

Holiday 2004

Thermal Journal

Dedicated to the never-ending battle against the law of gravity

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Submissions the Thermal Journal in the form of letters to the editor or articles are always welcome. Use the editor's address provided above.

The President's Message

I'm watching the snow fall outside my window and daydreaming about spring when once again the breezes will be gentle and the thermals will be abundant. But for now it is a time to build new models and renew camaraderie's with old free flight friends. But this year I also have a new duty as president of the club and trying to be as successful as my predecessor Bob Clemens. Bob did a great job and I definitely have big shoes to fill. This means I will need your help to keep the club active and vital in the coming year. Fortunately, a number of members have stepped forward to take manager positions for club activities along with Mark Rzacca who is taking over the duties as TJ editor from Hugh Jones, who did an admirable job as editor. I have a lot of confidence in Mark to continue the fine tradition that Hugh started. The manager and officers of the club need all the help they can get, so I am requesting that you take a look at the list of managers in the meeting minutes and contact just one of them to volunteer for just one small job. Not only does it help out, but you'll find it rewarding to get Involved because the whole purpose of the club is to have fun doing what we all like best - flying free flight. Any member is welcome to attend our planning meetings. The first is scheduled for January 23 at David Rosenberg's house. They are very informal and we definitely mix business with pleasure

Keep building, keep flying, and have a happy holiday season.

Brad Bane

Dates to keep in mind:

WNYFFS at RMSC Science Saturday on December 18. See Annual Meeting Minutes in this issue
A Planning Meeting will be held on January 23, 2005. See announcement elsewhere in this issue.
The Great Grape Gathering (GGG) will be held on June 24, 25 and 26, 2005.
HAG 1941 Air show will be July 9-10, arrival day July 8, 2005.
The FAC Non-Nats will be held on July 16 and 17, with judging on July 15, 2005.
The Empire State Championships will be held on August 19, 20 and 21, 2005.

Annual meeting summary

Everyone who missed the annual meeting of the WNYFFS missed a great get-together. The meeting was held on November 13, 2004 at Rick's Prime Rib House in Rochester. The social hour began at 1 PM with the usual suspects exchanging pleasantries and discussing all things free flight.

Club president Bob Clemens called the meeting to order promptly at 2 PM. Since Bob was the only officer present, the introduction of officers took little time. Likewise, little time was expended on introduction of new members, as none were present. Including the president, there were 18 members present for the business portion of the meeting. Contents of the 2003 meeting minutes were read by Bob and approved by the members present.

John Carls filled in for the treasurer and reviewed the current financial status of the Club. Cash on hand amounts to approximately \$1500. This amount does not reflect the refund (\$100) due from Rick's for the dinner reservations, nor the anticipated contribution to the Historic Aviation Group Museum. In 2004 the club made a profit of \$182 on the Empire State Championships and lost \$163 on the indoor meet.

Coverage of old business was generally concerned with reviewing the two official flying meets. According to John Carls, the Empire State Championships suffered from unpredictable weather and a conflict with an FAI meet held at the AMA site at Muncie. In fact, John reported that some competitors headed for Muncie actually stopped at Geneseo to make purchases from vendors present at the Empire State Championships. These visitors stopped only long enough to make their purchases, after which they resumed the trek to Muncie. Muncie is a hard site with which to compete. Our problem is exacerbated by the variety of events (i.e., AMA, FAC and FAI) flown at the Empire State Championships. Muncie is only (?) ten hours from Rochester, and most weekends of the summer will have at least one free flight meet at Muncie. This makes it next to impossible to select a date for the Empire State Championships that will not face competition for part of the attendance at Geneseo.

Vet Thomas reviewed the Indoor meet. Attendance was down but voluntary donations to help defray costs kept the losses to a minimum. It was suggested, and agreed with by many present, that returning the meet to the early spring should be considered. Arranging a firm date for the Ralph Wilson Field House in the spring is much more difficult than in the fall. Additional discussion centered on improving pre event publicity. Suggesting a return to the University at Buffalo field house raised an additional opportunity for an indoor meet. Joe Mollendorf agreed to look into the potential for booking that site.

New business was quickly covered with Bob announcing that the Rochester Museum and Science Center (RMSC) would be sponsoring Science Saturday with an aviation theme on Saturday December 18, from 11 AM to 4 PM. Anyone interested should contact Bob at 392-3346 or via email at robert.clemens@worldnet.att.net. Bob also announced that the WNYFFS donation to HAG for 2004 would be \$600.

