



Academy of Model Aeronautics

Chartered Club #970
5 Year Gold Leader Club

Skypwriter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

BY: Joe Hass

Wow! What a month!

Toledo was as great as ever. It was especially wonderful as Chris took 3rd place in the Competition Boat Category. Vince Pettke entered his version of the Arrow in the red, white and blue / stars and bars motif in the sport monoplane category. I wish I could build and cover as well as Vince does.

This was also a special month on the full-scale side of my aviation experience as I flew down to Sandusky, Ohio for breakfast with my two older sons Joe and Dave. Joe Rubinstein came along as well as two of Dave's friends. Now if your counting that is six people and I only fly 4 place aircraft. Dave was flying a Cessna 172 and I was flying a Cessna 182. I was a proud papa as I announced to Cleveland Center that I was looking out the window watching my son fly. But it got better as my son Joe has decided to get his pilots license. Chris has indicated he wants his license too and has a plan to get his driver's license in the morning and his pilot's license in the afternoon. Who needs to plan for college tuition when there are flight lessons to pay for?

Only in Michigan could we have short sleeves and parkas in the same week. There is a blessing in this crazy weather as the field was as hard as a rock and thus could not be rolled. The heavy snow and continued rain will make it easier to get the field ready.

The Bald Mountain Involvement Day was another huge success. Thanks to Gary Weeks for organizing the event, Mike Holmes and

tastic. Bob is a walking encyclopedia of old engines. It was amazing to see how large some of the old engines were, how well they were made and how quickly after they were first developed that someone was trying to put a throttle on one, knowing that at the time there was no way to actually control them in flight. Our own Jack Flemming presented Bob with an absolutely pristine Rocket .45 made by the Rocket Engine Company in Detroit. Yes, engines, kits and radios were all made in Detroit.

I am finishing this after our Electric Flight Forum. It was an awesome meeting that was well attended not only by our members but by numerous other clubs in the area. I don't know what was better, the up close view of all the fantastic machines created by Jack Lemmon, Ken Myers, Keith Shaw and Jim Young or listening to all the interaction between the audience and the speakers. One thing became very clear: To be successful in electrics - Ask, Ask, Ask before you Buy, Buy, Buy. All of the speakers offered their assistance should you have a question. Remember that we have a number of

(Continued on page 2)



Chris Hass third place win at Toledo "Congrats"!!!!

Greg Cardillo for retrieving the trailers and Ron Sokacz and Jack Flemming for manning the kitchen. Thanks to all the other workers who did so much.

The presentation by Bob Edelstein on antique engines was fan-

INSIDE This Issue

2005 Club Officers & Appointees...

NEWS FLASH!!!
Check page 3 for a in flight photo of Burt Rutan's recently restored B-17

President:	Joe Hass	1142 Brunswick Dr.	Rochester Hills 48309	248-321-7934
Vice Pres:	Paul Zabawa	PO Box 138	Metamora	48455 810-678-3332
Secretary:	Dave Wendt	4549 Sedona	Clarkston	48348 248-969-8738
Treasurer:	Joe Rubinstein	155 Cayuan	Lake Orion	48362 248-693-4265
Editor:	Mike Holmes	2557 Hemlock Ct.	Oxford	48370 248-969-9189
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 Weeks	2512 Red Fox Trail	Troy	48098 248-540-8358

(Continued from page 1)

very qualified people in the Skymasters who can help you get started in this very unique and versatile power system. Go to some of the local electric events to see more.

The combination for the locks will change on May 22, 2005 when the field closes for the Bald Mountain Float Fly. Paid up members will receive a post card with the new combination. Don't give out the combination to non-members. We need to police the use of the field. The dues structure pays for the continued maintenance and upgrade to the facility.

The Interclub Fun Fly will move from May 15 to June 5. A new schedule will be posted on our web site and will be available in print shortly.

Our last meeting this spring at Larson will be "ALL ABOUT JETS" with Dave George. This is another must attend meeting. With any luck we can watch Dave fire it up.

You can register for the Midwest Regional Float Fly on line and pay with Pay-Pal. The grand "Super Prize" is just about finished. The giant Kondor "Beaver" will have a Saito 1.8, radio, landing gear and floats. It is beautiful! Buy your tickets from Greg or myself early.

