

# Sharks Tales

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Newsletter of the  
Sheboygan Area Radio Kontrol Society  
May 2021  
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[www.sharksrc.com](http://www.sharksrc.com)

## The Prez Sez...

*By Mike Gradinjan*

Say Hey, SHARKSters!

There's a SHARKS membership meeting in the AHC library at the airport this Saturday, May 1, from 10AM-12Noon. Everybody who attends get s an entry into the drawing for Ralph's Mini-Crack Yak giveaway!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z\\_V4lv0WhwY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_V4lv0WhwY) You'll need a receiver and battery to get it in the air if you're ticket is selected. He's got several to dispose of, so this will continue into the summer.

The Board has reworked the By Laws to allow for the RC racing group, SHARKS Park, to function within the guidelines of our incorporated club. The By Law changes will be explained and voted on, and we'll have an election of all our officers and one Board member to get back in compliance after a year of Covid restrictions. The Board is supposed to approve any nominations, just to make sure no ne'er-do-wells can infiltrate our organization. Nobody's thrown their hat in the ring again this time around, so I'm guessing it'll be another year where everything rolls over! What a cooperative and friendly group we have!

A SHARKS membership will be required for use of our facilities from now on. 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 almost the same. \$38 vs \$35 for adults, \$15 vs \$20 for youth under 19. 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. Be sure to include your AMA license or ROAR membership # on our [SHARKS application](#).

Please welcome new SKARKS Park member Glen Josse! Glen's agreed to coordinate the operations of the drag strip area of SHARKS Park, so say Hi and introduce yourself.

Glen's planning a Test & Tune day on Saturday, May 15, from 10AM – 5PM, and is still looking for help to coordinate the operation. Contact him on Facebook for details.

We're going to try to conduct our spring work day on Saturday, May 22, from 10AM – 5PM. There's all kinds of brush & trees yet to clear from the area in front by the sign, rocks to be removed and grass to be seeded on the berm, mower blades to be sharpened, and all manner of odds & ends around the property and on the dirt RC track. Please set some time aside to help work off your club work commitment. Come when you can and leave when you must. Any effort will help and be appreciated.

I've gotten a few inquiries about the Introductory Pilot program, so we'll be seeing a number of new faces at the field between that and SHARKS Park! Please be welcoming to anyone you see and maybe don't recognize. Make their welcome even better than the one you first got.

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*

## Builder's Column

*By Tony Lewis*



I recently had the chance to try out a new covering film called Willykote. This material is a lightweight film available from [willynillies.com](http://willynillies.com). Willy Nillies caters to the sub-250-gram class and offers a full line of kits and accessories for projects of this size. The Willykote comes in smaller packages, 18" x 25", which is convenient for these small builds. For my plane, I used White Willykote for the base color with green Willykote for the trim. The blue stripes are a stick-on vinyl.



The first thing I noticed when I opened the package is the nice glossy finish. This is something I found has lacked from some of the other lightweight films such as Parklite. The back side of the opaque films is white which does tend to give you a fine white line at any seams. However, these seams can be cleaned up when finished with a little alcohol.

Applying the Willykote required more heat than expected. I have used Hangar 9 Parklite on some previous small builds, and it required low heat. Willykote requires a similar heat to what is needed with Monokote. I found that it works very well when applying it with an iron, but does not respond well to a heat gun. The shrink rate is very fast, when a heat gun is applied it will shrink and shrivel in the blink of an eye. This caused me some grief in a couple areas, especially where I was applying a trim piece over a base color. Here a little too much heat would cause the material to suddenly shrink too much and pull my trim line out shape. I simply fixed these areas by applying another small strip over the seams to straighten them back out, which creates another seam line that can be seen. Not a huge deal, just a little annoying. Because of this, I do not recommend using Willykote for trim graphics. Rather cover the entire structure in a single color, shrink it tight, then apply any stripes or details using a sticky backed material.



The only other small issue I ran into was trying to work Willykote around major curves. My model has a very rounded nose that I tried to cover with the film. The heat and stretch approach I would normally use with Monokote did not work due to the rapid shrink rate of the Willykote.

Working it slowly over the curves with an iron worked very well and I was able to get it to smooth out without much fuss. However, the coloring in these areas seemed to dilute the more I worked it. I believe that as it shrinks and forms around these curves, the color stays with the adhesive and as a result you start seeing some of the white backing coming through. I noticed this around the nose and at the front edge of the ribs on my plane. Of course, you do not run into this issue with the white film or any of the transparent colors since they have a clear backing.



In summary, I am quite pleased with my first experience with Willykote. It has some distinct nuances that you have to learn, but overall works very well for these smaller airplanes. I do not recommend it for any complex multi-color covering jobs, since it can be difficult to ensure straight color separation seams. But for any basic covering needs, it works great and I will be using it again.

*Tony*

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WEB LINKS

<http://www.sharksrc.com>

<https://www.modelaircraft.org/>

<https://roarracing.com/>

**NEXT S.H.A.R.K.S. MEETING:**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 1, 10 AM-12 NOON**  
**AVIATION HERITAGE CENTER**

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

