



Academy of Model Aeronautics

Chartered Club #970  
5 Year Gold Leader Club

# Skywriter

## Midwest Regional Float Fly 2006



**Ed Grieshaber from the Fraser and Romeo clubs took home 1st place in Scale with his Martin PBM Mariner.**



### 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

## It's been 30 years!

The State of Michigan sent me some corporate paperwork for the club. Instead of just filing it, I looked it over. We have been incorporated since 1976. I got to thinking of what R/C was back then. Proportional was finally here but a 4 channel system was \$500.00 in 1976 dollars and weighed 1.5 pounds. Weren't we still using carbon paper? Seems like yesterday, but so long ago. I love what we have now. Anyone who wants to know about the good old days just give me a call. Happy Birthday SKY-MASTERS!

We have just completed an excellent summer with many new students and lots of new pilots. Congratulations to all who earned their wings. Remember this is now your chance to really learn. While it is fun to bore holes in the sky, try to make each flight a learning experience. Make the takeoff run straight as an arrow. Shoot for a touchdown right in front of you. You demonstrated loops and rolls. How about a Split S, an Immelman? Don't know what those are? Ask your favorite instructor. Most important, continue to ask for help. Have someone stand near you for the first few solo flights. Get another pilot to help if the trims don't quite seem correct. If you get a new plane get an experienced pilot to trim it for you. Never stop asking for help. Keep learning.

On that theme a special "THANKS!" goes to all the instructors who gave up their flying time to work with the fledgling pilots. They gave up their flying time to make sure you succeeded. When was the last time you got a free golf or tennis lesson? One of my students was thrilled when he got signed off because I made him so nervous. He got tired of hearing the word "flair!"

"THANKS!" also goes to all the volunteers and helpers who just showed up and did what was needed regardless of the task.

October will be another very busy month. October 11 will be the President's Choice. This is a little something that is a pleasant diversion with a chance to compete for some great prizes. Everyone will have a chance in a random drawing. We have the gym reserved. You will need to build something, so call me for the kit. It will take you less than an hour. No entry fee.

October 14 is the date for the Barn Daze (Kid's Day). Gary Weaks is hosting the event again. This is our chance to demonstrate the fun of flying to our neighbors. This will take place at Friendship Park in Lake Orion. Contact Gary to help out. *(Note the field will be closed while we are flying at the park.)*

On October 15 Cub Scout Pack 188 will again use our field for an outdoor meeting and rocket launch. They pretty much run themselves and only ask that we perform flight demonstrations and clear the field for a few minutes so that they can launch rockets. They will be at the field from 2:30 to 5:00 PM. Refreshments will be provided to the Skymasters present.

On October 21 we will have the Annual Field Closing Potluck Dinner and Bonfire *(Note to new members, the field doesn't really close for the season.)*

Hobby Lobby will again visit us on October 25. This time we have the gym so that, in addition to the presentation, we will have flight demonstrations. For those who attended the last Hobby Lobby visit remember that it was well worth your while to be there.

The rest of the meeting schedule is equally informative and entertaining. We are finalizing the details.

We are finalizing plans for a "Cartoon Scale" event based on the SIG "Somethin' EXTRA". Thanks to

*(Continued on page 3)*

Jim Held for that suggestion. More to follow.

Completely personal... Chris received a letter from the U.S. Scalemasters organization announcing that he qualified to compete in this year's event October 19 to 22 at the AMA site in Muncie, IN. After verifying that his grades were satisfactory (they are,) he is planning to attend. Dave Pinegar will again provide the transportation and housing in his motor home. The Extra that Chris used at the NATS is not up to Scalemasters competition levels so we are scrambling. We had already ramped up for the indoor season. I haven't made the repairs to the planes from the float fly yet. Nothing like a 110" Rascal to take up space in the living room. It is a great problem to have. We are already thinking about next year. What to build? What to fly? Thanks to all the Skymasters who have helped and supported Chris. Paula and I are very proud of him. Good Luck Chris!

See you at the field. See you at the meetings.

