President: Roie Black 913-492-4830 Vice President: Jeff Nisley 913- 406- 1331 Treasurer: Dennis Baker 913-406-7521 Secretary: Dana Field 913-400-2132 Newsletter Editor: Dana Field 913-400-1332 Website Editor: Jeff Nisley 913-406-1331



AMA Charter # 2357 SAM Chapter #14 FAC Squadron 43

# **Heart of America Free Flight Association**









Website - KCFreeflight.org



### Schedule of Flying Events and Meetings

# February 2024

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Date	Day	Location	Time	Notes
INDOOR EVENTS				
Feb 20	Tues	Overland Park, KS	6:00 - 8:00	HAFFA Monthly Meeting
Mar 2	Sat	Osawatomie, KS	8:30 - 3:00	Indoor Flying
Mar 19	Tues	Overland Park, KS	6:00 - 8:00	HAFFA Monthly Meeting
Apr 6	Sat	Osawatomie, KS	8:30 - 3:00	<b>HAFFA Annual Indoor Contest</b>
Apr 16	Tues	Overland Park, KS	6:00 - 8:00	HAFFA Monthly Meeting
May 21	Tues	Overland Park, KS	6:00 - 8:00	HAFFA Monthly Meeting
Jun 18	Tues	Overland Park, KS	6:00 - 8:00	HAFFA Monthly Meeting
Jul 16	Tues	Overland Park, KS	6:00 - 8:00	HAFFA Monthly Meeting
Outdoor Events				
Apr 9	Tues	Olathe, KS	6:30	Practice Outdoor Champs Flying
Apr 23	Tues	Olathe, KS	6:30	Practice Outdoor Champs Flying
	Sat &			
May 4 & 5	Sun	Marion, KS	All day both days	WHAM Annual Spring Contest
May 14	Tues	Olathe, KS	6:30	Outdoor Champs Flying
May 28	Tues	Olathe, KS	6:30	Outdoor Champs Flying
Jun 11	Tues	Olathe, KS	6:30	Outdoor Champs Flying
Jun 25	Tues	Olathe, KS	6:30	Outdoor Champs Flying
	Sat &		All Day – Both	
Sept 30 & Oct 1	Sun	Marion, KS	Days	HAFFA Annual Out Door Contest

#### **Flying Sites**

#### Indoor

Osawatomie City Auditorium 437 Main St. Osawatomie, KS 66047

#### Outdoor

Carmel Farm 2831 Oak St. Perry, KS 66673 Frontier Trail Middle School 143<sup>rd</sup> St at S. Black Bob Rd. Olathe, KS **Editorial** — Not a lot to editorialize about this month. There was a meeting in January under our new meeting format, which is business every other month, and a program, show and tell and maybe some hands on demos or "how tos", the non-business months. Anything other than boring business. So, the business meeting in January was attended by only the officers and Jeff Renz, who is an officer in everything but official title. There was not a lot of business to discuss, and I neglected to write down when the business meeting adjourned, but is wasn't long. One thing of interest, we have a new junior member, and a few other's interested, and it was voted to reduce the dues for junior members (anyone under 21) down to \$10 per year. We want them to have a "little skin in the fire", but not have the dues as an impediment joining. Additionally, we decided that as long as we are solvent, juniors do not have to pay flying fees, again we don't want the fee to be an impediment. Also, we moved the Feb. flying date back a week so our members could attend the KCRC Annual Swap Meet, which has conflicted and caused some of us to miss it the last few years. That's about it for this month.

<u>Indoor</u> – Indoor was well attended, I think about 11 fliers? And everyone is getting more proficient. That is to say the competition is getting tougher. We have a couple of juniors who are going to be tough for the old timers to beat soon! I guess that is the way it should be. Many of the fliers were flying all six competitive events, so there are not as many pictures for this newsletter, again the way it should be unless we can find a dedicated photographer. And with this, Jeff Renz's write up, and the current standings.

Lots of flyers showed up early, with plenty of airplanes for our February 2024 flying session at our Osawatomie Kansas Auditorium flying site. We had two younger indoor fliers show up, a contingent of Science Olympiad flyers, with good indoor airplanes. Paul has been working with local middle school kids, Logan and Ishwa. Paul has been introducing them to indoor free flight through the Science Olympiad program, and Paul is to be commended for his efforts. His latest designs for this type and size of airplane show much promise in providing consistent flights.

Roie Black showed up with a completed "Skinny Bomber" airplane from Howard Litman, and we had 3 contestants in the skinny bomber contest this month. Dana Field, Jeff Nisley, Jeff Renz, Roie Black, and Mike Schmidt have completed and assembled theirs. Roie made some fantastic flights, sans the landing gear. He was busy trimming his version for 2 minute flights all day. His plane looked fantastic making consistent circles orbiting the Auditorium.

