

# The Really Great SAM 8 Speaks



## LONG TIME FLYERS CLUB NEWS

On the web at <http://www.the-great-sam8.com>

VOLUME 38 ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2016

Roster of the old dawgs....

**STEVE DONA.....'THE PREZ'**

**WILL TILSE.....VICE PRESIDENT**

**HOMER SMITH.....SECRETARY-TREASURER**

**DAVE GARDNER.....SCRIBE OF THIS RAG....**

Notice: Next Meeting:

January 14th, 2016, Rainbow Café, 112 E. Main St., Auburn, WA,  
10:30 am-1 pm..(or thereabouts....)

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**And remember, SAM 8 Dues are due (that's why they're called 'dues'..!!**

**See the back cover page for sending Homer your club dues....we need to survive!**

Oh, and one more thing!...We're getting an updated SAM 8 Handbook together, complete with new roster! To assist in this, we'd like to have current e-mail addresses for those of you who have them. If you'd like your email to be listed in the latest roster, please send an email to [davegardner55@msn.com](mailto:davegardner55@msn.com) and we'll get you on the list! Editing is in process!

### Notes from the Prez:

*Too many things on the agenda to cover here, so see you at the meeting!...*

*As a recap, things to start thinking about as we shift into winter...*

*Finn Hill indoor schedule as well as the Finn Hill version of "Science Olympiad"*

*SAM 8 and Membership promotion: Thoughts on this? Booth at Monroe Expo?*

*Build sessions; is there interest and are they worthwhile?(...realistically, yes)*

*Steve Dona "the Prez"*

## SAM 8 Minutes for December 10th, 2015

President Steve Dona opened the meeting at 12:05 to a rather sparse group of 22 members. The flooding of the last few days has made travel difficult and probably accounts for some of the missing members in addition to those snowbirds moving south for the winter.

The last meeting of the year requires election of officers and a motion was made and seconded to retain the current years' group. Since Vice President Bob Hatch has moved to Spokane another motion was made and seconded to elect Will Tilse as the new Vice President. The vote was unanimous to accept the motion.

Steve reminded everyone that the banquet was to be on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December and to be sure to contact Bob Parker to be sure you are on the list.

Steve made a plea for someone to pick up the club booth backdrop that is stored in Bob Hatch's garage. The garage is being torn down within a week. (Steve Dona reports that the booth backdrop is gone, along with the lovely garage...)

WMC had their first indoor contest in a facility that is new to them, at least in recent years. The ceiling turned out to be a challenge and many hang-ups were experienced. It was pretty well attended and enjoyed by all contestants. The next contest is January 12, 2016.

The holidays and Steve's move are slowing the progress of the planning for the Finn Hill Middle School events in 2016. A better report is expected at the next meeting

There is a picture of our newly elected Vice President, Will Tilse, in the current issue of model Aviation magazine.

Paul Morris reported that he has obtained access to a room in the library in the Sumner area. It is a good place to hold building sessions on weekends. If you are interested in attending some of the sessions, let Paul know and he will schedule them.

There were some kits and material to auction brought by David Higgins. Bob Einhaus did his usual great job as auctioneer. The meeting was closed at 1:12 PM.

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### Banquet Pics.....



Bob and Violet Brugge



Phyllis and Ed Lamb



Lin and Tom Cashman



Pre Banquet chatter



Will concentrating on making his prop turn!



Karen Roehl and Will Tilse

(Bob Harper photos.....and apologies for 'autofocus' issues !!)



Dave and Angela Gardner



Carolyn and Fred Wilson



Roger and Cynde La Prella

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Following on about 'Drones': As much as I hate to 'drone on' about this topic, it's here and now. Here are some FAQ about the 'dreaded registration', from AMA.

PLEASE NOTE QUESTIONS 11Q AND 12Q RE CL AND FF OPERATIONS! AT THIS TIME, THIS IS THE WORKING OPINION FOR OUR ACTIVITIES!

**AMA: FAQ ON UAS REGISTRATION, December 30, 2015**

**1Q: Do I as an AMA member need to register?**

A: Yes. The Interim Final Rule on sUAS registration went into effect when published in the Federal Register on December 21, 2015. Modelers are given a 60-day grace period for their existing model aircraft and must register by February 19, 2016. New models acquired after December 21, 2015, must be registered before they can be flown.

