

MON VALLEY R/C CLUB

NEWSLETTER

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August 2016

CEDAR CREEK PARK

AMA CHARTER CLUB NO. 546

[Mike Eiben](#), President (412) 304-7048

[Al Kozusko](#), Vice-President (412) 445-0614

[Linda Wojnar](#), Secretary (412) 654-7867

[Ron Doctorick](#), Treasure (412) 655-8362

# Member Appreciation Month

## President's Corner

The dog days of summer are among us. Keep an eye on your friends and family. Heat stroke is very dangerous. Drink plenty of water and let someone know if you don't feel well.

The Giant Scale Airshow is right around the corner, August 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Our guests will begin arriving on Friday, August 26. Some of the guests will stay the entire weekend.

Two very special people will be joining us this year: AMA District III Vice President, [Mark Radcliff](#), and AMA Flying Site Assistance Coordinator, [Tony Stillman](#). Please make them feel at home.

Mark asked if we could have a club meeting while they are here. The main subject of the meeting will be our flying site layout, field rules, and understanding the rules. Their presence at the field for this meeting is of great value to us. Therefore, the **September monthly meeting will be held one week earlier on August 26, at 7 pm at the field.**

Please volunteer some of your time at the Giant Scale Airshow by helping with crowd control and food service. If we all help, everyone will have time to spend with his or her friends and family.

I would like to thank Bob Haden for his cooperation in making the latest field layout a success. There may be other changes to come, but we are on the right track moving forward.

Hoping for a dry event this year,

Mike Eiben

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\*\*To view a photo of Mark Radcliff and Tony Stillman and read additional information about our guests, please click on the active links above in Mike Eiben's President's Corner.

# Mon Valley RC Meeting Minutes: August 5, 2016

## Attendance: 30 Members

The meeting of the MVRC Club was called to order at 7:01 PM at the club field with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes from the June 3 meeting were revised prior to the meeting and approved.

Ron Doctorick read the treasurer's report. The treasurer's report was approved as read.  
Rick Altomari – No field report.

Al Kozusko reported:

- On the progress of electric installation at the field.
- Al said we don't know at this time who will take the lead for March for Parks.
- Al mentioned the Mon Valley RC Giant Scale Airshow that will take place on August 27 -28.

Mike Eiben reported:

- August 26 is the date for the September MVRC Club Meeting. Two guests from the AMA will be present: Mark Radcliffe and Tony Stillman.
- August 13 is the MVRC Picnic.
- Cedar Creek Fun Fest is on August 14.
- Mike talked about the field layout

Mike Burnardzya voluntarily resigned his position as Club Secretary. Mike volunteered to train his replacement.

Al Kozusko made a motion to nominate Linda Wojnar for Club Secretary. Linda agreed to be nominated for the secretary position. A vote was extended to all members present. Linda was voted in as Secretary with no opposition.

8:20 PM – Meeting was adjourned

Meeting minutes were adapted from the original meeting minutes Mike Bunardzya submitted.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Wojnar

# Safety Coordinator and Deputies' Report

Greetings fellow MVRC members: We are pleased to report to you that our safety team Al Kozusko (Safety Coordinator) and Deputies Rick Altomari, Bob Haden, and Ray D'Andrea will continue to seek out safety improvements for our airfield. We have a dedicated and diverse team that will research, study, investigate, analyze, compare, and communicate with you to help make our field as safe as possible.

We want to reinforce the recent upgrades of the lines at the airfield:

**SAFETY LINE** - The safety line is 15 feet in front of the high grass barriers. All flying is to occur in front of this line.

**PILOT LINE** - The pilot line is painted immediately behind the high grass barriers. All pilots and spotters stand behind the pilot line. Avoid standing between the grass barriers as these areas are taxiways for aircraft moving onto and off of the runway. All pilots flying at the same time shall stand back the same distance from the pilot line while flying. The first pilot to take off establishes this distance.

**CENTERLINE** – Pilots should make every attempt to keep low passes, high speed passes, and 3D maneuvers over or beyond the runway centerline.

