



SKYMASTERS RADIO CONTROL CLUB

OF MICHIGAN

AMA Chartered Club #970

15 Year Gold Leader Club

www.skymasters.org



In this issue:

President's message.....	1
Scale Tails.....	3
On The Wing (news).....	4
"Everything Airborne".....	5
Bald Mountain Involvement.....	6
Chet Brady Float Fly.....	7
Electric FunFly flyer.....	8
Event Calendar.....	9
IMAC at Skymasters.....	10
Cub Scouts at Skymasters.....	12
Indoor Spring Fling.....	13
Heli FunFly flyer.....	14



From the President...

Hello, Skymasters!

The month of May is all but in the past, and Skymasters has been a club on the go!

On May 5th, approximately 35 Skymasters participated in Bald Mountain Involvement Day (*see page 6*). Fred Engelman did a fantastic job leading us to a very successful work day for the park. One cabin was externally painted completely, and a considerable amount of painting was done on a second. I would like to thank all members that volunteered their time for this event, because it truly makes a positive difference for those who visit our state park system. Thank you Fred Engelman and Bill Stark for all of the ground work that both of you did well before the paint day!

On Saturday, May 12th, Bill Dezur along with Fred Engelman's help organized a great showing of Skymasters at the Chippewa District Camp Rotary "Everything Airborne" event (*see page 5*). There were flight demonstrations, a well rounded static display, and a flight simulator that the scouts really enjoyed! Word has it that parents of the scouts were quite impressed with the Skymasters, and would like to see the show return in the future. Great job, Bill and Fred!

The "Field Opening" work party was held on Wednesday, May 16th! (*see photos on page 4 and 15*). A small group of determined volunteers cut the brush away at the entrance to the field, re-fenced the flying station gates, and retrofitted all but one of the work benches with

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

large wheels. The new wheels will make mowing the field easier when it comes time to move the benches out of the path of the tractor. Thanks to all the guys that showed up for the work party! I would like to thank Mark Smith for organizing the work night, and for making the wheel brackets. Mark also ordered all materials needed for the improvements.

Saturday, May 19th the home field event schedule was kicked off with a very impressive first day to the IMAC Clinic (*see page 10 in the web version*). Ken Gutelius and Tom Wheeler started the event in a class room setting at Spring Hill Suites in Auburn Hills. The class was very informative, and paved the way for some "practice judging" held at the Scripps Rd flying field. By Sunday May 20th, the judging had become quite a bit more uniform amongst the participants in the clinic, and feedback was quite positive! Thanks Ken and Tom for making this such a great presentation!

Sunday May 20th, the Chet Brady Memorial Float Fly was held at the Trout Lake beach. (*see page 7*) The morning started out flawless, with perfect skies and little wind. Approximately 20 pilots showed for the event, and were able to get some nice flying in early. I would like to thank Samantha Foss for bringing the kayak for us to retrieve downed and stalled aircraft! Thanks to Joe Rubenstein for organizing the event, and cooking for everyone as well!

Wednesday mornings' Stony Creek Metro Park float flying finally got some cooperation from Mother Nature, and the weekly event has now been kicked off for the year. Jim Held is heading up the efforts, and communicates cancellations by e-mail in the event of poor weather. Thanks Jim, for once again organizing Wednesday mornings' float flying at Winter Cove in Stony Creek Metro Park!

Heading into June, we will officially be starting Wednesday evening Pot Luck Dinners, and open flying for all club members of any skill level. This is a great long standing social night for the Skymasters that Charlie and Dairdre McGlothlin are the coordinators of. Come on out and see why this is such a popular evening at Scripps Rd flying field!

Front Cover:

Cub Scouts trying their hand on the flight simulator at the "Everything Airborn" event at Camp Rotary (check out their expressions). One kid even managed to fly a helicopter around the field successfully. *See full story, page 5*

Paul Goelz photo

Thursday nights we will begin Student Night, with the times of 3pm to 8pm being reserved for students only. We are in need of new flight instructors to help out! If it has been a while since you have been active, or you have never given instructing a try, please contact Roger Schmelling at rlsskymaster@att.net as soon as possible! We are excited to have a good number of new students joining us this year, and this is a great way to welcome them all into our club. :-)

June 9th and 10th will lead us into the only event at our home field for the month of June; "Electrics over Lake Orion" (*see flyer, page 8*). This year there is a new twist to the occasion, as we will be night flying up until midnight and there will be a campout overnight! If you have not already rigged your electric with Led's, make sure you have one or two ready for this outing! Contact Pete Foss at petefoss@skymasters.org for more info.

