

AMA GOLD LEADER CLUB

# RC Propbusters of Salem CT

www.rcpropbusters.com

AMA Club No 191  
Founded 1937

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RC Propbusters, Inc. ©

## May 2025 Newsletter

General Reminders for all RC Propbusters. See page 3.  
Renew your RC Propbusters membership online at: <http://rcpropbusters.com/>  
Register/Renew the FAA registration for your RC aircraft. See page 12.  
Take The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST), required by FAA. See page 12.

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Beautiful day at the 2024 Memorial Fun Fly. For the 2025 Memorial Fun Fly, see pages 10-11.

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RC Propbusters meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month @ 7:30 PM. Meeting location is the historic Salem Center School at 250 Hartford Road (Route 85), about one mile north of Salem Four Corners (Circle).

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## *Learn to Fly!*

If you have an interest, come to our field. There is usually a member there who will give you the opportunity to try flying a trainer type model either powered by an electric motor or fueled engine. The gentlemen listed below have generously offered to help you learn to fly r/c airplanes, helicopters, drones, and gliders.

### **INSTRUCTORS**

TOM VERNON	CHIEF PILOT	JOE COMEROSKI	HELICOPTERS
DENNIS DUPLICE	FIXED WING	ED DEMING	BOTH
ROBERT LARSON	BOTH	MARK O'CONNELL	BOTH
DAVE GRAINGER	FPV RACING	LEN BUFFINTON	* GLIDERS
DAVE PRATT	FIXED WING	RICHARD CROOKS	FIXED WING
RAY GILBERT	BOTH	STEVE CHRISTLEY	FIXED WING
		STEVE PICKERING	FIXED WING

\* Len Buffinton is a Glider and Aerotow expert who can also help you with fixed wing flying.

If you are a student, hook up with one of these members and get trained.

Any club pilot can train you, but an instructor must sign you off.

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## **R/C Propbusters, LLC. Officers for 2025**

President:	Ed Deming
Vice President:	Steve Pickering
Treasurer:	John Banks
Secretary:	Bill Fries
Asst. Secretary:	<b>open*</b>
Safety officer:	Tom Vernon
Newsletter Editor:	Jim Holzworth
Field Marshal:	Shane Duffy
Asst. Field Marshal:	Ray Gilbert
Board of Directors:	Mike DeFranzo, Mike Likar, Mike Carabillo, and Peter Nosal

### ***CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:***

<http://reprobusters.com/>

Please submit ideas and tips for the newsletter to Jim Holzworth at [jimholzworth@gmail.com](mailto:jimholzworth@gmail.com)

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**\* Simon Holley will be relocating to the Southern USA, leaving his Assistant Secretary role. Very best wishes to Simon Holley on his and Cheryl's move south!**

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# Please Note!

1. Position of Propbusters Assistant Secretary will be open shortly (Simon Holley is moving to SC). Members interested in filling the position should contact any Club Officer or Board Member. New member John Greenwood has offered to serve.

From R\C Propbusters Bylaws, Rev. and update January 2024

## ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS, Section 3

**Secretary:** Keeps a correct record of business proceedings, official membership list, list of committees, copy of By-Laws, conducts correspondence, keeps corporate books and minutes, has charge of corporate seal, maintains AMA charter & insurance, etc.

**Assistant Secretary:** Assists the Secretary with his duties and acts in his stead during the Secretary’s absence.

2. Propbuster vice-president Steve Pickering requests volunteers for the June 14 Memorial Funfly and announces that Chris Osborne will be assisting with CD duties. Steve also asks that members promote attendance of all Propbusters events at our flying field.

3. Propbuster president Ed Deming has opened a discussion of criteria for inclusion on our Propbuster memorial commemoration plaque. The *Tribute to Past Members* memorial plaque displayed at our field gives special recognition to deceased Propbusters who made significant contributions to our organization during their memberships. Ed has suggested that we create a more formal set of criteria for the process of adding names with the passing of members. Some suggestions include years of membership, service as an officer, pilot training or member of our mowing crew, etc., etc. Please take a minute and give your thoughts or suggestions to members of our Board of Directors at the field or better yet join in the discussion at our regular June meeting.



