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Upcoming Notable Events

- *There are no club events planned for August.*
- *September 26th 2026 Club Meeting, Flying Field, 9 am.*



New Club Logo

Thanks to Clint for his work on the club's new logo.

Editor Notes

If you are interested in providing an article of contribution for the newsletter or content for the web site, please contact the newsletter editor. Share a story about a build, flight, aircraft, anything interesting.

Send articles and information to editor@larks-rc.com

Become a contributor, it is easier than you think.

Buying on Line, Safe or Not Safe

In this article, I would like to make you aware of on line scams intended to make you believe you are buying a product, only to find out that your money, sent for payment, bought you a big fat nothing.

Are you a member of Flying Giants, RC Groups or other forums that allow classified listings? If so, continue reading, you may be surprised at what I have found out. The topic of discussion in this article is based on research and experience. Yes, I almost fell into the SCAM TRAP.

A while ago, I was looking for a couple of fuel tanks for my 260 Extra. I found a guy in North Carolina selling two new in box tanks that would suit my need. I posted to the thread, that I was interested and requested he check into shipping to Florida. Mistake number 1.

The next day, I got 4 separate emails sent directly to me requesting payment for the fuel tanks. Something did not seem right to me. All 4 emails came from different email address and were sent directly to me and not thru the message system in Flying Giants. Flag number 1.

The true owner finally contacted me and we set up a call to discuss the matter. After much discussion and not wanting to be scammed, he agreed to ship the two fuel tanks to me and when I received them, make payment. Agreed, fuel tanks arrived and payment was sent. Good transaction.

Had I responded to any of the other emails, and sent payment, I would still be waiting for the fuel tanks to arrive.

Second Experience, I found an add on Flying Giants from a person in Apopka selling a Carden Extra 300 88" with a DA 60 engine. Note here, the seller was listed as being in Apoka Florida.

Again, I posted to the thread, asking if he would sell the craft without the servos and receiver and what the price would be. Asking price was 1100.00.

Later that day, I received 5 emails from different sources, all responding they would sell without receiver and servos and asking for payment. One included a picture of the plane (same as on the ad) and said the price would be 500.00 shipped to me in Florida. Flag number 2

Immediately I knew these were from scammers as the content of the emails were direct copy of the text in the ad and why would the seller offer to ship, knowing we are within 35 miles of each other.

Next, be aware that these phony sellers are very aggressive and contacted me several times during the next few days.

Meanwhile the owner of the plane and I made contact by phone, decided to meet at the field. Turns out he was a member of our club as well. To make a long story short, another buyer came along too. I decided to take a pass.

Once again had I decided to respond to any of the other emails, I would be out money and have no product.

I recently posted to Flying Giants and RC Groups that I was looking to buy an Extreme Flight, Extra 260 89". Again the scammers started.

I received a comment to my post from a group member, saying they did not have the plane I was looking for, but knew a guy who did and gave me his email address. Flag number 3.

I sent an email to the address provided asking for more information on the plane I was looking for. I received a response the next day. Email response on page 5.

Buying on Line, continued

This email was very well written, and very convincing. He included two pictures of the plane, still in the boxes, not assembled and a list of other items he had if I was interested. Very convincing and offered to ship it from Pennsylvania to me for the price of 900.00. Flag number 3.

Extreme flight sells this plane for in and around 1100.00, with an additional charge for shipping.

We exchanged a couple of emails and I decided once again to take a pass on the purchase. Something just did not feel right. If it doesn't feel good, don't do it.

Mistake Number 1 - Do Not, I repeat, Do Not reply to a post for sale, asking for information. This is where the scammers and everyone else can see your interest. Instead, Private Message the owner. This is the safe and recommended way.

Flag Number 1 - Emails sent to your direct email address are likely not from the original seller, but usually from Scammers. Ignore them.

Flag Number 2 - Be aware that scammers, once they locate your email address in your personal profile or by searching your posts, will try to trick you into thinking they are the owner of the product. They will even send you messages using the owners name and or member id.

Flag Number 3 - Never make contact with someone outside the private message system of the group. Using the private message is the only safe way to contact the member. If someone responds to your post saying they know a guy, RUN, as fast as you can as this is a scam.

Last thing I found in my research, avoid un-secure payments like Venmo, Zelle, PayPal Friends and Family. Payments made in these platforms are not reversible. Once sent, you have no recourse.

From the Flying Giants Forum Admin Team

This is a warning to Flying Giants classifieds members, but it applies to any online deals. Scammers are on the prowl so be mindful.

