



# The Dope Can

Newsletter of THE SUBURBAN AERoclub OF CHICAGO



AMA Leader Club No 274



www.suburbanaeroclub.com

Volume 114, Issue 12

December 2014

## Upcoming SAC Dates

- SAC Club Meeting  
Dec. 11, 7:00 PM  
Tinley Park VFW  
172nd & Oak Park  
Ave.  
Tinley Park, IL.
- Dope Can Articles  
Deadline Dec 29
- First Flight Jan 1
- Dope Can Published  
January 5



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## Turkey Shoot is Hotly Competed Despite the Cold!



This year's Turkey Shoot, held November 16, turned out to be one of the best in several years. A total of ten combatants (shown above) duked it out for cash prizes with a total prize money pot of over \$200.00 to split.

The weather was downright cold for early November with temperatures in the low 30's, a little cloud cover, and very little breeze. The events included a timed 60 second flight, touch and goes, and a pattern event. The first round saw three casualties but only one true crash.

**Casey Clements** lost power in his Futaba transmitter and, not having a backup, had to retire from competition. Next up, **Al Myers** was leading after two events but tried a daring turn at the pylon on his pattern run which caused his electric battery to eject out of the bottom of the plane, missing **Rob Walker**, who was manning the pylon flag, by four feet. After safely landing, Al noticed that it had ripped away a few of the connectors, so he was done.

The only crash of the day came from **Mark Pulice** who brought out his Twist on skis. Unfortunately for Mark, the plane lived up to its name and twisted into the pavement right after takeoff! (Result is shown in photo on Page 4.)

Because of a ruling that everyone must finish all events, Al was labeled as a DNF and moved to 8<sup>th</sup> place even though he had a perfect score going until the battery fall out.

After the first round, leading the pack was **Chuck Fritz**, flying his electric T-28.

As the weather was turning and beginning to sleet, everyone was asked to vote on whether or not to continue onto a second round. By a vote of 9-1 (Ron being the only one wanting to go on) the contest was over. Chuck managed to walk away with his first place prize of \$40.00, followed by **Ron Wegrzyn**, and with **Keith Kleina** in the third spot.

Congratulations to our winners, which was really everyone, because everyone who participated walked away with a little money in their pockets.

### Final Turkey Shoot Standings

1.Chuck Fritz	149
2.Ron Wegrzyn	112
3.Keith Kleina	106
4.Rob Walker	87
5.Greg Stevens	79
6.Wes Arrasmith	77
7.Dan Furhman	52
8.Al Myers	120*
9.Casey Clements	43*
10.Mark Pulice	9*

\* DNF

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**"IF IT FLYS WE HAVE IT!"**

### Suburban Aero Club of Chicago Minutes of General Monthly Meeting November 13, 2014 At the VFW club in Tinley Park, IL. Greg Stevens, acting for Sam Helmich, Secretary

**Meeting called to order at :** 7:08 pm,  
by President Greg Stevens. There were  
58 members present. One new member,  
Tim Gruztt.

#### Reports by Committees or Officers:

**Secretary Minutes:** By Sam Helmich.  
A motion to accept the minutes as read,  
was made by Ken and seconded by Ron  
W. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** By Dale Thorne.  
A motion to accept the treasures report  
as read was made by Ken and second by  
Bob Stroz. Motion Carried.

#### Safety Officers:

**Planes** - Nothing

**Helicopter** - Mike Zubik, Nothing to  
report

**Field:** Nothing to report

**Past Events:** SAC Auction on 23<sup>rd</sup>, went  
well.

**Future Events:** Nov 16<sup>th</sup> Turkey Shoot.  
First Flight Jan 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Unfinished Business:** Web Site being  
worked on, updates to follow.

**New Business:** Nominations for Presi-  
dent were opened. Bob Stroz nominated  
Greg Stevens and Ron W. second nomi-  
nation. George moved to close nomina-  
tions and Ron W. seconded, motion car-  
ried.

Nominations for Secretary were opened.  
Ron W. nominated Sam Helmich, and  
Don Seconded. A motion to close nomi-  
nations was made by Ron W. and se-  
conded by Dale, motion carried.

Nominations for Heli Safty officer were  
opened. Jared nominated Kevin Ra-  
gauskis; Jack seconded. Bob S. nomi-  
nated Mike Zubik and Ron W. seconded.  
George moved to close nominations and  
Ron seconded. Motion carried.

**Gooney Bird:** Dale Thorne for leaving  
the October meeting and leaving behind  
money from the club raffle.

**Meeting Adjourned at: 8:45 pm**

### Winner!

**John Melton**, shown below, won the big  
prize of the November raffle and chose to  
take home the RealFlight 7 simulator. Con-  
gratulations, John.



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## Finishing up a good year for SAC!

