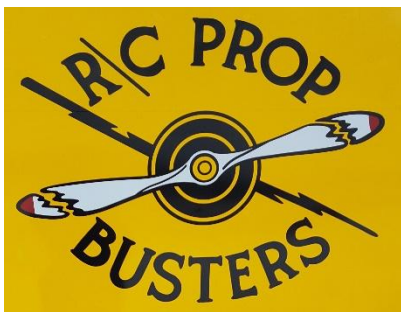




AMA GOLD LEADER CLUB

RC Propbusters of Salem CT

www.rcpropbusters.com

AMA Club No 191
Founded 1937

Jim Holzworth, Newsletter Editor
jimholzworth@gmail.com, 860-885-9260
RC Propbusters, Inc. ©

July 2026 Newsletter

Newsletter hiatus: No August Newsletter – The next issue will be combined August/September.

August meetings at 7:30 at Flying Field (rain backup at Salem Center School) with Zoom.

General Reminders for all RC Propbusters. See page 3.

Neighborhood FunFly (August 8th, Rain Date 8/9). See page 10.

Family FunFly and Potluck (September 12th, Rain Date 9/13). See page 11.

Take The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST), required by FAA. See page 12.



Bill Fries and Dick Cavanaugh working on the Solar Charging Station. It is expected to be operational in mid-August. Anyone wishing and willing to help out, please contact Bill or Dick.

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).

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	LEN BUFFINTON	* GLIDERS
DAVE GRAINGER	FPV RACING	RICHARD CROOKS	FIXED WING
DAVE PRATT	FIXED WING	STEVE CHRISTLEY	FIXED WING
RAY GILBERT	BOTH	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.

R/C Propbusters, LLC. Officers for 2026

President:	Ed Deming
Vice President:	Steve Pickering
Treasurer:	John Banks
Secretary:	Bill Fries
Asst. Secretary:	John Greenwood
Safety officer:	Tom Vernon
Newsletter Editor:	Jim Holzworth
Field Marshal:	Shane Duffy
Asst. Field Marshal:	Ray Gilbert
Board of Directors:	Chris Osborne, Mike Likar, Mike Carabillo, and Peter Nosal

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:
<http://rcpropbusters.com/>

Please submit ideas and tips for the newsletter to Jim Holzworth at
jimholzworth@gmail.com

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.

General Reminders for all RC Propbusters

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

All members are required to fill out the new membership application for 2026 to certify agreement to follow all RC Propbuster, AMA and FAA rules/regulations as a condition of membership and flying privileges. John Banks asks us to **PLEASE press the Submit button only once** after completing the online registration form.

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 when flying gassers/glow – careful observance of northern boundary and use of spotters recommended.

2026 Propbuster Event Schedule

Field Cleanup OPTIONAL	April 11
Memorial FunFly	June 13 (rain date, 6/14)
Electric FunFly & Swap Meet	July 18 (rain date, 7/19)
Neighborhood FunFly	August 8 (rain date, 8/9)
Club FunFly / Picnic	September 12 (rain date, 9/13)

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

RC Propbusters Outerwear
available at



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

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

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 into our website and update your profile.

July Aviation Events & Milestones

- 8 July 1838 (Germany) — Ferdinand Graf von Zeppelin is born in Baden, Germany. The first large-scale builder and pioneer of rigid dirigible balloons, Zeppelin made his first balloon ascent while serving as a volunteer and observer for the Union Army in America's Civil War.
- 1 July 1872 (France) — Louis Blériot, the pioneer aviator who made the world's first airplane flight across the English Channel, is born in Cambrai, France. After experimenting first with gliders, he designed and built his own monoplane with a 25-hp engine, which took him across the channel.
- 20 July 1908 (USA) — Orville Wright warns Glenn Curtiss that the wing flaps used in the AEA's "June Bug" are an infringement of the Wrights' patent.
- 5 July 1912 (USA) — Capt. Charles Chandler and Lieutenants Thomas Milling and Henry Arnold are presented with certificates qualifying them as the United States' first "Military Aviators."
- 7 July 1914 (USA) — American physics professor, Robert H. Goddard receives a patent for his two-stage solid fuel rocket.
- 1 July 1922 (USA) — Aeromarine Airways, Inc. opens flying boat passenger service between Detroit, Michigan, and Cleveland, Ohio.
- 9 July 1924 (Netherlands/France) — The first recorded flight of a live bull takes place when champion breeder "Nico V" is flown from Rotterdam, Holland to Paris, France. The bull is carried by KLM in a Fokker F.III transport aircraft.
- 1 July 1925 (USA) — The United States Air Mail Service begins overnight flights between New York and Chicago over the Allegheny Mountains.
- 2 July 1926 (USA) — The United States Army Air Corps is formed out of the former Air Services. Provisions are made for an assistant secretary of war and a five-year Air Corps expansion program.

