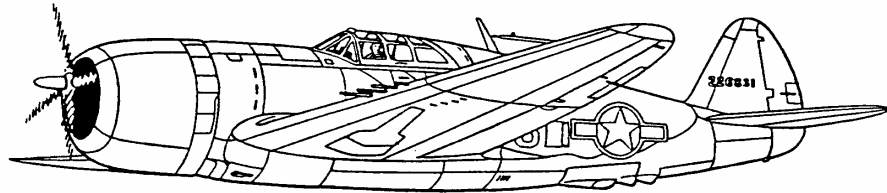


# THUNDERBOLT



## AUGUST CLUB MEETING

MONDAY – AUGUST 4th – 7:00 PM

### LANG FLYING FIELD

10 Mile Road – West of Wixom Road

Short Meeting – Promise!

Bring your plane – We'll have time to fly!

## FUN FLY – August 10

All flying skill levels are invited to attend and participate in the August 10 Fun Fly  
Registration starts at 9:00 AM and flying commences at 10:00 AM.

Contests to see who can master their luck (er...aircraft) and beat all comers

Students will be assigned an instructor for assistance - no excuses for not flying!

Fly whatever you've got – no limits or limitations – thrills and fun for all

Prizes to the top 25 finishers

**RIBCRACKER MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED!**

**2003  
RibCracker  
Board  
of  
Directors**

*President - **MIKE** Hegyi / 43422 West Oak Drive, #306 Novi, MI 48377*

*Phone: 248-669-7583 (E-mail: [shfflmaster@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shfflmaster@sbcglobal.net))*

*Vice-President – **Joel** Disbro / 10795 McNally, South Lyon, MI 48178*

*Phone: 734-449-8339*

*Secretary - **John** Gavasso / 29049 Kendallwood, Farmington Hills, MI 48334*

*Phone: 248-553-4783*

*Treasurer - **ROGER** Wilfong / 24380 Hampton Hill, Novi, MI 48375*

*Phone: 248-349-9079 (E-mail: [aroger@umich.edu](mailto:aroger@umich.edu))*

*Editor - **DENNIS** Robbins / 37592 Dorchester, Farmington Hills, MI 48331*

*Phone: 248-661-3562 (E-mail: [drobbins@ameritech.net](mailto:d Robbins@ameritech.net))*

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

**July Meeting Minutes – July 7, 2003**

At exactly 7:06 PM, most of the Ribcracker members present licked their fingers clean of pizza residue (thanks to Mike Hegyi) and our July meeting began. The June meeting minutes were approved as reported in the July Thunderbolt.

**Pres. Report:** The Ribcrackers still need to find a field for future use, please keep looking and report all leads back to Mike Hegyi.

**Treas. Report:** The club remains solvent. For details, please contact Roger Wilfong.

**V. P. Report:** Problems are occurring with trash being left behind at the field. This is a continuous problem and all members are **STRONGLY** requested to take everything you bring to the field, back home. No trash should be left behind.

**Editor's Report:** Events to attend during July were noted.

**New Business:** At Ray Field, the Walbridge staff has increased from 4 to 5 people, so a request was made to also increase the Ribcracker donation (an extra \$25). This request was unanimously approved by all present. The Ribcrackers have been approached by the U.S. F3A Aerobatics Team for donations prior to their leaving for Poland. This request was briefly discussed and tabled.

**IMAC Meet** – Joe DiDia and Jim Gatewood have secured an IMAC meet at Lang Field during the weekend of Aug 15, 16 & 17. Joe mentioned that he expects from 30 to 40 IMAC flyers there during the weekend, with many of them having National recognition. There will be no admission charge, however food will be sold and the Ribcrackers will have an opportunity to make a few dollars. Many people have already signed up to help out, but if you can also help during that weekend, then please contact Joe at: 248-982-2163 or [jdidia@twmi.rr.com](mailto:jdidia@twmi.rr.com) or Jim Gatewood at: 734-464-9285 or [captjim@ameritech.net](mailto:captjim@ameritech.net). This is a great honor and privilege for the Ribcrackers, so hopefully many club members will come out to support the event. (Please see page 5 for further information on IMAC flying patterns.)

**Safety Report:** 1) Club members have been found using the parking lot area for takeoffs when their planes lack sufficient power to lift off from the grass. This activity is absolutely not acceptable due to the safety issues it raises with pilots either in the pits or at the flight line. Please use caution and respect for others while at the flying field. 2) Speaking of respect – all club members are being requested to use the pit area for setting up their planes and not the picnic table under in the pavilion. Complaints have been received from those who wish to use the picnic table for eating, or conversing. Puddles of fuel / oil on the tables surface is unnecessary – flying is an outdoor sport/hobby!