**2Q: Is the rule for registering model aircraft final?**

A: No. Although the Interim Final Rule is in effect, it is not necessarily in its final form. The FAA has established a 30-day public comment period to allow the public to make comment on the merits and aspects of the rule that cause concern. Interested parties have until January 20, 2016, to submit comments and can do so online at <http://1.usa.gov/1Jegj0C>. AMA highly encourages its members to submit comments to the Interim Final Rule and has provided a list of talking points for our members to consider in developing their comments. These talking points can be found on the AMA Government Relations blog <http://amablog.modelaircraft.org/amagov/2015/12/28/guidance-on-submitting-comments-to-the-faas-interim-rule-on-uas-registration/>. After the comment period closes, the FAA will review and evaluate the comments and make adjustments to the Interim Final Rule as deemed necessary and appropriate. (ed comment: ie; do what it damn well pleases....)

The FAA will then publish a Final Rule in the Federal Register that becomes permanent unless changed by future rulemaking. Keep in mind that the FAA has no obligation to make any changes to the rule based upon the public comments; however, it does have to publish a summary of the comments and explain its actions or lack thereof.

**3Q: What is AMA's position on the Rule?**

A: We believe the registration requirement is counter to the provisions provided by Congress in Section 336, of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012. In the "Special Rule for Model Aircraft" Congress expressly prohibits the FAA from promulgating rules or regulations for model aircraft. We also believe AMA membership already meets the intent of registration. It is unnecessary for members to register again through the FAA when they are already registered with the AMA. Therefore, we suggest AMA members hold on registering with the FAA until advised by the AMA or until the FAA's legal deadline on February 19, while we work with the FAA in developing a streamlined process for making AMA membership compliant with the federal registration requirement. If successful, this will allow members to continue using their AMA number as their registration number. This will also preclude the requirement to renew registration every three years provided AMA membership remains current.

**4Q: How is the AMA addressing registration?**

A: We cannot always control what the federal government mandates, but we can continue to advocate for our members and strive to lessen the burden imposed by unnecessary and overbearing regulation. We are working with legal counsel and exploring all of our options. Note that the AMA has an existing petition before the US Court of Appeals regarding the 2014 Interpretive Rule in

which FAA presented its interpretation of the “Special Rule for Model Aircraft.” This interpretation is the basis for including model aircraft in the registration process and has been the rationale for several other actions taken by the agency during the past year.

AMA spent months working with members of Congress and the FAA in drafting and establishing the 2012 Special Rule for Model Aircraft. This landmark piece of legislation protects the long-standing hobby of model aviation from burdensome regulation and allows AMA members to continue operating under a community-based set of guidelines as they have for decades. It is a piece of legislation that our members, our parents, and our grandparents have earned throughout the past 100 years and through millions of safe and responsible flights in our nation’s airspace. It is a piece of legislation that must be upheld.

On a parallel track we are advocating for our members directly to the FAA. As mentioned previously, we are working to develop a more immediate solution aimed at streamlining the registration process for our members. Because there are viable solutions being seriously discussed, we feel confident in suggesting our members refrain from registering for a little longer.

**5Q: What can I do while the AMA is addressing registration?**

A: You can help by making your voice heard with the FAA. Specifically we are asking all AMA members to submit comments on the FAA’s interim rule concerning registration. The deadline to submit comments is January 15, 2016. More details can be found at <http://amablog.modelaircraft.org/amagov/2015/12/28/guidance-on-submitting-comments-to-the-faas-interim-rule-on-uas-registration>.

**6Q: Can I use my AMA number as my registration number?**

A: Possibly. We are advocating to allow members to use their AMA numbers. We believe an AMA membership already meets the intent of registration. It should not be necessary for our members to register again through the FAA when they are already registered with the AMA.

**7Q: Do only drones and multirotor pilots need to register?**

A: The Interim Final Rule regarding sUAS registration requires all unmanned aircraft that are part of an unmanned aircraft system be registered. Being part of an unmanned aircraft system means aircraft that are flown using a ground-control system, such as a transmitter—in essence radio controlled model aircraft. This includes pilots who fly fixed-wing RC aircraft and helicopters, not just multirotors or drones. Any pilot flying models weighing between .55 pounds (or 250 grams) and 55 pounds is required to register.

**8Q: Do I have to register every aircraft?**

A: No, you only need to register your name, physical address, and email address, but we suggest that AMA members hold off registering until advised by the AMA or the FAA legal deadline.

**9Q: When does registration begin?**

A: The FAA registration process began on Monday, December 21, 2015. The FAA requires modelers to register their existing aircraft by February 19, 2016. New models acquired after December 21st must be registered before they can be flown.

**10Q: How often do I need to register?**

A: The FAA requires registration renewal every three years; however, as mentioned earlier, we are working on a streamlined process for our members, precluding the requirement to renew federal registration provided AMA membership remains current.

