

THUNDERBOLT

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February, 2008

RIBCRACKERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

President's Message - Alex Stathis Alexopoulos

Dear fellow members: Once again I would like to thank our former President and everyone of our Officers for an outstanding job. I would also like to thank all the members who volunteered for various tasks through out the year. We all know what a big difference their effort has made for the needs of the club. I am happy to see that Gerald will remain as our editor for one more year; thanks, Gerald. We all know that it is a lot of work and a big commitment. With this opportunity I also want

to say thanks to all of you who decided to trust me with the President's position and for your confidence in me. As we start a new year and get ready to start a new flying season, lets all together try to improve our club as much as possible and let's set some new goals. In an effort to further empower the club, increase membership, improve field and safety conditions and enhance our flying experience for all our members, I would like to hear your ideas regard-



ing all these issues, I'm sure many of you have some very important opinions and suggestions to make, and what a better place to voice your ideas and opinions than at our monthly meeting.

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Editor's Note Pad - Gerald Klose

This month I am going to keep things short. Partly because I don't have enough to say and partly because I used up the entire second page with the swap meet flier. I trust that most of you are deep into their winter building project. Don't forget that even though we aren't flying doesn't mean that our trusty planes and other equipment couldn't use a little TLC. Time to tackle cleaning out the field box and throwing out the broken rubber bands and burnt out glow plugs. Give your planes a once over and look for broken glue joints and cracked wood/fiberglass/plastic/foam. Check all electrical connections and cycle the batteries or keep them on trickle chargers. A little attention now can mean a lot more time in the sky and less time gathering splinters in the corn. See ya!!

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January Meeting Minutes - Dennis Robbins

Ribcrackers January Meeting Minutes – Jan. 7, 2008

The meeting started at 7:33 pm this evening with Alex starting his new role as President. As this was Alex's first time in the "Big Man's Chair", we all listened intently as he gave accolades to the outgoing officer and started his new role. The December meeting minutes were accepted as published in the January Thunderbolt.

Treasurer's Report – The club is/remains solvent and the report was accepted as published. See R. Wilfong for details. Note: The 2008 budget was discussed and approved by all members present (except John).

New & Old News: Ideas discussed during the meeting were:

- During the Feb. meeting, we will vote on the new dues structure of \$70/year (all other fees will remain as is). Please remember that dues will be required before the end of the March meeting or you will be subject to late charges. You must provide a copy of your 2008 AMA card to renew your membership.
- We quickly discussed (again) having a summer swap meet at the field combined with open flying for (AMA) members. No date has been set yet, so the officers will determine when the best / appropriate time is.
- Safety was discussed and all members present agreed that EVERY member is responsible for safety at our field. Warren agreed to be the club's Safety Captain as long as the supporting cast remained large. Joel agreed to be the club's Field Marshall and watch over our flying site.
- Activities to find another field are still ongoing, but we have nothing to report at this time.

Other business items briefly discussed were: Fun Flies, Picnics, Student Night and Field Upgrades. Don Unsworth agreed to design a Club Promotional Flyer and get those out to the local hobby shops.

Club Raffle: It is rumored that Feb. will have a large raffle with either engines or airplane kits as the big prizes.

Model of the Month: Roger once again wowed the club with a blue and yellow Acro-Pro. This plane uses a Cutie fuse and a wing that Roger found somewhere. Power is with a brushless Speed 400 and will consume 250 watts. An item of note is the yellow and blue checkboard pattern on the bottom of the wing – all hand done.

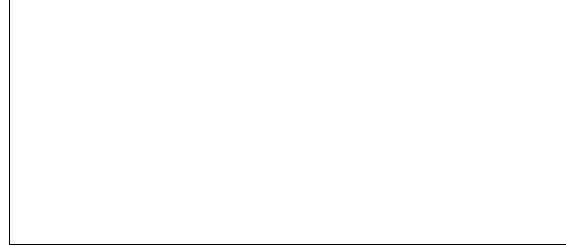
See you next month – Livonia Senior Citizens Center – 7:30pm – February 4th. Respectfully submitted – Dennis Robbins



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Berkley, MI 48072

We're on the web!

<http://www.ribcrackers.org>



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I know I will see you there and considering the e-mails I have received already I am sure February's meeting will be a successful one. Let's hope we can catch a break on the weather soon. Some of us are dying for some flying time. I hope to see you on the field soon and don't forget to keep it safe out there.

Alex

Upcoming Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Feb 3	Swap Meet	Baker College Owosso, MI	M. Emmendorfer 810-638-5877
Feb 4	Club Meeting	Livonia Senior Citizen's Center	Alex Alexopoulos 248-909-6869
Mar 3	Club Meeting <i>Last chance to renew membership without late fee</i>	Livonia Senior Citizen's	Alex Alexopoulos 248-909-6869