

# Blue & Gray

## Miniature Aircraft Squadron

Volume 33, Issue 2

AMA Gold Member Club  
Established 1993

Newsletter Date 5/25/2026

### Officers

**President**  
Jeff Black

**Vice-President**  
Mike Brouse

**Secretary**  
Dave O'Leary

**Treasurer**  
Mike Brown

**Field Marshall**  
Brian Colledge

**Webmaster/Newsletter  
Editor**  
Tim Toot

### A Message from the President

#### Flying field updates:

The field is in good shape, the new addition to the width of the runway gives us a true 80' wide runway. When you see Mike Brouse make sure to thank him for the countless hours of rolling down the flying area. I'm glad to see the membership taking advantage of it. Thank Mike Brouse and Jim Groft for all the hard work they do keeping the runway and parking lot looking like a golf course.

Remember to collect all the pieces of your unfortunate crash. We found a horizontal and vertical stab in the farmer's field. It is your responsibility as a club member to make sure all trash is picked up before you leave the field even if it is not yours. Thank you Field workday: Brain Colledge, Dave O'Leary and I did move the 2 pilot boxes closes to the entrance back to line up more with the edge of the runway on Saturday. Hopefully this will help with the people using those 2 pilot boxes lining up to the runway.

Membership meeting: Will be held during the club picnic September 13, 2026.

#### FAA update:

To stay up to date with current FAA activities, go to the AMA website site or look in the monthly magazine at the government affairs section for the most current information.

#### Final thoughts:

As we enjoy the flying season remember to let other members know when you're out, it is always more fun when there are more people flying.

Safe flying,  
Jeff Black



ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS  
**FAA-RECOGNIZED IDENTIFICATION AREA**  
A FRIA IS A DEFINED GEOGRAPHIC AREA WHERE DRONES CAN BE FLOWN WITHOUT REMOTE ID EQUIPMENT.



## Executive Meeting 5/4/2026

The Blue & Gray Executive Meeting was held at Jeff Black’s home on 05/04/2026. Members present: Jeff Black, Mike Brouse, Mike Brown, Jim Groft, & Dave OLeary. The meeting was called to order at 6:50 p.m.



**President’s Report:** Flying for the 2026 season is already underway. For anyone wishing to be advised when a group of club members will be going out for evening flying, please text your name & phone number to Wayne Bucklew at (717) 476-0159 to be added to the call list.

- Our club received our 15th Gold Leader certificate for 2026 as well as sanctions approval for our upcoming War Birds Over Gettysburg event on June 6th-7th.
- For the Warbirds event, we will offer our RC flight simulator experience.
- Food Shack menu for the event will include hot dogs, hamburgers, Italian sausages, chips, and a variety of soft drinks.

**Vice President’s Report:** Mike Brouse completed the rolling of our field this week for the 2026 season (to include the additional 18’ of runway added last year).

- Two new flags (to include a flag recognizing our 250th anniversary) were acquired and hoisted on our field flag pole.
- Lawn tractors will be serviced for the season over the next two weeks.
- Portable toilets will come on line June 1st & serviced by Smith’s this year.
- The board wishes to extend our sincere thanks to Mike Brouse & Jim Groft for the outstanding care & maintenance of our field each year.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Motion by Mike Brouse to accept Treasurer’s Report; seconded by Jim Groft. Motion passed unanimously.

**Field Marshall’s Report:** Nothing to report.

**Webmaster Report:** Nothing to report

### 2025 -2026 CLUB EVENTS:

Warbirds Over Gettysburg: June 6th—7th, 2026

Club picnic: September 13th, 2026

Blue & Gray Chili fly-in: October 10th—11th 2026

Blue & Gray Christmas party TBD

## New Business

**WARBIRDS Event Date Change:** Please note the 2026 dates for our Warbirds Over Gettysburg event was changed due to an AMA sanctioning conflict. The new dates for the 2026 WARBIRDS event are now June 6th & 7th.

