



Academy of Model Aeronautics

Chartered Club #970
10 Year Gold Leader Club

Skywriter

Krazy Sno Fly



2008 Club Officers & Appointees...

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 Cayuga	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 has been an exciting month for the Skymasters!

The Krazy Snow Fly featured 12 gallons of Paul Zabawa's famous chili, 30 plus pilots as well as many spectators and family members. John Hoover announced the opening of his Hobby Shop just a few miles north of the Scripps Road Field (*see flyer on page 7*), as well as donating 10 gift certificates for the pilots who were there. We even had crystal clear blue skies and snow! It was just enough snow to make skis work yet it was OK if you didn't have them. Temperatures were cold enough to make the chili extra delicious yet not so cold to be uncomfortable. In addition to the chili, Paul Z. donated additional pilot's prizes. Thanks Paul for cooking, organizing and donating to a fun day.

We then rolled into the Spread Spektrum Symposium with John Adams of Horizon on January 9. WOW! 116 people from 10 clubs, some traveling over 100 miles, spent 2 intense hours listening to John explain the ins and outs, history and the future of the 2.4GHz Horizon products. I picked John up early in the afternoon on the 9th and we traveled to Troy for lunch. It was fascinating to hear his background and all the things he is involved in. We then went to my house to pick up Chris and all the support equipment, catalogs, airplanes, etc. It was more than could be fit into my minivan so John drove Paula's car as well. Things kicked off at 7 and not only did the 2 hours go by quickly we could have used 2 hours more. At Marinelli's the discussions and education continued until well past 11PM.

John and I had breakfast Thursday morning before heading off to Oakland Troy Airport for a 45 minute flight in the Cessna 182 for an air tour of downtown Detroit, the Selfridge area, and out over our Scripps field. John did a bit of the flying and did a great job. After landing back at Troy we headed over to the Shelby Soccer Dome to meet up with the group. John was again bombarded with questions. We stayed as long as we could before we headed out to Metro to get John back home. It was an intense and rewarding 24 hours. Thanks to John Adams and the management at Horizon for a great event.

Now for a side note. John let Chris use the new 12 channel JR transmitter he brought to the symposium on Chris' Vrolet (nice not having to worry about crystals). Chris was all smiles and loved the feel of the new transmitter as he flew the Vrolet around the cafetorium. While that was going on John was working with Skip Mast using Chris' JR 9303 demonstrating how to program extremely slow servo speed (30 seconds from one extreme to another). Chris had no idea this had taken place. Thank goodness John used the throttle channel. You can only imagine the next flight Chris had on the Vrolet with his transmitter programmed for 30 second throttle response.

Two weeks later we were entertained and informed at a joint Skymasters / TOPS meeting by John Nyquist, a member of Troy Oakland Pilots (TOPS) and the National Guard. John is an F-16 pilot, code name "Quisto". His cool, confident demeanor exemplifies "fighter pilot". John's father Paul is also a member of TOPS and flew Saber jets as well. Another great evening.

Flying in the Shelby Soccer Dome is a great break during these cold winter days. Even if you don't have an indoor aircraft it is great to watch and catch up with everyone's new projects. Stop by, you may get the bug to try it yourself.

Speaking of the dome and indoor flying, the folks at Great Planes picked up on Jim Held's Flite Streak Foamie pictured in one of our newsletters. The Flite Streak was a control line stunt and combat aircraft designed by the late NATS Champion George Aldrich. It was popular in the late 50's and 60's. Jim has made it a great flying foamie, following the original outline and color scheme. Jim has built a new one, equipped with the new FFAST Futaba 2.4 system. Great Planes asked that I bring it to E Fest in Champaign, IL on February 9 and 10 to show it to the Great Planes team. Jim has even mixed cross controlled rudder and ailerons so that it can fly just like a control line ship.

Jim Held has led a group of members and officers who are going over our bylaws to bring them up to date. It is a bigger task than it appears as we try to follow the AMA guidelines and incorporate the new introductory AMA program, the Park Pilot Program and the changes needed as our group grows. Thanks to the team for all the

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work they have done so far.

The folks at Great Planes / Hobbico / Futaba have asked to join us to present their FFAST 2.4 GHz system. We are working on a finding a date.

