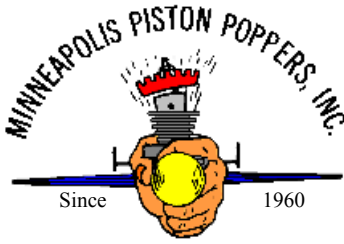


# Prop



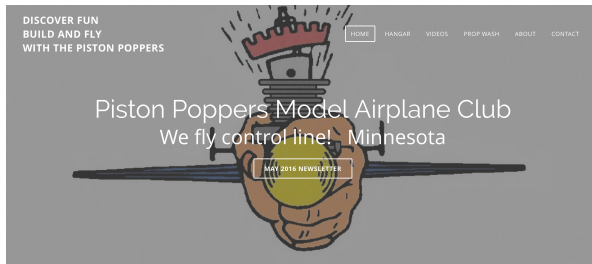
# Wash

**Prop Wash is a publication of the Piston Poppers Inc., an AMA U-control club**

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Any articles for the newsletter are greatly appreciated and will be published as soon as possible.

## March 2021



<http://www.pistonpoppers.com>

### Meeting Info...

I don't think that we'll be having a March club meeting at the EAA hangar.

**There may be a Zoom Meeting.**  
**More to come on that.**

However the Building sessions are still scheduled for the first Saturday's of February and March.

If anyone has questions, they are free to call me...(612) 210-8195 or 763-424-1045  
Thanks, Tony

Well it's official now, **Discover Aviation days for 2021 is cancelled.** I just saw this on their web site a few days ago.

Since the museum is no longer available and the planes are being sold off one by one, I don't know what area they may use in 2022.

My guess is that it may look different from past years and on a smaller scale, just my best guess.

Jim Gevay

**DUE TO ONGOING CONCERNS REGARDING THE SPREAD OF COVID-19, DISCOVER AVIATION DAYS IS CANCELLED FOR 2021. JOIN US IN 2022 ON JUNE 4TH AND 5TH AT THE ANOKA COUNTY AIRPORT – JANE'S FIELD IN BLAINE, MN!**

## JEFF LANGE

By now you have heard of Jeff Lange's passing. I want to share a note about my friend.

When I joined the Piston Poppers, there were very few active fliers. Armed with a phone number list of current and past members, I began calling with a simple message, "**Come fly with me!**" Jeff was one of the first people to take me up on that offer and thus began a lifelong friendship.

Jeff was always behind the scenes helping with the club. From field preparation work and equipment maintenance to helping someone with their building projects. He was there to lend a hand and offer advice to anyone that asked.

The January 1<sup>st</sup> Fun Fly that we are all familiar with, was started by Jeff and me back in 1990. Throughout the years we hosted races that included Mouse, Sport Goodyear, and Special Slow Rat (*based on the Fargo sport race of the Skylarks club*). Jeff introduced me to the Free Flight Club where we built hand launched gliders together. He showed me countless times how to build airplanes. I wish I had the talent to build as well as he could! Most of Jeff's builds were from a jig or templates he constructed first.

Jeff was very knowledgeable on many subjects. From cars, trucks, and motorcycles to the environment, nature, and space, if you could think it Jeff could discuss it. His mind was going a mile a minute with thoughts on how something worked and ways he could improve it.

He was a machinist, locomotive mechanic, and worked in a pattern shop. His knowledge included building construction, plumbing, electrical, and designing his own style of models. Besides helping me with models, he helped wire my garage, properly cut down a tree, and helped to build a durable fence, to name a few.

Jeff was a great husband, father, and grandfather. Along with his wife Sandy, they raised two beautiful daughters, Tanya and Lori, teaching them valuable life lessons and instilling good morals for them to live their lives by. The Lange's have always welcomed me into their family with open arms and I am forever grateful for the kindness and love they have shown me and my family.

I hope everyone reading this will have the opportunity to experience a lifelong friendship as I did with Jeff. For 35 years, he was not only a friend,

but a family member, and mentor. He will be deeply missed.

Bob Cheney



Due to the restrictions from Covid a memorial service for Jeff will be held at a later date. The Lange family is planning a possible outside venue when the weather warms. I'll keep you informed.

Bob

## **Dale Mendenhall Passed Away**

I'm sorry to say my friend of 63 years has gone on to better flying conditions.

We had planned to attend the monthly meeting of the free flight club – MMAC – and I arrived at his house about 11 am to find Dale's brother Alan and Alan's wife standing in the driveway waiting for a funeral service to pick up the body.

I'll write more later but want to get this out.

Dennis Leonhardi

## **Flying on Frozen Lake**

Day after St. Paddy's day the wind was not howling but blowing but the sun was shining so I too the Brodak Electric .46 powered P-40 down to the lake and flew off of my now defunct ice rink. Had about 10 inch ice thickness. Slushy a bit. Sure was fun and felt good to get on the handle. All in all not a disgrace but gets me pumped to practice this Summer.

Sean Emery



**MEETING NOTICE:- No Meeting due to Covid-19 Restrictions.**

The Piston Poppers Club meetings are held on the last Thursday of each month at the Anoka Co. Airport in Blaine, MN. Enter the airport road from the automatic gates on the West side, turn right and go south past the airport beacon to the EAA Hanger.

