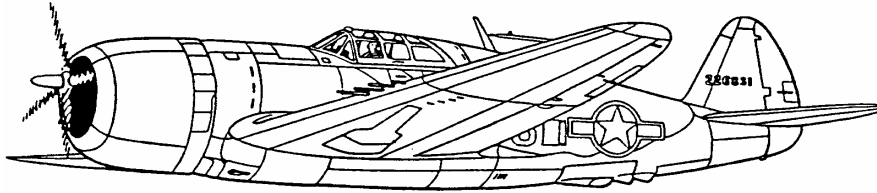


THUNDERBOLT



DECEMBER 2004



CLUB 2067

RIBCRACKER MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

DECEMBER CLUB MEETING - December 6th - 7:00 PM

LIVONIA SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER - 5 Mile & Farmington Roads - S.E. Corner

ELECTIONS NIGHT - PLEASE ATTEND - RUN FOR OFFICE & VOTE!

PLUS!! - Fix that ARF or Other Plane

Jim Young will show you how to get that bird back into the air.

See the Back Page for Details!

President's Message from Mike Hegyi

December is here, and so is winter. I hope all had a good Thanksgiving. If you haven't been out to Lang lately, Joel and a few helpers put up the plastic so ALL of us will benefit. I'm sure you'll thank him this winter while you're thawing out. Joel also did a good job in taking care of the grass at both fields this year. As most of you know, I have decided to let someone that can devote more time to take over as President. I've enjoyed the privilege and responsibilities of being the president for the last 2 years and I will still help out where needed. Continued on Page 3

2004 RIBCRACKER'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Ribcracker's November Meeting Minutes– November 1, 2004

The November meeting started promptly at 7:09 PM. The October meeting minutes were approved as published in the November Thunderbolt.

Treasurer's Report - the club is still solvent. See Roger for details if desired.

V.P. Report - the mowing season is over. Visqueen will be installed on the shelter at Lang field within the next few weeks. Helpers are requested for this easy task.

News - activity continues on a new field search. Warren Wells was not present to provide an update. For the 2005 year, the President, Newsletter Editor and Raffle Chairperson positions are open. Elections will be held at the December meeting. The topic of holding an Swap Meet and Auction was raised, but was tabled until more members are present to vote. The question was raised (again) concerning moving the monthly club meeting back to a start time of 7:30 PM. After a brief discussion, a motion was made and approved. A final announcement will take place in December and starting in January, 2005, the new meeting starting time will begin. Don Unsworth provided a report on the Detroit Charter H.S.'s visit to Lang Field and the student's reactions. Everything was positive. A news report appeared in both the Northville Record and the Novi News on the subject. Good P.R. for the club!

The meeting then changed into a demonstration by Jim Young on How to Monokote. The group paid close attention to Jim and everyone learned a few new "tricks" on how to perfect this craft. Thanks to Joe's Hobby for providing some of the supplies used by Jim. The meeting ended a little after 9 PM.

Respectfully submitted - Dennis Robbins

From the fertile mind of Jim Young

At the December club meeting, Jim will show how to fix that broken plane. Bring any "bashed-up" ARFs or kit planes you have and Jim will show you where and how to fix that plane. Jim will show us how to examine the carnage, decide what must be done and he will then show us where and how to make strong, useable repairs. This will be good for most of us, so bring something that you broke during the flying season and learn how to do the repairs.

For the January club meeting, Jim plans to have a "Workshop" night, but he needs some help. He's requested that our membership take pictures of their workshops and share them with the rest of the club - good and bad. Any digital pictures can be sent to Jim at: tnjyoung@sbcglobal.net and Jim will bring a projector to share your pride and joy or disgrace with the rest of us. Along with showing pictures of workshops and discussing the good and bad, Jim is requesting that you bring some of your favorite tools for show and tell. The entire idea is to help our membership learn what are useful tools for our hobby.

The February club meeting will be "Turbine Night". Jim has secured Larry Markey, who's been using turbine engines and planes for years, to come to our meeting to show us the ins and outs of Turbine engines and planes. This promises to be interesting and a heads up kind of meeting. Many of our membership likes to fly fast planes, so this will give you insight into the fastest and strongest planes in the RC Hobby.

Other future meetings will include: **Working with plastics**: Jim needs someone who can work with ABS wheel pants and cowls and canopies and show our membership how to assemble and mount them on a plane so they don't break. Any offers? **Scratch building techniques**: This would cover things such as transferring plans to wood, cutting parts, wood selection, etc... **Pre-Student Night** in **April** or **May** may be a good time to hold a student night meeting where students bring in their models for check-out and ground school. Or bring in a repaired plane for a check-out? **Programming Computer Radios**. Jim will try and get several guys that are comfortable with their radios, break up into small groups or workshops and people would pick the session closest to their own type of radio. **Gas engines** There are some "new" ignition systems out there for nitro engines, is anyone using them? **Flight Boxes** Let's see what people bring to the field. This could just be a major show and tell night.

If you have other ideas or can help, contact Jim at: (248) 848-2826 or tnjyoung@sbcglobal.net

Editor's Squawk-box by Dennis Robbins

Well guys, this may be my final squawk-box (alright, cool the applause!). After 6 years of writing and compiling this newsletter, I'm finally calling it quits. The decision is due to available time. I still love to build and fly, but it's getting harder to write worthwhile items that are still relevant to our membership of today. With the available time I have, I'd rather spend it building or flying. I also have other obligations I must attend to. I'd still like to do an occasional guest article, but that's about it.

