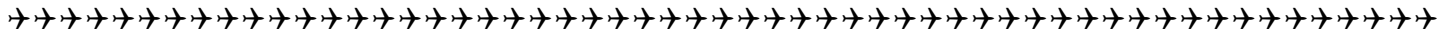




# Squadron News December 2025

An AMA Gold Club



## Upcoming Club Events

February 5 - Monthly club meeting at the clubhouse, 7:00 pm.

March 5 - Monthly club meeting at the clubhouse, 7:00 pm.

April 2 - Monthly club meeting at the club house, 7:00 pm.

May 7 - Monthly club meeting at the field, 7:30 pm.

### 2025 area events:

April 25/26: Dayton Wingmasters - Dayton Modelrama. Click [here](#) for the event flyer.

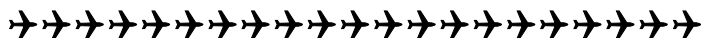
May 3: Indianapolis RC Modelers - EDF

June 7: Indianapolis RC Modelers - Cubs and Floaty flyers

July 18/19: Indianapolis RC Modelers - Warbird event

August 16: Indianapolis RC Modelers -Toys for Tots

September 20: Indianapolis RC Modelers - Fly all in the Fall with Swap meet



### Events next Week / Weekend...

Anderson Extreme Swap Meet, Sat 2/8 @ 8am, Millcreek Civic Center, Anderson, IN - <https://www.indyrcsouth.org/forum/index.php/topic,3516.0.html>

After Dark: Swing the Night Away @ USAF Museum, Sat 2/8 @ 6pm, Dayton, OH - <https://www.indyrcsouth.org/forum/index.php/topic,3515.0.html>

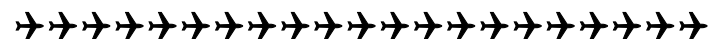
Indoor Flying @ St Peters Gym, Sun 2/9 @ 2pm, Columbus, IN - <https://www.indyrcsouth.org/forum/index.php/topic,3493.0.html>

### New & Updated Postings...

Anderson Extreme Swap Meet, Sat 2/8 @ 8am, Millcreek Civic Center, Anderson, IN - <https://www.indyrcsouth.org/forum/index.php/topic,3516.0.html>

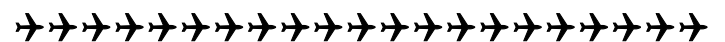
After Dark: Swing the Night Away @ USAF Museum, Sat 2/8 @ 6pm, Dayton, OH - <https://www.indyrcsouth.org/forum/index.php/topic,3515.0.html>

Galveston R/C Fly-In & Swap, Sat 5/31 @ 8am, Galveston, IN - <https://www.indyrcsouth.org/forum/index.php/topic,3517.0.html>



## Blacksheep RC Modelers

### No December or January Minutes



### Message from the President.

Happy February, since we skipped January newsletter, I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and nice holiday season. If you were fortunate to get RC items for Christmas, bring to the meeting for show n tell. Always cool to see what is new. Several Blacksheep were able to get out and enjoy the perfect snow for either float flying or ski flying. I now have a set of floats for my Flex RV for the next snow fall. I did notice a tree reached out and captured a plane enjoying the nice winter air.

Looking to our 2025 events, we are planning for a spring and fall float fly in, spring warbird day, our annual NMAD event in August and our annual warbird meeting in October. Although we are low key - have fun enjoying our hobby club, we are always open to other special day events. We also host many cookouts throughout the flying season and a Independence Day evening of flying and fireworks.

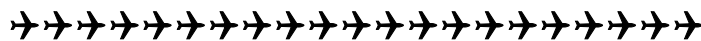
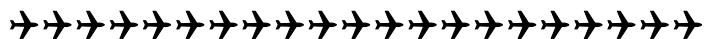
Kudos to Paul for getting our Gold Club status renewed and submitting requests for several AMA programs to enable us to share our wonderful hobby with others and improve our field. If you have items to sell, swap or looking for, let John know he can put in the newsletter and on our website. Alos, remember we have a Facebook page that members can join and post for other members to see. How about members creating a simple odd shape flying object for 4th of July or for NMAD? Maybe a flying pizza box or stop sign constructed from foam. My winter project is ready to balance and nice flying weather, a CARF Rebel Pro.



Till next month, fly often, fly safe! Rege



There are a few 2025 tee shirts left, contact John Loudon, Rege Hall or Warren Estep for sizes available.



## Johnson County Radio Control Flyers Annual Swap Meet

Hosted in Scott Hall at the  
Johnson County Fairgrounds  
250 Fairgrounds Street  
Franklin, Indiana 46131



### General Admission \$5.00

Start the 2025 flying season off with a new plane or accessories for an existing plane. Year after year, incredible deals offered by enthusiastic sellers for eager buyers.

### Kitchen will be open!

Sellers: limited tables are available today for \$15. Day of event tables are \$20.

