



SMOKE SIGNALS



Photograph courtesy of Karen Wenk

The Clubhouse at Merrick Golf Club was converted into a Fun Fly zone for mini copters, quad copters and even one vapor, during the April 18, 2013 Meroke meeting.

Our intrepid pilots needed to negotiate a series of hoola hoops set at varying heights, turn around a pole go through another hoop, land on a table then take off and negotiate one final hoop and land inside a hoop set on the Finish table. Club President Allen Berg set the bar high completing the course with his quad copter in :54 seconds. Not to be outdone John Akios maneuvered his mini copter through the obstacle course in an astounding :31 seconds winning the event by a big margin. Robby Wenk braved the course with his vapor. Although Robby did not set any course records he can proudly say that he completed it.

All in all it was a fun event that all who participated or witnessed enjoyed tremendously. I think we all can agree that these are the types of fun events we should consider to continue at our meetings in the future.

Calendar

MAY 2, 2013

Club Meeting - Show and Tell

MAY 16, 2013

Club Meeting

MAY 18, 2013

“Come Fly with Us”

Lufbery Aerodrome

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Please Volunteer...

your help is needed!

MAY 18 & 19, 2013

Cradle of Aviation

“8th Annual Model Expo”

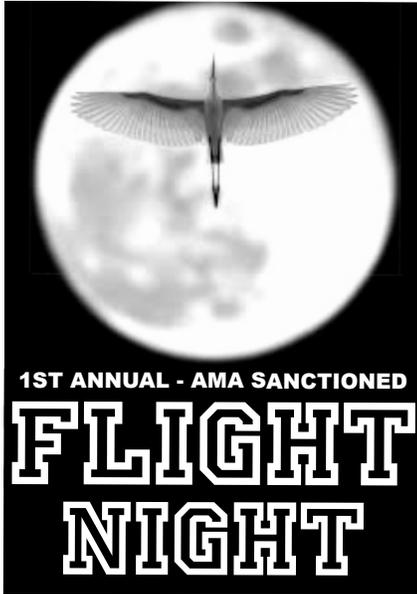
BIRTHDAYS

- May 3 **Sal Richichi**
- May 6 **Henry Ortiz**
- May 6 **Ron Berg**
- May 6 **Tom Cott**
- May 14 **John Fitzpatrick**
- May 14 **Peter Pleines**
- May 22 **Ernest Herzog**
- May 23 **Harvey Schwartz**
- May 31 **Robert Henken**
- May 31 **Dennis Osik**

Send all suggestions to:
newsletter@meroke.com



THE MEROKE RC CLUB - EST. 1963



Did you ever go to a party not knowing what to expect and by the end of the evening you found that you had a great time and were part of something special? Well that is exactly what happened on Saturday Night April 27, 2013. The Meroke RC Club held its first (I will bet not last) AMA sanctioned "FLIGHT NIGHT" under the guidance of club President Allen Berg and AMA event coordinator Russell Rhine.

The weather cooperated and gave us a perfect day for flying. While waiting for the darkness, everyone enjoyed barbecued hot dogs with sauerkraut, hot dog onion sauce, mustard, relish, ketchup or whatever combination they liked. Complimenting the hot dogs were large bowls of coleslaw, potato and macaroni salad graciously supplied by Tom Dutton's mother. Speaking of Tom Dutton, Tom supplied background music all day and night utilizing his trucks sound system and from the music stored on his IPOD, a nice music collection I might add.



Once darkness fell the creativity of our pilots became apparent as you can see in the pictures supplied by Marc Trager our club photographer. There is only one way to put it...THE PLANES LOOKED GREAT!!!

Completing the "FLIGHT NIGHT" was a raffle which was so successful that two first place prizes were awarded.

A special thanks goes out to Katie from Cedar Creek Park for arranging to have the runways cleaned with a sweeper and for lights along the roadway so all who attended could drive home safely.

All in all I had and I think I can say all 50+ who attended had a very special time at the Meroke RC Clubs first "Flight Night".





THE MEROKE RC CLUB - EST. 1963

The Meroke RC club's annual COME FLY WITH US event comes up this month. please try to make yourself available as a volunteer, the club can use your help.



MEROKE RC CLUB

COME, FLY WITH US!!

WHO? Everyone, 10 or older, interested in learning to fly a radio controlled model airplane.

WHERE? Lufbery Aerodrome in Cedar Creek Park,
Seaford, NY

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2013

9 AM – 3PM

RAIN DATE SUNDAY MAY 19, 2013

For more information, please visit our web site a www.meroke.com

or

Contact the Registrar via email at comeflywithus@meroke.com

This came to me from Richard Green and I am passing it along to you. It is worth a look, go to the web page for an extensive look at a remarkable machine, the article was written by Scotty Wilson.