Congratulations to this year's new pilots (*and apologies to anyone we missed!*)

John Collins  
Craig Lovalvo  
Ron Wlosinski  
Brad Lyon  
Kyle Lyon  
Ashton Lyon  
Dennis Battisti  
Daniel Van Houzen  
Derek Van Houzen

### An Old Friend Passes

Gene Smyers, age 85, died Friday, September 29, 2006 in his home in Shelby Twp. from complications of a stroke. He is survived by his wife of 65 years Faye, his brother Robert, his son Robert N. "Bobby," and daughter Linda (Thomas) Rymill. Grandfather to Jessi Rymill, and "Grandpa" to Jenn, Amy, and Emily, daughters of Chris and Roger Carron of East Aurora, NY. When Gene could no longer compete in ping pong, golf, and sailing, he rode bikes, played guitar, dit-dit dah-dahed on his ham radio (N8BQH) and flew model airplanes. He was a longtime member of the Fraser Flying Club of Mt. Clemens and Skyhawks of Romeo (*and Skymasters. Gene was an instructor when I joined - Pete.*) He loved sharing the finer points of his hobbies with all who showed an interest. He was generous-and careful with his advice; he was an excellent listener and enriched the lives of many. He is predeceased by a brother Emerson, and daughter Sharon. Service and burial will be held in Alden, NY





# Skymasters R/C Club and Orion Township

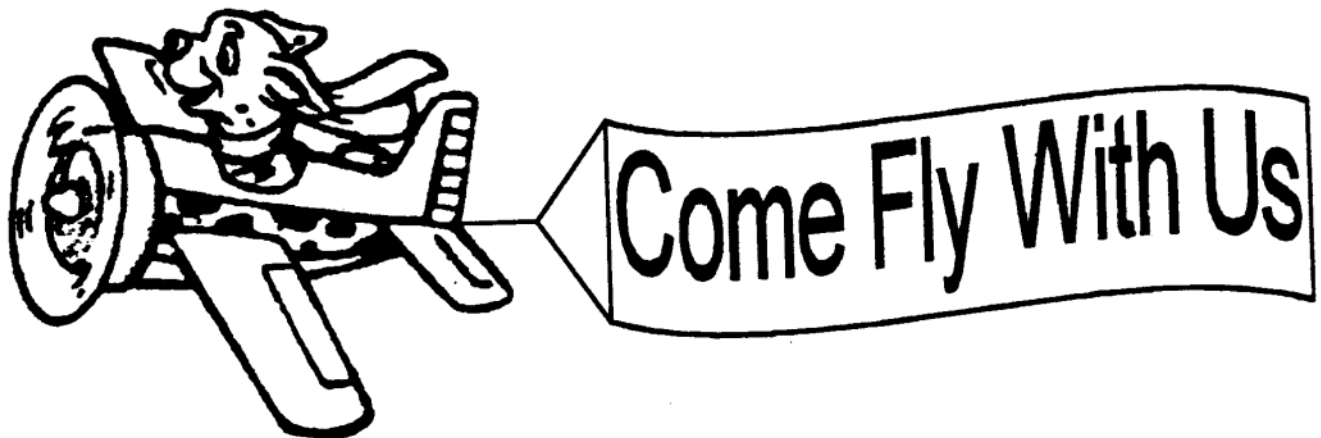
Join the Skymasters Radio Control Club for an R/C Aircraft event

## **Kids Day** *in conjunction with Orion Township "Barn Daze"*

**Saturday October 14, 2006  
at Friendship Park (see map).**

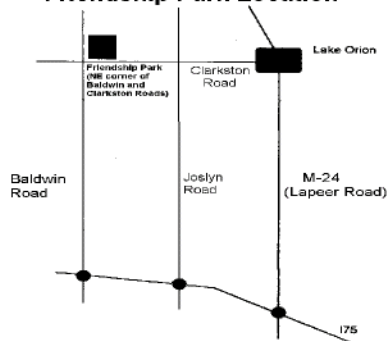
Club airplanes and Instructors will be on hand to give small kids  
(and big Kids) a chance to fly a real R/C airplane.

Event flying starts at 11AM.



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

### Friendship Park Location



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

Friendship Park is located on the Northeast corner of Baldwin Road and Clarkston Road. Friendship Park is an Orion Township Park.

