

Sharks Tales

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Newsletter of the
Sheboygan Area Radio Kontrol Society
February 2021
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The Prez Sez...

By Mike Gradinjan



www.sharksrc.com

Say Hey, SHARKSters!

It looks like we're fully into winter mode now! I drove past the field the other day, and we can thank the County snow plows for a massive glacier starting across the driveway at the entry to the field. It looks like you'd need a M1 Abrams tank to get in right now, so don't take any unnecessary risks until we've had an extended thaw. Maybe it's time to work on maintenance and updating my fleet. 😊

We lost an old friend last month. [Carlos "Cully" Niemann](#) passed away at the ripe old age of 92. Cully was a founding member of the SHARKS, an amazingly skilled builder and flyer, and was our chief maintenance mechanic for many years. He is sorely missed.

John, Rich, Chris & I tried out some RC snow racing when we could still get into the field and had a blast. The batteries didn't like the cold any more than our fingers did, but it was fun while we lasted. We'd tried to keep the field open into the winter many years ago, but Brian found the snow too much for the gearbox on his 4-wheeler. If somebody has a better plan for the ground-based activities, we'd be open to it.

I'm including a flyer I got from somebody selling an airplane. It's all the information I have, so please contact him with any questions.

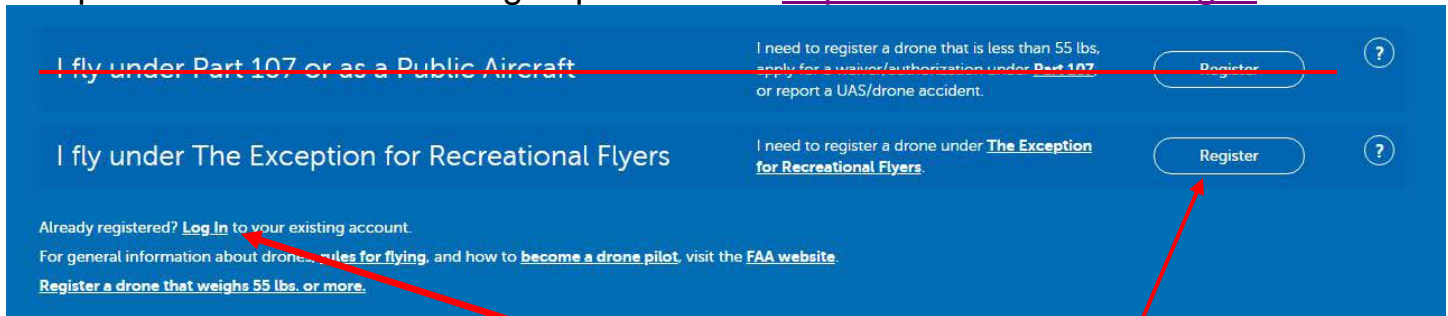
Indoor flying, AHC Movie Nights and SHARKS club meetings are all still on hold due to Covid. I've gotten my first vaccine shot, and am looking forward to having some sort of advantage against this disease in a few weeks. It'll be nice when this is all behind us.

I've fielded some questions, so I'm including expanded instructions from the last SHARKS Tales for your reference as we move into renewal season.

The FAA has finalized its new Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) rules! Most of the changes were actually in our favor with the exception of new factory-built models

eventually requiring the inclusion of a radio ID system that probably doesn't exist yet. We'll be registering SHARKS Field as a fixed FAA Recognized Identification Area (FRIA) in about a year and a half, which will cover anybody flying line of sight on our property without the electronic ID system. Flying outside at other unregistered locations will require a little more effort to comply, but the rollout process will take until 2023, so we'll have plenty of time to adjust. I've got an [AMA Remote ID Presentation](#), an [AMA Remote ID FAQ](#), and an [AMA Remote ID Summary](#) on the website, or by clicking on each title here.

Make sure your FAA Certificate of Registration is current for the next 3 years. It's only \$5, so it's better to do it than have someone stop in and shut you down for being non-compliant. Here's the link to sign up or renew: <https://faadronezone.faa.gov>



If this is a renewal, there's a Log In link under the link for the Exception for Recreational Flyers, where you'll enter using your login and password from when you first applied for Certification. If this is your first time, click the Register button link for the Exception for Recreational Flyers and follow the instructions. If you try to enter any other way, you'll have a good chance of ending up at the wrong place which could be a scam site.

