



# Sky Writer

See Skymasters on the web at [www.skymasters.org](http://www.skymasters.org)

## President's Message

Hello all,  
Here it is my last Presidents article. (I heard that loud hurray). I have wanted to put a list of learned, true, favorite things and advice, in this article all year and never found the time. If I'm going to do it, it will have to be now. So here goes:

### Advice, Statements and other Stuff

- 1) Straight edges are not all straight
- 2) 15 Minute epoxy cures in 7½ minuets. (especially if you need 14 minuets)
- 3) New thin fast CA is thinner and faster than old thin fast CA.
- 4) When listening to building advice ALWAYS look at the advisors built projects BEFORE accepting said advice.
- 5) When listening to flying advice ALWAYS look at the advisors flying BEFORE accepting said advice.
- 6) When accepting building or flying advice always find out how many planes the advisor has left.
  - A) 25 out of 25; good advice
  - B) 19 out of 20; fairly good advice
  - C) 5 out of 12; fairly bad



is not too giant to fit out of your shop.

(That's how Gary invented the folding wings)

4) Do not build a giant scale airplane that is larger than your largest hauling device. (Unless you are trying to convince your wife to buy a bigger hauling device)

5) The more you sand it the smaller/ shorter/ thinner it gets.

advice

D) 1 out of 1 or 0 out of 1;  
Run away and purge your mind of all advice

- 1) There is no fancy machine that can sand better than your arm and a flat hardwood block. (With sandpaper)
- 2) To solve a problem you can not do everything the same way you did to create/cause/ or allow the problem.
- 3) Do not build a giant scale airplane in your shop until you are certain it

6) Any kit that is in the box, in the basement, for longer than 3 years should be sold at the next swap meet. (My wife made me add this one) (She wanted 1 year and must be sold)

7) If you remove you wallet from your pocket, you are not saving money; no matter how large the percentage of discount. (You must put your money in a savings account to save

*(Continued on page 2)*



Academy of Model Aeronautics

Chartered Club #970

## 2002 Club Officers

President:	Darrel Watts	9279 Thornhill Dr	Clarkston	48348	248-391-4677
Vice Pres:	Paul Zabawa	PO Box 138	Metamora	48455	810-678-3332
Secretary:	Gary Weaks	2512 Red Fox Trail	Troy	48098	248-540-8358
Treasurer:	Bob Donohue	260 Four Seasons Dr	Lake Orion	48360	248-391-1385
Editor:	Mark Smith	1955 Hopefield	Lake Orion	48359	248-391-5970

Articles must be received by the 20th for next issue.

Articles may be reproduced from Skywriter.

# President's

- money, with a large discount you are just spending less)
- 8) You are only gaining on retirement if the interest on your account is always greater than the increase in the cost of everything you would spend it on.
  - 9) If you listen to your mother you can't go wrong. (Unless she builds or flies airplanes, in that case see 4,5, and 6 above)
  - 10) Substitute Dad in above
  - 11) An RC instructor is only as good as the sum of the instructors who instructed him, divided by the number of instructors who instructed him.
  - 12) The probability of an experienced instructor never crashing your trainer is inversely proportional to the amount of sleep he has lost, divided by the amount of sleep he will lose worrying about crashing your trainer.
  - 13) All flying is 3D. (If it isn't 3D your not flying)
  - 14) The only time an aircraft has too much fuel on board is when it is on fire.
  - 15) Today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday; Was it worth it?
  - 16) If you chase 2 rabbits, both will escape

- 17) It the best things in life are free; why are we working so hard and long.

It has been a busy year for me. I hope to slow down next year. Smaller projects at home, fewer hours at work, and more flying. (Yeah right). The Krazy Snow Fly is still a favorite event of mine, (unless I have to run it :-)). It is coming up soon. I hope to see you out at the field next year, you'll recognise me as the one who's the ex- president who's not running anything this year.

