



AMA CHARTER 1458

# THE TRANSMITTER

September 2018 EDITION

DAVENPORT RADIO CONTROL SOCIETY

## President's Report

Hi all,

Not much flying weather lately, but, hopefully, that will change, and we will get some nice fall weather soon. Not a lot going on this time of year actually. The 2 day Combat event is wrapped up, and that is our last event of the year. I think the event went well; Dirko had a pretty good turn out, and it sounds like the pilots all had fun. Final numbers should be available at the meeting, but looks like a break-even event at worst, and we may have made a few bucks when it is all said and done.

This event, along with the Scale meet and the Swap Meet, are the times that we need some help with the food issue. We have talked about making a "Food Committee", and we will be moving forward with that idea this winter. We will need about 3 or 4 guys (?) to step up and take charge of the food at our 3 events that require food, so the event coordinators (and their families) do not have to do it all. We will talk more about that in coming months.

The field is in pretty good shape after the fall weed and feed. We did note that we may need to roll a few spots, but at this point will wait until the Spring to do that. The Port-a-Potty will remain at the field until the end of the month, so plan accordingly after November 1<sup>st</sup>, if you venture out to fly. The runway held up "OK", I would say, and we will get it patched up as best we can with the material we have left. We also talked about some longer staples at some point?

There are no more flying events this year, and our next event will be the Swap Meet, tentative date on that is March 16th? We talked at the Board Meeting about whether or not to do the Mall show this year? With the decline in Mall traffic and other factors, we wondered if it is still a good idea? The whole idea is to expose the public to our hobby, and, maybe garner a few new members, so we are considering other options that may be more effective on both accounts. We talked about maybe the Outdoor Expo, or the Big Boy Toy Show? We are open to other ideas, so if you think of something, toss it on out there, and we can talk about it.

As a reminder, this is an election year so we will need a Nomination Committee by the November meeting. All 4 Officer terms are up as always in an election year as are the At-Large board positions, and 1 spot on Field Relations. Please consider doing something to get more involved. You certainly aren't going to hurt anyone's feelings by running against them so don't be shy!! Elections will be at the Jan. meeting as usual.

Our October meeting will be combined with a Weenie Roast/Fly on Sunday October 7<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting. We plan to meet starting at 4 or so, and eat at 5-ish. We will have a quick meeting in there somewhere. The Club will provide dogs/buns and condiments; please bring something to share and your own table service--along with families (and chairs). If the forecast is correct and the rain arrives, we will do it on the 14th. Please watch your e-mails (and FaceBook) for final word on go /no go. I will make the call by Sat am, at the latest.

There was a question raised about FAA registration as our original registration will expire at the end of '18. I will try to have more details on how to renew that registration at the meeting. Speaking of registration, now is a good time to renew your AMA as well as club memberships for the coming year!!

One last friendly reminder! You may recall that our land owner has asked that we not fly "drones" at the field, so please remember that as you head out to do some flying.

See you at the meeting/weenie roast on the 7th! --or maybe the 14th.

Steve

### ***Bits & Pieces:***

#### **2018 FAA AUTHORIZATION BILL**

If you haven't been keeping informed, the House and Senate have passed the FAA Reauthorization Bill this past week, and it is on its way for the President's signature. Below is a summary that I copied from a Facebook post as to what it could mean to the hobby. There are still a lot of questions including when it will be effective. As mentioned, the AMA is still working with the FAA on these open questions.

#### AMA's concerns that must be addressed through legislation or regulatory changes.

This bill does not stop the irresponsible operators and only harms our safe and long-standing community.

With no justification, AMA members can no longer fly over 400 feet in class G. This will harm or kill our sailplane, turbine, aerobatic, free flight, and large model aircraft communities. The 400 foot cap also excludes AMA and the USA from participating or hosting many world aeromodeling events sanctioned by the FAI through the AMA and NAA.

The bill removes the model aircraft definition and lumps all hobbyists, toys, and the recreational community under the FAA as simply unmanned aircraft systems (UAS).

There are testing mandates, which raises many concerns. Federal and state regulations could hinder youth from participating in the testing requirement therefore denying them enjoyment of our hobby.

Beyond curtailing events and harming charities, the bill stifles youth involvement in STEM education. All of AMA's language to protect middle school and high school STEM aeromodeling use

were removed.

The bill opens the door to restrict our operations to flying sites.

### Positive provisions and improvements

The five mile airport notification rings are removed, which was a burdensome and often misinterpreted mandate placed on our hobby.

Congress more clearly defines community-based organizations (CBOs) and tasks FAA to recognize CBOs.

CBOs, like AMA, are given a more prominent role in shaping future regulations.

Congress codifies elements of AMA's safety programming into law including the use of first person view.

There are no prescriptive Remote ID equipage mandates, which allows AMA to continue to champion for a more reasonable approach and threshold.

Congress allocated \$1 million every year to help support education campaigns such as Know Before You Fly that AMA co founded.

Congress recognizes the distinction between members of a CBO, like AMA, and those "outside the membership, guidelines, and programming" of a CBO. Congress then tasks the FAA to consider different operating parameters for each recreational community.

Again, a lot more to come. Keep in touch with the AMA as they develop.

### **Newsletter**

I have been writing the "Transmitter" now for almost 5 years. Next year, my wife and I are planning to travel more so it will be a burdensome to compose on the road. The Editor position is not elected, but I would like someone to step forward to take on the duties. This is the first mention to anyone about relinquishing some of my duties, but I feel it is time. Someone that can put a new spin on the "News".

### **2019 Calendar**

As Steve mentioned, we are starting to look at dates for our 2019 events. The Swap Meet is tentatively scheduled for March 16. Dirk is looking at September 14-15 for Duel at Davernport. The Iowa Aerohawks have scheduled their Swap Meet for February 2. The Erie Club is looking at an end-of-year Swap Meet. The Warbird Alliance has published their 2019 dates. The point is, the calendar is being populated. If anyone knows of anything that we need to include on our calendar, let me know. Also, if you know of outside events that could impact our dates, let us know.

David Colgan  
563-940-9385

**CALENDAR****2018 Events:**

Oct 6	Des Moines Modelaires Auction & Swap Meet	Ankeny, IA
Oct 7 (14)	DRCS Meeting & Weinie Fly	Frye Field
Oct 20	Any Size Warbird Fun Fly	Elkhart, IA
Nov 12 (TBD)	DRCS Meeting	Eastern Ave Library
Dec 10	DRCS Meeting	Eastern Ave Library

**2019 Events:**

Jan 14	DRCS Meeting	Eastern Ave Library
Feb 2	Iowa City Aerohawks Swap Meet	Marriott, Coralville, IA
Feb 11	DRCS Meeting	Eastern Ave Library
Mar 11	DRCS Meeting	Eastern Ave Library
Mar 16	DRCS Swap Meet	St. Mark's, Davenport, IA
Apr 5-7	Weak Signals Model Expo	Toledo, OH
Apr 8	DRCS Meeting	Eastern Ave Library

*Check the Event Schedule either in **Model Aviation** or online for future details on non-club events!*

**DAVENPORT R/C SOCIETY**

**OFFICERS**

President: Steve Thompson 563-332-1885

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Secretary: Harley McClure 563-359-4167

Treasurer: David Colgan 563-940-9385

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Phil Vernon Chuck Balsler

Dave Jensen Dirk Oosting

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

David Colgan

**WEBMASTER**

Phil Vernon

**Next Meeting**  
**Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**4:00 p.m.**

**Frye Field**  
**Davenport, IA**

*Visit us on the web*

[www.davenportrc.org](http://www.davenportrc.org)

or



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