

August

# Skywriter

2014



SKYMASTERS RADIO CONTROL CLUB  
OF MICHIGAN

AMA Chartered Club #970  
16 Year Gold Leader Club

[www.skymasters.org](http://www.skymasters.org)



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### From the President...



It's been a bit of an odd summer for me. Between the weather and other factors, I haven't gotten in as much flying as I'd like. I hope the rest of you have managed to get out and in the air. By the time you read this I expect that the helicopter fun fly will be done and possibly

Warbirds and Scale as well. With the excellent event directors we have, I'm sure both events will have been great successes.

Our next big event will be the Top Gun and corn roast on August 17. We will likely need assistance on the food so

please come out prepared to help. I think that last year's ballot system was a success in encouraging some good routines for the competition so I plan to use the same system this year (a copy of the ballot is shown on page 2). For those of you who are planning to come out and show your stuff, take a look at the scoring categories and plan/practice accordingly.

Also, there will be a Model Aviation Day event at Ultimate on August 16. Once again, funds collected will go to support Wounded Warrior Project. Please see the flyer elsewhere in the newsletter.

At this point I am going to announce officially that I will

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)

not seek reelection for the presidency next year. I have talked to many of you on a one-to-one basis about this so I don't think it's really a secret. I believe it's time to get someone with a fresh perspective into the office. Again, there have been some casual conversations with potential candidates but no one has officially stepped up.

For anyone who chooses to take up the challenge of leading the club, I can tell you that you will not be alone.

The group of volunteers who help to run things is unparalleled in my experience. I am continually amazed at the way everyone steps up to help. There are also many others, including past officers of the club, who are ready and willing to offer counsel and advice. Past presidents have done a good job of leaving a written trail for their successors in order to make sure that newcomers know what needs to be done. I found this information to be priceless and have done my best to keep it updated as needed.

I personally will offer my assistance to the new president. It is not my intention to walk away and leave my replacement to succeed or fail on his own. But it is also not my intention to impose my own agenda. A change of

leadership can bring different ways of doing things. If a new way of doing things is different from my way of doing things, I will respect that.

If we should end up with multiple candidates for the job, I would ask that the members try to educate themselves about the direction that each person plans for the club. Then, make sure you come to the November meeting to vote accordingly. Skymasters belongs to the members and it's our collective responsibility to guide it in the direction that meets our needs.

In closing, let me say that it has been an honor to lead the club for the past two years. I hope that the things we have done have made it a good place to spend time and enjoy flying. That has been our top priority from day one. Regardless of who takes over the reins, I hope that this will continue to be the guiding principle.

**Ken**

**Ken Gutelius**

President, Skymasters

kennanc@msn.com

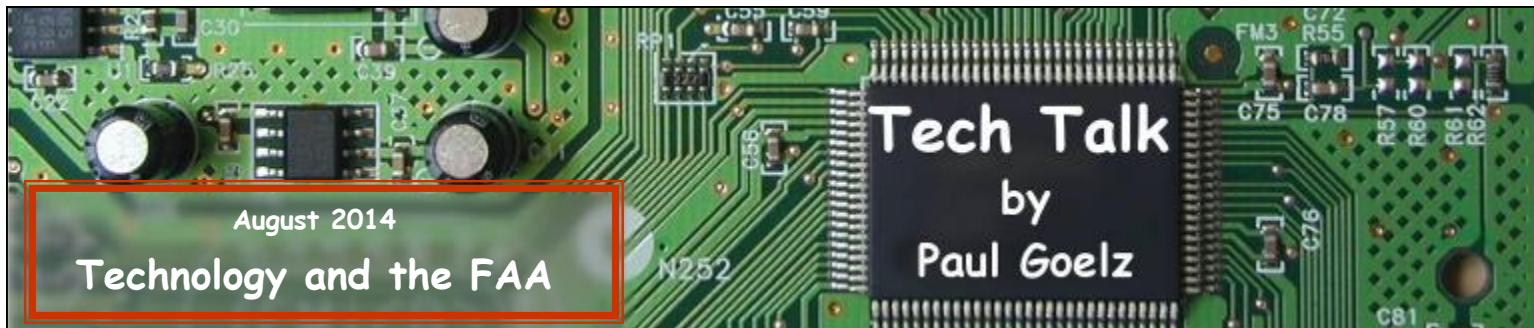
## Sample Top Gun Ballot

<input type="checkbox"/>	Variety of <u>Manuevers</u> (score 0-5)
+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Presentation/Use of Airspace (score 0-5)
+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Wow Factor (score 0-10)
<hr/>	
= <input type="checkbox"/>	Total (score 0-20)

### Front Cover:

Cub Scouts at the field on July 23rd. They had a great time. So did we!