**11Q: Is Control Line exempt**

**A: Control Line models are not controlled by a ground-control station, are not part of an unmanned aircraft system, and as such are not required to be registered.**

**12Q: Is Free Flight exempt?**

**A: Similarly, Free Flight models are not controlled by a ground-control station, are not part of an unmanned aircraft system, and as such are not required to be registered.**

**13Q: Can I fly above 400 feet?**

A: Yes. As an AMA member you are allowed and expected to continue operating your model aircraft in accordance with the AMA Safety Code and related AMA safety documents as provided by Section 336, the Special Rule for Model Aircraft. Keep in mind that you must not interfere with manned aircraft operations, must remain well clear of manned aircraft at all times, and must see and avoid all other aircraft and obstacles in accordance with AMA’s See & Avoid guidelines in Document #540-D. As a general safety principle, model aircraft should not be flown any higher than necessary; however, there are some modeling activities that

routinely go above 400 feet and do so safely in accordance with AMA guidelines. There are also times when it is actually safer to be at a slight higher altitude such as when training new pilots and operating larger or faster model aircraft.

**14Q: Can I fly my Large Model Aircraft?**

A: Yes. The language from the FAA implies you cannot fly aircraft over 55 pounds; however, under the Special Rule for Model Aircraft, AMA members are allowed to operate model aircraft over 55 pounds, provided they are certified under and operated in accordance with AMA's Large Model Aircraft program.

**16Q: What happens if I don't register by February 19?**

A: The AMA will provide guidance as to how AMA members should register before the February 19 deadline. Per the FAA, failure to register an unmanned aircraft might result in regulatory and criminal sanctions. This could include civil penalties of up to \$27,500 and criminal penalties that include fines of up to \$250,000 and/or imprisonment for up to three years.

**17Q: Can I continue to fly while holding on registration?**

A: Yes. Aircraft acquired before December 21, 2015, can continue to fly until the registration deadline on February 19, 2016. Aircraft acquired after December 21, 2015, must be registered before you can operate it outdoors.

Ed Notes: I apologize for this stuff about FAA registration. Apparently, a lot of our activities are exempt from the rulings, but (probably) your local 'enforcement officials' will not see the lines defined therein.....a model airplane is a model airplane.....and a lot of our members do fly some form of RC controlled aircraft. As a consolation, I'm betting that all the focus will be on 'drones', e.g. multirotor 'things' which move through the airspace. I hesitate to call them 'airplanes', since the earliest definition of airplane/aeroplane had to do with 'planes/wings' and using them for flight.

BUT!..just when you think the FAA slowly plods along, it manages, at the speed of light (for an agency!), to come up with a draconian form for local enforcement officials (LEO), just to pawn off some of their regulations on local authorities, the 'aviation knowledgeable' local police forces.

## LEO Guidance for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)

**If you suspect a UAS operation is unsafe or unauthorized:**

1. Locate the operator
2. Ask for registration and verify markings<sup>1</sup> on the UAS - Required for all UAS greater than 0.55 lbs
3. Ask operator for the type of operation and to present appropriate documentation (see reverse)
4. Interview operator and collect the following information:
  - Name, address, and positive ID of operator
  - Record Registration Number and the FAA Docket Number from Exemption or COA (see reverse)
  - Document time, place, and details of flight (take pictures and interview witnesses, etc)
5. Take action based on local Laws, Ordinances, Directives
6. Contact the FAA:
  - General inquiries – contact the Regional Operations Center (see below)
  - Investigation support – contact an FAA Law Enforcement Assistance Program (LEAP) Special Agent (business hours)



**Local Protocol:**

FAA REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTERS:			
Eastern	(404) 305-5150	DC, DE, MD, NJ, NY, PA, WV, VA	7-aea-roc@faa.gov
Southern / New England	(404) 305-5156	AL, CT, FL, GA, KY, MA, ME, MS, NC, NH, PR, RI, SC, TN, VI, VT	9-aso-roc@faa.gov
Western	(425) 227-1999	AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY	9-wsa-opsctr@faa.gov
Central	(817) 222-5006	AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MI, MN, MO, ND, NE, NM, OH, OK, SD, TX, WI	9-csa-roc@faa.gov
Washington	(202) 267-3333	National	9-awa-ash-woc@faa.gov

**\*\* If you need immediate assistance from the FAA call (202) 267-3333 \*\***

# Types of Authorized UAS Ops and Required Documentation:

Required documents must be in operator's possession and presented to law enforcement upon request per 49 U.S.C. 44103(d)

