

THUNDERBOLT

Volume 2005, Issue 1

January 2005

RIBCRACKERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

President's Message - Jim Young

That's right, the Ribcracker's have a new President. First, I would like to thank Mike Hegyi for his leadership the last two years. He has done a fine job and I hope you will all take the opportunity next time you see him to thank him for a job well done. Joel, Gary, and Roger have agreed to stay on in their current positions and continue to keep the club humming along. Don't forget to thank them as well.

We still have the challenge of finding a new field, but we should also have time to enjoy our hobby and learn some

new things. We have some fine clinics lined up for the up coming meetings. January is workshop and favorite tool night. I'm looking for digital photos of your workshop, good or bad. We will also be having a big show-n-tell on various hobby tools, so bring in something to talk about. In February we will have Larry Markey of the Midwest R/C club in to talk about turbine powered models. In March, Dr. Keith Shaw will give a presentation on the "Golden Age of Air Racing." Expect to hear some fabulous stories and see some incredible models.



The April meeting is scheduled as ground school student night, so bring in your new trainer and have it checked out before student night starts. So, come on out in January and help get this New Year off to a good start.

Editor's Note Pad - Dave Hurt

Welcome to 2005! A new year, a few new faces in the Board, and the outlook for another flying season in a few short months. For those of you who I haven't had the chance to meet yet, I'm Dave

Hurt, the new editor. I have graciously offered my services after Dennis retired from the job, and while Dennis has done a wonderful job during his stay as Editor, (I

must say, you really can't appreciate the job he has done until you've tried it yourself!) it's my turn now so I get the chance to change a few things. The biggest change,

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Ribcrackers Board of Directors

President—Jim Young	tnjyoung@sbcglobal.net
Vice President—Joel Disbro	(734) 449-8339
Secretary— Gary Schaefer	secretary@ribcrackers.org
Treasurer— Roger Wilfong	treasurer@ribcrackesr.org
Editor— Dave Hurt	editor@ribcrackers.org
Webmaster— Dan Ray	webmaster@ribcrackes.org

Announcements

- Ribcrackers is looking for a new introduction pilot instructor. If interested, please contact Gary Schaefer for more information
- We are also still looking for someone to take over the Raffle Events. It's an easy way to get work hours!
- Since a lot of pilots are new to flying at Ray field, please be sure to observe the restrictions there. Fly low and to the east end of the field if a full scale is in the area, always fly with a spotter, and be sure to observe the flight line restrictions!
- You **must** have dues in by the March meeting or you will be charged a late fee!



Winter at Lang Aerodrome

Editor's Note Pad - cont. from page 1

besides the new layout, is going to be how we distribute the newsletter. With the great website that Mike and Dan have been working on, we now have the means to distribute the newsletter electronically. So what does this mean for you and the club? By distributing the newsletter electronically, we can cut the large cost of printing and mailing the newsletter every month. We are still going to give the membership the option to receive the newsletter in the mail, you will need to contact me and let me know. I plan on having the last mass mailing of the newsletter to be the February issue. So when March rolls around, be sure to jump on the website and check things out! The other big bonus for you is that you'll finally be able to see the newsletter in all of it's high resolution and color glory! So no more fuzzy pictures that you can't make out. Don't believe me? Jump on the website now! <http://www.ribcrackers.org> and look for the link labeled Thunderbolt.

December Meeting Minutes - Dennis Robbins

The meeting started promptly at 7:05 pm. The November meeting minutes were approved as published in the December Thunderbolt.

- **Treasurer's Report** – the club is solvent. Contact Roger Wilfong for details.
- **V.P. Report** – the plastic film was installed on the shelter at Lang field. Thanks to all that helped.
- **Safety Note:** Helping our club members fly safely is everyone's job. Don't be afraid to remind those that may have forgotten. Under all circumstances, make sure you fly in front of the flight line. While at Ray, if full-scale aircraft come into view, you **MUST** drop to a low altitude and head to the east side of the field!
- **Elections** – **Jim Young** was elected President. **Dave Hurt** will take over the newsletter. **Steve Cecale** will take over the Raffle Events.
- **Items noted** – Gift cards will be purchased and distributed to the people at Walbridge-Aldinger. The 2005 Ribcracker schedule will be posted on the website.

NOTE: Beginning with the Jan. Club Meeting, all meetings will begin at 7:30 PM.

The January meeting will cover Club member workshops and favorite tools. Please e-mail pictures of your shop to Jim Young at: tnjyoung@sbcglobal.net. The Feb. meeting will feature Larry Markley discussing jet planes and engines. The March meeting will feature Keith Shaw discussing the Golden Age of air racing. April will feature spring tune-ups for planes.

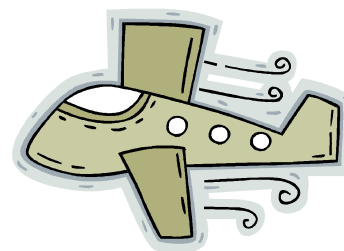
The search for a new field continues and Warren Wells is heading that committee. If you have any leads or ideas, please contact Warren. The club briefly discussed having a Swap Meet in March and this discussion will continue at the January meeting.

Model of the Month – Gerald Klose was the winner with a very pretty White and Blue Old Timer powered by an Astro 25. Roger Wilfong brought a recovered and "electrified" old plane (didn't get the name). This plane was approximately 30+ years old and had been recovered from his parent's attic. Now powered by an Astro 15, it should fly better than originally.

