



SKYMASTERS RADIO CONTROL CLUB  
OF MICHIGAN  
AMA Chartered Club #970  
23 Year Gold Leader Club  
[www.skymasters.org](http://www.skymasters.org)



## In this issue

President's Message.....1  
 Some Assembly Required..4  
 Warbirds n Scale.....7  
 Student Night & Scouts...8  
 Help Wanted.....9  
 Event Flyers  
 & announcements.....10-13  
 News..... 14  
 Calendar.....15



### From the President...



It's that time of year again... holy cow, September...

Wow, kids are heading back to school, weather for flying could not be more beautiful these past few days and we as a club are getting ready for one of our biggest, longest running, well known events that our club hosts... The Midwest Regional Float Fly 2016, and this year we remember in memorial a past president and "great Promoter" of the event and our club, Darrell Watts and dedicate and honor his work and memory at the float fly. We are excited to know that his widow, Mrs. Watts is intending to come to the event this year.



(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

I know I've been really pushing this event for the past few months and I want you to know how important it is to our club, as are all the great events we host throughout the year.

The MWRFF has national recognition and is a huge endeavor that our club works toward all year and many of our members dedicate time and energy into helping out. It is a great event and your help is needed, now even more than ever. I hope you'll make plans to participate as a volunteer to help run the event.

We've set up a great web page for you to see where help is needed and then just click a button and volunteer. We'll send you email reminders that you've volunteered and everything will run smooth. **We need your help.**

Not sure how many ways I can say it and let you know that as a privilege of membership you are able to help out in this way. We've got great volunteers that have already stepped up and committed, but **we need more.** Dave Shea has a huge task in coordinating the set up and tear down of the event which takes a few hours on Friday September 9, beginning at 9:30 a.m. and then the tear down on Sunday afternoon around 3:00 p.m. Dave Wendt also has a big task that runs very smoothly with just a few people helping out. Dave is the head cook for Saturday and Sunday where we sell hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and pop, and this is where we are able to make some money for the event. **So let's do it for our DAVES!** Please sign up now, and I thank you in advance.

Ok, that's enough on the Float Fly... for the moment. We had an awesome August! Our Warbirds and Scale was another great event and I hope you were there. Our Wednesday Pot Luck and Student Nights really got busy and by the time you read this our Corn Roast and Top Gun will be in the books. I will also have awarded some of our members and recognized their great contributions to our club. I guess we'll have to put that information in the October Skywriter Newsletter.

So, September goes like this... **first weekend** has Labor Day attached. **Second weekend** is



**Front Cover:** From the Skymasters Warbirds and Scale event. Bill Pesch photo

(Continued from page 2)

the Midwest Regional Float Fly. Then the fourth weekend is our club Fun Fly. **Note...** Look for the flying part of the Navy Design Contest Build coming soon on a **date to be determined**. John Hoover indicates that there will be four rounds. Round #1 Carrier Landings 50 x 150', Round#2 Speed and Altitude (Big 5 unit), Round#3 Bombing accuracy, Round#4 Limbo is optional based on time and flying conditions. There will be prizes awarded too! So September should have a little bit of something for everyone!

For those who are Student-Pilots-in-Training in Skymasters our formal Wednesday Student Night (& potluck) concludes on the Wednesday after Labor Day but we are always instructing students in our club, year-round. Please make an effort to contact an instructor to get time on the sticks this fall because it is some of the best flying weather. Email, [instructors@skymasters.org](mailto:instructors@skymasters.org). Congratulations to all our new pilots over this summer and spring. I know we've had a great bunch of newbies as well as a large number of new members.

Next month our monthly club meetings resume towards the end of the month, Thursday October 27, at 6:45 at the newly repaired Orion Center, back at our regular meeting space. The club meetings will be the second and fourth Thursdays again, except our only November meeting will be our club elections and December is typically our Club Christmas Party. By the way, our annual "field winterizing (closing... except we don't really close the field) party is set for Saturday October 15. Mark your calendar!

Again, I want to warmly welcome all our new members and I hope to meet each and every one soon. We are glad you chose Skymasters for your flying club and I am sure the more you attend meetings and come to the field you will sense the warmth and hospitality of our club. I guarantee there will always be someone who can help you learn to fly, or, work on whatever hobby related question you may have and if they cannot answer your question(s) I know they can point you in the right direction. We have a great spirit in our club as well as great men and women and families. I know we all have great pride in our club. I hope you make it to the field a lot this month and next for some of the best flying anywhere. Indoor flying is just around the corner and it's going to be another great year at Skymasters!

