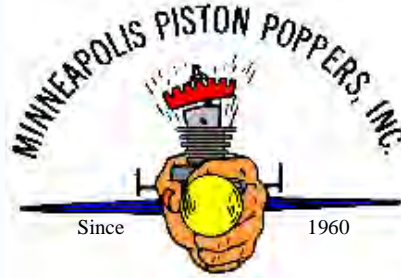


# Prop



# Wash

December 2016

## 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. Send to

[seanemery2@mac.com](mailto:seanemery2@mac.com)

Club web address is [www.pistonpoppers.com](http://www.pistonpoppers.com)

## November/December Meeting

**Old Business:** The Frozen Fun Fly is on January 1<sup>st</sup> starting at 10 am at the same place as last year, the Westwood School. Tony and Bob will provide the food and refreshments. The winter building sessions are on January 15<sup>th</sup>, February 5<sup>th</sup> and March 12 at 9 am at the EAA hangar. The swap meet will be at the February meeting, remember 10% of the proceeds go to the club. Keith Sandberg made a motion to re-elect all the club officers for another year, voted on and passed. Tom Sontag invited everyone to his Christmas party at his home.

**New Business:** None

**Show and Tell:** Jeff Lange talked about and showed us some of his racers. He had a mouse racer, an Artisian Fox stunt and a Sport Goodyear, powered by a .15 diesel. Bob Cheney also talked and showed us his Sport Goodyear racer, and a Sky Ray. Rachael Sandberg showed everyone her Stunt Trainer; she built and painted it herself. Barbie is the pilot in the cockpit.

Tom Sontag showed us a few engines he bought recently, one of them was a Norvell .25.

Jim Gevay

## FLYING DAYS

Except for the upcoming Frozen Fly our flying days are over for the winter season. Now it is on to the building season. I bet those people who live in the south really envy us they just have a flying season.

So far there has been progress in our own little shops with some building taking place. I for one decided to repair the Skyray I lost at Discover Aviation Days. It was a challenge as all I needed to do was replace the fuselage but when you do a good job something must be wrong. I installed the wing upside down, what a bear to cut it free and do it correctly. I bet though it is not the first time this has happened to someone. All in all it did turn out fair, I'm satisfied and hope to do better next time.

Tom has also got a project in the works in what he calls his "micro shop". He is building a Brodak ME-109 Jeff and I toured his shop and Jeff tied some leadouts for him.

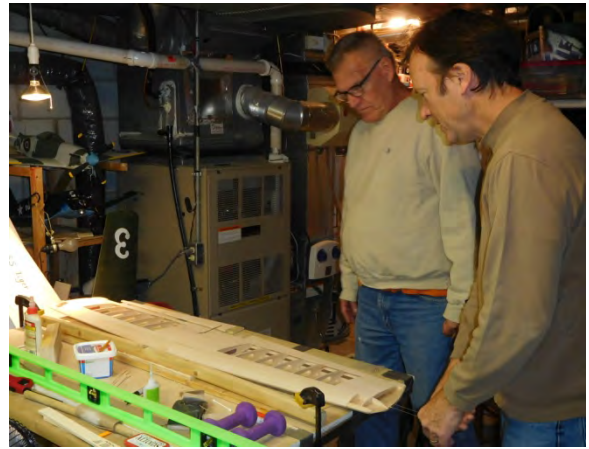
At our meeting on Dec 1<sup>st</sup> Jeff gave us a great show and tell about the club racing us use to do from Sport Goodyear and Mouse to our brand of Special Slow Rat racing.

Our own precious Rachel showed off her Barbie plane and told us about her build for last year's kids building session.

I do believe we will be having a club building sessions starting in January check the dates and join us.



**Bob's repaired Skyray**



**Tom and Jeff in the "Micro Shop"**



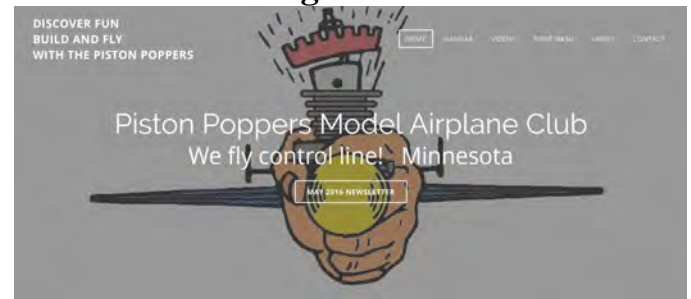
**The Barbie Plane**

### **New Piston Poppers Website**

Check it out. Thanks to Tom and Carey.

