



Academy of Model Aeronautics

Chartered Club #970
5 Year Gold Leader Club

Skywriter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

BY: Joe Hass

Last month's President Message, and in fact the entire newsletter, was filled with spelling and grammatical errors. My apologies to our readers. It was some consolation that the last issue of Flying Models Magazine also had an apology for all the mistakes that they had. I guess we can blame it on sunspots or a full moon.

I write this after Skip Mast's presentation on applying metal finishes at the March 23 meeting. WOW! It was amazing. Skip is a very talented and unassuming guy. He made it look so easy, even adding rivet detail. I am truly amazed at the amount of modeling talent we have in Southeastern Michigan. These are master craftsmen creating world class machines. Skip is starting to work on his next project a 1 inch equals 1 foot C-130. It will have a 132 inch wingspan!

The March 9th meeting featured Dave Thacker from Radical R/C discussing Lithium Polymer batteries. Even people with a lot of lithium experience walked away with new facts and techniques.

Dave is enthusiastic about all thing aviation and is especially enthused with kids and model aviation. He will offer a discount if you are working with kids. Dave car-

ries a full line of electric accessories, batteries, supplies and kits. Chris and I have built 4 of his kits. They are all great fliers. Contact Dave at Radical R/C, 937-256-7727 or www.radicalrc.com for help with your electric project.

Plans are well on the way for the 15th Annual Midwest Regional Float Fly on September 10 and 11, 2005. The "Super Prize" will be an 84" Beaver on floats from Kondor Model Product. It has a pre-painted fiberglass fuselage, flaps, etc. It will be powered by a Saito 1.8. It will also be a review in RCM . It is so beautiful, even in the box, that I may buy a ticket. (OK, stop laughing now). Radio Control Modeler will again publish an article on the MWRFF. It will appear in the August issue with our ad for the MWRFF appearing in the September issue. Greg Cardillo reduced the over 400 digital images he took down to about 50 spectacular pictures that will be considered for publication. There may even be a cover shot in there as well. Tried as I might neither Greg nor RCM would remove a picture of my ARROW in a not so flattering, almost inverted, very close to the surface of the water, obviously not going to recover, pose. Those new cameras are just too good.

The land swap is all but over. Thanks to all who wrote letters in opposition. This deal is bad for the

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**Last flight of the winter (I hope).
Spring is here lets get out and fly!!!!**

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2005 Club Officers & Appointees...

President:	Joe Hass	1142 Brunswick Dr.	Rochester Hills 48309	248-321-7934
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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:	Gary Weaks	2512 Red Fox Trail	Troy	48098 248-540-8358

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residents of the State of Michigan. Remember, we are not losing our field because of this. We have a great field in a great location. Encourage membership! Encourage flying!

The Bald Mountain Involvement Day is scheduled for April 16, 2005 from 9AM until 3 PM. The field will be closed during this time. There is plenty to do for all skill levels. Bring out a good pair of gloves and the neighborhood kids for a good day outdoors helping our park. There will be plenty of refreshments.

Our April meetings will have great speakers. Bob Edelstien will speak about antique engines on April 13. The April 27th meeting will have an Electric Forum featuring Keith Shaw, Ken Myers, Jack Lemon, Jim Young and more. This will be a lively and informative discussion on all things electric. See you there!

Joe Hass

Retrieve float planes at Stony Creek this summer.

Al McGee is our guy with a boat who retrieves the planes each week and he will be providing this service again this summer beginning in May. We are also looking for someone new to replace Al as he may not be able to do it all summer. If you have a boat and are interested in retrieving our planes on Wednesday mornings, please contact Jim Held at 248-641-9724 or email at jim-wheld6651@wideopenwest.com.

Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday March 9, 1005
 Location: Larson Middle School

President Joe Hass gives the greeting:

Guests:

Jim Rolland – modeled for a few years (10 years ago) and wants to get back into the hobby!

Bud and Timmy Kellner are building a electric airplane from scratch. They are ready to learn how to fly!