Another new year is almost upon us as I reflect back on what a great flying season this has been. I can say that because this is the first season in quite some time that I didn't total any aircraft, really not much more than a scratch! I guess one could say, "Yeah, the year's not over yet"! This is true, however given the premature cold weather; it's probably over for me. Anyway, as I reflect back on the year there were many positive things that happened for our club. For one and probably the best, our membership continues to grow. Every month we are taking on new members. Next, we've hopefully begun an open relationship with the Forest Preserve to help them understand what all the clubs offer and what are needs are for the future. We've also seen an uptick in club events and attendance at these events as well as a renewed interest in fun flies. Lastly, I feel we've done a good job at keeping an ongoing sociable and fun relationship between the helis and plane guys. At least there weren't too many punches thrown this year. Hopefully, these things will continue on a positive note in 2015, so that we can become even a better club than we already are.

For everyone attending last month's meeting I think we all agree that it was great to break things up with a Pizza party. I would like to thank Frank Fox and the wonderful people at Fox's Restaurant and Pub for supplying us with complimentary pizza. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed stuffing themselves with the great pizza.

Because of the generosity of Fox's we now have that amount of money that we would have spent available for other things on our wish list. One of those items that show a lot of interest is a weather station. As a club we are looking into the possibility of getting a weather station installed at our flying field. This would allow anyone with a smart phone or tablet to connect

into the station at home to check out real time weather conditions at the field, such as temperature, wind speed, direction etc., before loading up the car and then arriving to find the wind is too high or whatever. In addition to the station it would be really neat to upgrade with a video camera which would give us real time information on who's at the field. So hopefully, as we find out more on the costs etc., we'll be able to implement this prior to next flying season.

Coming up at the December meeting we'll be voting for the offices of President, Secretary and Heli Safety Officer. This election we actually have two members nominated for the Safety Officer position. In my opinion, this is how it should be; we should have members running against members to fill these positions. It sparks interest, controversy and keeps things fresh. Anyway, Mike Zubik will be running against Kevin Ragauskis. You probably know Kevin from working at HobbyTown and doing a lot of the show and tell whenever Steve brings items in for show. Kevin wanted me to share with you some thoughts that he has to add to the office if elected. These include; posting and reviewing flying rules during events (which could also fall into airplane events), spot checks for AMA cards, making sure all members and nonmembers are carrying their cards, workshops for checking and maintaining helicopters, as well as workshops for building, finding components, etc., and finally increasing events such as fun flies, racing quads etc.

Beyond this there's not a lot to report this month. We had our annual Turkey Shoot in early November which you can read about elsewhere in this issue. Our first event of 2015 will be First Flight held at day break on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. Ron has posted the rules in the Dope Can, so hopefully we'll see some brave souls out there trying to compete. Even if you don't compete, stop on by for a frosty good time and have breakfast with us afterward. Oh one last thing, Dale is planning our banquet again this year and it looks like we're targeting probably sometime in early March for this event. So stay tuned as they say for additional details as they become available.

For now, that's about it for 2014. It's been a great year and I hope everyone has a very happy holiday season and hope everyone gets all those new planes and heli's you've asked Santa for.

**Hey Members! Time to Pay 2015 Dues!**





## Christmas Food Drive 2014



**SAC's Annual Food Collection for Thanksgiving** was very successful; you were most generous. **THANK YOU!** The food was given to the St. Damian Food Pantry for distribution to local families. We are an **AMA Leader Club** so let's keep up the good work by repeating the process with an even larger donation at the **December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting**. We're asking everyone to bring some cans or some non-perishable items to the meeting to help make Christmas for the less fortunate a little nicer. There will be containers at the door of the VFW for your convenience. Thanks in advance!

Ron

## December Raffle—Two Grand Prizes will be awarded!

Two big side raffle prizes will be awarded, to include the E-Flite Carbon Z Splendor (shown at right) and a SAC jacket.



## Indoor Flying is Back!!

7:00 PM to 9:30 PM

Homer Junior High School

15711 Bell Road  
Homer Glen, Illinois



November	7, 14 and 21
December	5 and 12
January	9, 16, 23 and 30
February	6, 20 and 27
March	6, 13, 20 and 27
April	17

## Twisted Twist?

In photo below, Mark Pulice exhibits the remains of his plane, the only crash victim of the November 16 Turkey Shoot.



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## November Show and Tell By: Phil Arnold

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At the November meeting, **Chris Baker**, who is shown in the left photo below, discussed and demonstrated his Wing Span Retracts Actuator. According to Chris, this electric actuator produces a slow, realistic motion. He recommends the device as a great way to modify air retracts to electric operation.

**Dan Pesek** (in the photo below, right) introduced the November meeting attendees to his "Mostly a Twist-Parts Plane" built from the remains of three crashes. The sport, aerobatic model has a 48 in span, 49 in length and weighs in at 5 lbs. It is powered by a .52 Magnum 4-Stroke glow engine and features flaperons. Dan says the quality of this plane is "great" (now!)



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### Gooney!

**Dale Thome**, at left in the photo, appears to be enjoying receiving the November Gooney Bird from **Ron Wegrzyn**



The November Gooney Bird was hotly contested between eight nominees which is likely a record in itself. However, when the voting was in, it was **Dale Thome**, our club treasurer, who took the prize home.

