

The Carrier Wave



PHANTOM FLYERS ***R/C CLUB***



ama #393 SAINT CHARLES, MO

Oct 2026

Phantom Flyers R/C Club Newsletter

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To join or renew membership go to phantomflyersrc.com/membership/

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Club Meeting: The next club meeting is scheduled for Monday October 19, 7:00pm via zoom.
Fun Fly Oct 17

From the Desk of the Prez

DONATED RC EQUIPMENT

Around the end of August the Club received a donation from someone retiring from the hobby. Basically he gifted us all of the RC equipment he owned and then some. As of this writing all of the equipment has been sold or given away. I want to thank Larry Anderson for stepping up and selling many of the glider kits. His knowledge of the kit values and how to market them was amazing. I also want to thank Jan Jansen for coming and helping me price this stuff out and helping at the Midwest Air Wing Swap Meet. At this point I estimate we made about \$840. Still need to distribute equipment and collect money from club members who bought much of the equipment.

Thanks for your support!

Jim West

Phantom Flyers RC Club Meeting

Phantom Flyers RC Club Meeting Minutes September 21, 2026

Attendees: The meeting was called to order by President, Jim West at 1:07 PM at the field. Members present were: Dan Abel, Larry Anderson, Kevin Cox, Jose Espinoza, Don Grzina, Jan Jansen, Fred McArthur, Bill McMenamy, Jim West and Ed White.

Tech Session: Larry Anderson discussed insulation foam board combat airplanes being flown at Wright City. Lotsa carnage, no last man standing, no ultimate victor (except possibly a couple trees).



Also, discussed was using Oculus VR glasses in place of Walksnail goggles to fly a small FPV flying wing. If you know what that means, good for you. If you want to know what that means, contact Kevin Cox. The rest of us are thinking, "Oh, just go get the damn Borg implant and be done with it."

Secretary's Report: The August meeting minutes were published in the Carrier Wave. We currently have **40 members**. The August Secretary's report was accepted. Ed reported on what was stated at a leader members Zoom meeting about an FCC effort to regulate UAS components and aircraft. This is very early in its process and nothing is close to being finalized yet. If it goes to its full extent many RC items will be prohibited from import. Those that are allowed may be assessed very hefty tariffs. Restrictions on anything made in the US are to be defined. AMA is working to protect our interests. But that is far from are able to protect our interests. Who said, "May you live in interesting times." Can we beat him with sticks, and not the balsa kind?

Treasurer's Report: Large checks were written for the field lease (due in Sept) and for the runway repairs. Smaller expenses for fuel for the mowers (\$66), john service (\$100), runway paint (\$22), various parts for repair of the mowers (\$734). We currently have just under \$9000 in the bank.

Safety Report: No issues raised.

Field Managers Report: At the July meeting the Field Manager reported that both mowers were fully operational. Maybe we shouldn't say that out loud. The Kabota started intermittent not starting and then jumped to full will not start. After a lot of AI Assisted troubleshooting by Don the problem was traced to the starter logic controller - \$480 to replace. Don estimates he put 14 hours of work into the troubleshooting. [My

bet is nearly twice that.] All of it in the extreme heat. The Z-Turn decided it was time to have a short circuit in the PTO harness not to mention losing the idler pulley for the hydraulic pump.

Club thanks to Don and his merry band of helpers: Jack, Jose and Jim, and Grumpy, Sleepy and Doc!

Activities Report: Contest season is hitting late this year, mostly to avoid the heat. Don's Scale Fly-In was well attended with 14-16 people. The Open House had about 15 people and we picked up a new member, welcome Adam Swank! The EDF was cancelled due to other commitments and only a precious few weekends without sweltering heat. Our last flying event of the season is the Fun Fly that is now scheduled for October 17. Jan Jansen will CD. Lastly, the President is ~~drooling~~, I mean, considering Pio's on First Capitol in St Charles for the Christmas Party.



Newest Member Adam Swank - Here's my wife Waverly and I, since half the time we are attached at the hip. She has so far resisted what I can only assume is unfathomable temptation to join in on the RC hobby, but she will come around eventually.

GSLMA Report: Nothing new to report.

Old Business: The runway repair is complete (before the pattern contest) and the runway was repainted (more thanks to Don, Jack and Jose. Wright City Flyers donated

\$150 to our runway repair fund.

Jan Jansen's committee on increasing membership has been busy soliciting inputs from members who did not renew for 2026. Jan summarized that some responses were not something we could do different, such as location. Some others should be considered. Also other comments offer food for thought:

(1) There seems to be a large number of people in the area who still believe we are a Boeing employee's club with restricted membership; and

(2) there are some indications that RC helicopter people could be attracted to a club where they would feel welcome.