It's another beautiful day at Skymasters!

Register now for the Float Fly! [REGISTER RIGHT NOW - DON'T PUT IT OFF!](#)

Volunteer now to help out before you are "voluntold" [Yes, I can help out! I am happy to do so!](#)

Bob Chapdelaine,  
President, Skymasters RC





## Scale Details Exhaust Stacks

This month I'm writing about making simple scale looking exhaust stacks. As I've mentioned previously, I'm working on an 80" JU87G Stuka from an ESM ARF. It's a nice model but the vacuum formed exhaust stacks included with the model are AWFUL in my view.



**Vacuum formed exhaust stacks**

In the past I've simply cut pieces of round tubing and mounted them to the cowl or fuselage side. I've not been happy with the look so on the Stuka I decided to do something different to get a better scale look. I considered making a clay model of an individual stack, making a silicone mold from the clay pattern and then casting 12 (in this case) replicas. If I am going for high scale realism that's what I'd do. But I would characterize this Stuka as a "sport scale" model and I didn't want to go through all that work so here is what I did instead.

I still used brass tubing of the correct scale diameter but I reshaped the round tube at the exit end to a more scale appearing rectangular shape. In the manufacturing process K&S brass tubing gets work hardened and is difficult to reshape. So the first step is to use your propane torch and heat the end of the tube to a red hot condition. After heating, let it air cool. What this does is soften (anneal) the brass so it is more easily reshaped.



**Annealing the brass tubing**

Once softened I press the body of a small needle nose pliers into the softened tube end. You must press pretty hard. I happen to have a needle nose pliers that is a good size for this purpose. If you don't have a good size needle nose you can grind and file a piece of scrap metal to the size and shape needed.



**Needle nose and tube ready to reshape**

(Continued on page 5)

pretty steep angle. In addition the 6 stacks must fit in a recess molded in the fuselage. I determined the cut off length and angle by trial and error using the TLAR (that looks about right) method. To create a consistent angle I set up a simple scrap wood guide on the table on my disc sander.

(Continued from page 4)



**Tube reshaped by needle nose pliers**



**Shaping the angle using a disk sander and scrap wood guide**

Note in the picture that I pushed the stub tube back on the end of the needle nose so I could hold the rectangular end in the proper orientation and keep from burning my fingers since the tube gets VERY HOT when you sand the angle. Note also that there is a pencil mark on the wood guide so all of the stacks are the same length.

After I made 2 stacks I did a trial fit to see how the spacing was working out. I had to make a couple of angle adjustments to get the stack to stack spacing so that 6 of them would fit in the fuselage recess.



**The resulting shape**

Next I cut off the end of the tube to the length necessary.



**Working out the angle and spacing**

(Continued on page 6)



**Cut tube to length with razor saw**

The exhaust stacks on the Stuka are angled back at a

(Continued from page 5)

Note the difference in appearance between plain round tubes vs the reshaped tubes in the picture above. Much better in my opinion.

Next I made a strip of lite ply that fits inside of the fuselage recess. Then I applied a thin layer of 15 min. Epoxy to the wood strips and positioned the 6 stacks on the strip. Use the 15 min. Or longer cure epoxy so you have time to make small adjustments to the spacing and alignment.



Stacks epoxied to the wood mounting strip



Left and right sides done

Next I painted the stacks flat black and mounted them on the fuselage.



Stacks mounted on fuselage

Yet to be done is the weathering and exhaust stains.

For your reference remember that the exhaust stacks were commonly made of plain carbon steel and would show rust. So the first step in weathering is adding a small amount of rust colored paint by dry brushing. Next comes 2 colors of exhaust staining. Yes, 2 colors. The first color is sooty black. This stain is the result of the engine running rich. The typical start up process has the mixture at its full rich setting during start and warm up. In flight the mixture is more lean for maximum performance and fuel efficiency. High performance engines running 100+ octane leave light gray to white stains on top of the black. The whitish color is the result of the high levels of tetra-ethyl lead in the fuel to get the higher octane numbers. When painting the exhaust stains look at pictures of your subject to see how much staining there is and how it flows along the fuselage. Some aircraft show very little staining and others show a lot. Also, remember that the front of the first stack does not get stained.

This same technique can be adapted to the exhaust on radial engine aircraft by modifying the shape of the mounting plate inside of the cowl and the bevel angle on the end of the stacks.