- If a brand new user contacts you and tells you a person he knows has the item you are looking and provides an email address or phone number, it is likely a scam.
- If a new member asks you to send money via PayPal Friends and Family or via Zelle or money order, it is likely a scam.

Please click the report button on private messages from potential scammers so the moderators can ban the accounts and remove their messages.



When you are thinking of buying something from out of state, it can be very hard to verify the purchase and the seller. Consider looking for a flying club in the area of the seller and ask them if someone in the club, knows the seller or is willing to go to the sellers location and verify the purchase to be real.

Scams on FlyingGiants typically involve imposters targeting users in the classifieds section by impersonating real sellers via email or text after seeing public "PM sent" comments.

Common Scam Tactics

- **Imposter Emails/Texts:** Scammers monitor public forum replies, harvest user contact info, and email buyers pretending to be the seller with fake payment instructions.
- **Unsecured Payments:** Fraudsters push for irreversible payment methods like Zelle, Venmo, or PayPal Friends and Family.
- **New User Accounts:** Brand-new accounts reach out claiming a "friend" has the item you want.

How to Protect Yourself

- **Avoid Public Intent:** Do not post "PM sent" or "I'll take it" publicly in a classified thread; message the seller directly instead.
- **Stick to Private Messages:** Verify all transactions and final payment details strictly through on-site Private Messages, as scammers use external emails to trick you.
- **Scrutinize Payment Requests:** Double-check email addresses against the seller's actual profile details and avoid unsecured payment methods.



Scams on RC Groups typically involve hijacked user accounts, fake classified listings, and private message fraud in the [Trader Talk](#) forum.

Common Scam Tactics

- **Account Takeovers:** Scammers hack or reuse old, inactive member accounts to look like trusted long-time users.
- **Fake Private Messages:** Fraudsters send unsolicited direct messages offering items for sale or pretending to be a legitimate seller after you reply to a wanted/to-buy post.
- **Stolen Photos:** Criminals lift real hobbyist photos from older forum threads or social media to create convincing fake sale listings.

How to Protect Yourself

- **Verify via Public Thread:** Never complete a deal solely through a private message; always ask the seller to publicly reply to the active sales thread first.
- **Request Custom Proof:** Ask the seller to take a fresh photo of the item with a handwritten note showing their current username and date next to the product.
- **Use Safe Payment Methods:** Pay exclusively through PayPal Goods and Services so you have buyer protection. Avoid wire transfers, Zelle, or friend-to-friend payments for remote deals.
- **Check Account History:** Be suspicious of accounts with recent join dates, sudden changes in activity, or zero prior trading feedback.

Below is the email I received from the supposed seller. When I contacted the team at Flying Giants, they informed me this was likely a scam.

Hello

Apologies for the delay in response. I just got a chance to check my mail. I've decided to let my Extreme Flight Extra 260 88" go. It's brand new in the box. I originally bought it for a giant scale project but with other builds taking priority, I know I won't get around to assembling or flying it anytime soon. Rather than let it sit on the shelf, I'd rather see it go to someone who'll enjoy building it. I also have a Desert Aircraft DA120, Futaba AA700 wing servos, Futaba A700 tail servos, a Futaba DLPH Power System, Thunder Power 2S 2800mAh LiPo batteries and a Falcon 28x9.5 propeller available if you'd like to put together a complete package.

It is in new and excellent condition

I am asking a \$900 for it shipped to your location.

I am in Pennsylvania and will ship via UPS. The asking price includes shipping and I'll take payment via Venmo.

What's your complete shipping address? Let me know if we have a deal and I'll forward my Venmo address.

Thanks
Patrick
1023 Lincoln St,
Dickson City, PA 18519



ProModeler

**ProModeler - Servos for all
of your RC aviation needs.**

As most of you are aware, the ability for the scammer to access your personal information and their ability to impersonate real businesses and persons, makes it more believable and harder to spot the scam. If something seems to good to be true, it likely is. When treated by scammers on a personal level, take some time to digest what is being communicated, verify the validity of the information and the person or persons sending you or contacting you.

You can report a scam right now by contacting the [Federal Trade Commission](#), your local police department, or the [Florida Attorney General](#).

