



Academy of Model Aeronautics

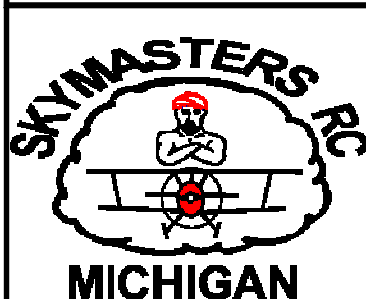
Chartered Club #970
10 Year Gold Leader Club

Skypwriter

AMA Membership Drive



Skymasters 2010 President David Wendt presents the banner the club won (along with \$500) for getting the most new AMA members in AMA's 2009 membership drive.



2010 Club Officers & Appointees...

President:	David Wendt	4549 Sedona	Clarkston	48348	248-969-8738
Vice Pres:	Paul Zabawa	PO Box 138	Metamora	48455	810-678-3332
Secretary:	Dan Stolz	1311 Pondview Ln.	Oxford	48371	248-236-0206
Treasurer:	Bob Donohue	3323 Baldwin Woods	Orion	48359	248-915-9791
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...

April is finally in our sights and for many of us that means getting the fleet ready for outdoor flying. Top on my list are battery checks and control surface linkages. I like to keep about 5 planes ready at all times. Having a busy life sometimes limits my ability to plan when I can be at the field. Having planes I know are ready to go helps me take advantage of the sometimes spontaneous opportunities to fly. Soon I will be practicing the basic IMAC maneuvers, I can't wait!

April also brings us a laundry list of RC destinations. Horizon will be coming to Ultimate Soccer Arenas on April 7th for a "Pre- Toledo Review" of their newest products. The product team at Horizon does a great job of bringing together fantastic flying planes, appropriate construction techniques, and affordable prices. Two days later the 56th Annual Weak Signals RC show starts. It's practically a Skymasters tradition to go as a group to the Spaghetti Warehouse for dinner Saturday night. If you are interested we will meet up at the escalators around 4:45 p.m. All are welcome! Friday and Saturday nights, April 9th and 10th are going to be special this year. Skymasters own Chris Hass has been invited to compete at this year's ETOC. Sixteen of the world's top ranked pilots will be competing for the honor and distinction of ETOC champion. The Skymasters wish you the very best of luck Chris!

We also have some world class speakers lined up for our April meetings. On the 14th we have a double header with Mark Freeland and Larry Berman. Mark will give us a presentation on his Retro RC planes and creative building techniques and Larry Berman is the owner of ICBM products. ICBM offers a variety of laser cut gas-kets for our RC engines. On April 28th Darrell "Big D" Bell from team Futaba will be featured. Darrell is an expert helicopter pilot and a goldmine of information on helicopter setup.

Bald Mountain involvement day is also right around the corner. April 17th is our annual volunteer day for the parks. This is the one day a year that Skymasters members donate their time thanking the DNR for allowing us to fly at the Scripps Road Field. This year the parks need our help more than ever. Budget constraints are a serious problem for the Michigan State parks. Without our help basic maintenance at Bald Mountain will likely go undone. There will be jobs for every skill level. In the past we have done painting, tree cutting and even roof work. If you are limited to light duty work we will certainly be able to accommodate you. Ron Sokacz will be back in town and grilling up the food for the work staff. It's a work day, but that doesn't mean it can't be fun too. I really hope you decide to attend because it makes a big difference for the DNR.

Many Happy landings,
David Wendt
Skymasters President 2010

Swap Meet 2010

The 2010 Swap Shop was a complete success! 40 tables were sold with many more folks selling items from any horizontal surface available. Even with bad weather of the west side of the city keeping some folks at home we had 202 attendees. Lots of merchandise changed hands. As is typical for our event items were being bought, sold or traded before the event even officially started. The live auction helped clear out any remaining inventory with many items going for fantastic prices.

Chris Hass took charge of many of the initial set up details then manned the door along with Phil Smith of the Weak Signals to handle table sales and general admittance.

The Dezur's were generously helped by Paul Surtliff in the kitchen. **The Dezur's donated ALL of the kitchen receipts to the club.**

Numerous club members aided with the clean up. Thanks to all for making the Swap Shop a complete success!

Joe Hass



Tom Wheeler - Sound and Noise

General Meeting Minutes March 10, 2010 Attendance: 37 Members and Guests.

David Wendt recognized three visitors – Steve Japar who had an airplane and accessories for sale, Dale Dexter, and Dave Gorka who was interested in joining Skymasters. He also mentioned March 13 was a Bald Mountain Involvement Workday with more details to follow. The Skymasters receive credit for each volunteer which is applied to our annual lease. The last Bald Mountain Involvement Workday generated \$415 credit toward our annual \$1,400 lease.