Got a sport plane? Why not add some exhaust stacks to dress it up?

Next month I'll be continuing with another scale detail on the Stuka, the instrument panel.

Steve K.

We Are Skymasters  
R/C Club of Michigan  
Since 1976  
skymasters.org  
email: info@skymasters.org or call: 248-805-1404

# Warbirds and Scale

Sunday, August 7th 2016

*Click anywhere in the collage to view the entire photo album on the Skymasters web site*



# Student Night (with Cub Scout pack 82)

Wednesday August 17th

*Click anywhere in the collage to view the entire photo album on the Skymasters web site*





# Help Wanted:

Skymasters RC Club of Lake Orion is looking for people to fill several positions. Some long term some short term. Open positions available are:

**Staff Photographer:** work with Webmaster and Newsletter Editor to photograph club meetings and events and submit for publication and upload to the club website archive.

**Staff Writer:** need individuals who attend the many various Skymasters events, and document the event by writing an article for the club Newsletter the Skywriter. Writers don't need to attend everything and are welcome to contribute by writing some general interest articles also.

**PR/Promotions:** looking for Skymasters to help on promoting our upcoming summer events in various ways, such as distributing flyers and brochures in Lake Orion and surrounding communities. Looking for a few Skymasters who would sit at a table with a couple of display aircraft and give out brochures etc. (like outside of Kroger in Lake Orion etc.) a few days this summer.

**Grill Chef:** we are always looking for help to perform one of the most important tasks of our club... keep us well fed. Our Chief Cook, Bill Dezur is on sabbatical for some of our events this year we are looking to fill some key positions for some of our big events. Shift work available and you can eat for free. We will need help at our Sunday May 15 float fly and Wednesday June 15 fish fry as well as many other infrequent opportunities. Your help is appreciated.

**Sanitation Engineer:** keeping our flying field looking nice involves everyone's hard work constantly picking up around the field. We need someone or several people who will just take it upon themselves to just sweep the cement area under the pavilion as often as possible. Along with this task and also asked of all members is to take home the trash from the trash bins at least once per year. Anyone who is able to do this we are grateful to. Seems like a simple thing except when you show up at the field the morning of an event and both trash cans are overflowing. We need your help to keep the trash flowing! We have several places we can dump the bags of trash, locally, the problem is transporting them from the field to those dumpsters. Not all of us have trucks that can easily do this. Please do not try to take the trash home in your car or SUV even if you double bag it because it will leak.



**Watch for more Job Postings in the Skywriter**

# 2016 Skymasters Annual Corn Roast & Top Gun Sunday August 28, 2016

Lunch at Noon & Top Gun Contest Begins at 1:30 pm

for the family  
club provides: corn,  
hot dogs, pop and wa-  
ter—bring any sides  
or desserts to share  
and your place set-  
ting



member  
appreciation &  
recognition  
Top Gun Contest  
rockets

*delicious Oxford sweet corn... yummy!*

Bring the whole family for a  
Skymasters family corn roast.  
open flying all day except during Top Gun.  
who will win the newly re-designed  
Skymasters Top Gun Trophy?



2015 Top Gun Champion—John Billinger





Darrell Watts Memorial  
26th annual  
Skymasters RC Club



# Midwest Regional Float Fly

save the date  
**September 10-11, 2016**



Join us at Island Lake State Recreation Area, Kent Lake in Brighton, Michigan for the premier Float Fly in the Midwest. The 2016 MWRFF™ hosted by Skymasters RC Club invites you for a weekend of flying, friendship and fun for the whole family. With the 1000' sandy beach and beautiful Kent Lake the Island Lake State Park offers one of the best float flying venues, overnight RV camping. There will be food and refreshments, pilot prizes, and lots of other exciting surprises.

Go to: [www.skymasters.org/MWRFF](http://www.skymasters.org/MWRFF)  
and see 25 years of videos & photos and for more information.

You can even register early and save \$5\*.

Email: [floatfly@skymasters.org](mailto:floatfly@skymasters.org) for more information.



