

FARM



Fauquier Aero Recreation Modelers
AMA #1654 farmclubrc.com
AMA Gold Leader Club

Culpeper Model Barnstormers
AMA #4894 cmbclubrc.com
AMA Gold Leader Club

Lake of the Woods Community RC
AMA #5595 lowcrc.com



May 2026

Radio Controlled Air - Land - Sea Models

Newsletter

Editor's Note: We will be rotating the lead club specific content lead sections each month (FARM, CMB, LOWCRC, FARM, CMB, LOWCRC, FARM, CMB, LOWCRC, FARM, CMB, LOWCRC) throughout the year. However, the "Tips and Projects" and "Anything From the Field" sections will be separate from the Club sections and combine the inputs from all the members of the three clubs.

Notice for All:

- For June, July, August, and September 2026 there will be **NO** "Tri-Club Fourth Tuesday of the Month" RC Modeling Zoom meetings. Club meetings will be held at each Club's respective flying field during the summer months.

- Our "Tri-Club Fourth Tuesday of the Month" RC Modeling Zoom meetings will resume on Tuesday, 27 October 2026 at 7:00 PM.

FARM Club Report:

- The 2026 FARM Club Board of Directors Election Results:

President	Ernie Padgette	703-244-7465
Vice President	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Secretary	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Treasurer	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Safety Officer	Ken Bassett	703-425-1392
Field Marshal	Ralph Graul	540-729-1586
Member At Large	Bill Flathers	540-272-7236
Member At Large	Charlie Koustenis	703-850-3314
Member At Large	Bill Towne	540-428-1053

- FARM President's Corner: Ernie Padgette

- The Most Common Constant Seems To Be Confusion

What in the Sam Hill is going on? Maybe I'm not the only one to run into this, and maybe everyone runs into it eventually, but this is the first time *I* have run into it; and it's certainly playing havoc with my "normal". Normal as in the way my life runs. Normal as in how I do things. Normal as in how everything works. And certainly in the way my flying season has gone so far this year. Something so out of the normal it's getting into the weird category.

First off, I have had a charmed life. I get that. Until I was well past 60, I rarely saw a doctor. When I retired from the Air Force, my doctor wasted a lot of time looking for "the rest of" my medical records. He couldn't believe my record of medical visits and illnesses was so short. That was when I was 40, and things pretty much stayed that way until I slipped on some hidden ice when I was maybe somewhere around 65. That little slip messed up the rotator cuff in my right shoulder and made me realize I wasn't bullet proof after all. And as I have stumbled along, I began to realize I might not even be immortal. Why is this relevant to flying RC airplanes? Well, bear with me. None of the seemingly never ending maladies that have plagued me over the past few years is all that serious, save one or two that tried pretty hard to kill me, but they all take up time and absorb what is more and more a limited source of energy.

With all the wind, cold and rain we've endured this spring (Yes, it actually is spring even though it hasn't seemed like it) I was heartened when I checked the weekly weather forecast a couple of weeks ago. Look! A Monday and Tuesday with moderate temperatures and low wind predicted. And me with a new plane that is due an oft delayed maiden flight! So I checked the calendar. I has a doctor's visit both days. Even worse, both were in the middle of the day; so I couldn't even fly in the morning or the afternoon. But Wednesday, even though it was forecast to be a bit windy, was open. I met up with Kwang at his place. No wind at all! We fired up the engine inside, and everything looked good. We hauled the plane, transmitter and glow plug igniter out to a bench and started to make ready. Which was about the time a blast of wind nearly removed the plane from the bench. The god of wind had been waiting for us to commit and he was ready for us. At least a 25 MPH crosswind, gusting even higher. Okay; no flying today. Next time.