Bugatti - REVE BLEU - the "Blue Dream"



Ettore Bugatti's Type 57 Atlantic and the 100P (EAA Photo)

Ettore Bugatti, the automobile designer behind the Automobiles E. Bugatti nameplate, was famed for his engine and vehicle designs. Yet few realize that the Frenchman also worked on a spectacular twin-engine racing aircraft, intended to compete in the 1939 Deutsch de la Meurthe Cup Race, called the 100P. Designed by Louis de Monge, the low wing monoplane featured two engines, both mounted aft of the pilot (nearly end-to-end), driving twin counter rotating propellers through long drive shafts. To achieve its maximum speed, estimated at nearly 550 miles per hour, it was fitted with two powerful inline eight-cylinder engines each making about 450 horsepower.

Sadly, the plane never took flight. Instead, the one-of-a-kind aircraft spent World War II slowly rotting in a French barn, hidden from the Germans. Restored today, but not in flying condition, Bugatti's original 100P sits in the Airventure Museum in Oshkosh, WI.

Seven decades after the original mostly balsa and hardwood aircraft was locked away, businessman Scotty Wilson is leading a team (including Louis de Monge's great-nephew, Lasislav de Monge) intent on seeing an exact replica of Bugatti's 100P "Blue Dream" take to the sky. And that is where Kickstarter comes into play...

After three years of self-funded work, the team is 90 percent done. However, big obstacles remain in its path (e.g., testing, certification and a transportation dolly). The Bugatti100p team is hoping to raise \$50,000 to push the program forward. If successful, Bugatti's dream could take flight as soon as September.

Here's a direct link to the [Reve Bleu Kickstarter page](#), worthy of a visit.



I was never big on using stands. I've had a few of those Styrofoam things, and I've cut some half-rounds out of a cardboard box or two, but I rarely ever kept one for very long. Then, a few years ago, I bought a plane at an auction that came with a homemade PVC stand. I eventually sold that plane, but the stand was so handy that I held on to it and have been using it regularly ever since.

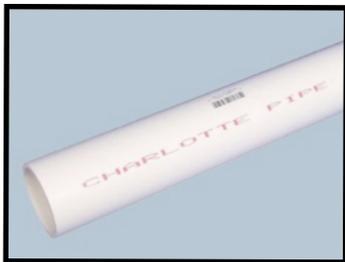
A few years later, I was building a P-38 and decided that a custom PVC stand was just what I needed to help me transport it. With a trip to my local "home improvement store" and about \$10 later, I had all I needed for that stand with lots of spare parts for another. Shortly after that incident, I was building a giant-scale plane that was too big for my little stand, so I made a larger one.

I quickly became a big fan of these PVC stands! It's no wonder really; PVC pipes and joiners are dirt-cheap, extremely light and very easy to work with. And with very few exceptions, you have a lot of leeway when it comes to the exact size of your cuts.

With a little ingenuity, you can make stands for holding your plane while you work on it, for storage, for transporting to and from the field, or you can even make a nice chair to sit on.

So let's take a look at what we have to work with.

TUBING



The first component is tubing. 3/4" is as big as you'll need for most jobs, but 1" could be used for really big stuff. My local home store sells a 10ft length of 3/4" PVC tubing for about \$1.50.

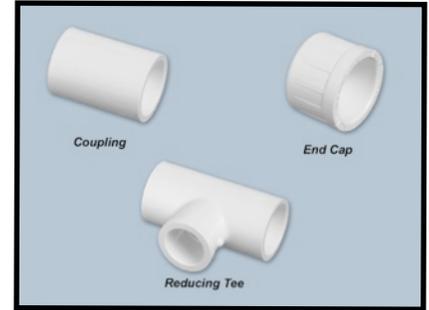
FITTINGS

Home improvement stores will also sell most of the fittings you'll need, and these will only run about 50 cents each. I say, "most" because you may want to use some more versatile fittings which most home stores do not carry, but those are available online and are a little more expensive. However, tees, elbows and crosses can be combined to make almost any contraption you can think of.





Other, easily obtainable connectors include end caps, straight couplers and reducing tees.



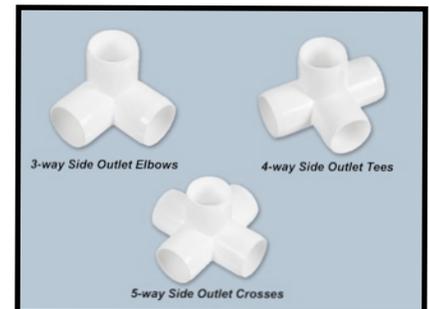
PADDING



The next thing you will want is some padding. Foam pipe insulation works great for this and the home store in my town sells a bag of four, 3 ft lengths for about \$1.48.

EXTRAS

As I mentioned earlier, some fittings that can be very handy, like 3-way, 4-way and 5-way joiners. These can be found on line and range from \$1.50 to \$4.50 each (Note: My home store does not carry these, but yours might).



GLUE

Stores that carry PVC plumbing will also carry a special 2-part glue specially designed for PVC. The first part is a primer that is applied to both parts with a supplied brush and allowed to dry. Then the glue is brushed into the connector, the pipe is installed and you will have a bond that will last until the sun goes supernova. The bad thing about this glue is that it only gives you a few seconds of working time, and once it has set, you will not be getting those pieces apart again.

