

THUNDERBOLT



FIRST AERO SQUADRON
CHAPTER 006



JANUARY CLUB MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 7TH - 7:00 PM

LIVONIA SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

LIVONIA CIVIC CENTER AREA

S.E. CORNER OF FIVE MILE AND FARMINGTON ROAD

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - AARON AVERY

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I HOPE THAT 2002 WILL PROVIDE ALL OF US WITH A GREAT YEAR OF BUILDING, FLYING, AND ENJOYMENT OF OUR HOBBY. ALTHOUGH MANY OF THE THINGS THAT WE ASSOCIATE WITH OUR HOBBY WILL REMAIN THE SAME, SOME THINGS WILL CERTAINLY CHANGE. ONE AREA OF CHANGE FOR 2002 IS THE ELECTION OF A NEW CLUB PRESIDENT, AARON AVERY (ME); TREASURER, ROGER WILFONG; AND *THUNDERBOLT* EDITOR, DAVE HURT. ON BEHALF OF THE CLUB, I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THANK YOU TO JOE DiDIA, OUTGOING PRESIDENT; GLEN WEARSCH, OUTGOING TREASURER; AND DENNIS ROBBINS, OUTGOING EDITOR FOR HIS FOUR YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE. WE WERE FORTUNATE TO HAVE HAD THEM IN OFFICE AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN. TOGETHER WITH THE RETURNING VICE PRESIDENT, DON UNSWORTH AND SECRETARY, GERALD KLOSE THE 2002 BOARD WILL WORK THEIR HARDEST TO MEET THE NEEDS AND DESIRES OF THE CLUB CONSTITUENCY IN ORDER THAT WE CONTINUE TO THRIVE AS A CLUB.

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2002
RIBCRACKER
BOARD OF
DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT - AARON AVERY (734) 425-8403 AVERY14724@AOL.COM
VICE-PRESIDENT - DON UNSWORTH (248) 348-0961 DUNSWRTH@AOL.COM
SECRETARY - GERALD KLOSE (248) 582-1803 GERALD.D.KLOSE@JCI.COM
TREASURER - ROGER WILFONG (248) 349-9079 AROGER@UMICH.EDU
EDITOR - DAVE HURT (248) 767-4639 DAVE@THE-BIGHURT.COM

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT. FROM PAGE 1

WE HAVE MANY CLUB ACTIVITIES TO LOOK FORWARD TO THIS YEAR. FIRST AND FOREMOST, THE RETURN OF THE RIBCRACKERS AIRSHOW! JOE DIDIA HAS ALREADY GENEROUSLY VOLUNTEERED TO CHAIR THIS PROJECT AND THUS, I BELIEVE WE CAN EXPECT A VERY SUCCESSFUL EVENT. JIM YOUNG HAS BEEN WORKING TO SCHEDULE GUEST SPEAKERS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES THAT WILL BOTH EXPAND OUR KNOWLEDGE OF MODEL AVIATION AND ALSO CREATE A GREATER SENSE OF CLUB UNITY. DAVE HURT, OUR NEW EDITOR AND COMPUTER WHIZ, IS HOPING TO IMPROVE OUR CLUB WEBSITE IN ORDER THAT IT WILL SERVE A MORE FUNCTIONAL ROLE IN THE CLUB. THE LIST GOES ON BUT IS OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS AND ADDITIONS. IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR A CLUB EVENT OR ACTIVITY, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO SHARE IT. REMEMBER, THIS CLUB IS WHAT WE MAKE OF IT.

AS FOR CLUB BUSINESS, THE NUMBER ONE ISSUE ON THE AGENDA IS TO SECURE A FLYING FIELD FOR THE FUTURE. WITH THE PLANS TO BUILD A CHURCH ON LANG FIELD, IT SEEMS A FACT THAT OUR FLYING DAYS ARE NUMBERED AT THAT SITE. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE ARE PROACTIVE IN THE SEARCH FOR A NEW HOME. THIS EFFORT CANNOT BE LIMITED TO JUST A FEW, BUT MUST BE EMBRACED BY ALL. THIS IS THE BIGGEST THREAT TO THE VITALITY OF OUR CLUB. LAND IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE SCARCE EACH YEAR AND THE LONGER IT TAKE US TO LOCATE A SITE, THE LESS LIKELY IT IS THAT WE WILL AT ALL. PLEASE TAKE PART IN THIS EFFORT AND FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME WITH ANY THOUGHTS, IDEAS, OR LEADS THAT YOU MAY HAVE.