Dave Lange

President, Skymasters

Editor's note.... I would like to underscore the need for flight instructors. As an instructor myself, I currently am working with three new fliers and was approached by a fourth. Often during the week, I am the only active instructor at the field and it is a bit overwhelming. I try to devote at least 1/3 of my time to instructing when I am at the field, but the students are not getting near enough stick time. Please consider becoming active if you have been inactive. Or if you are not currently an instructor, please consider becoming one.

Paul Goelz



**Andy Cole (right)
and a park ranger
with Joe Hass
after soloing**

"Hello, my name is ____". That is what comes to mind when I study the exterior markings of an airplane subject. Full scale aircraft, and military subjects in particular, proudly display stripes, numbers, and insignias of all kinds. It's amazing how much character those badges and identification numbers add to a model when you watch a bland finish come to life as you apply them. This month I will discuss a few techniques that I like to use for creating and applying insignias.

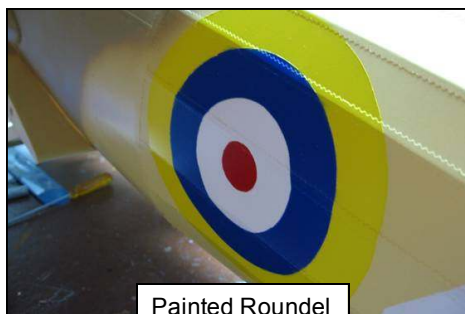
There are two basic ways to go; you can paint the insignias on or apply them as a decal or sticker. Now before you jump down this article and look for the decal discussion, consider the advantages of painting them on. One advantage is that you can size them to whatever scale you are building rather than compromise on what is available as a commercial decal. Another advantage is that the painted insignia will perfectly follow the wing shape and surface detail such as rib stitching, rivets and hatch openings.

Painted insignias require a masking film if you are spraying the paint on. I am happy with the results that I get with making my own masks with blue painter's tape. In most cases it is not wide enough for my needs, so I simply laminate several strips using a 3/4 inch overlap. I do this on a sheet of wax paper for easy removal. The insignia is then drawn on the tape and simply cut out with a model knife. I also like to draw random pencil lines through the pattern before lifting it to use as

alignment marks when placing the pieces on the aircraft. This is especially helpful with roundels. You want the pieces to line up perfectly.



With roundels you have many choices for the layering. My preference is to not layer the paint if I can avoid it. One reason is to prevent show-through if I happen to put a poor-hiding paint over a contrasting color. The other reason, and maybe the more important one, is that I have had bad incompatibility experiences trying to layer one color over another if the brands are different (and I can't even guarantee good results with the same brand). Some incompatibility problems occur when the paint is still wet, such as when the paint beads on the surface beneath it. Some



problems occur after the paint has dried such as delaminating or cracking.

Now for the decals: Many commercial decal sets are available and some can be custom ordered. These may be wet transfer or of the peel-and-stick variety. The latter, along with your own numbers, etc. cut from Super Monocoat™ trim sheets, can be tricky to apply, especially if alignment is critical as with a series of numbers. Spray the surface receiving the peel-and-stick decal

first with Windex®. Remove the backing and apply the adhesive decal directly over the wet Windex® film. The wet, soapy surface lets you slide and position your decal as you need to. If you need more working time simply spray more Windex® over the top. When you are satisfied with the position, gently blot with a paper towel and let it stand overnight. Don't ask me how it works, but the Windex® evaporates from underneath leaving no bubbles and a good strong adhesion.



(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Sometimes larger pieces going over compound curves will leave bubbles. After the surface has dried, pop the bubbles with a needle and squeeze the air towards the hole. The bubbles will be removed. For military aircraft, you can remove the gloss of the Super Monocoat™ with 1000 grit sandpaper before cutting. For commercial decals, the gloss can be removed after application by gently scuffing with 2000 grit or finer sand paper.

Nose art is another fun addition to your model. I have discovered a very easy way to adorn the cowl of a WWII fighter. Find your favorite pin-up or cartoon figure on the internet and print it out on regular paper to the size you need. Carefully cut out the figure and brush the back side with Formula 560™ canopy glue. Let the glue saturate the paper for a few seconds and then apply the art figure to your cowl or fuselage. After it dries, brush another coat of glue over the front side. You now have a fuel-proof nose art painting on your plane.



