

# The Marion Eagle Newsletter



<http://marionrcflyers.info>

**MRCF**

**PO Box 9202**

**Rochester, MN 55903**

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Editor: Wayne Brown

## **Club Officers 2017**

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**Club Dues Now Being accepted at the Club meetings or send your dues to:**

**Marion RC Flyers  
PO Box 9202  
Rochester, Mn 55903**

**Adult Membership \$50.00 per year**

**Family (Spouse) Membership \$75.00 per year**

**Student (19 years of age or under) \$1.00 per year**

**Electric Indoor Flying at the RCTC Field House**

Tuesday nights starting at 10:00 pm.

**Indoor Flying at the Rochester Recreation Center**

Tuesday's at 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

**\*\*\*\*\*Summer Club Meetings \*\*\*\*\***

**Summer Club Meetings second Wednesday of the month**

Meetings switch back to the second Wednesday of the month and will be held at the MRCF club field starting at 7:00 pm. Weather permitting. No meeting if it is raining.

2017 Meeting Schedule: July 12th; August 9th; September 13th

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**July Regional Flying Events:**

July 9, 2017: July Jubilee RC Fly-In at the Lake Mills Iowa Airport. Flying is from 10AM to 4PM. <https://www.gonerc.com/events/usa-1499573105-ia-lakemillsairport.htm>

Watts over Owatonna: July 20-22, 2017.

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?2879099-WATTS-over-Owatonna-2017>

## Wayne's Corner....

We decided to have a September end of summer Fun Fly. It was also decided to call it "The End of Summer Family Picnic (stressing the picnic) and Fun Fly". We will choose a date at the July 12th club meeting. We talked about keeping the food simple and invite any who wanted to bring a side dish to share do so. The club will supply the hot dogs and beverages. Other clubs in the area are welcome to come and hopefully we will have a good day and weather for fun and flying.

## Fun Fly

The Marion RC Flyers and the RAMS club joint Fun Fly was held June 10, 2017 at the MRCF Flying Field. Even though the weather didn't cooperate (very windy) everyone enjoyed visiting together. There were a few brave souls who did some short flights.

The main highlight was the excellent lunch that was prepared. The pulled pork was a hit. Thank you to Dallas and his family for smoking and preparing the pork and to Dan Snyder for grilling the hot dogs. Also thanks to everyone who brought along side dishes (fresh fruit, beans, etc) to accompany the pork sandwiches and hot dogs. I know I didn't leave hungry.

## Update on the MRCF Annual Fixed Expenses:

1. AMA Club Charter	\$120.00
2. Affordable Portables	\$632.36
3. Insurance (State Farm)	\$105.00
4. Club Post Office Box	\$90.00
5. Postmaster	\$29.40
6. Harlan over fly land lease	\$1027.00
7. Bowlocity	<u>\$136.00</u>

Total: \$2139.76

The club has on average 45+ members. The dues received would total \$2250+ at \$50.00 per year. There are misc expenses per year for maintenance, etc. I know that many members are very generous and donate additional funds to the club. This is greatly appreciated.

The mower has been purchased and paid for in full. The new stands are completed and paid for. The re-roofing of the shed and gutter replacement has been covered by two club members.

I have no doubt we will continue to meet expenses throughout the year.

## AMA News

Dear members,

The U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate this week released proposed legislation for FAA reauthorization. We are pleased to share that both bills preserve the Special Rule for Model Aircraft and even contain some of the new provisions AMA has been advocating for to further protect our hobby. And while the Special Rule remains in both bills, there are areas of concern that we will continue to address with Congress.

As you may know, the Special Rule for Model Aircraft was passed in 2012 and allows community-based organizations (CBO) like AMA to continue managing our community of hobbyists without unnecessary government regulation.

As we shared on our blog yesterday, the [House version of FAA reauthorization](#) provides a clear definition of a CBO and tasks the FAA with developing a process for recognizing CBOs, both items we asked the House to include. In addition, the bill expands the protections of the Special Rule to allow model aircraft to be used as a teaching tool for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), as well as aeronautics. Throughout the weekend and into early next week, we will continue to petition refinements to the bill.