<b>Model Aircraft</b>	<b>Non-Model / Commercial</b>	<b>Public / Government</b>
<p>An unmanned aircraft that is 1) capable of sustained flight in the atmosphere, 2) flown within visual line of sight of the person operating the aircraft, and 3) flown for hobby or recreational purposes. Must be operated within <b>ALL</b> of the following parameters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Strictly for hobby or recreational use</li><li>2. Must give way to manned aircraft</li><li>3. Less than 55 pounds <sup>2</sup></li><li>4. Operated in accordance with community based set of safety guidelines <sup>3</sup></li><li>5. If within 5 miles of airport, must notify airport operator and control tower (if tower)</li><li>6. Registration and Markings<sup>1</sup></li></ol> <p><i>Model aircraft operating standards are governed under P.L. 112-95 (Feb 14, 2012)</i></p>	<p>Any UAS operation conducted for non-hobby or commercial purpose <b>OR</b> any operation that does not meet the parameters for Model Aircraft. Operator must possess <b>ALL</b> of the following documents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Section 333 Exemption or Aircraft Certification <sup>4</sup></li><li>2. Certificate of Authorization (COA) <sup>5</sup></li><li>3. Aircraft Registration and Markings <sup>1</sup></li><li>4. Pilot certificate <sup>6</sup></li></ol>	<p>Public agencies or organizations that conduct UAS operations for a government function. Operator must possess <b>ALL</b> of the following documents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Certificate of Authorization (COA) <sup>5</sup></li><li>2. Aircraft Registration and Markings <sup>1</sup></li></ol>
<p><b>ALL UAS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Must have Registration and Markings<sup>1</sup> (required for all UAS greater than 0.55 lbs)</li><li>• Must not endanger persons or property on the ground</li><li>• Must give way to and not interfere with manned aircraft</li><li>• Must comply with all flight restrictions and Temporary Flight restrictions<sup>7</sup></li><li>• Are subject to legal enforcement for Careless or Reckless operation</li></ul>		
<p><sup>1</sup> <b>Aircraft Registration and Markings:</b> All UAS greater than 0.55 lbs are required to be registered, regardless of the type of operation. The operator must provide the registration certificate (paper or electronic) upon request and the UAS must be marked with registration or serial number. UAS purchased on or after December 21, 2015, and used exclusively as model aircraft must be registered prior to operating in the NAS. UAS that have been operated in the NAS by the current owner, and used exclusively as model aircraft prior to December 21, 2015, must be registered by February 19, 2016. To verify registration, contact a LEAP agent during normal business hours or the Regional Ops Center after hours.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Aircraft is limited to no more than 55 pounds unless certified through design, construction and inspection by community based organization.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> A membership based association that represents the modeling community and provides its members a comprehensive set of safety guidelines.</p> <p><sup>4</sup> <b>333 Exemption:</b> FAA Letterhead dated and signed with an Exemption Number and Regulatory Docket Number. Includes conditions and limitations such as: (Not required for UAS with an FAA Airworthiness Certificate or Public/Government Operators)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➢ Line of Sight: The UAS must be visible at all times to the operator using his or her own natural vision.</li><li>➢ Daytime only: Unless specifically authorized in the COA, UAS operations must be conducted during daytime only.</li></ul> <p><sup>5</sup> <b>Certificate of Waiver or Authorization (COA):</b> FAA Form 7711-1 signed by UAS Tactical Operations Section and includes FAA Docket Number. Addresses specific restrictions such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➢ Altitude: As stipulated on cover page of COA. Generally 400' or 200' (but can be higher).</li><li>➢ Proximity to Airports: As stipulated on COA.</li></ul> <p><sup>6</sup> <b>Pilot certificate:</b> All non-model/commercial operators must have an FAA pilot certificate (Government agencies may self-certify pilots)</p> <p><sup>7</sup> <b>Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFR)</b> are common for Presidential movements, select sporting events, theme parks. Active TFRs are published here: <a href="http://www.tfr.faa.gov">www.tfr.faa.gov</a></p>		



## Member Notes:

Long time flyer, SAM 8 member and VP, and all around good guy, Robert Hatch has officially 'left the building' and will be in Spokane with his furniture by the time you read this. He has a couple of leftover bits to be at the Thursday auction.....can you say 'RC by escapement'? (among some other stuff.....) David Higgins will have more this month (from an estate)

## Some other notices of informal gatherings of 'Antique Modelers':

There's a group, including many SAM 8 members, who meet for lunch every Thursday (except SAM 8 meeting days) at the Pancake Chef, 15215 Military Road South, SeaTac, just a bit north of the SeaTac airport.

