



Academy of Model Aeronautics

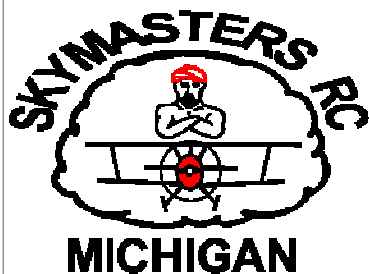
Chartered Club #970  
10 Year Gold Leader Club

# Skypwriter

## Flying: A Hair-raising Experience!



About 12 pilots joined Joe Hass & Alyssa & David Wendt at the field Saturday 3/29 for some spring flying. The field is in great shape and so is the parking lot. Head on out! (P. Goelz photo)



### 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 Weeks	2512 Red Fox Trail	Troy	48098	248-540-8358

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

BY: Joe Hass

## **GONE FLYING FOREVER...**

The Skymasters have lost two good guys recently.

Doug Riley left us on February 8, 2008 at 87. A native of Canada, Doug was an Army vet from World War II. He retired from Ford after 44 years. I can't remember when Doug wasn't at a meeting. He was always there to lend a hand, especially manning the Transmitter Impound at our annual Midwest Regional Float Fly.

Stew Lange left us on March 18, 2008 at age 76. Stew was an avid modeler since his youth. An Air Force vet, Stew was also an accomplished boater and full size pilot. He owned and flew a Cessna 182. He joined the Skymasters in 1998. His son Dave is an active Skymaster with others in his family looking to get some time on the sticks.

We will miss them both.

Join us all in sending our condolences to the families of these fine gentlemen.

## **BUSY MARCH**

The presentation by Ken Myers on the A123 family of batteries during our March meeting was very informative. We have yet another option to power our machines. The A123s have many unique advantages to Li-Pos as we now know them. For much more info visit Ken's web site, look up the "Ampeer" newsletter (available electronically or by mail) or contact Ken at 248-669-8124. I have a great deal on some NiCad power packs (that we used to power the motor systems in our electric airplanes). Talk about technology moving at warp speed.

Bill Stark, Gary Weaks and I met with the DNR about our lease. It was a very productive meeting but there is still more work to be done. Of special interest is that the people we met with had no idea of the amount of work the Skymasters have done over the years for the park. We have definitely set the standard for commitment to Bald Mountain Recreation Area.

Chris and his friend Jamie Hicks from Bowling Green, OH made a trip out to the Scripps Road field on Wednesday, March 26. They got in a number of flights. They report that the field itself is in good shape. There are a few ruts in the parking lot. Scripps Road was fine as well. A few hours later we took the 182 to do a little sightseeing. We flew over the field to find someone else out flying. Spring is here! There was some standing water to the east but everything else looked great (at least from 2,500 feet).

The Soccer City Dome in Shelby Township continues to be a hot spot of indoor flying with a lot of activity every Tuesday and Thursday. It is fun just to visit. The dome will be operational through April. It is scheduled to be closed by May 1. Having access to flying during this tough winter has been wonderful.

## **AND APRIL WILL BE VERY BUSY TOO!**

The annual Weak Signals Conference will take place on April 4, 5, 6 at the Sea Gate Center in Downtown Toledo. This is the place to be to see the latest and greatest in all things R/C.

We will start our programs with Ken Myers visiting us again on April 9. This time Ken will discuss "Why Big Airplanes Fly Better". There is a mathematical reason for this phenomenon. To understand it will help you with your next project.

Our annual "Involvement Day" will be April 19. This is the day that we dedicate to improving the Bald Mountain Recreation Area. The Scripps Road Field will be closed until the work is completed. There are tasks for all sizes and skill levels. Refreshments and lunch will be served. Meet at the Ranger's Station on Greenshield Road east of M-24 at 9 AM. Hand and garden tools are helpful.

On April 23 our second meeting in April will host Nathan King of Futaba to discuss their 2.4 GHz system FASST. This is a "Must Attend" evening to stay up on the latest technology. The plan is that Everyone will leave with something more than a catalog (based on the 150 items that are already in my guest room). In addition there will be other prizes. One lucky participant will leave with a complete 7 channel 2.4 GHz System. That is

*(Continued on page 3)*

*(Continued from page 2)*

also at my house and, so far, I have resisted all temptation to try it out. Bring a friend, all are welcome!

We will not have an "In the Bones" meeting as we have the last few years in order to give room for the good folks at Futaba.

#### **AND IN MAY..**

There will only be one "meeting" in May. Our annual "Field Opening Party" will take place on Wednesday May 14 and will be our day to clean up / fix up anything that is needed on the Scripps Road Field. Dinner will be provided. Again there is something for everyone so come out and lend a hand. There should be time to get a little flying in as well.