Neil Krohn photo



Hi all,

This month's Tech Talk will be an abbreviated edition. I have been out of town a lot and have not been able to devote my full attention to the column.

So I thought I would editorialize a bit on the impact of technology on our hobby, especially as it relates to the current struggle between modelers and the FAA.

As I see it, the FAA is trying to take control of all of the US airspace, including the airspace we modelers fly in. With the proliferation of affordable Unmanned Air Vehicles (ie., "drones"), the likelihood of a collision between a full scale aircraft and a model is increasing.

It certainly does not help when FPV enthusiasts delight in flying far beyond line of sight and at altitudes where a collision is very possible. And ESPECIALLY when they post the video results on YouTube! If this continues, our hobby is heading for a virtual "collision" with far more oppressive regulations.

In my opinion, conventional line of sight model aircraft operations pose no more hazard than it ever did as long

as it remains below 400 feet above ground. Full scale aircraft are required to remain at or above 500 feet AGL so this ensures a minimum separation between models and full scale if the 400' limit is observed. Additionally, I see no reason why the FAA cannot mark known model aircraft fields as 400' hazards just like they currently do with towers and other aviation hazards.

So what can we do as modelers? Communicate with the FAA when comments are requested if you feel strongly about this issue. And thank the AMA for being our voice as well.

But above all, don't press the issue with non-line of sight FPV flying. All it will take is a couple well placed incidents where people or property are damaged and the FAA will have even more reason to limit our flying.

That's all for this month. See you in September!

Paul

**UPDATE:** Just as this issue of the newsletter went to press, the FAA *extended* the comment period for the new regulations by 60 days.

**Charlie Gertner (left) and Ben Thompson (right).**

**Charlie is a signed off pilot and went to AMA camp this summer**

**Ben is currently a student.**



**I have been suggesting that members describe how they came to model aviation. I just got this from Jack Johnson.... Thanks Jack!**

I had been out watching guys fly for quite a while and went to a mall display that a club had set up. I talked to some of the fellows about getting started in the hobby. Of course they said I should join AMA and their club which I finally did, the C.A.R.D.S. club.

I got started maybe in the mid 70s and the first model I bought was a kit for the *Top Flight Freshman Trainer*. At the same time I bought a new .35 K&B engine that the hobby shop guy said would fly it fine. Well, I got to work putting things together and was real proud of my progress until I got the fuse all put together. I didn't notice it till I went down stairs the next time to do some more work on it but the darn thing some how turned out looking like a darn banana. Not really that bad but not straight either. I really felt bad and didn't know what I was gonna end up doing.

I took it over to the hobby shop and there just happened to be a glider pilot in there at the time. He looked at it and said it would be alright, just make sure that the tail feathers lined up with the wing and you'll be fine. Well, I put it all together and it did fly just fine. It could have used a little more power though. You had to get it really screaming on the ground, just hit up and release it. As soon as it was off the ground, let it gather some air speed and slowly gain some altitude. Had a lot of fun with that little plane. I even put skis on it and flew it in the winter and that reminds me of a time some of us gathered at a flat spot next to the road, couldn't get back to the field. Some guy brought along a small snow blower and made one narrow path with it. Well all of the guys tried it and couldn't keep it straight or something and just couldn't get off the ground. Finally came my turn and I went right straight down that track and just before the end I gave it up and it popped in the air. The other guys said will ya look at that. Here I was a new guy and they were all old-timers. I got quit a kick out of that. And to show how much we wanted to fly in the winter, about six of us parked on the road where we would drive back to our field at that time and walked through knee deep snow carrying our plane and flight box back close to a quarter mile back to the field. I had so many mishaps with that little plane that it became known as patches.

It finally made it's last flight one day and I should have cleaned the carb first but didn't. Got it up there and the engine sagged, I blipped the throttle and it went right through a tree. I did find the engine, wheels radio and servos but the rest of it was nothing but tiny pieces drifting to the ground.

Built a lot of planes after that and still have a lot of them hanging in my basement.

Take care everyone and fly safe. I just may make it out to the field yet this summer.

