

THUNDERBOLT

Volume 2005, Issue 11

November 2005

RIBCRACKERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

President's Message - Jim Young

By the time you get this, the Wednesday Night Student Instruction should be done for the year. I'd like to thank all of the instructors for their hard work to train new pilots this summer. While it may be too dark to fly after work, students who still need some help are encouraged to contact an instructor for more daylight training. Remember, if you are not signed off to solo you must still fly with a qualified instructor. Also, while you may be signed off to solo with your trainer, changing to a higher performance plane can bring additional challenges that you may or may not have learned with your trainer. So, don't be afraid to ask for help with your new pride and joy. Even after twenty years in this hobby, I at least have someone standing next to me to help with trims and to get an extra pair of eyes on my new models.

While safety has improved at the field, we still have some work to do. The big issues are flying over Grand River and behind the flight line. The next time you are at the field, ask someone for an extra pair of eyes to tell if you are flying too far out. If you see some-

one flying out too far, make sure you bring it to their attention. As far as flying over the flight line, this is a definite safety issue. If a plane gets behind you and you are twisting to keep sight of it, it is very easy to lose orientation. If you are out to the East or West of the field and a wide turn puts you behind the flight line, while not good, it is not a serious safety threat. However, if you are over the field and your plane gets blown behind you this is a different matter. Please learn to correct for cross winds, and practice new maneuvers farther out on the field.

Next, the safety fences are for your protection. While you may think it is your choice to use them or not (its not), think how the other pilot would feel after his plane ran into your leg. Further, the flight stations are set up according to AMA guidelines and are a minimum distance apart. This spacing helps to reduce the chance of two transmitters interfering with each other. If two transmitter antennas touch, both pilots can lose contact with their plane. Keep this in mind as well

when you have to walk down the flight line to retrieve your plane, and keep your transmitter away from others.

We have one flying field, and it is in the glide path of a full scale airport and in close proximity to a major road and office buildings. Safety should be on everyone's minds every time they come to the field. While you may think the safety rules are an inconvenience, they are not in place for your convenience. They are there to make you think about what you are doing, so we can all enjoy this hobby.

We could use some ideas on what you would like to see at the meetings in the upcoming months. I think most of the clinics and activities we've done in the past have gone over pretty well and are much better than me harping on safety issues. What we really need is for someone to take on this task and line up some presentations for the winter months. This is an easy way to get your work hours.

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SWAP MEET

10:00am

Sunday December 4th, 2005

at

The Livonia Senior Center

5 Mile and Farmington Rd.

Come make some spare cash for the Holiday Season, or come pick up a good deal on a Winter Building Project

Tables: \$12.00 in Advance (includes 1 admission)
 \$15.00 at the Door (Space is limited)

Admission: \$3.00 - Women and Children free entry

For more information or to reserve a table:

Contact Jim Young (810) 231-1684

October Meeting Minutes - Dennis Robbins

The meeting started promptly at 7:33 PM and the September meeting minutes were approved as published in the Oct. Thunderbolt.

Treasurer's Report: The club remains solvent - contact Roger Wilfong for details.

V.P.'s Report: Due to the unseasonably warm weather, Joel has reported he may cut the grass if it doesn't rain.

The September Fun Fly and picnic was a huge success and everyone thanked everyone else on the great job they had done. Good food, great fun!

Current (and old) Issues: Don't forget that the Ribcrackers will have their Swap Meet on December 4th at the Livonia Senior Citizens Center. Mike Hegyi has agreed to run the event, but needs some help. Easy way to get in work hours! Contact Mike or Jim Young if you would like to participate. Warren Wells continues to look for a new flying field, so if you have any ideas, call Warren. A reminder went out to all, that if you are involved in an accident, please exchange contact information with the other unfortunate individuals. The Ribcracker flying instructors did a great job this season and everyone thanked them for their devotion to teaching RC flying skills to the newbies. If you have any ideas on topics to discuss during a winter meeting, please contact Jim Young.

Model of the Month – And the winner was.....Dale Stockman with an incredible Grumman F6F Hellcat. Retracts, big gas mill and a little over 30#. WOW! Dale told us he's flown the bird 5 times already and his knees have almost stopped knocking. Roger Wilfong showed up with yet another new plane, this time it was an electric Super Sportster EP. Nice ARF and Roger was anxious to go and complete his first flight. Tom Bacsanyi brought in a small MIG 25, the "Foxbat". Tom was extremely interested in the plane, so when an RC model came along, he couldn't resist. You can be sure that his plane is fast.

The meeting adjourned after 8:00 PM.

RIBCRACKERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

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We're on the web!

<http://www.ribcrackers.org>

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location	Contact
November 7	Ribcracker Club Meeting 7:30 pm	Livonia Senior Citizens Center	Jim Young (810) 565-2973
December 4	Swap Meet 10:00 am	Livonia Senior Citizens Center	Jim Young (810) 231-1684
December 5	Club Meeting & Elections 7:30 pm	Livonia Senior Citizens Center	Jim Young (810) 565-2973