FINALLY, I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT I AM HONORED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE AS PRESIDENT OF RIBCRACKERS. MY INTEREST IN MODEL AVIATION GOES BACK AS FAR AS I CAN REMEMBER. I KNOW THAT IT IS THROUGH ORGANIZATIONS LIKE RIBCRACKERS THAT PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO EXCEL IN THIS HOBBY. AS A RESULT, I WILL DO MY BEST TO CONTINUE THE VITALITY OF RIBCRACKERS AND THE HOBBY THAT IT IS FOUNDED UPON. I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH ALL OF YOU.

- AARON AVERY

MEETING CLINICS UPDATE - JIM YOUNG

TIRED OF JUST DISCUSSING CLUB STUFF AT THE MEETINGS? ME TOO! I HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO UNDER TAKE THE TASK OF SCHEDULING "MODELING CLINICS" AT THE UP COMING CLUB MEETINGS. ATTENDANCE WAS UP CONSIDERABLY FOR THE NOVEMBER MEETING WITH KEITH SHAW PRESENTING A PRIMER ON ELECTRIC FLIGHT.

FOR THE JANUARY MEETING, WE HAVE DAVE CAMPBELL COMING TO GIVE A DEMONSTRATION ON VACUUM BAGGING. WHAT IS VACUUM BAGGING? IT'S A METHOD OF ATTACHING THE SKINS TO A FOAM CORE WING THAT RESULTS IN A STRAIGHT, STRONG WING. DAVE IS A LOCAL MODELER AND MARKETS A LINE OF HIGH PERFORMANCE ELECTRIC PYLON RACER KITS WITH FOAM WINGS AND FIBERGLASS FUSELAGES. YOU CAN SEE HIS WARES AT WWW.FASTCOMPOSITES.COM. HE WILL ALSO BRING SOME OTHER NEAT THINGS FOR SHOW AND TELL. COME ON OUT AND LEARN A NEW SKILL!

THE FEBRUARY MEETING IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED AT JOE'S HOBBY SHOP. THINGS IN THE WORKS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS ARE HOT-WIRE FOAM CUTTING AND SCALE MODELING TECHNIQUES. IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS FOR A MEETING CLINIC, PLEASE LET ME KNOW AND I'LL DO MY BEST TO TRACK SOMEONE DOWN. ALSO, IF YOU HAVE A NEAT SKILL OR APPROACH TO THE HOBBY, PLEASE CONSIDER SHARING IT WITH THE REST OF THE CLUB AT A MEETING.

JIM YOUNG
(248) 437-8341 (AFTER 6:00PM WEEKDAYS)
TNJYOUNG@ISMI.NET

VP'S NOTE - DON UNSWORTH

THE LANG SHELTER IS COVERED ON ALL SIDES FOR YOU BRAVE SOULS THAT SUBJECT MAN AND MACHINE AGAINST THE ELEMENTS OF A MICHIGAN WINTER. A BIG THANKS TO LOUIE MARCON (THE PROCURER), HIS WIFE (AGAIN THE DRIVING FORCE), ROGER WILFONG (THE TOOL MAN), WARREN WELLS AND MYSELF (THE GRUNTS) FOR GETTING THE JOB COMPLETED. KEEP WARM GUYS, AND DID ANYONE EVER FIND THE MISSING HEATER?

A FEW HOUSEKEEPING REMINDERS: KEEP THE FIELDS AND SHELTER CLEAN, TAKE YOUR TRASH HOME, AND WHEN VISITING BOTH FIELDS, REMEMBER THE GROUND IS VERY SOFT, STAY ON THE GRAVEL AT LANG AND THE ROAD AT RAY. IT TOOK US ALL SUMMER TO GET THE RUTS REMOVED AT LANG.