David Wendt introduced Tom Wheeler who was our special speaker. Tom discussed sound vs. noise concepts and how this applies to our radio controlled aircraft. Why is the sound/noise generated by our airplanes important to all of us? Why should we be concerned? In short, we need to be good neighbors with our surrounding environment to help preserve our right to fly at our respective fields. Keep in mind what may be an acceptable sound to us may be a bothersome noise to others. Tom's talk was very informative and helpful. Many of the technical details were included in a handout Tom supplied but some of the highlights (not all inclusive) follow.

Sound is energy that can be heard such as a jet airplane flying overhead. Noise is also sound, but it is associated with a bothersome or disagreeable sound. To some people, our airplanes are a bothersome sound – and we stay around all day! If the sound at your property line is measured at 70db or greater, a resident may voice a complaint to the authorities.



Tom Wheeler gave a very comprehensive talk about noise levels generated by our airplanes.

What generates sound on our airplanes? 1) The muffler generates a low pitched sound and travels furthest. 2) The prop generates a higher pitched noise and travels with the plane. In other words, it stays local with the plane. Propeller tip speed contributes to this noise. 3) The airframe and air intake generate sound but this only shows up on a sound meter at ground level, not in the air.

When measuring the sound level of your aircraft when it is on the ground, there are many factors affecting the db level when measured by a sound meter from a distance of 10'. Some of the factors are: type of surface such as grass, concrete, soft soil, hard soil, trees, height of meter, placement of meter relative to the airplane, etc.

Propeller cavitation will significantly increase sound level. This is when the propeller tip speed reaches .6-.62 Mach. Tom's handout included a chart correlating propeller diameter and propeller RPM. For the best combination of propeller efficiency and low noise, use propellers whose tip speed is in the range of 425-450 MPH. Two blade propellers are more efficient than three blade propellers. However, two blade propellers are noisier than three blade propellers. Propeller pitch affects sound as it relates to its affect on propeller tip speed (RPM). Tom's presentation was followed by a good time of Q&A.

Four members brought some very interesting airplanes for Show-N-Tell. A SIG Smith Miniplane was shown by Dan



Dan Stolz and his SIG Smith Miniplane.

(Continued from page 3)

Stolz. Some of the interesting facts are: Power is supplied by a Supertigre G-51 with an Airtronics SD-10G 2.4 GHz radio. It is covered with white/red Ultracote. Klasskote paint was used on the cowl, wheel pants, cabane and N struts. The landing gear, cabane and N struts were formed with piano wire and covered with airfoil shaped aluminum from K&S. A gyro is connected to the rudder to assist ground handling.



Neil Krohn brought a Phoenix 330S Extra with a Saito 100 with a 15X6 prop and DX7 Spektrum radio. A 90 degree exhaust elbow provides rear exhaust with no cowling holes. An elevator synchronization problem caused by dual servo (geometry) placement was solved with DX7 programming features. A 9.3 ounce tank provides approximately a 6.5 minute flight time.

Lessons learned: 1) Made tool to drill out pull-pull cable tubes. 2) Used 1/16 steel cable with a wheel collar handle for remote mixture adjustment to avoid cowling holes. 3) Used epoxy on the wheel pants rather than drill an exit hole for the axle. 4) Set up to use spoilers on landing which avoids slow landings (tip stalls).

A Flasher PE helicopter from snhobbies.com in Canada was shown by Scott Abbott. It is an Align T-Rex 450 v2 clone. Scott has made some interesting modifications. A minimum upgrade suggested includes KBDD Dampers and Align v1 plastic upper mixing arms. The upgrade also included an Align main shaft which gives 22 degrees collective pitch, flasher shaft is approximately 24 degrees. Scott needed to measure the tail shaft pulley and file down the align part for proper fit. Standard shipping time is about two business weeks.

Two Micro Osiris foam airplanes built and painted by George Maiorana were shown by Chris Hass. Both had Micro 4-Site (Horizon Hobby) electronic equipment installed. They fly very fast and are "twitchy" compared to the larger version.



And now for the BIG ONE. Chris Hass also showed us his new AeroWorks Extra 300 which he will use this year for IMAC competition. The plane is powered by a DA 100L turning a Mejlik 28X10 prop with RE2 tuned pipes. It uses a JR radio with seven 8711 and one 8911 servo – read lots of torque! A TME smoke system is installed. A two cell lipo battery is installed for the receiver without a voltage regulator. Weight: 27 pounds.

Joe Hass won \$16 in the 50/50 drawing.

