



Academy of Model Aeronautics

Chartered Club #970
5 Year Gold Leader Club

Skywriter

Lt. Col. Alexander Jefferson (USAF, ret.)



Tuskegee Airman Alexander Jefferson autographs Jim Held's Top Flite P-51 Mustang.



2006 Club Officers & Appointees...

President:	Joe Hass	1142 Brunswick Dr.	Rochester Hills	48309	248-321-7934
Vice Pres:	Al McGee	1502 W 13 Mile	Madison Hgts	48071	248-589-0283
Secretary:	Dave Wendt	4549 Sedona	Clarkston	48348	248-969-8738
Treasurer:	Joe Rubinstein	155 Cayuan	Lake Orion	48362	248-693-4265
Editor:	Pete Foss	562 Tanview Dr.	Oxford	48371	248-236-0676
CFI :	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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

BY: Joe Hass

Well 2006 has certainly got off to an exciting start!

Just a little over a year ago I had the now famous lithium fire in my garage the evening before the 2004 Krazy Snow Fly. At 6 PM New Years Day 2006, I walked from my basement office into the shop in stocking feet to be greeted with a very moist feeling between my toes. A previously fixed crack in the basement wall let go, leaking water into my kit collection. Even with protective plastic sheets, numerous boxes were soaked. About 50 kits were totally destroyed. Imagine picking up a 36 inch box in the middle and having both end collapse toward each other. That's how soaked some of the boxes were.

Paula, Chris and one of his friends worked with me for over 4 hours getting the dry stuff into the living room, the moist stuff up where it could begin to dry and the drenched stuff out in the garage. The smell and mold was unbelievable. It is amazing how much moisture balsa, paper and cardboard can hold. The front yard was littered with soaked wardrobe moving boxes that the kits had been stored in.

We had a board meeting at my house 3 days later and everyone left with at least 2 kits from the garage. I went through the rest of the kits, cleaning and drying. Paula made a suggestion that worked extremely well. Mold and mildew bathroom products (Tilex, Lysol, etc.) sprayed on a soft cloth then gently rubbed on the surface took the mold off the cardboard boxes. The same products sprayed on the wood bleached most of it clean.

The crack in the basement has been fixed. I am currently acquiring some shelving units. The kits are out of the living room replaced by 6 finished airplanes. The pool table room is useless, filled with kits. I can't get to my workbench. Through it all Chris and I managed to build 2 small electric airplanes, pressing the kitchen counter into service. A guy's got to do what a guy's got to do. Paula looked at me and asked "What's with you, airplanes and a New Year". She is a saint!

On a brighter note our programs for January were F A N A T A S T I C!!!

The presentation of Lt. Col. Jefferson of the Tuskegee Airman was inspirational. I have never seen our group stay so perfectly quiet for a solid hour. We had 5 students from the Rochester School System and members of the Troy Oakland Pilots flying club. Lots of pictures were taken. Jim Held's P-51 was autographed by Jefferson. Jefferson flew the P-51, P-47, P-39 and F-86. When asked about certain aircraft you could see his hands reach out to touch the controls, knobs and switches as if he was still in the cockpit. It was a wonderful evening.

Hobby Lobby International filled in for the scheduled speaker for January 25. Jason Cole and Dan Wensell provided an unbelievable program on electrics. They went into great detail on glow to electric conversions including the costs. Equally interesting was the discussion on the set up and use of variable pitch props. Over 90 people from 6 area clubs joined the Skymasters for an informative evening. The 50 / 50 was over \$60.00. But the best part was that Jason and Dan ended the evening by raffling off 4 airplanes, 2 complete electric conversion packages and 3 complete ready to fly R/C helicopters. That's over \$1,000.00 in prizes for coming to a program that taught us something. WOW! Some of the folks from the other clubs commented on how much fun our meetings are. We have the best organization – period!

The dates for our events have all been locked in and are available for review on our web site or the calendar. Our next major event is the Annual Swap Shop on February 15. This is our only meeting in February. We need the usual help with set up and tear down. There will be plenty of stuff for the auction as

well. Remember that the March 8th meeting will be the "In the Bones" night. Bring in your winter projects for a big "Show and Tell". Unfortunately I will be out of town.

We have locked in the Super Prize for the 2006 Midwest Regional Float Fly. It will be the new Great Planes Seawind with engine and radio. A big thanks to Great Planes for their generosity. The Seawind will also be a review on the R/C Groups website. Ron Sokacz will do the building.

Speaking of the Super Prize, R/C Report has agreed to publish the review of the Kondor Beaver that was the Super Prize for 2005. You probably remember that it was supposed to be published by RCM before they stopped operations.