- 12 July 1927 (USA) — End of Third National Reliability Tour for the Ford Trophy, when 13 of the 14 planes which entered the race returned to Detroit. Edward Stinson, flying a Stinson “Detroitter” with a Wright “Whirlwind” engine, is the winner.
- 1 July 1931 (USA) — The first mail delivered by rocket in the United States is claimed by three high school students from Struthers, Ohio. Led by philatelist, John Kiktavi, they send mail from Struthers to Poland, Ohio.
- 2 July 1937 (South Pacific) — Amelia Earhart and navigator Fred Noonan are lost over the South Pacific near Howland Island in a Lockheed Electra. This was to be her last long-distance attempt.
- 13-15 July 1937 (USSR) — Flying an Antonov ANT-25, powered by a AM-34 engine, Col. Mikail Gromov, Comdt. Andrei Youmachev, and Ing. Sergei Daniline set a world airline distance record of 6,295.662 miles from Moscow, USSR, to San Jacinto California .
- 11 July 1955 (USA) — First Air Force Academy class of 306 cadets sworn in.
- 13 July 1957 (USA) — President Eisenhower becomes the first United States president to fly in a helicopter when he is flown from the White House to an unnamed military post in a USAF Bell UH-13J.
- 17 July 1969 (USA) — The Apollo 11 Saturn V rocket blasts off from the Florida Space Center in route to the first moon landing.
- 20 July 1969 (Moon) — Neil Armstrong lands the lunar module “Eagle” on the surface of the moon. His immortal first words are, “that's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.” USAF Colonel “Buzz” Aldrin joins Neil Armstrong on the surface of the moon while USAF Lt. Colonel Mike Collins remains in orbit.
- 7 July 1981 (France/England) — The first solar-powered aircraft flight across the English Channel is made by the MacCready “Solar Challenger.” The 163 mile flight takes 5 hours and 23 minutes with pilot Stephen Ptacek at the controls. The aircraft is powered by at least 16,128 solar cells on the upper surfaces of the wing and tailplane. The aircraft flew from Pontoise — Cormeilles Aerodrome, north of Paris, France to Manston Royal Air Force Base in Manston, England.
- 3 July 2002 – Steve Fossett completes round-the-world balloon flight, landing after 14 days, 19hrs. He broke three balloon records along the way; fastest time around the world (13 days, 3 mins), longest distance flown solo (20,483.25 mi; 32,963.35 km), and longest time flown solo (355 hrs, 50 min).
- 7 July 2010 – The Boeing 787 Dreamliner makes its first international appearance at the Farnborough Airshow, UK.
- 8 July 2011 – Launch: Space Shuttle Atlantis STS-135 at 15:29 UTC. Mission highlights: Payload Multi-Purpose Logistics Module (MPLM) Raffaello. Final flight of Atlantis, final flight of the Space Shuttle program.

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

Air Zoo

July 9, 2024 ·

In 1924 KLM Royal Dutch Airlines flew Nico the bull from Rotterdam to Paris on a Fokker F.III. Nico V became the first live bull (and first large animal) to fly on a commercial route. 🐮



<https://www.facebook.com/AirZoo/photos/in-1924-klm-royal-dutch-airlines-flew-nico-the-bull-from-rotterdam-to-paris-nico/880184390818356/>

10 July 1962

10 July 1962: At 0835 GMT (4:35 a.m., EDT) the first communications relay satellite, Telstar 1, was launched into Earth orbit from Launch Complex 17B, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida. The launch vehicle was a three-stage liquid-fueled Delta rocket.

This was the first commercial space flight, sponsored by a consortium of communications companies and government organizations, including AT&T, Bell Labs, the BBC, NASA, and British and French postal services. The satellite was used to relay live television broadcasts across the Atlantic Ocean. This had never previously been possible.

Telstar weighed 171 pounds (77.5 kilograms). Its weight and size were restricted by the availability of launch vehicles. The satellite was placed in an elliptical orbit, varying from 591 miles (952 kilometers) to 3,686 miles (5,933 kilometers), and inclined at about a 45° angle to Earth's Equator. The orbital period was 2 hours, 37 minutes. The properties of Telstar's orbit restricted its use to about 20 minutes during each pass.

In addition to its primary role as a communications relay satellite, Telstar also performed scientific experiments to study the Van Allen Belt.