Guest speaker Dave Thacker from Radical R/C

Radical RC specializes in lithium power cells. Dave owns the second business to start selling lithium cells.

Dave started his presentation by stressing how easy it is to start a fire with lithium cells. **NEVER CHARGE** a lithium battery in the house! Charging in a fire-proof container is a good idea. The container will likely limit the amount of oxygen to fuel the fire. Metal ammo boxes are ideal for charging in. Dave used some banana clips drilled into the side of the box. It's also a good idea to put a small hole 1/8 of an inch so if a fire does start you can tell before opening the lid.

What causes lithium batteries to burn?

	<u>Lithium</u>	<u>NiMH/Nicad</u>
Empty voltage	3.0	1 volt,
Nominal voltage	3.7 volts,	1.2
full voltage	4.2 volts	1.45

Charging at the wrong cell count is much more dangerous with lithium cells because each cell holds more voltage. Over charging by 1 volt may start the fire. Setting the charger 1 cell over actual will definitely start the fire. Charging unbalanced packs may also start a fire because the cell with the most power in it may start to burn when the voltage gets too high. The rest of the cells will still be charging at the normal rate.

Lithium's have a higher energy density meaning that you can have considerably more capacity for the same weight. Lithium's charge faster because you typically don't run the battery completely down in normal flying

How do you know when to stop flying? Don't run the battery to BEC cut off. It is hard on the lipo and degrades long term performance Tapping each cell allows you to charge individual cells to bring them back into balance, optimizing the pack and preventing overcharging the stronger cell. Out of balance typically means a cell that's .05 volts different than another cell. Cells that have been slightly overcharged puff up.

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Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, March 23, 1005
 Location: Larson Middle School

President Joe Hass gives the greeting:

38 members were in attendance.

Skip Mast - Applying metal finishes. Skip sent a few examples of his work out to the crowd. Covering a model with aluminum must be done over a hard surface (fiberglass, or hard finished balsa).

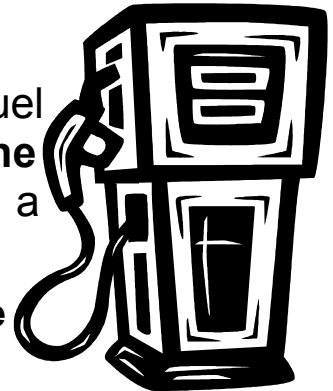
Flight Metal produces the rolls of adhesive backed aluminum. Peel the aluminum off of the backing very slowly to keep the aluminum from distorting. The aluminum weighs .4 oz per foot. Skip uses a tongue depressor (like a burnishing tool) to force the aluminum onto the surface. Skip suggests starting with the bottom of the fuse or wing, "by the time you get to the top you will be an expert". Skip starts by placing a panel on the plane, then covering the panel with masking tape. The next panel slightly covers the previous panel, and is cut with a hobby knife directly at the overlap. Once the tape is removed you have two pieces and a perfect panel line. Aluminum can also be stretched much like MonoKote. Skip showed a cowl built by George Maiorana. It took George 20 hours to cover the cowl. Riveting is the easy part. Take a piece of Litho plate (may be able to get a piece from a printer) to build a template for the rivets. The template is built by puncturing the litho

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"FUEL SALE"

It's time once again for me to place the annual fuel order. This year, orders will be accepted by **phone only** at the number shown below. Please leave a message if I am not available when you call.