May 17 and 18 will be our first float flys of the season.

"Student Nights" will begin on Wednesday May 28 with our traditional Pot Luck Dinners and instructions.

#### **OUR EVENT SCHEDULE HAS BEEN FIRMED UP**

Visit the website for the latest.

#### **PLANNING FOR THE FALL**

Yes I know we haven't hit summer yet but we will again have a "President's Choice". This time with a more complicated rubber powered airplane (I have run out of Delta Darts). This will still be easy and a lot of fun. There will be a special award to anyone who flies one R/C. More details to follow.

I am in discussion with Hobby Lobby to again visit us.

#### **BELATED THANK YOU**

A special thanks goes to John Collins for providing the packaging and shipping for the Christmas items that went to our many contributors. Given enough time I will get caught up eventually.

See you at the dome or at the field.

Joe Hass

## **Gone Flying...**

As Joe said in his president's letter, Skymasters lost two fine gentlemen these past two months: Doug Riley and Stew Lange.

I've known Doug since I joined the club 20 years ago. What I remember most about Doug is his energy. No matter what field work party or Involvement Day, he would be there ready to work until everything was done. I remember many times as a 30 something looking over and saying "if he can keep going so can I". Enjoy your rest Doug, you've earned it. - Pete

It is with sincere regret that we pass along the sad news that one of the early members of Skymasters, Stew Lange, passed away in March. A proud veteran, dedicated family man and smiling fixture at the airfield, he will be remembered and missed by those fortunate enough to have flown with him. - Dave Shea

As with so many Skymasters sometimes all you have to do is ask for help, that was the case when I first met Stew. He helped me with AutoCAD and set up the metal cutting file for the 1/6 scale S-39 kit. That encouraged me to continue with AutoCAD on my own, and Stew answered many questions as I learned the program. He would not take any compensation for his efforts. We became good friends and shared many good times at the field. I am left with many good memories from a very dear friend. Stew and Marylou were active members of Christ the King Church and I know Stew kept his faith to the end of his journey. - Allen G. Mrock





# Skymasters R/C Club

**We'll Teach You To Fly!**

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

## FASST 2.4 GHZ

**Wednesday April 23, 2008 – 7PM**



*Featuring a  
discussion with*  
**Nathan King**



**R&D Product Designer**

**A full 2.4GHz Futaba 7C  
System to a Lucky Guest!**



*Come learn everything you wanted to know about:*

**Futaba FASST Technology  
Presentation, Hands On, and Q&A**

**Free Admission!  
All Welcome!!!**



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



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For more information call Joe Hass 248-321-7934  
Visit our website at [www.skymasters.org](http://www.skymasters.org)

# A123 Cells with Ken Meyers

Ken Meyers, President and Newsletter Editor of the EFO club, spent a very enjoyable evening with us on March 12 to discuss A123 batteries. These new batteries are a type of lithium battery with some important differences. Unlike LiPo batteries, they are cylindrical and have a metal can. They are also quite a bit heavier than LiPo's and only come in two sizes so far.

Their maximum voltage is also different from LiPo batteries and must be charged with chargers made for that technology. In the special case of a three cell A123 pack, they can be charged with a 12 volt battery and some lamp or zip cord in a very short time! For more details look in the April 08 issue of the Ampeer newsletter. <http://members.aol.com/kmyersefo/ampeer.htm>. For those of you who are less adventurous, several commercial chargers including the CellPro can safely charge these new cells.







