

# THUNDERBOLT

Volume 2007, Issue 10

October 2007

RIBCRACKERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

## President's Message - editor

Warren has been out of town the last several weeks and just got back so he didn't have time to prepare a message in time for this month's newsletter. On top of all that he is leaving for a vacation in Las Vegas so he won't be able to make it to the meeting either. Warren sends his regrets but hopes that the club will carry on in his temporary absence. Warren wanted me to make sure that I mention the fun-fly and the picnic that took place in September.

He would like to thank everyone for coming and a special thanks to the people that helped cook and setup for the days festivities. Also thanks to Alex and Gus for taking the trouble to phone as many people as possible to help ensure a good turnout. Everyone seemed to be having a great time. He hopes to see everyone at the November meeting. Until then, happy and safe flying



## Editor's Note Pad - Gerald Klose

So it is officially fall. Does that mean we stop flying?? Of course not!! Unless your hands start getting creaky when it is cold out like mine are starting to do. But that is only when it is below 30. If you are flying electric those battery packs make for some pretty nifty hand warmers. I tried warming my hands on a glow engine once and that wasn't a pretty sight. If you are wearing leather gloves it's not so bad but it just isn't as convenient.

I have two main topics that I would like to address this month the first is this years fun-fly/picnic. Basically, I had a blast. Moreover, I was very proud of my daughter Katherine for stepping up to the plate and offering to run the fun-fly. She did a great job trying to get other people's input and tried to make

*(Continued on page 2)*

### Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Editor's Note Pad	1
Meeting Minutes	3
Upcoming Events	4

### Ribcrackers Board of Directors

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It is with great sadness that I share with you that Joel Disbro has been diagnosed with Leukemia. Everybody that was at the fun-fly had a chance to sign a card that was sent to him. Thanks Mike Hegyi for setting that up. I am sure I speak for all members of the club that we wish him strength and courage to beat this disease and we wish him a speedy recovery. Our thoughts and hearts go out to Joel and his family.

### Editor's Notepad- *continued from page 1*

it as fair, safe and fun for everyone as possible. Matthew pitched in as time keeper and chief scribe and my wife Sonja, with the help of our dog Nicki, helped out with signaling when planes crossed the start line. Everyone had a great time and the events moved smoothly. You would have thought that I would have had more influence on the judges and CD and finished higher than I did, but the officiating was beyond reproach and the best I could do was tie for fourth. The turnout was great fun and good food was had by all. Unfortunately, we had a prior engagement so we weren't able to hang out as long as we wanted.

My second main topic has to do with Bill Oberdike, our district 7 president. How many of you read the district 7 report each month in the AMA? I didn't used to very often either. How many have ever bothered to read the reports from the other districts? Yeah, me neither. The last several months though, I started reading all of them. Whenever I did read Bill's report I was getting the feeling that I was being yelled at or admonished. I wanted to know if the other Presidents did that too. What I found, after reading all the reports for the last 3-4 months is that the other president's reports point out successes and programs that had a positive impact on the community or just in general a whole lot more upbeat. Bill tends to devote at least part if not all of his message to haranguing us for not doing enough. Is that fair? Maybe. Do I care to be chastised about it? No, not really. Is it worth getting upset about? Good question. Is it just me being too sensitive? That is what I want to find out from you. If several of you think the same way then let me know and I will compose a tactful letter to Bill and make some suggestions. If no one else feels the same I will just let the matter drop and keep voting against him each year. Bill has brought up a good point in the past and that is that he needs to be made aware of things that we do that furthers our hobby and sport within our community. Good examples would be the work that Don Unsworth did with the inner-city youths and some of the presentations we have done in the schools or with the Boy Scouts or the fact that we had a 14 year old girl run our fun-fly to great success. Maybe we need to send him this information. One suggestion would be to add Bill to our mailing list. Let me know if you think it is a good idea or if we want to keep the club information amongst ourselves.

Most importantly, lets get out to the field as often as possible and when someone stops by, let's take the extra time and effort to make the visitor feel welcome. When I go to a different field it is amazing how different clubs handle a visitor. Mike Hegyi was a perfect example of someone that would approach a visitor and offer to answer questions. It is a great way to peak someone's interest in the hobby and maybe they turn into a future member. You just never know.

That is enough rambling for one month. I need to go flying.

## September Meeting Minutes - Dennis Robbins

### Ribcrackers September Meeting Minutes – Sept. 10, 2007

The meeting started a little early this evening, at 7:15 pm. The August meeting minutes were accepted as published in the September Thunderbolt.

**Treasurer's Report** – the club is/remains solvent and the report was accepted as published. See R. Wilfong for details.

**News:** Since the beginning of the year, the Ribcrackers have signed 8 or 9 new members, plus student night is always busy. Good news – the club is growing!

- Alex requested a minute of silence to honor the 911 victims and all club members agreed.
- A discussion took place concerning the upcoming Fun-Fly scheduled for Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> and Gerald Klose's daughter Katherine has agreed to direct the event.
- The club also discussed an upcoming Swap Meet and is trying to determine the most appropriate weekend. Dennis agreed to review past swap meet dates and provide that list to Warren.

#### **New Issue:**

- A request was made to move the monthly meeting time back to 7:00 pm. Apparently, when meetings run late, the "old-timers" get home past their bedtime. When the meeting time was moved back 30 minutes, the reason was to accommodate those poor working stiffs that had a difficult time making the 7:00 meeting time due to getting out of work and needing to rush to the club meeting. Please consider if the extra 30 minutes will help you get to meetings and let one of our club officers know.
- Alex requested funds to build a few extra airplane benches and the club agreed to support that request.
- Please note that the next club meeting will be held at the Livonia Senior Citizens Center starting at 7:30 pm.
- No-one brought a plane for Model of the Month.

The club raffle was held with the top prize being a new Fox BB 40 engine. Secondary prizes were tools and a foamy airplane.

Don't forget that the 7 Mile field has a new entrance (across from Pete Waters place) and that Channels 36 & 56 are "off-limits".

The meeting adjourned at ~ 7:45 pm. because it was getting dark and the bugs were eating us alive!

Respectfully submitted – Dennis Robbins



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**We're on the web!**

<http://www.ribcrackers.org>



## **OOOPS!!**

Ok, so I should read my own newsletter more carefully. I thought I had one more week to write and send the October newsletter but apparently I mis-interpreted the calendar and now the newsletter is late. My sincerest apologies to the members for not sending out the newsletter on time.

## Upcoming Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Oct 1	Club Meeting	Livonia Senior Citizens	
Oct 24	Student Night ends		
Nov 1	Club Dinner for Instructors	TBD	
Nov 5	Club Meeting	Livonia Senior Citizens	Warren Wells 248-437-2694