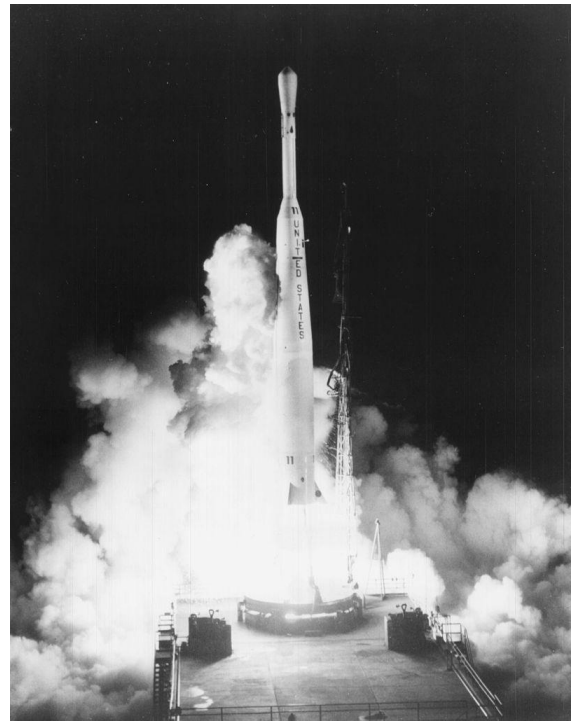
The Delta was a three-stage expendable launch vehicle which was developed from the Douglas Aircraft Company's SM-75 Thor intermediate-range ballistic missile.

Designated Thor DM-19, the first stage was 60.43 feet (18.42 meters) long and 8 feet (2.44 meters) in diameter. Fully fueled, the first stage had a gross weight of 108,770 pounds (49,337 kilograms). It was powered by a Rocketdyne LR-79-7 engine which burned liquid oxygen and RP-1 (a highly-refined kerosene rocket fuel) and produced 170,565 pounds of thrust (758.711 kilonewtons). This stage had a burn time of 2 minutes, 45 seconds.

The second stage was an Aerojet General Corporation-built Delta 104. It was 19 feet, 3 inches (5.88 meters) long with a maximum diameter of 4 feet, 6 inches (1.40 meters). The second stage had a gross weight of 9,859 pounds (4,472 kilograms). It used an Aerojet AJ10-104 rocket engine which burned a hypergolic mixture of nitric acid and UDMH. The second stage produced 7,890 pounds of thrust (35.096 kilonewtons) and burned for 4 minutes, 38 seconds.

The third stage was an Allegany Ballistics Laboratory Altair 1. It was 6 feet long, 1 foot, 6 inches in diameter and had a gross weight of 524 pounds (238 kilograms). This stage used a solid-fuel Thiokol X-248 rocket engine, producing 2,799 pounds of thrust (12.451 kilonewtons). Its burn time was 4 minutes, 16 seconds.

The three stages of the Delta rocket accelerated the Telstar satellite to 14,688 miles per hour for orbital insertion.



Telstar 1 launches aboard a Delta rocket at Launch Complex 17B, 0835 GMT, 10 July 1962. (NASA)

The day prior to launch, the United States detonated a 1.45 megaton thermonuclear warhead at an altitude of 248 miles (400 kilometers), near Johnston Island in the Pacific Ocean. (Operation Dominic-Fishbowl Starfish Prime). Between 21 October 1961 and 1 November 1962, the Soviet Union detonated five nuclear warheads in space (Project K), at altitudes ranging from 59 to 300 kilometers (37–186 miles) over a test range in Khazakhstan. High energy electrons from these tests were trapped in the Earth's radiation belts. This damaged the satellite's circuitry and it went out of service in December 1962. ¹

Engineers were able to work around the damage and restore service by January 1963, but Telstar 1 failed permanently 21 February 1963.

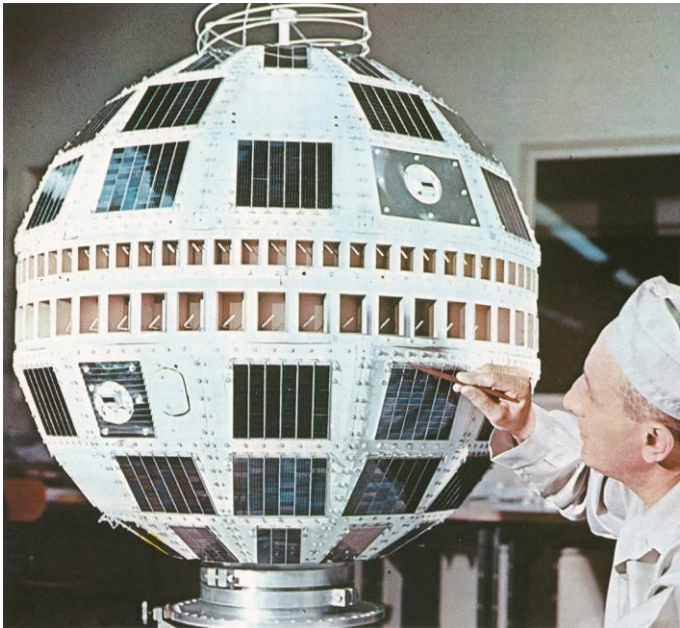
Telstar is still in Earth orbit.