Bob introduced the last topic of official business, the election of officers, with the announcement that both he and Jack Barker were stepping down as president and vice president, respectively. This left the offices of treasurer and secretary filled by Brad and Ruth Bane. Although Brad and Ruth were not present at the time due to a personal emergency, Bob stated that both were willing to continue in the roles they had filled for several election cycles already. In addition to the need to fill the two executive offices, Hugh Jones had announced earlier that he was stepping down as editor of the Thermal Journal. Despite the wealth of volunteer opportunities provided by the three open positions, there were no immediate volunteers. Brooks Goodnow nominated Joe Mollendorf for the office of the president. While declining the nomination for himself, Joe suggested that Brad Bane might be willing to take over the position of President and, further, that Ruth Bane might be willing to assume the office of treasurer. This would leave open the offices of vice president and secretary, along with the editorship of the Thermal Journal.

Although the temptation was very strong to nominate Brad and take a vote before his opinion could be expressed, it was suggested that some changes could be made regarding the responsibilities of the president to make that office more attractive. In particular, it was pointed out that the president's responsibilities could be made more executive or managerial in nature. By delegating responsibility for specific tasks the president's role becomes one of insuring that the tasks are being completed instead of performing the tasks. Naturally, the president could not depend on volunteers to spontaneously appear for specific heretofore-unnamed tasks. Instead, the generally acknowledged tasks were listed along with specific suggestions from the out-going president. When all was said and done, 'the list' enumerated about

a dozen responsibilities or tasks. Each item on the list was identified as a chairmanship or coordinator's position. None of the positions should require an overwhelming effort but, by spreading out the load, the burden on the officers, and the executive office especially, should be much reduced. With the list in hand, all that remained was to get individuals to volunteer for the various positions identified. The precise order in which the various positions were filled was not recorded. Nevertheless, all offices were filled (at least provisionally) and volunteers were identified for all pressing chairmanships.

Brad Bane would fill the office of president, at least provisionally. Joe Mollendorf agreed to accept the position of vice president. Ruth Bane would, provisionally, assume the office of treasurer. Mark Rzacca would assume the office of secretary and editorship of the Thermal Journal. Additionally, Alan Estill agreed to share the office of the editor as well, although the exact details of responsibility sharing will have to be worked out.

All the volunteers and the chairmanship/coordinator positions for which they volunteered were recorded and are listed below.

Indoor contest manager	Bob Clemens
Empire State FF Champs Contest Manager	John Carls
Empire State FF Champs Contest Director	Lyle Whitford
Indoor Flying Site Manager	Alan Estill
Outdoor Flying Site Manager	TBD
Casual Outdoor Contest Coordinator	Jim DeTar
Annual Meeting Chairman	Dan Flintjer
Casual Meeting Chairman	Dave Rosenberg
Promotions Manager	Dan Flintjer
Newsletter Technical Editor	Dave Rosenberg
Awards Chairman	Hugh Jones
Awards Production	TBD
Awards Design	Hugh Jones
Webmaster	Alan Estill

To the great relief of all members present, Joe Mollendorf moved that the meeting be adjourned. This was seconded and unanimously accepted.

Post Script

Although all rules of order and election of officers were not followed, it is unlikely there will be any objections to the election of the slate of officers identified above. Personally I would like to thank all those who stepped forward to fill the various chairmanships and coordinator positions. The positions that remain open can be filled at a later date without serious impact on the burden of the officers. Messages from several of the chairmen can be found elsewhere in this issue of the Thermal Journal. If you feel a calling to any of the open positions, or would like to help out one of the chairman, be sure to contact the chairmen or a club officer.

One final note, the list of officers and volunteers included in this article does not include all the individuals who have served or continue to serve the organization. This article calls attention only to the new volunteer positions identified and filled at the latest annual meeting. There is no slight intended to all the members who have provided service to the WNYFFS for many years. We all owe a debt to the officers and members who have worked to keep the society viable and vital for over three decades.



