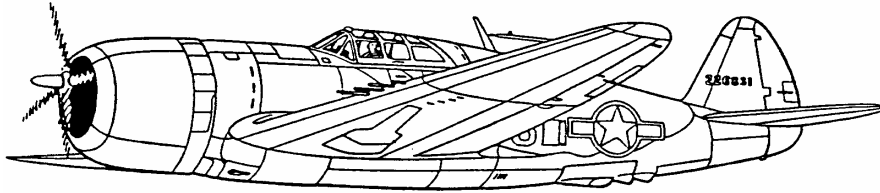


THUNDERBOLT



APRIL 2004



CLUB 2067

RIBCRACKER MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

APRIL CLUB MEETING

APRIL 5th – 7:00 PM at the LIVONIA SENIOR CITIZEN’S CENTER
5 Mile & Farmington Roads, South East Corner in the Municipal Center

Club Updates - General Meeting

Guest Speaker

JIM YOUNG - How to Monokote
Learn from the Award Winner!

President’s Message from Mike Hegyi

Both fields are soft and with student night about a week away, it must be spring. Please don’t drive on the grass at Ray field, the ruts make for a bumpy ride when Joel cuts the grass. Check with Joe Alessandrini if you can help out on student night. Some members have been flying already, but for the rest of us the year is just getting started. Give your equipment a thorough going over, make sure you charge the batteries, and remember **SAFTY FIRST**.

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2004 RIBCRACKER’S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Ribcracker March Meeting Minutes – March 1, 2004

The meeting started promptly at 7:07 PM. February meeting minutes were approved as published in the March Thunderbolt.

V.P. Report – Contact Joel if you need to check on your work hours. The fields are thawing out and are muddy / soft. Please stay on the road at Ray and on the gravel at Lang. Please be careful not to create ruts. A motion was made and passed to allow T. Bacsanyi funds to purchase some gravel for field/road repairs. Also, now that the home construction is increasing, please insure that you do not fly too far out and stay away from the road. (Note: Club members should not be flying more than 200' out from the flying field in any direction.)

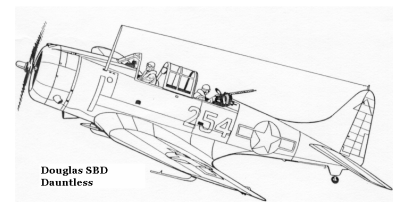
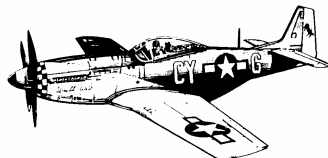
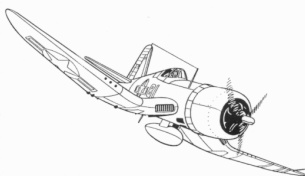
Tres. Report – the club is solvent. Contact R. Wilfong for details is required.

Updates: If you have inadvertently gone home with a frequency pin – please return it to its proper place (at the appropriate flying field!) A few pins are missing and it's causing potential problems at our fields. A request was made to update the club's radio frequency list – please submit your information as requested elsewhere in this issue.

Activity update: The Signal Seekers RC Club will again host a RC Model Airplane Show at the Livonia Mall on April 17 & 18. Contact Clayton Herse @ 313-336-3184 for more information or see the note elsewhere in this issue. The Flying Pilgrims will again host a "Fun Fly" on May 31st at their field in Canton (instead of the Willow Run Airport). All are invited to come and fly. Contact Vince Blasky @ 248-514-8532 or vblasky@aol.com for further details.

Model of the Month – Mark Freeland brought in a foam model of the Howard Huews "Hi-Racer". Power is by a speed 300 motor. (Similar to last months winner). Bill Ray brought in a Weston UK Magnum – bright yellow with black accents and it was beautiful. The manufacturer claims a top speed in excess of 200 MPH with a hot 40-50 and a tuned pipe. Bill says it's fast with his "learn how to fly it" OS40LA and a tuned pipe. Looked like it was doing 100 MPH just sitting on the table. Al Stein brought in a Soukoi 29 powered by an OS91. Painted red with white striping and it looked sharp. Winner this month was Dennis Robbins with a Big Bashed Spotted red and yellow Lazy Bee. Built from his scrap bin, the plane was lengthened at the fuse and wings and included ailerons. Power is a Magnum 40 (which should be enough). Nice job everyone!

Speakers of the Month – Joe DiDia and Jim Gatewood on servos and trimming an airplane. Jim used his 42% Extra 260 for demonstration and Joe explained the difference and benefits of using digital vs. analog servos. Also explained was the "how tos and why fors" of setting up a plane for optimum handling. Excellent demo and everyone stayed to learn how to improve their existing aircrafts. Handouts were provided to help everyone remember what was covered. Excellent job by both.



Ribcracker Meetings - If you haven't attended a meeting lately, you're missing a lot of fun. Arranged by Jim Young, we've had interesting speakers every month this year. In January, Howard Kendall covered helicopters. February had Tom Bacsanyi discussing Computer Aided Design and Joe DiDia and Jim Gatewood discussed servos and how to properly set up a plane in March. Every discussion had aircraft or parts for display and review. Q&A is a regular part of the activity. April will have Jim Young showing us how to achieve an award winning Monokote finish (he has the trophies to prove he has the skill). Write the meeting date down and don't forget to show up. Quick business updates, Model of the Month (some are very innovative) and then a presentation. See you on April 5th.