At the end of last month's meeting, **Our Prez** was cleaning up the trash and straightening the tables when he noticed a plastic baggie left behind on the front table. Thinking it was trash, he proceeded to throw it in the trash can, but then noticed there was some loose change in the bottom. Not wanting to throw away good money, he opened the bag and was surprised to find all of the money collected from the heli fun fly and raffle neatly folded between sheets of paper....a grand total of more than \$430.00!! Those witnessing the find all agreed to have a little fun at Dale's expense, delay telling him of the discovery, and let him sweat it out a bit.

All is good now; the money's in the bank and Dale has the Gooney for forgetting his head after the meeting.

# Official SAC Election Ballot

## For President

\_\_\_\_\_ Greg Stevens

\_\_\_\_\_ Write In \_\_\_\_\_

## For Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ Sam Helmich

\_\_\_\_\_ Write In \_\_\_\_\_

## For Safety Officer (Heli's)

\_\_\_\_\_ Mike Zubik

\_\_\_\_\_ Write In \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Kevin Ragauskis

Please bring your ballot to the December meeting, or mail to:  
Sam Helmich, 3112 Edge Creek Drive, New Lenox, Illinois 60451

# FIRST FLIGHT OF 2015

This is for brave souls (or crazy people) only. Official sunrise on January 1, 2015 will be at 7:18 am. Takeoff can be any time after midnight as long as you have a witness that will vouch for you. Gates will be open at 6:00 am.

## RULES

1. No lights on aircraft.
2. You must takeoff from **SAC's runways**, grass or black top.
3. You must takeoff from the **ground** (wheels, skis, skids, etc) no hand launches.
4. You must fly for **two minutes**. Your assistant will vouch for you.
5. You can land (or crash) anywhere you want as long as you complied with the two minute flight time.

Winners will get a First Flight Patch. There will be patches for the first Nitro Plane, Electric Plane, and Helicopter/Quad. If you're really, lucky you could even walk away with the First Crash patch!



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL 2015

Dues: \$55 (Regular) ☐ \$10 (under 18) ☐ \*\*Mailing Fee for Dope Can: \$5 ☐

\*\*Required only if you want paper copies of Dope Can newsletters mailed to you. Emailed copies and paper copies picked up at monthly meetings are provided free.

Name (Please print): \_\_\_\_\_ AMA No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Veteran?: ☐

Complete the section below only if your information has changed since last year:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please Note:** The club roster including names, AMA numbers and contact information will be available to members in the password-protected section of the club website. If you wish any of your information excluded from that site, please indicate above by circling the identifier for the item(s). Example: Email:

Bring this form to any monthly meeting, or mail to:  
Dale Thome, 21440 S. 78th Ave., Frankfort, IL 60423

### FLYING FIELD EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Both sides of the pin box should be opened for access to frequency pins, first aid materials and fire extinguishers.

Incident report forms are kept in the box. Reporting injuries and near misses allows us to investigate and determine what can be done to prevent re-occurrences

Emergency information signs are posted at the field.

#### Ambulance Service

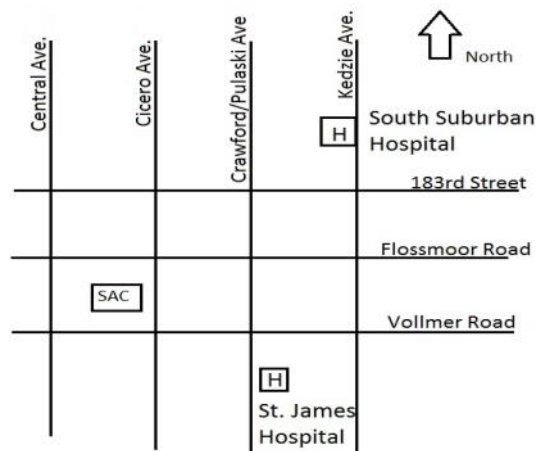
Dial 911 and request help "at the flying field located on Cicero between Flossmoor and Vollmer Roads"

#### Advocate South Suburban Hospital

17800 Kedzie Ave  
Hazel Crest  
(708) 799-8000

#### Saint James Hospital

20201 Crawford Ave  
Olympia Fields  
(708) 747-4000



#### 2014 SAC OFFICERS

President	Greg Stevens	815.463.9044
Vice President	Bob Stroz	708.990.6269
Safety Officer (Aircraft)	Chuck Fritz	708.259.7928
Safety Officer (Helicopters)	Mike Zubik	708.945.4548
Secretary	Sam Helmich	815.464.0048
Treasurer	Dale Thome	815.469.1944
Board Member	Ron Wegrzyn	708.478.8858

#### SAC Instructors (call for an appointment)

Ron Wegrzyn	Planes	708.478.8858
Mike Gulick	Planes	708.479.4842
Dan Pesek	Planes	708.423.2710
John Kallend	Multi-rotor	708.798.7242
Robert Stroz	Planes/Heli's	708.990.6269
Sam Helmich	Planes	815.464.0048
Chuck Fritz	Planes	708.259.7928