Where to Report Scams

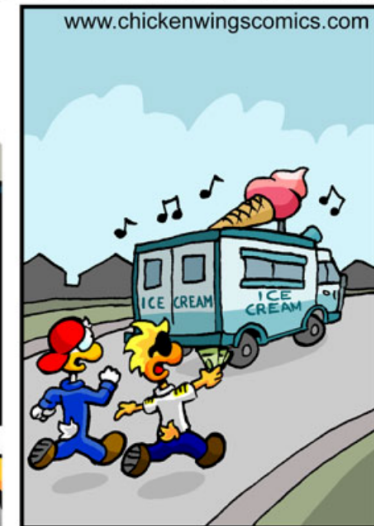
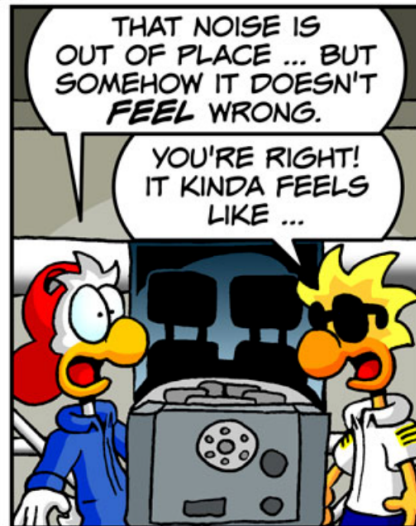
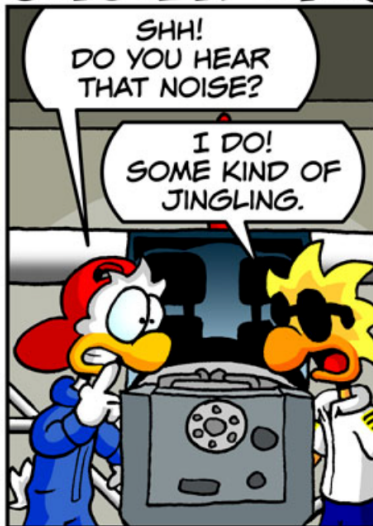
- **Federal Level:** File a report online with the Report Fraud FTC portal.
- **State Level:** Call the Florida Attorney General at **1-866-9-NO-SCAM** or file on their official site.
- **Cybercrimes:** Report online scams and identity theft to the [FBI IC3](#) or [Identity Theft Gov.](#)
- **Local Level:** Call your local police department if money was stolen in person or local threats were made.



Are you interested in supporting your club by becoming an Introductory Pilot Instructor? Check out the links on the last page of this newsletter. Support for new and introductory pilots is always needed. Join now, enjoy the rewards of sharing your experience and knowledge.



