

Sharks Tales



Newsletter of the
Sheboygan Area Radio Kontrol Society
May & June 2020

The Prez Sez...

By Mike Gradinjan

Say Hey, SHARKSters!

I've been waiting for some valid news or the 'right time' to write this, but those aren't happening, so here goes.

We're open for flying! Our lawn mowing crew has been doing a FANTASTIC job keeping up with the grass, in spite of the enormous rains we've had. Except for the clover, the field looks great so head out and get in some stick time. I've been hoping for a decent morning to attack the weeds, but the winds have been too high on the few days I've been available to do it safely. Who knew getting older meant so many more unscheduled Dr and hospital visits?!?

While you're at the field, please practice Social Distancing and think about cleanliness when you're in the porta-potty or clubhouse. Our demographic includes many people considered to be in the vulnerable age group, me included. (How did THAT happen?!?) Don't leave any bugs for the next guy! Masks are optional, but will certainly not be scorned if anyone chooses to wear them. This could be a bad year for mosquitoes at the field, too, so bring bug spray. We don't need a Zika outbreak in addition to everything else we've got going on.

Most people already have, but make sure you get your 2020 dues taken care of so we can finish developing a current membership list to post at the field. The Membership Application is included in this newsletter. We've got a few new members, so welcome David Langer, and Bob Olson and his son Ben if you see a new face.

Bill hasn't been able to get a fuel sale set up, so hopefully you've got some left over from last year or you can buy it on an as-needed basis. Looks like most people have transitioned to electric anyway, so hopefully it's not a big issue.

I did make contact with the new airport manager, and got good news. Sheboygan County Memorial Airport will remain an uncontrolled airspace when the Customs facility opens and becomes active. This apparently won't change when they bring in a temporary control tower for golf events or whatever, so basically we still have no height restrictions. As always, stay alert for full-size aircraft and give them the sky if they stray from their normal approach and departure paths that don't include our immediate area.

The Aviation Heritage Center is still closed, and Wings and Wheels is also not happening this weekend, but I'll let everybody know when the AHC Movie Nights pick up again. We're still slated to handle the concession stand for the movies.

Without objection, we'll postpone our officer and board member election until it's OK to have larger groups in a confined space. We may end up scheduling something in the sun shelter and just hope for decent weather. Our By-Laws stipulate that the new positions take effect in October, so we've got time to get that done without much of an issue.

Tony's come up with another Builder's Corner, so be sure to check that out.

As always, contact me or any officer or board member with any questions or concerns you have, but in the meantime, Happy Flying!

That's about it for now-

Mike

From the Editor

By Tony Lewis

The builder bought an ARF. Yep, that's right. I have always been a builder and proud of that fact, but lately have not had time to do any building. I haven't actually been down to my workshop in almost 5 months! But I wanted something new to fly and something that will easily fit into my car assembled for a quick trip out to the field. It has

been several years since I have bought an ARF with the intention of building it per the book. I usually buy one with the plan to strip it down to the bare airframe and modify/refinish it. My Cessna and Shoestring are examples of such projects. I also have very limited experience with foam aircraft. Aside from several of GWS warbirds when they first came out, my only foamies were of the micro indoor type. So I thought this would be an interesting change of pace for me. While researching several of the offerings, I learned just how little I knew about these models. I was especially surprised by how light they were for their size and how well they perform on a power system I would have guessed to be too small. I was also impressed with the quality and finish on these models. They don't look like the foamies I remember from 15 years ago. I finally decided on the mPd Commander from E-Flite. At 55" span, it would be equivalent in size to a 40 size nitro sport plane, but at about 2/3 the weight. My initial test flights proved that it still handles a fair amount of wind with no problems and can fly 10 minutes or so on a 2600mah 3 cell pack. I must admit, I am very happy with my new foamy and can see a few more in my future.

Hopefully the rest of you have found time to wrap up your new projects for this season and are starting to log some flight time as well.