AMA Bostonian Cabin

Contestant	Aircraft	Flight					Charism a Bonus	Total 2 Flights	Best Score	Final
		#1	#2	#3	#4	#5				
1 John Marret	Tern	189	183	251	217		1.15	468	538.2	
2 Bill Henderson	Boston Bluefish	61	204	211	151	33	1.17	415	485.55	
3 Garry Hunter	Boston Found	91	129	148	145	197	1.18	345	407.1	
Bob Clemens		152	21	175	178	99	1.14	353	402.42	
Terry Jenkins		91	109	86	90	75	1.18	200	236	
Greg Gallo	Super Conny	172					1.16	172	199.52	
Richard Miller		171					1.16	171	198.36	
Jack Barker	Velie Monocoupe	74	75	74			1.16	149	172.84	
John Caldwell		43	54	60			1.18	114	134.52	

AMA Indoor Electric Duration

Contestant	Aircraft	Best Flight
1 Ray Harlan		26:23
2 Don Slusarczyk	Gronk	13:27

AMA Intermediate Stick

Contestant	Best Flight
1 Don Slusarczyk	19:40.0
2 Ray Harlan	17:52.0

AMA Mini - Stick

Contestant	Best Flight
1 Ray Harlan	08:54.0
2 Rosenberg	04:22.0

AMA Open Pennyplane

Contestant	Best Flight
1 Ray Harlan	14:44.0
2 Chuck Slusarczyk	12:42.0
3 William Leppard	12:19.0
John Marett	11:37.0

AMA Limited Pennyplane

Contestant	Best Flight
1 William Leppard	10:56.0
2 Don Slusarczyk	10:43.0
3 Chuck Slusarczyk	10:17.0
Ray Harlan	10:11.0
John Marett	08:30.0
G. Gallo	08:08.0
Carl Van Voorhis	07:28.0
Terry Jenkins	06:31.0

AMA Easy B

Contestant	Best Flight
1 J. McGillivray	19:10.0
2 William Leppard	18:45.0
3 Don Slusarczyk	15:58.0
John Marret	12:45.0
Carl Van Voorhis	09:21.0
Ray Harlan	08:42.0

AMA Standard Catapult Glider

Contestant	Total Best 2 Flights
1 Don S.	02:29.5
2 John Marett	02:22.8
3 Rich Miller	02:17.4
Bob Clemens	01:54.0

FAC Scale

	Contestant	Aircraft	Scale Points	Bonus Points	Flight			Flight Points	Total Score
					#1	#2	#3		
1	J. McGillivray	SE 5 Replica	57	15	114			81.00	153.0
2	Mike Thomas	Miles Sparrow Hawk	58	10	95	103	118	82.00	150.0
3	Walt Kornrich	Fairchild 22	57	3	90			75.00	135.0
	Jack Barker	Standard Model J	54	15	32	30	34	34.00	103.0

FAC Peanut Scale - High Wing

	Contestant	Aircraft	Scale Points	Bonus Points	Flight			Flight Points	Total Score
					#1	#2	#3		
1	Mike Thomas	Lacey	59		120			82.50	141.50
2	J. McGillivray	Found	56		120			82.50	138.50
3	Jim DeTar	Centennial	57		85	91	62	75.25	132.25
	Garry Hunter	Lacey M10	45		111	61		80.25	125.25
	Bob Clemens	BD- IV	59		54	53		54.00	113.00

FAC Peanut Scale - Non High Wing

	Contestant	Aircraft	Scale Points	Bonus Points	Flight			Flight Points	Total Score
					#1	#2	#3		
1	Mike Thomas	Voison	59	30	111	120		82.50	171.50
2	Don Slusarczyk	Voison	54	30	86	80	105	78.75	162.75
3	W. Henderson	Bleriot 7	56	10	70	73	87	73.50	139.50
	Greg Gallo	Floyd Bean	48	5	62			61.00	114.00
	Jim DeTar	Jodel	57	10	37			37.00	104.00

FAC Dime Scale

Contestant	Aircraft	Flight			Bonus Points	Total Score
		#1	#2	#3		
1 Don Slusarczyk	Maubosson	120	120	120	15	405
2 Rich Miller	Bat Mono	120	120	120	3	369
	Consolidated					
3 Mike Thomas	BT-7	109	113	87	15	354
Jim DeTar	Arado	97	98	90	10	315
	Pitcairn					
Walt Kornrich	Fleetwing	87	86	88	15	306
Jim DeTar	Rearwin	93	89	93	0	275
Garry Hunter	Hurricane	56			10	66

FAC No-Cal Scale

Contestant	Aircraft	Flight			Total Score
		#1	#2	#3	
1 Mike Thomas	Hosler Fury	05:52.0	06:08.0	06:15.0	18:15.0
2 Don Slusarczyk	Hosler Fury	04:43.0	05:27.0	05:23.0	15:33.0
3 Chuck Slusarczyk	Hosler Fury	03:08.0	06:19.0	05:55.0	15:22.0
Rosenberg	Mr Smoothie	04:22.0	04:24.0	04:21.0	13:07.0
Terry Jenkins	Cassutt Racer	04:21.0	04:30.0	02:41.0	11:32.0
Jack Barker	Lavackin LA-5	01:04.0	01:04.0	01:14.0	03:22.0