THAT'S IT FOR NOW. HAVE FUN, THINK SAFETY, AND KEEP BOTH FIELDS IN GOOD ORDER. AND TO ALL OF US, GOOD FLYING, REPAIRING, RE-VAMPING, BUILDING, ETC. HAPPY HOLIDAYS. SEE YOU AT THE JANUARY MEETING.

EDITORS NOTES - DAVE HURT

OK, FIRST NEWSLETTER IS FINALLY DONE AND OUT! WHAT CAN I SAY THAT HASN'T BEEN SAID ALREADY? THE LANG SHELTER LOOKS GREAT, AND I'VE ALREADY USED IT TO MAKE FIELD REPAIRS OUT OF THE COLD. I'D ALSO LIKE TO THANK DENNIS FOR HELPING ME GET ON MY FEET WITH THE NEWSLETTER.

I KNOW SOME PEOPLE HAVE REQUESTED THE NEWSLETTER IN AN ELECTRONIC FORMAT. VERY SOON I WILL BE PUTTING THE NEWSLETTER ON OUR WEBPAGE. IF YOU WISH TO STOP GETTING THE NEWSLETTER BY MAIL AND GET IT THROUGH THE WEB, PLEASE LET ME KNOW AND I WILL TAKE YOU OFF THE MAILING LIST. I WILL ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT ANY ARTICLES YOU WISH TO WRITE. I JUST ASK THAT YOU GET THEM TO ME BY THE 15TH OF A MONTH SO I HAVE TIME TO PUT THEM IN. WITH ALL OF THAT SAID, HAVE FUN AND KEEP WARM!

DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES:

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER 7:10PM.

MINUTES WERE APPROVED.

REPORTS:

VICE: COVERING CLOSE TO BEING UP ON SHELTER AT LANG. HEATER IS MISSING, ASKED THAT IT BE BROUGHT BACK.

TREASURER: UNDER BUDGET FOR THIS YEAR

SECRETARY: DUES FOR NEXT YEAR NEED TO BE PAID AS WELL AS WORK HOURS

VIDEO LIBRARIAN: GOT SOME NEW VIDEOS IN

EDITOR: NEW EDITOR IS TAKING OVER STARTING IN JANUARY

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW CALANDER —

- FIRST FLIGHT: CLUB FIELD, CLUB MEMBER, EST, \$25, FIGHT WITNESSED FLIGHT, ANY AIRPLANE, EARLY AS YOU WANT, MUST BE UP FOR 2:00, LETTER WITH WITNESS SIG SENT IN
- SWAP MEET: DISCUSSED IT FOR NEXT YEAR, DECIDED TO GO FOR IT
- AIR SHOW: SUGGEST BY JOE TO DO IT NEXT YEAR

NEW BUSINESS:

JIM YOUNG: GROUP BUILDING PROJECT, FOR SPEED 400 PYLON RACERS

- LEARN ABOUT SCRATCH BUILDING, OR MAYBE BUY KIT
- ELECTRIC FLIGHT INTRO
- PYLON RACING LEAGUE, SEMI-FORMAL RACES OCCASIONALLY
- CHEAP FUN — LOOKING AROUND \$100 FOR ENTIRE KIT EXCEPT SERVO AND RECEIVER

IT'S TIME TO GO FAST AND TURN LEFT! - JIM YOUNG

ANNOUNCING THE RIBCRACKER'S ELECTRIC PYLON RACING LEAGUE. THAT'S RIGHT ELECTRIC PYLON RACING! WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT IS A SMALL, LOW-COST, ONE DESIGN, SPEED 400 POWERED RACER. COME GET YOUR FEET WET WITH ELECTRIC POWERED FLIGHT, LEARN NEW MODELING SKILLS, AND HONE YOUR FLYING SKILLS AGAINST YOUR BUDDIES.