Paper Nose Art from Author's A-26

Until next month.....

"keep it real (looking)".

Gary Weaks

(weaksgt@yahoo.com)

ON THE WING



June Skymasters Meeting

Wednesday, June 13th

8PM

(at the field)



(above)

Your editor
and his
(current) fa-
vorite plane

(left)

Mark Smith
at the field
"fixup" ses-
sion

Skymasters at the Chippewa Cub Scouts "Spring Fun Fly Day"

I would like to take this opportunity to give a huge Thank You to the members of the Skymasters that participated in the Cub Scout event on Saturday, May 12 out at Camp Rotary in Ray Township.

We had over 500 participants come out for this event "Everything Airborne". The scouts and their families enjoyed the wonderful display and demonstrations that the Skymasters Members presented.



Fred Engelman was a huge help not only on the day of the event but on Friday, when he met me at the field and helped lay out the flight line including fencing and parking for the pilots. Wade Wiley brought out his huge electric Eagle, the cub scouts enjoyed seeing the Eagle perform. Paul Goelz brought out the flight simulator for the scouts to practice on. Paul also did several demonstrations with his helicopters. Carolyn Foss helped with the flight simulator and answered questions about the club.



Ken Gutelius and family brought out his extra large gas airplane. He taxied it around the field. That really brought out the crowd. Joe Hass took some of the scouts airborne using his bear hug technique and his new electric sailplane. Dave Shea, and Pete Foss did numerous flying demonstrations with their park flyers. Jim Wynn,

Bill Stark, and Marv Middleton brought many of the aircraft used in the huge static display of their aircraft. Thanks to John Hoover at Flightline for ordering the wooden airplanes for the event and providing a Flightline banner.

Last but not least, thanks to President Dave Lange for his support putting on this event and for flying his airplanes throughout the day. I hope I did not miss anyone. At the end of the day everyone chipped in to help dismantle the display and flight line. Job Well Done, Skymasters!

Bill Dezur (Fred Engelman and Paul Goelz photos)



Bald Mountain Involvement Day



The morning started with fresh donuts and coffee provided by Bill Dezur. Fred Engelman gave us safety guidelines, direction, and we started painting the cabins early.

The majority of the crew worked on the first cabin, while a smaller crew finished priming the second. It was amazing to see how quickly things progressed on both projects!

Bill Dezur and crew did a fine job getting us all nourished at lunch, and afterwards most of the work force moved on to the second cabin for finish painting.

Please join in thanking Fred Engelman for planning and leading the Skymasters Bald Mountain Involvement Day for this year! Also, a big thanks to Bill Dezur for taking care of us at breakfast and lunch.

We had approximately 35 Skymasters show up this year, and I would also like to thank each and every one who was able to come out to help!

Our volunteers did a fantastic job, and were able to paint one cabin and a good portion of the second. We can all be proud that the Skymasters are a group that knows how to make a positive difference for visitors who come to Bald Mountain Recreation Area!

Thanks again to everyone that made this year's Bald Mountain Involvement Day so successful!

David L. Lange



The 2012 Chet Brady Memorial Float Fly May 20th Bald Mountain Recreational Area, Lake Orion





Flying open
to AMA
members.

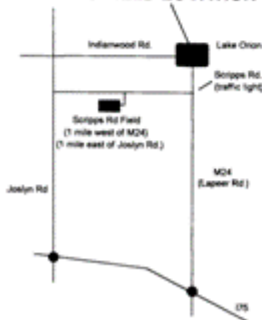
ELECTRICS' OVER $\frac{e}{LO} = \text{FUN}$ LAKE ORION

Saturday June 9, 2012
Skymasters Field

Event Flying starts at 10AM and goes until midnight!

**New For 2012: Potluck dinner at the field, bonfire and
NIGHT FLYING! Get a plane ready with lights!!!
Camp overnight at the field. Open flying on Sunday.**

SCRIPPS FIELD LOCATION



- Lots of Parking
 - Refreshments available at event
 - 94 dBA 10AM-8PM Night fliers must be extra quiet.
- No Landing Fee!
Pilots Prizes!

Flying field is located within the Bald Mountain Recreation Area, about 5 miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills on Scripps Road between Lapeer Rd (M24) and Joslyn Rd.

