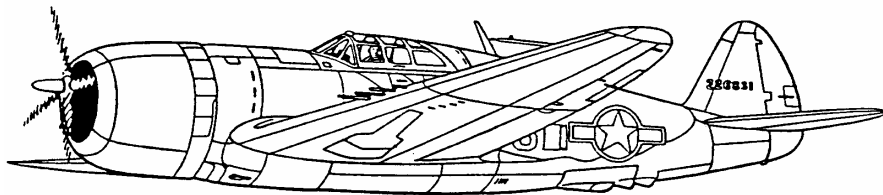


THUNDERBOLT



VP Comments –

Pres. Aaron Avery is vacationing until the end of July as he wrote in the July Thunderbolt. The big news is that the Air Show is a GO! Tickets have been mailed to you, flyers have been called and all aspects of the show are in motion. So...to recap, we need to get the field ready and worthy of an Air Show. The fields

AUGUST CLUB MEETING MONDAY – August 5th – 7:00 PM

LANG FIELD

10 Mile Road – between Wixom and Napier Roads

Guest Speaker
Nationally Acclaimed Master Modeler
Archie Adamisian

and grounds need to be readied; and that means parking lot markers, tall grass cut at the entrance way and both ends of the flight line, boards and nails removed from the shelter, field rolled, pit area staked out, junk around the shelter thrown away, tents erected, food service area set up, porta-johns cleaned up and marked and other numerous items that will come up.

It is most important that the club have a great turn out of members and tools for the field prep, Friday, starting at 6 PM, July 26. We could use a small tractor to roll the field with the club roller. Call or e-mail me with any questions about tools or work details. (see below)

Let's make this a good turn out of members. This is a great showcase for the club. See you at the field – Don

**2002
RibCracker
Board
of
Directors**

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RIBCRACKER WEB PAGE: <http://www.ribcrackers.org>

July Meeting Minutes – July 1, 2002

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM. VP Don Unsworth was acting for Pres. Aaron Avery who was away on vacation. New members were introduced and greeted by all present.

Treasurer's Report – All is well. Most members have renewed their memberships and new members continue to trickle in.

Secretary's Report – Any members who have not paid their dues should do so immediately. Any questions on membership or dues should be directed to the Secretary.

Old Business – the club lost their bid for the flying site in Lyon Twp. Recreation area. Questions and comments were made by the members present. If you have any questions, see Cris Burkhalter, Joe DiDia or Aaron Avery.

New Business – Air Show – the church and the City of Novi are requiring a permit for this year's Air Show. The club found out about it late and there were some questions concerning if the club had enough time to pursue the issue through all the city channels. Joe DiDia asked the club for opinions and the membership approved a motion to continue and move ahead as planned.

Field Search – Please look again at Aaron Avery's message about all of us looking for a new field in last months Thunderbolt. It was well written and to the point. All of us need to get into the search, our future depends on obtaining a new field.

Thunderbolt – Dennis Robbins has agreed to come out of retirement and finish up this year as editor. Thanks Dennis and send him your articles for publication.

The August meeting will host guest speaker Archie Adamisian, a long time acclaimed modeler. He also happens to be a former student of Don Unsworth, so it should be interesting. This should be a "must attend" meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted – Don Unsworth

"FUN FLY FRACAS" or "WHO HAS AN EXTRA PROP" CONTEST by Dave Schiavolin

The second fun fly contest of the year has come and gone and believe me we have broken some new ground. Sorry, I couldn't help that. Anyway, if some of you remember or even if you don't the first fun fly was won by Tom Bacsanyi, with Chris Brewer in second place, and Jim Newcomb in third. I believed this set us up for a grudge match at the second event which was held on July 7. Well as these things usually go, Tom couldn't make it to this event so we had some new names in the top three.

1 st place ----- Dave Ford
2 nd place ----- Chris Brewer
3 rd place ----- Keith Neff

As usual tremendous controversies surrounded each event, primarily due to the vast sums of money involved. Therefore, I believe a recap is in order for two primary reasons, first to explain some of the events, and secondly to fill up some space in this newsletter.

To start, we had a high altitude bomb drop contest. You can read high altitude to mean anything higher than ground level. Fortunately, some of the contestants did manage to hit the field. Actually you could receive points for hitting Novi, but I am not at liberty to divulge if anyone missed this goal. In any case, Dave Ford and Chris Brewer tied this event and so we moved on to the second.

