

# THUNDERBOLT

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May 2005

## RIBCRACKERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

### President's Message - Jim Young

Well, it's the end of a fine flying field. As off the work party on April 9<sup>th</sup>, Lang Aerodrome is officially closed. I'd like to thank everyone who came out to help move what equipment we could to Ray field. Ralph was able to get use of a boom truck for the morning which really helped with removing the fence posts. All in all, it only took us about 2 hours for the move. A second work party on April 16<sup>th</sup> should have the fencing replaced at Ray and the trees trimmed at either end of the field.

Now that we will all be flying at Ray field, we need to remember that you MUST have a spotter to watch for full scale aircraft while you are flying. The spotter is

there to watch for full scale aircraft, and not your plane. A spotter can not do this while working on his own plane. If a full scale aircraft enters the air-space above Ray field, you must get you plane down below 100' and circle to the East of the field until it leaves.

Also, I think we got too lax at Lang with impounding our transmitters due to the layout of the flight line. At Ray the impound is conveniently located in the center of the flight line, so there is no reason not to impound your transmitters when you are not using them. Just do it!

For the May meeting we



will be having our first annual (?) Junk Yard Wars competition. We will split into two teams and scratch build two airplanes from the provided supplies at the meeting. Then we will bring out these two new creations on May 7<sup>th</sup> for a fun fly competition. Please see elsewhere in this issue for more details. Come on out, this should be a good one!

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## Ribcracker's Junk Yard Wars Competition

Come on out to the May meeting to get your hand into this wacky and fun competition. We will split the attendees into two groups, one captained by Dennis Robbins and the other by Dave Hurt, and then attempt to build two flyable models.

The team captains are responsible for providing the following:

- A .40 size glow engine, propeller, gas tank, and fuel tubing.
- 4 channel radio with 4 servos, battery, switch harness

Each team will be given the following materials:

- ¼"x6"x36" balsa sheet
- ¼"x4"x36" balsa sheet
- 1/8"x1/2"x36" spruce
- 2 sheets of ¼" foam core
- ¼" wood dowel
- 2 maple motor mounts
- 4-40 bolts and lock nuts
- CA type hinges
- 4 Control horns
- 4 control rods with clevises
- 1 set of ny-rods
- 2 wheels
- 1/8" music wire
- 4 1/8" wheel collars
- Landing gear straps
- Rubber bands
- Plastic sandwich bags
- 1 roll of clear packing tape
- 2 yard sticks
- Misc. cable ties and twist ties
- 1 can of spray paint
- 1 bottle of odorless CA
- 5 minute epoxy
- Paper and Pencils

Thing **YOU** should bring to support your team:

- Hobby knife and blades
- Razor saw
- Screw drivers
- Wrenches
- Drill and drill bits
- Pliers (vise grips, needle nose, etc...)
- Wire cutters
- Hack saw
- Dremel with cut off disk
- Sanding blocks
- Straight edge
- Tape measure, ruler
- T pins
- Clamps

How this is going to work:

After the teams are picked (random drawing), each team will set out to design and build a .40 size airplane capable to stand up to the rigors of a typical fun fly. Anything goes as far as the design, let your imagination run wild. After the model is completed, it will be impounded until 10:00am, May 7<sup>th</sup>, where at Ray field they will be returned to each team. Any safety critical items will be identified at that time. Each team will then ready their models for flight and must successfully complete a trim flight. Finally, each team will compete head to head in a few fun fly type events.

Scoring:

- 1 point to first team to complete their airplane
- 1 point to the first team in the air
- 1 point to the winner of each of the 3 fun fly events
- 1 point to the most creative design

Rules:

- Any type of control can be used (R/E/A, elevons, etc..)
- Prior to flight, each team must demonstrate the ability to stop the engine.
- All control functions will be tested for safety.
- Each team must use a different pilot for each fun fly event.
- If the model is, in the eyes of the judge(s), ruled to be unsafe the remainder of the fun fly event will be forfeit.
- The first team to declare their plane to be done, will be awarded 1 point. The other team may continue to work on their model.
- On the morning of the fun fly, each team must correct any safety critical items prior to attempting flight.
- The most creative design will be subjectively judged.

## April Meeting Minutes - Dennis Robbins

### **Ribcracker April Meeting Minutes – April 4, 2005**

The meeting started at 7:35PM and the March meeting minutes were approved with the exception of an announcement of a work party taking place on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Treasurer's Report:** The club remains solvent – contact Roger Wilfong for details. Also, the March swap meet, although small, was a success with the club making money. Many thanks go to Mike Hegyi.

**V.P.'s Report:** The club has scheduled work parties for April 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. The 9<sup>th</sup> will be to clean up Lang field and move any worthwhile equipment. The April 16<sup>th</sup> work party will be to clean up Ray field and ready it for the upcoming season.

**Secretary's Report:** The AMA F3A aerobatic club is looking for donations to help pay for their way this summer to Europe.

**Editor's Report:** Contact Dave if you want a paper copy of the Thunderbolt. Dave has also taken over the position of Webmaster.

**Current Issues:** Field Search – Walbridge Aldinger has agreed to assist the Ribcrackers in storing equipment and allowing the club to improve and enlarge the flying field. After the April Lang field clean-up, Lang will be permanently off limits to Ribcrackers. Junk-yard Wars will take place during the May meeting (to be held at the LSCC). Dennis Robbins and Dave Hurt will captain the teams. Please bring tools and help build planes.

The April Meeting was scheduled to be a “Check your aircraft night” and one new member brought a Sig Senior for review.

**Models of the Month:** Ron McHale brought a Model Tech SE-5A biplane powered by a BIG motor and battery pack. Gerald Klose brought a rebuilt Ace Simple Speed 400 powered hand launched plane. Very pretty in white and blue. Warren Wells brought an F-20 Tiger Shark powered by an Enya 50 – very pretty and the winner this month. Mike Hurt brought a Midwest Aerostar 60 powered by an OS60. Mike plans to solo very soon. Jim Young showed a Hughes H1 racer powered by an Astro 020. Jim even went so far as to add a pilot figure. Nice touch Jim!

The meeting adjourned sometime around 9:30 PM.

## RIBCRACKERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

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**We're on the web!**

<http://www.ribcrackers.org>

### Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location	Contact
May 2	Ribcrackers Club Meeting New Time! 7:30 pm	Livonia Senior Citizens Center 5 Mile & Farmington, S.E. Corner	Jim Young (810) 231-1684
June 6	Ribcrackers Club Meeting New Time! 7:30 pm	Ray Field	Jim Young (810) 231-1684
June 12	Fun Fly Please note the new date! Events start at 10 am. Be there early!	Ray Field	Dave Hurt (248) 767-4639
July 11	Ribcrackers Club Meeting New Time! 7:30 pm	Ray Field	Jim Young (810) 231-1684