



AMA Charter 1344
Gold Leader Club

Hangar Talk

May Meeting Notes

Hey everybody.

May's meeting was out at the field. The June-August meetings will also be out at the field at 7pm (4th Thursday of the month as usual). If you'd like to come out early and use the grill, you're welcome to do so.

Hank, Dave, and Dennis gave a report on the Platteville fly-in. By all accounts, it did not go well this year. Saturday was "like we weren't there." The MAS members that were there were ignored. No flying or anything. On Sunday, they were told to fly, but that turned out to be during a speech, so they were told to stop flying. The whole thing wasn't well run.

The Adams County Fair is August 5-9. Lee brought out the sign-up sheet for the booth and flying. The sign-up sheet will be at the field and the meetings. Contact Lee for information. We also need planes for the static display in the booth. Flying will be from 1pm-3pm Thursday thru Sunday.

As of the May meeting, nobody had heard from AeroWorks regarding the June IMAC contest. George spoke with Mark Dennis after the meeting and found out that the June date conflicted with Nats, so the June date is canceled. AeroWorks would like to try for the last weekend in July, but as of this writing, nothing is official yet.

There were no updates or changes for the Cerebral Palsy event. It's still on.

Sean gave a demo and spoke about the club's new website. It's at www.miniatureaerosportsters.org. Everyone take a look at let Sean and myself know what you think. There are things like private pages for members, the ability to upload pictures, docs, etc. Thanks for doing all that Sean.

That's about it for the May meeting.

Tom

Inside this issue:

Meeting Minutes

True B-17 Story

Upcoming meetings and events

June 25th Meeting

August 1st Adams County Parade

August 5th— 9th Adams county fair

August 15th Kids Day

September 12th Cerebral Palsy Event

HISTORIC AVIATION

Look carefully at the B-17 and note how shot up it is - one engine dead, tail, horizontal stabilizer and nose shot up.. It was ready to fall out of the sky. (This is a painting done by an artist from the description of both pilots many years later.) Then realize that there is a German ME-109 fighter flying next to it. Now read the story below. I think you'll be surprised.....



Charlie Brown was a B-17 Flying Fortress pilot with the 379th Bomber Group at Kimbolton , England . His B-17 was called 'Ye Old Pub' and was in a terrible state, having been hit by flak and fighters. The compass was damaged and they were flying deeper over enemy territory instead of heading home to Kimbolton.

After flying the B-17 over an enemy airfield, a German pilot named Franz Steigler was ordered to take off and shoot down the B-17. When he got near the B-17, he could not believe his eyes. In his words, he 'had never seen a plane in such a bad state'. The tail and rear section was severely damaged, and the tail gunner wounded. The top gunner was all over the top of the fuselage. The nose was smashed and there were holes everywhere.

Despite having ammunition, Franz flew to the side of the B-17 and looked at Charlie Brown, the pilot. Brown was scared and struggling to control his damaged and blood-stained plane.

BF-109 pilot Franz Stigler



B-17 pilot Charlie Brown.



Reunion



Aware that they had no idea where they were going, Franz waved at Charlie to turn 180 degrees. Franz escorted and guided the stricken plane to, and slightly over, the North Sea towards England. He then saluted Charlie Brown and turned away, back to Europe. When Franz landed he told the CO that the plane had been shot down over the sea, and never told the truth to anybody. Charlie Brown and the remains of his crew told all at their briefing, but were ordered never to talk about it.

More than 40 years later, Charlie Brown wanted to find the Luftwaffe pilot who saved the crew. After years of research, Franz was found. He had never talked about the incident, not even at post-war reunions.

They met in the USA at a 379th Bomber Group reunion, together with 25 people who are alive now - all because Franz never fired his guns that day.

When asked why he didn't shoot them down, Stigler later said, "I didn't have the heart to finish those brave men. I flew beside them for a long time. They were trying desperately to get home and I was going to let them do that.. I could not have shot at them. It would have been the same as shooting at a man in a parachute."

Both men died in 2008.

This is a true story <http://www.snopes.com/military/charliebrown.asp>

THIS WAS BACK IN THE DAYS WHEN THERE WAS HONOR IN BEING A WARRIOR...THEY PROUDLY WORE UNIFORMS, AND THEY DIDN'T HIDE IN AMBUSH INSIDE A MOSQUE, OR BEHIND WOMEN AND CHILDREN, NOR DID THEY USE MENTALLY RETARDED WOMEN AS SUICIDE BOMBERS TO TARGET AND KILL INNOCENT CIVILIANS...HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED.....

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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 \$125 initiation fee charged to all new members. Every year after that Annual membership dues are \$90.

For membership information check out our new web page:

www.miniatureaerosportsters.org



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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.

See Dennis Lesondak out at the field for M.A.S. hats and Shirts for Sale.