

### **General Membership Meeting 1/8/03 Larson Middle School**

#### **Introduction of 2003 officers**

Officers Present: Gary Weaks, Bob Donohue, Paul Zabawa, and Ross Jones. Presiding officer was Ross Jones. Attendance was 51.

**Skymasters Swap Shop.** Joe Finkelstine, the event director for this year's Swap Shop, discussed the event. Please note that the date advertised in *Model Aviation* is wrong. We had to move the date up due to a school conflict. The new date is **February 12<sup>th</sup>**. Help is needed at all positions and a sign-up sheet was circulated. There may be an auction included in this year's event. The doors open for set-up at 5:30.

**Treasure's report.** Bob Donohue gave a treasure's report, which was accepted by the membership.

**Minutes from the last meeting:** The last meeting was the Christmas party.

**Program:** Jack Goodrich discussed a powered mini chop saw that he is marketing and Ross Jones shared sheet cutting techniques.

Jack demonstrated the cutting ability and technique to use his mini chop saw. He is marketing it for an introductory price of \$40. It has a 7800 rpm motor, a 3/8 " arbor arm and a toothed steel wheel. It can quickly cut 1/2 " dowel and smaller brass and aluminum.

Ross demonstrated a miter cutting tool from Just R/C Planes. A miter fence allows an approximate cut and a miter sanding block fine-tunes the cut angle.

Joe Hass shared a source for scalpels, which are great for cutting Monocoat and other similar coverings. They can be purchased from Squadron Products. They cost \$2.46 for 5 or \$5.96 for 25. Call (972) 242-8663.

#### **Show and Tell:**

- Harry Etheridge brought in a P-38 Lightning that he scratch-built from plans. It contains three receivers. Twin O.S. 70 four-stroke engines provide the power. The finished plane weighs 17 pounds.

- John Hakala showed his Great Planes PT-60. It is a veteran of many flights and required substantial repairs. John shared his experiences with the plane starting to generate a unique noise when it was flying. It turned out that the noise was induced by several loose bulkheads in the fuselage and cracks in the wing sheeting. The plane was modified during the overhaul to a tail-dragger and now includes a Plexiglass top over the fuel tank for visual fuel level readings.

- Joe and Chris Hass showed two

aircraft models. The first was a Vertical R/C Cap 232. This aerobatic electric park flyer uses 3 servos and a 9-cell pack. It builds quickly and flies great. The second plane was a Kyosho Gee Bee ARF. It is well-constructed and includes a painted fiberglass fuselage. It will be powered with an O.S. 52.

- Jack Goodrich displayed a flying pizza box that he made. This novel plane looks strange but has nice slow-flying characteristics.

- Roger Schmelling showed a unique twin-engine Ultra-Stick. It can be converted back to a single engine plane within minutes. In the twin-engine version it is powered by two 46 FX engines and weighs 9 1/2 pounds.

- Jack Steele showed a Vermont Belle electric plane. It spans 51 inches and is powered by a very unique axial electric motor in which the outer can rotates with the driveshaft and the armature is fixed. It weighs 43 ounces and carries 10 cells.

The show-and-tell raffle was won by Harry Etheridge.

**This year's tentative Events Schedule** was covered. Bald Mountain Involvement Day is tentatively scheduled for April 19. Gary Weaks volunteered to be the ED. Ron Sokacz and Bob Donohue will man the kitchen. Dave Wendt volunteered to direct the Team Fun Fly. The Midwest Regional Float Fly still needs an event director. Kids day will be moved to the fall this year and conducted in conjunction with Orion Township's Barn Daze.

Meeting adjourned.

### **General Membership Meeting – 1/22/03 Troy Boys and Girls Club**

#### **Introduction of 2003 officers**

Officers Present: Gary Weaks, Bob Donohue, Paul Zabawa, and Ross Jones.

Presiding officer was Ross Jones. Attendance was 57.

First Time visitors: Rob Penkow and Erin Cook.

Video Librarian is now Sherman Dixon.

**Skymasters Swap Shop.** Joe Finkelstine, the event director for this year's Swap Shop. Please note that the date advertised in *Model Aviation* is wrong. We had to move the date up due to a school conflict. The new date is February 12<sup>th</sup>. Help is needed at all positions. This year will also include an auction starting at 8:15. The doors open for set-up at 5:30. Joe also needed some help to distribute flyers to the local hobby shops.

#### **Minutes from the last meeting:**

The last meeting were read and accepted.

Bob Gillespie shared a source for surgical scalpels. These work extremely well for cutting Monocoat and similar plastic coverings. The web address is <http://stores.taxidermyreference.com/storefront.bok>.

**Up-coming events:** The two meetings in March will have programs demonstrating sheeting and fiberglass techniques and Monocoating techniques with Vince Pettke.

**Program:** Ross Jones and Joe Hass lead an open discussion on R/C Swap Shop savvy with some tips on how to buy and what to avoid. Joe stated the discussion with a suggestion to stay away from used battery packs. A suggestion on airframes; avoid love at first sight. Many new ARF's are available at very reasonable prices these days. A long discussion followed on used engines. Buy only from the engine's last user, not someone simply buying and selling engines. In all cases, check the compression, bearing and smoothness.

The Toledo Weak Signals R/C Expo is coming up the first weekend in April. This event which is part industry show, part builder's contest and part swap meet is a must see. Skymasters members organize a car pool every year. See Greg Cardillo for more details.

#### **Show and Tell:**

- Joe and Chris Hass showed a foam board electric plane that came along in the deal with a used electric engine purchase. It has not flown yet, but looks quite capable.

- Jack Goodrich brought in a very unique Arrow model. The arrow is powered by an OS 46FX and weighs 5 1/2 pounds.

The show-and-tell raffle was won by Jack Goodrich.

**This year's tentative Events Schedule** was reviewed. We still are in need of Event Directors for the Midwest Regional Float Fly and the Chet Brady Memorial Float Fly.

Ross Jones shared some ideas for MWRFF Super Prize. Some possibilities include a Fleet Biplane ARF on floats, a Ryan STA-M ARF and a 9 channel Futaba 9Z radio.

There will be no judged competition prizes this year.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00