The next meeting is March 24 at the Larsen Middle School which will be an evening for 'In the Bones'.

Please bring your winter projects for a great night of Show-N-Tell.

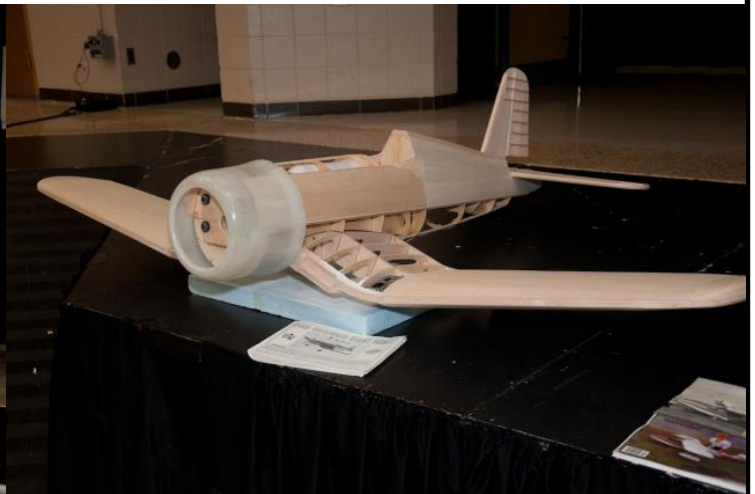
Submitted by: Dan Stolz, Skymasters 2010 Secretary

In The Bones

General Meeting Minutes March 24, 2010 46 Members and Guests.

David Wendt presented a flag to Skymasters from the AMA for being the Club Winner in the 2009 membership drive. Earlier this year Skymasters received a \$500.00 winner's check from the AMA. Tonight was the annual "In The Bones" meeting which brought out some interesting aircraft in various stages of completion. Nine pilots showed 11 different projects.

F4U Corsair – Jim Held showed an 85" giant scale Top Flite Corsair he is building for Doug Norris. Jim has made great progress in only 60 days. The fuselage and wings are almost completed including retract installation. Once totally completed, it will have a JR radio with digital servos and a DA-50 power plant to lift its approximately 23 pounds. Jim discussed some of the challenges he faced lining up the wing correctly and he did a great job! Target date for maiden is the summer of 2011.



F4U Corsair – Tom Day showed his 63" Top Flite Corsair – the little brother to Jim/Doug's aircraft. Tom did a beautiful job and almost has it ready for Monokote covering. *(Several of us were trying to convince Tom to fiberglass and paint. - Pete)* It currently weighs 7 ¾ pounds and should be within the guidelines of 7-9 1/2 pounds Top Flite suggests. Tom has installed Robart retracts and will use an OS 120 for power. Tom took the time to discuss some of the challenges a Corsair wing presents builders such as the flaps which needed to be shaped to fit the gull shape wing design. Nice job Tom.



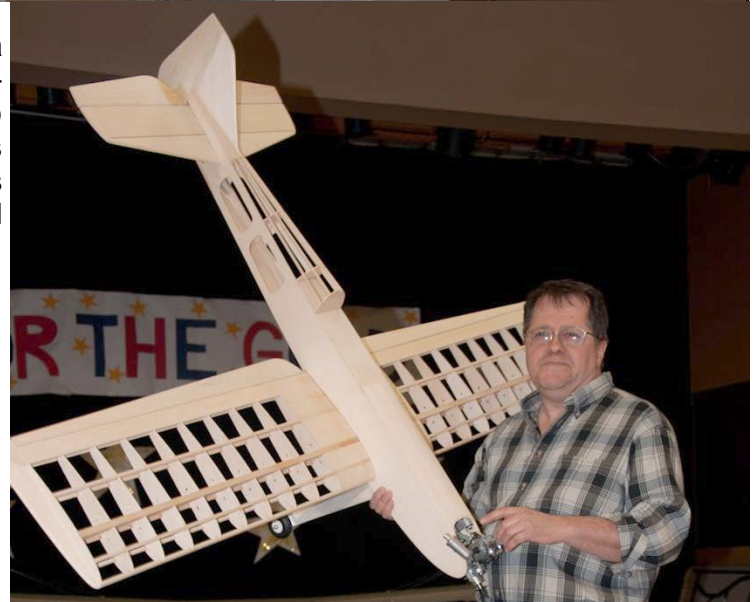
P-47D Razorback – Dan Stolz displayed a partially completed fuselage for his 63" Top Flite P-47D. Once completed it will be powered by an OS95AX, use Century Jet retracts for the main gear, a retracting Robart tail wheel, and have a scale 108 gallon auxiliary fuel tank with drop mechanism. It will eventually be covered with fiberglass and painted with Klasskote paint. Target completion date is summer 2011. *(Looking good Dan! - Pete)*

Sakura – Pete Foss displayed two 16" Sakuras each weighing about 1 ½ ounces. One was made from Depron foam and the other EPP foam. While the Depron version uses 3 gram servos, the EPP version uses the Spektrum radio equipment from a Sukhoi with a Mighty Midget brushless motor. Pete used a Sharpie pen for the color accents on the Depron machine. The EPP version doesn't seem to fly as well as the Depron version.

