

# THUNDERBOLT

Volume 2008, Issue 3

March, 2008

## RIBCRACKERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

### President's Message - Alex Stathis Alexopoulos

Dear fellow members:

As we go through another cold winter month, and as we anticipate some warmer weather, I feel just like a kid in the back seat of a car asking his parents " Are we there yet?" I really miss flying, going to the field, having fun with all the guys, joking around, getting harassed by some, and harassing them in return! I was really pleased at our last meeting to see a lot more friendly faces and a much better turnout. I hope to see even more members at our next meeting in March. Don't

forget that we are raffling a nice airplane almost RTF and given the fact that the new flying season is fast approaching you all know we have important issues to discuss and very exciting activities to plan. Speaking of fast...I received more than a couple of emails from members wanting to compete and record speed records with their models. I believe that if done safely this should be a fun activity for all to participate.



Maybe we could list their records in the monthly newsletter as fuel and electric categories. Let's see how the membership feels about it at the meeting

*(Continued on page 4)*

### Editor's Note Pad - Gerald Klose

This month we have a special treat for the newsletter. Roger Wilfong sent several pictures of planes that were submitted for Model of the Month. Unfortunately, the printed version of the newsletter doesn't do justice to the craftsmanship that was put into these models. If you aren't already receiving the newsletter via email and wish to do so please drop me a line and I will add you to the distribution list. The advantages of receiving the newsletter electronically are that you save the club money and you get to see pictures in living color! How cool is that? Of course the best way to see these models is to actually come to the meetings. I guess I can agree with

*(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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Secretary— Matt Jerue	248-348-5948
Treasurer— Roger Wilfong	248-349-9079
Reluctant Editor— Gerald Kose	248-854-5604



◀GB-Y donated by Alex to be raffled off at March meeting. Incl. .25 eng. + servos

Ron McHale with his 71" Nitro P-82 powered by a pair of MonsterPower-32 outrunners. Retracts from Nitro as well ▶



◀Tom Bacsanyi and his OK Models Mig 15

Juan Lopez and plane he got from Mike Hegyi that he re-built ▶



◀Juan Lopez and his Nitro Models Super Something

*Thanks a lot guys for bringing in these great looking planes!!*

Editor's Note Pad *cont.*

*(Continued from page 1)*

Alex that it would be nice to get back out to the field and do some flying again. Some of these days are starting to get pretty nice. It is still pretty cold but if you dress well and it is not too windy it is still a great day to be flying. Don't forget to bring a spotter and make sure to park down on the lower level where the gravel is. Maybe some hot chocolate in a thermos to warm your insides while you are discussing your last flight which was absolutely perfect. Hope to see you at the field soon!

## February Meeting Minutes - Dennis Robbins

**Ribcrackers February Meeting Minutes – Feb. 4, 2008**

The meeting started promptly at 7:32 pm. Alex went the “extra mile” to again thank the past officers for their efforts and made a special thanks to Gerald Klose for his outstanding work as Thunderbolt Editor! Everyone agreed the newsletter looks great! The January meeting minutes were accepted as published in the February Thunderbolt.

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

**V.P. Report** – Nothing new on the fields except that tire tracks were found on the west end of the field from someone driving on the field. If you see anyone doing damage to our field, please call the police. If you’re flying at Ray, please remember the ground is wet and soft so you’ll need to park on the gravel to the south.

**New & Old News:**

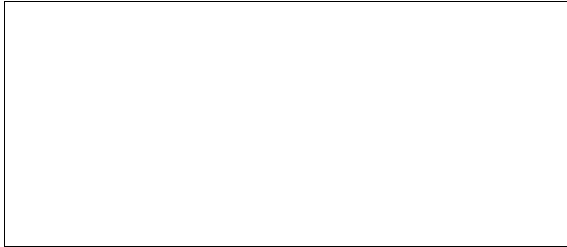
- An announcement was made that at the Oasis Golf Dome on 5 Mile and Haggerty, there will be indoor flying for electrics at the end of the month. A few of our electric guys showed interest.
- Alex requested any new ideas regarding safety, swap meets, field maintenance or anything else be submitted to the officers for review.
- Don Unsworth presented his idea for a Club Promotional flyer which was colorful and eye catching, especially as it promoted FREE FLYING LESSONS! Very nice execution and hopefully, it will help our club grow. Don will continue to work on a means of displaying these flyers and we hope to have them out in the community by early spring.
- Club dues were quickly discussed and all members present voted to reduce club fees to \$70/year and waive initiation fees for old members. All other fees will remain as before, ie: late payment and new member initiation. See Matt Jerue for details. Please remember that dues must be paid by the end of the March meeting or late fees will apply (you also need to show a current AMA card).
- Warren Wells and Hank Wojcik are planning a club trip to the U.S. Air Force Museum in Dayton, OH. This is one of the best aircraft related museums in the world and if you haven’t been there, it’s absolutely worth the trip. Plus, admission is free! Anyone that would like to join Warren or Hank are invited and plans are to car or van pool. Tentative date is Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. Contact Warren @ 248-437-2694 or Hank @ 313-659-1677 for further details.

**Club Raffle:** This was **BIG!!** Ruffled-off was an Ace RC Messerschmitt 109 and a (slightly used) OS-48 4-stroke engine + a few smaller prizes. For the March raffle, there will be a built up (used) 25 sized yellow and black Gee Bee Y. This plane was acquired by Alex and needs a little TLC, but it’s in pretty good shape and includes an OS-25 + servos. Also included in the raffle will be a 40 sized Lanier ARF. Good stuff – but you can only win if you come and join the fun.

**Models of the Month:** Ron McHale brought a 71” Nitro P-82 ARF – silver with a yellow tail and retracts. Power is with 2 brushless out-runner motors running 4 lipo cells each. For sure you’ll see this one coming! Tom Bucanyi brought an OK Models Mig 15 ARF done in silver and red and powered with a 70mm ducted fan. This will be a real “pocket-rocket”. Juan Lopez brought in two planes – the 1<sup>st</sup> was a reconditioned ex-Mike Hegyi plane that Juan brought back from the grave and its color scheme is patchwork, power is Super Tiger 45. Let’s hope Juan has better luck than Mike. The 2<sup>nd</sup> plane was a Nitro Models Super-“something” (looks like a Tiger 2) done in white and red with blue trim – very nice. Power is a .50 SK and it looked great! The winner of the MoM was Tom with his Mig 15. Nice planes and it’s great to see that our members are restocking their fleets for the coming season.

See you next month – Livonia Senior Citizens Center – 7:30pm – March 3rd.

Respectfully submitted – Dennis Robbins



(Continued from page 1)

Maybe other records will be interesting as well, such as longest flight, longest electric flight, and others. Well I hope to see you again at our meeting in March and of course out on the field hopefully soon. In the meantime, remember when at the field, LETS KEEP IT SAFE!

Alex

## Upcoming Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Mar 3	Club Meeting <i>Last chance to renew membership without late fee</i>	Livonia Senior Citizen's	Alex Alexopoulos 248-909-6869
Apr 4-6	Toledo Show	Seagate Center Toledo, OH	Weak Signals RC www.toledoshow.com
Apr 7	Club Meeting	Livonia Senior Citizen's	Alex Alexopoulos 248-909-6869