**Jack Johnson**

**Editor's note.... Anyone else care to write an article telling us how they got started? Please?**





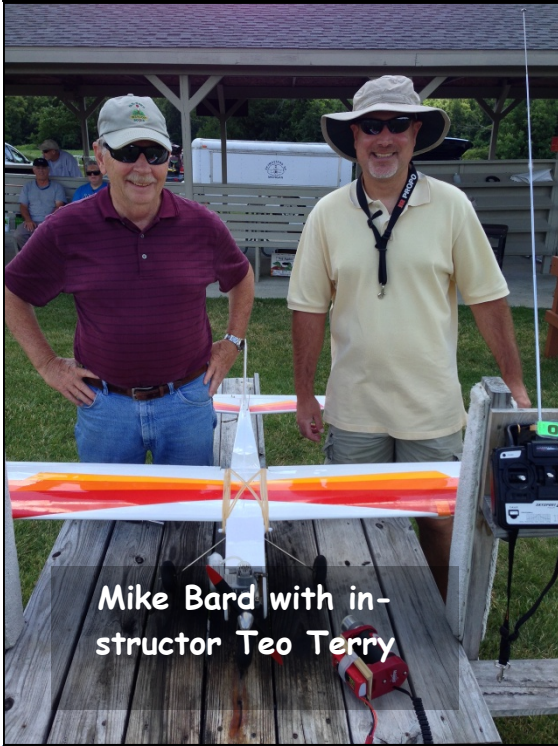
Chris Strong with instructor Dan Berry



Jim Poponea with instructors Paul Zabawa and Dave Vigne

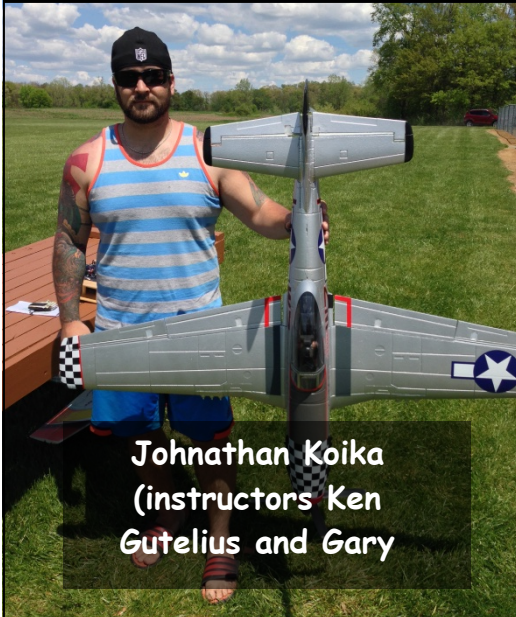


Jon Grigsby with instructors Gary Wells and Mark Smith



Mike Bard with instructor Teo Terry

Some of our newest pilots....  
Welcome to this wonderful hobby, everyone!



Johnathan Koika (instructors Ken Gutelius and Gary)



Michael Dobies with instructors Teo Terry and Russ Oliver



Charlie Gertner

## Aviators Visit National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

On Wednesday July 23, members of the Troy Oakland Pilots, Michigan International Aircraft Association, Radio Control Club of Detroit and Skymasters visited the NOAA office for a 1 hour tour and balloon launch. After first meeting at a local restaurant the group was escorted through the White Lake facility and treated to an explanation of how forecasts are developed and how emergency notifications are developed and handled. The group was able to see a weather radiosonde (weather balloon) up close. We then went outside to see rain gauges, ground freeze level indicators, some original weather equipment and the balloon launch station.

As you can see in the pictures the balloon is large on the ground and grows to over 25ft. in diameter at altitude. The balloon is filled with hydrogen to a volume that is calibrated to properly lift the instrument. A parachute is attached for recovery. The instrument transmits data back to the weather station. See the "Fun Facts" below.

Tours must be arranged well in advance. This tour, arranged by me, was in the works for 6 months. It was a great, informative evening.

### Now for some weather balloon fun facts!

- They are launched at 2300Z and 1100Z so that the data is available for the weather updates at 0000Z (8PM EDT) and 1200Z (8AM EDT).
- Data is sent real time at 1 second intervals and includes GPS data.
- Flight time can be 2 hours to 100,000 ft. Drift can be 200 miles.
- There is a tracking receiver at each launch location that triangulates altitude by the angle of the antenna.
- Measures temperature and dew point. This gives them relative humidity.
- 92 launch sites in the US. 800 worldwide.
- If the launch site is located within 5 miles of an airport they call before launching. They call PTK. I inquired if they talk to Cleveland Center about higher altitudes. He didn't know but did not think so.
- I asked about hitting full size aircraft. He said it was designed to break apart.
- Instruments cost \$150.00 each. Total launch cost per launch is \$300.00. Launched by a paid intern or Hydra Meteorological Technician (HMT).
- Only 20% are returned to Kansas City where they are reconditioned and reused.
- When the balloon breaks the descent speed is slowed by streamers and parachutes to 25MPH.

