

April 2026

THE TALON



From the President

Spring is finally here!!

If you have made it to a meeting recently, you know there is a lot of great activity going on with our club. April is looking to be an especially busy month with work to be done at our current Kemman Road field as well as development of our new site. Mark Glawe has set April 18th as an "all hands" day at Kemman Rd with a rain date of April 25th. Please watch your e-mail for further details.

Work to be done includes:

- **At the Kemman Rd field:**

- Getting the mowers out of winter storage
- Checking and if needed, painting the tables
- Setting up the Toro
- General clean up

- **At our new flying site:**

- cleaning out, emptying, leveling and painting of the conex
- Mike Von Bergen will be preparing the new field and planting the grass seed. (which by the way has already been delivered)
- Organizing and maintaining equipment in the conex.
- Once the grass is established enough, we'll also need to install barrier fencing, our gate, our sign board and the new canopy.

This group has a great track record of folks pitching in to get things done. Thanks for all you do!!

Also, a quick "shout out" to the members who came out to help with a very successful "Kids and College" program at McHenry County College! Thank you **Ed Pate, Mark Glawe, Eric Lanzl, Ken Losch, Jim Steward, Bill Mielke, Mike Loser** and our Education Chairman **Lynn Garnand**. You are helping to grow our membership!

Also, John Fisher our Assistant District VP is hoping to make it to our April meeting - I hope to see you there too!

Larry Erbach, President

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Committee Chairmen

Proficiency & Instruction

Bill Mielke

Events & Promotion

Mike Missak

Safety

Jim Steward

Education & Outreach

Lynn Garnand

Field Maintenance

Mark Glawe

From the Vice President

Happy Spring!!

70 degrees one day, 45 the next. But it does make me feel like we'll be flying soon. Things are starting to happen at the new field. The grass seed and fertilizer were delivered and are in the Conex. We should have the new larger canopy in the next couple of weeks as well. The grass will get planted as soon as the weather is right. Then it's up to mother nature to get it established ASAP. We'll have a better idea as to when we can start putting up the canopy and fencing once the grass starts growing. It'll be easier to mow if we wait a little bit so we don't have to mow around things at first. I'm sure it will all be worth the wait when the field is completed.

I hope everyone is getting their planes and helicopters ready for the season. Remember RC flying is hours of relaxing, sprinkled with moments of sheer terror.

I'll see you on the 15th!

Ken Losch, Vice President

New field update!



Preparation for developing our new field has begun!

Last November we had the conex moved to the new site and on March 26th, we received the delivery of the seed and fertilizer for our new field!

Once conditions are right (probably sometime in mid April), Mike Von Bergen will finish preparing the ground and plant the seed.

Then it will be up to Mother Nature to water it and us to mow it until it is established.

The result of a great building season!



Mark B. has finished work on his modified Bud Nosen 101" and it looks fantastic! Modifications include significantly larger control surfaces, "3-way" flap & aileron system (full span ailerons, aileron/flaps or "crow"), two piece wing, Xtreme Flight main gear and tail wheel, premium electronics including dual receivers, dual lion batteries for full redundancy and HV high torque servos. Powered by a DA70 with a can muffler set up. Can't wait to see this addition to Mark's Big Stick collection in the air!



"Kids and College" Spring Break '26



27 students had the opportunity to learn about the world of model aviation while building and flying a discovery drone at McHenry County College's "Kids and College" Spring Break program!

Thank you to the club members who are donating the time and energy to make these classes possible!



Education Program Schedule

Here is the schedule for our drone and model aviation classes through June. These classes are a lot of fun and the enthusiasm of the students makes it fun to participate as a coach / instructor.

Please reach out directly to Lynn Garnand if you are able to help with this programs!

Saturday April 11th - 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM - Fox Lake

Lakefront Park Recreation Center - 10 Riverview Ave, Fox Lake

Sunday April 19th - 1:00 to 4:00 PM - Crystal Lake

Grand Oaks Recreation Center - 1401 IL 176, Crystal Lake

Sunday May 3rd - 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM - Fox Lake

Lakefront Park Recreation Center - 10 Riverview Ave, Fox Lake

Saturday June 13th - 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM - Fox Lake

Lakefront Park Recreation Center - 10 Riverview Ave, Fox Lake

"Kids and College" Summer Program

McHenry County College - Crystal Lake

"Introduction to Model Aviation" - 3 day course

Monday June 15th through Wednesday June 17th

Session 1: 9:00 AM to Noon

Session 2: 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Monday June 29th through Wednesday July 1st

Session 1: 9:00 AM to Noon

Session 2: 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Upcoming Events!

Wednesday, April 15th - 7:00 PM

CHAIN O LAKES EAGLES MONTHLY MEETING

Rusty Nail - 4520 Ringwood Rd - Ringwood, IL

Saturday April 18th - "All Hands" Day.

Getting the equipment out and ready for the flying season
at our Kemman Road Flying Field.

Watch your e-mail for specific time.