RC Plane Show at the Livonia Mall: Guys, this is a fun activity that you may enjoy. The Signal Seekers are hosting a RC Plane Show, April 17 & 18. They've done this show for many, many years. The purpose of the show is to introduce the public to the world of RC planes. To accomplish this, the Signal Seekers use the Livonia Mall (7 Mile and Middlebelt Roads) as a walking / talking / viewing showplace. Dozens and dozens of tables (about 3'x8') are set up throughout the Mall and the public gets a chance to walk around and view the incredible array of planes brought in from the local clubs. (I did this a few years ago and guys brought in everything imaginable).

The planes are brought to the Mall Friday evening, April 16, set-up and then left until Sunday afternoon. The Mall has patrol officers 24/7 for security, so your planes will be safe. During Saturday and/or Sunday, you may wish to visit the Mall and tell people about your plane, or to promote our club. Your significant other can enjoy the fun by participating with you or by shopping.

From the Ribcracker side; we need someone to help coordinate the activity. Basically, all it takes is someone who would like to participate and is also willing to keep a list of names of other club members that will support this activity. If we have 4 or 5 guys, we can get a "Ribcracker section" and display our banner. The Signal Seekers will need a fairly accurate count of participants so they can arrange for the proper number of tables. If the weather cooperates, there may be park and/or control line flying in one of the parking lots. A Signal Seeker representative may attend our April meeting, so anyone can raise their hand there and lead this activity for us. This is an easy way to have fun and pick up work hours. Dennis

Famous Ribcracker - Louis Marcon

Congratulations to Louis Marcon for getting a write-up and pictures in the April 2004 issue of AMA's Model Aviation magazine. In WWII, Louis served as a radio operator/navigator aboard Italian CANT Z bombers. Always a modeler and flyer, Louis told portions of his tale to Model Aviation and they agreed to cover his story. Make sure you check it out and see what Louis looked like with his early models and a lot of hair. It's great!

President's Message - continued from Page 1

The Swap Meet went smoothly thanks to many volunteers. Again, Vince did a great job of putting things together on short notice. I've received many phone calls from those that attended and everyone had a good time. That's great! We couldn't have done it without the volunteers; everyone knows who you are. Thanks to all. The Swap Meet pictures are on the web.

The club needs a couple of members who will make time and are willing to investigate leads into all possibilities for a new field. Please, let's not wait any longer. We're not talking about a full time job, just a little leg-work. All the members need to take an active roll in finding a new field, so contact me and we can get started.

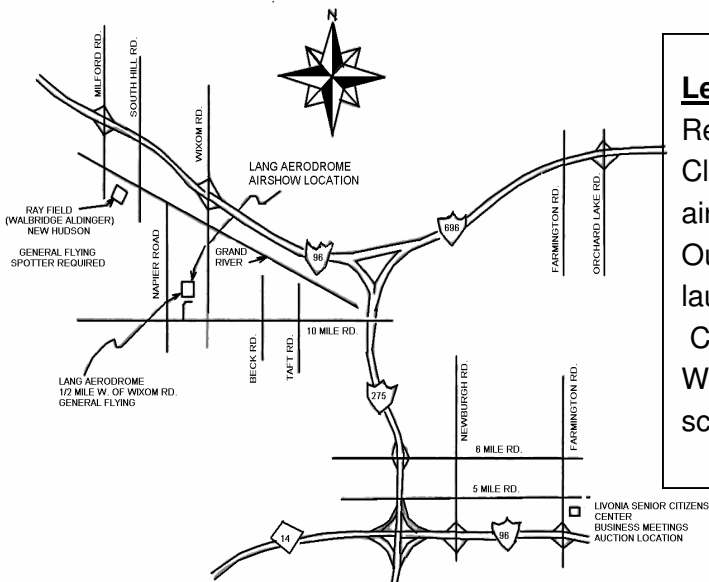
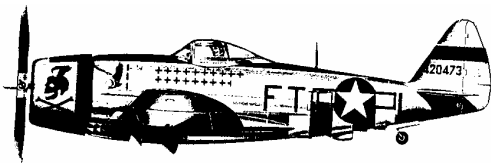
We will continue to update the web site with info, pictures, newsletter, links as well as the forum. I encourage all to register at <http://www.ribcrackers.org> In the near future there will be a "member's only" page as well. Give us some feed back about the web site. Is there something we should add or change, or do you like it as it is? Email Dan (webmaster) with your opinions.

Remember, if you want to see the latest in R/C; don't miss the Toledo Show the first week end of April. The link, with all the info & directions, is on the website. See you there... MIKE

Upcoming Events for March and Beyond

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Contact Info</u>
April 2,3, 4	Weasignals host again the Toledo Show!	SeaGate Center - Downtown Toledo, OH	www.toledoshow.com
April 5	Ribcracker Club Meeting	Livonia Senior Citizens Center 5 Mile & Farmington Roads	Mike Hegyi 248-669-7583
April 7	Ribcracker Student Night Begins	Lang Field - 10 Mile Rd. West of Wixom Rd	Joe Alessandini 810-486-2970
May 3	Ribcracker Club Meeting	Livonia Senior Citizens Center 5 Mile & Farmington Roads	Mike Hegyi 248-669-7583

Dennis Robbins
37592 Dorchester Drive
Farmington Hills, MI 48331



Let's consider this for a summer outing...
 Received from Mark Grant - VP of the Sandhill Soaring Club. Has your club ever considered taking a trip to an airport and experiencing motor-less flight in a sailplane? Our soaring club aero-tow gliders and also does winch launches on Sunday mornings. (What a hoot!)
 Check out their website at <http://sandhillsoaring.org>
 We can discuss this at an upcoming meeting and schedule accordingly.