- Club elections for 2026 - No submissions were received from any club member requesting to run for any executive office. As a result, the current officers will remain in place for another term.

**AMA “ Model Aviation Day “** will be recognized in conjunction with our Fall J. J. Kornaski Memorial Chili Fly event on October 10 & 11, 2026. We also plan to have our RC flight simulator operating for all 2026 events.

The board discussed suggestions to possibly increase attendance at 2026 club events. Responses included increasing the number of “50/50” raffles, advertising our free flight simulator experience for all events in our club website and flyers. We will also consider placing a sign on our field gate with 2026 event dates & flight simulator availability. The board would appreciate additional suggestions from our members.

Picnic tables will need to be checked in for structural safety for the 2026 season.





## New Business

Jeff will research costs for club ball caps & shirts this year. We will advise (once costs are confirmed) for anyone interested in a purchase.

The board is considering either the Green Horizon Golf Course (which has a separate room) or the New Oxford Diner for our Christmas Party this year. Please advise if you have a preference or additional suggestion.

The board continued discussion on suggestions to grow our club. AMA recently held an on-line session entitled “6 Ways to Grow your Club” to discuss this issue and received input from a variety of clubs across the country. This session is available for viewing on the AMA website. Below are 6 points discussed at the seminar, and suggestions from our board meeting that may apply for each category.

1. Use Social Media to Promote Club: We discussed using our club Facebook page more to promote our club starting with Tim Toot’s drone coverage video of one of our past events to introduce our club and field to newcomers. This could possibly be followed by a short video with Jeff providing basic information about our club, AMA, member benefits, and an invitation to visit our field during one of our flying evenings or an event. We might also encourage people to respond to us via the E-Mail button on our facebook page. We also discussed the need to include a short video of our flight simulator and one of Jeff’s training planes with the offer to provide free flight training for new members. We would also include event dates for the year; include similar information on our advertising flyers, and place a link to AMA on our site for additional information.

2. Events: A number of seminar attendees recommended holding an air show during events. They also stressed that people really enjoyed music on the PA system with someone narrating what was flying at any given time to include type of plane, how it is powered, pilot’s name, speed, etc. We discussed the possibility of putting something together for a 1 hour show. Again, this would also be advertised on our sites and flyers.

3. Create “Entry Level Training Program : Several of the clubs in the seminar have been able to develop a cadre of instructors to develop a basic “ground school” after which the same instructor is ideally linked with the same student. Some clubs also incorporate simulator training if available. Some larger clubs also provide training aircraft & controllers for kids that don’t have them for training. This may be something we can aspire to, but to start, we discussed the possibility of advertising a weekend "Open House" possibly in late July for the public to come out to the field, watch some flying, try our simulator, have a club member available to discuss the club, and answer questions from parents. Once visitors become comfortable on the simulator, they would qualify to do a real test flight with Jeff. We could also offer some dogs & burgers with soft drinks. Hopefully other club members would be flying that day as well to help us promote the club.





4. Potential Community Partners: Such as Rotary, Moose, Eagles & Veterans organizations. One suggestion from our board was to contact our local “Make a Wish” Foundation Chapter to see if any children would like to come to join us for an event, try our simulator, & learn about RC aircraft.

5. Form a Club Youth Group: Some larger clubs have been able to do this. Some groups have their own youth officers, earn aviation merit badges & maintain their own flight logs.



6. Manufacturer’s Donations: Some RC model companies have on-line forms which can be completed (often on an annual basis) in which clubs can request monetary support for efforts designed to boost interest in the RC hobby. We plan to place an additional sign on our field gate advertising event dates, simulator, and an offer for Free Introductory Flight Lessons. We also hope to distribute club flyers at other locations to include YMCAs, Hanover Roller Rink, and local car shows. We would welcome additional suggestions / comments from any club members to help us “grow” our club.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave OLeary, Secretary