If you're planning to be a new SHARKS Park member, you have the choice of joining as an AMA Park Pilot or a ROAR member. The cost is the same. You only need one or the other to cover your required insurance, but the AMA Park Pilot license would allow you to fly small electric models as well as race. If you plan on visiting other ROAR facilities, then the ROAR membership would be the way to go. Right now we're the only affiliated club in Wisconsin, but the choice is yours. You'll find links to the [AMA & ROAR](#) on our links page <http://www.sharksrc.com/related.htm>, or just click on the names here. AMA and ROAR are both on the 2021 cycle. Be sure to include your AMA license or ROAR membership # on our [SHARKS application](#). A SHARKS membership will be required for use of our facilities from now on.

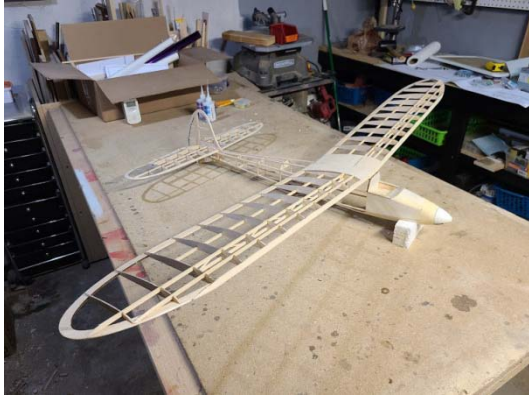
As always, contact me or any officer or board member with any questions or concerns you have, but in the meantime, Happy Flying RC'ing!

That's about it for now-

Mike

From the Editor

By Tony Lewis (tony@dynamic-rc.com)



Happy February All. With winter in full swing I hope you guys are getting some shop time to build something new. I have been continuing to work on the Diana glider I mentioned last month. I have it pretty well framed up now. I'm hoping to begin covering soon.

While shaping the nose, I took the chance to try a new filler product. For years I have been looking for a better filler/putty. Many years ago, I used a product called Hobby-Lite that was available from Hobbico. When it was no longer available I tried several hardware store variations. Drywall mud

works well, but I had problems with its moisture content warping the surrounding wood. Lightweight spackle worked well, but I found Monokote and other finishes did not stick well to it. Recently someone tipped me off on Elmer's Wood Filler. So I decided the Diana was a good project to give it a try.



BEFORE

AFTER

It works awesome! It is much harder than the spackle but still sands easily. From the experiments I've done so far, Monokote seems to stick very well to it. I think I found a new favorite!

Happy Landings,

-Tony

And this month we have a guest commentary!

FIRST LOVE...

By Adam Scheblein

A few years ago I realized, after being out of the hobby for over 30 years, it was time to get flying once more! As I was looking around, I came across a hobby shop in a gas station of all places! It was Bill Kvindlog's Hobby Shop in Waldo. As I looked at what he had on hand, I spotted a nice-looking plane made by Horizon Hobby. It said on the box it would be a good plane for the beginner flyer.



Now, I had built a Sig Kadet years ago, so I understood the ins and outs of a balsa model. In fact, I trained on that Kadet and learned how to fly it. But after only flying about 2 dozen times, things were a bit rusty after 30 something years... I had started building a second balsa plane after I sold the Kadet, but couldn't decide if I wanted to go GLOW or ELECTRIC. In those days, electric was just starting to be popular. So, the second plane just sat on the workbench till years later when I finally sold it half finished. But in today's world... I found that the technology has changed over the years and it was time to teach this old dog some new tricks. But WOW! DSMX, digital, outrunner, 30C, LiPo, NiCd, NiMH, brushless, AS3X, battery balancing... Yikes! I don't know about this. I had to learn a whole new language! Well, I took the plunge and got myself a 6 channel Spektrum receiver and a new foam plane. It was a Timber.



I bought it in the dead of winter, so after putting it together, it sat on the floor of my room greeting me each time I went in there. Every night I dreamed of someday taking my new plane out to the field and FLY!

I had joined the SHARKS that Fall, so I had all winter to see what flying was like on my Phoenix flight simulator. It was slow going at first, but after a while I had the feel of the sticks in my hands. Springtime came and the Timber and I were ready. I checked the weather each night, looking for a windless morning. I found that 5 A.M. was the magic time. However, to get these old bones out of bed at that hour ready to fly was next to impossible. It would have to be 7 A.M. for me.



