



Academy of Model Aeronautics

Chartered Club #970
5 Year Gold Leader Club



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

BY: ROSS JONES

THE CHIPS ARE DOWN.

Urban sprawl and a weak economy have combined to threaten us. We all knew that this time would come. As you all know, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) is considering a land swap with a local developer for some pristine park land in Oakland Township. The land directly east of us is being considered for an equal value swap for this developer's land. There are many against it at multiple levels - including Skymasters, Orion Township, Michigan Mountain Biking Association, Michigan United Conservation Clubs, Friends of Bald Mountain, a number of citizens and a host of others.

The MDNR has no money, can't buy the land offered outright and in a separate issue is considering selling Pontiac Lake Recreation Area to Oakland County. When money is tight, there are tough decisions to be made and money is tight everywhere in Michigan at the moment. We can send a message not to sell the future of park land in Michigan. We have chips in this poker game and now is the time to cash them in. With our heavy (and documented) involvement with the community we have much more of a

stake in this than someone who 'just showed up to the meeting.' Thanks to all our work we are well known. Urban sprawl is a real issue that has affected us directly from day one. It's a hot button issue with the public and will have resonance with politicians. We have weight on our side on this one...

November 6th and 7th, a contingent of us will go to Lansing and present our case to the MDNR board, who will be considering this land swap proposal. We invite you to come along with us.

SEASON ENDING

The flying season is over for me. Time to build, or rebuild - depending upon the ship. But I like to look back and see what I accomplished compared to what I set out to achieve. I had wanted to pilot with thumb and forefinger, rather than just the thumb. Oh, it was torture, but I got it. I also wanted to work on rudder inputs a lot more. I still have work to do there. As I wrote earlier, flying in the wind is a great way to improve. Barring 25 knots of wind (where I would be wind-surfing) I don't worry about flying in high wind - just a different challenge is all. All told, I had several landings this year with my scale ships that did NOT end up in a nose over. I'm

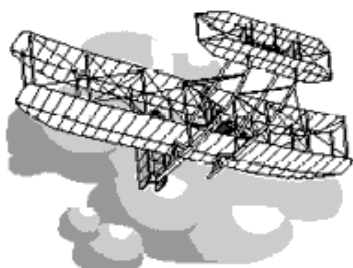
more concerned with the flying than the landing anyway! I hope you achieved some of the goals you set out to meet as well. For those of you flying this winter, don't get frostbite!

SEE YOU AT THE MEETINGS !!!



**HARRY ETHERIDGE'S SCRATCH BUILT P-38
PAUL GOELZ TEST PILOT, 1ST TIME FLYING A TWIN**

But don't just sit there and assume that because your friend Pasquale Evans (fictitious name) wrote to everyone on the list we provided, you're covered... Write right now in your own style. I propose a deadline to write by the week's end of your receipt of this newsletter. We know who the players are on this one. On No-



CENTENIAL OF FLIGHT

2003 Club Officers & Appointees...

President:	Ross Jones	6028 Meadowgreen	Waterford	48327	248-738-4435
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:	Joe Rubinstein	155 Cayuan	Lake Orion	48362	248-693-4265
Editor:	Mark Smith	1955 Hopefield	Lake Orion	48359	248-391-5970
C F I :	Ron Sokacz	40714 Matlock	Sterling Hts	48310	586-977-1404
State Park:	Bill Stark	1010 E. Clarkston	Lake Orion	48362	248-693-8639
Membership:	John Billinger	943 Vanderpool	Troy	48083	248-680-3318

CUB SCOUTS AT SCRIPPS... BY: DARRELL WATTS

Scout Day at the Skymasters Field A BIG SUCCESS!!

On Oct. 5th Cub Scout Pack #188, out of Rochester Hills, convened at our field for an afternoon activity themed "The Sky is the Limit." Approximately 45 scouts and over 100 of their parents and siblings were present. (Bill Stark sold all 50 of the Day Permits we had on hand. The



park likes that.)

The Pack Committee members set up their activity in four stations. One station was "The Space Race." At this station the boys competed with their rocket ships that they had built at home. (Similar to Pinewood Derby only with rocket shaped wooden vehicles that slide down a string.) Next was the "NASA station" where Harlan Neuville (a member of our club who worked for NASA) talked about space travel. Then there was a "Crafts and Games station" where the boys made paper airplanes, etc. Finally we had the "R/C Airplane station." Jack Fleming conducted a brief ground school and then each of the scouts got to fly a trainer. Pete Foss, Greg Cardillo, Jim Held, Ross Jones, Dave Lange and Mark Smith served as instruc-

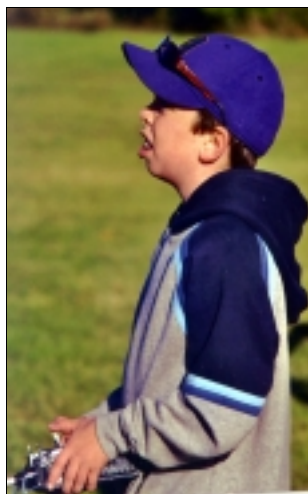
tors.

