

## CARTWHEELS

BY: LARRY LOUCKS, PRESIDENT

### LEADER TO LEADER

#### What Does it Mean to be a Leader Member?

by Frank Geisler, Chairman Leader Member Committee

My name is Frank Geisler and I am a member of the Gloucester Area Modelers Association in Gloucester, Virginia. I have recently been appointed by Dave Mathewson and Jim Rice to chair the Leader Member (LM) Program Development Committee. I was reluctant at first to accept the position, but when I read our mission statement below, I soon realized that LMs play an important role in the AMA and I thought I could make a difference in helping to develop LMs in the AMA.

*"The AMA Leader Member Committee is tasked with developing new and creative ways to communicate with, and utilize, the diverse education, motivation, and talents of our Leader Members. This potential volunteer force represents nearly 3,000 members that could benefit the Academy and the general membership."*

I am in the process of assembling my committee and I look forward to working with other LMs to help make the Academy and the sport of model aviation prosper.

In discussions with other Leader Members in my district, the questions I hear most are; "What does an LM do besides vote on bylaws?" or "How can we get more involved?" However the one concern that seems most disturbing to LMs is "the AMA does not utilize their Leader Members enough." I hope to answer those questions and address the concern in this column.

First, we need to review a few definitions. We know what the AMA Membership Manual states about an LM. Two key points I'd like to note: "The Leader Member is identified as an individual performing an above average interest in the Academy and its functions" and "The Leader Member is the highest level of membership..."

Webster defines a leader as "a person who leads: as a guide." LMs, due to their dedication, use influence, talent, and skills to help guide members of the AMA, their districts, and clubs in their areas for the betterment of the Academy and most importantly model aviation.

There are many reasons why each of us became an

LM, but I'm sure it all boils down to this; we wanted model aviation and the AMA to prosper. We all felt that we could help accomplish that goal. We wanted to belong to a first-class organization that helps promote model aviation and is also focused on people willing to help others. LMs by nature should all share this common denominator of having a positive can-do attitude or we simply would not have sent in our application to become LMs.

We should all take a step back and examine the issues that concern us the most and see what we can do to fix them. As LMs we should not sit idle and instead take action to correct things that we see are wrong.

Few are in a better position to correct things happening in your district or club than you are. When was the last time you e-mailed the other LMs in your district? Have you checked the AMA's Web site to ensure your club's contact info and Web site are correct? Have you checked on other clubs in your area? It sure is frustrating to attempt to contact a new club via the AMA Web site and discover the e-mail or Web site address is a dead link. These are a few very simple things each of us can do in a matter of 15 minutes that can help open up the lines of communication.

My committee can't do this alone. We are seeking ideas that will help energize the LM program and I support this effort whole heartedly and look forward to LMs across the US taking on more active roles in an effort to help promote model aviation.

As you know, the AMA has established a forum where AMA members can discuss issues openly with each other. Unlike other forums, moderation in this forum supports open communication, but does not tolerate personal attacks, so a person can post there without fear of being attacked because his or her opinion may differ from another's. In that forum, a LM section has been implemented that is only available to LMs.

Currently, more and more LMs are being added. If you have not received an e-mail yet, please go to "Ask AMA" and send a request to Greg Minch and ask that you be added to the list of LMs. Be sure to include your name and AMA number in your request. Please stop in, introduce yourself, and share any ideas and concerns you have with the other LMs posting in the forum.