See you all at the field!

Joe Hass

NEWSLETTER EDITOR RETIRING!

Want to try your hand at desk top publishing? We need a new "SKYMASTERS" newsletter editor! See Joe Hass

Bald Mountain Involvement Day 2005

Warm and sunny skies greeted the work teams as they showed up for this year's Bald Mountain Involvement Day. Several warm and dry days leading up to this year's annual, volunteer work day provided excellent conditions for sprucing up the trails and facilities. Bob Reemer, the park superintendent, was ready with a list of common tasks including re-conditioning picnic tables, sign painting, and park clean up. In addition, we had teams roughing in trails, repairing a boat launch, and painting the cold storage building. And, of course, we had a kitchen crew feeding all of the hungry workers.

Most of the volunteers showed up bright and early at 9:00 and the heartiest stuck around past 3:30 in the afternoon. At the end of the day our presence was quite evident viewing the fresh-painted buildings and once-again sturdy picnic tables. A big thanks to this year's volunteers: Howard Alexander, John Brooks, Greg Cardillo, Bill Dezur, Sherman Dickson, Robert Dukelow, Jack Flemming, Pete, Carolyn, and Samantha Foss, Steve Fredericks, James Fritcher, Oliver Fuchs, Louis Gervais, Otto Gutsell, John Hakala, Jim Held, Mike Holmes, Mike Jones, Dave Lange, Charles McGlothlin, Marv Middleton, Albert Nelson, Harold Reuter, Doug Riley Sr. and Jr., Mat Rowan, Joe Rubinstein, Roger Schmelling, David Shea, Mark Smith, Ron Sokacz, Bill Stark, Gary Weaks, Gary Walsh and Paul Zabawa. And a big thanks to anyone that I missed. Another super effort!

Gary Weaks



More Photo's on page 5

STONY CREEK FLOAT FLYING



The Skymasters and the Fraser Flying Clubs have joined forces again this year to promote float flying at Stony Creek Metro Park. Starting May 4th, every Wednesday weather permitting there will be flying at Winter Cove from 9:00 - 12:00. After entering the park follow the signs to the boat launch & golf course, Winter Cove is on the right after you pass the golf course. Stony Creek is west of Van Dyke (M-53) on 26 mile road. There is a \$4.00 daily park fee or annual park pass is available.

"Get your floats on and join us at Winter Cove every Wednesday"