- ☛ **10% Cool Power @ \$10.50/gallon (ordered by the drum)**
- ☛ **15% Cool Power @ \$11.50/gallon (if orders permit a drum, otherwise \$12.50/gallon)**
- ☛ **10% Omega @ \$11.50/gallon (factory packed)**
- ☛ **15% Omega @ 12.50/gallon (factory packed)**
- ☛ **Four-Cycle @ \$12.50gallon (factory packed)**



Alan McGee
(248) 589-0283

*Please feel free to inquire about other fuels available from Morgan. Please place your order no later than **April 30th**. I hope to have the fuel available by mid-May.*

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plate with a sharpened piece of music wire. To make consistent punctures use multiple pieces of paper on top of glass under the litho plate. The number of pieces of paper will determine the depth of the puncture. The one thing to remember when making the rivet template is to keep the puncture depth the same for each rivet on the template. Once you have a template created all you have to do is place it over the panel line and press it down with you burnishing tool and you have a whole row of perfect rivets. A word of warning – Aluminum and glow fuel don't mix well. More information can be found at www.scaleaero.com. Skip also showed us the initial drawings for his new project, a C130. The plane will be 1/12 scale giving it a 133 inch wing span. Skip also showed the nacelle mold blanks made out of MDF.

Show and Tell:

Joe Hass – Adrenaline 3-D by Abell RC (abellrc.com). The plane uses quite a few carbon fiber rods for stiffness. Although the plane is a flat foam it uses regular hinges. The plane gets medium marks because of the instructions, however the plane flies great. 11.4 X 7 APC electric prop, AXI 2212/26, Castle Creations Phoenix 25, 4- Hitec 55 servos, 3s1p lithium pack. The plane weighs 17 oz.

The 50/50 drawing was won by Roger Schmelling.

“BALD MOUNTAIN INVOLVEMENT DAY”- APRIL 16



Please join your club for our annual
Bald Mountain Involvement Day
 Saturday, April 16th. The Skymasters enjoy a

great relationship with the Bald Mountain Recreation Area along with many special use privileges. In order to show our appreciation we volunteer one day each year to help the park with cleaning and repair tasks. These can range from heavy work like clearing paths and replacing roofs to lighter ones like painting and cleaning. There is always a task for every skill and ability level. We start work at 9:00 AM at the Park Headquarters on Greenshield Road 1 mile east of M-24. Lunch will be provided for all of the hungry workers. If you can bring tools such as rakes, shovels and hammers they always come in handy (make sure your name is on them so that they can find their owners again). Dress for warmth and comfort with a good pair of working gloves and boots. We could use about 5 people to volunteer as team leaders for that day. If you would like to be a team leader or have any questions please call Gary Weeks (248) 540-8358. Thanks and see you at Involvement Day!

GRAPHICS BY MARK SMITH

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Ni Cads require constant current charging. Lithium polymer requires constant voltage charging. You must use a lithium charger for lithium cells.

Why use lithiums? They store a large amount of energy in a small light package. The performance of the lithium is better than anything on the market.

The C rating is the discharge capacity. A 1000 mah (1.0 amp) lipo pack that has a 15 C rating can discharge at 15 amps or 1.0 amps X 15 = 15amps).

How do you dispose of lithium? Discharge it first then throw it away.

How do I know the right size pack is for a specific model. We need to start thinking in terms of watts per pound of aircraft weight. Volts X Amps = Watts. Check the voltage and amps with a digital multimeter.

Ken Myers, author of the "AMPERE" newsletter for the Electric Flyers Only (EFO) was introduced. Ken can be reached at 810-679-3238 or at <http://members.aol.com/kmyersefo>.

Show and Tell:



Greg Brausa – Byron Originals Christian Eagle powered by a Webra Bully with a 20X8.



Wade Wiley – EZ ARF Zero 25 to 30 size glow. Powered by a Jeti 30 brushless motor and Horizon Hobby E-Flite 40 amp ESC. Thunder Power Lithium 4200 MAH battery 3s2p. 73.6 oz when finished. Wing loading 26 oz per square ft.



Chris Hass – Z planes P-40 A single servo powers both the left aileron and elevator. Same on the right side. Himax 4200 with a 6.6:1 gear.



Jack Goodrich – Goldberg Tiger 400. 23 oz. 3s1p Lithium. Brushless 400 motor.



Paul Zabawa – E Force Delta powered by a GWS Pica system.



David Wendt – Alpha FW-190-MP Jet 28-30 brushless out runner motor using a 8X6E APC prop. The ESC is Jeti 18 amp ESC with a Thunder Power 3S1P 1320 MAH Lithium pack.