With the mild weather I actually managed to get in a quick electric flight. Won't be long until we can do it every day.

See you at the Swap Shop!

Joe Hass



Skymasters Swap Shop

Join the Skymasters Radio Control Club for our annual Swap Shop on :

Wednesday February 15, 2006

Table set-up - 6PM, general entry - 7PM

Larson Middle School
2222 E. Long Lake (18 Mile)
(east of John R., Troy)

**** Note: Date Change Due to School Holiday!**

- * **TABLE \$5.00** One per person, first come first served. Includes one admission. No reservations.
- * \$3.00 Admission - No table
- * Kids under 18 - Free
- * Door prize
- * Refreshments available.
- * 50/50 drawing.
- * Raffles drawn throughout the evening.
- * Please remember - no smoking in the school buildings.



Tables - \$5.00
 Food ?
 General Admission \$3.00 ?
 Raffles ?
 Lots of 'stuff' ?
 Drinks
 Junk
 Door Prize
 Old 'gear'
 Crowds
 Stuff
 Sell outs
 50/50 ?
 Bargains

Auction at end of evening!!

For more information call Joe Hass at 248-321-7934



Membership Renewals for 2006

All membership renewals and membership questions for 2006 should be

addressed to:

GARY WEAKS
2512 Red Fox Trail
Troy, MI. 48098

You can phone Gary at:
 248-540-8358

or email him at:

Gary.T.Weaks@USA.dupont.com

Remember, if you are renewing by mail you must include a photocopy of your 2006 AMA card & completed application.

New for 2006

Renew your membership online at
www.skymasters.org/members !!!

You must have a PAYPAL account to use this service. Contact Greg Cardillo if you have questions.
greg@skymasters.org

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

February 20, March 6 and 20

Breakfast starting at 9 AM at the "RAM'S HORN FAMILY RESTAURANT" located on the North East corner of Crooks Road and M-59 (2265 Crooks Road, Rochester Hills). Breakfast's will be the first and third Monday each month, all winter. Come enjoy breakfast and good conversation.

Future Club Meeting Schedule

Date	Location	Subject
February 15	Larson	SWAP SHOP (Note Date Change)
March 8	Larson	In the Bones: bring in your winter projects
March 22	Larson	Midwest Products: Ed Rogala, Senior Sales Manager
April 12	Larson	Float fly symposium: all about floats!
April 20	Larson	SIG Manufacturing: Scott Christensen, VP of R&D

Flint's R/C Swap Meet

February 19, 2006

9:00 am—1:00 pm

NEW LOCATION

Lake Fenton High School
 4070 Lahring Rd.
 Linden, MI 48451

Contact:

Bill Gerald

810 845-3007

www.rcflyingaces.com

Wanted: Old Glass City or Crescent City pulse proportional system for my old RC collection.

Don Patterson, (248) 642-2917 or
rarebear4@comcast.net

Skymasters R/C Club 2006 Application For Membership



Information (print clearly)

New Member () Renewal ()

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

AMA #: _____

Pilot: () Student: ()

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

City: _____

Work Phone: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Frequencies: _____

Birth Date: _____

Newsletter: Will be sent by email. If you need a paper copy, please check here: Standard Mail ()

Significant Other: _____

Other Family Members Who Fly

Name: _____

AMA #: _____

Pilot () Student ()

Name: _____

AMA #: _____

Pilot () Student ()

Field Rules

- 1) Field hours are 10 AM - 8 PM (NO EXCEPTIONS)
- 2) Noise limit for 2006 is 94 dB at 10 feet.
- 3) All transmitters must be narrow band (Gold Sticker equivalent) excluding 53 mHz.
- 4) All receivers must be AMA approved narrow band (dual conversion or ABC&W) excluding 53 mHz.
- 5) Radio in impound when not in use - 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 2006 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: CK () CA () AMA Verified _____ *Voted In _____

To renew by mail, send the following:

- 1) Check for \$70* (\$100 after February 28, 2006)
- 2) Photocopy of 2006 AMA Card
- 3) Self addressed stamped envelope
- 4) Completed & Signed Application
- 5) *New members \$70+\$30 Initiation Fee

Mail To: Gary Weaks
2512 Red Fox Trail
Troy, MI 48098
Make checks payable to Skymasters

We are asking ALL MEMBERS to fill out an application to help verify our records. Thank You.

