



SES NEWSLETTER

Issue 40
January 2026

January Newsletter

Club Officers
 President: Bob Dane
 Vice Pres: Bill Cermak
 Secretary: Steve Furman
 Treasurer: Bob McWilliams
 Membership: Bob Smith

Committee Chairs
 Field Mgr.: Joe Hudackey
 Mowing Capt.: Joe Hudackey
 Safety -Bob Dane -Acting
 Web Master: Jon Baker
 Newsletter: Tim Mitchell

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First, I want to thank all club members for giving me the opportunity to be your newly elected President. We have a wonderful club primarily because of the hard work of all our past Presidents and their associated officers. We owe them a great deal of gratitude, and one of my first requests of the Board of Directors will be to award all past presidents lifetime memberships in the club. We are where we are today because of them.

Your new officers and my Board of Directors will be Bill Cermak - Vice President, Bob Smith - Membership, Bob McWilliams - Treasurer, and Steve Fuhrman - Secretary. Two of our long-time officers have chosen not to continue with their responsibilities. We want to give great thanks to Mickey Murphy and Ed Popp for their many years of service to the club, they have done so much. Joe Hudackey, one of the hardest workers in the club is our new field manager while still maintaining the mowing manager's role. Thank you Joe for stepping up.

Our bylaws state that the current President will appoint a Safety Officer. It's my thought that our safety environment has morphed into something that was never intended and desperately needs to be realigned. We'll talk more about this in our club meeting on the 17th.

For the time being I will take responsibility for safety with the idea that the appointment of a safety officer will come down the road a bit.

Another hard worker we have is the very guy that makes this newsletter you're reading, Tim Mitchell is our newsletter editor and publisher and is doing a great job. We should all remember Larry Ross as the person that started our newsletter with a single sheet of news and activity of the club. Because of Larry we now have a multi page letter and it's getting better every month, thank you Larry. Another hard worker is Jon Baker, Jon maintains, adds to, deletes from, changes up our website, we need to help Jon with ideas for the webpage as it's the vehicle everyone on the outside looks in at our club. Thanks Jon for getting it done.

Again, I want to encourage each of you to attend the club meeting on the 17th at Plantation Reservation, the meeting starts at 10am. We as a club have a lot of energy moving into the new year and there should be several topics of discussion that will affect each of you.

Happy New Year to each of you, I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.
Bob Dane, President



Important Club News

Reminder:

The next SES General Meeting will be: **Jan 17th, 2026 @ 10am**
Recreation Plantation Community Center
609 Co Rd 466, Lady Lake, FL 32159

(Corner of 466 and Rolling Acres Rd)

This would be a great opportunity to renew your membership!

Inside this Issue

- Pilot Safety Briefing 2**
- In Memoriam 3**
- Learn How to Fly 4**

SES Membership Director

Bob Smith
 Contact Info:
 210-867-7535
 bob_smith98@hotmail.com

2026 SES Membership Renewals

Southern Eagle Squadron membership renewals are going on right now. Great news is the SES staff reduced renewals by \$10, so now renewals are only \$75 for the year.

Easiest way to renew your membership is go to our website, click on join/renew tab at top, then click on 2026 membership renewals online. <https://www.southerneaglesquadron.com/member-renewals/>

If you want to pay by cash or check, Bob Smith usually at the SES field Monday and Thursday mornings until 0930. If he is there, he can give you your 2026 decal at the same time. Otherwise, you may come to the January meeting and renew your membership at that time.

Pilot Safety Briefing

Required for all new Pilots, New Members and all club members.

These safety rules and procedures established by our club and AMA are for everyone's safety:

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1. All pilots must display their Visible Club ID at all times while on the flight line.
2. Pilots on the flight line must be in a flying station for their safety.
3. Pilots must announce takeoff and landing and communicate with other pilots on the flight line each time.
4. Pilots must fly in the direction of the active indicator.
5. Taxiing of aircraft in the pit area is **STRICTLY** forbidden.
6. No flying over restricted areas or no-fly zones.
7. No flying at any time when the county is cutting the grass.
8. Pilots must fly within the field boundaries.
9. All aircraft must have AMA and owner's information displayed on or in the aircraft.
10. No more than **FIVE** aircraft are permitted in the air at the same time.

For every aircraft you fly:

Make sure your Name, Phone # and AMA # is displayed on the aircraft.

In Memoriam—Jack Noell

In late 2025 one of the founders of the Southern Eagle Squadron, Jack Noell, passed away from complications from diabetes.

Jack opened a hobby shop in the late 1980s on 301 in Wildwood and had a very well stocked hobby shop for many years. However, within the past 6 years Jack had to close the hobby shop because he couldn't compete with the pricing that the internet RC companies offered.

In the late 80s and 90s we used to have our club meetings at Noell's hobby shop and the Southern Eagle flying field was located off of Lake Ella Road on the top of the hill where there are now homes. The property was privately owned and around 1997 the owner sold the property to a developer and the club had to move and several of our club members found the current location on the landfill.

(Please excuse me if some of the dates are not totally because I am going by memory on this article)

Bill Cermak



1994 in Jack's hobby shop

Southern Eagle Swap Meet in 2023



Southern Eagle Squadron
Lady Lake, Florida



R/C Flying - For Fun

The Airfield Address is:

38000 Rolling Acres Rd
Lady Lake, FL 32159

Mailing Address is:

Southern Eagle Squadron
P.O. Box 798
Lady Lake, FL 32158-0798

352-775-1158

SouthernEagleSquadron.com

Newsletter Editor: Timothy Mitchell
TimothyMitchell@verizon.net

The Southern Eagle Squadron is an AMA Chartered Radio Controlled Flying Club. Our field is located in the North Central Florida town of Lady Lake, adjacent to The Villages.

The history of the Southern Eagle Squadron [SES] dates back to the mid 1970's. SES is an active club with membership in excess of 100. The club leadership continuously arranges various events throughout the year including Club Meetings, Swap Meets, Social Gatherings (otherwise known as Food/Fly days), Fly-ins, and Family Days. SES cooperates with other local clubs in event planning as well.

Learn How To Fly Program

We have a "Fly Before You Buy" program which is offered by Southern Eagle Squadron members. We offer **introductory no cost training flights** to individuals who are curious about RC model flying.

For those starting out, the purchase of a trainer airplane system, membership in the club and the required Academy of Model Aero-

nautics membership could total over \$500. Before you make that investment, you can **fly an SES trainer airplane with the assistance of an SES Instructor at no cost!**

Through the use of a student held "buddy box" controller, the instructor can allow the student full control of the airplane and allow them to get a genuine feel for the

experience. When needed the instructor can take control back with the flick of a switch on his controller and the flight continues.

If you are interested or have further questions, contact us and we'll coordinate time with a SES Instructor to meet you at the field so you can "FLY-BEFORE -YOU-BUY."

FLYING IS FUN!

WE CAN SHOW

YOU HOW!