All vehicles require a Recreation Passport available from Secretary of State or DNR.

For more information email petefoss@skymasters.org
Visit our website at www.skymasters.org

June 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Family night (pot luck) at the field Stony Creek float flying	7 Student night (student fly- ing only) at the field 3PM to 8PM	8	9 Skymasters Elec- tric FunFly (including night flying and over- night camp out)
10	11	12	13 Family night (pot luck) at the field Stony Creek float flying Skymasters meeting 8PM at the field	14 Student night (student fly- ing only) at the field 3PM to 8PM	15	16 PMAC Warbird Day Romeo Skyhawks Fun Scale
17	18	19	20 Family night (pot luck) at the field Stony Creek float flying	21 Student night (student fly- ing only) at	22	23 Great Lakes Scale (RCCD)
24 Great Lakes Scale (RCCD)	25	26	27 Family night (pot luck) at the field Stony Creek float flying	28 Student night (student fly- ing only) at	29	30

2012 Club Officers & Appointees...

President:	Dave Lange	2477 Trinity Ct.	Oxford	48371	248-969-3914
Vice Pres.:	Mark Smith	1955 Hopefield	Orion	48359	248-391-5970
Secretary:	Ed Saumier	2822 Benjamin Ave.	Royal Oak	48073	248-288-0619
Treasurer:	Bob Donohue	3323 Baldwin Woods	Lake Orion	48359	248-915-9791
Editor:	Paul Goelz	328 Powderhorn Ct.	Roch. Hills	48309	248-375-9461
CFI :	Roger Schmelling	688 Ashburnham	Auburn Hills	48326	248-321-7599
State Park:	Bill Stark	1010 E. Clarkston	Lake Orion	48362	248-693-8639
Membership:	Joe Rubenstein	155 Cayuga	Lake Orion	48362	248-693-4265

Newsletter Submissions

Please send all articles, photos and announcements to the Skywriter editor at:
newsletter@skymasters.org
 Deadline is the 20th of each month.

The Skywriter newsletter is published monthly by the Skymasters Radio Control Club of Michigan
www.skymasters.org

May 19th IMAC at Skymasters

(Fred Engelman photos)

On Saturday and Sunday, May 19-20, we held the "IMAC at Skymasters" judge and pilot training seminar. We had 14 attendees ranging from relative newcomers to the hobby to long time pilots looking for a new challenge or even looking to get back into competition after a long hiatus.

Saturday morning began in the classroom where we learned some of the history of IMAC, its relationship to full size aerobatics and how it differs from Pattern. This was followed by a review of Aresti symbology and how to interpret an Aresti sequence. Finally, we reviewed the judging criteria for each type of figure and the rules for constructing figures and sequences.

Mother Nature provided perfect conditions Saturday afternoon. Tom Wheeler and I alternated flying short sequences while the students judged. Some students tried to curry favor by scoring numerous 10s. Many became harsher critics when they found out there were no refunds regardless the scores. My third flight gave them much practice at writing "0" on their score cards. It should be noted that all errors in the sequences were intentional in order to provide the best possible learning experience and no one can prove otherwise.



(Continued from page 10)

The weather again proved cooperative on Sunday with sunny skies, warm temperatures and a wonderful 10-15mph cross wind to allow for wind correction practice. The students who took up the challenge were rewarded with rapid improvements in their scores and hopefully a feeling of accomplishment. Some airplane setup guidance was provided as instructors flew students' planes. As anyone who flies precision knows, a good setup reduces pilot workload dramatically.

I would like to thank the BOD and the membership of Skymasters for allowing us to use the field for this event. Special thanks to Dave Lange for encouragement and help with communications, to Fred Engelman for photographic services and to Greg Brausa and Tom Wheeler for their help in running this event. Thanks also to those who attended for your attention and enthusiasm.

Ken Gutelius



Cub Scout Day at the Skymasters Field

Paul Goelz and Fred Engelman photos

On Thursday, May 24 the Skymasters hosted members of Lake Orion Cub Scout Pack 37 at our Scripps Road Field. Eight Scouts, all AMA members, along with their Pack leaders arrived with the SuperStar ARF that they built over the winter.

Strong cross-winds prevented the maiden flight attempt on their plane that day. However, several instructors and other training aircraft were on hand to give each Scout some stick time.

Joe and Chris Hass were also on hand with a one-family air show as the Scouts were also treated to seeing a variety of electric and large gas R/C planes performing amazing well in the windy conditions.

