plane zooms over your house and knocks out the windows. The cure here is to raise the head with another head gasket.*

Less often reasons why glow plugs sometime fail are: Cranking the engine when it’s flooded sprays raw fuel onto the plug and the droplets beat the element over to the side of the housing where it shorts out.

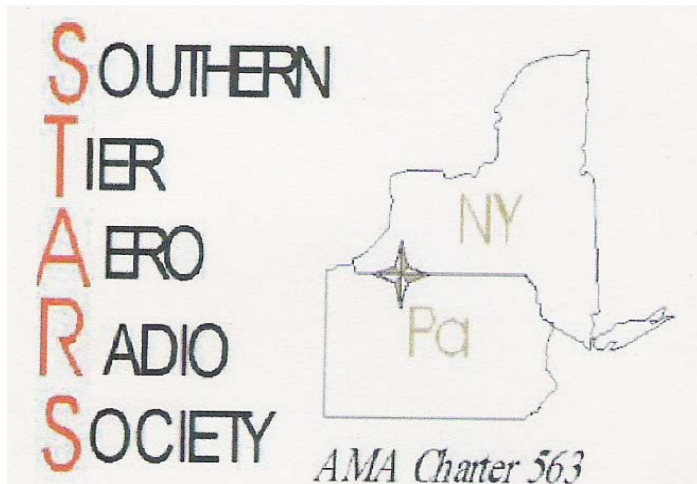
Another problem that occasionally occurs is that engines sometimes wear abnormally, causing a crankshaft to crack, bearings to fail, or a connecting rod to chew metal off the crank pin. Of course, when this metal goes up and deposits on the plug element, the plug burns out.

STARS Dues are due January 1st.

Winter Party reservations & payment due by January 9th—meeting night.



From Toledo 2007.
You should be there in 2008!



Next Regular Meeting @ JCC—Olean Campus: January 9th, 2008

Next Planning Meeting: January 14th, 2008

DART's Fun Fly: Mayville Jan. 19, 2008.

WRAMS Show: February 22—24, 2008

Toledo Show: April 4th—6th, 2008

Don't forget to sign up for the STARS Winter Party @ The Old Library—January 19th, 2008. See or call Tom Orcutt.

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