The Timber was a beautiful plane for a person getting back into the cockpit after years of watching other planes fly. It had a large wingspan, a powerful enough motor, flaps and ailerons, SAFE with intermediate and expert modes and AS3X. I approached the field and placed the plane on the runway just as the sun was rising. There was just a wisp of wind. I checked the controls. Everything was according to specs found in the owner's manual. I made sure it was in SAFE mode. Took a deep breath. Checked all around. Started the throttle. She started to move down the runway... Up it went... She was airborne... Oh boy, this is for real!

The plane took off just like I had dreamed. It climbed nice and easy. Did a few turns. Did some fly-bys. Now for the hard part. Getting the plane to take off was easy. Getting it back to the ground in one piece... That is what we all strive for as R/C pilots. Easy and slow approach. Throttle down. Plane is coming in nice and easy. 10 feet off the ground. Slow down just a bit more. One foot off the ground... Flare slightly... Touchdown! WOW, one successful flight. No one around to witness it, but that's OK...



That Timber served me well for three years. I learned loops. barrel rolls. Had a close call when it was turning, and tip stalled because of low air speed. Then one day, I got



brave... This was the day I decided to do a forward loop. It was a pretty windy day, and I thought I was high enough. I started the loop... the plane was now faced directly at the ground. All I need to do is to complete the loop and level off... Well... the wind was blowing against the plane. I was getting closer and closer to the ground. I increased throttle and pulled on the stick. The wind was too strong... Gravity had claimed another victim...

The Timber, my first love, was buried nose first into the ground. I had made repairs before, but this was in tiny pieces. The motor shaft was bent, the prop and spinner were somewhere buried in the ground. The wings were busted into many pieces. Could it be saved?

My first plane after 30 years of waiting... After 3 years of wonderful times together... GONE... After a few days of mourning... I did a quick survey of damages. I checked out what was left of the plane. I saved what pieces I could. The rest went into the recycle bin. Over \$200 worth of damage. The original Timber was discontinued. A brand spanking new TURBO TIMBER was on sale for a few dollars more. So, I got a TURBO TIMBER.

Now how that is working out...is another story...

Adam

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<http://www.sharksrc.com>

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Great Planes silicon gas fuel tubing NEW \$ 2.49

Extreme Flight 1.5" servo arms NEW \$ 66.00

Flowmaster 34 oz Fuel Tank NEW \$ 26.99

(2) Hanger 9 Horizontal stab bags NEW \$ 50.00

(2) Wing bags NEW \$ 149.00

(8) Sullivan steel control horns \$ 29.52

MPI Maxx Products voltage regulator NEW \$
19.95

Quickfire Fuel Balancer and Filter NEW \$ 24.95

Fuel Filter \$ 5.95

SWB Engine Standoff Kit \$ 24.95

Total retail cost \$ 3777.71

2021 S.H.A.R.K.S. Membership Renewal Notice

The basic dues for membership in the SHARKS for 2021 are \$50 for Regular Membership, \$25 for an Additional Family Membership, and \$5 for Junior Membership (18 and younger) and are due in January 2021. Also, you will have the option of volunteering for 15 hours of club-benefiting activities or opting-out for an additional \$75. Please fill out this invoice completely and bring it with your payment to the February meeting, or send it with your check to the Treasurer:

Joe Kuranz
2850 Ashby Court
Sheboygan, WI 53081

Type of Membership (Check One)
 Regular _____ Additional _____ Junior _____

Name _____ Phone (_____) _____

Address _____ AMA/ROAR# _____

_____ e-mail _____

Would you like to receive the *Sharks Tales* newsletter via e-mail? Yes _____ No _____

Choose Your Dues

Type of Membership	Junior	Regular	Additional Family Adult
Basic Dues	\$5.00	\$50.00	\$25.00
Check here if volunteering for 15 hours of club-benefiting activities for 2021	N/A		
-OR- Add \$75.00 for Opt-Out	N/A		
\$5.00/hour of activities not completed in 2020	N/A		
Total Dues:	\$5.00		

If volunteering for club service, please check any activities you would be interested in participating in. This is not intended to force you into any particular activity, but it will help us find volunteers if we need more help in a particular area.

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|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------|
| _____ Club Officer | _____ Public Relations | _____ |
| _____ Newsletter | _____ Exhibits/Demos | _____ |
| _____ Fun-Fly Duties | _____ AHC Movie Nights | _____ |
| _____ Field Maintenance | _____ Other (Please List) | _____ |
| _____ Flight Instructor | _____ | _____ |

**NEXT S.H.A.R.K.S. MEETING:
TO BE DETERMINED!**

S.H.A.R.K.S.
2850 ASHBY COURT
SHEBOYGAN, WI 53081