Saturday May 23rd

Larry DiRubo Memorial Electric Float Fly

Petersen Park Waterfront - McHenry, IL

\$10 Landing Fee - 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Saturday June 20th

Pat Ryder Memorial R/C Fun Fly

Hosted by the Rock River Aero Modelers

RRAMS Flying Field 6806 County Hwy J - Beloit, WI

\$15 landing fee - 8AM - 4 PM

Upcoming Events!



Larry DiRubbo Memorial Electric Float Fly

Saturday May 23, 2026

8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

\$10 Landing Fee

Petersen Park Waterfront

4300 Petersen Park Road - McHenry, IL

AMA Sanctioned Event!

Open to all current AMA Members!

Raffle for registered Pilots!

Recovery boat on site!

Spectators Welcome!!



Upcoming Events!



The Rock River Aero Modelers

PAT RYDER



MEMORIAL R/C FUN FLY

JUNE 20TH 2026 8AM - 4PM

**Come join us for a fun day of flying and
pay tribute to Pat Ryder and all our club members
who have passed**

Open fun flying for any type of RC Aircraft*

Current AMA License is required

\$15 Landing fee

Food and drinks will be available

Electricity on site

**The RRAMS Flying Field
6806 County Highway J Beloit, WI 53115**

For information visit www.rrams.net

* sorry no turbines please

Need Directions?



Scan me



Treasurer's Report (Drew Durik)

As of March 31st, we have 39 adult members, 4 junior members and 2 youth members for a total of 45 members on our roster who's 2026 dues have been paid.

Expenses from March 1st through March 31st = \$4,597.50

- o \$4,349.85 was for grass seed and fertilizer for our new Von Bergen field
- o \$175.76 was for grease for the Jacobsen Reel Mower
- o \$55.09 was for costs associated with advertising (brochures)
- o \$16.80 was for our Google accounts

Income from March 1st through March 31st = \$3,196.89

- o \$3,000.00 was received from the Field Development Assessment
- o \$125.00 was received from club dues
- o \$16.89 was received from the March 8th drone class
- o \$55.00 was received from our March 18th 50/50.

During our February 18th meeting, a unanimous vote was received to implement a one-time assessment of \$150.00 to fund the development of the new Von Bergen field. All adult voting members of the COL Eagles are required to pay the \$150.00 assessment. The assessment may be paid by cash or check at our April 15th club meeting or a check may be mailed to:

COL Eagles RC Club
C/O Drew Durik
7257 Orchard Valley Dr
Bull Valley IL 60050-6469

Please make checks payable to COL Eagles RC Club

The assessment payment must be received on or before our April 15, 2026 meeting.

As agreed upon in our August 2025 meeting, I will no longer be providing financial details in the monthly Talon. If you would like a detailed report, please e-mail me at drew.durik@gmail.com and I will provide a copy of the report.

Drew Durik, Treasurer

SECRETARY'S REPORT—Mark Beckman

The March meeting was held at The Rusty Nail Saloon on March 18th 2026. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM with the board present and was led by Larry Erbach. There were 23 members and 1 guest in attendance.

- The Secretary's report was approved.
- The Treasurer's report was approved.
- Drew Durik presented the treasury report and reported the club currently has 45 members.

Committee Updates - Ken Losch: Instruction

- Ken presented a T-28 RTF which was donated by Mike at Gator RC during Ken and Larry's visit to Gator.

Committee Updates - Larry Erbach: Events/Promotion

- Larry discussed the upcoming "Kids & College Program" at MCC. He noted the Wednesday morning class is full and asked for more instructors to attend.
- Larry reported the spring Float Fly will be on May 23rd.

Maintenance:

- Mark Glawe reported spring clean up at the Kemman road field will be April 18th or April 25th depending on the weather.

Old Business:

- Larry made a motion to approve the revised bylaws that reflect the addition of a \$75.00 initiation fee to new adult members. The motion was approved.
- Larry discussed the new field expense and timeline. Larry made a motion that the board is authorized to purchase materials needed to move forward. The motion was approved.
- Bill Mielke reported there is a conflict with the date of June 20th for the hangar sale. The new date is to be determined.

SECRETARY'S REPORT—Mark Beckman (continued)

New Business:

- Bill Tobin presented a solar power proposal for the new field. Extensive research shows it is a viable alternative to running a line from the Von Bergan barn. Larry made a motion to pursue the solar power route. The motion was accepted.
- Larry and Ken met with Mike Von Bergan to discuss the field development.
 - Mike is planning on planting in mid April at the cost of \$1,200.
 - Mike is fine with the solar power route.
 - Mike approved the installation of an entrance gate.
 - Mike is also interested in the possibility of an RC car track on his property. Bill Mielke will help him with ideas for a track layout.
- Bill Arnos donated a Dauntless ARF airplane to the club as a prize for the raffle at the spring Float Fly.
- The printing resource with Mchenry high school is moving forward. Thanks to Dyllin Dzekian for making this contact.

The 50/50 winner was won by Mike Loser.

Our guest was Matt Drennen from M&D Hobby in Woodstock. He discussed his new product line RAM Products and expressed an interest in stocking items we can use.

The March 18th meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Mark Beckman, Secretary