

it's another beautiful day at Skymasters...

July, 2017

In this issue

MICHIGAN



From the President...



Ok a little time warp here. It's July $3^{\rm rd}$ and I'm finishing up my message... or writing it... for our July $1^{\rm st}$ edition of the Skywriter. May we pay tribute, on this day and forever to the brave Heroes who serve and have served. We are the Land of the Free and We are the Home of the Brave... Happy Independence Day to Everyone.



Had the honor this morning of watching Tom Wheeler and Ron Wlosinski maiden their Dalton Extra's at Skymasters Field. What a privilege. It was poetry in motion. I sent some photos to Paul our Skywriter Editor that I know he's added to our "At the Field" section, thanks Paul.

Looking back in June our Inaugural Control Line Event was superb. My hat is off to Jim Satawa and Steve Kretschmer. Those two have my appreciation for a job well done. Not only are the fine gentlemen of our club but they

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

put on a fine event that I think has found a home in our club and it sure is nice to see so many come out and enjoy a longtime great part of our hobby. Skymasters is now a place for Control Line flying and fits in well with our club.

Our Night Fly was again incredible and well attended. We had lots of pilots and spectators and the bonfire and fun was almost overwhelming. I am looking forward to growing this for next year. The Electric Fly was honored again with the Legend that is Dr. Keith Shaw and was a great event but had its challenges with high winds but as usual had many great flights and Pete Foss did a magnificent job as usual.

July is huge for Skymasters as we open our doors /gates to the public more than ever in two weeks for our 2nd Annual Air Show - Open House Saturday July 15 beginning at 10:00 a.m. As part of Bald Mountain Recreation Area Rec 101 we put on a display for the public of RC flying and have flight simulators and flying demonstrations like nothing you've ever seen. This year we have a full scale CBP (Customs & Border Protection) A-Star Turbine Helicopter that will land on our runway at noon and spectators will get to go look at it up close and check it out. Then we will resume our airshow and continue flying until about 2:00 p.m. We'll have free food, hotdogs, hamburgers, pop and chips (donations are appreciated). The Event is OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. Please see the flyer in this edition of the Skywriter and be sure to let your family, friends, neighbors and coworkers know about Skymasters Open House on Saturday July 15, 2017. Don't Miss This.

Our Warbirds and Scale Fly In is Sunday August 6th so mark your calendar. That is early in August so be sure you're on board for this. At this time, we also have the full-scale Blackhawk making an appearance this day, just to let you know and we are also planning a parking lot swap to add to the already busy day... so mark your calendar. That's coming in August!

I want to thank Chuck Slattery, Jerry Romito and Bill Dezur for their work in getting Harold Rueter's Wright Flyer up in its home at the Orion Township Library. It is hanging proudly just as you walk in in the main entrance and it looks beautiful. Your club treasurer, Jim Satawa and I met there last week to do some work on the club budget and I snapped this picture. There is a lot more to this great story that I hope gets told someday about Harold and his great work and contributions to Skymasters and working in the local schools with Al Mrock another great man in our club that I admire and respect.

I also am late in thanking, (and yes there is more to this story too, and it is coming)... Fred Engelman and crew for running the finest Indoor Flying event for nine years in a row for our club. Fred wrapped up and



reported to the Club Board a very successful 2016/7 Indoor Flying season with extended/extended innings and I know there is no better indoor flying anywhere and no better person who does a better job than Fred, Mike Bard



and his volunteer team. Thanks guys! I also personally appreciate all the things that Fred does to help me and Skymasters run smoothly throughout the year. After July 15, with the Warbirds and Scale Event under control we will be kicking into high gear with our BIGGEST CLUB EVENT OF OUR YEAR THE MIDWEST REGIONAL FLOAT FLY coming up September 9-10, 2017 at Island Lake State Park, Brighton, Michigan. We are turning on Registration July

(Continued on page 3)

Front Cover

From our brand new control line event. This photo really brings back the memories for me of modelers huddled over a plane trying to get it started;)

(Continued from page 2)

16th. More information about this later! Stay tuned!