Hotdogs were served and then everyone was treated to an air show. Samantha Foss flew her Zaggy. Chris Hass flew his electric profile Cap 232. Mark Smith and Dave Lange flew their Magics, some formation but mostly just wild aerobatics. Then Gary Bowman amazed the audience with his 3-D helicopter maneuvers. Finally Joe Has startled and wowed the crowd with his rocket-propelled airplane.

The Pack leader was thoroughly impressed with the overall organization of the activity, the site and particularly the R/C flying. He is already talking to Ross about doing it again next year. Many of the scout parents expressed their appreciation. At least a half a dozen fathers said that they now knew what they wanted for Christ-

mas...we'll see.

Finally I want to thank all of the Skymasters who were present (those named above and several others of you who pitched in) to help make this a very successful event.



PHOTOS BY: GREG CARDILLO

ORION BARN DAYS/KIDS DAY...

BY: GARY WEAKS

How are we going to do it? That's the question that kept repeating itself in my head after Jennifer Roe, from the Orion Parks and Rec. Department told me that they were expecting a couple thousand people in attendance for the annual Barn Daze event at Friendship Park. As a way to boost participation in our annual Kid's Day flight introductions, we moved it to coincide with Barn Daze this year. Borrowing some queues from our Camp Jeep experiences, we prepared for a lot of students.

It was a perfect fall day, sunny and warm with a slight breeze from the south. The soccer field in the park served as a flying field for the day. It was large enough, but it was bordered by busy highways, homes and the overflow parking lot. And just to add to the challenges, the grass on our proposed runway was thick and tall. But the show had to go on. The skill of our instructional pilots got things underway on time. Darrell Watts quickly ran home and brought his riding lawn mower out to shorten a runway patch.

We flew kids both young and old from 11:00 AM until 5 PM. In all, 162 students were flown that day. We collected park tickets for each flight raising \$243



for Friendship Park. However, the real reward was to hear the giggles and cheers of the kids experiencing radio controlled flight for the first time! At the height of the activities, the small patch of runway resembled a busy aircraft carrier with planes landing, refueling, and being launched back into the sky. This was a day that our club can be proud of. The hard work of the volunteers on hand kept things moving like clockwork with registration and information, static displays, a ground school and flying activities. In the middle of the day we demonstrated some of the more capable planes including electric and fun-fly planes.

With all of the flying and the challenging environment, there were no miss-haps.

This is again a strong testimony to the skill and professional attitude of volunteers who put in a very long day including setting up the tents, giving the public a very nice, hands-on exposure to our hobby and leaving the park as clean as we found it. Thank you to all who came out and helped at Kids Day. A job well done!

~Gary

PHOTOS BY: GREG CARDILLO

PROP WASH...

Joe Finkelstine

Get off 'yer duffs

Hi, gang,

I am going to keep things short this month, because I am actually writing for the club in a different manner. I have created 3 letters so far to individuals in the Natural Resources Commission. I am certain that there will be other areas in this newsletter about this, so I won't repeat the detail here, other than to tell you that if we do not help nip this land grab in the bud, it will become a field threatening issue now. I studied the propaganda coming from this land developer, and my personal opinion is that he is after the frontage on M-24, and the other land associated with it is secondary to him. Even if secondary, it would certainly be slated for development right up to the wires at the east end of our field, effectively closing our field. It is not time to panic, but it is time to act, so please take the time to visit our web site, and study this situation. If nothing else, you should get angry at the theft this man is proposing at your and my expense as a taxpayer. This guy is essentially asking to

trade property he bought for ~1.5 million, says it is now worth ~3 million (after 2 whole years of ownership) and is claiming it is worth MORE than the frontage on M-24 (and all of the land towards the west up to our field), which is conservatively estimated at between 10-15 Million. I do not know about you, but I'll be damned if I am going to agree with state supported thievery.

I further believe this developer has succeeded so far because he has been able to depend on no one opposing him and fast tracking it based on workload of the decision makers. So far, he has been able to claim some amazing stories about land values, number of people using the land he wants, support of the local communities, etc. He has succeeded so far because the decision makers probably are so busy that this one fell under the radar screen. Might I suggest we help remove this stealth he so depends on?

Bill Start has written a precise letter (available on our web-site) detailing each claim by this developer as the nonsense it actually is. Actually,

our web site has a wealth of information on this and provides ample information for you to compose feedback to the decision makers involved here.

