



The Airmasters RC Flash

Newsletter of the Airmasters Radio Control Club

10025 WW Ranch Rd
Sebastian, Florida 32978
2026 Issue: 3



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President: Leo de Cardenas
Vice-President: Conway Bolt
Treasurer: Catherine Bonin
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Tony Finazzo
Bret Givens
Michael Hobbs
Frank Manion
Ed Rowe III

Safety Coordinator and Webmaster:

Michael Cohen

Flight Instruction:

See Instruction section
/Inquire at field

Membership Chair:

Rob Stevens

Field Marshal:

Bret Givens

Newsletter Editor:

Michael Hobbs
mdhobbs@bellsouth.net

President's Quarterly Update



Hello Airmasters Members!

Airmasters Radio Control Club continues to grow and thrive because of the dedication, leadership, and generosity of our volunteers. Our recent events have shown increasing participation, greater enjoyment of our field and hobby, and the value of creating an open and welcoming place for everyone. As our membership grows, volunteer service and community outreach remain critically important to sustaining the strength, spirit, and future of our club.

Community Outreach and Recent Events

Most recently, our club supported the Full Sail University Tech Fest event, demonstrating both our hobby and our commitment to the local community. Conway Bolt led and coordinated the effort with help from Greg Triolo, Stu Katz, Rob Stevens, and Steve Bowman. We were invited to participate through outreach from Beth Powell, Director of Parks and Recreation.

The event reached a broad range of students and included informational handouts, flight simulators, UMX drones for student flight sessions, UMX airplane flying, and a static display of various aircraft. A big thank you goes to Conway and the entire team for making this event a great success and for representing Airmasters so well in the community.

Volunteers and Future Leadership

Looking ahead, I want to stress how essential volunteers are to the long-term success of our club. Important responsibilities and leadership roles depend on members stepping forward. We are actively looking for new members to take over field mowing responsibilities in the new year, and upcoming elections for officers and board members will provide additional opportunities to serve.

Continued on the next page...



Charter Club 2814

Next Club Meeting

Saturday July 11, 2026, at 9:00 am

President's Quarterly Update (con't.)

Our club is strongest when new leaders emerge from within our growing membership. If you have leadership skills, a willingness to help, or simply a passion for the hobby, please consider volunteering for a board position, becoming an elected officer, or supporting one of the many roles that keep our club operating smoothly.

New Pilot Training

Steve Bowman has done an excellent job advancing the new pilot training program supported by the AMA. This program helps encourage younger radio control pilots to discover the enjoyment, learning, and sense of accomplishment that come from participating in our hobby. If you know someone interested in learning about radio control airplanes, please reach out to Steve and let him know how you can help support this important effort.

Thank you to every member who contributes time, energy, and enthusiasm to Airmasters Radio Control Club. Your commitment helps make our club a welcoming, active, and enjoyable place to gather, fly, learn, and share our hobby with others.

Leo de Cardenas
President



Vice-President & Event Coordinator's Corner

Greetings, fellow Airmasters!

What a fantastic showing for Airmasters RC at the Full Sail University Tech Fest! This event put our club directly in front of several hundred 6th through 12th graders, many of whom are already leaning toward technical and computer studies as they map out their futures. If there's a demographic, we want discovering RC aviation, it's exactly this one — curious, tech-minded young people who haven't found us yet.

The club set up two RealFlight simulators and three indoor drones, giving kids genuine hands-on stick time — for many, their very first taste of flight control. Rob also ran a UMX demonstration that drew a steady crowd, and we rounded things out with several planes on static display along with club handouts for anyone wanting to learn more or get involved.



It's also worth noting that our invitation to this event came directly from Indian River County Parks and Recreation — the very organization that serves as our landlord at the field. Being asked to participate in something like this speaks volumes about the relationship we've built with the County over the years. That rapport doesn't happen by accident; it's the product of years of being good tenants, good neighbors, and good stewards of the facility they've entrusted to us. Showing up and representing well at events like this only strengthens that partnership.

This is precisely the kind of outreach our club needs to keep doing. It plants seeds for the next generation of pilots and builders, it shows our community that Airmasters is an active, positive presence beyond the flying field, and frankly, it's good for the long-term health of our hobby. Every kid who walks away having flown a simulator or watched a UMX plane carve through the air is a future member, advocate, or at minimum, someone who now understands what we do and why we love it.