Thanks to our Chief Flight Instructor, Ken Gutelius, and Chief Safety Officer, Greg Brausa for keeping us safe and our Flight Instructors working with our student pilots on Wednesdays and other days. Congratulations to our new pilots and new club members. Welcome to our new members!

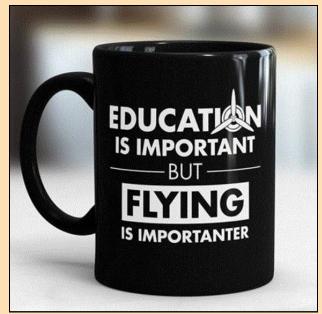
Thanks also to our Event, Contest Directors and Board members who work so hard behind the scenes to keep things running so smoothly for our club. And thank you to so many, everyone in our great club who do so much. Our club is great because of everyone in it. We all work so well together and everyone in our club is important. We are a very strong club. We have a lot of positive momentum now and I like the growth we have. Let's keep it up!

In closing by now, or within the next week you should have received the **annual club mailing**. If you have not or do not receive this mailing with flyers, a letter from the president and a patch and decal etc., please contact the membership director, Phil Saunders at membership@skymasters.org and let him know. Please wait at least a week or so because the mail may be slow before you start bombarding Phil. They were mailed last Friday.

It is another beautiful day at Skymasters!

Book

Bob Chapdelaine President, Skymasters RC





Mowing the Flying Field 2017

As we all know mowing of our field is essential to keeping it beautiful and practical for flying. We want to be sure that all members are aware of the mowing schedule, and possible variations thereof.

We are planning on mowing the runway and pit area every Monday at approximately 1-3 p.m. It typically takes 1.5 to 2.0 hours to mow these areas. Also, during the wetter part of the flying season when the grass grows quickly, or when we have an official event the coming weekend, we will also be mowing the runway again on Thursday night or Friday afternam

Weather can have a factor on mowing days and times. If we have inclement weather on a regularly scheduled mowing day, the runway will be mowed at the next opportunity. These changes in schedule may not always be communicated to the club, therefore, plan your trips to the flying field accordingly if you think the regular mowing schedule may have altered due to weather.

Front Cover

From our brand new control line event. This photo really brings back the memories for me of modelers huddled over a plane trying to get it started;)

The Inaugural Skymasters Control Line Fly-In Or "You Can Go Back!"

As I drove into the Skymasters field that Saturday morning, I saw that a few cars were already there- a good sign. But had the word gotten out far enough about our new event? Had control flying become a thing of the past. just a curious oddity? Will more than just the few Skymasters members that seemed to have committed to flying today, show up? Steve Kretschmer and I wondered aloud, once again. We needn't have worried though- the parade of cars started streaming in to our field, big time!



With the questionable weather forecast for the day already known (hot, windy, chance of thunderstorms) I was pleasantly surprised to see so many enthusiasts from other local clubs who came out, as well as old friends who I hadn't seen in a while. It didn't take long for the first flyer to take to the air; it was none other than Bob Morse, a local C/L airplane & engine expert, former combat competitor and my good friend for almost 40 years. As Bob eased in to his flight, his aerobatic performance prompted applause from the growing crowd—something we would hear countless times throughout the afternoon for the numerous flyers that followed. Before too long, we were treated to a variety of airplane and engine types—nitro, diesel and electric—flown by seasoned experts, as well as those less experienced. Pilots, pit crew and spectators intermingled, sharing stories, knowledge and advice. It was a chance to rekindle old friendships, create new ones, and reminisce about days gone by. No pressure, just fun.

I think we had around 10 different pilots try out the Cox .049-powered "Ambush" trainers I had built—some of your fellow Skymasters who stepped up made it look like they never put that handle down, in spite of taking a many-decades-long break! Others that tried it for the first time showed promise, if not success. You might have recognized guys like Ted Labbe, Les Baron, Gary Wells, Phil Saunders, Robin Rissell and young Jacob out there taking their

turn at flying the sometimes-squirrelly little planes, as they got bounced around by the gusts.