WE HAVE CHOSEN THE ACE "SIMPLE 400" AS THE AIRFRAME FOR OUR RACERS. THIS IS A 34" SPAN, MOLDED FOAM WING AND BOX FUSE MODEL. IT ALSO MAKES A NICE SPORT FLYER THAT YOU CAN THROW IN YOUR TRUNK AND FLY ON YOUR LUNCH HOUR. WE WILL POWER THEM WITH A 6V SPEED 400 MOTOR AND 7X600AE CELLS. IS ALL THIS GREEK TO YOU? DON'T WORRY; WE PLAN ON HOLDING SOME CLINICS TO HELP YOU GET STARTED.

WE'VE WORKED A DEAL WITH JOE'S HOBBY SHOP TO PROVIDE A COMPLETE FLIGHT PACKAGE INCLUDING:

- ACE SIMPLE 400 KIT
- 6V SPEED 400 MOTOR
- 10AMP ESC
- 7X600AE BATTERY PACK
- APC "RACING" PROPELLER
- PROPELLER ADAPTER
- SERMOS CONNECTORS

ALL FOR THE INCREDIBLY LOW PRICE OF \$99.99! JUST ADD YOUR RADIO, GLUE, COVERING, AND GO FLYING. ADD A FANCY, MACHINED SPINNER FOR ANOTHER 10 BUCKS OR A QUICK FIELD CHARGER FOR ANOTHER \$40 AS PART OF THE PACKAGE DEAL.

A RACING LEAGUE WILL BE FORMED THIS SPRING ON SUNDAY AFTERNOONS. THE RACECOURSE WILL CONSIST OF 2 PYLONS POSITIONED AT THE FAR CORNERS OF THE FIELD. SPORT FLYING WILL BE ALLOWED BETWEEN THE HEATS SO WE WON'T TIE UP THE FIELD. FOUR PLANE HEATS WILL BE HELD WITH THE MOST LAPS COMPLETED IN 4 MINUTES DETERMINING THE WINNER. EACH PILOT WILL HAVE A SPOTTER WHO WILL COUNT LAPS AND WATCH FOR CUTS FOR THEIR PILOT. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF LAPS COMPLETED IN YOUR BEST T.B.D. HEATS WILL DETERMINE THE LEAGUE CHAMPION. THIS WAY YOU WON'T BE OUT OF THE RUNNING IF YOU MISS A WEEK OR TWO. TIES WILL BE BROKEN AT THE END OF THE SEASON BY A FLY-OFF OF TEN LAPS. THE EMPHASIS WILL BE ON FUN AND FRIENDLY COMPETITION. AT THE VERY LEAST, YOU'LL COME AWAY WITH A NICE FLYING SPORT PLANE. THESE ARE THE ROUGH RULES WE ARE PROPOSING AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. WE WELCOME YOUR SUGGESTIONS.

SO YOU WANT IN ON THE FUN? WHAT DO YOU DO NEXT? COME TO THE JANUARY MEETING FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SIGN UP. CAN'T MAKE THE MEETING? THEN CALL JIM YOUNG (248) 437-8341 (AFTER 6:00PM ON WEEKDAYS). WE WILL BE TAKING ORDERS FOR THE FLIGHT PACKAGES AT THE JANUARY MEETING, AND YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PICK THEM UP AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING AT JOE'S HOBBY SHOP. BY SIGNING UP NOW, YOU ARE PROMISING TO PURCHASE A FLIGHT PACKAGE. JOE'S IS GOING TO BULK PURCHASE A BUNCH OF THIS STUFF TO HELP GET THE PRICE DOWN, BUT WE MUST HAVE FIRM COMMITMENTS THAT YOU ARE GOING TO BUY THEM.

FROM THE RESPONSE AT THE DECEMBER MEETING, IT LOOKS LIKE WE'LL HAVE QUITE A FEW RACERS. SO COME JOIN THE FUN!