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# Propbusters Meeting Location

Regularly scheduled Propbusters monthly meetings are held at the Salem *Center School*, 250 Hartford Rd Salem, CT 06420. The *Center School* is in the Salem CT historic district.

<https://historicbuildingsct.com/center-school-salem-1885/>  
41.491289, -72.275949



Monthly meetings will simultaneously be conducted electronically using Zoom.

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## General Reminders for all RC Propbusters

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE (<https://rcpropbusters.com>) REGULARLY, particularly the NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS section up front for current notices and information. It is updated at least weekly. All important notices are listed there.

NOTE: Membership cards for 2025 can be printed from our website by members once membership is paid.

All members are required to fill out the new membership application for 2025 to certify agreement to follow all RC Propbuster, AMA and FAA rules/regulations as a condition of membership and flying privileges. Membership renewal price is now \$80.

When opening and closing the flying field for the day, leave gate locked without displaying the combination.

Strict observance of FRIA application boundaries, particularly the northern tree line by Route 82. This is especially important with our new 1200' ceiling waiver.

Mark all your models with required FAA and AMA markings.

All pilots must have FAA registration cards and proof of TRUST completion at the field while flying.

Noise control efforts will still be required for when flying gassers/glow – careful observance of northern boundary and use of spotters recommended.

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## 2025 Event Schedule

Memorial Funfly	June 14 (rain date June 15)
Electric Funfly & Swap Meet	July 19 (rain date July 20)
Neighborhood Funfly	August 2 (rain date Aug 3)
Club Funfly / Potluck Picnic	September 6 (rain date Sept 7)
Warbird Rally	Tentative: October 4 (rain date Oct 5)

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COMMON SENSE, RESPECT FOR OTHER PILOTS, AND GOOD FIELD ETIQUETTE ALL GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS MINIMIZING REQUIRED RULES. REMEMBER: IT'S ALL ABOUT HAVING FUN WITH AVIATION MODELING IN A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE MANNER. SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY! IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THESE RULES, DON'T HESITATE TO ASK YOUR CLUB SAFETY OFFICER, ANY CLUB OFFICER, OR ANY EXPERIENCED PILOT FOR CLARIFICATION.

R/C Propbusters Flying Field Rules, Page 6, Updated 9.6.2023

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## ***RC Propbusters of Salem CT***

Our club was founded in the Waterford/ New London area back just prior to WW II in 1937. Most noted founding member was Ed Avena who, during the war, served in the Army Air Corps on B-24 Liberators as an engineer. In later years, he was noted for design and machine shop talents ...and ran the local hobby shop and helped a lot of us modelers get all the equipment we needed, also providing flight instruction for many beginners. The club started out prior to R/C with free flight modeling and shortly after the war with control line modeling evolving into R/C in the 50s and 60s. We've been at our current field since 1977 and have had many community and youth events.

Tom Vernon

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**RC Propbusters Outerwear**  
available at

**NOTICE (from the Editor): Do we have your  
correct email address?**



26A Bushnell Hollow Rd., Baltic, CT 06330  
Phone: 860-822-9777  
Email address: [jdembroidering@aol.com](mailto:jdembroidering@aol.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/JDEmbroidering/>

If you are currently a member of R/C Propbusters in good-standing and can only receive the monthly newsletter from our website (<http://www.rcpropbusters.com>), maybe your email address has changed, or was incorrectly entered on our membership list. Monthly newsletters are sent individually (directly) to each club member at the email address listed on the website membership list. If you have a new email address, or need to make a correction, please log in to our website and update your profile.

