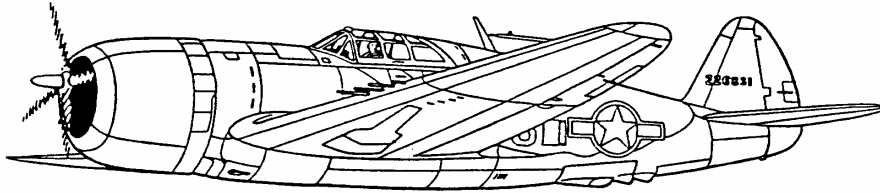


# THUNDERBOLT



**AUGUST 2004**



CLUB 2067

## **RIBCRACKER MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB**

### **AUGUST CLUB MEETING**

**Lang Field - August 2nd - 7:00 PM**  
**10 Mile Road - West of Wixom Road**

**Another short meeting and then we fly**  
**Make sure you bring a plane!**

#### **President's Message from Mike Hegyi**

We've had some great flying weather and I hope everyone has made good use of it. Summer's half over, but there's still plenty of good days remaining. Some of us were able to participate or watch air shows at other clubs as well as the NATS. Speaking of the NATS (<http://www.mini-iac.com/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabid=154>), congratulations to our club members; **Jim Gatewood**, 4<sup>th</sup> in *Advanced* and **Joe DiDia**, 9<sup>th</sup> in *Intermediate*. Nice flying gentleman!

You don't have to be as good as these guys to participate in our club's Fun Fly this month (August 8<sup>th</sup>). Just come out and have a good time. Mark Heim and Dave Hurt did a great job with the last one and they will be handling this one as well.

Continued on Page 2

#### **2004 RIBCRACKER'S 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) or [president@ribcrackers.org](mailto:president@ribcrackers.org)*

**Vice-President - Joel Disbro / 10795 McNally, South Lyon, MI 48178 Phone: 734-449-8339**

**Secretary - GARY Schaefer / 13901 W. 10 Mile Road South Lyon, MI 48178 Phone: 248-437-3898**

*E-mail: [garyj13901@cablespeed.com](mailto:garyj13901@cablespeed.com)*

**Treasurer - ROGER Wilfong / 24380 Hampton Hill, Novi, MI 48375 Phone: 248-349-9079**

*E-mail: [aroger@umich.edu](mailto:aroger@umich.edu) or [treasurer@ribcrackers.org](mailto:treasurer@ribcrackers.org)*

**Editor - DENNIS Robbins / 37592 Dorchester, Farmington Hills, MI 48331 Phone: 248-661-3562**

*E-mail: [drobbins@ameritech.net](mailto:d Robbins@ameritech.net) or [editor@ribcrackers.org](mailto:editor@ribcrackers.org)*

**Web-Editor - Dan Ray / Phone - 248-766-5193 / E-mail: [webmaster@ribcrackers.org](mailto:webmaster@ribcrackers.org)**

*E-mail: [webmaster@ribcrackers.org](mailto:webmaster@ribcrackers.org)*

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

**Ribcracker's July Meeting – July 5, 2004**

The July meeting started promptly at 7:00 pm. First order of business was to approve the June minutes as published in the July Thunderbolt.

**V.P. Report** – please make sure that you remove all items brought to the field. The rule is: If you bring it with you, make sure you take it back home.

**Treasurer's Report** – the club remains financially solvent. Contact Roger Wilfong for details.

**Secretary's Report** – the club continues to gain membership as the season progresses.

**Editor's Report** – the newsletter is available on-line if you would like to sign-up. So far, only a “hand-full” of members have taken advantage of this opportunity. Contact the Editor if you wish to reduce you intake of home-bound paper.

**President's Report** – Please keep looking for potential new flying sites. Warren Wells is heading up the field search committee and could use some help. It is now rumored that the church will break ground at Lang field this fall. Please make sure you follow the updated flying boundary rules – posted at Lang in numerous spots. That means to fly close and no flying over the road to the north or near new construction.

**New Business** – the Ray field impound box requires some maintenance. Funds are already appropriated for this activity and some of our senior members have agreed to fix the box.

**Model of the month** – no models were shown.

The meeting ended at 7:25pm and flying commenced immediately.

Respectively submitted – Dennis Robbins

**President's Message - continued from Page 1**

Should be a lot of fun, so avoid the rush and get there early. September 19th will be another Fun Fly (the last for the summer) and the Club Picnic. We will be discussing the details of the picnic at the August Meeting (2nd). Sign up to help out as well as participate in the fun fly and open flying afterwards.

Student Night has been doing well and we've had several students solo already. Could it be those computer flight simulators, or is it our hard working, highly skilled Instructors? J If you haven't been out there for student night, you've been missing some interesting times, as well as some *pizza & pop!*

The new flying restrictions at Lang have been working out very well. Many thanks to everyone for exercising care and keeping your plane within the new boundaries. Thanks for thinking safety first.

As a reminder, check the web site and the back page of the news letter to keep up on upcoming events around town. Now that the Thunderbolt is available on line, check with Dennis to have your name removed from the mailing list and read or print out a copy from the web site.

Fly Safe - Mike

**Another Fun-Fly!**

The next scheduled Fun-Fly is on August 8th. Dave Hurt and Mark Heim have agreed to be our hosts again. As the last Fun-Fly was great due to careful planning and skillful execution, this next event should be even better. Skill level required to do well is balanced to for everyone from novice to pro. The games start at 10 AM and you need to be there at least 15 minutes prior to the start. Bring your best aircraft and be ready for some “just plane fun”.