I am looking forward to working with you to help

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*Courtesy and  
common sense keep  
R/C modeling fun  
for everyone.*

promote model aviation and the Academy. →

**New Members**

*Proposed at the July Meeting*

**Our next club meeting is:  
Thursday August 5<sup>th</sup> at FTE.  
Plan to attend and see what's  
new.**

**IRCC Meeting Minutes**

July 1, 2010

*Minutes recorded by:*

*George Nauck, Secretary*

Meeting called to order by V.P. David Raff at 7:32 PM. 13 members and 2 visitors

- Treasurer report – No significant change in checking or CD with \$XXK+ in each
- Membership Report – Now at 93 members
- New members – Benjamin Dawson, Leonard ?, and Steve Baxley's grandson Jordan
- Visitors present – Ethyl Dawson and Martha Baxley
- Field Maintenance – All is in good shape. Tractor is still struggling with the rapid growth from all the heat and rains. Front wheel rolled off tractor and both front wheels bearing sets were replaced with 2 days of work by David Kreitz and Dale Anderson
- Instructor's report – Have a lot of new members requiring buddy-boxing. Most have JR radios, and the JR DX5 transmitter has to be re-set when going from one trainee's airplane to the next, loosing a lot of time. A JR buddy-box transmitter with multi-model memory and programmable endpoints, proportional, servo reversing, etc. is needed. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to purchase a DX6 or DX7 transmitter for training. Treasurer Roger Pilkenton volunteered to purchase the transmitter "at a deal".
- Past events – no discussion
- David Raff has prepared a log to be kept at the field to document all incidents or lost planes that are apparently due to radio interference. Lot of 2.4 Ghz planes have had mysterious loss of control.
- Future events – FIA qualifying for USA team in September will be Thursday through Sunday, and will have top pilots from multiple countries at our field. It is a big honor to be chosen to host this international event that has always been in California. Monster Planes (not at our field) and IMAA big bird event (at our field) will follow.
- Sportsmanship Award – Unanimously approved to be presented to Wayne Churchill for the excellent support to 6 or more trainees on an almost daily basis before he departed for Afghanistan.
- 50/50 won by Capt. Mike to invest in his C-130. Capt. Mike had the fuselage in his van for us to get a preview after the meeting. It is going to be exciting if all the components ever get delivered. I think it will have a 10 foot wingspan. Of course it is in the Coast Guard colors scheme.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:26

The IRCC monthly club meeting will be held at FTE near the Lakeland Airport. The next meeting will be on Thursday August 5<sup>th</sup> and starts promptly at 7:30pm. Remember to bring a chair - if you want to have a seat.

## Education Through Aviation

Bill Pritchett  
AMA Education Director

**Wilkes Elementary School is located on Bainbridge Island, Washington. Bainbridge Island is located within the Central Puget Sound Basin, east of the Kitsap Peninsula and west of the City of Seattle. With 53 miles of shoreline, the island is approximately five miles wide and ten miles long. Inside Wilkes Elementary is 3rd grade teacher, Richard Pearsall. Richard's 3rd grade class built and flew a GWS Tiger Moth this year. All of them! Richard sent me a class photo posing with the Tiger Moth and a report from each student. One of Richard's students, Marco, reports: "Yesterday we flew the Tiger Moth. It was awesome and cool and totally radical. It has a brushless 400 electric motor and a three cell lipo battery. The temperature was 40 degrees Fahrenheit and the wind was 2 mph from the north. There were overcast skies covered with omnibus clouds. The air pressure was 29.73 inches of mercury and dropping. There was no rain."**



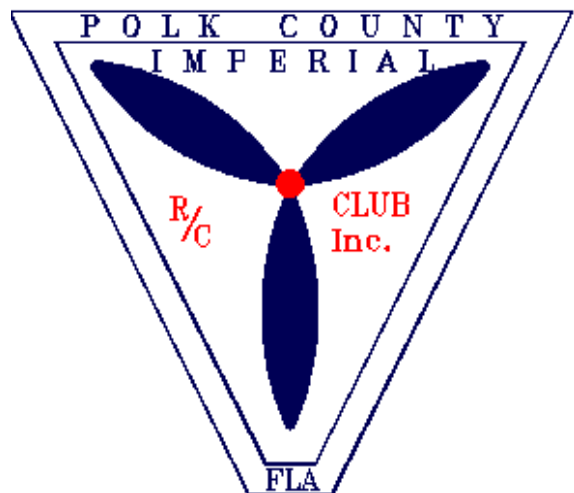
Thanks, Richard, and thanks to all of these 8- and-9-year-old builders and pilots!!