The [Senate version of the FAA reauthorization bill](#) will require a little more effort, and we are working with the Senate to improve it. We believe it is important the Senate adopt language similar to the House to define CBOs and create a path to identify CBOs. However, we are glad that the Senate included the Special Rule for Model Aircraft and created carveouts for CBOs. The Senate bill also directs the FAA to prioritize education efforts such as the Know Before You Fly campaign, an effort which AMA helped create in 2014.

- [Click here for a high-level bill comparison](#) as it relates to our members.
- We will continue our work with the House and Senate. We are still early in the legislative process, but things can move quickly. At some point, we may need your help advocating to members of Congress to support these changes. In the meantime, we will keep you updated on how the legislative process progresses.

Please continue to monitor [www.modelaircraft.org/gov](http://www.modelaircraft.org/gov) and your email for the latest information. And as always, thank you for your support of AMA.

Sincerely,  
AMA Government Relations

## The Student Flight Instruction Program will resume June 2017 and continue through September 2017.

**Beginner's Night: Wednesday afternoons/evenings will resume June 2017. Contact our qualified Flight Instructors for free flight instruction. It is recommended that you make an appointment with Ray Dray or Skip Gram for flight instruction.**

**Call Ray Dray at (cell) 261-0930 or (home) 775-6933.**

**Call Skip Gram at (507) 273-2748**

### Student Flight Instruction Program

Student flight instruction is provided free of charge during the flying season, June through September, by one of our qualified flight instructors.

- Please call Ray Dray at 261-0930 (cell) or 775-6933 (home) or Skip Gram at 273-2748 to set up an appointment for flight instruction. They can answer any questions you might have.
- You should read and understand the club rules that are posted online and at the field. If you have any questions have your instructor clarify them during the first flight lesson.  
[http://www.marionrcflyers.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=20&Itemid=16](http://www.marionrcflyers.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=20&Itemid=16)
- Please call our club instructor to make an appointment for flight training. This will assure that there will be somebody at the field to assist you.
- After completing your lessons you will need to join the AMA and our club to be allowed to fly at our club field. Join the AMA at <https://www.modelaircraft.org/joinrenew.aspx>. To join our club, contact Wayne Brown at 319-4406. Our membership forms can be found in the New Pilot Info link to the left.

The available instructors are listed below:

Instructor	Phone Number	Special Information
Ray Dray	261-0930 cell 775-6933 Home	Airplane Instruction
Skip Gram	273-2748	Airplane Instruction

- If using your own airplane for flight lessons you should make sure your radio equipment has been charged and the switches are in the off position before you arrive at the field. If you do not own your own airplane you can use the club training aircraft at no charge to you.
- When you arrive at the field ask for your instructor. He will provide direction on where and how to set up the airplane for instruction.
- Pay attention to what your instructor has to say and show you. He will show you proper flying field procedures and etiquette. You can learn by observing how pilots set up and fly their aircraft.
- Relax and take your time. If you feel tired or worn out call it a day and schedule a lesson for another day. When learning to fly it may take more lessons than expected.
- When your instructor says you are ready you will complete a check flight, where you will be asked to do three takeoffs and landings, demonstrate the correct pattern and flying field etiquette. After

successful completion you will then be considered a qualified R/C Pilot and allowed to fly solo without an instructor.

- You can request additional lessons at any time. These can include aerobatic maneuvers.

### ***Meeting Minutes from June 14, 2017***

***Call to order:*** 7:00 pm

***Officers present:*** Wayne Brown; Dallas Gardner; Judi Snyder; Bernie Drier

***Members present:*** (Includes the officers) 7

#### ***Treasurer's Report:***

Accounts are in good order.

#### ***Old Business:***

- The club received \$175.00 in donations for the food at the Fun Fly. All food and beverages provided at no cost by club members for the Fun Fly.
- Brian Poss filled the pot holes in the driveway and leveled them out. Thanks Brian.