T-38 – Pete Foss discussed his T-38 with a whopping 9" wingspan powered by Aero Ace motors. The plane weighs a total of ½ ounce and uses Air Hog electronics, is made from 3mm Depron foam, and was built from plans obtained from RC Groups.



Venture – Joe Rubinstein has taken his time to do a quality job - started in 2004 – and is now ready for covering! The kit was designed by Bruce Tharpe who originally designed the Four Star series for SIG. Joe's Venture uses a Saito 82 with Hitec servos and weighs 7 pounds. We look forward to seeing Joe at the field flying his Venture.



40% Sopwith Baby – I want to see this one when finished! Mark Smith is building this aircraft from scratch and has routed a piece of plywood with the outline of the horizontal stab LE/TE, ribs, etc. This will serve as his plans and building board. Once completed it will have a 10 ½ foot wing span with a 100cc twin engine and weigh about 40 pounds. Mark will primarily use this plane for float flying but will also have a set of landing gear ready. Mark showed us one of the spoked wheels he plans on using which are from a small bicycle. Mark sourced his wheels off eBay for \$5 each.



Twist 60 ARF – Chris Hall showed us his new aircraft which will have an OS 90. Chris has upgraded the hardware to 4-40 for peace of mind. The Twist has a very attractive red, white, and black paint scheme and should be ready in the next couple of weeks. We look forward to seeing Chris flying his Twist at the field this summer.



Handley-Page 0/400 – WOW!! Terry Overton has done it again! This aircraft has been several years in the making as Terry scratch built this 1/8th scale 12 ½ foot aircraft from three-views. Terry took the three views, enlarged them, bought a poplar plank from Home Depot, and added a lot of hard work. The rigging, made



from threaded pushrods, is magnificent looking and functional. The Handley-Page is powered by two RCV 120's swinging APC four blade 15 ½ X 12 props with Hitec low profile servos and weighs about 35 pounds. As with many planes of this era, Terry needed to add 6 pounds of lead to its nose for balance. With the Handley-Page being a bomber, Terry also made a bomb drop mechanism which is triggered from his JR transmitter. The bomb drop holds nine exploding bombs sourced from Hobby Lobby. The bombs hold flour to simulate an explosion once they hit the ground. Terry will be competing in Toledo with his beautiful Handley-Page. Good luck Terry!

Align 600 helicopters – Greg Brausa showed us before/after versions of his two Align 600 helicopters. Greg is rebuilding a severely crashed Align 600 and brought along a healthy Align 600 to show us what it should eventually resemble. They use OS Hyper 50 engines with 401 gyros. Good luck Greg - it looks like an interesting project.



Doug Norris was the winner of a \$10 gift certificate from the Prop Shop for sharing with us his F4U Corsair. Ron Wolinski won \$26 in the 50/50 drawing. The next meeting is April 7 at the Ultimate Soccer Arena. This promises to be an exciting meeting as Horizon Hobby will be there to give us a preview of the Toledo show and industry trends. The meeting starts at 7:00. Please come early to enjoy dinner from Ultimate's bar and grill.

Dan Stolz, Skymasters Secretary



Skymasters R/C Club
We'll Teach You To Fly!
Join the Skymasters Radio Control
Club for an R/C Symposium



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We'll Teach You To Fly!
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An Evening with Horizon

Wednesday April 7, 2010 – 7PM



Featuring a
discussion with
Representatives
from Horizon Hobby
For a

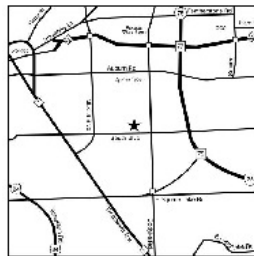


Toledo "Sneak Peek"!



Ultimate Soccer Arena
867 South Blvd, Pontiac, MI
*Restaurant open before and after
meeting for dinner/drinks!*

Free Admission!
All Welcome!!!