I was privileged to receive an invitation to the tribute to outgoing AMA President Dave Brown in Muncie, IN on Saturday, January 26. Chris and I drove down for an exciting evening with many of the leaders of the aeromodeling community. Names like Maynard Hill (first Trans Atlantic flight of an R/C aircraft), Terry Nitsch (jet champion), Don Anderson of Great Planes, representatives of the NAA and so many more were present. Dave has done a tremendous amount for aeromodeling, leading the organization through many complex issues. He deserved every accolade presented to him during the emotional evening.

There will only be one meeting in February, our Swap Shop on February 27. We will need some extra help with set up and managing the event. If we have folks on site by 5 or 5:30 we should be fine. This is a lot of fun with a lot of horse trading and a live auction at the end. It is also one of our two fundraisers. Come out, show your support and have fun.

See you at the dome. Joe Hass

For Sale

P51 Mustang, \$200 or best offer.
Plane has a receiver and engine in it, but does not come with a transmitter. If interested please call:
Chris Shaw at 586-273-7858.



Flint's R/C Swap Meet

February 24, 2008
9AM - 1PM
Table Setup at 7:30AM

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

Admission: \$5
Tables: \$23 (\$20 in advance)

Bill Gerard 810-845-3007
www.rcflyingaces.com

Mid-Michigan RC Model Club Swap Meet

February 3, 2008
Baker College, Owosso, MI
9:00 AM

Admission \$5
Tables \$15 before Jan .

Marshall Emmendorfer
(810) 638-5877

[http://www.geocities.com/
foundryratjim/
chesaning_area_rc_club.html](http://www.geocities.com/foundryratjim/chesaning_area_rc_club.html)



Skymasters R/C Club

We'll Teach You To Fly!

Join the Skymasters Radio Control Club for an R/C Symposium

Annual Swap Shop

Wednesday February 27, 2008

Table Setup – 6pm General Admission – 7PM

- * **TABLE \$10-00** 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.**

?
Lots of 'stuff'
Raffles
?
Bargains
Sell outs
Junk
Door Prize
?
Old 'gear'
50/50

General Admission: \$3
Tables: \$10
All Welcome!!

Auction at end of evening

Larson Middle School
2222 E. Long Lake (18 Mile)
Troy, MI 48085



For more information call Joe Hass 248-321-7934
Visit our website at www.skymasters.org

Krazy Sno Fly



Spread Spektrum Symposium

by David Wendt

Date: Wednesday January 9th, 2008
 Location: Larson Middle School - Gym

Attendance: 116 people in attendance

Joe Hass greeted the crowd. Some 10 different clubs were in attendance. John Hoover will be opening a new hobby store named "Flight Line Hobby" in Lake Orion MI. The opening will be some time in February. Joe did a quick survey of the attendees who own a Spread Spektrum radio. About 75% of the people in attendance already have a 2.4 GHz radio.

Spread "Spektrum" Symposium! John Adams – Technical Director of Horizon Hobby. John asked the audience "What is the biggest advantage with 2.4 GHz?" The overwhelming response was the absence of frequency pins. Latency is also decreased because 2.4 GHz has a faster refresh rate. The speed difference has been noticed by the top RC pilots. The top winners of major events have been running 2.4 GHz (both Spread Spektrum and Futaba FFAST). RF noise from motor and other RC peripherals are usually below 300 MHz. 2.4 GHz is way too high to be affected by normal RF noise. Therefore, 2.4 GHz systems can be considered a higher safety alternative to standard 72 MHz FM radios.

There are also increased features that come with some of the Spread Spektrum radios. The Model Match setting from JR prevents you from using the wrong model memory. JR Model Match will know if you are set to the wrong model and will prevent operation of the incorrect model. The number one problem experienced by 2.4 GHz users is called interrupted power. A drop in supply voltage below 3.2 volts will cause the receiver to reboot. Rebooting the CPU in the receiver can take anywhere from 2 to 7 seconds and usually results in unintentional contact with the ground. Many times this condition is experienced by electric pilots who over push their batteries. In fuel planes it's often caused by an intermittent connection on the switch harness. If power loss happens, the only way to fix the issue is to determine the root cause of the power loss.

John talked a little bit about the different technology choices adopted by the industry. Frequency hopping is used by Futaba. Frequency hopping rapidly switches over a number of narrow band frequencies. If there is a collision during one of the hops the bad data is ignored by the receiver similar to FM PCM. Direct Sequence is used by JR. With Direct Sequence can have several different transmitters on the same wide band. With frequency hopping the more people you have within range of each other the more packet loss occurs. As implemented by Spektrum, 40 people can fly at the same location. The 41st person will not be able to use his/her radio until one person turns off their radio. Direct Sequence self regulates the band. Once you get a connection with Direct Sequence you are guaranteed packet delivery without degradation.