Note: Almost everything in this article all year has been fabricated. Everything that even made reference to my family was a fabricated story. The names were not changed to make the stories a little believable. No fish were harmed in the writing of this article. However, some have been wrapped in it.

Until I see you, Keep it in the air, and in front of the flight line

Ross

## *Congratulations to the Skymasters 2002 Officers:*

**President:** *Darrel Watts*

**Vice President:** *Paul Zabawa*

**Secretary:** *Gary Weaks*

**Treasurer:** *Bob Donohue*

These officers and the Past Presidents make up the voting members of your Skymasters Board of Directors.

*Please give them your support throughout the year.*

## From

Welcome to the December 2001 issue of Skywriter! Can you believe Thanksgiving has past and Christmas is just around the corner!! Where did the year go?

Two events remain for this year – **December 12 is our Annual Christmas Party!** Bring the family and come join us at Larson Middle School for an evening of food, fun, holiday music, and a visit from Santa! **December 31 is our Krazy Snow Fly.** This has been one of our more popular events (A lot of crazy – I mean dedicated – pilots in our

club... Will we be able to use wheels or will we be snow blowing a runway on East Graham Lake?? Only time will tell – but we will be out there enjoying some Fredericks' chili and flying as much as we can.

As I indicated last month – it is time for a change for me... This is my last issue as Editor of Skywriter. I have enjoyed bringing this to you for the last four years – I hope you have enjoyed reading it. Mark Smith has offered to be the 2002 Editor. I will be working with him on the January 2002 issue. I'm looking forward to

some more flying time next year (though I think our new President has something in mind for me... he still needs to convince the boss...)

Please send any input you may have for the newsletter to Mark Smith. Items must be received by the 20th for inclusion in the next issue. Please send via email to [masmith248@earthlink.net](mailto:masmith248@earthlink.net), or by mail to his address on front cover this month (see Vice President)

Thank you all—and Happy Holidays to you and your families!

# Meeting Minutes

*Larson Meeting – 11/14/01*

Introduction of officers.

Visitors / New members:

- Andy Craig
- Sherman and Thomas Dixon
- Student pilot building an LT-40

**Next meeting:**

**December 12<sup>th</sup>—Christmas Party at Larson**

**Up-Coming Events:**

**Krazy Snow Fly: December 31<sup>st</sup>.**

**My Favorite Tool:**

**Gary Weaks** – Craftsman right angle grinder/cut-off tool. Can reach into places that a Dremel can't.

**Ross Hardy** – Equation for setting the engine offset:  
 $D \times \tan A = O$

- Where D = Distance from prop to firewall
- A = Required degree of thrust
- O = the distance to mount the engine off-set from centerline.

**Program: Al Mrock** – Choosing a scale project.

There are many categories for scale projects, including museum scale and sport scale. The builder must decide how to construct the aircraft. Choices here include kits, plan building and designer scale, where the builder actually draws his own plans. Documentation is a vital part of any scale project especially if you plan to compete with the aircraft. Obtaining documentation can be a project in itself especially if you chose a rare or little-known subject. The best source of reference is having access to the actual full-scale craft. With some persistence and a little luck, some museums will allow special access to their collections for modelers. If access to the full-scale subject is not available or practical, or if the full-scale no longer exists, we must rely on what other people have documented. The AMA and other such libraries are usually good sources of documentation. Zenith Books also has many books on scale subjects as well as books on museums to help locate full-scale craft for research and documentation. Another consideration for choosing a subject is how well the full-scale flew. If it was not a successful-flying full-scale it has little hope in being a good performing model. Once the subject is chosen the building techniques must be

selected. An early consideration is the power source. Gas, glow and electric all have unique building and finishing considerations. A finishing system must also be chosen. Many of Al's scale planes are painted as opposed to heat-shrink covered. Chevron, Pactra, Rust-Oleum, and nitrate and but-erate dopes are part of many choices here.