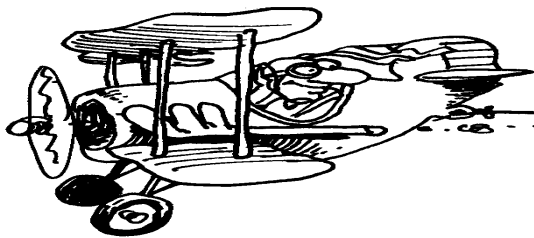
Get off 'yer duffs and write a letter people, the field you save may be your own!

~JOE

At the request of Dick Streetman from Boulan Park Middle School, Skymasters was invited to put on a flying demo at Troy High School. We were one of the entertainment attractions before the Try Foundation walkathon.

The combined static and flying demo was very successful. I'd like to thank all the pilots who came to display and fly. Ross Jones, Chris and Joe Hass, Greg Cardillo, Bob Burns, Garry and Tim Bowman, Darrell Watts and Carolyn and Sam Foss put on a great show. Highlights included Garry's 3D helicopter flying and Carolyn's Park Hawk ornithopter. Thanks all for putting on a great show for a good cause.

Pete Foss



**SKYMASTERS
CLASSIFIEDS**

FOR SALE:

✈ **"ULTIMATE BIPLANE"** CARL GOLDBERG (approx 10 flights) YS Supercharged 91, Hi-torque BB servos, Aluminum Gear, Glass Cowl (unpainted), Flawless red & white monocoat, pull-pull rudder, JR radio, Ready to fly! \$500 O.B.O. **Rob Fredericks 810-797-2511**

✈ **"SIG SKYBOLT"** (approx 15 flights) 21st Century fabric covering, dual aileron servos, no radio - motor, \$200 O.B.O.....**Rob Fredericks 810-797-2511**

OCTOBERFEST 2003...

BY: DAVE LANGE

It Was a Full Moon Harvest Night...

Ok, so it was not quite a full moon harvest... but Saturday the 18th of October cleared up just enough for the Skymaster's first campout; The October fest Camp and Fly. The evening started with some free for all flying, and then on to what we do best, eating! Pete Foss along with Greg Cardillo fired up the grill and cooked the meat, while Carolynn Foss and Denise Cardillo set up a real nice spread of pot luck dishes on the picnic tables. There was certainly enough food for all of us to eat! It was mentioned, that we are an eating club, with a flying problem! (I can agree!) It was not long after dinner that we got the fire on a good burn. By dark, the wood pallets and kindling had flames reaching as high as 20 feet into the air! The warmth was enough to where we did not have to bundle up too much in the 50 degree weather; in fact some of us were not even wearing jackets!

As soon as the darkness was well at hand, Pete and Greg put on a night time flying show for us. Their flights were silent, and quite enjoyable to watch with the LED lights glowing in the pitch black sky. After the night flying, some light hearted gifts were given out to the kids that showed up, and we let the fire cook down into some nice red hot cinders. It was time for the S'mores! We all had a great time sitting around roasting marshmallows and sipping our drinks telling stories. Three families stayed the night this year; The Foss's (and friends), The Schmelting's, and The Lange's.

I would like to thank all that came out to enjoy the privilege of the bon fire and camping at our field, whether you stayed the night or not! Additional thanks to Dan Devine for rounding up wood pallets and Mark Smith for the two barrels of kindling along with his fine log splitting capabilities! (Who would ever know Mark is such a lumberjack?) Especially, I would like to thank Bill Stark for getting the permit for a fire and camping at our field! Hopefully, next year we can continue with this tradition and help it grow for more to enjoy.

Photos by: Dave Lange

Thanks,
Dave Lange



Bonfire in its early stages ...



Sitting around the camp fire...



**Our president trying to figure out a scouting knife so he can get his beverage open!
(looks like he opened a few before this one! ED.)**

Larson Meeting – 10/8/02

Ross Jones presided. Attendance was 42. The meeting started at 7:30 PM.

Bill Stark, our park liaison, shared some concerning news regarding the park land adjacent to our flying site in Bald Mountain. The park land immediately east of our field was being discussed by the DNR in a land-swap proposal. If successful, this proposal would put that large piece of land in private ownership and could lead to residential development. The Skymasters, along with the Friends of Bald Mountain and the Mountain Bike Club oppose this proposed land swap. Not only would we lose a large undeveloped buffer around our field, but the value of the land exchanged would represent a net loss for the park.

It was suggested to have the Skymasters conduct a letter writing campaign to the DNR and to send a contingent to the DNR's November 6th meeting. Watch your e-mail for up-coming news regarding the land swap proposal.

Upcoming events: On Saturday, October 11 is our annual Kids Day. For the first time Kids day will be held in conjunction with Orion Township's Barn Daze. A good crowd is expected and we will need lots of volunteers to put on a good show.

On Saturday, October 18th in the morning, the City of Troy has invited us to fly at the Troy High School as entertainment during a walk-a-thon. Flying will be from 8AM to 10AM and we will use the athletic field.