Around ten days later, the wind and rain finally broke and we were ready to go again. And the engine wouldn't start. We tried for nearly an hour, and it was no go. We checked everything we could think of, and nothing helped. I called Charley, our chief mechanic, and he agreed it sounded like a valve problem. He was nice enough to meet me at Kwang's place a few days later. Same problem; the engine wouldn't even try to fire. Compression was fine, fuel reaching the engine, glow plug glowing, etc.. Charley removed the valve cover and neither valve had any play at all. Charley adjusted the valves by feel and she fired right up. Shut it down, fired it up again and no problems. Charley explained both valves must have been open slightly and couldn't provide enough compression to fire. So I told him "I'll buy all that. It makes sense. But how the heck did it fire up and run fine last week"? Charley shrugged his shoulders and answered, "Just one of those things". So how many times have I run into one of these "Never seen that before" things? Well, there's another one.

Okay; now we fly. What? In this wind? Wind? When did that start? "About the time the engine fired up". I'll let you know how the plane flies next time. Maybe.

Ernie

- FARM Secretary/Treasurer's Corner: Nic Burhans

The next FARM Club meeting will be held during the Club Fun Day and Fun Fly#3 on Sunday, 28 June.

FARM Fun Fly #2 Results:

1st Place: Ken Bassett

2nd Place: Vince Tabacco

3rd Place: Charlie Koustenis

4th Place: Ralph Graul

5th Place: Nic Burhans

6th Place Johnny Bangasser

Signed in and Flew: Lloyd Hinrichs

FARM Club Membership Report:

- As of 27 May, the FARM Club had 57 members (20 Regular, 31 Senior, 0 Junior, 4 Life, and 2 Associate members).

- This reflects our newest member Ron Gough, who has completed his check flights. Ron began training before the great ice storm of '26 and had to wait patiently for warm and dry weather. His instructor for the spring was Jay Zompanti who reports that all of Ron's training and solo flight were cursed with windy spring days. Soif Ron crashes on some calm day in the future, you will know why. When you see Ron at the club, introduce your self.



- The updated 2026 FARM Club Roster has been sent out to the membership.

FARM Club Calendar of upcoming events (January through April):

June 13	Saturday	Field Closed to 72Mhz; Open to 2.4Ghz: Float Fly #1 @ Lake Ritchie CD: Nic Burhans npb6218@earthlink.net	9:00 AM
June 28	Sunday	FARM Club Day @Fun Fly #3 @ Club Field Picnic, Pilot Training, and Flight Check day Coordinator: Ernie Padgette	All Day
June 28	Sunday	FARM Club Meeting @ Club Field	1:00 PM
July 26	Sunday	FARM Club Day & Fun Fly #4 @ Club Field Picnic, Pilot Training, and Flight Check day Coordinator: Vince Tabacco	All Day
July 26	Sunday	FARM Club Meeting @ Club Field	1:00 PM
July 27-31	Mon-Fri	AMA Aerobatic (pattern) NATS @ Muncie, IN www.modelaircraft.org	All Day
August 30	Sunday	FARM Club Day & Fun Fly #5 @ Club Field Picnic, Pilot Training, and Flight Check day Coordinator: ????	All Day
August 30	Sunday	FARM Club Meeting @ Club Field	1:00 PM
September 12-13	Sat-Sun	FARM Pattern Contest @ FARM Field CD: Don Szczur dszczur@verizon.net	All Day
Sept. 14-20	Th-Sun	NEAT Fair @ Downsville, NY www.neatfair.org	
September 26	Saturday	Field Closed to 72Mhz; Open to 2.4Ghz: FARM Float Fly #2 @ Lake Ritchie CD: Nic Burhans npb6218@earthlink.net	9am - 3pm

September 27 Sunday	FARM Club Day & Fun Fly #6 @ Club Field Picnic, Pilot Training and Flight Check day Coordinator: Jay Zompanti	All Day
September 27 Sunday	FARM Club Meeting @ Club Field	1:00 PM

Note: See full 2026 FARM calendar on the Club website.

Nic

FARM Treasurer’s Report

- The FARM April 2026 Treasurer’s Report has been emailed to the club’s membership.

