



# Hangar Talk

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**From the President**

.It must be March, the weather is weird and not very good for flying. The Silver Lining is that is has been great for building. I have 2 projects that I am getting ready for this year and its a lot easier to stay focused when its cold and windy outside. I know it will be nice our soon, need to hurry.

Another Aeromodeling Expo @ Wings Over The Rockies has come and gone and as always, we had a great turnout of members at the show. Ike past shows, we talked to many interested passersby about M.A.S. and flying. The museum has undergone some big improvements since last year and looked great. There were also some spectacular models on display. It was definitely worth the time to see everything and visit with old friends from other clubs. If you didn't make it this year, I encourage you to put it on your calendar for next year.

This month's meeting was pretty routine, a few items we discussed were the upcoming IMAC and Pattern events. George is in the process of sending out requests for donations for the IMAC event in May and Rocco at Aeroworks has graciously agreed to sponsor the event again this year. As for the Pattern event, we needed to pick a name so I could include in on the AMA sanction request. After some discussion, we settled on "The Prairie Dog Classic" in honor of the varmints that are always watching over us while we fly. Anyway, I have submitted and received sanctions for both events.

Speaking of the varmints at the field, we have not heard from the State Land Commissioner about their planned extermination day. If they do contact us, we will participate, but in the mean time any licensed hunter and club member can take matters into their own hands. Just please don't bring any varmint soup for lunch on Saturday. :-)

It was mentioned at the meeting that John Fletcher is selling all his hobby items. If you are interested, please give him a call at 303-425-6742 to arrange a time to go see what he has.

I only have one event on the schedule for March. This weekend, March 16<sup>th</sup> in the Northern Colo RC Swap Meet at the Larimer County Fairgrounds. Several members have gone in past years and are planning to go again this year.

That's all for this month. I need to get back to my workshop so my new plane is ready when the weather improves. I hope to see you at the airfield soon,

**Upcoming meetings and events**  
Dues are Due...

March 28 Meeting

April 20<sup>th</sup> - Work Day

April 25th Meeting

May 4-5 - IMAC contest at MAS field

June 15 - MAS Family Picnic (potluck at field)

July 13-14 - Pattern contest at MAS field

July 31-Aug 4 - Adams County Fair

Aug 10 - Kids day

New Lock code: 1947

*There are MANY people from last year who are not members this year. DON'T GIVE OUT THE CODE!*

February Meeting Notes

We had three guests this month: Dave LeMaster (Bob's son) and John Fletcher and his wife.

Larry reminded everyone about the new hats and remaining t-shirts. Talk to Dennis if you want some.

A motion was made to renew the guest memberships of Rocco and Mark D. The motion passed with 2 dissenting.

Prairie Dogs: Larry hasn't heard from anyone since the last meeting. It was supposed to have happened by now, but we never heard from the Land Board. More to come.

Larry has been working on the IMAC contest. The sanction is done. The AMA has it on their calendar. George is working on flyers to solicit donations. The event will be May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

There will be a sign-up sheet for volunteers at the field. This is for MAS members to help run the event. If you wish to compete, you are welcome to, but that's a different list.

Steve G. is the CD. He will take care of the awards and running the event.

Lastly, if you want to learn more about iMac (or Pattern), see Larry, Steve G. or myself and we can point you in the right direction.

**There will be a Work Party on April 20<sup>th</sup>.** (alternate is 27<sup>th</sup>)

Lease Update: The Land Board got in touch with me in early February. They wanted us to fill out a lease proposal form and to also include a \$500 'consideration' fee. I asked if that fee was considered part of the first year's payment and they said it normally wasn't, but they'd look into that for us.

I filled out the form and sent it in with a check. Since this was between meetings, I asked the board if it was ok to spend that amount of money. They all agreed. The members at the meeting also approved the expense. The consensus was that without sending that money, we're out of a field.

As of this writing, I have not heard back from the Land Board. I'll ping them again before they next meeting.

Adams County Fair update: We sent in a \$400 check for the booth. That is more than last year. Dennis explained that they redid the exhibit hall and redid pricing. Our corner booth is now \$325. Power is \$75.

Larry F. said he will work on tables when the snow melts.

The weekend before the meeting was the expo at the Wings Over the Rockies Museum. 12 members helped out. Larry F. said that 950 people came through the museum. They seemed pleased with the turnout.

John Fletcher is selling all of his stuff. Lots of planes and engines, etc. Call John and you can go to his house to take a look at things. Make a deal on the stuff you like.