John has been working on Spread Spektrum technology for about 9 years now. The technology was first introduced in the RC arena about 3 years ago in cars and 2 years ago for planes. JR sales of 72 MHz systems are nearly non-existent. Today, the industry sales are nearly all 2.4 GHz radios.

50/50 - Greg Brausa won \$101.00

Spread Spektrum Conversion Module and Receiver System – Joe Finkelstein
 Spektrum Hats – Jim Held, Chuck Slattery and Larry Stein



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Just Plane Fun!



Specializing in:

*Electric Planes &
Helicopters
Plastic Models
Radios
Accessories
Hard to find parts
Flight Packs
and Much More!*

**Open
February
2008!**



*Futaba Radio
accessories*



WB 140

Perma-Grit Tools

Tungsten Carbide Abrasives



*All parts and
accessories*



1192 S. Lapeer Rd.
Lake Orion, MI 48360
248-814-UFLY
www.flightlinehobby.us

UPCOMING SKYMASTERS EVENTS

Winter Weather Reminder

Our meetings are dependent on the status of the Troy School District. If Troy Schools are closed - or cancel after school activities, our events are cancelled as well. Please check local radio and TV stations for status. We will update the site as soon as possible in the event of a cancellation.

Shelby Township Indoor Flying - Tuesday, Thursday, Friday thru Winter Soccer City, 2452 23 Mile Road, Shelby Twp - 11:00 AM

Come fly indoors! Located on 23 Mile Road, east of Dequindre. A spacious soccer dome for our use. R/C Flying on Tuesday and Thursday from 11am - 2pm. Rubber Power Flying on Tuesday and Thursday from 9am - 11am and Friday from 12pm - 2pm. Pay ONCE for the season: \$20 for Shelby residents. \$25 for non-Shelby residents.

Retiree and Want'A Be's Breakfast - Monday, February 4, 2008

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)

NO Meeting - Wednesday, February 13, 2008

School Unavailable - Band Concert

Retiree and Want'A Be's Breakfast - Monday, February 18, 2008

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)

Swap Shop - Wednesday, February 27, 2008

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

Our annual swap shop! Known as a hobbyists swap meet - our mid-week event is one of a kind. Set up at 6pm.

Retiree and Want'A Be's Breakfast - Monday, March 3, 2008

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, March 12, 2008

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

A123 Battery Technology - Ken Meyers, editor of Ampeer and electric expert, joins us to discuss A123 batteries. Hard cased Lithium cells that are seeing wider use. Come learn about these batteries, the differences, and why you might want to use them in your next project!

Retiree and Want'A Be's Breakfast - Monday, March 17, 2008

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)

NO Meeting - Wednesday, March 26, 2008

School Closed - Spring Break

Retiree and Want'A Be's Breakfast - Monday, April 7, 2008

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, April 9, 2008

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

"Why Big Airplanes Fly Better" - Ken Meyers, editor of Ampeer, joins us again for the evening. Come learn why size matters... bigger is better!

Skymasters R/C Club 2008 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 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 current year 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) *Renewing members: Check for \$70 (\$100 after February 28, 2008)
- 2) *New members: Check for \$100 (\$70 Dues + \$30 Initiation Fee)
- 3) Photocopy of 2008 AMA Card
- 4) Self addressed stamped envelope
- 5) Completed & Signed Application

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.



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



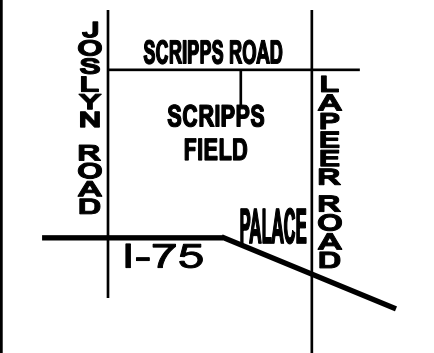
Skymasters Information.....

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.

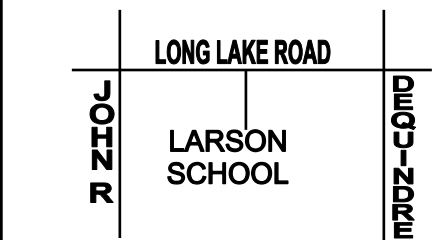
In the summer, Wednesday evenings are Student Nights and there are usually instruc-

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 7:00 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!