**Fun-Fly** – Next scheduled event is for August 10<sup>th</sup>. Please plan on attending and participating.

No Models of the Month were presented. No raffle took place.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted – Dennis Robbins

**Rumor-mill:** Although rarely seen in a malnourished state, it seems as if Ralph Hegadorn is threatening to quit the Student Flying Program due to weakness and light-headedness experienced after the long trek from home to Lang Field. Arriving to the promise of food and drink (from an unnamed President!), Ralph as had to gather all the strength left in his poor withered bones to keep the student program moving forward with any semblance of order. In addition to frail health due to a starved condition, it seems his faith in fellow man (er.....Mr. President) has also been shattered. (Should we get Ralph a faith healer also?) If you want to help keep Ralph from keeling over during these stressful times, it's suggested that you pack an extra sandwich in your flight box for Wednesday evenings. All contributions will be welcome. (If you pack an extra sandwich, old PB&J or bologna sandwiches are fine, but please, no tuna fish sandwiches older than one week - even Ralph has a limit!)

**Life-Time Membership**

As stated in the June Meeting Minutes, and reported in the July Thunderbolt, a motion is pending to give 3 club members lifetime memberships. The Ribcracker members were: Ed Katz, Al Luckham and Bill Hanson. During the July meeting, Al Luckham graciously declined the offer due to personal reasons. Our club by-laws state:

- 1) Life and Honorary Memberships are granted to individuals in recognition of their dedicated and unselfish service toward promoting the purpose and spirit of The Club and the hobby.
- 2) Criteria for Life and Honorary Memberships:
  - a) Recognizable actions are both significant and long lasting
  - b) Extended period of service is desired but not required
  - c) Individual is of good character
  - d) A history of support and guidance of others in the hobby, a "Role-Model" for others in the hobby

Over the years, these members have served on the Executive Boards, Newsletter Editors, hosted and supported club events, promoted model aviation at schools and supported our student training programs. Many of their activities and contributions are still being provided to our club. The club by-laws state that club members have 30 days to consider this motion and then a written ballot is required for confirmation.

This vote will take place at the August meeting. If you cannot attend, please complete the ballot below and mail it to Mike Hegi. You are urged to attend this meeting or vote by mail.

Note: Lifetime membership provides these gentlemen with free club membership for life. It does not cover AMA dues nor does it state that we (as general members) must stop heckling them at every given opportunity. Lifetime membership signifies that we are acknowledging their contributions and are trying (in a small way) to repay them for all they have given over the years.

**Ribcracker Lifetime Membership Proxy**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ vote to include the following Ribcracker members for Lifetime Membership as motioned and approved by the Board of Directors. Please circle your response and mail it to:

Mike Hegyi, 43422 West Oak Drive, #306, Novi, MI 48377. This proxy is due at Mike Hegyi's by Aug. 2nd latest!

<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>Ed Katz</b>
<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>Bill Hanson</b>

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ribcracker Website: AKA – [www.ribcrackers.org](http://www.ribcrackers.org)**

I hope you find this interesting – Mike Hurt has been putting sweat equity into our website and it is coming along very nicely. Every week he adds new pictures and features. Given a little more time, it will be with others as "Best in Class"! Mike is able to retrieve a statistics on how much "traffic" is taking a look at our club, so here's a snap-shot of what's happening:

Month of June – total requests or "hits" - 11,014

Average # of "hits" per day – 368

Distinct Hosts Served – 306

Total data transferred: 75.543 Megabytes

Most active days: Wednesday, then Sunday and then Monday and Friday having almost equal traffic

Referring sites: (Tells where people were linked to us from)

[www.hobbypeople.net](http://www.hobbypeople.net), [rcuniverse.com](http://rcuniverse.com) and then [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

Don't forget to tell Mike you appreciate his work and ask him if you can help with input – like everyone in publishing, he also needs your help!

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

The other day I received a message from the AMA Newsletter Editor that the July issue was on the web and available for viewing (go to [www.modelaircraft.org](http://www.modelaircraft.org) then click on publications). I always read this newsletter and (I feel that) because of where it's being published, it lends an "air of credibility" to the articles. Typically, I learn a few new bits to try, but I also found a few items to which I took exception. It made me stop and think about the information side of this hobby.

We all receive the AMA Model Aviation magazine (whether or not you read it is another story) but if you go a little further the list becomes endless. Our local hobby shops normally stock a few magazines and the library may have a few others as well. Books to buy or borrow are everywhere. The Internet seems endless (at least I've never found the end) on every topic and aspect of the hobby. Some of the writers are well spoken and quite obviously very experienced or experts in their field, while others are completely out of their element (plus they should learn why most writing programs have a spell check).

If you "surf-the-net" for any length of time (go and use your local library's if you don't have that service at home - your buddies will get tired of you always coming over), you can find information on almost every aspect of the exact plane, engine or radio that you're using. I generally go to: [www.rcuniverse.com](http://www.rcuniverse.com) and [www.rcairport.com](http://www.rcairport.com) during my lunch hour when it's quiet in the office. Sometimes I just go to a search engine, type in a topic and then follow the links. I've ended up in some bizarre places. What a hoot! Everyone and their brother will comment on every imaginable topic you can and often can't think of.....sort of a .....where did that come from?

