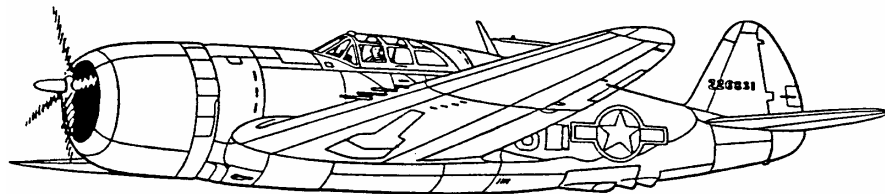


# THUNDERBOLT



## NOVEMBER CLUB MEETING

MONDAY – NOVEMBER 4th – 7:00 PM

Livonia Senior Citizens Center

5 Mile & Farmington Roads – South-East Corner

### President and Vice President's Report. . . by Don Unsworth

The wind was gusting at least 20 knots, the sky was heavily overcast with a very low ceiling and the air temperature was steadily dropping as the morning grew to a close. That was the setting for the last fun fly of the year and the annual club picnic. However, the twenty field entrance flags were brilliantly flying, vehicles strategically placed around the shelter for wind control, the master chef was at the grill and 25 members and families consumed gourmet hot dogs, chips and sodas. The jovial onlookers were delighted and dazzled with the flying performances displayed by fun fly contestants. I believe that all those who turned out had a great time and we had food for many more. I want to thank Dave Schiavolin for putting on the fun fly (The bombs were great in the stiff wind), and Ralph Hegadorn, who had the warmest spot under the shelter, for again serving as a most competent chef. Cont. Page 2

**2002  
RibCracker  
Board  
of  
Directors**

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

**November President's Comments.....Continued from page 1**

When you read the minutes of the October meeting you will note that a tentative agreement has been struck with MISS on their proposed flying site and our club has given the executive board permission to finalize it as discussed at the meeting. Hopefully we will get this completed soon. Also, we saw some fine craftsmanship in building, displayed with two models. I wonder what all of you are building or planning? Again, Jim Young performed another terrific demonstration, this time on hot wire cutting of foam. Thanks, Jim. It really struck me as fun and I plan to do some in the future.

By the time you read this, daylight savings time will be here, student nights will have ended and flying hours diminished. I want to impress on all of us to use common sense when flying at Lang. You have no doubt noticed the increased building activity going on north of the field. Please don't irritate the working crews. We want them to be an ally; not something quite different.

Please consider running for office. I have been an officer for three years and it has been a lot of work along with fun and I've really gotten to know our club. I need a break. So, please consider it. Give me a call.

One last note: Give Jim Young a call on a subject for a club demonstration. See you at the November meeting and good flying.

**The Editor's Squawk-box** – by Dennis Robbins

The ever shy, quite and sometimes even recluse Jim Newcombe (are you choking yet?) must have a lot of free time on his hands because he keeps sending me bits and pieces to include in our newsletter. Well, he finally hit on, what I believe, is a great topic – POLITICS!! Now you're probably excited! Read on...Jim reminded me that with our AMA membership renewal, comes a ballot which enables us to vote for our district VP. Running for District VII (that's us) is Bill Oberdieck (the incumbent) and Dave Gish (past VP). Jim's point was that as a club, we've had little positive assistance from Bill. When we asked for help with the MISS issue, Bill said something to the effect: "Settle it yourselves, or the AMA will." *Thanks Bill.* I also know that I've always included our district VPs in our newsletter mailings, yet Bill has commented that he gets no information from our club – not true. And I don't believe that Bill has ever taken the time to visit our club – meetings or airshows or swap-meets or anything.

Dave Gish was our DISTRICT VII VP a few years back until a battle with cancer caused him to step down. According to his running statement in the Nov. AMA Model Aviation, he's healthy and back, ready to run for office. If you've been around for a few years, you may remember Dave joining the Ribcrackers during a summer Air Show, for the entire weekend. He flew (I think he crashed) but then he stayed to help out. He's retired now and plans to spend his time traveling within the district, helping clubs and supporting model aviation. Personally, I met Dave about 12 years ago when he and I shared an office building's corridor and he "re-introduced" me to model planes and for the first time to RC aircraft. He took me to the DAM field and showed me how he flew a small Balsa USA Taube and then an aerobatic "something". I watched in awe as he lifted off, flew around and then brought the plane back to earth and taxied it back to himself. I was sold! Over the couple of years we shared space in that office building, he helped me to build planes and pointed out areas where I could improve my techniques. He was the helpful and friendly type of guy that personifies so many in our club. He would fit right in. If you want to read more about Dave, check out page 162 in the November Model Aviation magazine.

With our quest for finding a new field, we're going to need all the help we can get. Finding the place to fly is hard enough, but overcoming the legal battles is even tougher. We need someone who will take an interest in our needs and really help us out. I believe that this is one of those few times that your vote will make a difference. I'd like to believe that most of our members will be renewing their memberships with the AMA (and hopefully with the Ribcrackers), so you will get a chance to vote.

Please vote for Dave Gish and help all of us get the AMA assistance we deserve, when we need it.

Thanks for the idea Jim.....got any others? (I mean that are printable...)

**October Meeting Minutes – October 7, 2002**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 sharp. Minutes were approved as presented. The treasurer passed out a copy of the financial report. There were no objections. Membership renewal time is coming up. Please make sure that your work hours are properly recorded. If you have any questions please get with Don Unsworth.

No old business.