**Darrell Watts  
Memorial  
26th Annual**



**Midwest Regional Float Fly  
September 10-11, 2016**



*We will be giving away a Super Stearman (pictured here) on floats from Darrell's prized collection as one of our pilot prizes. It has a 72" wingspan and is powered by a Saito 150 four-stroke engine.*

*So sign up now for the [MWRFF2016](#)*

**For more information go to:**

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

**Email: [floatfly@skymasters.org](mailto:floatfly@skymasters.org)**

**Register NOW, before August 1 and get an extra entry in the pilots' prize drawing and win the Stearman!**

**Mark Your Calendar Now—Register Soon—Don't Miss it!**

# 2016 FLYING EVENTS

SKYMASTERS RC CLUB – LAKE ORION, MI



## May 2016

Wednesday June 18 – **Student Flight Training & Potluck** begins each Wednesday

Sunday May 22—**Spring Float Fly [Chet Brady]**

## June 2016

Wednesday June 15—**Fish Fry Dinner & Member Appreciation**

Saturday June 25-26—**Electric & Night Fly In**

## July 2016

Saturday July 16 –**OPEN HOUSE – **AIR SHOW** Recreation 101**

## August 2016

Sunday August 7—**Warbirds and Scale Fly In**

Sunday August 28—**Corn Roast and Top Gun Flying**

## September 2016

Sat & Sunday September 10-11—**Midwest Regional Float Fly**

Saturday September 24—**Skymasters Fun Fly**

## November 2016

Tuesday November 1—**Indoor Flying Season Begins**

## December 2016

Saturday December 31—**Krazy Snow Fly**



all dates subject to change – PLEASE always consult current information on website: [www.skymasters.org](http://www.skymasters.org)

# ON THE WING

## Skymasters Indoor Flying Resumes Tuesday October 25th

Continues into May as long as there are enough pilots  
\$10/session.... Check your Email

10AM to 1PM (Yes, three hours)

At Ultimate Soccer,  
Opdyke and South Blvd

Pontiac, MI



## Skymasters Breakfast (Everyone is welcome)

First and Third Monday of each month  
*through the summer*

9AM

Red Olive restaurant

In the strip mall on Walton  
across from Crittenton Hospital

Rochester MI

## 2016 FLYING HOURS

QUIET ELECTRICS only from  
8AM to 10AM and 8PM to  
10PM *The noise limit during  
these hours is 80 dBa at 10  
feet. If in doubt, don't fly.*

Regular flying is permitted  
between 10 AM to 8 PM

*The noise limit during these  
hours remains 94 dBa at 10  
feet.*

# September 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 Corn Roast and Top Gun 1:30PM Scripps Field	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5 Skymasters Breakfast 9AM Red Olive, Rochester Hills	6	7 Addison Oaks Float Fly 9AM Addison Oaks	8	9	10 Midwest Re- gional Float Fly 9:30AM Kent Lake Beach Brighton MI
11 Midwest Regional Float Fly 9:30AM Kent Lake Beach Brighton MI	12	13	14 Addison Oaks Float Fly 9AM Addison Oaks	15	16	17
18	19 Skymasters Breakfast 9AM Red Olive, Rochester Hills	20	21 Addison Oaks Float Fly 9AM Addison Oaks	22	23	24 Skymasters 3rd Annual FunFly 10AM Scripps Field
25	26	27	28 Addison Oaks Float Fly 9AM Addison Oaks	29	30	

# 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 hours:

**QUIET ELECTRICS ONLY from 8AM to 10AM and 8PM to 10PM.**  
**The noise limit is 80dBa at ten feet.**

Regular flying is permitted between 10 AM to 8 PM. **The noise limit is 94 dBa at 10 feet.** These noise

limits are 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)** Meet the instructors and arrange for more instruction time together on other days. Our Chief Flight Instructor is Ken Gutelius, 248-892-2943, cfi@skymasters.org

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!



## 2016 Club Officers & Appointees...

President:	Bob Chapdelaine	Lake Orion	president@skymasters.org
Vice Pres.:	John Billinger	Troy	vicepresident@skymasters.org
Secretary:	Pete Foss	Oxford	secretary@skymasters.org
Treasurer:	Phil Saunders	Rochester Hills	treasurer@skymasters.org
Editor:	Paul Goelz	Rochester Hills	newsletter@skymasters.org
Membership:	Jim Satawa	Lake Orion	membership@skymasters.org
CFI	Ken Gutelius	Lake Orion	cfi@skymasters.org
EOC at large	Jim Satawa	Lake Orion	at.large2@skymasters.org
EOC at large	Jon Grigsby	Ortonville	at.large3@skymasters.org
EOC at large	Paul Goelz	Rochester Hills	at.large1@skymasters.org

## 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)