Joe Hass also brought in Radical R/C Micro and Mini Stick.

Closing speech:

We are looking for a member who can store the trailer next winter. This is important because the trailer storage is putting us over budget.

The 50/50 drawing was won by Joe Hass. (ED Note: buying a lot of tickets does work)

AREA EVENTS...

AMRCC CONTEST SCHEDULE

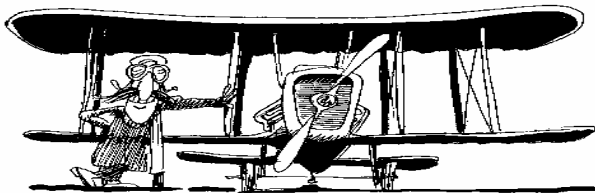
Retiree and Want'A Be's Breakfast - **Monday, APRIL 4th & 18th, 2005** - Rams Horn Restaurant - 2265 Crooks Road, Rochester Hills - 9:00 AM

SKYMASTERS MEETING— Wednesday, April 13th, Larson Middle School 2222 E. Long Lake Road Troy 7:30 PM
BOB EDELSTEIN— ANTIQUE ENGINES— Did you know that miniature engines were produced in prison? How many Michigan engine manufactures can you name? Bob also ran the company that produced the full size replica of the Waco Biplane. Interesting? You bet!!!

Bald Mountain Involvement Day— Saturday, April 16th, Park Headquarters, 9:00 AM (for details see page 4)

SKYMASTERS MEETING— Wednesday, April 27th, Larson Middle School 2222 E. Long Lake Road Troy 7:30 PM
ELECTRIC FLIGHT FORUM—Ken Meyers, Keith Shaw, Jim Young, Jack Lemon and others will participate in a panel discussion of all things electric. These are the nations leading authors, experts, and innovators. The projects that they will bring are worth your visit. The knowledge they will share is priceless.

Oakland Yard indoor flying.— February 19th, March 26th and April 30th. 9PM to 1AM. Cost \$18.00 - 248-673-0100



Richard Chapman, long time member of Skymasters, passed away at his home in Florida in mid March. Our sympathies go to the Chapman family.

SKYMASTERS "APRIL 2005"

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 TOLEDO SHOW	2 TOLEDO SHOW
3 TOLEDO SHOW	4 RETIREE'S BREAKFAST	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 LARSON MEETING	14	15	16 INVOLVE- MENT DAY
17	18 RETIREE'S BREAKFAST	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 LARSON MEETING	28	29	30 OAKLAND YARD

SKYMASTERS "2005"