Generally by the time I'm ready to sign off the Internet or put a magazine down, I've learned something that I didn't know before. Something else to store in my personal knowledge bank for use the next time I fly or repair or re-adjust or build. If you haven't quite mastered reading (???), then you might consider attending one of the many, numerous and great model airplane airshows in the area. Fuel, electric, gas, giant, jets....they're all there. And they all have wonderful people milling around just waiting to share information with you. Don't be shy, get in there and ask questions. Tell the owner of that marvelous aircraft you're admiring that you're a flyer too! So you don't fly jets or warbirds...so you only fly a trainer...don't worry about it and ask questions. Before you know it you might be flying "higher end" planes too.

Where I'm going with this, is that building, assembling, flying and repairing aren't everything this hobby has to offer. We can all learn more about whatever area within this hobby we find most enjoyable. Next time it's raining or too windy or too dark to fly, go find something to read or take an afternoon and go watch others fly. You'll be amazed at what's out there.

**IMAC**

**International Miniature Aircraft Club** - and it will soon be playing at a field near you! Make sure you head for Lang Field during the weekend of August 15, 16 & 17th. Scheduled to attend this meet are some of the top flyers in the country. Awesome flying and awesome planes. Best of all, it's free! Check out Page 5 of the Thunderbolt for the flying sequences that you'll see. Take the page with you and "score" the flying. Better yet, try some of the flying sequences yourself...what's your ranking? If you want to be part of the action, call Jim Gatewood or Joe DiDia and ask how you can get involved. (See the July meeting minutes for phone numbers and e-mail addresses.)

**Ribcracker Classified** (Rarely used but an always free service to members)

Modeler Extraordinary (and general nice guy) Don Brann is moving and needs to clear out his hanger. Offered for sale are:

1/4 scale J-3 Cub, Futaba Radio, OS Max 1.6 four cycle twin, EDR on board glow, Robart & standard LG, scale floats w/servo powered rudders and skis. Complete RTF - \$975 OBO

1/4 scale Aeronca C-3, Futaba Radio, OS Max 1.2 Mk11 twin, on-board glow. Complete RTF - \$835 OBO

1/5 scale Golden Oldie Bipe, Futaba Radio, Saito 50 four cycle. Complete RFT - \$365 OBO

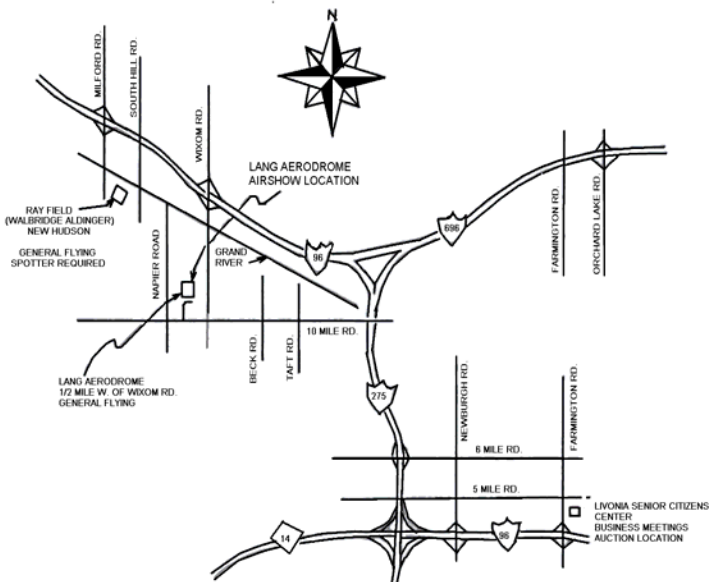
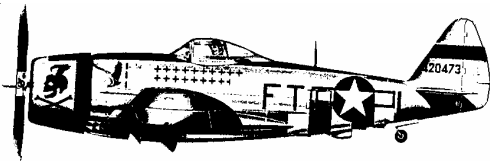
Call Don for details: (248) 553-6711



**Local Events –**

Aug 3	Warbirds & Scale Skymasters RC Club	Lake Orion Call for directions – club field	Greg Brausa 248-373-8949
Aug 4	Ribcracker Club Meeting General Monthly Meeting	Lang Field – Novi 10 Mile Rd., W. of Wixom Rd.	Mike Hegyi 248-669-7583
Aug 10	Ribcracker Fun Fly All member flying contest	Lang Field – Novi 10 Mile Rd., W. of Wixom Rd.	Dave Schiavolin 313-397-1951
Aug 15-17	IMAC Meet Competition flying – IMAC	Lang Field – Novi 10 Mile Rd., W. of Wixom Rd.	Jim Gatewood 734-464-9285
Aug 16-17	Giant Size Airshow Detroit Aero Modelers	Rouge Park Joy & Spinoza, E. of Telegraph	Stan Spiewak 313-534-3300
Aug 23	Big Bird Fly-in Bits & Pieces RC Club	Heritage Park Call for directions	Larry Dalrymple 734-516-1683

Dennis Robbins  
37592 Dorchester Drive  
Farmington Hills, MI 48331



**Summers Here!**

You should be flying your wings off by now!

Fly Safe – Fly Courteously and Fly Often!

Enjoy the weather  
and all your club has to offer!

Fair Winds and Blue Skys