New business:

- MISS – The VP of MISS and Don Unsworth met and hammered out a basic agreement.
- ◇ Joe Didia put it into legaleze and it was read to the membership at the meeting.
- ◇ Much of the discussion centered around AMA reducing the minimum distance between clubs from 3 miles to 2 miles providing there is no interference detected. So far there has been no evidence of interference. Testing was done using Pete Water's equipment and two people flying the same frequency. Don has the full report if anyone is interested.
- ◇ A closely related topic of contention revolved around the provision to close our field when MISS is having a special event or vice versa. The argument was based on the fact that since there is no evidence of interference then there should be no need. It was mentioned that if we hold out the possibility that there may be interference in the document that it may be used against us in the event there was an incident.
- ◇ It was agreed that there would be no mention in the document of frequency sharing requirements or of the possibility of interference. It was also agreed that a reciprocity deal would be acceptable. (We could fly at each other's fields.
- ◇ Joe Didia moved that the board be given the power to enter into an agreement with MISS. (motion seconded by Jim Young)
- ◇ Ralph mentioned that there were construction crews and equipment at work near Lang field and it would be best to stay away from them. We don't want to endanger our remaining time at the field by flying into them.
- ◇ Tom Bacsanyi related a story of what appeared to be excessive gravity acting on his P51 on take off. It seems as the plane left the ground the plane was brought back down. Slowly at first and then more rapidly in spite of full up elevator input. Tom went to retrieve the model expecting it to be badly damaged. However, he found the model with only a broken prop. It also became clear what had happened. Apparently at take off the plane snagged a length of Mono-filament line which then snagged on the weeds at the end of the field. This had the effect of a carrier landing where the model was slowed enough to prevent damage when it hit the ground. Jim Newcomb owned up to being the owner of the line and that the line had been lost by him earlier in the week.
- ◇ The need for new rules governing student night was brought up. Who can teach; how many times a student will be taught before we would require him to become a member; etc.... This sounds like a great winter project for the new board members.
- ◇ Speaking of board members. It is time to think about next year's board. Don Unsworth and Gerald Klose have served for several years and it is time to give someone else a chance. It isn't hard. It just requires a few hours per month plus you get free membership and your work hours are taken care of.

Model of the month:

Tom Bacsanyi brought in an electric P38 model with 2 Promax cobalt motors. He said it flew well and fast. Very cool.

Though not in the competition, Dick Gallagher brought in a British kit in progress: "President". Power will be provided by a G23. Dick brought in his project to dispel any rumors that he only builds ARF's. The kit needed some finishing touches before it could be covered but was coming together nicely.

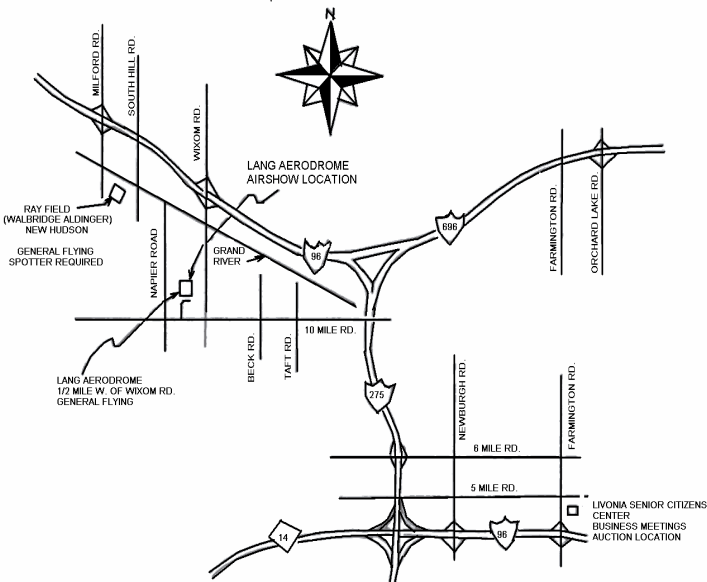
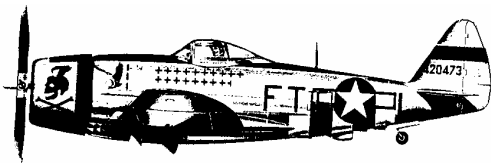
After the raffle, which was a 50/50, Jim Young demonstrated foam cutting techniques. Tips included how to build and power your own foam cutting "bow" and how to make the templates. While it still seemed more of an art than a science some of the mystery was taken out of the process. Jim also showed his latest project, a B29, in progress with the foam core fuselage and wings, which he cut out himself, already sheeted with balsa. This promises to be a very sharp model powered by 4 speed 400 motors. Thanks again Jim. Looking forward to seeing the finished product.

Respectfully submitted by Gerald Klose

Local Coming Events -

10-27	2nd Annual Swap Till Drop Pontiac Miniature Aircraft Club	Waterford Oaks Community Cntr Telegraph N. to Pontiac Lake Rd. W. to Watkins Lk. Rd (go straight) - it will be on your right	Don Hines 248-681-2752
11-3	15th Annual Swap Meet Midwest RC	Northville Comm. Center 303 W. Main, Downtown Northville	Rudi Reinhard 248-643-4509
11-4	Ribcracker Club Meeting Monthly Club Meeting	Livonia Senior Citzns Cntr 5 Mile & Farmington Rds. SE Corner	Aaron Avery 734-425-8403
12-2	Ribcracker Club Meeting Club Meeting & Elections	Livonia Senior Citizens Cntr 5 Mile & Farmington Rds. SE Corner	Aaron Avery 734-425-8403

Dennis Robbins  
37592 Dorchester Drive  
Farmington Hills, MI 48331



**Attn: All Ribcrackers**

If you're flying at Lang Field and the work crews are at work around our field, please be careful to stay away from their equipment and them. We certainly don't need any accidents due to careless flying or any incidents which would cause us to loose our field.  
Thanks!