For information contact: Jim Held 248-641-9724
jimwheld6651@wideopenwest.com

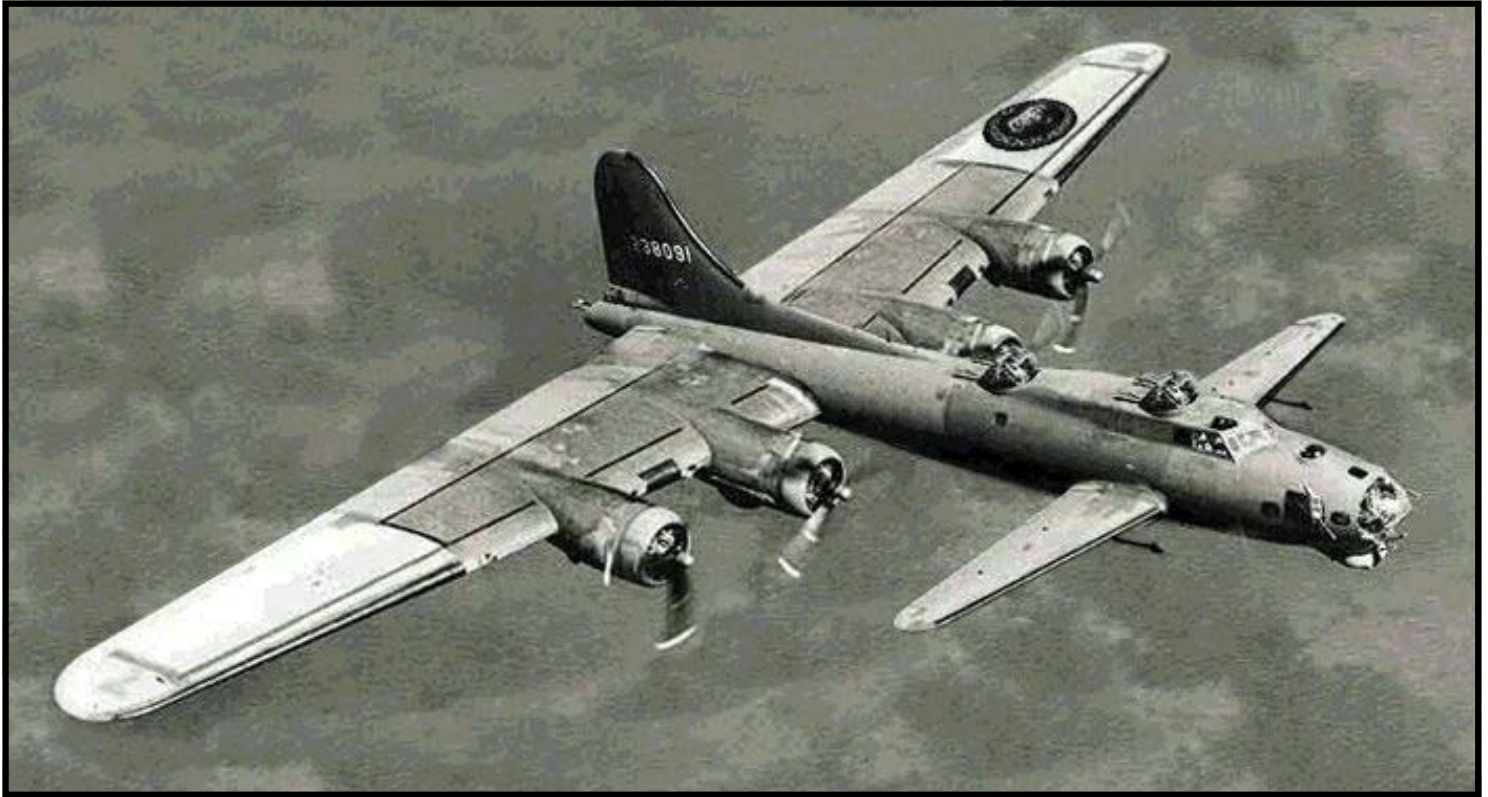
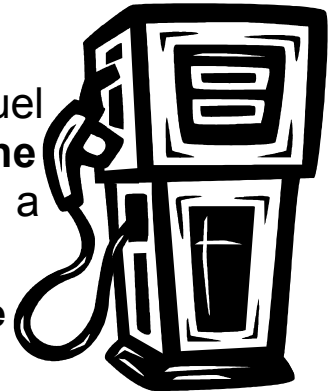


Photo courtesy of Darrell Watts

"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.*

PROP WASH...

Joe Finkelstine

Hi All,

Well, I took a few months off to take care of some changes for me, but I am back and ready to fill the pages up of the newsletter. One of the things I will need some help on is some suggestions for some upcoming columns as I am running out of things to say – I will have to start repeating myself. Speaking of repeating myself, a few people have asked me to go over how our radios work and some simple programming for the ever increasing digital age – I am undecided if I want to punish you all by writing about that again.

I always like to pontificate about the Toledo Weak Signals extravaganza in the April column and this month is no exception. I have noticed some changes in our hobby take firm hold.

For the first time for me, I changed the two days I normally attend to Friday and Sunday. Normally, I am there Friday and Saturday, but other commitments made Sunday the only option I had.