Contact Denny for table reservations  
Email: Secretary\_Treasurer@jcrf.net  
Phone: 317-695-4904



### RAFFLE ITEM

Sbach 342 Aerobat .46-.55 GP EP ARF 55.3"



Visit and bookmark the JCRF club website for events and updates - <http://jcrf.net>

**4th ANNUAL  
RC SWAP MEET and INDOOR FLY:**  
Center Grove High School:  
Hall of Excellence &  
Student Activity Center  
2717 S. Morgantown Rd. | Greenwood, Indiana 46143

**Saturday, February 22, 2025**  
(Swap Meet): (Indoor Fly):  
**8:00am - 11:00 | 12:00 - 4:00pm**  
General Admission (8am - 4pm): Adult: \$5 | Kids: Free  
Raffle Items with drawing @11:00am

**YOUR HOBBY  
ONE COMMUNITY.**  
Event Code:17306

**Note: Individual tables will be sold in pairs of 6'. You will be purchasing 12' of real estate to sell your items!**

**Swap Meet: (8am - 11:00am) and Indoor Fly: (Noon - 4pm); Raffle Drawing at 11:00am**

- Pre-Registration:
  - 12 cafeteria table for swap meet and Landing fee for indoor fly: \$15
  - Extra tables with pre-purchase: \$5 each
- Day of event:
  - Two 6' cafeteria tables (one 12' table) for swap meet and Landing fee for indoor fly: \$15
  - Extra tables: \$10 each (two 6' tables)
- Set up: 7-8am

**Swap Meet ONLY (8am - 11:00am):**

- Pre-Purchase Table (two 6'): \$10 | Extra tables (two 6'): \$5 each
- Day of Event: \$15 | Extra tables: \$10 each
- Set up: 7-8am

**Indoor Fly ONLY (Noon - 4:00pm):**

- Day of Event: Landing fee: \$10 | Kids: \$5

**Concessions will be available:**

- Soda, Water, Coffee,
- Candy Bars, Snacks



All proceeds, donations, etc. will go directly to the Center Grove High School RC Flying Club for the students to use and continue to grow in the hobby. Thank you for your continued support.



Pre-Registration: Scan, then click the above QR code with your phone's camera.



2024 Raffle Ticket Winners

For questions | Email: [schulzb@centergrove.k12.in.us](mailto:schulzb@centergrove.k12.in.us)  
Pre-Registration: <https://www.centergrove.k12.in.us/Page/13387>

safe and that you have enough room to operate your plane properly). Remember, when flying from a lake you'll be sharing the space with snowmobilers, ice fishers, and other wintertime sports fans. Simply be respectful of others, and you will most likely gain a happy audience.



The Sky Wizard comes in for a snowy landing. Note that the tips of the skis are set at a positive angle.

## GETTING IN THE MOOD

Dressing warmly is most important for enjoying a day's flying in the winter. It is even better if you can park your car near your flying spot or find a flying area near a shelter to warm up every so often between flights. A thermos full of hot coffee or soup is a must-have for between-flights enjoyment! If you're lucky, you'll find that some winter days can be simply outstanding. With little or no wind, bright sunshine, and milder temps, you won't even need to wear gloves while preparing your aircraft. For flying, I use a tight-fitting pair of cotton gloves, which allows me to feel my radio's control sticks. Mechanics' gloves also work well.

Though I've never used them, there are commercial transmitter gloves you can purchase. Similar to Hippo Hands used by motorcyclists, these cold weather radio gloves have a clear panel so you can see your transmitter while your hands are protected from the elements. From my own experience, during the winter months there are many fine days just perfect for flying. The advantage of flying off a lake or a wide open field is that you can always take off directly into the wind, no matter what the direction is. My friends and I have a favorite spot to enjoy cold weather RC flying. Located in the village of Gores Landing, Ontario, Rice Lake is renowned for its fishing in both summer and winter. There's plenty of room and the scenic panorama is inspiring.

## Winter Flying Tips & Tricks

Model Airplane News

Featured News

1 Comment

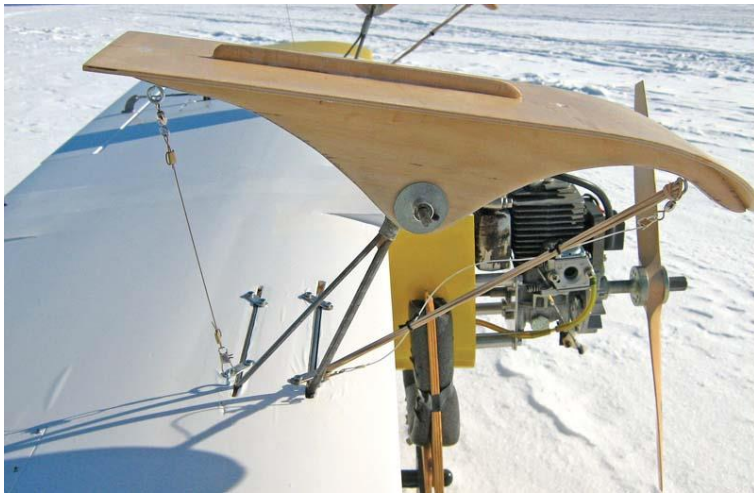


Instead of sitting on the couch watching television and waiting for spring to arrive, why not build or buy a set of snow skis, bolt them to your plane, and get out there and do some cold weather flying! Winter flying is great fun, and it restores the RC soul during those long, dreary winter months. You can fly with skis, or even use floats, from almost any open field. Just be sure to get the permission of the property owner. You can also fly from a frozen lake (but make sure the ice is

In the winter, I fly my Aeromaster biplane (with floats), and my scratch-designed and built Sky Wizard. The aircraft seen in the pictures is my Sky Wizard, which is an easy-to-fly intermediate to advanced sport plane powered by a Zenoah G-38 gas engine.



