

The Seminole Flyer



AMA Chartered Club 216, Founded in 1969



A Gold Leader Club for over ten years

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Next Club Meeting

Thursday, February 19, 2026
The Wine House
1355 Market Street

CMN Check Presentation

Jeff Owens

At our January meeting Geoff Lawrence presented a check for \$4,500 to Kaley Barnett representing the Children's Miracle Network. This amount was raised through our annual CMN Fundraiser, half of the Jim Ogorek auction proceeds, and an additional contribution from the club. Since 2014 we have donated just over \$21,000 to CMN!



Upcoming Events

Jeff Owens

Time to mark your calendars for some upcoming events in 2026! To start things off there is the annual Southeastern Model Show, otherwise known as the Perry Swap Meet. This year it will be held on February 27-28. Advance tickets can be found at the GAMA website gamarc.com. I will be there at tables M50-M52 in the McGill Building representing the Senior Pattern Association. Steve Warmath has tables X21-X22 in the Miller-Murphy-Howard Building. FMS (listed as Firefox Toys/Diamond Hobby) will be at tables L21-26 and L48-L53. Table assignments can be found at the web site referenced above. Just go to the section for the Southeast Model Show.

Next on the list is our traditional opening Day Fun Fly on Saturday March 21, 2026. This is a perfect opportunity to get started with flying in the new year. And just maybe you can find a buyer for the stuff you bought at Perry but now no longer want!



Seminole RC Club
Spring Field Opening


Fun Fly March 21, 2026

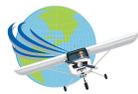
Flying from 8:00am until dusk

Public Invited. Flight Training 10:00am-1:00pm

Lunch served from 11:30am- 1:00pm while supplies last
\$10 per adult, \$5 per child 10 and under.

Apalachee Regional Park, Tallahassee, FL

Directions and map can be found at www.seminolerc.com



All fliers must have current AMA membership
Normal AMA and SRCC safety rules apply



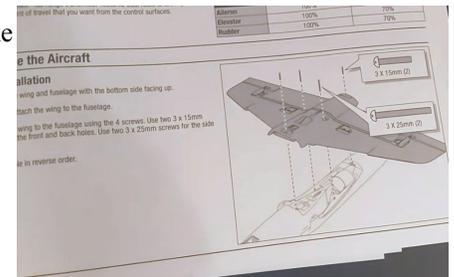
Don't Read the Instructions- Steve Warmath

Ok...., You got that new plane you've been wanting and it's time to "Get-er-Done". The box is pretty big and upon opening it, you notice the packing inside is nothing short of an engineering marvel, equal to that of the aircraft inside. Although there is a certain degree of satisfaction and comfort in knowing it was packed so well, one must not assume that the product, as packed, is in equally perfect condition. As you begin to remove the tape holding the various cross bars and other pieces to remove the parts, take your time. Carefully inspect each component of the model. Look for any damage to the parts. Pay particular attention to control surfaces, hinges, linkages, control horns and motor installations. Are all of the parts provided and needed for assembly provided? "Joe Shmo" or "Liu Chen" may have had a bad day and/or didn't notice a damaged or missing component when he or she packed this one. After the model passes your inspection and the main piece of the puzzle, the **instruction manual** lies ready to be put to the test.



Have you ever tried to put something together following the manufacturers instructions and wonder if anyone in the company ever tried to actually put something together using their instructions? I have, on more than one occasion. It can be very frustrating. So what can you do to get a full understanding of what is going on to give you the best chance of success?

"Don't read the instructions". In other words, don't just blindly follow the instructions without looking ahead. Take it to the next level and actually **"study"** the instructions first. Does the sequence of construction make sense? Is there a different order of assembly that is better for your shop setup? Look for conflicts and mistakes in the instructions. One recurring culprit I've seen is in the notations of what screws, bolts and such parts go where and how many. You don't want to build this baby half way only to have to take it apart and do it again. Radio setups can also be confusing with questionable channel assignments and programming for your particular receiver and transmitter.