FAC Golden Age Scale

Contestant	Aircraft	Flight			Total Score
		#1	#2	#3	
1 Jim DeTar	Farman 400	113	116	115	344
2 Mike Thomas	Supermarine Sparrow	76	119	115	310
3 W. Henderson	Farman F 190	103	53	100	256

FAC WW II ML

Contestant	Aircraft
1 Jack McGillivray	P51B
2 Greg Gallo	Ki61
3 Garry Hunter	Hurricane
Rich Miller	P51B
Jim Detar	P51D

FAC Golden Age Military ML

Contestant	Aircraft
1 Jack McGillivray	Curtiss P1B
2 Bob Clemens	Ryan YO-51

Phantom Horde

Contestant
1 Jack McGillivray
2 Mike Thomas
3 Chuck Slusarczyk
John Caldwell
Jack Barker
Bob Clemens

Science Olympiad

Although the Indoor Championships were held early in the indoor season, two Science Olympiad contestants were able to pull it together and take advantage of the Championships to prepare for their upcoming Olympics. Both contestants managed to put in several quite admirable flights. Patrick Wilcox in the High School "C" section flew one flight of 5 minutes, 29 seconds duration. Elana Bodow in the Middle School section flew three flights of 2 minutes 3 seconds, 2 minutes 53 seconds and 2 minutes 56 seconds.

Congratulations to the intrepid Olympians!

INDOOR FLYING OPPORTUNITY!

This just in from Alan Estill: there is an opportunity for indoor flying at the facility where Alan plays table tennis. According to Alan, the cost would be \$3 per person. The ceiling has limited obstructions and the room ventilation can be turned off. Flying will occur on Wednesday mornings from 10AM to 12 Noon. (Flying may continue a little later but that is not guaranteed.) Contact Alan for additional information.

Anyone interested in being kept informed of additional late breaking indoor flying opportunities should send their e-mail address to Alan as well. Alan provides contact information below, in his message as the Indoor Flying Site Coordinator.



Indoor Flying Site Update

I have some good news and some bad news for WNYFFS indoor fliers. The good news is that as of now there are two possible flying sites for WNYFFS members to use for what remains of the 2004-2005 indoor season:

1. SUNY Brockport. This site is a general-purpose room located in the Tuttle South athletic complex. Some of you have seen it, as it's the room where the Rochester district Science Olympiad Wright Stuff competition is held. Its floor area is about equal to 1-½ basketball courts, good but not great. Ceiling height is 23 ft. to the bottom of the solid concrete beams, 28 ft. to the areas between the beams that can be used, with luck, by a tightly circling model. There are no open girders, so odds of hanging up a model are low. WNYFFS members who would like to try this site can fly there on January 22 and 29 during the Science Olympiad practice sessions scheduled from 1 to 5 PM on those dates. Both sessions are free.
2. Town of Sweden Community Center, just south of Brockport off Route 19. This venue has loads of floor area, but has an extensive open girder system that starts about 20 ft. above the floor. Odds are high for a hang-up if a model gets into this girder maze. This site has seen use by indoor RC fliers and some free flight as well.

The bad news is that neither site is cheap to rent, at least compared to what we've paid in the past at such sites as the Penfield gym (\$3.00 per person for four hours). SUNY Brockport wants \$200 for the day, plus \$1M in insurance coverage, which the WNYFFS can handle through AMA for \$60.00. Do the math: If twenty paying fliers show up, we could have the site all day for \$10 a person. If only 10 fliers are present, they'd have to pay \$20 each.

The Brockport site goes for approximately \$150 for three hours. That would be a \$15 per person charge for ten fliers; \$7.50 for twenty. Again, the club would pick up the tab for the required AMA insurance certificate. Three hours is a minimal amount of time to fly by indoor standards, but would certainly be better than what we have now: nothing.

If there is sufficient interest in renting either site I'll be happy to make the necessary arrangements and we could start flying right after the Holidays. But I need to hear from those of you who are interested, ASAP. Call me at 392-3346 or e-mail me at robert.clemens@att.net.

In the meantime, let's not stop looking for other indoor flying sites. They're out there, somewhere, if only we can find them. They will not be beating a path to our doors.