Events like this take a team, and this one delivered. Thank you to everyone who came out and represented Airmasters so well. A big thank-you to the volunteers who made this happen: Greg Triolo, Stuart Katz, Steve Bowman, and Rob Stevens all gave their time to staff the booth and engage with students throughout the day.

Looking ahead, we've got a busy back half of the year on the calendar, including our swap meet, the pattern contest, and a night fly. As always, keep an eye on the club website for dates, details, and updates as they're finalized.

Happy Landings!



Conway Bolt
Vice President

Safety Coordinator Report

Hello everyone. Since we continue to get lots of new members, and the variety of aircraft grows, I would like to continue to point out some key items, starting with yielding to other aircraft.

Members are expected to use common sense and courtesy before taking off when other aircraft are flying. Trying to mix dissimilar aircraft or styles of flying may cause unsafe conflicts. For example, if combat is taking place, it would be unwise for a student pilot to be in the air. Good judgment should be used if there are people flying 3D, high-speed racing planes or jets, micro planes, very slow aircraft trainers, helicopters, etc. The question to ask is, "Will my airplane or style of flying cause conflict with other aircraft in the air: "If so it would be best to wait until conditions change or to ask flight-line pilots if it's okay to take off.

The second reminder is what you will find in **Field Safety Rules Section, V. Flight Restrictions:**

Flying over the pits or the spectator and parking areas is forbidden.

A maximum of five (5) aircraft are allowed in the air at one time. Exceptions may be made (at the discretion of the Safety Coordinator) for special occasions.

Other than takeoff and landing, all maneuvers for aircraft, helicopters, and drones, including low passes, aerobatics, 3D flying, hovering, etc. shall be performed no closer than the centerline of the runway. When over the runway, turns must be made away from the flight line

FYI, two pictures have been added under [The Flying Field](#) section of the website. One showing the aerobatic flying region noted above and the other is the FRIA zone. Please check them out.

Finally, remember: Right rudder on your takeoff roll, especially flying right to left!

Fire Station Move

If you have not been to the field for a few weeks, you may not be aware that the fire station at the entrance to the park is no longer there. It is important now more than ever to call 911 if there is an emergency and provide the following information to the dispatcher:

In an emergency:

Call 911

Tell the dispatcher you are at:

10025 WW Ranch Road Sebastian Florida 32958

Then, Airmasters RC Club

Defibrillator Fully Funded and On Order!

In the previous newsletter we announced that the Club Officers and Board of Directors unanimously approved funding the remaining \$523 to complete the goal for the defibrillator out of club funds in support of the safety of all Airmasters RC Club members and visitors!! A new *ZOLL AED Plus W/ Real CPR Help Complete AED Package* has been selected and is on order with delivery expected in the next few weeks.

Mike Cohen
Safety Coordinator



ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS

NATIONAL MODEL AIRCRAFT SAFETY

CODE

Effective January 1, 2018

A model aircraft is a non-human-carrying device capable of sustained flight within visual line of sight (VLOS) of the pilot or spotter(s). It may not exceed limitations of this code and is intended exclusively for sport, recreation, personal, education, and/or competition. All model flights must be conducted in accordance with this safety code and related AMA guidelines, any additional rules specific to the flying site, as well as all applicable laws and regulations.

AS AN AMA MEMBER I AGREE:

- I will not fly a model aircraft in a careless or reckless manner.
- I will not interfere with and will yield the right of way to all human-carrying aircraft using AMA's See and Avoid Guidance and a spotter when appropriate.
- I will not operate any model aircraft while I am under the influence of alcohol or any drug that could adversely affect my ability to safely control the model.
- I will avoid flying directly over unprotected people, moving vehicles, and occupied structures.
- I will fly Free Flight (FF) and Control Line (CL) models in compliance with AMA's safety programming.
- I will maintain visual contact of an RC model aircraft without enhancement other than corrective lenses prescribed to me. When using an advanced flight system, such as an autopilot, or flying First-Person View (FPV), I will comply with AMA's Advanced Flight System programming.
- I will only fly models weighing more than 55 pounds, including fuel, if certified through AMA's Large Model Airplane Program.
- I will only fly a turbine-powered model aircraft in compliance with AMA's Gas Turbine Program.
- I will not fly a powered model outdoors closer than 25 feet to any individual, except for myself or my helper(s) located at the flightline, unless I am taking off and landing, or as otherwise provided in AMA's Competition Regulation.
- I will use an established safety line to separate all model aircraft operations from spectators and bystanders.