Nic

FARM Field Marshal’s Report: Ralph Graul

- Yes, Rain! The grass is growing!

Ralph

FARM Webmaster’s Report: Dick Sutton

- The security certificates for FARM Club website have been renewed.

Dick

CMB Club Report:

- The 2026 CMB Club Board of Directors Election Results:

President	Gordon Collyer	540-547-4117
Vice President	Jim Restel	540-718-6617
Secretary	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Treasurer	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Safety Officer	Bill Crone	540-825-8065
Field Marshal	Bobby Hurst	501-766-7349
Member At Large	Al Hampton	757-715-0528
Member At Large	Ernie Padgette	703-244-7465

- CMB President’s Corner: Gordon Collyer

ICE, Wind and Pain

We have finally defaulted to some acceptable weather for flying! This winter locked us out with rain, snow, ice, and after a brief warmup, more cold. And then the spring winds came. The Bermuda grass woke with the initial warmup then went back dormant when the cold returned. We are finally getting to: “green and growing.” The county’s weed control was well timed however and we are “low” on runway weeds compared to prior years. A note of caution: we are about ten inches behind on rain and “on average” that rain will have to come sometime. We can hope that we will suffer just a few more rainy day shut outs versus one or more tropical systems dumping large amounts of water all at once and putting us underwater.

My knee replacement has gone remarkably well, and I have been nearly fully functional since I hit the eight-week mark. The physical therapy folks say I am about four weeks ahead of plan for recovery although I am suspicious that they default to such optimism about the time the bills start rolling in. Do not take that wrong, the P/T folks at Blue Ridge in Culpeper are super and I do everything they say.....just like the best drill sergeants. My original plan had been to have surgery in February, so I would be ready for spring flying. As it turned out that would have been a disaster as the February ice storm would have locked me in for at least a couple of weeks making the needed therapy a big problem. With the weather we have had however I have not missed much flying....sometimes you just get lucky.

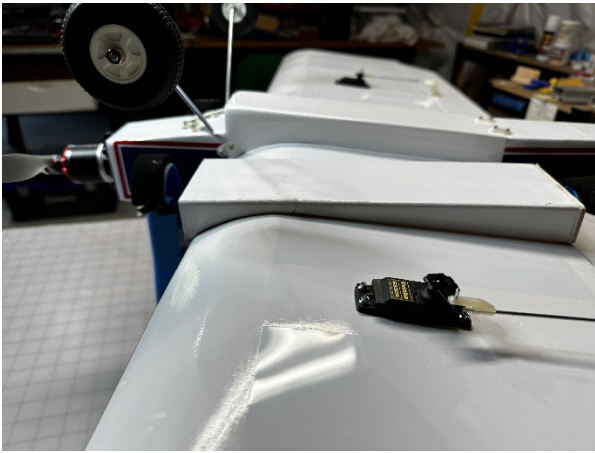
ARFness

I seem to have arrived at ARF land with several ARF projects lining up. Not to complain, as everybody knows that the ARF quality has gone up in recent years, but I do miss slightly the deliberate evolution of wood, sawdust, framing and covering...the magic of super glue! My first target in the ARF list is not a recent offering, however. It is the new-in-box Great Planes "Dazzler" (circa 2003) ARF donated to the club. I took it at the advertised minimum dollars and began converting it from .40 glow to electric. Actually, its construction is quite good considering its era-of-origin and it was well preserved in the box. The hinges (all except two that aged out) were the "pinned with epoxy" type and already installed. I was surprised by the colorful covering design. These days most ARF covering is done with trim colors being overlayed on the base fabric. The Dazzler however has printed trim, that is, printed ink/paint of on the basic white mylar/polyester fabric. Well, it may have been fuel proof, but my attempted cleaning with acetone yielded some very quick and obvious white spots and streaks of color. Yuk. So, I matched the colors as close as I could with some Ultracote and covered the damaged area with the included decal to help hide the changes in hue. The firewall of course anticipated the mounts for a .40 size engine and with those bolt holes and holes for left or right throttle push rods, no more holes for the electric motor X-mount seemed wise. Rather than cut the original firewall out I epoxied a one quarter inch plywood doubler with counter sunk "T-nuts" over the existing firewall. The next surprise was that, of course, no provision was made for any other equipment other than engine, fuel tank, and radio gear, so battery and ESC placement became an issue. Some carving on the wing opened an area behind the leading edge for a battery to fit, this requiring some additional structure to make up for hacking into the rather large leading edge (Picture 1).