**Joe Hass**

248-321-7934



# Tail Twisters

annual

# FUN FLY

## & Pig Roast

White Cloud Area



RC CLUB  
AMA # 4898

Tail Twisters



# July 26

2014

**FREE admission! Food Carts! Candy Drop!**

**PAINT BALL SHOOT OUT! try your luck & shoot down an airplane!**



# White Cloud Airport

127 N. Charles - (M-37)

**DON'T FORGET  
Sunscreen & a Chair!**

**Heli's, airplanes, turbines - ALL WELCOME!**

# [www.tailtwisters.com](http://www.tailtwisters.com)

Skymasters RC, Lake Orion MI

# Helicopter FunFly

Sunday, July 27th 2014

The event is held at the Skymasters Scripps Road field in the Bald Mountain recreational area, 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 [helifunfly@skymasters.org](mailto:helifunfly@skymasters.org)

or call 248-933-5814

Skymasters web site:

[www.skymasters.org](http://www.skymasters.org)



- **FEATURING A VISIT BY A FULL SCALE BLACKHAWK HELICOPTER AT NOON – PLUS A SURPRISE!**
- **REGISTRATION OPENS AT 9AM**
- **FIRST FLIGHT AT 10AM**
- **FIELD AVAILABLE UNTIL 8PM**
- **3D, SCALE AND SPORT FLYING ENCOURAGED**
- **ELECTRIC, GLOW, GAS AND TURBINE POWER WELCOMED**
- **FOUR FLIGHT STATIONS ON TWO FLIGHT LINES PLUS A HOVER AREA FOR SMALLER HELIS**
- **NO LANDING FEE... THIS IS A FREE EVENT**
- **AMPLE PARKING AND SPACE FOR CANOPIES**
- **FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE**
- **PROOF OF AMA MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED TO FLY**
- **RECREATIONAL PARK PASS REQUIRED (SEE SIDEBAR)**
- **72MHZ AND 2.4GHZ OK. NO IMPOUND FOR 2.4GHZ**

## SCRIPPS ROAD FIELD



*Spectators are welcome at this free event!*





# CORKS Giant Classic

## August 2-3 2014



Come join in the fun and fellowship of Giant Scale R/C Airplane flying. IMAA Rules apply for Saturday, open flying on Sunday. 800x100 foot smooth grass runway; 2000' usable if needed. NEW cook shack open for breakfast and lunch both days. Camping welcome, no hookups. 50/50 raffle on Saturday. Vendors and tailgate swap meet welcome. Come early stay late.

**SPECTATORS WELCOME BRING THE ENTIRE FAMILY!**

CORKS field, Centerburg Ohio. \$10 landing fee For more information contact CD Mike See 614-204-8288 [mseeav@gmail.com](mailto:mseeav@gmail.com)  
[www.corksfield.org](http://www.corksfield.org)

# National Model Aviation Day



**Saturday, August 16, 2014**  
**Noon Until 4 PM**



**INDOOR R/C AND FREE FLIGHT FLYING**  
**TO BENEFIT WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT**

AT

**ULTIMATE SOCCER ARENAS**

867 South Blvd., Pontiac, MI 48341 - 2 Miles South of the Silverdome

## PLATINUM SPONSOR



## GOLD SPONSORS

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**FIGHT LINE HOBBY**



**Nankin**

**MODEL Airplane NEWS**

**electric flight**



**Park RC Models™**



**HORIZON**



**HITEC**



**WM Park Flyers.com**

## ACTIVITIES FOR ALL!!

- + General Flying
- + Special Events
- + Demos
- + Pilot's Prizes
- + Seminars
- + Kid's Programs

ALL PROCEEDS  
GO TO



**WOUNDED WARRIOR  
PROJECT**

**AMA REQUIRED ADMISSION - \$10.00 DONATIONS ACCEPTED SPECTATORS-FREE!!**  
**NEW RESTAURANT AND REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE ON SITE**



