

# Sharks Tales

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Newsletter of the  
Sheboygan Area Radio Kontrol Society  
October 2024  
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## The Prez Sez...

*By Mike Gradinjan*



[www.sharksrc.com](http://www.sharksrc.com)

Say Hey, SHARKSters!

The blistering heat of summer has made a hasty exit, and the mornings are close to getting frosty! It's anybody's guess when we'll have our first snow of the year, but Adam has already made his Snow Bird move to the [Orlando Buzzards](#) flying club in Christmas, Florida. He hasn't forgotten about us, though, and submitted an article you'll find a little later in this newsletter.

Our field's been seeing a lot of use this summer, with our morning flyers and a burgeoning group of RC racers. We expanded the racing oval to a 1/10 scale half mile, and the off-road course now covers a scale mile & a half. Both tracks are getting their share of use, and I'd like to thank the group of former members who put in the work to get that portion of our facilities started 4 years ago. It's turned out to be a lot more fun than many of us imagined.

We have Movie Night at the AHC this Friday, October 11, when we'll be showing [High Road To China](#), with Tom Selleck & Bess Armstrong. Indoor flyers and helpers should be there at 6, with the movie starting at 7. Please let [Graham](#) know if you can help out.

Our next SHARKS meeting will be this Saturday, October 12 at 10AM at the AHC.

A reminder that we're trying to consolidate our Facebook pages under 1 banner. You'll find us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/699606931572038/> or [Sheboygan Area Radio Kontrol Society \(SHARKS\) | Facebook](#). [Graham](#) is the administrator, so questions can be addressed to him. Join up and be part of the fun. All our disciplines will eventually be linked there.

I've updated the SHARKS Membership Application for 2025 and I'm including it this newsletter. Please use it as we transition into the New Year so we have all your updated information.

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

That's about it for now-

*Mike*

### THE RADIAN PRO *By Adam Scheblein*

When I first started with the SHARKS, I always looked for a calm day to practice my old and rusty flying skills. It had been 30 years and I needed a lot of practice. I figured if I went early enough in the morning, I could be alone and crash on my own with no one around.



One morning I arrived bright and early and there by the pilot's stations was a van. Now this was no ordinary van. This van looked like the poster child for the SHARKS and the AMA! It had all sorts of decals and pictures of R/C planes plastered all over every surface of the van! Who would drive such a vehicle in public? I introduced myself to the owner of this incredible machine. His name was Jerry Heibel. Now Jerry was a very helpful and friendly guy. He opened the side of the van for me and WOW! He had all sorts of planes, transmitters, and parts. He was willing to talk about anything that had

to do with flying and the SHARKS field. He was part of the “Morning Crew” that consisted of Bob, Art, & Jerry. In fact, some of their legacy still stands to this day over at the field. Especially the pilot stand that I use every time I am prepping my planes.



Unfortunately, on September 3, 2017, three years ago, Jerry passed away. Now... one of his last wishes was to have his [ashes spread over the SHARKS field](#) that he loved so well. This way he could always be there every morning to watch us fly. And that is exactly what we did... Afterwards, his loving wife, Shirley wanted all his planes moved to the SHARKS garage to be offered to the club membership for a donation. I wanted to get into gliding someday, so I looked for something that would fit the bill in the future. There on the floor was a RADIANT PRO. It had flaps, ailerons and was gigantic in my eyes! I assumed ownership and gave a donation. I wasn't sure how to get it home since I had no idea how to take it apart. It probably would have been easier for me just to fly it home! Once at home, I had to figure out where to store a plane with an almost an 80" wingspan. So, I set up some hooks in the garage and hung it up. There it sat for 3 years till I felt confident enough to take it for a spin. When I was ready, I carefully took it down and put it on the workbench. The electronics were a little outdated. It had an old 72Mhz receiver and needed a new ESC and battery connectors. Remember my "first love"? That TIMBER that dug a hole into the SHARKS field. Well, I had saved the receiver and the ESC and so I gave it a try by fitting it into the Radiant. That's what old parts are for... right?? After messing with the receiver and putting it and the ESC in a good spot for proper CG, I figured I was ready to give it a test fly. I plugged in the battery for a bench test and VOILA! The ESC cycled. All the surfaces registered, and the magical tones from the receiver all sounded good. All the control surfaces worked. I bound my transmitter and it was time to hit the field! (Maybe "hit the field" might be the wrong terms here when we talk about our planes! ☺ )





At the field, I prepped the Radian, plugged in the battery. Tested the transmitter and all the control surfaces and were ready to go. I had never hand launched a plane before, and I wanted this flight to be successful. I walked out to the field. Faced the wind. Powered up the throttle. I felt the pull of the glider just waiting for launch... Off it went flying straight and true. I gave it some up elevator and it climbed and climbed. It felt like this glider knew how to fly itself! I found some thermals and powered down the throttle. Up and up it continued to climb all on its own. It was a wonderful sight, a big yellow glider against a clear blue sky. I may have been up there for about a half hour just riding the thermals circling with the hawks.





Now, it was time to bring it back home and land. This was going to be tricky. I have never belly landed a plane (on purpose???) and so I was a little nervous about getting it to land on the grass. Down and down it came in a nice glide pattern. I was headed for the N-S runway and grass field. It was a nice approach. As the plane came in closer. Something happened... For some reason, the aileron seemed to be stuck in the up position. It was causing the plane to veer to the left. The glider was now headed for the E-W grassy area. What is going on here?? I had no control... the glider seemed to be doing its own thing. Down it came ever so gently gliding to a stop on the E-W grassy area. A perfect landing! But to tell you the truth... I have no idea what was going on.





I went to retrieve the glider from its landing spot. As I was picking up the plane, I realized this was the area where Jerry's ashes were spread. I guess the glider just wanted to be near its original owner once more...

Thanks Jerry! We all miss you...

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<b>President, Newsletter &amp; Web Editor:</b>	<b>WEB LINKS</b>
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[Mike Gradinjan](#)  
**Vice President:** Paul Piekarski  
**Treasurer:** Joe Kuranz  
**Secretary:** Graham McAllister  
**Board Members:** Dave Meyer,  
Ralph Hurtienne, Mark Widder

<http://www.sharksrc.com>  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/699606931572038>  
<https://www.modelaircraft.org/>  
<https://roarracing.com/>

# 2025 S.H.A.R.K.S. Membership Renewal Notice

The basic dues for membership in the SHARKS for 2025 are \$50 for Regular Membership, \$25 for an Additional Family Membership, and \$5 for Junior Membership (18 and younger) and are due in January 2025. 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 December lunch meeting, or send it with your check, made out to **SHARKS**, to the Treasurer:

**Joe Kuranz**

**2850 Ashby Court  
Sheboygan, WI 53081**

**Type of Membership (Check One)**

Regular \_\_\_\_\_ Additional \_\_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ AMA/ROAR# \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Signature if Junior \_\_\_\_\_

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 2025	N/A		
<b>-OR-</b> Add \$75.00 for Opt-Out	N/A		
\$5.00/hour of activities not completed in 2024	N/A		
<b>Total Dues:</b>	\$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	_____ Flight Instructor	_____ Other (Please List)
_____ Newsletter	_____ Public Relations	_____
_____ Fun-Fly Duties	_____ Exhibits/Demos	_____
_____ Field Maintenance	_____ AHC Movie Nights	_____

# **NEXT S.H.A.R.K.S. MEETING:**

**10 am, Saturday  
October 12, 2024  
Aviation Heritage Center Library**

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