Picture 1 : Leading Edge Battery Cut Out

The basic design of the Dazzler is thin and "stick" like with the radio gear being installed in the underside of the center of the wing. Other than the outside of the fuselage, this was the only area where the ESC could fit, but that left no room for the radio. To ensure cooling and provide extra space I made a new "belly" pan that added both depth and a cooling inlet for the ESC. This was inspired(?) by the radiators you see on WW2 fighters like the Spitfire, Hurricane and Mustang (Picture 2). The final result is in Picture 3. Not too bad I guess, and hey I got to cut some wood and use some epoxy and CA, so I am happy!



Picture 2 : Original Belly Pan and Enlarged Replacement



Picture 3 : Great Planes Dazzler - Electrified

Gordon

- CMB Secretary/Treasurer's Corner: Nic Burhans

The CMB Club's AMA Gold Leader Club Status has been established for 2026 and we have received all the official documentation and Gold Leader Club Pins. All members at the April Club meeting received their pins. See Nic at the field to receive your's.

Board Meeting Notes:

- No CMB Board meeting was held this month

CMB Club Membership Report:

- As of 27 May, the CMB Club had 45 members (15 Regular, 27 Senior, 2 Junior, 0 Life, and 1 Associate)
- The updated 2026 CMB Club Roster has been sent out to the membership.

CMB Club Calendar of upcoming events (January through April):

May 31 Sunday CMB Member Day & Cookout @ Lenn Model Airpark All Day

**June 13 Saturday CMB Buddy Box Training day @ Lenn Model Airpark 10am-2pm
CMB Coordinator: Gordon Collyer ****

June 14	Sunday	<u>CMB Club Meeting #2 & Cookout @ Lenn Model Airpark All Day</u> <i>Club Fly Day #2, Fun Events, Pilot Training, and Flight Checks all day</i> Club Meeting #2 @1:00 PM
July 11	Saturday	CMB Buddy Box Training day @ Lenn Model Airpark 10am-2pm CMB Coordinator: Gordon Collyer **
23 July	Thursday	C-Stars Camp Field-Day @Lenn Model Airpark All Day CMB Coordinator: Gordon Collyer
June 27-28	Sat-Sun	HAM Festival at the front of Lenn Park All Day Lenn Model Airpark <u>will remain open</u> for flying both days
August 8	Saturday	CMB Buddy Box Training day @ Lenn Model Airpark 10am-2pm CMB Coordinator: Gordon Collyer **
September 6	Sunday	CMB Member Fly Day & Cookout @ Lenn Model Airpark All Day
September 12	Saturday	CMB Buddy Box Training day @ Lenn Model Airpark 10am-2pm CMB Coordinator: Gordon Collyer **

Note: See full 2026 CMB calendar on the Club website.

CMB Treasurer's Report

- The CMB April 2026 Treasurer's Report has been emailed to the club's membership.

- CMB Field Marshal's Corner: Bobby Hurst

Yes, the grass *is* growing, fast!!

Bobby Hurst

- CMB Safety Officer's Corner: Bill Crone

Keep doing it safe!

Bill

- CMB Webmaster's Report: Dick Sutton

The security certificates for CMB Club website have been renewed.