The second event was a Balloon Bust Event. This one did not go as smoothly due to the continuous take offs and landings by the contestants. But after two heats, numerous broken props, engine starts and restarts, and extensive heckling and jeering from the Brewer Clan, Dave Ford ended up on top and made sure that every member of the Brewer Clan knew it. Everything ended up well though, as my bodyguards prevented anyone from approaching too closely. In any case Chris Brewer ended up in second place with Keith Neff holding up the third spot.

The final event was the world renown "Jelly Bean Race". 10 jelly beans in a cup attached to the plane, take off, loop, land and count the beans. Well folks the same old story, Dave Ford with 8 beans, Chris Brewer with 7 beans and Keith Neff with 6 beans. Frankly, I think they are all full of beans. Sorry, I've just got to try and resist that. None the less, after numerous discussions with the Brewer Clan regarding who counted the beans, the size and nature of each bean, bean position and so forth I confirmed the final results.

Congratulations Dave Ford for taking first place and thank you all for your participation.

Don't forget the final fun fly of the season will take place at the club picnic on September 15 at Lang Field.

Squawking Again by Dennis Robbins

OK kiddies, I'm back. Groan all ya want...I'll keep writing.

The flying season is in full swing and I should be able to find plenty to write – er, squawk about. As many of you know, I like to hype safety, so I'll probably head in that direction for awhile. I've been at the field lately and haven't noticed any blatant safety violations, but I have seen a few items that I feel are worth mentioning, especially since our roster now has so many new names.

I've thought about writing about painting prop tips white or a bright color, so you can see the arc, but I've done that before and only a few of you are listening. I would like to really get on the case of our instructors, since they have so much influence on our newer members, but I'd better not...they'll take it personally and lord knows I need all the friends I can get. I thought about reminding you to check nuts and bolts on every-thing to insure that all is tight. Even I've been guilty of not checking that, but somehow I've gotten away with minimal damage to the plane, although my ego went down in flames. Now, on a regular basis I check engine mounts, servo mounts, landing gears, wheel collars and everything I can get a wrench or screwdriver on.

I believe that what we really have to work on is attitude. We're playing with potentially dangerous devices that should be a lot of fun when handled properly. But sometimes things go wrong and the consequences are terrible. We can only work on our hardware, our ground handling and flying skills. So many other items are beyond our control, but that doesn't mean we should be allowed to minimize those items that are under our control. A radio glitch or a servo jamming or a glue joint breaking at the wrong time are those items generally out of our control. But when they do occur, I don't want to be near that airframe! So, how many of you range check your radio system prior to that first flight of the day?

I'll stop for a little while...give you a rest...but check out the article paraphrased below. I might make you stop and think about the unexpected.

Taken and paraphrased from the Arizona Daily Star – article by Anne Newell – late June, 2002

Radio-guided plane hits, kills it ground pilot, 60

A 60-year old Tucson man died Saturday morning when the radio-controlled plane he was operating crashed into his chest. Roger Wallace was flying the 6 and 1/2 pound plane with the Southern Arizona Modelers. He had been involved with the club for 3 years. The accident was claimed to be the freakiest of freak accidents that could possibly happen, said the club president. Wallace was pronounced dead at the scene by the local police dept.

It appeared that sunlight caused Wallace to lose sight of his plane, which had about a 5 foot wingspan and he flew the plane directly into his chest. Ironically, it was Wallace's desire for a safe hobby that had attracted him to flying RC planes. Prior to this hobby, Wallace had been a local drag-racer, but left that sport due to the inherent danger. The club president stated that the club operates in accordance to the guidelines set down by the Academy of Model Aeronautics and prides themselves on not having had any accidents in many years.

(Ed's note: Apparently, Wallace was out having a good time when he let his guard down for an instant and it cost him his life. The plane sounds like a trainer and he flew into the sun, lost sight of it and then lost his life. We all do this hobby for fun, but we have to remember the consequences if we aren't serious every time we start an engine, or neglect to check our radio gear, or check and recheck our airframes. There is a serious side to this hobby!)