Michigan International Aircraft Association  
A. M. A. Charter Club 5094

For More Information Contact

Joe Hass (248) 321-7934 joe\_hass@gmail.com

# **CORKS Warbirds and**

# **Classics! September 6-7 2014**



**Come join in the fun and bring your Warbirds and Classic aircraft to CORKS! Anything with Military markings and planes built prior to 1980 are welcome. No matter how big or small, bring them out.**



**They're all Welcome.**

**Bring the entire family, spectators welcome!**

*800x600 foot smooth grass runway 2000' usable, Campers and RV's welcome, no hookups. Concession stand open for breakfast and lunch both days. \$10 landing fee. Centerburg, Ohio 43011 CD: Mike See 614-204-8286*

*rseeav@gmail.com*

*www.corksfield.org*



# ADDISON OAKS FLOAT FLYING 2014



[www.romeoskyhawks.org](http://www.romeoskyhawks.org)

[www.flyfraser.net](http://www.flyfraser.net)

SPONSORED BY THE ROMEO R/C CLUB AND THE FRASER FLYING CLUB  
AMA INSURANCE CERTIFICATE PROVIDED TO ADDISON OAKS PARK

## Every Wednesday, May thru September

Addison Oaks Oakland County Park at Buhl Lake  
1480 W Romeo Road, Leonard, MI 48367

Main Park Entrance on W. Romeo Rd (32mile) West of Rochester Road  
Past the Toll Booth then follow the signs to the Boat Rental  
[www.destinationoakland.com](http://www.destinationoakland.com)

Flying from 9 am till noon, boat provided by Addison Park  
Flying open to AMA Members - Public Welcome

**Only 2.4 GHz radio systems are allowed**



- All Cars Need Daily/Annual Oakland County Park Sticker
- Daily Car Pass is \$4.00 Senior or \$5.00 Oakland Resident
- Annual Car Pass is \$22.00 Senior or \$30.00 Resident
  
- Plenty of Free Parking. Unload and then Park
  
- No R/C Boats During Flying Times
  
- Weekly Email Notification on Tuesday of Weather Forecast and Wednesday of Flying Status or Cancellation



For more information call Jim Held at (H) 248-641-9724 or (C) 248-835-4491  
[jimwheld@wowway.com](mailto:jimwheld@wowway.com)

Photo's by Jim Held

Created by Douglas Norris

Direct from the DNR....

Looks like the cost for entering the park without a recreational passport is \$20 if approached by a ranger.



## Recreation Passport Replaces State Park Sticker *Fact Sheet*

The Recreation Passport is Michigan's solution for funding your favorite recreation destinations, and it begins October 1, 2010.

Instead of spending \$24 for an annual motor vehicle permit or boating access permit, you will now be asked to support the Recreation Passport with a \$10 fee when renewing your vehicle registration with the Secretary of State. \$11.00 effective 1-02-13.

When you opt-in, your fee will do so much more than get you into the state parks:

- 80% will be used to rebuild and maintain your state parks and recreation areas.
- 10% will be directed to your county, city and township parks through grant funding.
- 7% will go toward your state forest campgrounds, pathways and non-motorized trails.
- 2.75% will support your state park cultural and historic resources.
- 0.25% will be used to educate and update you on the value of the Recreation Passport.

### **Opt-in and preserve parks for generations to come!**

Since 2004, Michigan State Parks and Recreation Areas have received no state tax support and are primarily funded through user fees.

The Recreation Passport legislation was created to prevent drastic cuts to park and forest programs – and it will take the support of outdoor enthusiasts like you to make the idea a reality. Opt-in on every vehicle you register to support green spaces and recreation in your community and throughout Michigan.

### **Additional Info You Need to Know:**

- Supporting the Recreation Passport gives you access to all 98 state parks and recreation areas, 133 state forest campgrounds, 879 miles of trails, and every state-administered boating access site in Michigan.
- Camping fees will remain in effect.
- When registering a motorcycle, the fee requested is just \$5.
- There will be a designation on your normal license plate registration sticker to indicate you have paid. Entering a park without opting-in will result in paying a Recreation Passport fee of up to \$20 or could result in a \$100 fine.
- Out of state visitors will still pay \$8.40 daily, \$30.50 annual fee for park and/or boating access site entrance.

View the complete legislation at [michigan.gov/stateparks](http://michigan.gov/stateparks)  
For more information, ask state park staff or call 517-373-9900.