# Skymasters R/C Club

**We'll Teach you to fly!**

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

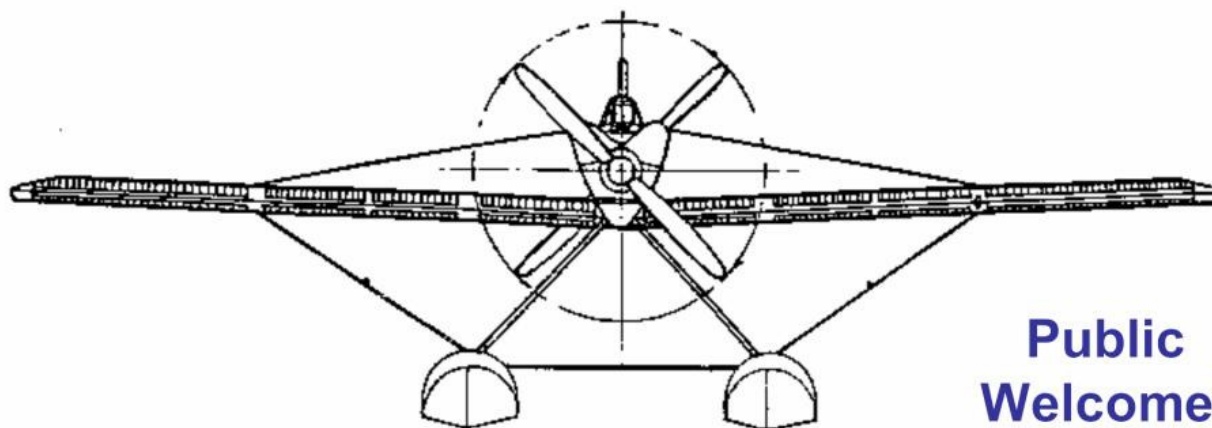
## Chet Brady Memorial Float Fly

**Saturday May 17, 2008**

**Seven Lakes State Park, Holly**

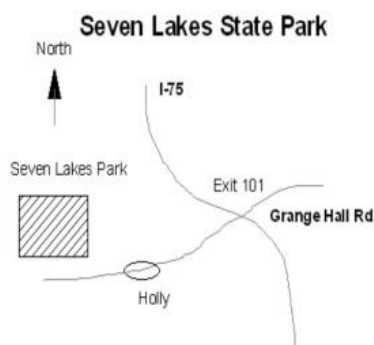
Event Flying starts at 9am

***Please check our website for status the week of the event.  
Seven Lakes water level is down due to a dam problem.  
We may need to relocate or cancel this event...***



**Public  
Welcome!**

Flying open to AMA members.



- Lots of Parking
- Refreshments available at event
- Great chance to see this exciting hobby
- Toilet located at field

\$3 Landing Fee  
Pilots Prizes

Park entrance is on Fish Lake Rd, just north of Grange Hall Rd. Take I-75 to Exit 101. Go west approx 5 miles (2<sup>nd</sup> Light). Turn right. Park entrance will be on left. Follow park road to Big Seven Lake beach area. All cars need annual/daily State Park sticker – available at event.

For more information call Joe Rubinstein 248-693-4265  
Visit our website at [www.skymasters.org](http://www.skymasters.org)



# Skymasters R/C Club

**We'll Teach you to fly!**

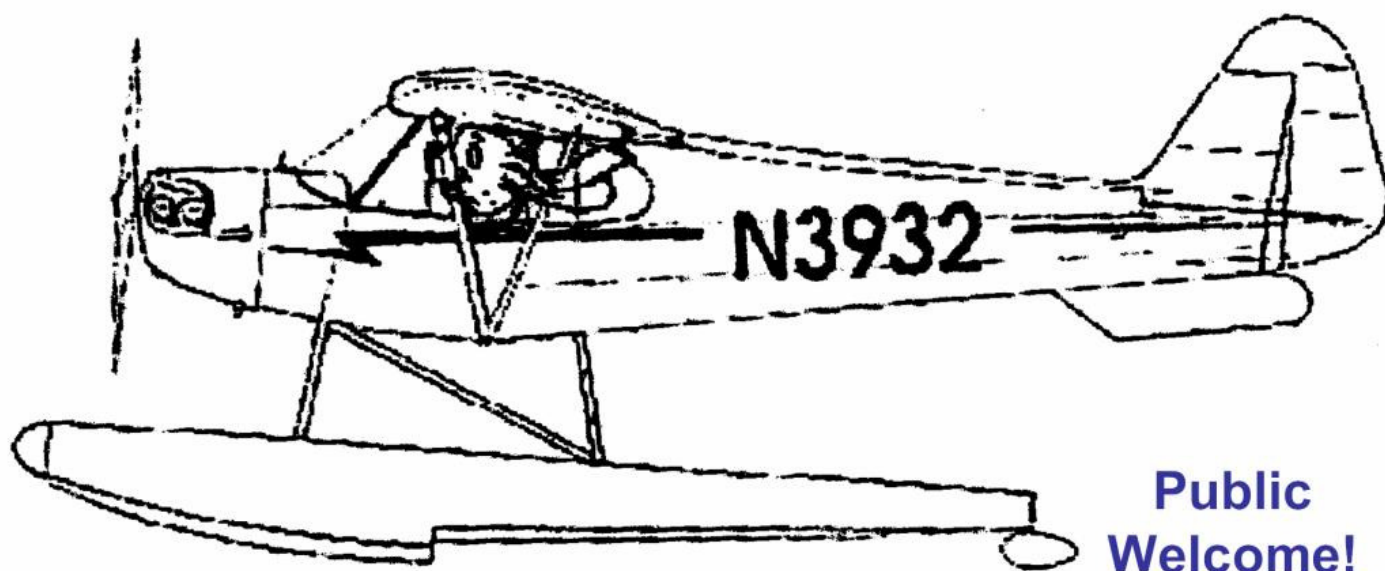
Join the Skymasters Radio Control  
Club for an R/C Aircraft Event