EVENT SCHEDULE

<u><i>April 16</i></u> <i>(Saturday)</i>	<u>Bald Mountain Involvement Day</u> - Bald Mountain Park Headquarters. Come out and volunteer to help our park prepare for the summer season. There are light jobs & heavy jobs and everything in between. -Gary Weaks (248) 540-8358
<u><i>May 15</i></u>	<u>Inter-Club Fun Fly</u> - Fly against other clubs in the area. Each club will send a team to compete for bragging rights. Fun Events. This years first fly will be held at our Scripps Rd. Field 11:00am - Mark Smith (248) 391-5970
<u><i>May 21</i></u> <i>(Saturday)</i>	<u>Chet Brady Memorial Float Fly</u> - Seven Lakes State Park, Holly. AMA. Our first Float Fly Event of the year. It adds a whole new dimension when flying from water - it's also great to watch. Flying starts at 9:30 AM. - Pete Foss (248) 236-0676
<u><i>May 22</i></u>	<u>Bald Mountain Float Fly</u> - Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Trout Lake. AMA. The beach will be closed. Another fun day float flying! <i>The Scripps Road Field will be closed for this event.</i> - Joe Hass (248) 321-7934
<u><i>June 18</i></u> <i>(Saturday)</i>	<u>Small Fry, Electric, and Sailplane</u> - Scripps Road Field. AMA. Electric's & Gliders or any plane with a 2 cycle engine to .25; 4 cycle to .30 (tow planes any size welcome) High Start, Power Pod, or Tow for Gliders. - Pete Foss (248) 236-0676
<u><i>July 10</i></u>	<u>Team Fun Fly</u> - Scripps Road Field. Even if you don't fly you got to see this one! Lots of exciting flying events, lots of fun, and even some prizes. Need a teammate, we'll find one for you! - Dave Wendt (248) 969-8738
<u><i>August 7</i></u>	<u>Harold "Big H" Maseles Warbirds and Scale</u> - Scripps Road Field. AMA There's lots of variety in the air and on the ground, P51's to Tiger Moths. Come see Military and Civilian scale planes. - Joe Finkelstine (248) 375-0530
<u><i>August 28</i></u>	<u>Corn Roast and Top Gun</u> - Scripps Road Field. This is the club event of the year with our annual 'Top Gun' pilot competition. A field full of aircraft and some great flying & great food! A Excellent day out for all club members, their families, and our neighbors. - Ross Jones (248) 738-4435
<u><i>September 10-11</i></u>	<u>Midwest Regional Float Fly</u> - Island Lake State Park, Brighton. AMA. This is the Largest float fly in the Country! Over a 100 Float flyers from all over the Midwest bring all sizes, shapes, and color of aircraft imaginable and fly them for two days solid. "Super Prize Raffle". Flying starts at 9:30 AM both days! Greg Cardillo 248-431-5562
<u><i>October 8</i></u> <i>(Saturday!)</i>	<u>Kids' Day</u> - Friendship Park, Lake Orion. We are again Joining Orion Townships " Barn Daze " for 2004. Trainer aircraft and instructors will be available to guide the kids through a short flight of a real R/C aircraft. - Gary Weaks (248) 540-8358
<u><i>December 31</i></u> <i>(Saturday!)</i>	<u>Krazy Snow Fly</u> - Scripps Road Field. AMA. Come and give your planes and winter clothes an outing. There's plenty of hot food and drinks, a fire, and some 'cool' flying. The more snow, the better! - Paul Zabawa (810) 678-3332

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE CHECK WEB SITE FOR UPDATES

Event flying starts at 10:00 AM unless noted. Noise limit of 94dB at 10 ft for all Bald Mountain events. All state park events require daily or annual State Park Motor Vehicle permits (available at event)



SKYMASTERS RADIO CONTROL CLUB OF MICHIGAN

Mike Holmes
2557 Hemlock Ct.
Oxford, MI. 48370

Web site: www.skymasters.org
Email: mholmes969@sbcglobal.net



PHOTOGRAPHY by
Greg Cardillo



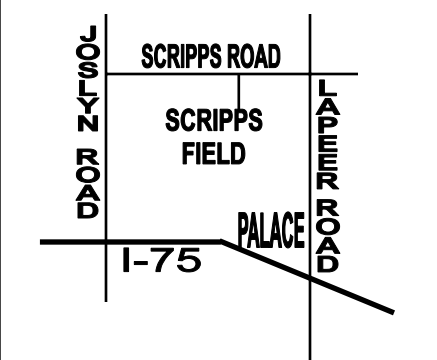
Skymasters Information.....

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 2005 is 94 dBa at 10 feet—this noise rule is strictly enforced.

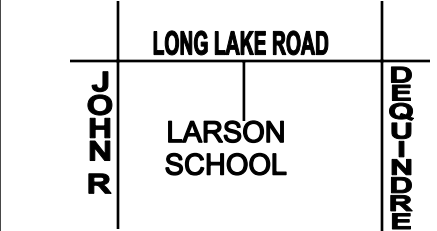
In the summer, Wednesday evenings are Student Nights and there are usually instruc-

tors around all night is also a

SCRIPPS ROAD FIELD



WINTER MEETINGS



Student 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 (586) 977-1404.

From June to August, Club meetings are held at the field, on the second Wednesday of

the month at 8 PM . 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!