Jack Vetter showed up, with his new AYA YOUTH Baby ROG. Looking good! Jack was busy trimming out this beast during the morning session. Dana showed up with his Pink AYA ROG, with "Miss Piggy" in the cockpit! Good job on the tissue printing Dana! See photos. Nisley dominated the AYA event with his 56 second flight. Paul was busy working with the youth flyers so he did not fly his version, and Mike Schmidt was out of town visiting his grandkids. So he didn't fly the event for February. We now have 6 of these planes built. Perhaps we will continue to fly the event next year. (ed. Comment, Jeff, you can't keep having new planes and dropping them after one year!)

Paul showed up with a huge "Romanian Max" airplane. This craft is basically a Penny Plane on steroids. The planes are so huge the wing loading is low, allowing for very slow flight speed. Logan our new 8th grader built one alongside Paul providing guidance. These flying beasts darken the sky when they pass over your head. One advantage I see with this type of airplane is the large wing area and having a 15 g. overall weight minimum. The structure is absolutely huge, meaning you can utilize much thicker and heavier wood, making building and assembly a lot easier, as well as wood selection not such a hassle. Because of the bigger wood sizes, the handling and fiddley bits are easier to control during assembly in the gluing process. You don't have to worry about how to manipulate tiny 3 pound wood without breaking it in half. Ribs can be glued in place without shaking and trying to maintain accurate alignment. I intend to build one of these big beasts. You could even cover it with the tissue and glue stick process avoiding having to deal with film or veggie bad covering materials. Anyway, this is just something to think about and my comment for a possible indoor airplane in the future.

Once again, I would like to thank Cheryl Black for timing all the events. She was very busy all day running the stopwatch. This was a lot of work because at the end of the day everybody was yelling across the court "I'm ready! Can you time me?". I want to thank her for her efforts, putting up with us!. We appreciate her efforts. Overall the day was successful and everyone had a lot of fun. I would also mention that our club needs to do a better job of getting packed up and out of the building by 3 o'clock. For this February session, it was difficult at the end of today to stay focused and start packing. I know I had additional flights I wanted to make and should have stopped earlier. Next month I will badger our club flyers into cleaning up, packing up, and getting our

stuff out of the building so we can have the doors locked by 3pm and get the auditorium key back to the Police station on time. Thanks Jeff Renz CD.

<u>Outdoor</u> – Not much to discuss on outdoor. Last month I planned to get out the rules for the summer's Champs Flying, and I did not get that done. Will plan to work on that this week. All the events were listed last month.

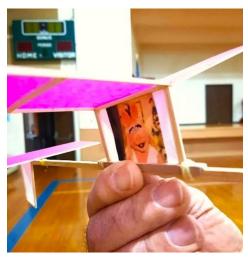
Pictures from February's Osawatomie flying session



The group at the Feb. flying – Top from the left, Paul Morganroth, Logan Carter, Dana Field, Jack Vetter, Jeff Nisley Dennis Baker, and Roie Black. Bottom from left to right – Jeff Rensley, Ishwa's friend?, Ishwa, and Gary Hodson.







Gary Hodson at work and Gary's No-Cal. He kicks our ass with this bird!!

Dana Field's Baby ROG - Pigs can fly!!!

Plans — Once upon a time, HAFFA had five nationally, internationally known indoor fliers. Four are no longer with us — Stan Chilton, Emil Schutzel; Larry Coslick, Tem Johnson, and the youngster — Gary Hodson. I never met Stan or Larry, they lived some distance away, Stan actually in Wichita, and never came to a meeting. But Emil, Tem, and Gary were/are active in HAFFA activities. Tem, Emil, and Gary regularly came to flying sessions, and I remember them "duking it out" in A-6. They knew how to "massage" their rubber to get it to lay in perfect knots on the motor stick. I timed Gary when he set a national A-6 category II record in Osawatomie, which is only one foot over the cat. I height. He would have set a better record if he hadn't got excited when his A-6 went over 7 minutes and he stopped steering, and it went into a volley ball net 4 – 5 ft. from the floor. He lost an additional 20 – 30 seconds! I published his "Wart" A-6 plan, the record setter, last fall. Tem was nationally known in both indoor and outdoor flying, his outdoor being primarily gliders. I have published some of his gliders, and have a few more. Watching his indoor gliders fly at Osawatomie was humbling to me, my efforts being so inferior. Anyway, this month's plan will be Tem Johnson's very competitive A-6, the "Dream Chaser". It will fly with the best of them, though I think knowing how to "massage" the rubber is either just as or more important than the plane.

## **Indoor Standings as of 2/17/24**

#### **February Score Totals**

Jeff Renz 14 points Dana Field 13 points Jeff Nisley 9 points Gary Hodson 4 points Dennis Baker 3 points Jack Vetter 1 point

Year pts	Name	Rank
36+14=50	Jeff Renz	1
43	Mike Schmidt	2
29+13=42	Dana Field	3
13+9=22	Jeff Nisley	4
8+3=11	Dennis Baker	5
10	Paul Morganroth	6
3+4=7	Gary Hodson	7
4	MikeStewart	8
3	Suman Saripalli	tie
2+1=3	Jack Vetter	tie