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## *May Aviation Events & Milestones*

- 20 May 1784 (France) — The first women to ascend in a tethered balloon are the Marchioness de Montalembert, the Contess de Montalenbert, the Contess de Podenas, and Mademoiselle de Ligarde. Their Montgolfier balloon lifts to the length of the restraining rope.
- 31 May 1862 (USA) — Information obtained from Thadeus S. C. Lowe's balloon observation saves Union forces from defeat at the Battle of Fair Oaks, Virginia during the U. S. Civil War. Union General George McClellan is warned by Lowe of Confederate General Albert Johnston's approaching troops.
- 21 May 1878 (USA) — Glenn Hammond Curtiss, pioneer of the first years of powered flight and rival of the Wright brothers, is born in Hammondsport, New York.
- 6 May 1896 (USA) — After four years of work and failed flights, Samuel P. Langley succeeds in obtaining good results with his steam-powered, model-size, tandem-wing airplane. His model "No.5" makes a flight of 3,300 feet.
- 22 May 1906 (USA) — The Wright brothers are granted United States patent No. 821,393 for their airplane control system.
- 25 May 1910 (USA) — Orville Wright takes his 82-year-old father for his first airplane ride. Also on this day, Wilbur and Orville fly together for the only time in a six-and-one-half minute flight at Simms Station, near Dayton, Ohio.
- 11 May 1911 (France) — Edouard Niéport, a racing cyclist before he went into aircraft construction, sets a new speed record of 74.4 mph flying his "Nieuport" monoplane powered by a 28-hp engine.
- 13 May 1911 (USA) — Lieutenants H. H. Arnold and T. D. Milling become first Wright School Army pilots.
- 9 May 1926 (Norway/North Pole) — The first airplane flight over the North Pole is made by Americans Lt. Cdr. Richard E. Byrd and Floyd Bennett in a Fokker F-VII/3m. Their total distance from Spitzbergen, Norway is 1,600 miles (2,575 km).
- 20 May 1927 (USA/France) — The first solo non-stop flight across the Atlantic is made by Charles A. Lindbergh. In his Ryan monoplane "Spirit of St. Louis," he covers 3,600 miles in 33 hours, 29 minutes and wins the Orteig Prize of \$25,000.
- 25 May 1927 (USA) — Outside loop demonstrated by Lt. James H. Doolittle.
- 15 May 1930 (USA) — The first airline stewardess is Ellen Church, a nurse who flies on the Boeing Air Transport flight between San Francisco, California and Cheyenne, Wyoming.

- 9 May 1932 (USA) — United States Army Air Corps Capt. A. F. Hegenberger has become the first pilot in the world to make a “blind” landing using instruments alone, with no Back-up co-pilot on board in Dayton, Ohio.
- 3 May 1952 (USA) — The first landing at the North Pole is made by Americans Lt. Col. William P. Benedict and Lt. Col. J. O. Fletcher on a ski-and-wheel equipped Air Force Douglas C-47 “Skytrain”.
- 7 May 1958 (USA) — Lockheed F-104A “Starfighter” sets altitude record for aircraft of 91,243 feet.
- 26 May 1972 (USA) — Cessna Aircraft Corporation announces completion of the company's 100,000<sup>th</sup> aircraft, becoming the first company in the world to achieve such a production figure.
- 18 May 1983 (USA) — American Airlines carries its 500,000,000<sup>th</sup> passenger.
- 13 May 2011 - The first Solar Impulse aircraft, HB-SIA, the first solar-powered aircraft capable of both day and night flight thanks to its batteries charged by solar power, makes its first international flight, flying 630 km (391 miles) from Payerne Airport outside Payerne, Switzerland, to Brussels Airport in Belgium, in 12 hours 59 minutes at an average speed of 50 km/hr (31 mph).
- 18 May 2011 (USA) - Space Shuttle Endeavour docks to the ISS for its final mission.
- 14 May 2013 (USA) - The world's first catapult launch of an unmanned aircraft from an aircraft carrier takes place when the U.S. Navy aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) launches a Northrop Grumman X-47B demonstrator unmanned combat air vehicle in the Atlantic Ocean off Virginia. The X-47B makes two low passes as if preparing to land on the carrier, then flies to a landing at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland, about an hour later.