We found a list below of common R/C field etiquette when flying with other pilots. Each of us needs to be conscious of how our words and actions impact those that we share the flying field with. Just simply communicating and being courteous will earn respect; make anybody a joy to fly with, and a welcomed guest or member at any flying field:

- When starting or running up an engine or turbine, be conscious of the prop wash or jet blast.
- Keep the language clean! Remember this is a family sport. Many modelers have children grandchildren, nieces and nephews they are trying to involve in R/C. These individuals should not have to worry that profanity will be used in front of the younger ones.
- Children are the future of this sport and should never be discouraged from visiting a flying field. Good behavior, however, is paramount for their safety and keeping them from damaging some very expensive equipment. Pre-schoolers should *always* have an adult's undivided attention. In other words, if you bring a child and you intend to fly, delegate your supervision to a trustworthy adult for the entire time you're dealing with your aircraft.
- Dogs and other pets are best left at home. If you do bring a well behaved pet to the field, keep it leashed at all times.
- Always be cautious of the prop/rotor arc and the surrounding area. Be sure the immediate area is clear before starting or running an engine or motor above idle.
- Keep engine-running time in the start-up area or pits or to an absolute minimum! The closer the flight line or pilot stations are to start up areas, the more of a concern this becomes.
- When walking in proximity of the pilot line or onto the field to retrieve an aircraft, avoid walking directly in front of other flying pilots.
- If you need to walk onto the runway, make sure everybody understands your intentions before you step onto it. Observe all requests to land before you go. Spend as little time there as possible and announce when you are clear of the runway as well.
- Call out your intentions or difficulties to others that are flying. Some examples are: "Taking off", "Coming in/Landing", "Touch and go", "On the field", "Off the field", "Dead stick" or "Lost control". This last one can be useful to you the pilot as well. Others that are not flying will visually track where the aircraft goes down and be of great assistance in locating it.

- Give landing aircraft priority use of the runway and the airspace immediately surrounding should a go around be necessary.
- Give a student pilot's aircraft plenty of space when flying. Beginners can become overly worried about traffic and will concentrate on collision avoidance rather than maneuvers that improve their skills.
- Always control your aircraft, whether on the ground or in the air, with the belief that radio failure can and will happen at any moment.
- Do not adjust equipment of a fellow modeler (IE: needle valve) without consent.
- Keep unsolicited advice to an absolute minimum. Safety concerns should always be politely brought to the attention of a fellow modeler. But if it's just general advice and you can't help yourself, be brief, be concise, present your suggestion once and move on. Just keep in mind if you really do know your stuff, your advice will be solicited.
- Some pilots do not mind holding conversations while flying and some do not like to at all. Unless you are very familiar with the pilot, assume he/she prefers not to chat. Wait until their aircraft is back in the pits and powered down.
- Help search for downed aircraft when possible. The next search and rescue mission could be for your aircraft and you will welcome the assistance. If you are the first one to the crash site, unless the damage is very minor, let the pieces lie until the owner arrives so he/she can take inventory or even investigate a probable cause.
- If it's your aircraft that went down, no matter how distraught you are over damaging or even losing an aircraft, be sure to show your appreciation to your search party for helping you look, since they likely spent precious flying time helping you.
- Everybody needs to communicate and compromise so that vastly different styles are not battling for the same air space at the same time.

The point of this list of information is to get beginners as well as experienced pilot's thinking about their own actions and routines. Those with many years' experience should consider this an update. Maybe you saw something that innocently has been part of your standard operating procedure for many years and did not realize was discourteous. Things do change and old dogs can and should learn new tricks. No matter how long you have been in this sport or how much you think you know, you may very well make an unintended etiquette blunder and get approached on it. Yes, it's difficult to not take it personally or be insulted, but graciously accept the input and make an effort to incorporate a change. The fact is that each of us needs to be conscious of how our words and actions impact those that we share the flying field with. Just simply communicating and being courteous will earn respect; make anybody a joy to fly with, and a welcomed guest or member at any flying field.



# IMPORTANT DATES:

## August

**13 – Family Picnic - *rescheduled***

**14 – Cedar Creek Fun Fest**

**26 – September MVRC Meeting –**  
If you can find time to attend as many meetings as you can this year, your input will better serve our club. Meetings are held at *7:00 PM at the MVRC Airfield.*

### **27-28-Giant Scale Airshow**

A Giant Scale AirShow is taking place at Cedar Creek Park (South East of Pittsburgh – Intersection of I-70 and Route 51), near Belle Vernon, PA.

Jets, Helis, Drones, Vintage Aircraft, etc. will be flying August 27 and August 28 between 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM. See our poster on P. 11.

Fun, Food, Beverages, Vendors. Prizes and lots of aircraft!!