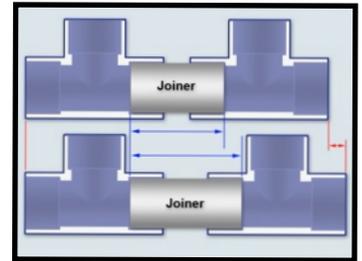
Truthfully, the joints are tight enough that in many cases glue is not even necessary, but I find that if I skip the glue altogether, the joints have a nasty habit of falling apart at the worst possible moment! So I prefer to clean the ends and rough them up with a little sandpaper, then assemble the whole thing to make sure everything is aligned and wick a little Thin CA into each joint. It is also a good idea to test the stand out before gluing to make sure that you don't need to resize any of the pieces of tubing.





GETTING STARTED

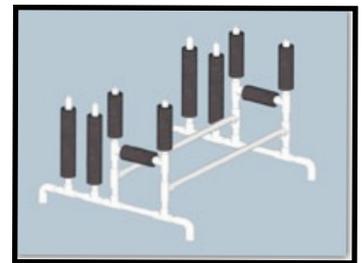
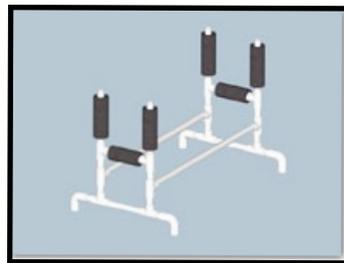
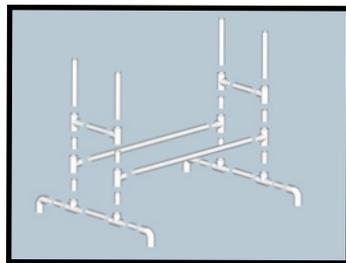
I usually start out by cutting several short joiners. These should be a little more than twice as long as the diameter of the tubing, so for a 3/4" tube, joiners of 1 5/8" to 2" will work. Only a few of the pieces will need to be fairly accurate - those would be the pieces that determine the height you want, or the width or length, but try to keep any matching pieces accurate - like the short joiners I mentioned above can be any length, but if you make one 2" long, make them ALL 2" long. The reason for this is that the fittings have a built-in stop, so if two lengths of tubing are the same, you can bottom out the joiners and have two equal subassemblies.



Once the short joiners are ready, you'll need to cut several others to whatever dimensions you'll need. You can do the trial and error method, or you can spend some time doing math. Remember that you'll have to figure the length of each fitting minus the amount of tubing that gets inserted into each fitting - sometimes the trial and error method is easier!

ASSEMBLY

With all of the tubing cut to its (hopefully) correct length, you can now assemble your stand and check that it will



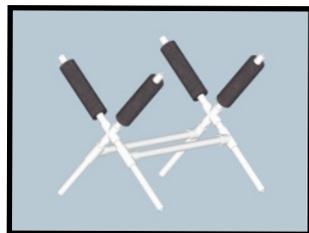
suit your needs. You may find that even after careful calculations, a few pieces may need to be re-cut (no big deal since this stuff is so cheap).

If everything looks good, add some padding and check again as the padding will tighten up some of the spaces. If it all works, go ahead and glue everything in place.

As you can see, the work stand above can easily be modified to become a stand for transporting your plane by simply adding four more uprights for a wing holder. Also, metal hooks can be screwed into the uprights to hold rubber bands for securing the plane if you so desire.

MORE STANDS

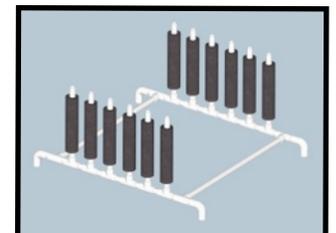
With a little imagination you can come up with a variety of stands to meet just about any application. The first



one



wide



above I have found very handy for all different size models, the second is an all-purpose stand and the third is a wing holder.

A word of caution... These stands are not sturdy enough for use with running engines and should only be used for holding or transporting planes!

That's about it! So the next time you're in need of a special holder, whether it be a work stand or a garage hanger, think PVC!



THE MEROKE RC CLUB - EST. 1963

The following was sent to me by Joe Petrozza and comes from Michael Cheung. Kangke is offering a 25% discount to Meroke members on non clearance items. Contact Michael for more information.



Kangke is a manufacturer of R/C model airplanes, engines and accessories. The company is based in Long Island, our own backyard. The quality of Kangke products is second to none, just ask any of our members who have made purchases.

The owner Mr. Ma who has unfailingly supported our club functions each and every year, has another unprecedented offer for Meroke members.

On top of the special prices found on the Kangke USA website, we will get a further 25% off the lowest prices except for the Clearance Items shown in Red Print.

But wait, there is more. He will deliver our order Free of Charge, Sales Tax Included too. To take advantage of this one-time opportunity, purchase orders must be placed through our member Michael Cheung @ (516)205-4488. Email:hakka8888@gmail.com. He will either bring you selections to the Field or to our Club Meetings. Cash Only please at this ridiculously low bargain prices. Kangke web site: www.kangkeusa.com.