Dick

LOWCRC Club Report:

- The 2026 LOWCRC Club Board of Directors Election Results:

President	Al Hampton	757-715-0528
Vice President	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Secretary	Gordon Collyer	540-547-4117
Treasurer	Jay Zompanti	978-804-8660
Safety Officer	Al Hampton	757-715-0528

- LOWCRC President's Corner: Al Hampton

— Alton Hampton

President, Lake of the Woods Community RC Club (LOWCRC)

- LOWCRC Secretary's Corner: Gordon Collyer

Board Meeting Notes:

- A Board meeting was not held this month.

LOWCRC 2026 Event Calendar

Recurring Weekly Events

• Outdoor RC @ Sweetbriar Soccer Fields – Thursdays & Fridays – 7:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Monthly Trail Walks (9:00 AM – 10:00 AM)

•

Special Events

•

Notes:

- Additional Drone Soccer and Micro Crawler activities to be announced.
- All events subject to weather and community guidelines.
- Volunteer support needed for expanded programming.

Note: See LOWCRC's full calendar is on the Club's website.

Tips & Projects:

- Washout:

By infusing washout into your wings you will greatly improve stall stability and cruise efficiency. Typically three degrees will do it.

With washout a stall will propagate from the root of a wing to the tip. No problem. Without washout the opposite will happen and the tip stall will result in rolling, a big problem.

John Hunton

Anything from the Field:

-There is an IAC competition at Warrenton-Fauquier Airport on 27 June.
<https://www.fauquiercounty.gov/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/68188/3640?sortn=EDate&npage=25&sortd=asc>



Lloyd Hinrichs

Fauquier Aero Recreation Modelers

F.A.R.M. Charity R/C Float Fly Events

AMA Sanctioned events

Saturdays, 13 June & 26 September 2026
(Rain or Shine events)

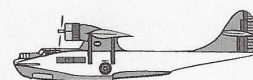
Open to all AMA Members

Bring the family and friends.

Fly R/C amphibians or float planes off the lake

Run R/C boats

Sail R/C sailboats



Enjoy lunch under the shaded pavilion with indoor restrooms

Date: Saturdays, 13 June and 26 September (rain or shine)

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

\$30.00 pilot's fee (Air & Surface - Includes Lunch)

Extra lunches available for \$6.00

Raffle and 50/50 drawing with added prizes.

Help feed the Hungry! FARM will again be accepting "Non Perishable" food as well as monetary donations (\$1.00 buys \$4.00 in food) for the Fauquier Community Food Bank. (A free 50/50 ticket given to all donors.)

Participant SWAP Meet from 9:00 am until Noon (tables provided)

Location: Scenic Lake Ritchie, 5177 Lake Ritchie Road, Bealeton VA 22712

Directions: --From the North out of Warrenton on US-29 South, then on US-17 South at Opal, in 6.9 miles turn left onto 644 (Ritchie Road) at the Flying Circus sign. Follow signs for the Float Fly.

--From the South out of Fredericksburg on US-17 North, in 20.9 miles turn right onto 644 (Ritchie Road) at the Flying Circus sign. Follow signs for the Float Fly.

Google Link:

<http://maps.google.com/maps?q=38.541285,-77.714109&num=1&sll=38.54068,77.714624&sspn=0.016448,0.032144&hl=en&ie=UTF8&ll=38.540647,-77.713165&spn=0.526329,1.028595&z=10>

Questions? Contact: Nic at npb6218@earthlink.net or 540-219-9646

The Air - Land - Sea Newsletter is published monthly by the FARM, CMB, and LOWCRC Clubs. It is forwarded to the Club members. Articles related to all types of RC models are welcome. Opinions expressed in the newsletter articles are those of the individual author and do not necessarily reflect those of FARM Inc., CMB Inc., or LOWCRC Inc.

Publishing input deadline is the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Please forward all inputs in Microsoft .doc or .docx format with associated Pictures separate in jpg format to:

Nic Burhans

6061 Captains Walk

Broad Run, VA 20137-1959

540-219-9646

E-Mail: npb6218@earthlink.net

Club Web sites: <http://www.farmclubre.com>

<http://www.cmbclubrc.com>

<http://www.lowcrc.com>