Flight Instruction

June has seen a significant surge in training volume primarily driven by the onset of summer and youth academic breaks. The flight school integrated five new students into active curriculum tracks this month. A couple of our new students are utilizing the **Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) Introductory Pilot Program**, which allows non-members to log hands-on, instructor-supervised flight hours prior to formal membership enrollment.

The training department integrated five new students into the active curriculum this month:

- **Vanessa** – Teenage Student (AMA Introductory Program)
- **Hadley** – Teenage Student (AMA Introductory Program)
- **Liam** – Youth Student (New Club Member)
- **Tony** – Adult Student (New Club Member)
- **Daniel** – Youth Student (New Club Member)

To streamline instructional throughput and maintain safety margins during this period, we have formalized two critical training documents:

1. **The Student Training Checklist** (Standardizes progressive lesson milestones).
2. **The Solo Check** (The final practical evaluation required for independent flight privileges). This also acts as a safety check for new members who are already experienced Pilots.

Operational Notice: Hard copies of both the Student Training Checklist and the Solo Check forms are now deployed and accessible in the main club facility, located prominently on top of the parts cabinets. All instructors are asked to utilize these forms for training elements.

Thanks to all the instructors and others that help members, all the time. We don't always see this directly, but I know it occurs. Example: Mike Cohen provided some introductory training for a neighbors' son. Sorry didn't get his name.

Our local RC community isn't just flying through the summer--they are building the future of aviation, one smooth landing at a time.

Airmasters RC Instructors



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Ed Rowe III
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Ray Jones
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Tim Persky
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Steve Bowman
Chief Flight Instructor
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Membership

Welcome new Airmasters Members!

This year we have many new members so please introduce yourself and make them welcome to the Airmasters R/C club.

In 2026, only members with renewed memberships and current AMA can fly or drive RC cars at the field. As of **June 29, 2026**, we have **166 active paid members** and 33 members from 2025 who have not renewed their membership. Currently all active members are up to date with their AMA membership. Thank you!

We have added a “manual application” form in addition to the “fillable pdf application” form on the Airmasters website. Several people have printed a blank fillable form and have handwritten in their information. While this method works, folks miss the drop-down boxes which are there to select more details needed for the application. The manual application has blanks to hand write this information in.

To make the process as efficient as possible please take advantage of the online fillable PDF document. The form is simple and easy to fill out. Once you complete the form simply select the down arrow in the upper right of the form to save the file to your computer. It can then be easily attached to an email to submit. Please note the updated form now includes AMA expiration date as well as a revision to the instructions on the website. We have moved the Zelle payee address to the Airmasters email (**airmasters22@gmail.com**). Please make sure that you correctly spell the payee as noted above (if you leave out the “s” Zelle will wait for verification and not go through).

Many thanks to **Gary Armstong** who has created a new membership database application which has really helped the club with the process of tracking membership. When you see Gary, please thank him as it has been a ton of work for him to create.

A few notes on membership.

1. Annual dues are effective January 1 for each new year.
2. Details on the due structure as well as new and renewal applications are at: <https://airmastersrc.org/join/>
3. Please write clearly and use either the online fillable PDF or download the manual printable version. We need paper backup for our membership roster so even if you have been a member for years with the same information, please submit a paper or email the pdf for renewals.
4. Please try to use the Zelle online payment if possible (details at the above link). Otherwise, mail in your check and form if you are unable to send the application in electronically.
5. AMA membership is required, and the renewal date is based on when you paid so it is up to you to ensure your AMA membership is valid. The AMA will reach out via email when your membership is close to being expired.
6. All club correspondence is through email so make sure we have your current email address on file. This is another great reason to use the online form!
7. Please **do not** attempt to hand over your application and or dues to a club officer or BoD member. This only complicates the process for us and may result in a delay of processing.
8. Renewal applications and payment (check or cash) will still be accepted at the monthly meetings if you are not interested in submitting with the computer or US Mail.
9. Please note that the August 1 discount membership is for **new members** or past members who have not renewed for 1 year (subject to a new initiation fee).