Al brought in a few of his scale projects for display including a large model of a Avrado, a WWII German sea plane that weighs 30 pounds. He also brought in many examples of Sikorsky sea planes models for electric power. Keeping the weight down especially with the number of struts in a Sikorsky is quite a challenge.

**New Business:**

**Elections:**

Nominations and seconds were taken for Secretary: Gary Weaks, Treasurer: Bob Donohue, Vice President: Paul Zabaya, and President: Darrel Watts. All ran un-opposed and were elected as the 2002 officers. The Chief Flight Instructor, the Newsletter Editor, and Bald Mountain liaison will be appointed by the club president.

**Show-and-tell:**

**Grey Lane** – Four-Star 40 with bomb-drop mechanism and home-made opening bomb made from plastic Easter egg and parachute.

**Joe Hass** – Graupner Eindecker park flyer and a Hanger 9 Passaz ARF fun-fly plane reviewed for RCM Magazine.

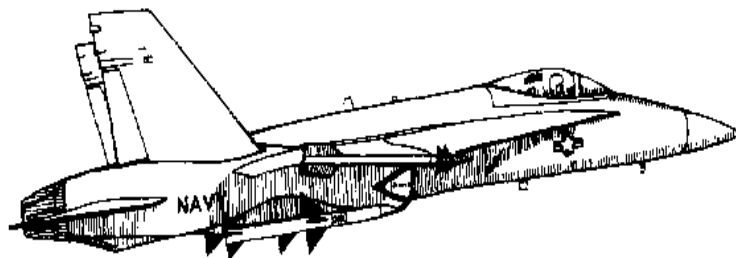
**Joe Rubinstein** – Scratch-built project underway of a Bloch MB210 French Medium Bomber of WWII. Powered by two electric 020 brushless motors.

**John Hakala** – Sig 4-Star-60 which was won in a raffle. Power is a Saito 80.

*Show and tell won by Joe Hass*

*50/50 won by Joe Hass.*

**Meeting Adjourned.**



**WINTER FLYERS**

COME FLY WITH US



CONTACT MARK SMITH IF YOU WANT TO BE ON OUR E-MAIL NOTIFICATION LIST. WE FLY ALL WINTER ON THE WEEKENDS WE TRY TO PICK THE BEST DAY AND GO FOR IT! STUDENTS - SET UP TIME WITH AN INSTRUCTOR

E-MAIL ME TODAY - MASMITH248@EARTHLINK.NET

# Skymaster's Events

**Monday, December 3 and December 17, 9:00 AM Skymasters Retiree's and Want'A Be's Breakfast**

**\*\*New Location This Year\*\*** Rams Horn Restaurant—Northeast Corner of Crooks Road and M-59 in Rochester Hills  
 First and Third Monday of each month throughout the winter. Contact Bob Burns at 248-628-4666 for more info!

**Wednesday, December 12, 7:30 PM Skymasters Christmas Party, Larson Middle School**

Our annual Christmas Party. Bring your family and come join us for food and fun. We've contacted the North Pole to let them know the date so Santa can join us with gifts for the kids!

**Monday, December 31, 10:00 AM Krazy Snow Fly, Scripps Road Field**

Our last event of the year—and one of the most popular! Don't know what the weather will bring, but we will be flying!!! Last year's conditions forced a change of venue to a nearby frozen lake—still with many pilots joining us for flying and hot chili. Come out and brave the elements for a fun day of flying and eating...

**Wednesday, January 9, 7:30 PM Skymasters Meeting, Larson Middle School**

District VII AMA Vice President Bill Oberdieck will be joining us to talk about the happenings at AMA and answer any questions you may have...

**Wednesday, January 23, 7:30 PM Skymasters Meeting, Larson Middle School**

Don Hindemann—the Senior Product Demonstrator for Dremel Tools in the Michigan area will be joining us. He will be showing us some new tools and cutters from Dremel. We will have several Dremel products as Door Prizes for those attending. Come see whats new—and maybe take one home.