I would recommend that after you have studied and read the instructions, search for **YouTube** videos that review unboxing, assembly and flying your aircraft. Some are very good at pointing out problems and recommending improvements and upgrades.

These days, manufacturers do a pretty darn good job of engineering, packaging and documenting assembly of their ARF, RTF, PNP and BNF model products. However, they can make mistakes. If you just spent \$600 or so on a new aircraft, just remember, you are the last quality control checker and assembly inspector before that new beauty takes to the air. Contact customer support for problem solving and questions about assembly, radio setup or control settings.

So.....**"Don't just Read the Instructions"**. Study them and get a clear understanding of the big picture and what needs to be done to ensure successful project completion. This goes a long way toward completing a successful maiden flight that returns to earth in one piece and can fly again.

Happy Flying.

Club Meeting News - Jeff Owens

The January meeting was called to order by President Jay Wiggins at 7:00 PM on January 15, 2026 with 14 members present. The meeting started with a check presentation of \$4,500 to Kaley Barnett by Geoff Lawrence, with Kaley representing the Children's Miracle Network. Since 2014 the club has raised just over \$21,000 for CMN.

Member Recognition - Jay thanked the past (and now current) elected and appointed officers: Jay - President, Sam Varn - Vice President, Marcy Driscoll - Treasurer, Jeff Owens - Secretary, Newsletter Editor, and Webmaster, Steve Warmath - training and TAG coordinator, Mike Atkinson - safety officer, Gordie Meade - field marshal. Jay also thanked Gordie for coordinating the mower maintenance, and Joe Satterwhite, Sam Varn, and Steve Warmath for moving two tables from the Ogorek home to the field.

Club Calendar - Jay presented the updated calendar. A discussion of the July Firecracker fun fly was held and it was decided to move it to July 11 since July 4 falls on a Saturday and many members would have other obligations that day.

Vice President - Sam Varn - nothing to report as of now. The first scheduled event is the annual Field Opening event on March 21.

Treasurer's Report - Marcy Driscoll - the November report was approved as published. Dues are still coming in. Those who have not paid as of this meeting no longer have flying privileges.

Secretary's Report - the minutes of the December meeting were approved as published.

Training Report - Steve Warmath - the AMA TAG grant proposal has been submitted. The Sea Cadets are anxious to have another TAG event in the fall. No response was received from the Civil Air patrol chapter. There will be four TAG events tis year.

Safety Report - Mike Atkinson - no issues to report.

Field Report - Gordie Meade - the mower has been picked up for maintenance.

There were no additional items for old or new business. The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 PM.

The Seminole R/C Club Tallahassee, FL

Officers

President	Jay Wiggins (moonangelb@gmail.com)
Vice-President	Sam Varn (sgvarn@yahoo.com)
Secretary	Jeff Owens (jfolso@comcast.net)
Treasurer	Marcy Driscoll (mdriscoll@fsu.edu)
Field Safety Officer	Mike Atkinson (nexnbax1@comcast.net)
Field Marshall	Gordie Meade (lmeade@fsu.edu)
Training Coordinator	Steve Warmath (sswarmath@comcast.net)

Media Managers

Webmaster	Jeff Owens (jfolso@comcast.net)
Newsletter Editor	Jeff Owens (jfolso@comcast.net)

Flight Training

Primary flight training is available by appointment on Saturdays from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM when the weather is nice and not too breezy. Contact the Training Coordinator or one of the instructors to make an appointment:

Geoff Lawrence 850-591-6879

Steve Warmath 850- 509-0672

Jeff Owens 850-545-7482

Mike Atkinson (Thursday only) 850-251-2694

Gordie Meade (helicopter) 850-528-8063

Troy Emmett (Large Aircraft) 770-546-6199

Field Hours

All Aircraft: 30 minutes before sunrise until 30 minutes after sunset 7 days/week

Please note: Although restrictions have been removed on flying hours for fueled planes, this is on a trial basis until further notice from Leon County. All gassers and nitros must have a suitable muffler.
