

THUNDERBOLT

Volume 2006, Issue 5

May 2006

RIBCRACKERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

President's Message - Warren Wells

April 15th, tax time and field rolling day. The field rolling went off without a hitch but I'm not sure about form #1040 for the IRS. Joel Disbro and myself used the big Caterpillar roller that was rented by our club and rolled the field completely 3 times, always going in a different direction. We also had some sideline help from 4 other members. A half hour after we were finished, aircraft were getting ready to taxi onto the newly rolled field. The members flying that day were very happy with the results, so now, I don't think we will hear any "poor runway" excuses for botched take-offs or landings for a while. At the

beginning of May we have a couple more club activities scheduled. Field clean-up day will be Saturday the 6th. It will involve general clean up, some ground work, painting and possible tree/brush removal. More information on this will be discussed at our May membership meeting. The following day will be our annual "Junk Yard Wars" fun fly. We will be looking for team members, captains and an event coordinator for this event. Be sure to attend the meeting for more information. Also, members who show up the day of the event will be encouraged to participate as well. Be sure to get in on the fun and possibly earn some



bragging rights for the year. See you at the meeting. Happy and Safe modeling!

Editor's Note Pad - Gerald Klose

Once again spring has sprung with a vengeance. The field has been rolled and it looks great! I was finally able to get out and do some flying again and I am looking forward to many more

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This model is actually powered by a turbo-prop.
Very impressive



In the wrong category perhaps???



Editor's Note Pad, continued from page 1

hours of fun taunting the goddess of re-kitted airplanes. The Electro-streak survived its maiden flight without incident and yes I could see it the whole time even though it was black. Maybe wearing my new glasses helped. Also, thanks go out to Mike Hegyi for hand-launching the plane and providing moral support to calm my nerves.

One of the things that I enjoy about going to the flying field is getting out of the city and being surrounded by a little bit more nature kind of stuff. It is fun to try and get your plane high enough to ride the same thermals that the buzzards and hawks are gliding on. At Lang field it was fun to join a flock of geese as they made their final approach to the lake. Even the ground squirrels are kinda cute and fun to watch if you ignore the fact that they make holes in the runway. The most amazing thing that I have seen is a fox that was traveling from east to west across the field. I was hoping that it would find a couple of those ground squirrels and make a meal out of them. Pretty cool!

After missing the last two years I was able to get down to the Toledo show. I truly enjoyed checking out all the things that were displayed and even picked up a few things that I absolutely couldn't do without. Next time I will need to remember to bring a more ergonomic bag to take back all the brochures that I picked up. Those plastic bags tend to dig into your hands after a while. I hope you got a chance to make it down as well. It will be weeks before I come down from my modeling high.

Until next time, happy flying and remember to keep your fingers out of the propeller.

April Meeting Minutes - Dennis Robbins

Ribcrackers April Meeting Minutes – April 3, 2006

The meeting started promptly at 7:36 pm. The March meeting minutes were accepted as published in the April Thunderbolt. The April Thunderbolt was mailed to all members due to technical difficulties encountered while trying to post it on the web this month. Treasurer's Report – the club is/remains solvent. See R. Wilfong for details.

Secretary's Report – The Ribcrackers applied for and received their AMA charter. At this date, the club has 57 members.

V.P. Report and New Issues – Our flying field is currently in good shape, however there will be a "season opening" field clean-up on Saturday, May 6th. This clean-up will begin at approximately 9am and should not take too long if most/all members show up to help. We will also reinstall the orange fencing barriers in front of the flight stations at that time, but only if RALPH has not already done so (thank goodness Ralph keeps a constant vigil on safety issues at our field!). During the field clean-up, the club approved funds to have a commercial roller level our field, so please do not plan on flying until after all work has been completed. On May 7th, the club will hold the 2nd Annual Junk-Yard Wars so you definitely do not want to miss that event. Last year's inaugural event was fun for all who attended (or watched the mayhem) so please plan on coming. Details will be discussed at the May club meeting (to be held at Ray Field).

Current issues:

- 1) PLEASE do not park on the grass at Ray Field unless you are sure it is dry and firm. Vehicles leave deep ruts when the ground is soft, so if in doubt, please park behind the flight line on the gravel or on the road.
- 2) Your 2006 Ribcracker membership was due by the end of the March Club Meeting. Anyone not able to prove Ribcracker club membership, will not be allowed to fly at a Ray Field.
- 3) Don Unsworth is heading our field search activities, so please contact him if you identify a potential new site.
- 4) Since spotters are required for all flying members at Ray Field, it is also requested that they keep pilots informed of incoming vehicular traffic at Ray. Please tell your pilots if it is safe to take-off or land due to incoming (or leaving) traffic. It was suggested that a sign be made and posted at the entrance to Ray Field that would warn drivers of potentially low flying aircraft. This will also help to reduce the number of drivers that stop on the driveway to watch us fly.
- 5) Student night will begin on April 5th, since we are now in Daylight Saving Time.
- 6) There was discussion concerning the assembly and use of another club trainer. Interested parties should contact Dale Stockman for co-ordination of activities.

Model of the Month – winner was **Gerald Klose** with his kit built, all electric, **Electro Streak**. Power is with a Goldfire 500 and the battery is a 7-cell 1500 maH NiMH. The plane is black with transparent green – very pretty and we hope Gerald has good eye-sight! **Juan Lopez** brought his kit built **P-51**. Very nicely done with a mostly red skin and powered by a SK50. Filling in the ranks, **Hank Wojcik** brought a Gillows Starfire all balsa ARF. Hank even went so far as to have the maiden flight INSIDE our meeting room to the thrill (and fear) of all! Nice job guys!

Special Note: Juan Lopez has lost a Futaba 6 channel transmitter while at Ray. If anyone has ideas as to where it might be, please contact Juan.

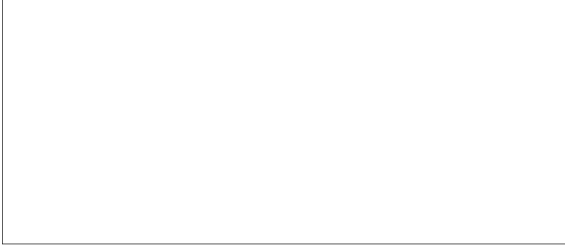
The meeting adjourned at 8:33pm.

Please don't forget that the next meeting will be held at Ray Field!

Respectfully submitted – Dennis Robbins



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Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location	Contact
May 1	Ribcracker Club Meeting 7:30 pm	Ray Field	Warren Wells (248) 437-2694
May 6	Field clean up 9:00 am	Ray Field no flying until complete	
May 7	Junk yard wars	Ray Field	
June 5	Ribcracker Club Meeting	Ray Field	Warren Wells (248) 437-2694
June 18	Fun-fly / Club picnic	Ray Field	