The meeting's speaker was Jim Young discussing and providing examples of how to repair your damaged planes. Everyone stayed to learn how the expert handles repair.

Airplane Humor

An airline pilot wrote that on this particular flight he had hammered his ship into the runway really hard. The airline had a policy which required the first officer to stand at the door while the passengers exited, smile and give them a "Thanks for flying xyz Airline." He said that in light of the bad landing, he had a hard time looking the passengers in the eye, thinking that someone would have a smart comment. Finally everyone had deplaned except for this little old lady walking with a cane. She said, "Sonny, mind if I ask you a question?" "Why no Ma'am" said the pilot, "What is it?" The little old lady said, "Did we land or were we shot down?"



More then you wanted to know about Balsa

- Balsa wood is grown in the rainforests of Central and South America and New Guinea. It is a very fast growing tree, growing about 1 1/2 inches in width and 10 to 12 feet in just 6 months after germination!
- Balsa trees are usually harvested 6 to 10 years after they are planted, and are roughly 60 to 90 feet tall and have a diameter of 12-45 inches. If unharvested, a balsa tree could grow up to 10 feet in diameter.
- Balsa wood is not the lightest wood! It only ranks about 3rd or 4th lightest wood in the world. However, the woods that are lighter then balsa are very weak and of not much use.
- Pound for pound, balsa wood can be stronger then most woods, including pine, hickory, or even oak!
- There are typically three different cuts of balsa wood: A-grain which is tangent cut, B-grain which is random cuts, and C-grain which are quarter grain cuts. A is best for sheeting rounded surfaces, B is best for flat fuselage sides, wing ribs, and slight bends, and C is best for sheet balsa in wings and tails, wing ribs, formers, and leading and trailing edges.

Get on the Thunderbolt Mailing list!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Send to:

RIBCRACKERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

2850 Carpenter Ct
Walled Lake, MI 48390

E-mail: editor@ribcrackers.org

That's right! We are going to be moving to an all electronic version of the newsletter. If you do not have access to a computer, or you really like receiving it in the mail every month, you have to let us know! We will be happy to mail you one, but we will need you to fill this form out and mail it back to us at the address listed below. February will be the last month that the Thunderbolt will be mass mailed, so be sure to let us know by then.

RIB CRACKERS
MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

2005 Event Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
January 1	First Flight of the Year	Ray Field
January 10	<i>Club Meeting</i>	Livonia Senior Citizens Center Workshop and Tool Night
February 7	<i>Club Meeting</i>	Livonia Senior Citizens Center Turbines by Larry Markey
March 7	<i>Club Meeting</i> The Golden Age of Air Racing - Keith Shaw	Livonia Senior Citizens Center
March 13	<i>Club Auction & Swap Meet</i>	Livonia Senior Citizens Center
April 4	<i>Club Meeting</i> Student Night Ground School	Livonia Senior Citizens Center
April 6	<i>Student Night Begins</i>	Ray Field
May 2	<i>Club Meeting</i>	Livonia Senior Citizens Center
May 7	<i>Air Field Clean-up</i>	Lang and Ray Fields
June 6	<i>Club Meeting</i>	Ray Field
June 19	<i>Fun Fly (Father's Day)</i>	Ray Field
July 11	<i>Club Meeting</i>	Ray Field
August 1	<i>Club Meeting</i>	Ray Field
August 6	<i>Fun Fly</i>	Ray Field
September 12	<i>Club Meeting</i>	Livonia Senior Citizens Center
September 18	<i>Club Picnic & Fun Fly</i>	Ray Field
October 3	<i>Club Meeting</i>	Livonia Senior Citizens Center
October 19	<i>Last Student Night</i>	Ray Field
November 7	<i>Club Meeting</i>	Livonia Senior Citizens Center
December 5	<i>Club Meeting & Board Elections</i>	Livonia Senior Citizens Center

All Club Meetings begin at 7:30 PM unless otherwise noted.

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2850 Carpenter Ct
Walled Lake, MI 48390

E-mail: editor@ribcrackers.org



We're on the web!

<http://www.ribcrackers.org>

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location	Contact
December 31	Krazy Snow Fly Skymasters RC Club	Scripps Road Field www.skymasters.org	Greg Brausa (248) 373-8949
January 1	1st Flying day of the Year	Ray Field, 11am—1:30pm Grand River, E. of Milford Road	
January 10	Ribcracker Club Meeting New time! 7:30 pm Workshops and Favorite Tools	Livonia Senior Citizens Center 5 Mile & Farmington, S.E. Corner	Jim Young (810) 231-1684
January 9	DAM Swap Shop 1st Swap of the Year	Morgan KC Hall Farmington Road, between 7&8 Mile	Charlie Thomas (313) 565-2973
February 7	Ribcracker Club Meeting New Time! 7:30 pm Turbine Power by Larry Markey	Livonia Senior Citizens Center 5 Mile & Farmington, S.E. Corner	Jim Young (810) 565-2973
March 7	Ribcracker Club Meeting New Time! 7:30 pm The Golden Age of Air Racing by Dr. Keith Shaw	Livonia Senior Citizens Center 5 Mile & Farmington, S.E. Corner	Jim Young (810) 565-2973