Education almost always makes us think about kids, our experiences in school, and that we couldn't possibly learn anything else... Ha! The fact is that 75% of the purchasers in our great activity are over the age of 35! So, working with kids, outreaching to schools, and experiencing the thrill of a youngster learning to fly is all good, but realize that they will enjoy this for a while... We hope they get "The Bug" now, and then come back to us sometime – often in the meantime, dad and grandpa get hooked. Your club can do great things with outreach in your community. Is there a parade every summer? Put a display of models on a trailer and join in. Hover some foamies and helis along the parade route. Become a legitimate, contributing member of your community. Suddenly you will be viewed as responsible people flying model aircraft, not strangers playing with toys.

The results can be amazing, especially when it's time to find a flying site in your area!

Just like the kids in these pictures look at things that fly with amazement, so do we. Don't lose that – share the amazement with your community.

Fly and have Fun!



When you read this, can there be any question about the phenomenon of learning through aviation??

## The Club Corner

by Jim Wallen, AMA Insider Club Editor

What do you think is the most important thing that keeps our flying clubs active and growing? We all know that our clubs are the focal point of some great social activity and a great place to fly the projects that are our pride and joy.

Everything becomes secondary however, if we do not maintain and improve our flying sites. Providing a safe, comfortable, and well-maintained site is the glue that holds the club together. Without the field, clubs will fade away.

There is a financial burden we must bear in the maintenance and improvement of the flying fields. Dues are the primary source of getting the basics done. That is how we pay for the bucket of paint, gas for the lawnmower, repairing the start-up table, and other day-to-day needs. If major projects or large repairs are required the clubs must delve into the arena of fund-raising.

What techniques are effective in raising the cash requirements? Let me name a few that come to mind.

Auctions are a good way to raise some cash. Have members clean out their rebuild areas and donate items they no longer use to the club auction. Partnering with a community charity and sharing the proceeds works well. Social events such as "pancake feeds" work for some clubs. Don't forget that AMA has a pool of cash available for club site improvement projects that can fund 10% of the project cost.

AMA has recognized that the subject of fund-raising is important on both the local and national level. Chris Brooks at AMA Headquarters has taken on the challenge of addressing our funding needs. If you, or your club, have some creative ideas in addressing fund-raising at the local level, send Chris an e-mail so he can share your thoughts with other clubs. Chris can be contacted at [chrisb@modelaircraft.org](mailto:chrisb@modelaircraft.org). →

## Coming Area Events

### USA FIA World Team Trials

September 16 - 19  
IRCC Flying Site  
More Details to Follow

### IRCC / IMAA Dist. 5 Mini Fest

October 22 - 24  
David DeWitt CD  
863-838-4459 [Benz425@aol.com](mailto:Benz425@aol.com)

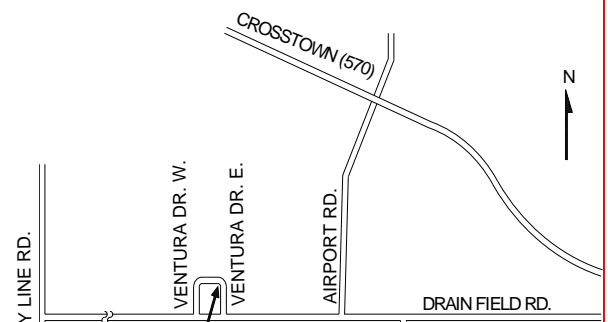
### Monster Planes

October 7 - 9  
Lakeland Airport  
[www.franktiano.com](http://www.franktiano.com)

IRCC Helicopter  
TBA

Here is where we meet each month.

Please **DO NOT PARK ON THE GRASS**  
at FTE or his neighbors.



**OUR NEXT MEETING IS: August 5<sup>th</sup>**