For more information call Gary Weaks 248-540-8358  
Visit our website at: [www.skymasters.org](http://www.skymasters.org)

## Midwest Region Float Fly by Greg Cardillo

September 9th and 10th found us once again at beautiful Island Lake Recreation Area for our 16th Annual Midwest Regional Float Fly... But wait - where did the clouds come from... honest it looks like its clearing... right over there (pointing across the lake)... Well, mother nature threw us a little curve ball this year - periods of rain on Saturday - one brief encounter of nearby lightning that shutdown the flight-lines and brought the retrieval boats off the water, and a windy and cool Sunday was what we were dealt... So what did we do? We FLEW!

81 pilots registered this year... All but 2 preregistered pilots checked in for the event... Pilots were even registering Sunday morning in clearly less than favorable conditions... But FLY we did... It takes a lot of effort from many club members to run an event this size... There is no way I can thank everyone individually without missing people - so first a THANK YOU to everyone that helped. Your efforts are very much appreciated!! What makes this event manageable is the people that step up to lead different areas.

Oliver Fuchs stepped up to coordinate the setup and teardown activities - He and a team of Skymasters had most of the setup done when I arrived around noon on Friday. The beach looked great! Joe Hass (the son) ran the Registration for the second year - those that preregistered found their packets waiting, and quickly handled any walkup registrations. Ron Sokacz coordinated the efforts at the impound - an important part of keeping the skies safe. Roger Schmelling ran the Flight Line board - getting everyone that wanted to fly efficiently through the queue. Al McGee and Wade Wiley provided the retrieval boats and kayaks - each spending significant time on the water helping get back our wayward planes.

SKS Video was on the scene filming and interviewing pilots for their next video - Hundreds of still pictures were taken as I assumed my normal position in the water (OK - even I stayed on the beach on Sunday!).

Joe Hass coordinated the Judged Events - with Top Gun pilot Dave Pinegar and his wife Vicki performing the judging. Each category offered a Futaba Radio System as the prize. In the 'Sport' Category flying his Ultrastick was Skymasters "Top Gun 2006" Chris Hass! Taking the honors in 'Sport Scale' was Wade Wiley flying his Curtiss P-6E Hawk. The 'Scale' category was won by Ed Grieshaber - a member of Fraser and the Romeo Skyhawks - with his multi engine PBM Mariner (featured on the cover of the newsletter). There were a number of wonderful entries this year - keep them coming!!

Bob and Donna burns coordinated a Friday night dinner for the early arrivals at a local restaurant. Gary and Phyllis Weaks ran 'Cloud 9 Cafe' keeping us all fed for the weekend - The Dezur and Lyon families spent much time helping... Richardson's Meats again catered our Pig Roast Saturday evening - all you could eat. Pete Foss and I fed the pilots and families with a Pancake Breakfast Sunday morning. Yep - we are an eating club with a flying problem!

The largest money maker for the club - our Super Prize Raffle was a Great Planes Seawind and a Horizon E-Flite Cub - both in ready to fly condition. The Seawind included a Futaba Radio system and OS Engine. The Cub was powered by an E-Flite brushless motor and JR flight pack. Donna Burns again ran the Raffle Tent turning in phenomenal sales despite the weather - with the help of a computer this year for all those \$20 sales to save all the writing they have done in the past. And a special thanks

*(Continued on page 6)*

*(Continued from page 5)*

goes to our Sponsors - with their generosity, and the efforts of Joe Hass (the prez) and myself, they provided some wonderful prizes for the pilots. See the sponsor list in the photos!

Oh - and who won the Super Prize Raffles? Well - Bob Mayhew - a long time attendee from Taylor, MI and member of the Cloudbusters won the Seawind... and my daughter Alyssa won the Cub! (thank you baby!) The Cub has already been flown on both wheels and floats since the event - at the NEAT Fair in New York, and at Seven Lakes. The Seawind is scheduled for its maiden flight on October 7 at Sterling Park in Monroe.