See the new Club informational hand out on the next page and as always, if you have any questions, please contact me at, rrstevens@gmail.com

Rob Stevens
Membership



Membership (con't.)

Airmasters Radio Control Club

Fly • Learn • Build • Connect



Welcome to the Airmasters Radio Control Club, a friendly community of aviation enthusiasts who enjoy flying radio-controlled aircraft and sharing the hobby with others. We are proud to be an AMA-sanctioned club affiliated with the Academy of Model Aeronautics, the national organization promoting safe and responsible model aviation. Visitors and new members are always welcome!

What We Do

- Fly RC airplanes of many types and sizes
- Build and maintain model aircraft
- Help new pilots learn to fly safely
- Host club events and community activities
- RC car racing on a clay banked track



Enjoy an outdoor hobby with fellow enthusiasts

New Pilot Training

Interested in learning to fly? Our instructors provide guidance and hands-on training for beginners.

Flying Field Location

10025 WW Ranch Rd. Sebastian, FL 32958

Located within North County Park.

From CR-512 turn north onto WW Ranch Road and drive past the North County Pool about ½ mile.



When We Fly

Our hours are 1/2 hour after sunrise, 1/2 hour before sunset. Most flying takes place in the mornings when the winds are lighter, although members also fly in the afternoons.

Learn More

Website: <https://airmastersrc.org>

Email: airmastersrc22@gmail.com



Scan for website and club information



Field Marshal News

Improvements just keep on coming!
Thank You to everyone that pitch in to get all of these projects done!!

Guys and gals,

Summer is here! Many members have already pitched in completing many maintenance and improvement initiatives. We have to keep up with our maintenance in 2026 to keep our facility in tip-top shape.

There are so many people contributing their time and talent on so many projects. Thank you all very much! Your help is appreciated and we have a pretty good list of projects for 2026 to tackle together after the heat of the summer.

✅ UPDATE ON RUNWAY CARE

Thanks to Airmasters RC team members Ray Jones, Tim Persky, Ed Rowe, Greg Triolo, Tom Young, Frank Manion, Dave Massey, Mike Hobbs and John Farrington. With everyone's help, the field was seeded and fertilized June 18th. Volunteers like this behind the scenes help keep this place one of the best RC airfields in Florida.

Progress Assessment and Mowing Strategy July 2nd...

After only two weeks since the club reseeded the runway, the Bahia grass seed is beginning to germinate. The germination process is affected by soil moisture and consequently it will proceed more quickly in those areas where the seed was buried deeper in the soil and where there is existing grass to shade it. Germination will be slower where seed is on the soil surface and in bare spots with no grass cover. The seed that has not yet germinated is still viable, and we expect to see more seedlings emerge over the next four weeks. Germination is a slow, gradual process and our field is progressing on schedule.

While Ed and I met with Tom Young on July 2nd, we came up with the following mowing strategy to assure success:

- The runway will be cut at 2.5 inches height beginning July 2nd (it reached 3 inches high as planned and prior to reseeding the cut height was 1.25 inches). The clippings will not be collected (i.e., no brushing).
- The increased height and grass clippings will provide shade to the soil which will improve germination of the remaining seed. After four more weeks, the seedlings will have established roots and narrow, short leaves. They will be able to tolerate cutting and we will begin to lower the height of cut. The plan is to reduce the height of cut by 0.25 inch/week, which means that the last week of July the grass will be cut at 2.25 inches and by the last week of August the cutting height should be back to our normal maintenance height of 1.25 inches.

Overall, the field is looking better already, thanks to the starter fertilizer which is helping the existing grass to fill in the weak areas. Please bear with us as this maintenance is necessary to care for our runway and make our site better for everyone.



Continued on the next page...

Bret Givens
Field Marshal



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Field Marshal News (con't.)

Securing the Gate, Barrier and Electric Fence at the Entrance

We have many new members and everyone is welcome. I just want to take a minute to clarify what we need to do when we are the first one to arrive or last one to leave the airfield.

Arriving

You should find the gate locked, an orange barrier in the middle of the road and the electric fence cable across the entrance road completing the electric circuit. The orange barrier alerts the member arriving that the electric cable is still connected.