The Scouts will return for another student night when it is not so windy to fly their plane. A special thanks to our club instructors for their time and skill in keeping the action going. Look for these youngsters to be at the field from time to time working on their flying skills!

Gary Weeks



INDOOR SPRING FLING AT ULTIMATE SOCCER



The 2012 Spring Fling at Ultimate Soccer on May 6 was a huge success. 41 entries from as far away as Georgia, Alabama, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Canada competed in a wide variety of classifications. To put it in perspective, there were only 15 competitors in 2011.



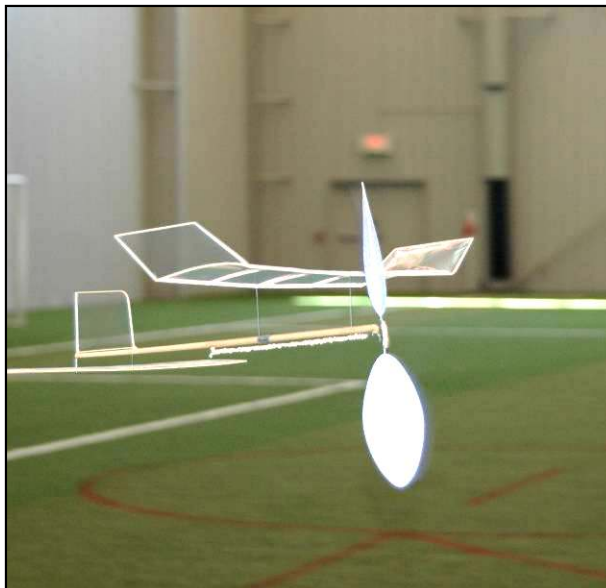
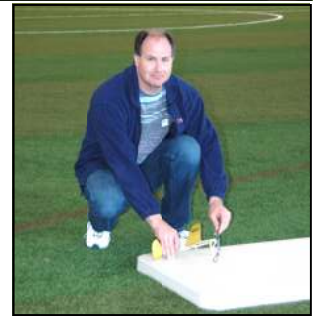
The event was put on by the Cloudbusters, Detroit Balsa Bugs and Michigan Indoor Aircraft Association (M.I.A.A.). In addition to the competition there was a steady stream of spectators, both modelers who were interested in seeing a different aspect of the hobby and others who were there for the soccer activities. There was even an event for novice competitors based on the highly successful Phantom Flash by Mark Freeland of Retro R/C.



Six national records were set throughout the day. Some flights lasted on 28 minutes on a single rubber band.

The new restaurant, Uptown Deli, served great food with generous portions. Plans are already underway for the event in 2013. Word has quickly spread in the indoor free flight community on the quality of the facility. Expect another record for attendance next year.

Joe Hass



Skymasters Third Annual

Helicopter FunFly

Sunday, July 29th

The event is held at the Skymasters Scripps Road field in Bald Mountain state park, Lake Orion MI. North of Silverbell and west of M24. See map below.

Large shelter and tables for shade and repairs.

Restroom onsite.

Recreational park pass required for park entry. If you do not have one, it may be purchased at the event for \$10 from the park rangers and is good for the whole year.

For more information, contact the event director, Paul Goelz at paul@pgoelz.com or call 248-933-5814

Skymasters web site:
www.skymasters.org



- Registration opens at 9AM.
- First flight at 10AM
- Field available until 8PM
- 3D, scale and sport flying
- Electric, glow, gas and turbine welcomed
- Three flight stations plus separate area for 450 and smaller
- No landing fee
- Ample parking and space for canopies
- Food and refreshments available
- Proof of AMA membership required
- Recreational park pass required (see sidebar)
- 72MHz and 2.4GHz welcomed. No impound for 2.4GHz

SCRIPPS ROAD FIELD



Some photos from the May 16th work party at the field. Mark Smith headed up the work party. New larger wheels were put on the flight

tables, new wire screening was installed on the taxi guards, and vegetation was removed from the field entrance.



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.

Wednesday evening is Family Night with flying and a pot luck buffet. Bring something for the grill & a dish to pass.

Thursday 3PM to 8PM is Student Night throughout the summer but there are usually instructors around all day. Meet the instructors and arrange for more instruction time together on other days. Our Chief Flight Instructor is Roger Schmelling, 248-321-7599.

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 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 photos and articles to newsletter@skymasters.org. 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!