Our best wishes go to Dennis Frost who was recently taken ill. For those of you who don't know Dennis yet, he's a quiet, very friendly gentleman with a tremendous amount of perseverance. While others may have given up this hobby after crashing so many planes, Dennis either repaired what he had or built new. He never stopped trying to fly and recently mastered the art of take-offs and landings. (Speaking from personal experience, some of us take a little longer to get the hang of it.) He's at the field often so until he gets back, we will miss his presence. Dennis – get well soon, keep your batteries charged and we'll look for you at Lang.

HELP!!!

Airshow 2002 is a GO and we need help to pull this off. Easy work and your involvement counts!

Field Prep – Friday, July 26 – starting at 6 PM

Airshow 2002 – Saturday and Sunday
July 27 & 28th

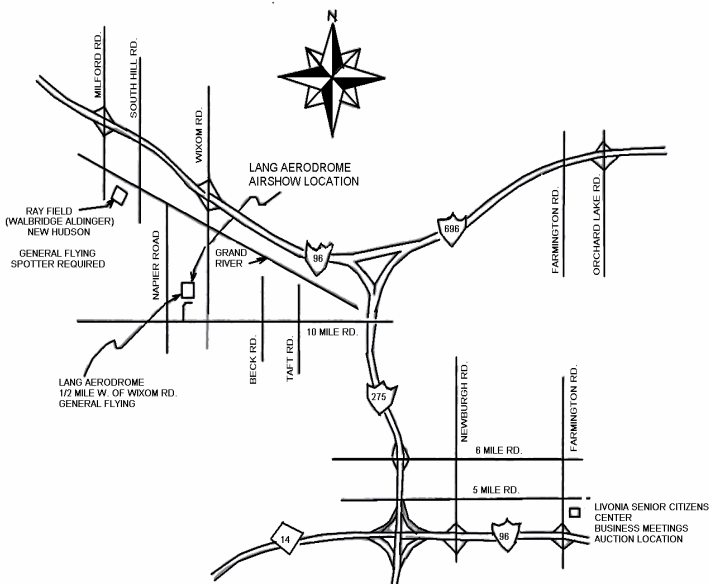
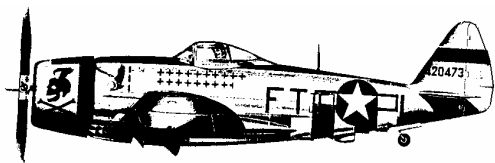
Please attend, Please help, Please work
We need everyone!

Questions – Call Joe DiDia: 248-348-9114

Local Coming Events -

July 26	Ribcracker Air Show Preparation Clean up and get Work Hours	Lang Field 10 Mile, West of Wixom Rd.	Don Unsworth 248-348-0961
July 27/28	Ribcracker Air Show Run Show and Fly	Lang Field 10 Mile, West of Wixom Rd.	Joe DiDia – Show Dir. 248-348-9114
Aug 3/4	Big Bird Fun Fly Flint Aero RC Club	Baker Field Lennon, MI	John Palmer 810-638-5704
Aug 5	Ribcracker General Meeting Airshow Results and Guest Speaker	Lang Field 10 Mile, West of Wixom Rd.	Aaron Avery 734-425-8403
Aug 17/18	Giant Air Show Fun Fly Detroit Aero Modelers	Rouge Park, Joy & Spinoza 1.5 miles East of Telegraph	Stan Spiewak 313-937-0014
Aug 24	Big Bird Fly In Bits & Pieces RC Club	Heritage Park Adrian, MI	Larry Dalrymple 734-722-2489
Sept. 9	Ribcracker Club Meeting General Club Meeting	Livonia Sheldon Park Sr. Cntr As listed – Will advise next issue	Aaron Avery 734-425-8403

Dennis Robbins
37592 Dorchester Drive
Farmington Hills, MI 48331



Ribcracker Classified

For Sale – 1/3 Scale Balsa U.S.A. Sopwith Pup – Futaba pcm1024t7up computer radio, kioritz p100 gas engine with electronic ignition, heavy duty servos – never flown but Ready to fly! Asking \$3,000-. Call bill zobel at 248-399-8080 or 248-879-0904 or don brann at 248-553-6711

Reminder to our members –

If you're the last one leaving Lang, please make sure the gate is locked and the key holder is closed fully. If the gate is not locked, we might enter to find our field or club property ruined or destroyed. Our security is your responsibility.