<http://www.pistonpoppers.com>

**Click on Photo to go to the website**



Well that's about all of these ramblings for now. I do want to wish all our fellow members and their families a very

**“MERRY CHRISTMAS”**



## From Tom Sontag

Here is a contact we received from the webpage, and our email exchange. Thought you should be prepared should Tim comes to a meeting, the Fun Fly or build sessions.

Tom

From Piston Popper Website:

### Comment

Hello!

I'm writing to say how glad I am to see an active Control Line club! I grew up in South Minneapolis and I can remember the very day my two brothers and I could hear the sound of a model airplane with an oscillating sound coming from our school playground just a block away.

We raced to the sound and found a neighbor in the center of a circle, with a beautiful red profile airplane screaming in laps. We watched in amazement. After a while, this neighbor allowed us to hold his .60 sized airplane as he ran into the center to grab the control lines. I remember feeling the power of the airplane, the fuel running down the fuselage and onto my hands. And the nitro fuel, sweet perfume it was. The smell to this day brings me back to those days. Then came the hand signal to release the beast. I would roll over and watch the circuits flown over and over again with a slight blue vapor trail following the plane from a very slightly rich running engine. Loops, inverted, figure 8's.

I was hooked and so were my brothers. We bought Cox .049's and nailed them to boards and learned how to run them, how to tweak them for max performance. Our next door neighbors hated us. The screams of that Cox motor would eventually push them to their limits and we could barely hear their yelling at us to stop it over the sound of that magnificent power plant. My parents weren't too keen on the trimming I would do of bushes, plants, flowers etc. That little propeller would cut through vegetation better than a gardeners shears.

Later, we would try to fly our own control line models and on at least one occasion, we learned the hard way what happens when you don't put in right

rudder. "Who needs that rudder turned out? What is that for?"

This fascination of our neighbors control line model, combined with his patience and understanding of our curiosity, and involving us in his flights, lead me to a life long love of model airplanes. One of my brothers and myself became licensed pilots. He became an aircraft mechanic. I moved north of the metro and built my own R/C airstrip and have held several events at home, flying up to and including 1/3 scale 50 pound airplanes. I even build a 36x36 building on my airstrip for building model airplanes.

But, it's control line that really got me involved in aviation. I haven't seen anyone in 30 plus years doing any sort of flying at any parks, schools or vacant land like we used to in the 70's.

So, when I started looking around the internet, I saw your club and numerous videos. Kudos to your club leadership and members for keeping this wonderful hobby alive.

I know that winter is upon us and your flying will probably subside as it does in R/C, well, except for my piper cub on skis with electric motor.

I will try and attend a meeting of yours but with working nights, it might be a challenge. I will definitely watch for nights in which you are flying so I can come and watch.

A question for you is, do you have a plan on having another swap meet this winter as it looks like you have done in the past?

Thank you very much,

Tim Mattsson  
Stacy, Minnesota

## My 2017 Project

Though my fleet is strong mainly due to a busy Summer of shows so less flying...but also I hope improved flying skills, I do plan to give a go at building a Pentastar designed by Lou Wolgast. It just kept catching my eye as I would peruse the RSM kit by Eric Rule. It comes with the option to build a .40 or .60 size from the kit. Hmmmmm...I sure enjoyed flying the Strega with a big .61 in it but boy do the .60 size take up more room in the mini-van.

I'll decide later on that. I did order a PA .75 from Randy Smith on an impulse. Don't need it, just want it.

But since my fleet is strong I feel there is no rush so I can take my time and hopefully build a plane I can be proud of. I need too. It is time.

Sean Shug Emery



## Shug's Christmas Video

<https://youtu.be/jgDoeX-kBpM>





**MEETING NOTICE: December 29? – Anoka County Airport at 7:30 PM**

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 2

hangar. It's the Blue hangar between Thunderbolt Aviation and the Golden Wings Museum, next to the road. Meetings start at 7:30 PM. Visitors are always welcome.