- Unlock the gate. Close the lock and rotate the wheels of the lock so the combination is no longer present. This prevents people that are not members from learning the combination. Push the gate fully open and hook the chain around the post to keep the gate open and prevent blocking the road or so the gate does not hit vehicles coming in or out.
- Move the orange barrier out of the center of the entrance and place it in the grass on the left (south) side of the entrance road.
- Go to the right (north) side of the entrance road, grasp the insulated handle and unhook the electric fence cable from the right side. Lay the cable on the grass on the left (south) side of the road.
- Enjoy the flying and fellowship!



Departing

- Think, did I remember to lock the shed? Yep! Great! Pull through the gate and park.
- Reconnect the electric fence cable.
- Place the orange barrier in the middle of the road on the east side of the electric fence cable... near but not touching it.
- Close and lock the gate being sure to rotate the lock wheels away from the combination.
- See you soon and thank you for properly securing the airfield.



Finally, but not least, a big thank you to Tim Persky for cutting the tall grass again!

Thank you, all our generous members, that contribute their time, knowledge and resources to help keep our Club well maintained and ready for enjoyment by all of our members.

Until next time, keep the planes in the air and your feet on the ground!

Bret Givens
Field Marshal

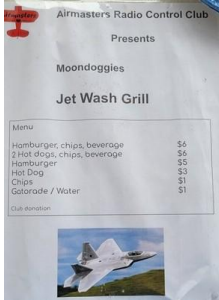


Show and Tell, Tips and Techniques from the Members

This section is for members to share their projects, lessons they have learned or techniques they have developed with other members. If you have a tip or technique you would like to share, please send your input to the editor: mdhobbs@bellsouth.net

Airmasters RC Club Open Fun Fly

There was a great turnout for our May 2026 Open Fun Fly. Great friends, guests and flying.



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Airmasters RC Club Members and Guests Enjoying July 4th, 2026



Awesome Red, White and Blue Streamers



Show and Tell, Tips and Techniques from the Members

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Airmasters RC Member Exchange

To help our club members connect and find new homes for aircraft-related gear, we are pleased to introduce the Airmasters RC Member Exchange. Moving forward, a monthly list of available items will be distributed to all members via email. Please find the current list of available items attached.

If you have RC aircraft, engines, radios, batteries, chargers, tools, building supplies, or accessories you would like to sell, trade, or give away, we invite you to share them with the club. To include an item in the next distribution, please send the following information to Mike D'Amico at michael.damico56@yahoo.com by July 30, 2026:

- Item description
- Asking price (if applicable)
- Photos
- Your name
- Preferred contact information (phone and/or email)

Please note that this service is provided as a convenience for Airmasters members only. All transactions are strictly between the buyer and seller. The club does not inspect, guarantee, or assume responsibility for the condition, pricing, or sale of any item.

Thank you for supporting your fellow members and helping keep great RC equipment in the air!
Mike D'Amico



High Flight

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth and danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings; Sunward I've climbed and joined the tumbling mirth of sun-split clouds, — and done a hundred things you have not dreamed of — wheeled and soared and swung high in the sunlit silence.

Hov'ring there, I've chased the shouting wind along and flung my eager craft through footless halls of air.

Up, up the long, delirious burning blue I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace where never lark, or ever eagle flew.

And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod the high untrespassed sanctity of space, put out my hand, and touched the face of God.

— John Gillespie Magee, Jr

Highlights:

- Airmasters RC Club and AMA memberships current to fly, drive and vote.
- Airmasters RC membership card and AMA card with you when you are flying or driving at the field.
- Take and pass the free, The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST)
- Register with the FAA and mark your aircraft
- Experienced, new, family and junior members are the fun and future of our Club
- Leave only footprints
- And, last one out, please fasten the hog wire cable, place the orange barrier in front of the cable between the gate and the cable. and lock the chain on the gate.



2026 events:

- Swap meet January 3, 2026 **Great Turn-Out!!**
- Club Officers and Board Members meeting January 3, 2026 @ 9:00 am. **Collaborative!**
- Annual Picnic *and Fun Fly* – March 21, 2026 **Fun Time!!**
- Open Fun Fly – May 30, 2026 **Good times with members and guests!!**
- Swap meet - July 18, 2026
- Pattern Practice and Contest - September 25th thru 27th. The field will be closed to everyone but contestants from 10:00 AM on Friday, September 25th thru Sunday the 27th until 3:00 PM
- Night Fly – December 19, 2026

Airmasters RC
The Members Make the Club!