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

I've been told that we're in the middle of the 2004 flying season here in S.E. Michigan. It's been hard to tell, in-between the rain storms and the high winds. None-the-less, I've been trying to get in some flying time and expand my flying "skills" (they can use the practice).

A few weeks ago, I was flying a new for 2004 model and had a "slight mishap". Now understand, I like to build, but I think the repairing side of the hobby is a pain in the butt. I know it comes with the territory, but it's still a pain. So there I am, doing a repair and I realize that the plane has had 10 or so flights and maybe, just maybe I should give it a good checking over... especially since it's already 1/2 apart. Well, I checked the servo attachments and everything was tight. The wheel pants were a little loose, so snugging them up seemed in order. I wouldn't have lost the wheels, but when wheel pants turn in funny directions once you're in the air, it can make landings very interesting. The wheel collars were fine. Now it was time to pull the cowl and check the engine area. Guess what, nothing was loose, but I could still tighten the engine to engine mount bolts a 1/4 turn and the engine mount to firewall was also about a 1/4 turn loose...on all four bolts. Muffler bolts were tight. Hmmm! I guess the initial flights and subsequent vibration did have an effect.

Funny thing about wood. When it's compressed by a screw or through bolt, it will squeeze and lose some of its initial thickness. Vibration doesn't help either and I believe it speeds the compression "set". Because I mainly use wood props, I've become accustomed to tightening my prop nut before every flying session (yes, I have seen props leave a perfectly good engine on their own). But how often should we be checking the entire aircraft over for looseness or problem areas? Only when something fails? I don't think so ... not the way to win races... or even finish.

I think that if you fly, then you owe it to yourself to practice safety... in the air, in the pits and on your aircraft. If you fly nothing but ARFs, they're still subject to vibration and wood compression and they still need maintenance. Electric - sure the vibration is less, but they're also not fail-safe. So, as a club Safety Officer, I'd like to request that if you fly, you take or make the time to check out your aircraft regularly. Think of it as preventative actions. Preventing the loss of a perfectly good model and possibly protecting those around you.

Have fun..... but practice safety.

---

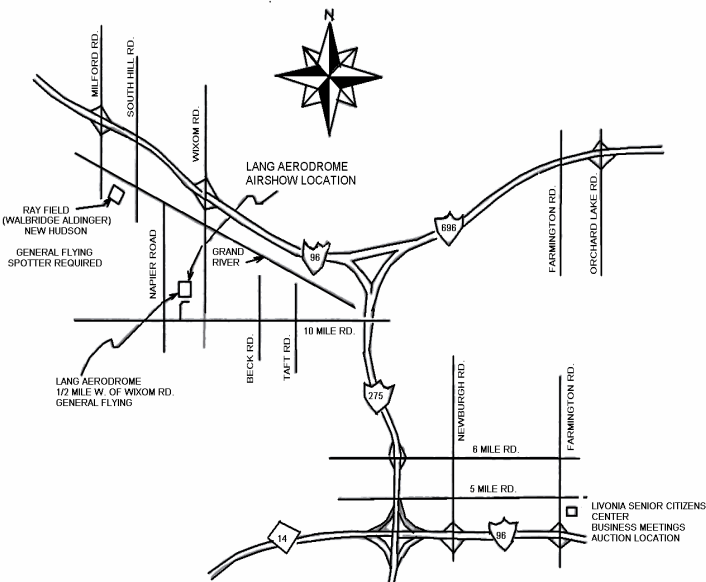
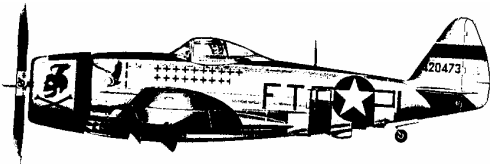
**Strange but True Facts**

- A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds – (longer than a few guys I know)
- A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time of 1/100<sup>th</sup> of a second – (don't go there!)
- A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.
- A snail can sleep for three years – (not with the racket at my house!)
- Feb. 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon – (hey Ralph, did that actually happen?)
- During their lifetime, an average American will spend 6 months waiting at red lights – (good thing the wait wasn't calculated for road construction delays in Michigan)
- On a Canadian two dollar bill, the flag flying over the Parliament building is an American flag – (must have been some past war thing)
- Tomatoes and cucumbers are fruits
- Women blink nearly twice as much as men – (but not intentionally – that's blink, not wink)
- When Coca-Cola began to be sold in China, they used characters that would sound like "Coca-Cola" when spoken. Unfortunately, what they turned out to mean was "bite the wax tadpole". It did not sell well – (replace that marketing department!)

Upcoming Events for August and Beyond - Mostly Local

Aug 1	Warbirds and Scale Fly-In	Lake Orion	Carl Brusa
	Skymasters RC Club	Club Field	248-373-8949
Aug 7	Open House Fly-In	Holly, MI	Ed Kincer
	Holly Cloud Hoppers	I-75 exit 101 follow the signs	810-629-0928
Aug 21	Big Bird Fly-In	Heritage Park	Larry Dalrymple
	Bits & Pieces	Adrian, MI	734-516-5940
Aug 21/22	Great Lakes IMAC	Grand Ledge	Joe DiDia
	Capitol Area RC	Club Field	248-348-9114
Aug 21/22	Giant Size Air Show	Rouge Park	Stan Spiewak
	Detroit Aero Modelers	Joy & Spinoza	313-534-3300
Aug 28/29	Wolverine Classic	Northville, MI	Tom Mitchell
	Midwest RC Club	5 Mile, West of Beck	734-426-3009

Dennis Robbins  
 37592 Dorchester Drive  
 Farmington Hills, MI 48331




---



---

This space for rent or free advertising of RC Stuff to club members. Contact the editor.