¹ Thanks to regular TDiA reader Steve Johnson for this information.

© 2019, Bryan R. Swopes

Read this entire article at:

<https://www.thisdayinaviation.com/2025/07/10/>



Telstar 1 communications relay satellite. (Bell Laboratories)

Donations for the Solar Charging Station

Hello Fellow RC Propbusters,

We have had many requests to donate to the club in support of the Solar Charging Station. Here is the process:

Please donate via PayPal to: rcpropbusters191@gmail.com

In the Comments section, please write "Donation for Solar Charging Station"

This address may show up in your PayPal account as RC Propbusters INC. This is the same address.

If available to you as an option, please check the "Friends and Family" box so we can avoid unnecessary PayPal fees. For some reason, this option is not available to many, including myself.

Ed Deming

President - RC Propbusters AMA Club 191

RC Propbusters of Salem CT

Our club was founded in the Waterford/ New London area back just prior to WW II around 1940. 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

www.rcpropbusters.com

Salem, CT

RC Propbusters Stuart Gadbois Memorial Field

Neighborhood Fun Fly



2026 August 8nd (9rd rain date) - 9am - 5pm
No Equipment or Experience Necessary

www.amadistrict-i.org



www.modelaircraft.org



- Meet your local radio control club and give RC flight a try at the RC Propbusters Neighborhood Fun Fly

- Experience the joys of radio controlled flight in a safe, fun, and worry free atmosphere

- Simulator and several instructors on hand, no equipment or experience necessary

- 3D and heli demo presented by our expert pilots

- Hotdogs & Burgers served



One of the best flying fields in the North-East

For details see: www.rcpropbusters.com

Academy of Model Aeronautics Chartered Club #191



- Contest Director:
Steve Pickering - pickersa@gmail.com
- Club Contact:
Ed Deming - edwardd707@aol.com

Directions



Propbusters Club FunFly / Potluck Picnic – Sep 12th. Fly whatever you want. Bring some food to share. Club will supply soda and water.

This is the Mayan god of corn. Behave respectfully at our flying field!



https://www.tribstar.com/news/lifestyles/a-maize-ing-history-exhibit-engages-teaches-consumers-about-corn/article_087c8048-45c7-5ed5-9e5f-3259d98ce810.html

Practice, Practice, Practice

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](#).

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!

A dark blue banner for the TRUST (The Recreational UAS Safety Test) program. On the left, the word "TRUST" is in large white letters with a drone icon above the "U", and "The Recreational UAS Safety Test" is written below it. A yellow button with the text "TAKE THE TEST" is positioned below the text. On the right, there is a circular seal for the AMA (Academy of Model Aeronautics) with the text "YOUR PASSION. YOUR HOBBY. AMA. ONE COMMUNITY." around the perimeter.

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).

r/interesting•2mo ago
This_Proof_5153

A Young Bar-tailed Godwit Just Completed the Longest Nonstop Flight Ever Recorded

A five-month-old bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) completed one of the longest nonstop flights ever recorded for a bird. It traveled from Alaska to Tasmania, Australia, covering roughly 11,000–13,000 km (about 7,000–8,100 miles) in around 10–11 days.

This extraordinary migration took place entirely over the Pacific Ocean, with no opportunity to land. The bird was tracked using a satellite tag, allowing researchers to confirm its nonstop journey and route with precision.

Before migration, bar-tailed godwits undergo major physiological changes. They build up large fat reserves—nearly half their body weight to serve as fuel for the journey. At the same time, some internal organs, including parts of the digestive system, shrink temporarily to reduce weight and conserve energy.

Unlike seabirds that often glide, this godwit maintained continuous flapping flight throughout the journey, enduring changing winds and weather conditions across the open ocean.

Researchers from shorebird tracking programs in New Zealand and Alaska have noted that findings like this are reshaping scientific understanding of migratory endurance. The species' navigation ability, stamina, and energy efficiency remain among the most extreme known in the animal kingdom.