First, the swap meet. I have watched over the last 5 years as the Toledo swap meet has gradually shrank in size and change in makeup of vendors. When I first started going ~10 years ago, both upstairs and downstairs were full of actual professional sellers, but the actual guys who make a living selling RC gear continue to diminish in the swap meet. I saw a lot of individuals selling a lot of old tired equipment (if you could call it that) – The demand for multiple tables by hobby stores and individuals who actually try to make money at this hobby used to be huge. Earlier times also had all of the side rooms open with tables. For the last few years, several of the rooms adjacent to the main hall have been off limits to the swap meet as they are rented out to full time enterprises. Our hobby has always been evolving and changing, but the trends I see upstairs are a little sad for me. One thing I really used to enjoy upstairs were the large number of guys like you and me who had an idea for a better mouse trap who came to Toledo and got a cheap table upstairs - I used

to spend most of one day up at the swap meet looking at the cottage industries that always seemed to represent themselves up there – I continue to see less of this upstairs each year. There was always an excitement about discovering a great widget that would make my building easier or allow me to try a new way to solve something.

The other area I noticed a change in is the number and type of aircraft for sale upstairs. I am not as firm on this belief, but I feel the number of aircraft for sale in the swap meet was small and there were minimal pickings up there. I saw a large number of good old fashioned kits with owners asking for the same or more than the guys selling ARFs on the main floor. I suspect that most of those kits went home with their owner.

The last biggest change I saw was the lack of scale documentation. My other favorite task up in the swap meet used to be hunting under tables and looking in the nooks and crannies of tables for great scale documentation that they were selling, but had tucked away under the table. I searched extensively and found only a few tables that even had anything to look at. Alas, my paper list of documentation to get did not get a single cross out – I got skunked this year. All in all, I was only upstairs for a few hours on Friday. Sunday morning the swap meet was already dead, with the only people up there being scavengers hoping to get some guy to give away something. I think it was totally empty by lunch on Sunday.

The main floor continues to hold my interest for a full day though and I am beginning to wonder if I can make Toledo a one day affair now, as I used to budget one day for the swap meet (or at least ½ day) and one day for the main floor.

To me it is now clear that ARFs have become the standard way we are now going to see most of our new airplanes available. I am of the transitional age in our hobby, growing up and starting by building my ships – My first ARF

did not come until several years into the hobby. It is no longer relevant to ask if ARFs will continue to grow in popularity. Personally, I prefer to buy an ARF for an aerobatic ship, and will most often opt for a kit or plans for a scale attempt. ARFs continue to climb in quality and they passed my building (especially covering) capabilities long ago. If you see me flying a ship that looks well covered, it should be a strong clue to you that it is an ARF. I still fly 2 planes that I covered and if you look closer than 10 feet away, you will be able to tell they are my work...

One thing I like to see is that ARFs have made a great equalizer on our hobby. When I joined, there were a few giants in the kit business. Great planes, Top Flite, Goldberg and SIG. For the most part, all of these vendors are not on the leading edge anymore and most of the growth is coming from newer companies with different ideas. In defense of the companies above, the investment necessary to create a new design and get it to market is now comparatively low. The Top flites of the world had some major investments to get a design out and they carry some of that infrastructure even now. Unfortunately, I now believe that within perhaps 5 years, we will have essentially two choices for buying a new plane. One obviously will be an ARF, the second will be a set of plans – Other than scale (non-aerobatic scale at that), there is no margin or room left for the kit companies. They are dying a slow death and it pains me to see it. The 4 biggies I mention above appear to be following partial paths to modernize their offerings, but the carnage from waiting to long or hedging their bets is going to kill one or more of them within the next 2 years I believe.

Being on the main floor on Sunday was quite surprising. Typically, I am used to elbow moving in all the aisles and it was amazing to me to see the wide open aisles on Sunday – I must confess I was a bit stunned when I first looked around at 11AM on Sunday and was one of only about 10 people in whole row. I saw a hint of this on Friday afternoon as the show thinned out then as well. Now, I did not take long to get over my surprise and realize I had a great opportunity to talk with some of these guys who were always way to

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

busy on Friday and Saturday. I had some long conversations with some of the scale greats out there and finally cornered some one from Horizon hobby long enough to have him explain the mystery of why Saito is now making soft threaded mufflers for their four strokes – That one was burning my rear end as to why they took the cheap way out. Obviously, the guy at Horizon had a different opinion, but since I was able to speak with him for awhile I asked him to explain why they swapped over and I finally half-agreed that they really had no choice (if you are interested it is because of a couple of things, not the least of which is the difficulty Saito now has getting the older alloy) The point is I would have never had this opportunity on a Friday or Saturday – That was neat and I think I will go down on Sunday again next year. Either that or I might try to make Toledo one day – all Day Friday, since the swap meet effectively opens 2 hours before the main show.