New Business: No New Business raised. I think we were all pretty talked out. Who'd a believed that?? Or maybe the secretary was feeling the onset of carpal tunnel.

Meeting adjourned at 3:23 PM.

Ed White, Secretary

[New Field Information Page Added to Website](#) - Ed White

A gentleman in an RC club in Tennessee has developed a very detailed webpage for every AMA club field in the US. Lots of information plus current weather, including a neat display of wind direction and speed shown relative to our runway. Here is part of the page for our club. The information comes from the AMA field information and the weather is based on what is reported at Smartt Airport (KSET). Just the top of the webpage is shown below. His name is Ernie Falco and he is providing this service for free. **CHECK IT OUT!**

On Saturday, September 26, 2026, the Club hosted our 68th Annual Pattern Contest. This is an AMA sanctioned event (20012) and is coordinated with the National Society of Radio Controlled Aerobatics (NSRCA) which is an AMA Special Interest Group (SIG). The contest was originally scheduled for 2 days; however, due to unusually low contestant turnout we are able to conclude the contest in one day. We had a total of 6 contestants and flew 5 rounds. The entry fee was \$40.00. Two of the contestants were from out of town and one from Midwest Air Wing. Though they did not fly, Walter Rhodes and Don Grzina contributed to the entry fees.

As you can see in the results below there was a very tight competition between our own Jan Jansen and Mark Woytassek at the Masters level. In round 4 they actually tied which is something I have never seen before. Congratulations to Jan for taking First Place! Bill Ahrens flew Advanced with great success and it is always amazing to see his extremely skilled flying. Congratulations to Bill for taking First Place! Of special note Kevin Cox came out and flew in the contest as well as took pictures. Kevin does not typically fly Pattern but flew as a contestant to support us. Many thanks Kevin and congratulations for taking First Place!

Lunch was provided by Cindy West and she brought us fried chicken, coleslaw, potato salad, baked beans, and homemade cookies. A variety of soda and water was available all day. This is all provided as part of the entry fee. Thanks Cindy!

Typically our club alone has seven flyers entering the contest. Due to a mix of plane losses (including mine!) and health issues we could only field 2 of those seven, not counting Kevin Cox. We also had 4 very late cancellations from out of towners and we came very close to cancelling the contest. In that light I want to offer a special thanks to Kevin Cox and Bill Ahrens for attending and supporting the contest.

There is a new technology now available for judging and scoring called Flight Coach Score. It uses a flight data logger and a computer program to score each round instead of human judges. This technology is being adopted by some NSRCA District 5 clubs and used in contests. There was some pressure for us to adopt this technology in our contest but we held off for this contest for a variety of reasons and judging was performed by contestant judges.

Finally I want to say thanks for all the people that helped with running the contest. Ed White was CO-CD and took care of setting up and running the scoring computer - no small task. Kevin Cox for taking and developing pictures for the awards. Don Grzina, Jan Jansen and Jose Espinosa helped set up the field. Jack Buydos brought us a big cooler. Cindy for bringing the food. Thanks everyone for all your help!

Below is a copy of the contest results.

Jim West
Contest Director



September 26, 2026

Phantom Flyers 2026 Pattern Contest

Sportsman

Place	#	Contestant Name	Total	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
1*	101	Kevin Cox	1000.00	1000.00					

Advanced

Place	#	Contestant Name	Total	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
1*	302	William Ahrens	4000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	~~1000.00~~	
2*	301	Paul McGuan	3663.88	921.44	~~844.10~~	918.23	926.49	897.73	

Masters

Place	#	Contestant Name	Total	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
1*	401	Jan Jansen	4000.00	1000.00	1000.00	~~966.67~~	1000.00	1000.00	
2*	403	Mark Woytassek	3995.91	996.88	999.03	1000.00	1000.00	~~958.37~~	
3*	402	Stan Marmuziewicz	3789.81	940.76	~~907.01~~	973.42	956.04	919.58	

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9/27/2026 14:00:13

Photos From the Pattern Contest By Kevin Cox













Name the Plane

Dan correctly identified the September Name the Plane. It was the Napier-Heston Racer built for the world air speed record. First flight was in 1940 and crashed attempting to land after a short test flight. The pilot survived. The program was terminated even though a second aircraft was approximately 80% complete.

Now for the October name the plane.



Correct answer will be revealed by Don next month. As before, anyone else sending in a correct answer (as decided by Don) will receive guaranteed respect at their next visit to the flying field.
(Max duration 5 minutes)

Send your answers to NameThatPlane@phantomflyersrc.com