The Ace Extreme RC Transmitter Glove is made for very cold flying days. Check them out at [acewingcarrier.com](http://acewingcarrier.com).



Here is my scratch-built plywood skis and the limiter cable setup.



The tailwheel ski also uses limiter cables.

## EQUIPMENT SETUP

You can find commercially available RC skis online and in hobby shops. Du-Bro has them in a few sizes. I scratch

built and designed the skis for my aircraft. I use a tried-and-true method of setting up skis on aircraft that is not unlike that of full-scale aircraft. Check wires and bungees (elastics bands for models) are used to limit the amount of travel the skis have up and down. The elastics are used to keep the tips of the skis in the “up” position, while the check wire at the back limits the amount of distance the ski tips can travel up. The check wires on the front tips of the skis also limit the amount of travel the skis can go down. This is essential to prevent the ski from traveling down so far that it could break through ruts and divots your aircraft might encounter during its takeoff run or landing rollout. It is a very simple and effective way to set up your skis with a minimal amount of funds.

## WHAT YOU’LL NEED

- Small eyehook screws
- Elastic bands
- Strong wire (I used pull-pull cable purchased at my local hobby store)
- Short lengths of 1/8-inch diameter copper tubes for crimping the wire ends.
- 1/2-inch, 1/8-inch, and 1/16-inch plywood for upright mounts and ski bottoms. I go a step further and use fishing swivel leads for ease of removal. The skis are built using
- 1/2-inch aircraft ply for the upright mounts and 1/8-inch plywood for the ski bottoms. It is important to have runners on the bottom of the skis to help the aircraft’s tracking. For the tail ski, I use 1/8-inch plywood for the upright and 1/16-inch aircraft ply for the ski bottoms. Another system used to limit the up-down travel of the skis is the torsion rod system or spring system. This is found on [Du-Bro](http://Du-Bro) and other brands of skis. I prefer my setup described above for its reliability. It has always worked for me.

## BOTTOM LINE

I think what I like most about ski flying is the added performance of the aircraft due to the denser cold air. I also enjoy watching the way the skis work during takeoffs and landings. With all the beautiful winter scenery, and the extra time spent with my like-minded friends, there is really nothing better!

---

## 10 Easy Steps for Cold Weather Engine Starts

To commit RC aviation, you have to get your engine running. As the weather turns colder, it’s a good time to

revisit cold-engine starting techniques. Here are 10 easy steps for flying when the temperature drops.

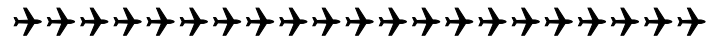
1. Turn on your transmitter and receiver.
2. Fully open the throttle.
3. Watch for fuel in the line and cover the throttle opening with your finger. Firmly grip the propeller, and rotate it until the fuel is just up to the carb. Don't flip it! Now turn the prop over—twice, if it's warmer than 40 degrees F; three times if it's colder—to prime the engine.
4. With the glow plug disconnected, flip the engine over six to eight times.
5. Close the throttle and move the trim to fully up. This should open the throttle barrel a little more. The throttle should be about one quarter open.
6. Grab the prop firmly, and rotate the engine until it passes through the compression part of the stroke. You should feel the engine kick. If it does, it will now start on the first or second flip. Always use a chicken stick or electric starter for starting. If the engine doesn't start, flip the prop a few times with the glow plug disconnected, and try again. If it doesn't kick now, choke it one more time with the throttle fully open, flip the prop a few more times, reposition the throttle, light the glow plug, and try again.
7. If, when your engine starts, it just revs up and quits, turn the high-speed needle valve a half turn counterclockwise to open it, and try again. Repeat this if necessary.
8. If the engine starts, slows down and quits, and if a lot of smoke comes out of the exhaust, turn the high-speed needle valve clockwise to make the mixture leaner, a quarter turn at a time. Restart the engine.
9. When the engine has started, hold the throttle partially open, and let the engine warm up for at least a minute or two before making the final adjustments.
10. Most engines are harder to start when they're hot. To start a hot engine, draw the fuel up to the carb, but don't choke or prime it. Open the throttle to one quarter. Flip the prop hard. Use an electric starter, if you have one available.



Getting your engine started in winter isn't difficult as long as you have fresh batteries in your glow driver and you keep your airplane and engine warm in the car between flights.

---

Text & photos by Bill Mclvor



Editor: John Lawyer You can contact me at [jlwyer41@att.net](mailto:jlwyer41@att.net) or 765-918-7229

**\*\*\* Till next month may all your  
landings be wheels down. \*\*\***