The wheels of change continue to roll in our hobby gents, and if you see something you like that is from a small vendor or is not an ARF and you like it. I would strongly encourage you to grab it up even if you are not ready to use it yet – Chances are it will not be around next year!

Hope you leave the field with the same number of pieces you arrive with
Joe Finkelstine

INVOLVEMENT DAY 2005



Next time I'm calling Balsa USA For my wood



FOR SALE
 60 SIZE "RAZZLE"
 FLOWN VERY LITTLE
 NEVER CRASHED
 ONLY \$85.00
 MARK SMITH
 248-391-5970
 MASMITH248@EARTHLINK.NET



AREA EVENTS...

AMRCC CONTEST SCHEDULE

Skymasters Meeting - Wednesday, May 11, 2005 - Larson Middle School. 2222 E. Long Lake Road, Troy - 7:30 PM

DAVE GEORGE - ALL ABOUT JETS - A winner at Toledo and numerous other events, an innovator that brought us one of the first indoor R/C aircraft, master Modeler Dave George is now a kerosene burner. See the latest in jet technology from an expert.

Chet Brady Memorial Float Fly - Saturday May 21st - 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

Bald Mountain Float Fly - Sunday May 22nd - Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Trout Lake. AMA. The beach will be closed. Another fun day float flying! *The Scripps Road Field will be closed for this event.* - Joe Hass (248) 321-7934

Skymasters Meeting / Field Opening - Wednesday, May 25, 2005 - Scripps Road Field, Lake Orion - 6:00 PM FIELD OPENING PARTY - The field never closes, but how else can we celebrate the beginning of another season?

STUDENT NIGHT AND POTLUCK DINNER

Beginning June 1st and every Wednesday till August 31st at the Scripps road field we will again have student night and a potluck dinner. Bring your family, meat for the grill (or other main dish)- enough for your family, a dish to pass and non-alcoholic beverage. You won't go away hungry! Dinner at 6:00pm rain or shine.

Instructors available at the field all day (weather permitting). Priority given to student flights. Charlie & Dairdre McGlothlin

SELFRIDGE AIR SHOW MAY 21st & 22nd

See Web site below for more information

<http://www.selfridgeairshow.org/home.htm>

SKYMASTERS "MAY 2005"

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Larson Meeting	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Chet Brady Float Fly
22 Bald Mt. Float Fly	23	24	25 Field Clean up	26	27	28
29	30	31				

INTER-CLUB FUN FLY IV



JUNE 5, 2005



- 1) **Crazy Taxi** - Pop all four balloons while taxing you must go thru the gate before popping the balloon, then exit thru the gate to the next balloon.
- 2) **Timed flight without timers** - The pilot places plane at start/finish line, at "Go" takes off, then must land and cross finish line in exactly "120" seconds. Pilot with elapsed time closest to goal wins.
- (3) **Roops** - Take off, do one roll, one loop, Touch & Go (5 times), then land. Fastest time wins.
- (4) **Taxi around pylon course** - Three pylons set in a line on the runway spaced at least 100 feet apart, with a chalked "start/finish line" near the middle of the field. Pilot gets engine running, sets it to idle, places aircraft at start/finish line, sets tx on ground. Starter gives the "Go", pilot picks up tx, steers aircraft around the pylons (sort of a figure-8 path) then crosses finish line. Best time wins.
- (5) **R/C Golf** - Attach cup w/ball on plane, take off, 2 loops then drop ball on field then land time stops. Then you must Golf the ball into the hole. 10 seconds are added to your score for every stroke..
- (6) **Oh Craps** - Roll the dice, take off time starts, 3 loops, 3 rolls, 3 spins land roll dice till you get your starting number.
- (7) **Limbo lower now** - 3 passes per flight, pilots that tie go to the next lower round..

