

HCRC Flyer



AMA Charter #341

April 2023



Watch out for bees in April!

It's in the mail!

Remember 'Airmail' stamps? Looking at this whimsical mailbox made me think how many often don't even think about the origins of rapid mail delivery.

According to the official US Postal Service history, that first flight was done in 1911 in a Bleriot, a favorite of many modelers.



Earle Ovington, 1911
On September 23, 1911, Earle Ovington piloted the first authorized U.S. Mail flight in his Bleriot monoplane.

HCRC Meeting Notes from Thursday, March 2nd, 2023



Quorum Present – 18 Members including 3 Executive Members present: Mike Shaw, Gus Coelho, Bill Ewers, Ron Paul, Mike Booth, Ed Kopec, Bob Prosciak, Mark Wasielewski, Bill Jaciow, Alan Crawford Sr., Alan Crawford Jr., Santiago Mercado, Peter Cincotta, Lou Enselek, John Darrow, Pat Malone, Al Ritchotte, and Jim Earls

One Guest was present – Jack Nichols Jack has joined AMA and intends to join the club next month.

Reading of the minutes from the previous month was waived.

Club finances for the month of February were reported and approved.

The UMass Aeronautics team has visited the field twice to test fly their plane. The first time the plane failed on the ground. The second time the plane lost elevator control in the air and crashed. It was entirely destroyed and the team is rebuilding now.

The Barnes Airshow is being held May 13 and 14.

Northern Ct is having a swap meet on May 13th.

An emergency Board of Directors will be held at Pat's house. It was originally scheduled for Saturday morning. Due to expected weather, we are looking at re-scheduling. There is a proposal for a conference call instead of an in-person meeting.

Alan Sr proposed that we start a bank account for the purchase of land so that we would have money in place to put 20% down on any proposed land purchase or field renovation of a possible new field. We would then record all donations in the event that the fund was not used. Alternately, we could offer shares similar to what was done to purchase the land that the club now owns.

The dues deadline has passed. Please remember that there is a \$15 late payment penalty now in effect.

Club News

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 4/6 Business Meeting at the VFW, 7PM (American Chop Suey)
- 4/13 – 4/14 New England Scale Soaring Aero Tow hosted by RC Propbusters, Salem, CT.
- 4/16 Work party at Franklin County RC to repair their runway. Come and help out our neighbors!
- 5/4 Business Meeting at the Club Field, 7pm (Food TBA)
- 5/6 FCRCC Western MA Flea Market 9am to 1pm
- 5/7 Spring Swap Meet and Fly-in (rain date 5/21) hosted by East Coast Swamp Flyers, Northford, CT.
- 5/13 Spring Swap Meet hosted by NCRCC, Ellington, CT.





SPRING FIELD CLEANUP PARTY

Please come out to the field and help your fellow club members get the field property in shape for the upcoming flying season. More hands make easier work.

Saturday April 22 2023

Rain Date Sunday April 23

10AM to approx. 12PM

At the flying field

Some of the tasks that need to be completed:

- Install the large canopy cover
- Cut back sumac around property perimeter with brush hog
- Organize and clean out storage sheds
- Put up the "Welcome" sign at entrance
- Return the frequency pins
- Put up the American flag and wind socks
- Put up the bee traps
- Reinstall the batteries & start the mowers
- Put out the safety barriers
- Return the first aid kit
- Set up the solar charging station



Check for rain delay announcements on our club Facebook page or our website prior to coming to field



Bring planes to fly after our work is completed weather permitting.

DIY Model Storage — From - [Model Airplane News](#) archives

Editor's Note: I have to admit that my shop looks nothing like this! Time for some spring cleaning for me and some organization. If you have tips and photos on how you have organized your aircraft, I'd love to feature them in an upcoming newsletter!

Airplanes on the workshop floor always seem to catch "Hangar Rash," but organization is a great way to keep them out of harm's way. Designed by Model Airplane News contributor Carl Layden, this system is primarily targeted at .40-.60 size airplanes but is scale-able from small electric planes and park fliers to big 50cc gassers.



To construct this storage system you'll need: Fuselage Hanger, 2 – 8 ft. 2x3s, 1 – 6 ft, 1/2 inch dowel, 6 ft, 1/2 pipe foam insulation, 10 – 4 in wood screws, 3 ft brass plumber's chain, cup hooks – 2 for every aircraft, Wing Shelf, 3 – 10in shelf brackets, 1/2 inch plywood (approximately 2ftx2ft), 6 ft – 1in trim molding (or wider), 2 ft – 1/2 inch dowel, 2 – cup hooks. The amount of each will vary depending on how many aircraft you plan to hang this way. Along with the building supplies you'll need some basic carpentry skills & tools (wood glue, saw, drill, hammer, etc) and a bare wall, the wall of a garage or shed make a good location.