NAME THE PLANE - THE WINNER WILL RECEIVE A 2 OZ. BOTTLE OF CA.
SEND ENTRIES TO DAVE@THE-BIGHURT.COM

A BUM JOKE

A BUM ASKED A MAN ON THE STREET FOR \$2.00
"WILL YOU BUY BOOZE?" THE MAN ASKS, TO WHICH THE BUM REPLIES, "No."
"WILL YOU GAMBLE IT AWAY?" ONCE AGAIN THE BUM REPLIES, "No."
"WILL YOU MAKE BETS AT THE GOLF CORSE?" THE BUM REPLIES, "No."
"WILL YOU SPEND IT ON MODEL AIRPLANE THINGS?" ONCE AGIAN THE BUM REPLIES, "No, I DON'T FLY MODEL AIRPLANES."
THEN THE MAN ASKS, "WILL YOU COME HOME WITH ME SO MY WIFE CAN SEE WHAT HAPPENS TO A MAN WHO DOESN'T DRINK, GAMBLE, PLAY GOLF, OR FLY MODEL AIRPLANES?"

FROM THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA MODELERS ASSOCIATION

FIRST FLIGHT OF THE YEAR

FIRST DOCUMENTED FLIGHT OF THE YEAR WILL WIN \$25.
WE'VE SET DOWN SOME RULES THAT YOU'LL NEED TO FOLLOW THOUGH:

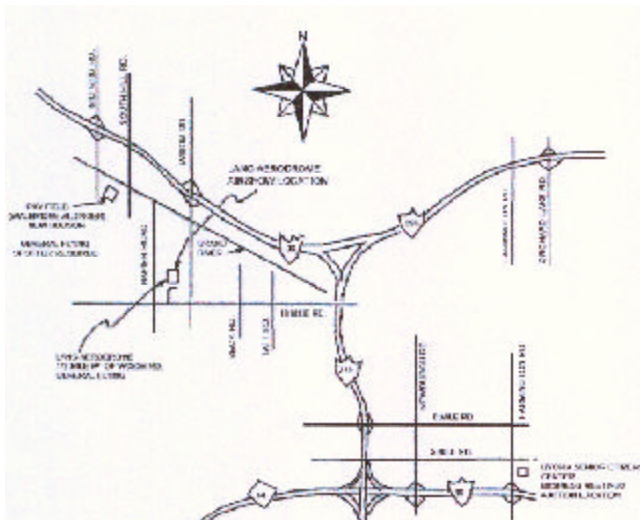
1. MUST HAPPEN AT EITHER LANG OR RAY FIELDS.
2. MUST HAPPEN AFTER MIDNIGHT, EASTERN STANDARD TIME.
3. FLIGHT MUST BE WITNESSED. WITNESS MUST SIGN TO VERIFY THE FLIGHT. SORRY, NO PETS ALLOWED AS WITNESSES
4. YOU MUST BE IN THE AIR FOR 2 MINUTES. YOU CAN FLY AS EARLY AS YOU WANT; THE NORMAL 10 AM LIMIT DOES NOT EXIST FOR THIS NIGHT.
5. YOU CAN FLY ANY PLANE, THE SOURCE OF POWER DOES NOT MATTER.
6. YOU MUST BE A CLUB MEMBER. NO GUESTS

REMEMBER TO GET YOUR DUES FOR 2002 IN!

LOCAL COMING EVENTS

- JANUARY 1ST - FIRST FLIGHT OF THE YEAR CONTEST. LOCAL MEMBERS ONLY
ANNUAL 1ST FLIGHT OF THE YEAR. PRIZE FOR FIRST DOCUMENTED FLIGHT. SEE INSIDE FOR RULES
- JANUARY 7TH - RIBCRACKER CLUB MEETING.
LIVONIA SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER
- JANUARY 13TH - SWAP & SHOP. MONAGHAN K OF C HALL, 19801 FARMINGTON RD
DETROIT AEROMODELERS. MIKE CUBA (734) 522-7638

Dave Hurt
2850 Carpenter Ct.
Walled Lake, Mi 48390



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 DE-
STROYED. OUR SECURITY IS YOUR RESPON-
SIBILITY.