Others, like Steve Kretschmer and Joe Finkelstine had just built new .40-sized "Accentor" ships for the event. Steve's was flown just a few days earlier, with a maiden flight (by yours truly) followed by Steve grabbing the handle and making it look easy, in spite of taking a halfcentury or so off! In Joe's case, his airplane would be maidened the day of the event, and he would try his hand at it (trying control line flying for the first time, AND flying his new airplane). I am happy to report that not only did Joe take to control line flight right away (OK, with very minimal assistance), his Accentor flies great, as does Steve's R/C throttle-enhanced version of the same plane.



(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

For you other guys that almost had something ready to fly for this years' event, fear not, you just got an extension on finishing that bird and getting her in the air this season! No excuses for next year though!

Like all Skymasters events held throughout the year, this one took planning and commitment by a number of people.
While Steve Kretschmer and I served as event co-



directors, we had a number of members step up to contribute. Special thanks to Chris Strong, Ivan Dulskij, and Marty Stefani & Family for manning the kitchen and event registration. Bill Pesch and Fred Engelman took lots of pictures, and Bob Chapdelaine not only got the word out across the web, he acted as MC over the club's PA system (to the delight and dismay of the crowd!) Last but not least, Aaron Karjala, Marty Stefani, Bob Chapdelaine and Steve Kretschmer provided labor, logistics, and common sense that contributed to the nicely marked and beautifully manicured field. There are countless others who contributed as well—thanks to all of you whom I didn't mention by name.

In closing, I thought I would share the following. One of our special guests that came out that day had e-mailed me in advance of the event, asking about taking a flight for the first time in decades. This is his response to me (reprinted with his permission) after the event:

"Jim, thank you for the opportunity to "relive" my younger days. In late 50's / early 60's I flew every nite at the local school, along with two other guys, we had a fan club watching and cheering our combat antics and crashes. At 14 years old, had my first "open account" at the hobby shop, along with a designated spot at the bike rack...I went home last Sunday and dug through moms attic, got my McCoy 35 and Ringmaster out, along with a partially built Nobler with a Fox 35....now I need to clear an area in the barn for a bigger work bench...thanks again!

John Vermeersch

Total Performance Parts Company Inc.

44050 N. Groesbeck Hwy. Clinton Township, MI 48036 Fax 586.468.7434

This is but one story, and many similar ones were heard throughout the day of our event. Memories of good times....simpler times....and lasting friendships. You can go back, indeed.

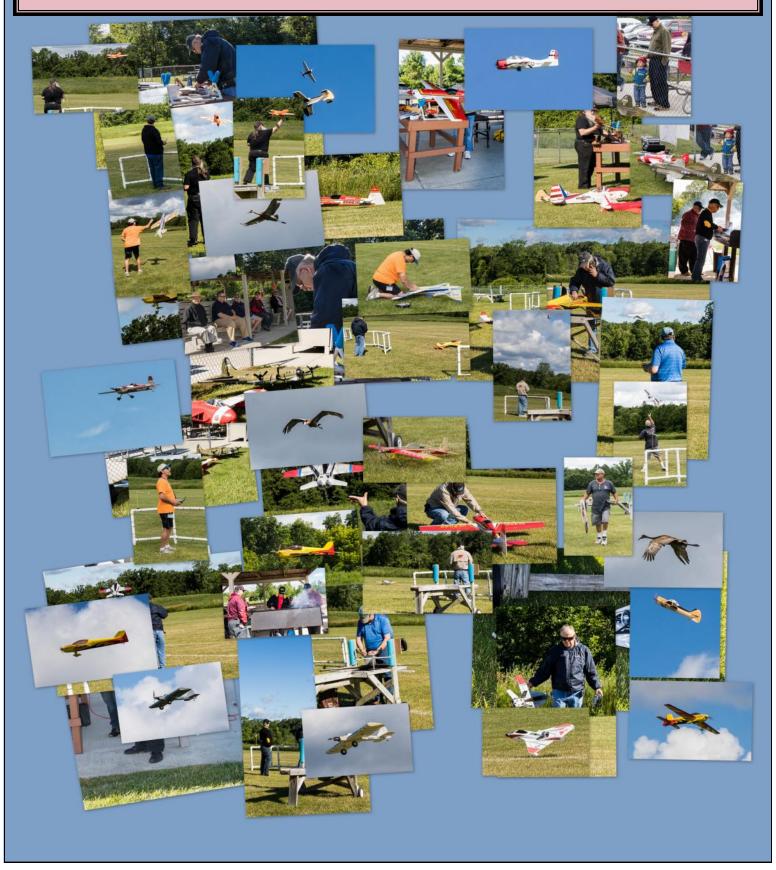
Make sure you don't miss our newest annual event next year!