Read more about long nonstop flights at:

https://www.reddit.com/r/interesting/comments/1tds42k/a_young_bartailed_godwit_just_completed_the/

Tips & Tricks

Relatively home-made and inexpensive contraption for balancing model airplanes.

Where it is located on your model aircraft is one of the most important factors in determining how



stuck in a 2 x 4.

well it flies. It is also one of the most difficult parameters to measure as anyone will attest who has tried to balance a low wing monoplane on a pair of pencils

If you want to know where the C.G. is located on almost any configuration of model plane accurately, and I mean within a sixteenth of an inch, make this device. I've been using it for many years on everything from a 1/2A two channel to a 26 pound 1/4 scale Tiger Moth. It works every time, is fairly simple to use, and it's accurate. It can be made of almost anything kicking around the workshop, a piece of 1 x 2 (or 2 x 2) wood about a foot long; a piece of 1/4 or 3/8 dowel also about a foot long; some flexible but strong rope about 1/8" in diameter; a pulley you can hook up to the ceiling (preferably over a bench where your plane can sit), and a little plumb bob.

Read all about it at:

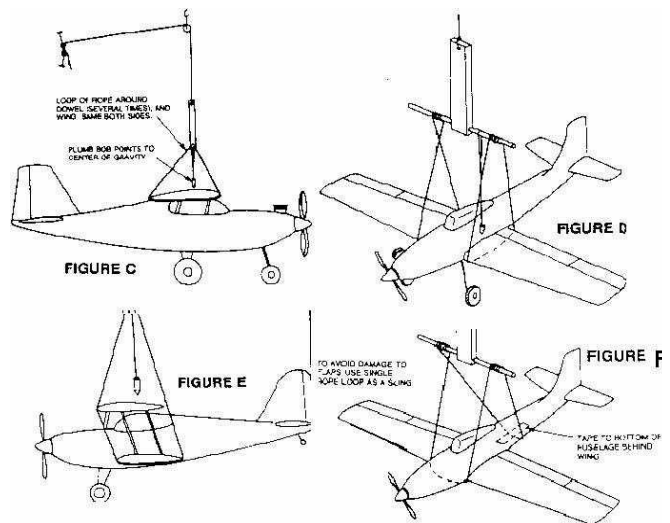
<http://www.theampeer.org/cg/cg.html>

Fore and Aft Balance: Initial Safe Center of Gravity (ISCG)

By Ken Myers, November 2011, Updated: January 201

<http://www.theampeer.org/cg/vanessa-rig.jpg>

<http://www.theampeer.org/>



<http://www.rcuniverse.com/forum/tips-techniques-180/708060-vanessa-c-g-rig-how.html>

http://images.rcuniverse.com/forum/upfiles/51202/72138_31764.jpg

The House of Balsa Dust

Vanessa CG Machine

Note: The 'Vanessa CG Machine' was I believe designed by the late Jim Archer, a modeler in the truest sense of the word "amateur", one who loves the hobby. It is offered here in memoriam to Jim so that others may benefit from his contributions to aeromodeling.

<http://home.mindspring.com/~the-plumber/VanessaCGMachine.htm>

Balancing Airplanes the Easy Way

Air Age Media

Nov 9, 2017

MAN editor Gerry Yarrish shows a easy and quick way to balance your RC airplane so you can fly it safely.

AI-generated video summary

Quality and accuracy may vary.

Jerry Heiress from Model Airplane News explains a simple method for finding the correct center of gravity for rc aircraft using only paper and a marker. Ensuring a plane is not too tail-heavy or nose-heavy prevents crashes and ensures responsive flight control.



Watch this video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OfDKdmcx1-E>

2026 Propbusters Electric FunFly & Swap Meet

Photo credits: Jim Holzworth

Contest (Event) Director Steve Pickering reports that approximately 50 people attended our FunFly. There were 25 participant pilots and sellers. Attendance and participation was among the best ever.



Lots of aircraft and paraphernalia to swap and purchase.



Steve Pickering greets pilots and guests at the 2026 Electric FunFly and Swap Meet.



Swap Meet was quite a success! Tom Vernon considers engines while Ed Deming watches flying overhead.



Ned Bassett lands his Cub on a windy day.



Waleed Jailil brings his jet in for a landing.

Model of the Month

Chris Osborne showed us his Knight Flyer. He designed and built it in college. It's basically a SuperStick style plane, but it's his own design. Chris did the airfoil for it as well. It's based off of a NACA airfoil. It used to run with a Sato 91 engine. Chris is converting it over to electric.

Ask Chris about his Knight Flyer.



Minutes of the July 21st 2026 RC Propbusters Meeting

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

In the menu of our www.rcpropbusters.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.
