

# THUNDERBOLT

Volume 2008, Issue 10

October, 2008

RIBCRACKERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

## President's Message - Alex Stathis Alexopoulos

Dear fellow members  
I would like to start by thanking everybody that helped out with our fun fly and our 1st annual speed competition last weekend. For those of you that missed it, it was a good time and I hope next year we could organize it better and make it even more fun. A big thanks also goes to all of you that helped with our new fence especially Leon. It looks great and despite the objections of some now we have a new fence. Good job guys! Sometimes all it takes in order to do things in our club is to go ahead and do them. We all know that if

you keep talking about it and do nothing—nothing will ever be done. Well...is it swap meet season yet? I think it is. I can't wait to visit some swap meets with the guys and buy little things here and there. It's always fun around this time of year. I see you all at the field having fun every time ..planes are getting bigger and faster at our field I noticed. Lets all try to have fun, remember respect the flight field boundaries and especially Grandriver road. FLY AWAY of the power wires. If you are flying over



the power lines it means you are too far out so please fly within our field limits. Hope to see you all at our monthly meeting on MONDAY OCT 6th. Have fun see you all at the field ...Alex

## Editor's Note Pad - Gerald Klose

So this was a very exciting month: The Glider was finally finished and even survived the first flight at the speed competition/fun fly. No, I did not enter the glider in the competition. I had my hands full as it was just keeping up with it. For those of you who don't use the rudder this is not the plane for you.

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### Ribcrackers Board of Directors

President—Alex Stathis Alexopoulos	248-909-6869 alexopoulos24@yahoo.com
Vice President—Hank Wojcik	313-659-1677
Secretary— Matt Jerue	248-348-5948 mdjerue@twmi.rr.com
Treasurer— Roger Wilfong	248-349-9079 aroger@med.umich.edu
Editor— Gerald Klose	248-854-5604 gklose1@yahoo.com



Gerald with Spirit Glider



Tom Bacsanyi with F-86 from Skyblazers



Saro with his Harmon Rocket



Juan with his P51 done up in NASCAR motif

## Editor's Note Pad - cont.

*(Continued from page 1)*

The flight was successful except for the pinion gear came loose from the motor. A couple of quick emails to Astroflight and I think it is ready to go. Thanks go out to Warren for the expert inaugural toss. It was great to see everyone at the meeting again and to take part in the Fun fly. Special thanks go to the lovely women that acted as timers when plan A didn't work out. Don't forget that next month's meeting is once again at the Senior Citizen's Center in Livonia. I hope to see you there.

## Ribcrackers September Meeting Minutes

### Ribcrackers September Meeting Minutes – Sept. 8, 2008

Since I was on vacation early August, I missed the Aug. meeting and the minutes somehow slipped. So much for our back-up staff! Sorry! Due to poor weather conditions, the meeting was held in Warren's garage and the turnout was surprisingly good. Many of us would like to hire Warren to clean our garages, but he declined all offers. Because of the rain blowing in, the garage door was closed, so I think this was actually a "closed door meeting". Start time was 7:45 pm to allow a little more travel time. The Aug. minutes were approved, even though we still are waiting for them, but we trust the V.P. as he said he took notes.

The first order of business was to announce the loss of an old Ribcracker buddy, Greg Bessette. Then, we learned that Bill Hansen was in the hospital, so we are all wishing him a very speedy recovery.

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

**V.P. Report** – The job is tough, but Hank will continue to soldier on.

#### **Discussion Items:**

- We discussed how many "free" flights would be allowed on student night before those students would be required to join the club. Included in this discussion was what to do with the Park Flyer guys. As far as I know, we never reached consensus, but the general opinion was 1) Guests with their own equipment and AMA cards can fly at our field 3 times in a season as a guest. 2) New students can fly 3 times with the club trainer before they need to get their own equipment and join the club. 3) Maybe the club has too many trainer type planes and makes "free flying" too easy for students. Further discussion on that later. 4) Park Flyers should be helped if there is time and no interference with other RC flyers. I hope that's correct.
- The club will have a Fun-Fly and speed event on Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>. (Alex is all "hopped-up" for this event.)
- The next meeting will take place at the Livonia Senior Citizens Center – 7:30pm sharp!
- The club quickly discussed having a Swap Meet and it was decided to put the idea on a permanent hold.
- Louis Marcon donated an Ace Simple 400 to the club for the club raffle – a very gracious offer.
- **Ribcracker Logo Stuff** – Is still available - If you'd like hats, T-shirts, sweatshirts or jackets (or anything else embroidered) with the Ribcracker Logo, please contact: Gary Schaefer at: Home: (248) 437-3898 or Cell: (248) 343-1972 or e-mail at: garyj13901@spcglobal.net.

**Club Raffle:** A beautiful book about WWII Warbirds and an Ace Simple 400 kit.

**Model of the Month:** Big Turnout! As the planes were shown:

**Tom Bacsanyi** – A foam Skyblazers F-86. Electric (of course) and drawing 2000 watts. Power is a 12S LiPo. The plane is fitted with retracts and runs a Medusa in-line motor. Silver and blue with a weight of ~9#. Beautiful! **Juan Lopez** brought in a P-51 covered in a NASCAR color scheme – red and white. Power is an OS46AX and Juan added flaps to try and tame the beast. Very sharp. **Saro Ozdamar** built a Harmon Rocket by buying it in individual pieces over the internet. Finished in white with red trim and beautiful details. Power is an OS55AX. **Gerald Klose** brought in a Spirit 100" glider that he added a motor to so he could get it airborne. White with a puzzle motif on the left wing. Very sharp and the eventual MOM winner. (Noting how crummy the weather was, we had a great show of planes).

The meeting ended at ~9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted – Dennis Robbins

**RIB CRACKERS  
NO LIMITS**  
*Model Airplane Club*

2446 Cambridge  
Berkley, MI 48072

**We're on the web!**

<http://www.ribcrackers.org>



August's model of the month was presented by Juan Lopez. Sorry I don't have any details. I forgot to include the picture with last month's newsletter. Nice plane Juan!

## Upcoming Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Oct 6	Club meeting	Livonia Senior Center	Alex Alexopoulos 248-909-6869