<https://www.skytamer.com/May.html>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portal:Aviation/Anniversaries/May>

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## 16 May 1986



“Top Gun” poster (Paramount Pictures)

16 May 1986: The Paramount Pictures motion picture, “Top Gun,” directed by Tony Scott, was released in 1,028 theaters in the United States.

<https://www.thisdayinaviation.com/2025/05/16/>

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# Practice, Practice, Practice .....

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# 19 May 1963



Boeing VC-137C Stratoliner 62-6000, SAM 26000. (Boeing)



19 May 1963: During a non-stop flight from Andrews Air Force Base, outside Washington, D.C., to Moscow, Russia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, a Boeing VC-137C, 62-6000, under the command of Colonel James B. Swindal, United States Air Force, set 15 *Fédération Aéronautique Internationale* (FAI) World Records for Speed Over a Recognized Course. Colonel Swindal flew the airplane, commonly known as Air Force One, 5,004 miles (8,053.2 kilometers) in 8 hours, 39 minutes, 2 seconds, averaging 490.96 miles per hour (790.12 kilometers per hour). On the return flight, 15 additional records were set.

The fastest segment of the flight was from to Boston, Massachusetts to Oslo, Norway, at an average speed of 952.62 kilometers per hour (591.93 miles per hour).<sup>1</sup>

*The New York Times* reported:

MOSCOW — President Kennedy’s Air Force jet today set a nonstop speed record between Washington and Moscow and shattered 14 other air records. The \$8 million Boeing 707, carrying a ten-man party headed by Atomic Energy Commission chairman Glenn T. Seaborg, touched down eight hours 38 minutes and 42 seconds after takeoff — the fastest flight ever made between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. Interred was a Soviet myth that the U.S. lacked a plane able to make a 5,000-mile run nonstop. The black-nosed blue and white jet, piloted by Col. James B. Swindal, 46, of Falls Church, Virginia, made it with fuel for more than two hours of flight remaining, proving that any delays in reaching a commercial agreement are political, not technical.

— *The New York Times*, 19 May 1963

*The Washington Post* reported that

. . . On board were a Soviet navigator and a Soviet radio operator, the usual requirements for all international flights over Soviet territory. The two men, both speaking English, flew to Washington to make the flight.

— *The Washington Post*, 20 May 1963

The Boeing VC-137C was the first of two specially-configured Boeing 707-353B airliners used by the President of the United States, or other senior administration officials. The distinctive white, blue and natural metal livery was created by the famed industrial designer Raymond Loewy.

When the president is aboard, the airplane is designated “Air Force One”. At other times, it uses the Special Air Mission designation, SAM 26000. The airplane entered service in 1962, replacing the three earlier commercial Boeing 707-153 airliners, which were designated VC-137A Stratoliner, USAF serial numbers 58-6970–58-6972.

SAM 26000 was itself replaced by SAM 27000 in 1972, though it remained available as a back-up aircraft. It was retired to the National Museum of the United States Air Force on 20 May 1998.



Boeing VC-137C Stratoliner 62-6000, SAM 26000. (Ralf Manteufel/Wikipedia)

Read the entire article at: <https://www.thisdayinaviation.com/2025/05/19/>

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www.rcpropbusters.com

Salem, CT

RC Propbusters Stuart Gadbois Memorial Field

# Memorial Fun Fly



2025 June 14<sup>th</sup> (15<sup>th</sup> rain date) - 9am - 5pm  
Open to all aircraft except turbines

www.amadistrict-i.org



www.modelaircraft.org



- Please join us in honoring those RC Propbusters who have passed
- Current AMA / TRUST / FAA / Plane Markings - required
- Newly renovated 500'x 75' runway
- Dedicated heli field
- Hotdogs & Burgers served
- \$10 Landing Fee



**One of the best flying fields in the North-East**

For details see: [www.rcpropbusters.com](http://www.rcpropbusters.com)