**Free parking and admission.**

## September

**No MVRC Meeting**  
(Two meetings were held in August.)

**10 – Family Picnic (*rescheduled from August 13*)**

# Roving Reporter

**LEW MARASCALCO**



## New Quad on the Block



Tom and Rich are observing (patiently!!) while Lew does flight controller setup on Tom's quad build. Yep, that laptop screen required some close in scrutiny to see in daylight glare!!

The finished quad is based on a popular, readily available 250mm size carbon fiber frame. The Flight controller used is the Seriously Pro F3 with Cleanflight firmware.



About two months ago **Tom Heifner** decided he would like to try one of the high performance quads that could eventually be adapted to the FPV racing challenge. Economically, the route to go is to build your own from various available parts. With advice from other club members he obtained everything and after some help from on-line documents and videos and bit of hair pulling he got it built!! Final step was set up of the flight controller and with Lew's help this was accomplished. The finished product flies well and meets Tom's expectations.



I would like to begin this newsletter with the word technology. Every flying season, and almost every day, there are newer and better features on numerous airframes. The time is right for folks that may want to see if the hobby is right for them as the prices on RC equipment for beginners are much more affordable. Sure, you will still have to shell out the bucks for the higher end products, but beginner airframes are much more affordable and the features seem endless. We now have planes with the SAFE (Sensor Assisted Flight Envelope) technology, GPS, various airframes that return to their original launch point if in a distressed situation, state of the art chargers, transmitters, receivers and much more.

Our pilots are constantly on the cutting edge when it comes to the latest technologies. Whenever I need assistance, the answers are only fingertips away (as far away as the location of my computer). Although we are getting ready for yet another exciting Steeler Football season, OUR summer is not over.

Our MVRC Picnic and Giant Scale Events are just a few weeks away. There are many members working behind the scenes in order to make these and all future events a success. How many times have I said that we have the most beautiful and professionally looking field around? As Bobby Vinton sang, "There I Said it Again"! Let me back up a bit. Does anyone, besides me, still remember Bobby Vinton? Maybe that's a good trivia question, huh?

Speaking of all this state of the art technology, is there anyone out there that bought a new toy and want everyone to know that is better than sliced bread or maybe you purchased a buyer beware product? We really need your input in some of our newsletter sections, such as the Product Review Section, Classified Ad Section, Fun Fly Section, plus anything else you may think is newsworthy. Don't worry about your spelling and grammar, just put your pen to your paper. Email us what you have and we can take it from there. There's a lot of untapped knowledge from our members. What you may think is trivial may be the missing link for our newer members.

I would really appreciate any news worthy issues coming my way as my goal is to make our newsletter the class act of class acts!

Looking forward to being at the field and flying with you!

Now, and always, we support our troops.

Rich

# Photo Gallery



Dan said, "Think you are going to fly on my field, huh?"



"Badges? We don't need no stinkin' badges!" –Just kidding!



Now, where did I put the glue?



This is what "Heli Heaven" looks like!

"For those of you who are still trying to figure out where the saying quoted above about *badges* came from, I'll offer a little help. It was paraphrased from the 1948 film – *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*.



# Mon Valley RC GIANT SCALE

August 27-28, 2016

# AIRSHOW

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Contact Director: Al Kozusko



Location: Southeast  
Pittsburgh, PA, Rostraver  
Township (CEDAR CREEK  
PARK) intersection of roads  
I-70 and State Route 51.

Time: 10:00 AM till Dusk



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## Classified Section

Please send the information you would like to post in this section for inclusion in the next newsletter to [richardwojnar@yahoo.com](mailto:richardwojnar@yahoo.com) by September 8.

You might also desire to attach a photo of your item(s) and your contact information as well.

# Member Appreciation Month

We would like to make August our annual “**Member Appreciation Month**”. You might ask why this is important, but think about it: Without members – there is no MVRC Club.

How do we recruit new members? The answer is clear. All you need is to do is to come to the airfield and see our members in action – flying planes, jets, helis, foamies, drones, vintage aircraft, or other flying aircraft. Many of our members are builders – building everything from airframes to wherever your imagination takes you. Their skills are second to none and are endless; their warmth in welcoming new members is exciting to see; and their willingness to help one another (even if the person being assisted doesn't know he or she needs assistance and didn't ask for assistance) benefits the entire club and the model aircraft profession, in general.

Our passion for our hobby is best utilized when we show camaraderie toward all of our members in the club. Be appreciative of everyone who steps forward and volunteers whatever amount of time they have to devote. Their willingness to step up and unselfishly giving their time for the betterment of the club is what makes our club so special.

We would like to thank each and every one of you for being a special member of our club – the club that we love so dearly!