Cliff asked if we want to do PayPal? We could roll the fees into the cost for the members using it. After some discussion, the members say there's ample opportunity to pay. You can pay from October through the end of February. Meetings, at field, Snow Bird, etc.

# HISTORIC AVIATION

**History:** After early US Navy experience in the Pacific in the early months of WWII, and after consultation with Allied air forces in the European theater, Grumman began to develop a successor to their Wildcat fighter, to be called the Hellcat. Major design changes from the Wildcat included a low-mounted wing, wider landing gear which retracted into the wings, more powerful engine, improved cockpit armor plating, and increased ammunition capacity.

The Navy ordered four prototypes of the new airplane, each with a different engine for test and evaluation purposes. Less than a year later, on 26 June 1942, the first prototype (the **XF6F-1**, with a Wright R-2600 Cyclone engine) flew for the first time. Before much meaningful evaluation of the various engines could be made, however, the Navy decided to press the Hellcat into production by fitting the XF6F-1 prototype with the most powerful engine available, the Pratt & Whitney R-2800 Double Wasp. (This turned it into an **XF6F-3**. The XF6F-2 and XF6F-4 were never evaluated.)

The first production model, the **F6F-3**, first flew in October 1942, and deliveries began four months later with squadron VF-9 on the *USS Essex* in the Pacific. Extremely robust, powerful and maneuverable, the Hellcat was a potent force against the Japanese, and was credited with over three-quarters of the US Navy's air-to-air kills in the war.

The UK's Fleet Air Arm received 252 F6F-3s (designated **Gannet Mk I**) beginning in 1943. Meanwhile, in the US, over 200 Hellcats were modified as radar-equipped night fighters. During the F6F-3 production run, which lasted until April 1944, Grumman had developed an improved Hellcat, the **F6F-5**, which utilized a redesigned engine cowl, new ailerons, a strengthened tail, and a water-injection system for the engine, which added 10% to the takeoff performance and increased its armament-carrying capabilities. The F6F-5 was first flown on 4 April 1944, and production continued through November 1945. Over 900 more "Dash-5" Hellcats were delivered to the UK under the Lend-Lease program under the designation **Hellcat Mk II**.

**Nicknames:** Ace-Maker

**Specifications (F6F-5):**

*Engine:* 2000hp Pratt & Whitney R-2800-10W Double Wasp 18-cylinder radial piston engine

*Weight:* Empty 9150 lbs., Max Takeoff 15,410 lbs.

*Wing Span:* 42ft. 10in.

*Length:* 33ft. 7in.

*Height:* 13ft. 6in.

*Performance:*

*Maximum Speed at 23,500 ft:* 380mph

*Cruising Speed at 6,000 ft:* 168mph

*Ceiling:* 37,300 ft

*Range:* 1,530 miles with 150-gallon drop tank

*Armament:*

*Six 12.7mm (0.5 inch) wing-mounted machine guns*

*Two 1,000-lb bombs, or six 127mm (5-inch) rockets*



## 2013 Club Officers

**President**            **Larry Ott**  
**Vice Pres**           **Jeff Griego**  
**Treasure**            **Tom Glaess**

**Board**                **Earl Keffer**  
  
**Board**                **Steve Graham**  
  
**Board**                **Lee Overholt**

### Field Maintenance

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Web Page

<http://www.miniatureaerosporters.org>

Serving the Northeast Denver Area the Miniature Aero Sportsters flying site sits on 48 acres with a 500 foot paved runway. The club is open to all who have a current AMA membership. The Miniature Aero Sportsters consists of a group of individuals with a common interest in radio control aircraft. Club meetings are on the 4th Thursday of the month at Gander Mountain Sporting Goods located at 9923 Grant Street Thornton , CO. Meetings start promptly at 7:00 pm. All M.A.S. club members are encouraged to attend meetings, and to become actively involved in the club's activities

The first year there is a once a lifetime \$35 initiation fee charged to all new members. Total first year dues are \$125, every year after that Annual membership dues are \$90.

For membership information check out our web page:



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All articles or items of interest should be submitted to me by the 1st Wednesday of the month. Newsletter editor (that's ME) reserves the right to accept, refuse and edit all articles submitted for publication. Articles or items submitted after the deadline will be included in the following month's newsletter. Send or deliver articles to:

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Published articles reflect the author's opinion and may or may not reflect those of the club in general, its officers, or the newsletter editor.