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday January 11, 2006

President Joe Hass gives the greeting

Attendance: 64 people

Guest Speaker: General Alex Jefferson: Alex is a surviving member of the Tuskegee Airmen. Alex made the statement that "The red tails never left the bombers". This, he said is the reason why the Tuskegee air men never lost a bomber. Alex had 18 ½ missions. The first mission he fired his weapons was when he targeted radar stations for the invasion of France. The 801st had the target on the cliffs outside the city of Calais. Alex was in the last fighter in the strafing run out of 16 planes. While passing over the target, a shell projected through the bottom of his P-51 fighter exiting the top of the canopy. Soon after the plane was hit a fire broke out. Alex described bailing out. After exiting the plane, his fall was broken by the trees prior to a full parachute deploy. When he rolled over, he realized he landed right in the middle of the men who shot him down. Alex spent 9 months in Germany as a prisoner of war. Alex said in some ways he was treated better as a prisoner than he was treated in the US.

Alex spoke of his experience with segregation at Selfridge Airforce Base. The general in charge of Selfridge during the war said "Gentleman this is my airfield, as long as this is my airfield there will be no socialization between white and colored solders." The next day the Tuskegee Airmen were shipped to South Carolina. Two weeks later he was shipped overseas. Alex said this was only one story out of thousands of soldiers who experienced actions of prejudice.

Next Alex reviewed the first day he was captured. He was taken to see a German officer at a local villa. Alex described meeting the officer. The German officer asked Alex if he had ever been to Atlanta, GA or Washington DC? He spoke of bars and specific locations in great detail. The German officer also talked to him about locations in Detroit. Alex said it was apparent that the German officer had spent a great deal of time in the United States. In fact, the officer graduated from the University of Michigan. Two weeks later, he was interrogated for real. The Germans had a book about every airman captured. During the interrogation Alex was shown a picture of his graduating flight training class. All of the names of the people were identified. In addition the Germans knew how much his dad paid in taxes! When asked what he remembered the most Alex replied with the word hunger. Most of the prisoners lost weight during their captivity.

When Alex came home from the war he found it difficult to attain a job. Park Davis told him he was "over qualified". So he finally excepted a job as an elementary school teacher. Alex said it was the best thing that ever happened to him. Alex said teaching was the truly rewarding part of his life.

Near the end of his speech there was a brief question and answer forum.

Q: What German airplanes you fought against was the best. A: FW190 was the best.

Q: Did you ever see an ME 263. A: No

Q: What was your favorite Plane. A: P47

Show and Tell:

Greg Brausa – Fun51 powered by an Evolution 40 engine won at a Skymasters event.

Gene Thuringer – Cox series Thunderbolt. Comes with a 180 motor and charger. Gene likes the detail. The plane cost a mere 20 dollars.

Jim Held - Top Flite giant scale P-51 weighs 21 lbs with a Moki 210 and Robart retracts. 96db. Jim says it's a good flying airplane.

Fred McConkie – Toddler plane. Built for dad and son J

Chris Haas - Blade helicopter ready to fly for 180.00

Paul Zabawa – Alpha P-51 powered by an MP Jet AC 28/7-35D Outrunner Brushless Motor with a 3s1p Lipo battery. The plane weighs about 13.8 oz.

Sig EP 42 with a park 480 brushless outrunner.

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday January 25, 2006

Larson Middle School library

President Joe Hass gives the greeting:

Attendance: 93 people, guests of note included Ken Myers author of the Ampeer, and several members from at least 6 other clubs e.g. RCCD, PMAC etc.

Guest Speakers: Jason Cole, Advertising and Public Relations Director and Dan Wensell, Daily Operations Manager of Hobby Lobby International.

Jason and Dan gave a brief introduction of themselves. Jason started with the topic of Glow to electric conversion. A comparison was made between the weight of a typical 40 sized glow setup and a similar sized electric setup. Jason said most 40 sized glow engines weigh about 13.6 oz. The 2826- AXI equivalent is 6.6. oz. the 3 cell 4400 pack is 10.2 oz the motor controller replaces the receiver pack at about 1.1 oz. Bottom line 18.35 for electric and when you add the weight of the battery and gas for the glow setup it comes to about 22 oz for glow. Another major advantage electric systems have over glow is the lack of vibration. As a result of the smooth operation of electric systems, electric planes can be built lighter with less need for structural integrity. Another advantage is once you have the battery pack you have paid for all the fuel upfront.

Jason mentioned that airflow is very important to the life of your electrical components. Jason set up a glow to electric test stand where he showed how easy it was to convert from the average glow setup to electric. A watt meter was connected to the test gear between the speed controller and battery. The test showed that a 12X10 prop with a 4 cell lithium battery driven by a 2826 AXI outrunner drew about 400 watts. Jason said there is a simple rule of thumb for determining the size of your electric setup. For a trainer, 50 to 75 watts per pound is needed. 75 to 100 watts per pound for a typical sport aircraft and 100 to 150 watts per pound for aerobatic planes. There is also another tool you can use to determine what electric setup to purchase. On the Hobby Lobby web site there is a form to fill out and submit to Hobby Lobby. Hobby Lobby will evaluate your form and will recommended a conversion setup for you. Hobby lobby carries the Jeti brushless controllers. The newer Jeti Advance PLUS brushless controllers utilize a program card to aid in a simple setup process. Jason went through how to use the program card via setting each jumper and connecting it to the ESC.