In addition, the informal group, NxNw (North by Northwest), also comprised of some SAM 8 members from further nawth, meet at the Royal Casino, 13010 WA-99, Everett, WA 98204 at 10 am, each 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, for brunch/breakfast/lunch (the menu works for all!). Note the address doesn't work on all GPS's, but will put you in the area, near 128<sup>th</sup> St.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"We all live under the same sky, but we don't all have the same horizon." - Konrad Adenauer, statesman (5 Jan 1876-1967)

# North West MODEL HOBBY

EXPO!

January 29, 30, & 31, 2016

Friday: 2 - 9 pm Saturday: 9 am - 6 pm Sunday: 9 am - 3 pm

Evergreen Fairgrounds - Monroe, WA



## Daily Admission

Friday: \$10.00

Saturday: \$10.00

Sunday: \$ 7.00

## 3-Day Weekend Pass

\$20.00

## Military ID - Any Day

\$5.00

Kids under 10 FREE  
with Certifiable Adult

**All Indoors ~ All Weekend  
R/C Airplanes, Helicopters, Boats, Cars!**

Robot Combat - - - PARTS WILL FLY!

Indoor Fun Fly

Indoor Boat Pond

Carpet RC Car Races

Swap Meet

Vendors

Biggest Hobby Swap Shop West of the Mississippi  
Scale Model Displays of Airplanes, Boats, and Cars with \$\$ prizes  
Many local clubs with display booths to tell you about these great hobbies.

<http://www.NWMHE.com>



## CLASSIFIEDS:

....nuttin' fer sale this time.....everyone is saving it for the Expo.....or the auction..!!

## 2015 Old Time, Free Flight, Control Line and Club Modeling Event Schedule

Date	Event / Time / Location	Activity/Location	Contact
January 14th	SAM 8 Meeting / Luncheon	Rainbow Cafe	SAM 8
Jan 16, 2016	SAM 8 Finn Hill Indoor	Finn Hill MS	SAM 8
January 27th	NxNW gathering at Royal Casino, Everett	North by NW	Dave G.
Jan 29-31, 2016	2016 NW Model Hobby Expo	Monroe, WA	NWMHE
Feb 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	SAM 8 Finn Hill Indoor	Finn Hill MS	SAM 8
March 12, 2016	McMinnville Aircraft Modelers	Yamhill Co.F-ground	McMAM
March 19, 2016	SAM 8 Finn Hill Indoor	Finn Hill MS	SAM 8
April 16, 2016	SAM 8 Finn Hill Indoor	Finn Hill MS	SAM 8
May 21, 2016	SAM 8 Finn Hill Indoor ...this date may change.	Finn Hill MS	SAM 8
December 17 <sup>th</sup>	SAM 8 Christmas Banquet	Angelo's-Burien	SAM 8

More info on Willamette Modelers Club (WMC) can be found on their website, noted below, including complete contest results and local activities.

For additional Northwest FF and CL activity, see the following websites for more detail.

For SAM 8 Activities, look on the SAM 8 Website, <http://www.the-great-sam8.com>

For SAM National activities, look on the SAM Website, <http://www.antiquemodeler.org/>

For WMC Activities, check on their website, [WillametteModelersclub.weebly.com](http://WillametteModelersclub.weebly.com), or contact Bob Stalick at [freeflyer@aol.com](mailto:freeflyer@aol.com).

For NW Skyraiders' Activities, check on <http://flyinglines.org>, or Dave Gardner at [davegardner55@msn.com](mailto:davegardner55@msn.com).

For Museum of Flight, check on their website, [www.museumofflight.org](http://www.museumofflight.org). Each first Thursday of the month is free admission.

**Really Great SAM 8 meets every second Thursday each month the Rainbow Café in Auburn at 11:30 AM. Come join us for lunch!**

The RG SAM 8 newsletter is published every month, (more or less) and is posted on our website: <http://www.the-great-sam8.com> Notice of the newest newsletter will appear via e-mail on our Yahoo mailgroup. Join the group by contacting our Webmeister: Bob Macklin - [macklinbob@msn.com](mailto:macklinbob@msn.com).

Use this form to subscribe or renew your membership. Just fill in and mail to Homer Smith.

Membership (\$15 per year)\_\_\_\_ (\$25) for two years\_\_\_\_\_.

To get the hard copy newsletter mailed to you (\$10 per year extra)\_\_\_\_

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Return to:

Homer L. Smith

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Mill Creek, WA 98012-5032

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FAC Sq. 34 & Strat-O-Bats  
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**FIRST CLASS**

You Betcha