## Friends of Bald Mountain



The Friends of Bald Mountain (FOBM) is an organization that works closely with the DNR on issues surrounding the park. Their mission statement is "To preserve and protect the unique and sensitive natural resources within Bald Mountain Recreation Area, promoting and supporting outdoor recreational opportunities for all citizens." Skymasters is a member of FOBM as an organization. We encourage our members to join FOBM as an individual or family.

**FOBMRA Board of Directors: President: John Griffith; Vice-President: Bill Peters, Jr.; Treasurer: Bill Hayes; Secretary: Keith Cook; Board Members: Tom Asmus, and Al Barnes; Park Representative: Bob Ranger.**

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**Yes, I am interested in the preservation of Bald Mountain Recreation Area; Please enroll me as a member.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual dues: \$15.00 for individual or family, \$25.00 for business or organization. FOBMRA dues are tax deductible. Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) membership is available to FOBMRA members at \$15.00 a year. MUCC information and magazine will be mailed to your home. MUCC dues are not tax deductible. Mail annual FOBMRA/MUCC dues to: FOBMRA, P.O. Box 799, Lake Orion, MI 48361-0799. Thank You!!**

# Other Area Events

## The Detroit Aero Modelers Swap & Shop

Radio Control Planes, Cars, Boats, & Equipment

### When:

Sunday, January 13, 2002  
9 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Come early  
(Dealers at 8:00 a.m.)

### Where:

Monaghan K of C Hall  
19801 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Mi.  
Between 7 & 8 Mile Rds.

**Admission:** Adults \$3.00 Children 12 years and under, Free

**Tables:** \$12.00 advance registration \$15.00 at the door (Includes one admission)

Bargains.....Refreshments.....Door Prizes

For information or to reserve a table call Mike Cuba at  
734 522 7638

**E-mail:** michael\_cuba@juno.com

Date	Club	Event	Notes	Contact	Phone
Dec 31	DAM	Red Eye Fly-In	11:55 PM	Stan Spiewak	313 534-3300
<b>Jan 2002</b>					
1	Chesaning R/C	Sno-Fly Fly-In	Fly anything	Michael Freeman	517 871-2673
11	Midland R/C	Swap Meet	K of C Hall-Freeland	Rich Erratt	517 687-2932
13	DAM	Swap Meet	K of C Hall-Farmington	Stan Spiewak	313 534-3300
27	RCCD	Swap Meet	Eagles Hall- 8 Mile & Gratiot	Ernest Varilone	810 286-5143
<b>Feb 2002</b>					
17	GDSHS	Sno-Fly	Sailplane	Art Slagle	248 477-2228
17	Chesaning R/C	Swap Meet	Baker College Owosso	Michael Freeman	517 871-2673

# Skymaster's Events



## Skymasters R/C Club

Skymasters Radio Control Club annual club event

### Krazy Snow Fly Monday December 31, 2001 at the Scripps Road field (see map).



Event held regardless of weather.  
Event Flying starts at 10AM.



*"PERSONALLY, I DON'T BELIEVE ALL THOSE STORIES YOU HEAR ABOUT FANATICISM IN THIS HOBBY!"*

Noise limit - 94Db at ten feet - no exceptions.



- \* Lots of parking.
- \* Refreshments available at events.
- \* Great chance for the public to see this exciting hobby in action.
- \* Toilet located at field.

The Scripps Road flying field is located within the Bald Mountain State Park about five miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills. All cars need either an annual or day Park permit which is available at the event.