I'll state a few of the positive aspects of handling this newsletter. I get to see all the club member names and can associate most of them with faces. This has to be one of the most friendly, fun loving group of guys ever to come together. Every group generates a "group personality" and this group has always been the greatest. I've gotten to share the love of building model airplanes with people I see at our fields and even some people I've never met. It was a thrill to find some of my ramblings showing up in other club's newsletters. I've gotten to work with some extraordinarily talented and generous guys, many of whom have made up our Officer Boards. It's been an honor. And there's generally a sense of pride when I get another issue into the mailbox. But lately it's become tough to meet the deadlines. Maybe, just maybe... I'm getting old. Scary thought, but better than not.

So, the position is officially open. I'll help anyone who'd like to try handling the newsletter get started. All you have to do is write a little, compile notes and run copies...then fold, seal, sticker, stamp and mail. When I started the newsletter, it was cut and paste - literally! Now, with the current publishing programs, writing a newsletter has changed and the job is a little easier. So - if you're willing to try doing a simple monthly publication, let me know and I'll get you started. You'll give up a little time, but I promise that you'll agree it's worth the effort.

Thanks to the club for letting me squawk for so long, it's been a rewarding experience.

Dennis

More Truths to Live By -

- It's always darkest before dawn. So if you're going to steal your neighbor's newspaper, that's the time to do it.
 - Don't be irreplaceable. If you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.
 - Never test the depth of the water with both feet.
 - Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.
 - If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.
 - Some days you are the bug; some days you are the windshield.
 - Good judgment comes from bad experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.
 - The quickest way to double your money is to fold it in half and put it back in your pocket.
 - There are two theories to arguing with women. Neither one works.
 - Generally speaking, you aren't learning much when your lips are moving.
 - Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.
 - Never miss a good chance to shut up.
 - There is a fine line between "hobby" and "mental illness."
 - Still waters run nowhere because, after all, they ARE still.
 - Honesty is good if you are bad at lying.
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President's Message - continued from Page 1

I would like to thank all who have helped me out, especially the other officers, who have given up much of their time. So don't forget, we will have the club elections on Dec. 6. As we start a new year we are still following up on leads for a new field, so please contact Warren if you have any info.

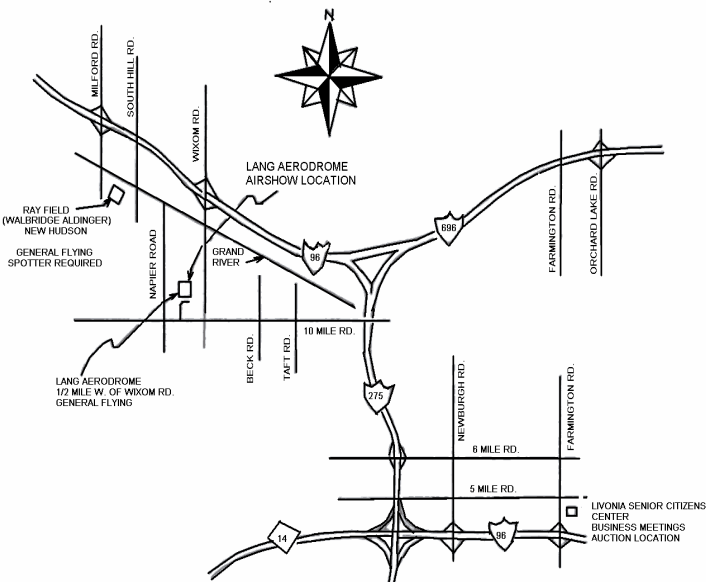
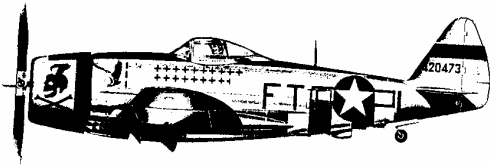
Dress for the weather and enjoy winter flying. MIKE

Upcoming Events for December and Beyond

December 6	Ribcracker Club Meeting Monthly Club Meeting	Livonia Senior Citizens Center 5 Mile & Farmington Rds, S.E.	Mike Hegyi 248-669-7583
December 31	Krazy Snow Fly Skymasters RC Club	Scripps Road Field check www.skymasters.org	Greg Brausa 248-373-8949
January 1	1st Flying Day of the Year Ray Field	Ribcracker Event Only Grand River Road, E. of Milford Road	11:00 AM - 1:30 PM
January 9	DAM Swap Shop 1st Swap of the Year	Monaghan KC Hall Farmington Road btwn 7 & 8 Mile Rd.	Charlie Thomas 313-565-2973

Ribcrackers - for the most complete area listings, check the events calendar in the back of the Model Aviation Magazine.

Dennis Robbins
37592 Dorchester Drive
Farmington Hills, MI 48331



December Club Meeting - Dec. 6 @ 7:00 pm

- Repairing broken planes - Jim Young
- Elections - Presence is not required to win!
- **DON'T FORGET** -The 1st Flight Day of the New Year is Jan. 1. The Ribcrackers will host a Fun Fly (no contests, just flying) at Ray Field. Start time is 11 AM (weather permitting). Unofficial ending time is 1:30 PM so you can still get home to "family time" and football.