The first part of the project is to construct the fuselage hanger. Begin by arranging the airplane fuselages on the floor with the tail pointed towards the wall approximately 4-5 inches from the wall. If you put the largest airplanes next to each other you usually fit a smaller model between the two, move it a little further from the wall such that it does not interfere with the horizontal struts of the larger

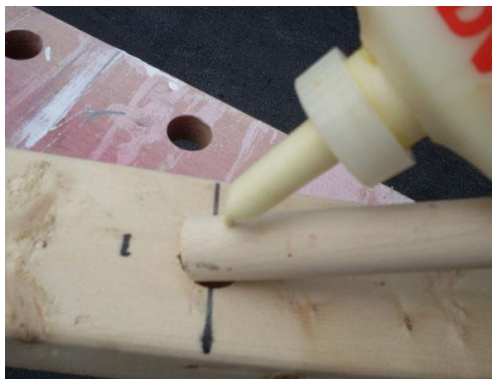
aircraft. When you have finished arranging your airplane fuselages as you would like them to hang slide two 2x3s under the tails of the aircraft. The longer fuselages will hang from the 2x3 closest to the wall the smaller ones from the other 2x3. Record the distance each 2x3 is from the wall, you'll need it later when mounting the

fuselage hanger. You'll need to remember the way the aircraft are arranged, write it down or take a picture for reference later.

Using a square and the fuselage as a guide make two marks on the 2x3 the width of the fuselage at the leading edge of horizontal stab. Each fuse will hang from its horizontal stab. The marks for the dowel holes need to be further apart than the width of the fuse. Increase the gap by making two additional marks 1 ½ inches outside the first two, this will increase the gap 3 inches. Repeat the process for each fuselage.



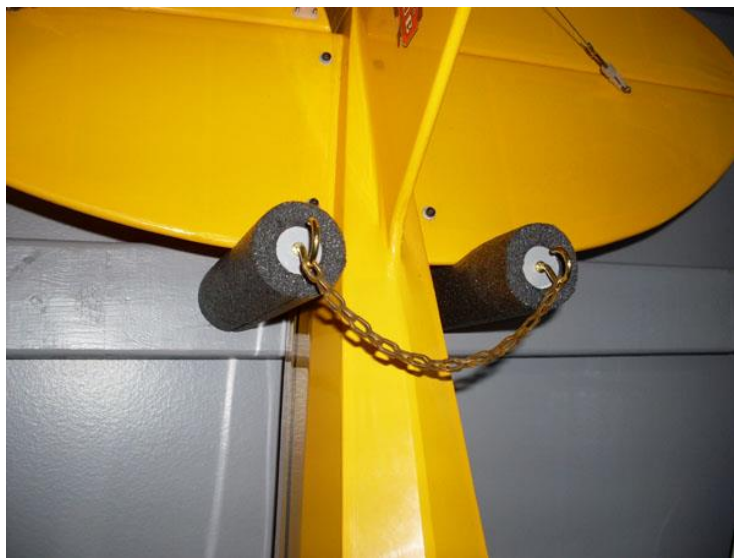
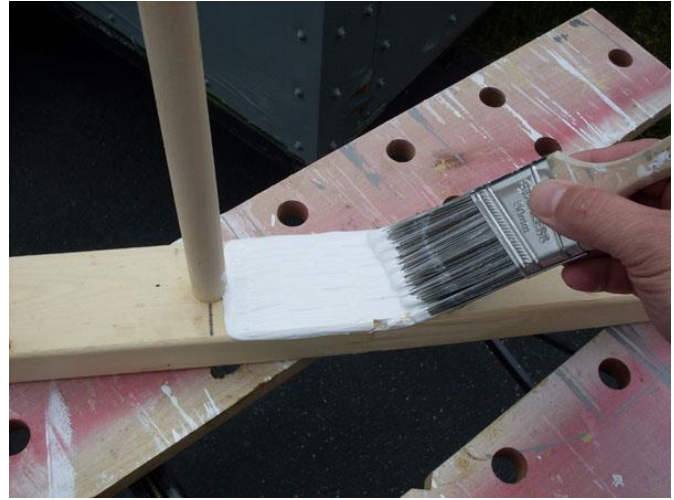
Measure the distance from the floor to the leading edge of the stab for each aircraft recording the largest distance. The dowels will need to be cut 2 inches longer than the highest stab. In my case the dowels were 10 inches long (highest stab was 8 inches off floor). Cut two dowels to length for each fuselage you will be hanging.



Drill a ½-inch hole through the center of 2x3s at each mark you made for the dowels. It is best to use a drill press to keep the holes are perpendicular to the 2x3. You can do it

freehand, however take care to ensure the hole is drilled straight down through the 2x3. Using good quality carpenters wood glue, glue the dowel s into the holes, let the assembly dry overnight. When the glue has dried sand the structure removing any rough edges.

Prime and paint the wooden structure, I painted it to match the color of the wall. After the paint has dried it can be mounted on the wall. For typical drywall over stud construction walls use 4-inch (#10) wood screws or lag screws (with washer). In an earlier step you recorded the distance the 2x3 was from the wall when the planes were arranged on the floor. Measure down from the ceiling this distance, this is where the hanger needs to be mounted.