04/01/2010

# FOR SALE

**PATTY WAGSTAFF EXTRA 300S**

**30% SCALE CARDEN KIT, 91 INCH WINGSPAN**

**COVERED IN MONOKOTE**

**PATTY WAGSTAFF COLOR SCHEME**

**VINYL TRIM & FULL DOCUMENTATION AIRFRAME**

**PROFESSIONALLY BUILT & TEST FLOWN BY JOE HASS (ONE FLIGHT ONLY)**

**RECEIVER READY - INCLUDES:**

- 3W-60K 2 CYCLE GAS ENGINE
- 32 OUNCE TANK
- 7 FUTABA SERVOS WITH EXTENSIONS
- 3 ELECTRODYNAMIC 2 CELL A123 BATTERIES
- ELCTRODYNAMIC HI PERFORMANCE SWITCHES
- ELECTRODYNAMIC OPTICAL KILL FOR ENGINE
- ELECTRODYNAMIC BATTERY ISOLATOR
- CASTLE 10 AMP REGULATOR
- MEJZLIK 20 X 12 CARBON FIBER PROP
- DAVE BROWN SPINNER

***\$4,500.00 Invested***

**ASKING**

***\$2,500.00***

**Contact:**

**Charlie McGlothlin**

**[mcglothl@oakland.edu](mailto:mcglothl@oakland.edu)**



# ON THE WING



Its not too early to get ready for the **Midwest Regional Float Fly**, September 6-7 at Kent Lake Beach in the Island Lake Recreational Area.

[Event Information](#)

[Event Website](#)

[Map](#)



# August 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Warbirds and Scale 10AM Scripps field	4	5	6 9AM Addison Oaks Float Fly 3PM Student Night at Scripps field 6PM Pot Luck at Scripps	7 Aerobatic Training 6PM Scripps field	8	9
10	11	12	13 9AM Addison Oaks Float Fly 3PM Student Night at Scripps field 6PM Pot Luck at Scripps	14 Aerobatic Training 6PM Scripps field	15	16 National Model Avia- tion Day
17 Corn Roast and Top Gun 10AM Scripps field	18	19	20 9AM Addison Oaks Float Fly 3PM Student Night at Scripps field 6PM Pot Luck at Scripps	21 Aerobatic Training 6PM Scripps field	22	23 Electric FlyIn 9AM CARDS Field (Lansing)
24	25	26	27 9AM Addison Oaks Float Fly 3PM Student Night at Scripps field 6PM Pot Luck at Scripps	28 Aerobatic Training 6PM Scripps field	29	30
31						



# Skymasters Information...

[The Skymasters field is located in Lake Orion, within the Bald Mountain Recreational Area](#) on Scripps Road, between M24 and Joslyn (see map). A recreation passport or sticker is required and can be obtained from the Park Headquarters located on Greenshield Road or you can check the box on your tab renewal for a "Recreational Passport".

Flying is permitted from 10 AM to 8 PM. The noise limit is 94 dBA at 10 feet. This noise rule is enforced.

**Wednesday evening (through August) is Family Night** with flying and a pot luck buffet. Bring something for the grill & a dish to

pass.

**Wednesday 5PM to 8PM is also Student Night (through August)** 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 Greg Brausa, 248-373-8949 [cgbrausa@gmail.com](mailto:cgbrausa@gmail.com)

**From June through August**, club meetings are held at the field, on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 8 PM. A great chance to fly and socialize. **Winter meetings (September through May)** are held at the Orion Center, 1335 Joslyn, in

Lake Orion. Check the calendar here or on the [web site](#) for specifics. Bring a model for Show and Tell, enjoy coffee and donuts and listen to the speaker of the evening.

The Skywriter newsletter is available online at the Skymasters web site and is free to all. It may also be printed from the web site if desired. All contributions are welcome. Please send photos and articles to [newsletter@skymasters.org](mailto:newsletter@skymasters.org) If you know of anyone who may be interested in R/C Aviation, please give them a link to this newsletter or give them a copy of an AMA magazine. It may spark their interest!



## 2014 Club Officers & Appointees...

President:	Ken Gutelius	Lake Orion	248-814-1157	kennanc@msn.com
Vice Pres.:	Dave Lange	Oxford	248-969-3914	dllan65@sbcglobal.net
Secretary:	Pete Foss	Oxford	248-236-0676	petefoss@skymasters.org
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Membership:	Bob Chapdelaine	Lake Orion	231-675-8590	rdchapdelaine@gmail.com

**Newsletter Submissions**  
Please send all articles, photos and announcements to the Skywriter editor at:  
[newsletter@skymasters.org](mailto: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](http://www.skymasters.org)