Academy of Model Aeronautics Chartered Club #191



- Contest Director:  
Steve Pickering - [pickersa@gmail.com](mailto:pickersa@gmail.com)
- Club Contact:  
Ed Deming - [edwardd707@aol.com](mailto:edwardd707@aol.com)

*Directions*



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# RC Propbusters, Salem CT

[rlito1](#)  
Published on Mar 16, 2009  
WFSB Every town has a story



RC Propbusters, LLC remembers and honors our deceased members at our annual Memorial Fun Fly. Watch and listen to one of our dear members (Fred Myer, 1934-2018) describing our club in 2009.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rxy71K5EJA&gl=IL&hl=en>

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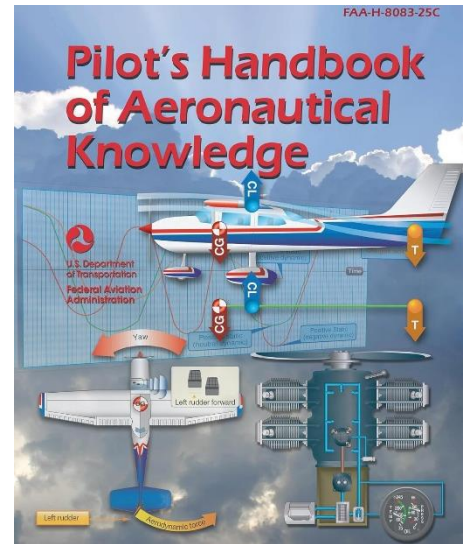
## Great Reference Material!



# Pilot's Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge

[Pilot's Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge, FAA-H-8083-25C \(Full Version\)](#)

Download (for free) the entire handbook from:  
[https://www.faa.gov/regulations\\_policies/handbooks\\_manuals/aviation/phak](https://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/handbooks_manuals/aviation/phak)



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## FAA Recreational Flyer Registration

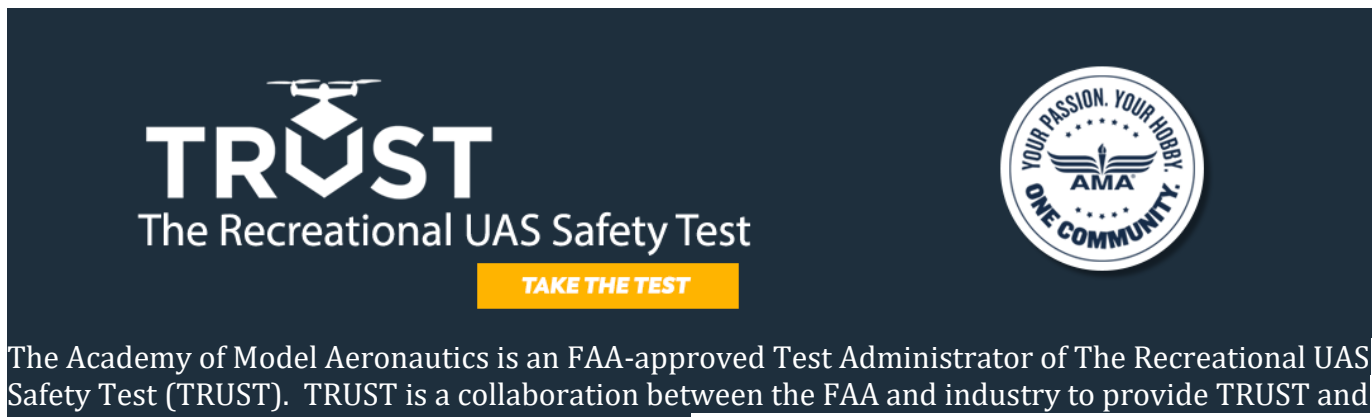
Register your RC aircraft at:  
<https://faadronezone.faa.gov/#/register>  
Renew your RC aircraft registration at:  
<https://faadronezone.faa.gov/#/>

**How much does it cost to renew a registration?**  
\$5 through the [FAADroneZone](#).

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## The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST)

All Propbuilders are now required to take and pass The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST),  
... but don't worry!