For more information call Steve Fredericks 248-693-6686  
[www.geocities.com/~skymasters](http://www.geocities.com/~skymasters)

# Skymasters 2002 Family Application

**Information:**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ AMA #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Pilot: \_\_\_\_\_ Student: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Newsletter: Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Web: \_\_\_\_\_ New Member\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Family Members who Fly:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ AMA #: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Pilot/Student \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ AMA #: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Pilot/Student \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Information (to include in roster/club records):**

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Significant Other: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Field Rules**

- 1) Field hours are 10 AM - 8 PM (NO EXCEPTIONS)
  - 2) Noise limit for 2002 is 94 dB at 10 feet.
  - 3) All transmitters must be narrow band (Gold Sticker equivalent) excluding 53mHz.
  - 4) All receivers must be AMA approved narrow band (dual conversion or ABC&W) excluding 53mHz.
  - 5) Membership card must be placed in slot on frequency board when pin is removed.
  - 6) You must not fly behind the flight line.
  - 7) AMA Safety Code must be followed.
  - 8) All vehicles at field are required to have 2002 State Park Permit.
- I have read the above rules and agree to abide by them and all other Skymasters and AMA rules and regulations.**

**Member's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Club Officer Use:**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dues Paid:** \_\_\_\_\_ **AMA Verified:** \_\_\_\_\_ **\*Voted In** \_\_\_\_\_

**To renew by Mail, send:**

- 1) Check for \$50 (\$55 after February 28, 2001)
- 2) Photocopy of 2002 AMA Card
- 3) 2001 Skymasters Card
- 4) Self addressed stamped envelope
- 5) Signed Application !!!

**Mail To:**

Bob Donohue  
 260 Four Seasons Dr.  
 Lake Orion, MI. 48360

**We are asking ALL MEMBERS to fill out an application! \* New members are voted in at the next meeting.**



**SKYMASTERS RADIO CONTROL CLUB OF MICHIGAN**

Mark Smith  
1959 Hopefield  
Lake Orion, MI 48359

**www.skymasters.org**

**Email: skymasters@geocities.com**

*Upcoming Events:*

*Dec 12—Christmas Party—  
Larson Middle School*

*Dec 31—Krazy Snow Fly—  
Scripps Road Field*

*Happy Holidays!!!*

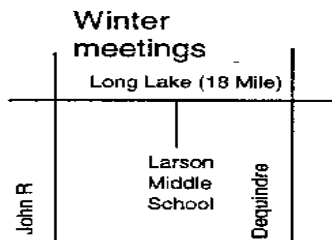
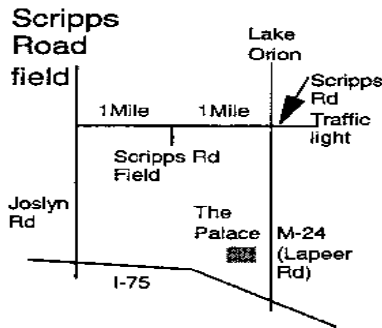
**Skymasters  
Infor**

Skymasters field is located within the Bald Mountain State Park on Scripps Road (see map). State Park Permits are required and can be obtained from the Park Headquarters located on Greenshield Road or at club events. Flying is permitted from 10 AM to 8 PM. The noise limit for 2001 is 94 dBa at 10 feet—this noise rule is strictly enforced,

Wednesday evenings during the summer is Student Night and there are usually instructors around all afternoon. Student night is also 'pot luck' buffet night so that

you can fly-n-feed (though not usually at the same time). Students are encouraged on other days and weekends as well. It is a great idea to come on Wednesday, meet the Instructors and arrange for more instruction time together. Our Chief Flight Instructor is Ron Sokacz (810) 977-1404.

From June to August, Club meetings are held at the field on the first Saturday of the month at 12 Noon—a great chance to fly and



**mation**

gossip too! Winter meetings—September to May—are held at Larson Middle School (on Long Lake just east of John R—see map) on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM. Show and Tell, coffee and donuts, and model-speak are the order of the evening. Come along—they are fun,

The Skywriter newsletter is sent to all members, local hobby shops, and other R/C clubs in the area and around the country. Any and all contributions are welcome. Please pass any articles to the Editor. If you know of anyone who may be interested in our hobby (friend, relative, neighbor, colleague or acquaintance), please give them a copy of this newsletter or a copy of an AMA magazine. It may spark their interest and get them into our hobby!