Jim Satawa

Control Line event!

The Skywriter, July 2017, page 6

2017 Electric Fly



Field Rolling Party



At the Field

Including photos of Tom Wheeler and Ron Wlosinski's Dalton Extras with four cylinder DA200 engines



FPV at Meadowbrook

So your rambling editor was heading home from CVS Monday afternoon and like I always do and as I passed by, I glanced at the OU field at the corner of Walton and Adams in Rochester Hills. WHOA! There was an FPV course laid out! So I stopped by and chatted with Michael Vansten, Jacob Gardner and Derek Warren for a while. They were practicing high speed FPV racing through a fairly complicated course consisting of pylons, gates and a 3D rectangular box. The flying was amazing! These were maybe 100 size through about 300 size (guestimated) and powered by 3S packs. By comparison, it made the kind of quad and occasional FPV flying I do look like my grandmother was flying;) I'm guessing peak speeds were in the 50MPH plus range. Towards the end, some people who were trying to fly a beginner quad down the field a bit came over to watch and got a "ride along" watching through Michael's spare goggles. If anyone is interested in local FPV flying and would like to contact them, check out Michael's Facebook page.



Five Minutes on Safety

Random Thoughts

Range check

• It is a good idea (that many of us ignore) to do a range check before each new flying session.

A known good radio system can fail, and you never know when that might happen.

Prop safety

- ALWAYS treat the propeller on an electric aircraft like a loaded gun whenever the battery is connected.
- ALWAYS treat the propeller on a fuel powered aircraft with extreme respect when the engine
 is running. Take extra time to think it through when making any needle valve or engine adjustments with the engine running.
- ALWAYS make sure that any cords or cable (like remote glow starters and starter power cords) are well clear before starting the engine.

Throttle Hold switch

- ALWAYS program, understand and USE a throttle hold switch on your transmitter if the transmitter includes that function. A THROTTLE HOLD switch is different than a THROT-TLE KILL switch and is useful on both fuel powered and electric aircraft.
- The THROTTLE HOLD switch locks the throttle channel to idle (fuel powered) or zero throttle (electric) and prevents the throttle from advancing unless the switch is placed in the "non-hold" position.

Battery disconnect

 Electric aircraft are MUCH safer if they are equipped with a master battery disconnect switch, accessible from the outside of the aircraft with all hatches closed / in place. The disconnect usually takes the form of a shorting plug that can be seen and when NOT inserted, you know for sure that the motor is disabled. This is even more important if the battery plug is not easily accessible in an emergency.

Taxi safely

It is good practice when taxiing not to aim directly at an opening between flight stations.
 When taxiing back to the pits, I angle towards a flight station until I get close and then I taxi parallel to the flightline until I reach the opening where I am standing. While still aiming east or west (ie., NOT towards the pits) I shut the motor down and then carry or tail walk the aircraft back to the pits.

Help Wanted

Skymasters RC Club is looking for people to fill several positions. Some long term some short term. Please see where your talents and gifts can help your club. Open positions available are:



Website Calendar Editor: We are looking

for someone to help keep our on-line calendar updated. We also need someone that can work with the webmaster in updating the look of the website. (CSS & HTML)

<u>Staff Photographer/Videographer</u>: work with Webmaster, Newsletter Editor and Club President to photograph/video club Events, Meetings and submit for publication and upload to the club website and archives.

<u>Staff Writer</u>: 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.