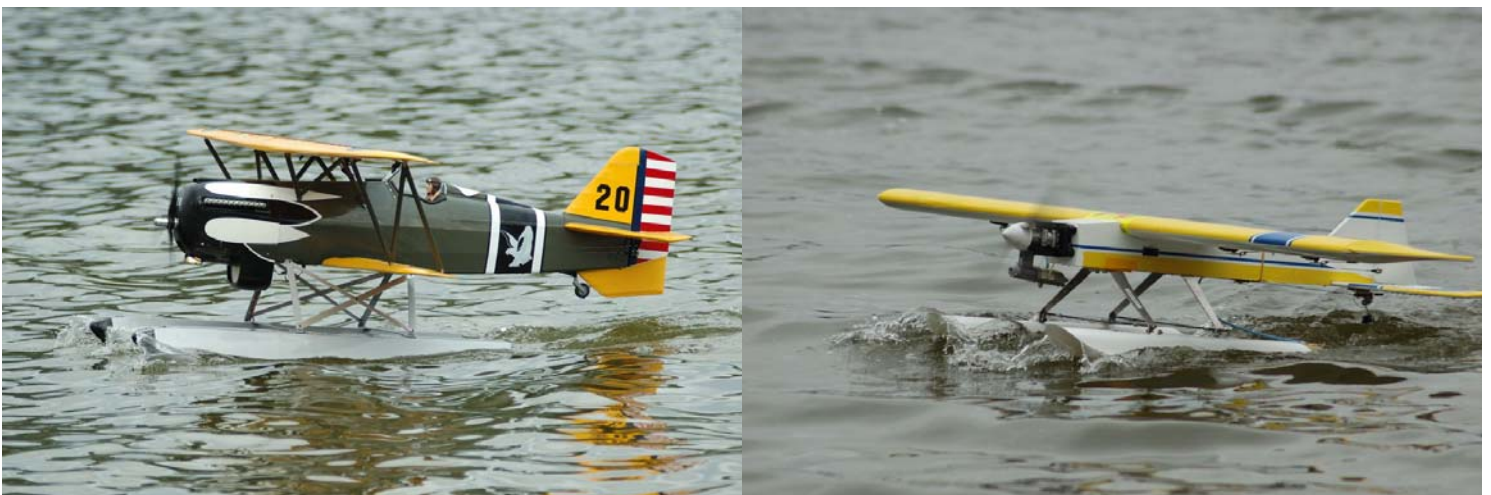
Hopefully you had a chance to come see us this year... If you came to help, I again THANK YOU! The end result to the club - a lot of fun, flying, hard work, and \$2000 added to our bank account!

Get your planes ready for next year - and come join us!

(Don't forget we are still Float Flying Wednesdays at Stony Creek, and Saturdays at Seven Lakes... weather permitting of course. Check our home page on the web for status.)



**First prize in the Super Raffle went to Bob Mayhew while second prize went to Alyssa Cardillo!**



**Wade Wiley flying his Curtiss P-6E Hawk took home 1st in 'Sport Scale' while Chris Hass took home 1st in the 'Sport' Category flying his Ultrastick.**



Just a few of the airplanes that were flown at the event.



Thanks to all our sponsors for great support!

Darrell and Jane Watts return to sample the Pig Roast and maybe fly a little.



Top Gun pilot Dave Pinegar and his wife Vicki did a great job of judging.

Excuse me Donna, how many tickets do I get for \$20?



**Scott (or is it Scott) from SKS video taped dozens of airplanes for the 2006 Skymasters Float Fly video. Order your copy for Christmas today!**



**Darrell Watts fires the rocket assist on his Northstar.**



**Is that a Gremlin on floats? No Way!**



**A nice Turbo Beaver taxis in after a successful flight.**



**Who says float planes can't hover!**



# UPCOMING SKYMASTERS EVENTS

## **Stony Creek Float Flying - *Wednesdays Thru October***

**Stony Creek Metropark - 9:00 AM**

Every Wednesday the weather allows. Come fly off water at Stony Creek Metro Park on Wednesday mornings. Flying from Winter Cove. Contact Jim Held for more info and to get on mailing list for cancellations.

## **Seven Lakes Float Flying - *Saturdays - September 16 thru October***

**Seven Lakes State Park - 9:30 AM**

Fly off the water of Big Seven Lake and Seven Lakes State Park. As long as the weather allows - the last float flying of the season...