The Academy of Model Aeronautics is an FAA-approved Test Administrator of The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST). TRUST is a collaboration between the FAA and industry to provide TRUST and educational safety material to Recreational Flyers.

<https://www.modelaircraft.org/trust>

## The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST) FAQ

### June 22, 2021, UPDATED TRUST INFORMATION:

The AMA has now been approved to administer The Recreational UAS Safety Test, or TRUST. AMA has worked closely with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), ensuring that TRUST meets the intent of Congress without placing an undue burden on our hobby community.

Since 1936, the AMA has been dedicated to the hobby of model aviation, to educational programming, and safety in the airspace. We are offering the TRUST to the entire community of model aviation enthusiasts free of charge.

**Q: What is "TRUST"?**

**A:** "TRUST" stands for The Recreational UAS Safety Test

**Q: Why do I need to take TRUST?**

**A:** The Knowledge and Safety Test is a congressional mandate in the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018. **All UAS users** must pass the test in order to operate a recreational model aircraft (UAS) within the National Airspace System (NAS).

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# Tutorial on how to fly RC Planes: Introduction to flying - Part 1 of 5

SteffenRC  
Feb 10, 2024

If you want to learn to fly rc planes, this 5 part series is for you. I review many facets of how to fly these planes from the beginner perspective. This first video is about how to set yourself up for success and minimize the damage to your plane. The other parts of the series are:

- First Flight
- How to land your RC Plane
- How to fly with and without a Gyro self leveling
- How to perform basic aerobatics



Watch this informative video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yz-zJ9MwTfQ&t=79s>

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# How to fly RC Plane without crashing - What to expect on 1st flight - Part 2 of 5

SteffenRC  
Feb 17, 2024

This is the second video in a 5 part series about how to fly rc planes from the beginner perspective. This video is all about making that nervous 1st flight less stressful and more successful. We review checking the airplane, taking off and landing safely without total destruction...



Watch this informative video at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SeWtxS\\_AEPA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SeWtxS_AEPA)

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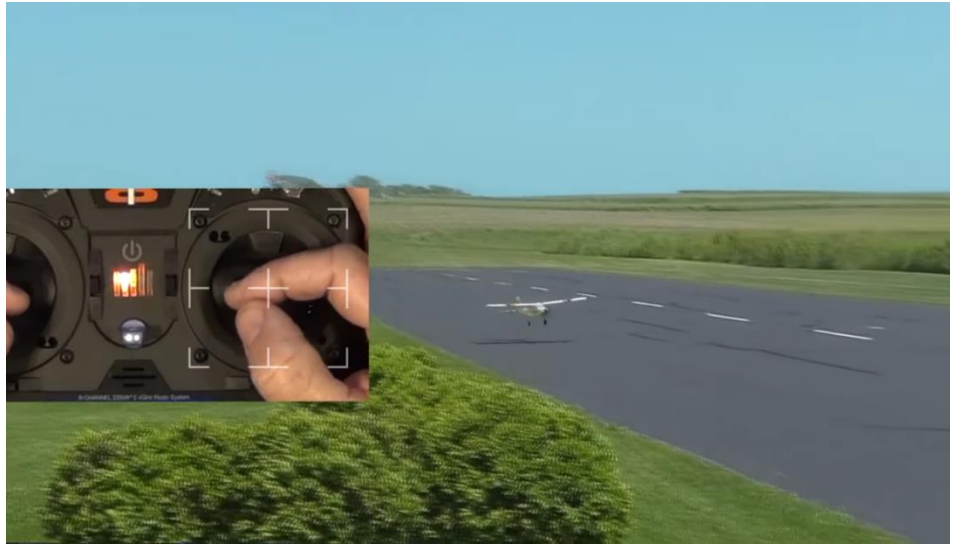
# RC Procedure Turns 101



Dave Scott

Apr 24, 2023

Learn the most proficient way to turn an RC airplane. Detailed real time control inputs show pilots how to proactively turn a plane with fewest adjustments possible.