The fuselage hanger should be mounted level on the wall using the screws to attach it to the wall studs. The screws must be in the studs to support the weight of the hanging aircraft. If the wall you are using is of a different construction like concrete block, brick you will need to use appropriate anchors to mount the hanger.

Cover each dowel with pipe insulation cut to length such that the end of dowel is flush with pipe

insulation. Screw a cup hook into the end of each dowel. Hang your aircraft as you arranged then on the floor (that's why you took the picture). String plumber's chain between the cup hooks on end of dowels making a safety chain to keep the fuselage from accidentally falling. That completes the fuselage hanger construction and installation.



The method I used to store wings is easier than the fuselage hanger. If you have the space you could use vertical 2x3 & longer dowels in a similar fashion to the fuse hanger. I didn't have that much space so a more compact storage arrangement was needed.

Begin by cutting the ½-inch plywood, it will be the shelf used to store the wings. The shelf should be 2 inches wider than the maximum wing cord, the

length of shelf will vary depending on the number of wings. My shelf is 18 x 18 inches and it accommodates approximately 8 wings with a maximum chord of 16 in.

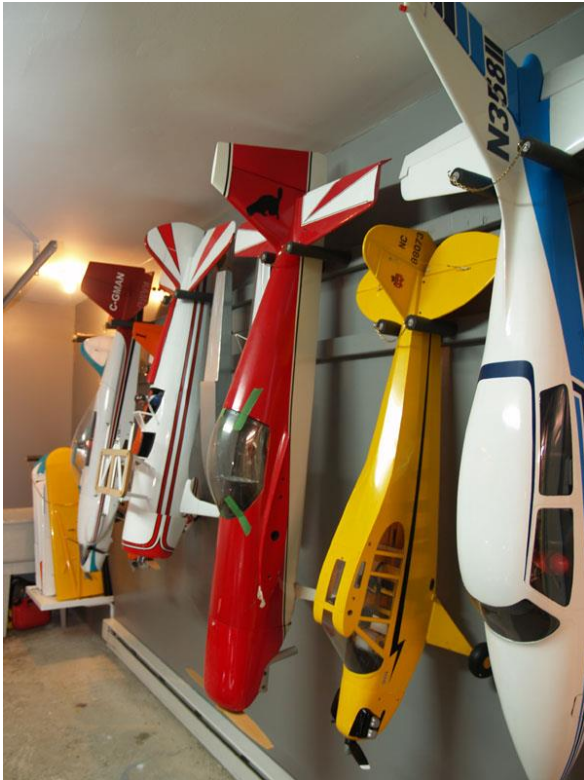
The next step is to make a 'lip' around the shelf to prevent the wing tips from sliding of shelf. Nail the 1in trim around 3 sides of shelf (not the wall side), keep the bottom of trim flush with edge of plywood this will create the 1/2-inch lip around the perimeter of shelf. Sand the shelf removing any rough edges, then prime & paint the shelf.

Using 2, 10in shelf brackets mount the shelf on wall, approximately 18in above floor ensure the area above the shelf is clear. I mounted mine a little higher to allow storage of the shop vac under it. Screw another 10-inch shelf bracket to the wall 30in above shelf aligned with left or right edge of shelf. Cut an 18-inch length of ½ dowel (or width of shelf used). Attach ½ dowel to upper bracket, cover dowel with pipe insulation. Place cup hooks at either end of dowel.





Put wings on shelf vertically leaning then against the dowel that extends out from upper bracket. String the plumber's chain between the cup-hooks as a safety chain. That completes the construction aircraft storage system. For a \$50 investment (and time) you have a safe way to store aircraft between flying session prevented dreaded hangar rash.



Officers

PRESIDENT

Mike Shaw
15 Overlea Drive
Springfield, MA 01119
(413) 330-1827

mshaw.spfld@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Dan Kapinos
122 Plain Street
Easthampton, MA 01027
(413) 527-0436

danielk53164@gmail.com

TREASURER

Gus Coelho
141 Holy Cross Circle
Ludlow, MA 01056
(413)530-4311

gus68vette@aol.com

SECRETARY

Bill Ewers
20 Beacon Street
Florence, MA 01062
(413) 695-3503

billewers@hotmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Mike Booth (413) 454-7084

Pete Cincotta (413) 454-4279

Pat Malone (413) 270-0172

Santiago Mercado (413)627-9250

Rick Rabe (978) 621-3583

Mark Wasielewski (978) 544-8771

MISC:

Denise Sitler (413)568-6595

mbooth1@netzero.net

Pcinc01085@Comcast.net

pmalone60@comcast.net

Santme2000@hotmail.com

richardarabe@gmail.com

mwazskie@behindthetrees.com

Newsletter Editor

Webmaster

wds1956a@gmail.com

Youth introduction Coordinator

Please support your local Hobby Shops

**HOG HEAVEN
HOBBIES**
Radio Control,
Trains, Models,
Toys & Crafts
494 Main Street
Starbridge, MA 01518
info@hogheavenhobbies.com



John Glennon
(508) 347-9350

**HOBBY
WORLD**



RT 8 Adams, MA



www.rcmadness.com

101 North Street Enfield, CT 06082

860.741.6501