## **Skymasters Meeting - *Wednesday, October 11, 2006***

**Larson Middle School. 2222 E. Long Lake Road, Troy - 7:00 PM**

President's Choice. We have Delta Darts that members can build. Competition for longest flight time, best 2 flights of 3 timed. The kits will be available at the September 27 meeting. Prizes for the winners! Meeting in Gymnasium.

*\*Note 7pm start time for all future Larson meetings!!\**

## **Orion Township Barn Daze - *Saturday, October 14, 2006***

**Friendship Park - Baldwin Rd and Clarkston Rd - 11:00 AM**

Our annual Kid's Day once again combines with Orion Township Barn Daze. For a small donation (all proceeds to the park) - have a chance to fly a radio controlled model plane with one of our instructors. Also see a collection of our models on display. For Kid's of all ages! Flying till 5pm weather permitting.

**\*\*Scripps Road Field will be closed for this event\*\***

## **Field Closing Dinner and Bonfire - *Saturday, October 21, 2006***

**Scripps Rd. Field, Lake Orion**

Although the field really doesn't close, come on out and celebrate the end of summer with one more potluck dinner and a bonfire. Dinner at 6PM as usual. Call Dave at 248-969-3914 for details.

## **Skymasters Meeting - *Wednesday, October 25, 2006***

**Larson Middle School. 2222 E. Long Lake Road, Troy - 7:00 PM**

Hobby Lobby Symposium!! Jason Cole - Advertising and PR Director and Dan Wensell - Daily Operations Manager present: "SPIN" - The latest in electronic speed controls; USING VARIABLE PITCH PROPS - Hover facing down - Here's how! - Flight demos; MICRO HELICOPTERS - flight demos

*\*Note 7pm start time for all future Larson meetings!!\**

## **Retiree and Want'A Be's Breakfast - *Monday, November 6, 2006***

**Rams Horn Restaurant - 2265 Crooks Road, Rochester Hills - 9:00 AM**

First and third Monday of each month throughout the winter - Join us for breakfast and R/C talk. (SE corner of Crooks Rd and M-59)

## **Skymasters Meeting - *Wednesday, November 8, 2006***

**Larson Middle School. 2222 E. Long Lake Road, Troy - 7:00 PM**

Jack lafrate joins us with his Extremely High Performance motor gliders. Up to 4 HP electric motors capable of reaching 1000 ft in 10 seconds!! Annual Elections!

*\*Note 7pm start time for all future Larson meetings!!\**

## **Retiree and Want'A Be's Breakfast - *Monday, November 20, 2006***

**Rams Horn Restaurant - 2265 Crooks Road, Rochester Hills - 9:00 AM**

First and third Monday of each month throughout the winter - Join us for breakfast and R/C talk. (SE corner of Crooks Rd and M-59)



# SKYMASTERS RADIO CONTROL CLUB OF MICHIGAN

**Pete Foss**  
**562 Tanview Dr.**  
**Oxford, MI. 48371**

Web site: [www.skymasters.org](http://www.skymasters.org)  
Email: [newsletter@skymasters.org](mailto:newsletter@skymasters.org)



PHOTOTOGRAPHY by  
Greg Cardillo and Pete Foss



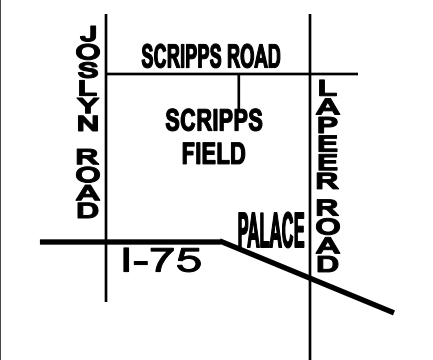
## Skymasters Information.....

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.

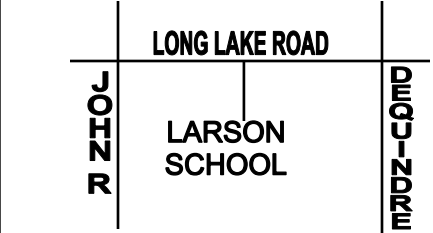
In the summer, Wednesday evenings are Student Nights and there are usually instruc-

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!