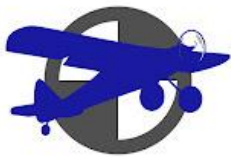


Watch this informative video at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOWjD0DxRt0&t=73s>

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# Curious ...



## Tail Heavy Productions

@TailHeavyProductions

Educating, entertaining, and promoting flying RC planes in unconventional ways. Fly outside the box! 📺✈️

<https://www.youtube.com/@TailHeavyProductions>

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# Spektrum™ Safe® Technology - Making RC flight fun from the start



Flying RC models has always been fun. Learning to fly them, on the other hand, has not. Exclusive SAFE® (Sensor Assisted Flight Envelope) technology from Spektrum™ changes everything by making RC flight just as fun for the beginner as it is for the expert. How? Using a combination of sensors and flight control software, Spektrum SAFE technology can make an RC aircraft aware of its attitude relative to the ground. This ‘attitude awareness’ makes it possible to program aircraft with different levels of assistance pilots can choose from based on their level of experience and needs during the flight.

...

SAFE technology allows an RC model to be aware of its attitude relative to the horizon. This attitude awareness is key to SAFE technology’s three core benefits: Flight Envelope Protection, Multiple Flight Modes, and Smoother Flight Capability.

Learn about SAFE technology at: <https://www.spektrumrc.com/spm-bs-safe.html>

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## Spektrum Quick Hit Tech Tips - How to Setup SAFE SELECT for your Bind and Fly Models

SpektrumRC  
Mar 15, 2021

In this video Tom explains to our fellow RC enthusiasts the 2 ways to setup SAFE SELECT on applicable models from E-Flite and Parkzone. One way, the older and more traditional way, is via stick and switch commands. BUT we also go over the new option when using a forward programming capable receiver and transmitter, such as the AR637TA, AR630 and AR631 with Safe Select firmware installed (this is what will come with your BNF models). Setup via Forward Programming is the best and easiest way to setup Safe Select, but it does require that you have a Forward Programming capable transmitter - Which could mean that you simply need to update your Spektrum Gen 2 transmitter.



Watch this helpful video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o-46P066cik&t=8s>

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# Tips & Tricks

## SOAP YOUR SCREWS

Wood screws don't always thread in as effortlessly as we'd like; it can be hard on your hands and the model. Next time, try swiping the screw's threads across a damp or dry bar of soap. The soap acts as a lubricant, making it much easier to thread the screw in. It is particularly useful in tight areas where it is difficult to get a good grip on tools.



[https://www.modelairplanenews.com/8-great-workshop-tips-2/?utm\\_source=MagnetMail&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=kiekieman@mweb.co.za&utm\\_content=ManEnews%255F3%252E17%252E17&utm\\_campaign=Monster%2520King%2520Air%2520C%252D90%2520%257C%2520Workshop%2520Tips%2520%257C%2520Plug%252DIn%2520Wing%2520Panels#](https://www.modelairplanenews.com/8-great-workshop-tips-2/?utm_source=MagnetMail&utm_medium=email&utm_term=kiekieman@mweb.co.za&utm_content=ManEnews%255F3%252E17%252E17&utm_campaign=Monster%2520King%2520Air%2520C%252D90%2520%257C%2520Workshop%2520Tips%2520%257C%2520Plug%252DIn%2520Wing%2520Panels#)

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## Model of the Month

No model of the month for May.

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## Minutes of the May 20<sup>th</sup> 2025 RC Propbusters Meeting

Meeting minutes will be available with a password on the RC Propbusters website.

In the menu of our [www.rcprobusters.com](http://www.rcprobusters.com) website look for: “**Our Club => Meeting Minutes**”.  
The password is the same number as the one for the gate lock at our flying field.

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