-Tony

+++++

President & Web Editor: Mike Gradinjan

Vice President: Warren Waddell

Treasurer: Joe Kuranz

Secretary & Newsletter Editor: Tony

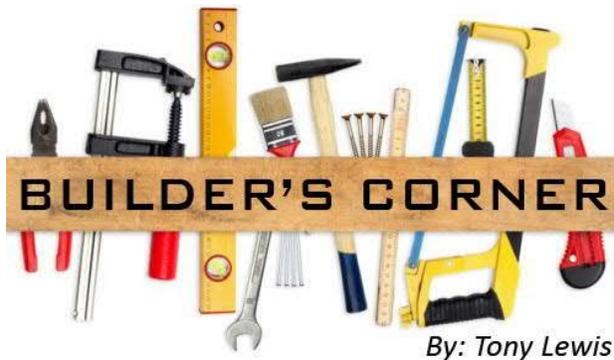
Lewis

Board Members: Dave Meyer,

John Mazzanti, Adam Scheblein

WEB LINKS

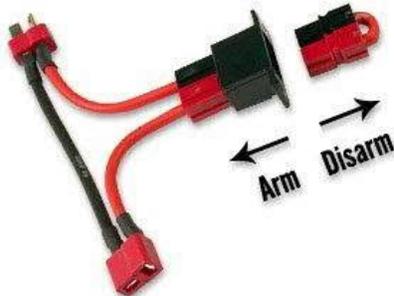
<http://www.sharksrc.com>



Safe Arming

I was posed with an interesting situation recently while helping someone with a large electric model. This plane was not designed as an electric and therefore did not have a good access point for battery installation and arming. The builder was thinking of using a toggle switch to make this safer. This sounds like a great, super simple solution; but I questioned if a toggle was able to handle the power of this system.

The system in question is running a 5-cell lipo at about 60 amps. This equates to about 1200 watts of power. The toggle switch he had chosen was rated at 20 amps at 125 volts AC / 10 amps at 250 volts AC. Using the formula "Watts = Amps x Volts" he deduced that this switch was capable of carrying 2500 watts; plenty more than required by his power system. But I questioned this, and took this to someone more educated in electronics than myself. My expert agreed. Though this switch can carry 2500 watts of AC power; that does not directly transfer to a DC system passing many more amps at a reduced voltage.



So what can be used to make a setup of this caliber safer? My preference is to use arming plugs. There are a number of different styles and types available, but they all work essentially the same. On the side of the fuselage is a small fitting that holds a battery type connector. You can install and plug in your battery and do anything else you need to prep the plane for flight without letting any power reach the speed control.



ARMSAFE FROM SHARP RC

Once you are prepped for flight, you can arm the system by plugging in an arming plug. This plug simply bridges the two contacts on the exposed connector thus allowing power to flow to the speed control. After landing, removing this plug terminates the flow of electrons and shuts the system down.

In my opinion, you can take safety one step further by integrating an UBEC system on larger electrics. A UBEC will connect to the flight battery and supply regulated voltage to the receiver. Now your speed control is doing only that, controlling the motor. If at any moment the motor or speed control which are subject to higher heat and amperage fail, you will still be left with control of the plane. This system also allows you to power up the radio system and establish a positive link between the plane and transmitter before sending any power to the speed control thru your arming plug.

Until next time; keep calm, stay safe, and build on.



U5 (5 volt, 5 amp) UBEC FROM HOBBYKING

2020 S.H.A.R.K.S. Membership Renewal Notice

The basic dues for membership in the SHARKS for 2020 are \$50 for Regular Membership, \$25 for an Additional Family Membership, and \$5 for Junior Membership (18 and younger) and are due in January 2019. Also, you will have the option of volunteering for 15 hours of club-benefiting activities or opting-out for an additional \$75. Please fill out this invoice completely and bring it with your payment to the February meeting, or send it with your check to the Treasurer:

Joe Kuranz
2850 Ashby Court
Sheboygan, WI 53081

Type of Membership (Check One)
 Regular _____ Additional _____ Junior _____

Name _____ Phone (_____) _____

Address _____ AMA# _____

_____ e-mail _____

Would you like to receive the *Sharks Tales* newsletter via e-mail? Yes _____ No _____

Choose Your Dues

Type of Membership	Junior	Regular	Additional Family Adult
Basic Dues	\$5.00	\$50.00	\$25.00
Check here if volunteering for 15 hours of club-benefiting activities for 2020	N/A		
-OR- Add \$75.00 for Opt-Out	N/A		
\$5.00/hour of activities not completed in 2019	N/A		
Total Dues:	\$5.00		

If volunteering for club service, please check any activities you would be interested in participating in. This is not intended to force you into any particular activity, but it will help us find volunteers if we need more help in a particular area.

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------|
| _____ Club Officer | _____ Public Relations | _____ |
| _____ Newsletter | _____ Exhibits/Demos | _____ |
| _____ Fun-Fly Duties | _____ AHC Movie Nights | _____ |
| _____ Field Maintenance | _____ Other (Please List) | _____ |
| _____ Flight Instructor | _____ | _____ |

**NEXT S.H.A.R.K.S. MEETING:
TO BE DETERMINED!**

S.H.A.R.K.S.
2850 ASHBY COURT
SHEBOYGAN, WI 53081