On Saturday October 18th in the evening is our field closing party. The party starts after the flying concludes for the evening.

Program: Joe Finkelstine demonstrated how he takes scale aircraft documentation and converts it into drawings for the construction of a model. Using the latest CAD software, Joe demonstrated with a computer and projector how a scanned three-view can be converted to providing the outlines for the construction of a model. The interior construction design must then be determined in a way that stays true the model shape yet provides a strong and light-weight airframe using techniques available to the modeler.

Show and Tell: Joe Hass brought in a Vertical RC Cap 232 electric park flyer. It uses the latest lithium polymer batteries to provide three-D performance. Joe also brought in an Ultrastick ARF in which he installed a new Futaba 9C programmable radio. Joe was very disappointed with the radio's programming instructions.

Greg Cardillo showed his veteran Sig King Kobra. It is powered by a ST61, has Spring-air retracts and uses an Airtronics Stylus radio. Greg says the airplane takes off slow due to its weight, but once airborne it's a great performer.

Pete Foss showed a Powercock Ornithopter. This strange model flies using the same propulsion and lifting techniques of a live bird...it flaps its wings. Electric motors can operate for about 5 to 7 minutes per charge.

Jim Held brought in an F-86 Saber Jet project that he has been working on for some time. When finished it will be powered by a Nelson 91 racing engine driving a ducted fan unit. The engine will be turning up to 24,000 rpm in this aircraft.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30.

PHOTOS BY: MIKE HOLMES



MIKE HOLMES' - HOG BIPE W/ OS-90 FOUR STROKE



AL MROCK'S - FOKKER D7 W/SATIO 80

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ SKYMASTERS ★

★ START ★

★ BUILDING ★

★ YOUR WW -1 ★

★ WARBIRD'S ★


★ FOR NEXT ★

★ SUMMERS ★

★ DAWN ★

★ PATROL ★

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

RETIREES & WANT-A-BEE'S BREAKFAST'S

Breakfast starting 9am at the "RAM'S HORN FAMILY RESTAURANT" located on the North East corner of Crooks Road and M-59. Take the Crooks road exit off M-59 north, the address is 2265 Crooks Road, Rochester Hills. Breakfast's will be the first and third Monday each month, all winter. Come enjoy breakfast and good conversation. Any questions call Bob Burns at 248-628-4666

AREA EVENTS... AMRCC CONTEST SCHEDULE

- ★ NOVEMBER 1.....OAKLAND YARD INDOOR SEASON STARTS.....WWW.OAKLANDYARD.COM
- ★ NOVEMBER 2.....MIDWEST SWAP.....NORTHVILLE CENTER.....KEN MYERS 248-669-8124
- ★ NOVEMBER 3.....RETIREES BREAKFAST.....RAMSHORN.....BOB BURNS 248-628-4666
- ★ NOVEMBER 12.....MEETING.....HARLAN "NASA" NEUVILLE.....ROSS JONES 248-738-4435
- ★ NOVEMBER 17.....RETIREES BREAKFAST.....RAMSHORN.....BOB BURNS 248-628-4666



SKYMASTERS "NOVEMBER" 2003

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 OAKLAND YARD
2 NORTHVILLE SWAP	3 RETIREES BREAKFAST	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 MEETING HARLAN NASA	13	14	15
16	17 RETIREES BREAKFAST	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24	25	26 NO MEETING	27 THANKSGIVING DAY	28	29



SKYMASTERS RADIO CONTROL CLUB OF MICHIGAN

Mark Smith
1955 Hopefield Rd.
Lake Orion, MI. 48359

Web site: www.skymasters.org
Email: masmith248@earthlink.net

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 2.....NORTHVILLE SWAP
NOVEMBER 3.....RETIREES BREAKFAST
NOVEMBER 12.....LARSON MEETING
NOVEMBER 17.....RETIREES BREAKFAST
NOVEMBER 27.....THANKSGIVING DAY



**HOME OF THE
"MIDWEST REGIONAL FLOAT FLY"**



Skymasters Information.....

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 2003 is 94 dBa at 10 feet—this noise rule is strictly enforced.

In the summer, Wednesday evenings are Student

Nights and there are usually instructors around all day. Student night is also a pot luck buffet, bring something for the grill & a dish to pass. Meet the Instructors and arrange for more instruction time together on other days. 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 socialize. 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. Bring a model for Show and Tell, enjoy coffee with donuts and listen to the speaker of the evening.

The Skywriter newsletter is sent to members, local hobby shops, and other R/C clubs in the area and around the country. All contributions are welcome. Please send articles to the Editor. If you know of anyone who may be interested in R/C Aviation, please give them a copy of this newsletter or a copy of an AMA magazine. It may spark their interest!