PRACTICE @10:00 EVENTS START @ 11:00

EVENTS MAY CHANGE DAY OF THE EVENT

SKYMASTERS FIELD

CONTACT - MARK SMITH

masmith248@earthlink.net

masmith248@earthlink.net

INSTRUCTOR NOTES

Well it's that time of the year again. Spring is upon us. For most of us, the coming warm days and gentle winds will bring us out of hibernation and out to the field. This is also the time that we begin our Student Instruction for the year. On this note, I would like to point out areas that all Instructors need to be concerned with:

All Instructors are Sound and Safety Monitors. Do not hesitate to address these issues when needed.

When enforcing Safety Rules, please be courteous but firm. It is better to have someone unhappy, rather than the cause of an injury to themselves or others.

When enforcing Sound Rules, assure that our DB Level is maintained.

When utilizing a Buddy Box or not, Instructors are to take full control of the aircraft in order to prevent:

Flying over the flight line

Landing in trees

Flying out too far

Damaging or destruction of any aircraft while instructing our students in Take Offs and Landings.

The Frequency Pin must be pulled at all times!!!

Always monitor our new pilots and when necessary give immediate advice or assistance.

Act as a "Spotter" when required

• Instructors to enforce the Safety Rules that:

o **Only Pilots** are allowed in the Pit Area and on the Flight Line. Children should not be playing in the Pit Area.

Spectators are not allowed on the field side of the fence.

The Instructor must control the pace at which each student progresses. As an example; do not start to teach "how to take off or land" when the student has not mastered good flight control. Encourage Students to be patient.

It takes two (2) Instructors to sign-off a Student .

• PLEASE HAND IN NAMES OF SIGNED OFF STUDENTS TO EITHER GARY WEEKS OR RON SOKACZ.
Ron Sokacz.

INSTRUCTORS 2005

Bowman Garry
Bowman Tim
Brausa Greg
Burns Robert
Cardillo Greg
Devine Daniel
Finklestine Joe
Ferguson Jack
Fredericks Steve
Garett Rodger
Goelz Paul
Greif Herman
Hardy Ross
Harriman Alan
Hass Joe

Holmes Michael
Lange David
Leppard William
McGee Alan
Mrock Alan
Neuville Harlan
Schmelling Rodger
Shea David
Smith Mark
Sokacz Ronald
Thuringer Gene
Weeks Gary
Wendt David
Zabawwa Paul
Young Llewellyn

SKYMASTERS "2005"

EVENT SCHEDULE

<u>April 16</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>June 5</u> <i>(New Date)</i>	<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>May 21</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>May 22</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>June 18</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>July 10</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>August 7</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>August 28</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>September 10-11</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>October 8</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>December 31</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



The new lock combination will be mailed to all renewed members as a separate mailing. The new combination will be in effect after the "Bald Mountain Float Fly" May 22nd.

PHOTOGRAPHY by
Greg Cardillo

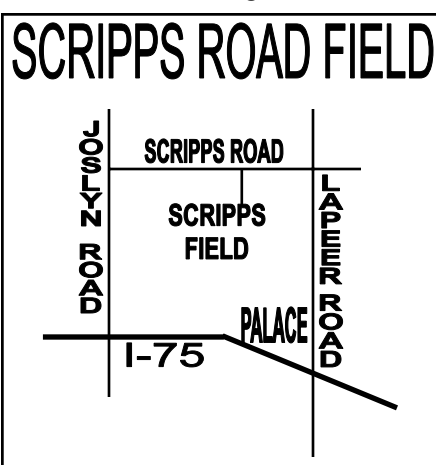


Skymasters Information.....

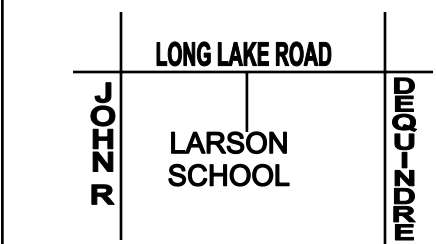
Skymasters field is located within the Bald Mountain State Park on Scripps Road (see map). State Park Permits are required and can be obtained from the Park Headquarters located on Greenshield Road or at club events. Flying is permitted from 10 AM to 8 PM. The noise limit for 2005 is 94 dBa at 10 feet—this 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



WINTER MEETINGS



day. 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!