<u>PR/Promotions</u>: looking for Skymasters to help on promoting our upcoming summer events in various ways, such as distributing flyers and brochures in the local and surrounding communities or writing press releases if you have the time we have the information.

<u>Grill Chef/Food Service</u>: we are always looking for help to perform one of the most important tasks of our club... keeping us well fed. We are always looking to fill these key positions for some of our big events. Shift work available and you can eat for free. Your help is appreciated.

<u>Sanitation Engineer</u>: keeping our flying field looking nice involves everyone's hard work, constantly picking up around the field. We need every member to take it upon themselves to help keep the field and grounds clean and in order. Don't walk past trash or garbage on the ground. Don't assume we have a cleaning crew, because it is YOU. Our flying field is so nice because we have so many great members who care... LIKE YOU!

Watch for more Job Postings in the Skywriter.



Skymasters RC Club of Lake Orion

Radio Control Model Aircraft

Air Show

Open House—Recreation 101

Bald Mountain Recreation Area Lake Orion, MI

West Scripps Road Between M-24 & Joslyn Road

Sat. July 15, 2017 10-2pm

Food and refreshments

F-16 F-18 jet formation flight

Full scale helicopter landing and close-up on runway*

Nationally sponsored ace young pilots

Precision aerobatics

Flight simulators

Quads, multi-rotors & FPV display & demos

Many, many static displays

All day demonstration flights

Bleacher seating, picnic tables, & rustic restroom

Bring your own blanket or lawn chairs for viewing and relax on the lawn—fun for the whole family!

















Radio Control Model Aircraft

Air Show—Fly In

Skymasters RC Club Lake Orion, MI Sunday August 6, 10:00 a.m.



Scripps Road Flying Field Part of Bald Mountain Recreation Area

~ 4 miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills on West Scripps Road between Joslyn and M-24











- o Public Welcome o Food & Refreshments o No Landing Fees
 - o Flying Open to AMA Members o Plenty of Parking
 - o Pilot Prizes o Civilian & Military RC Scale Aircraft
 - o Restroom Available o AMA Sanctioned

www.skymasters.org | email: warbirds@skymasters.org









2017 CLUB EVENTS

SKYMASTERS RC CLUB - LAKE ORION, MI



April 2017

Saturday April 22 — Involvement Day — Bald Mountain, Scripps Road Field; Lake Orion

May 2017

Saturday May 13-Field Opening/Work Day - Scripps Road Flying Field; Lake Orion

Sunday May 21—Spring Float Fly [Chet Brady] – Bald Mountain Trout Lake; Lake Orion

Wednesday May 31 - Student Flight Training & Potluck begins - Scripps Road Flying Field; Lake Orion

June 2017

Wednesday June 14—Fish Fry Dinner & Member Appreciation – Scripps Road Flying Field; Lake Orion

Saturday June 17—Control Line Fly In – 12-5 p.m. – Scripps Road Flying Field; Lake Orion

Saturday June 24-25—Electric & Night Fly In – Scripps Road Flying Field; Lake Orion

July 2017

Saturday July 15 - Open House Air Show 2017 - Recreation 101 - Scripps Road Flying Field; Lake Orion

August 2017

Sunday August 6—Warbirds and Scale Fly In - Scripps Road Flying Field; Lake Orion

Sunday August 27—Corn Roast and Top Gun Flying - Scripps Road Flying Field; Lake Orion

September 2017

Sat & Sunday September 9-10—Midwest Regional Float Fly – Island Lake State Park; Brighton

Saturday September 23—Skymasters Fun Fly - Scripps Road Flying Field; Lake Orion

October 2017

Tuesday October 24—Indoor Flying Season Begins – Ultimate Soccer Arenas; Auburn Hills

November 2017

December 2017

Thursday December 7—Christmas Party – Orion Center; Lake Orion

Sunday December 31—Krazy Snow Fly - Scripps Road Flying Field; Lake Orion



Coming Sept. 9-10, 2017

all dates subject to change - PLEASE always consult current information on website: www.skymasters.org

ON THE WING

Skymasters Breakfast

(Everyone is welcome)

First and Third Monday of each month through the summer... and beyond!