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

Helicopter Set Up

Wednesday April 28, 2010 – 7PM



Featuring a
discussion with

Darrell "Big D" Bell
from Team Futaba



Come learn everything you wanted to know about:

Getting your heli set up properly

Darrell has a wealth of practical information.
He will provide helpful tips on heli setups and programming..



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

Free Admission!
All Welcome!!!



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

Upcoming Area Club Events

Sponsor Club: **Weak Signals**

The Weak Signals R/C Expo - Friday - Sunday, April 9, 10, 11, 2010

Seagate Centre, 401 Jefferson Avenue, Toledo, OH - 9:00 AM

"The Toledo Show!" Show hours: Fri/Sat 9am to 5pm - Sun 9am to 3pm. Admission is only \$8.00 per person per day, and as always kids 12 and under are FREE! Vendor exhibits, swap shop, symposiums, and more!

Website: <http://www.toledoshow.com>

Sponsor Club: **RCCD**

Watts over Wetzel - Sunday, May 2, 2010

RCCD Flying Field in Wetzel State Park - 9:00 AM

RCCD's Annual Electric Fly-In has grown leaps and bounds over the years, boasting: a large number of pilots, an awesome flying site, great food, 50/50 raffles, plane raffle, vendors and a ton of prizes donated by Castle Creations! Scott Pavlock - RCCD member & Castle Creations representative - and Contest Director Mike Pavlock invite you to a day of fun, filled with electric flying, friends, and plenty of prizes to take home!

NEW THIS YEAR - Dedicated Helicopter Flying Area!!! - Win a 40 Size Electric Power system!!! (Motor, Battery, ESC and more)

Website: <http://www.rccd.org>

Contact: **Mike Pavlock** Phone: (586) 295-3053

Email: wattsoverwetzel@gmail.com

UPCOMING SKYMASTERS EVENTS

April 2010

Retiree and Want'A Be's Breakfast - **Monday, April 5, 2010**

The Red-Olive Restaurant, 1194 Walton Blvd, Rochester - 9:00 AM

First and third Monday of each month throughout the winter - Join us for breakfast and R/C talk. (located in the new strip mall directly across the street from Crittenton Hospital on Walton Blvd. just east of Livernois.) Restaurant features a \$3.59 breakfast special and all of their omelets are \$3.95 on weekday mornings. Contact Sherman Dickson or Fred Engleman for more information.

Skymasters Meeting - **Wednesday, April 7, 2010**

Ultimate Soccer Arena, 867 South Blvd, Pontiac - 7:00 PM

An Evening with Horizon - Representatives from Horizon Hobby will join us on their way to the Toledo Expo! Come join us and see a sneak peek of Toledo! The restaurant will be open before and after the meeting for dinner and drinks.

Skymasters Meeting - **Wednesday, April 14, 2010**

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

An evening with Retro RC and ICBIM Products- Local modeler and designer Mark Freeland of Retro RC has created a variety of kits and accessories with a decidedly "retro" look but with the latest building techniques. ICBIM owner Larry Ber-man provides a wide variety of laser cut gaskets for our engines. See the latest in this important engine accessories.

Bald Mountain Involvement Day - **Saturday, April 17, 2010**

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, re-pairing 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 19, 2010**

The Red-Olive Restaurant, 1194 Walton Blvd, Rochester - 9:00 AM

First and third Monday of each month throughout the winter - Join us for breakfast and R/C talk. (located in the new strip mall directly across the street from Crittenton Hospital on Walton Blvd. just east of Livernois.) Restaurant features a \$3.59 breakfast special and all of their omelets are \$3.95 on weekday mornings. Contact Sherman Dickson or Fred Engleman for more information.

Skymasters Meeting - **Wednesday, April 28, 2010**

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

Helicopter Set Up techniques with Darrell "BIG D" Bell of Team Futaba! Darrell has a wealth of practical information. He will provide helpful tips on heli setups and programming.. Join us for an informative evening. Bring your heli!

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.

[Starts in May based on weather - check back for exact date.](#)

Skymasters Field Opening - **Wednesday, May 12, 2010**

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 22, 2010**

Seven Lakes State Park, Big Seven Lake, Holly - 9:00 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.

Bald Mountain Float Fly - **Sunday, May 23, 2010**

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.

Student Night and Potluck - **Wednesdays Thru Summer**

Scripps Road Field, Lake Orion - 10:00 AM

Every Wednesday thru Labor Day! Instructors available all day (flying dependent on weather conditions) - Potluck Dinner at 6pm Regardless of the weather! Bring meat (or other) for the grill, a dish to pass, and non-alcoholic beverage. "We always eat, we sometimes fly!"

[Starts the Wednesday after Memorial Day!](#)



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

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 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!