## Bald Mountain Float Fly

**Sunday May 18, 2008**

**Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Lake Orion**

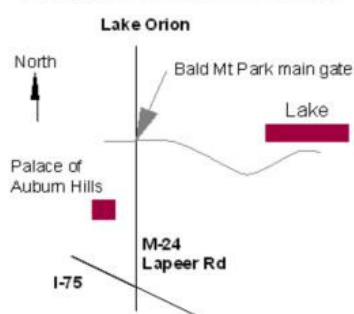
Event Flying starts at 10am



**Public  
Welcome!**

Flying open to AMA members. 94dBa at 10 feet enforced.

### Bald Mountain State Park



- Lots of Parking
- Refreshments available at event
- Toilet located at field
- Great chance to see this exciting hobby!

No Landing Fee  
Pilots Prizes

Main Park entrance is on east side of M24 about 5 miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills, between Silverbell and Waldon. Follow park road to Trout Lake beach area.

All cars need annual/daily State Park sticker – available at event.

For more information call Dave Wendt 248-703-2318

Visit our website at [www.skymasters.org](http://www.skymasters.org)

# UPCOMING SKYMASTERS EVENTS

## **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, 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!

## **Bald Mountain Involvement Day - Saturday, April 19, 2008**

**Park Headquarters, Greenshield Road - 9:00 AM**

A day we give to the Park each year - to help get the Park ready for spring. Projects for everyone, from painting signs, repairing picnic tables, roofing shelters, wood splitting, etc. Come out and support your club - and the Park we fly in!!

## **Retiree and Want'A Be's Breakfast - Monday, April 21, 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 23, 2008**

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

FASST 2.4 GHz Symposium! Featuring a discussion with Nathan King, R&D Product Designer for Futaba! Come learn everything you wanted to know about: Futaba's FASST Technology - Presentation, Hands On, and Q&A

## **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.

[Starting again in May 2008!](#)

## **Skymasters Field Opening - Wednesday, May 14, 2008**

**Scripps Road Field, Lake Orion - 6:00 PM**

FIELD OPENING PARTY - The field never closes for the winter, but how else can we celebrate the beginning of another flying season? Some cleanup and maintenance tasks to be done to get the field ready for spring... dinner at 6pm.

## **Chet Brady Memorial Float Fly - Saturday, May 17, 2008**

**Seven Lakes State Park, Big Seven Lake, Holly - 10:00 AM**

Our first Float Fly Event of the year. It adds a whole new dimension when flying from water - it's also great to watch.

[Location subject to change based on status of dam repairs on Big Seven Lake](#)

## **Bald Mountain Float Fly - Sunday, May 18, 2008**

**Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Trout Lake, Lake Orion - 10:00 AM**

The beach will be closed, and R/C float planes will take the place of bathers. Another fun day on a great float plane site. The Scripps Road Field will be closed for this event due to proximity to the Trout Lake location.

### **Heli-max CP For Sale**

I have a new (only been flown a couple times and not really gotten off the ground even then) Heli-max CP with transmitter, NiMH batt and charger, training wheels and some extra parts. I fixed a couple minor things-replaceable plastic items and want to sell it or trade for an Eflite blade system---something I can manage. Asking \$150 U.S.D

Darryl Roenicke

Call me at 248 376 4191 or email me at [dwroenicke@hotmail.com](mailto:dwroenicke@hotmail.com)



# Skymasters R/C Club 2008 Application For Membership



## Information (print clearly)

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AMA #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Other: \_\_\_\_\_

New Member ( ☐ )      Renewal ( ☐ )

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pilot: ( ☐ )      Student: ( ☐ )

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Frequencies: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## 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

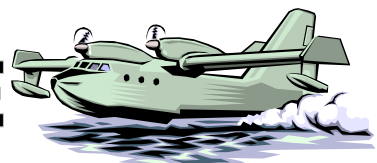
**Pete Foss**  
**562 Tanview Dr.**  
**Oxford, MI. 48371**

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



PHOTOGRAPHY by  
Greg Cardillo and Paul Goelz

HOME OF THE  
"MIDWEST REGIONAL FLOAT FLY"



## 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 pot luck buffet,

### SCRIPPS ROAD FIELD



### WINTER MEETINGS



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!