9AM

Red Olive restaurant
In the strip mall on Walton
across from Crittenton Hospital
Rochester MI



Skymasters Student Night and Pot Luck Every Wednesday at the field. Flying & instruction any time but we eat at 6PM

For those participating we ask that you:

- Bring something for the grill enough to at least feed you and your guests
- Bring a dish to pass (see notes below)
- Bring your own (non-alcoholic) beverage

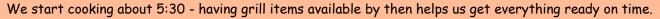
We eat at 6pm - rain or shine! The potluck is sustained by those participating, with no expense to the club.

Something for the grill:

The obvious choices are burgers, sausages/brats and hotdogs - but other alternatives are welcome. If you bring it - we will cook it! Already this year we have cooked pork tenderloin and chops, salmon, venison burgers and more.

and chops, salmon, venison burgers and more.

Don't forget the buns if appropriate for your contribution!



Dish to pass: Don't know what to bring? Each week a board will be up listing supplies needed - from plates to condiments, charcoal, etc. Pick one of the needed items to bring instead!

Not one to cook? A quick stop at local supermarket deli for a side salad, or bakery for dessert always works.



July 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Saturday Breakfast 8:30AM Iris Café
2	3 Skymasters Breakfast 9AM Red Olive, Rochester Hills	4	5 Addison Oaks Float Fly 9AM Student Night and Pot Luck (eat at 6PM)	6	7	8 Saturday Breakfast 8:30AM Iris Café
9	10	11	Addison Oaks Float Fly 9AM Student Night and Pot Luck (eat at 6PM) Scripps Field	13	14 CARDS Giant Scale 9AM Grand Ledge, MI	15 Saturday Breakfast 8:30AM Iris Café CARDS Giant Scale 9AM Grand Ledge, MI Open House and Rec. 101 10AM Scripps Field
16	17 Skymasters Breakfast 9AM Red Olive, Rochester Hills	18	19 Addison Oaks Float Fly 9AM Student Night and Pot Luck (eat at 6PM)	20	21	22 Saturday Breakfast 8:30AM Iris Café
23	24	25	26 Addison Oaks Float Fly 9AM Student Night and Pot Luck (eat at 6PM)	27	28	29 Saturday Breakfast 8:30AM Iris Café
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 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.

Student Instruction & Pot Luck Every Wednesday, May through September. Flying any time but we eat at 6:00 p.m. - rain or shine, literally! For those participating we ask that

you bring something for the grill enough to feed (at least) you and your guests -OR- bring a dish to pass -OR- bring your own (nonalcoholic) beverage. Something for the grill: The obvious choices are burgers, sausages/brats and hotdogs - but other alternatives are welcome. If you bring it we will cook it! We've cooked pork tenderloin and chops, salmon, venison burgers, steaks and more. Don't forget the buns.

We start cooking about 5:30 p.m. having grill items by then helps us get everything ready on time.

Potluck dish to pass: Don't know what to bring, working late? Each week we'll let you know what is needed for the next week from plates to condiments, charcoal, etc. Pick one of the needed items to bring instead! Not one to cook? A quick stop at local supermarket deli for a side salad, or bakery for dessert always works!

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. 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 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!



2017 Club Officers Appointees...

President: Vice Pres.: Secretary: Membership: Editor: Treasurer: CSO EOC at large EOC at large EOC at large

Bob Chapdelaine John Billinger Pete Foss Phil Saunders Paul Goelz Jim Satawa Ken Gutelius Greg Brausa Jim Satawa Jon Grigsby Paul Goelz

Oxford Troy Oxford Rochester Hills Rochester Hills Lake Orion Lake Orion Metamora Lake Orion Ortonville Rochester Hills president@skymasters.org vicepresident@skymasters.org secretary@skymasters.org membership@skymasters.org newsletter@skymasters.org treasurer@skymasters.org cfi@skymasters.org cso@skymasters.org at.large2@skymasters.org at.large3@skymasters.org at.large1@skymasters.org

and announcements to the Skywriter editor at:

newsletter@skymasters.org Deadline is the 20th of each month.

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Michigan

www.skymasters.org