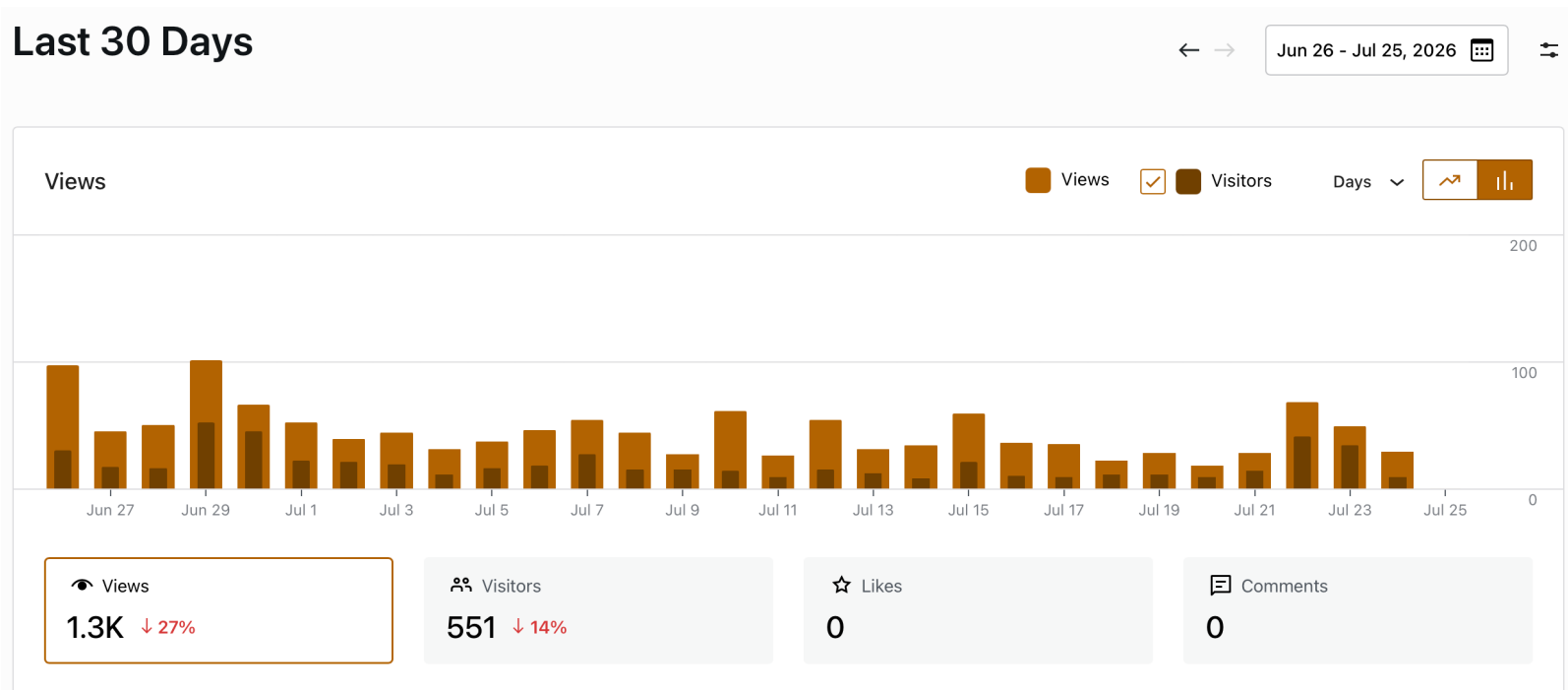
CHICKEN WINGS®



Larks RC Club Web Site Stats

Does our club web site work? Good Question. We have done our best to accommodate all of your suggestions and request including the secure members area and the newly introduced Forum Section. We understand that some of you are still having difficulty with the password resets link. If you run into difficulty, please send me an email and I will reset your password for you. **Your user name is your AMA number and not your email address.** When requesting a password reset, you must have access to the **email address you provided in your personal profile**, as this is the email address your reset link will be sent to.

Below you can see the Stats for the past 30 days. A refer is a link clicked provided by a Search engine, Gmail, or other places that a redirect has been installed.



Hobby King - Do you purchase items from Hobby King?

If so, please use the link provided on the club web site and in this email to get to the Hobby King Web site. Using the club link, ensures you get the club discount. In addition, the club is a partner with Hobby King and we receive 2% of all purchases made.



Hobby King Link. Discount code - LARKS5

RCBATTERY.COM
OFFER AVAILABLE TO TCRM READERS ONLY.

Get **15% Off**

► YOUR NEXT PURCHASE ◄

SIMPLY GO TO **RCBATTERY.COM** AND ENTER PROMO CODE:

AUG26RCB!LARKS AND GET 15% OFF YOUR NEXT PURCHASE.

Promo code is only valid until August 31, 2026 and can only be used once per user and not in conjunction with any other offer or discounted price. Discount does not apply to shipping cost.

Discount code doesn't apply to items already discounted

More from the club meeting - the Flying Site Improvement Grant was approved and we received \$3000.00 from the AMA. The grant was submitted after the runway was completed. Thanks to the AMA for the funds.



Exclusive Offers

AMA PODCAST
Ep 30 - AMA Member Benefits with Erin
The AMA Podcast

00:00 | 41:07

In addition to the great resources, tools, insurance, publications, having a voice in Washington, and so much more...as an AMA Member you also receive discounts from our participating partners.



Larks RC, view from our live stream.

You can get to the live stream by visiting the club web site and selecting the Larks-RC Live link from the main menu.

The stream is live daily from 6:00 am to 7:30 pm. If you find the stream off line during these time, please send me a note at editor@larks-rc.com and I can investigate and reset the stream.

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Sponsors and Advertisers

RCBATTERY.COM

*LARKS RC Discount Code - 15% discount is available during
the month August 2026*

Discount available to all readers of the LARKS Newsletter.
Discount do not apply to already discounted or reduced items.
Simply go to RCBATTERY.COM and enter the discount code on the payment page.

Click the code below to be redirected to RC Battery Web Site

[AUG26RCB!LARKS](#)



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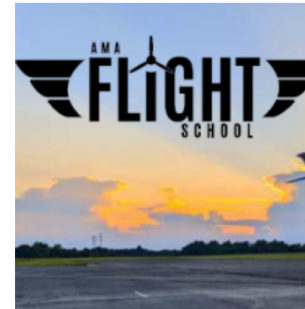
<https://www.amaflightschool.org/blog/intro-pilot-ground-school-live>

Fold to Flight: An Educators' Hands-On Pathway from Paper Planes to Advanced Drones



Fold to Flight is a free project introducing students to aviation through paper airplanes and other models, enhancing skills and knowledge.

Pre-Flight Checklists



Performing a pre-flight checklist before each flight is an important safety step. Be aware that your model aircraft may have other specific items that

Club Flight Training Manuals



Flight Training Manuals Collection This is a collection of Training Manuals we've received from several AMA clubs. These