#### ***New Business:***

- 2018 will be the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the MRCF club. We will be planning something special for the Fun Fly next June.
- We decided to have a September end of summer Fun Fly. It was also decided to call it "The End of Summer Family Picnic (stressing the picnic) and Fun Fly". We will choose a date at the July 12th club meeting. We talked about keeping the food simple and invite any who wanted to bring a side dish to share do so. The club will supply the hot dogs and beverages. Other clubs in the area are welcome to come and hopefully we will have a good day and weather for fun and flying.

***Adjourn:*** 7:15 pm

## Tips from Model Airplane News 6/30/2017

When installing certain components in his latest airplane, this reader had to make a variety of recesses in the balsa structure. The cuts to make the recess must not go through the balsa, so he devised a knife with a depth gauge. He wanted it to be easy to adjust for balsa of differing thicknesses. He came up with a simple, cost-saving cutter made out of a control horn and a new X-Acto blade. The blade depth is easy to adjust, and once he has the right depth for the wood he's working on, he simply tightens the screws for a snug fit. The blade is held very tightly between the backplate and the bottom of the control horn.



While putting together a new foamie, this reader realized that he had forgotten to pick up micro pushrod keeper at the hobby shop. Not wanting to make a 45-minute trip back for a \$1.50 part, he scanned his workbench for an alternative. He found a plastic zip-tie, cut all except 1/2 inch off the strap and drilled a hole in the remaining stub about 1/4 inch from the cut end. He carefully drilled a hole through the tie's square end. The tricky part was drilling the hole parallel to the strap and keeping it near the top of the square. Then he used a sharp X-Acto blade to slot and notch the holes as shown, and his new micro pushrod keeper was ready to use.



### Wing-Bolt Locater:

Getting your wing-mounting bolts started in the fuselage blind nut can be frustrating, especially if the wing has a belly pan. Here's how to make starting the bolts much easier. First, cut a length of 1/4-inch-diameter hard-wood dowel and drill a clearance hole in the center for the screw. Next, cut a cone-shaped recess in one end with a router bit fitted to a drill press. Cut the cone end off the dowel, and use thick CA or epoxy to glue it directly over the blind nut. The wing bolt is now easily started as it follows the cone to the blind nut. You may need to use a larger-diameter dowel if you use nylon wing nuts.



### Nuked Epoxy

Everyone seems to have some old 5- and 30-minute epoxy lying around that has become thick and difficult to squeeze out of the bottle. Place it in a microwave for a few seconds—longer, if needed. The epoxy will become thin and easy to mix while still retaining its strength. [Editor's note: "seconds" is the operative word here, and I wouldn't recommend doing this in front of your family members who also use the microwave. Better yet, maybe just buy some new epoxy?]



### Easy Servo Replacement

The next time you need to replace a servo that has its lead routed through equipment and bulkheads, try this: tie a string to the servo's plug before you remove the servo. You can now use the string to pull the new servo plug through the same path as the old one.





## Using What's at Hand

When you are in a pinch and need an extra set of hands or a holding jig to make a soldering job easier, try this. Use a set of vise grips to hold a pair of offset pliers as shown. The vise grips are heavy enough to make a stable base and a rubber band wrapped around the pliers handles allows them to clamp your work without slipping



## Color coding

Here's a trick for when you start flying more advanced airplanes, gliders or helicopters that require various auxiliary mixes and functions. Often it is necessary to find and activate various switches on your transmitter to control the functions of your model. By slipping short lengths of different colored fuel tubing over the switches, the search for that specific switch is much easier while dividing your attention between the switch and flying the model.



## MAGNETIC SCREWDRIVER

The best way to reach into model airplanes and install servo screws is with a magnetic screwdriver. Of course, you can also make your own simply by placing an inexpensive button magnet (available at RadioShack) on the side of your screwdriver. This way, the screw stays on the tip and you can guide it into the servo grommet and attachment hole. The magnets are also handy for gathering screws on the workbench so they don't roll around and get lost.



***Until next time!***