Next Jason discussed lithium cells. Jason said lithium cells are basically double the run time of Nicad cells with half the weight. Balancing lithium packs is very important. Jason demonstrated how to use a couple of the popular balancers (Poly-Quest and Thunder Power). Balancers cost about \$20.00 to \$40.00.

The last topic Jason spoke on was the new AXI variable pitch motor. Jason also explained how to take a helicopter radio and use idle up functions to program the variable pitch props.

Show and Tell:

Wade Wiley – Great Planes P-6E Hawk ARF. Top wing 76", bottom wing 63". Wade has a SIG First Place 21cc Gas engine. The plane will end up weighing 13.5 lbs. Wade also changed the tail wheel to be more scale.

Ron Sokacz – converted Super Sportster 60 twin. Weighs 10lbs 8 oz. 2 super tiger 45's for power. With electro dynamics onboard glow. This is the third plane of this kind for Ron.

Gene Thuringer – Red's Miss Hanger One flying boat. E-flight 370 out runner 900mAh thunder power battery 3 HS-55 servos All up weight is 13.6 oz.

Paul Zawaba – a PT gyro powered by an OS 10.28 oz.

Chris Hass – Hobby Lobby Inferno with a Python 60 and Castle Creations ESC. Guidance is a new spread spectrum radio.

Joe Hass – Hobby Lobby Extra 330 profile with a Himax long can with a 3 cell 1200 Thunder Power Lipo battery.

Tim Bowman - Line RC Trex Helicopter.

The show and tell gift certificate was won by Paul Zabawa while the 50/50 raffle was won by Tim Bowman.

Hobby Lobby Free Prizes Winners!

Yak – 55 valued at \$29.90 (Ken Myers, Rick Sowicki, Westly Piasacki)

E-sky helicopter values at \$179.00 (Jack Edwards, Gary Bowman)

Complete 40 sized power systems values at \$456.20 each (Sparky Ayers, Howard Alexander)

Hobby Lobby gave away approximately \$1,360.10 of merchandise at our club meeting!



Hobby Lobby Intl. Visits Skymasters

February 2, 2006

Joe Hass
President
Skymasters RC Club

Dear Joe:

I wanted to take some time and write a note of thanks for all your support. Dan and I really enjoyed ourselves and it was great to hang out with all you guys and talk about what we love to do. I hope everyone got at least a little something out of the discussion and will enjoy their raffle prizes. We really appreciate what you and the Skymasters club are doing to promote the hobby. I can tell by the enthusiasm from the members and officers that it is working. I hope you guys continue to do what you are doing and let us know if we can ever be of assistance. Thanks again.

Sincerely,
Jason Cole
Hobby Lobby
Advertising and PR Director



Our Newest Skymaster!

Emilie Marie Fischer
Weight 7lbs, 13oz
Wingspan 21 inches

Born to Dawn Fischer
with a little help from
John!





SKYMASTERS RADIO CONTROL CLUB OF MICHIGAN

Pete Foss
562 Tanview Dr.
Oxford, MI. 48371

Web site: www.skymasters.org
 Email: newsletter@skymasters.org



PHOTOGRAPHY by
Greg Cardillo and Pete Foss



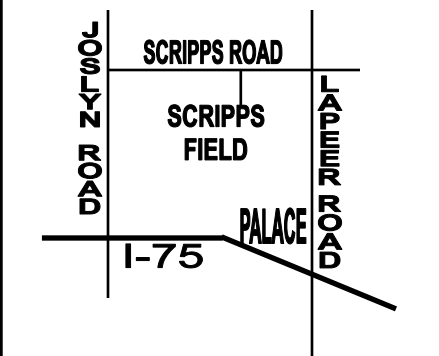
Skymasters Information.....

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.

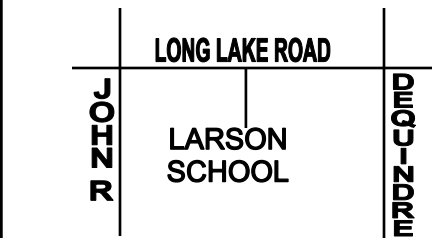
In the summer, Wednesday evenings are Student Nights and there are usually instruc-

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!