- Bob Clemens

Message from Indoor Flying Site Coordinator

As indoor flying site coordinator, I'm making A "CALL TO ACTION" for all of us how have taken "ANY" steps towards finding an indoor site whether the result has been positive, unknown, or negative, to get back to me ASAP. (This includes letting me know if you have even just an idea for a potential site to follow up on.) Please provide the following information:

1. Site name and location
2. Contact person and any telephone or other useful contact information
3. Results of contact and any proposed or actionable activity to follow up contact
4. Any sites (even if no contact has been made) that may have potential

I want information on negative responses also to make sure no duplication of effort or repeat efforts to contact occur.

I will commit to follow up on positive, proposed or contact leads and report back to members by e-mail and, of course, the Thermal Journal. I will support any members who have begun the contact process to aid and abet the follow up actions towards getting an indoor flying site.

Contact your Indoor Flying Site Coordinator Alan Estill at aestill@rochester.rr.com or (585) 342-5059

Random thoughts by

Ye Olde Materials Engineer - David Rosenberg

Cyanoacrylate (C/Y) adhesive is triggered by moisture! Wood that becomes too dry from being stored too long in low humidity environments (most houses in Rochester in winter) may not have sufficient moisture to activate C/Y glue. Moistened old balsa wood prior to bonding. The wood may have dried out.

RTV (Room Temp Vulcanizing) Silicone rubber adhesive is cured by Acetic Acid (in a molecular sieve). Moisture releases the acetic acid, which cures the rubber. This is called an acetoxy reaction. It is very corrosive to copper wire! Do not use this around electrical connections. A non-corrosive RTV grade is made for electrical insulation. It's cured by alcohol, and is called an alcoxy reaction.

Radio Shack sells only one type of sealant. It was a sealed tube so I couldn't sniff it. If the sealant smells vinegary it is the acetic acid type. If it smells like alcohol it is the alcoxy type. The Radio Shack product is probably the acetic acid type. They used to carry the non-corrosive type. I checked an old hardened tube- called GE RTV 162 White- Electronic grade. Probably can get it thru a local jobber such as Wolcott Park.

Rubber lubricants - an older type such as Slick (FAI) can be home made. Use 40% tincture of Green Soap to 60% Glycerin (by volume). Heat in a saucepan, for 10 min @ 175F using a meat thermometer. It drives off the alcohol (30% in the soap), till a honey like mix is obtained. Cool and inhale old time memories! It does splash off the rubber, during unwinding, staining the tissue covering. Good for open stick designs, such as Mini-Stick, No-Cal, Science Olympiad or Intermediate stick.

Non-splashing types are Son-Of-A-Gun™ Protectorant, (water based silicone), which can be rinsed off for knot re-tying., and Armorall™ (water based Fluorocarbon, such as Teflon), which cannot be rinsed off for knot re-tying. Both good for tissue covered fuselages, scale, etc.

Casual Outdoor Contests

In October of last year (2003), some of us gathered on short notice at Hendershot's in Hilton. The occasion was an informal local Saturday morning contest consisting of 4 FAC events (No-Cal, Embryo, WWII, Golden Age). We had a great time. (Refer to the Holiday 2003 Thermal Journal for an *excellent* description of that event. Ed.) No planning stress, no trophies, no entry fees, and great weather because the date was chosen at the last minute with the weather forecast the deciding factor. The only paperwork was submission to FAC GHQ for Kanones. These informal FAC contests will continue in the future!! If you are interested, here is all you have to do:

Email me with your email address. Notification of a forthcoming event will be by email only. Again, it's short notice, depending on the weather. My email is: james.detar@kodak.com Also, please tell me which FAC events you will participate in. This will help to decide which events to run, and if we'll need a scale judge. All Results will be published in the "Thermal Journal".

Jim DeTar

Here are 4 simple tips for better photos and hence better photo submissions to the Thermal Journal.

1. Get in close to your subject. Try to eliminate other extraneous objects. The subject of your photograph should be unambiguous.
2. Try to make sure the background is clear. Unnecessary clutter distracts from the subject
3. Focus. Make sure the subject is sharp. When using auto focus, make sure the focus point is on your subject, not on something in the background. If you're not sure, make another exposure
4. Use fill flash to reduce harsh shadows. A large window on a cloudy bright day also makes for very nice illumination.

Attention all Members!

The WNYFFS is, to put it mildly, a pretty loosely run organization. Over the years accumulated property and documents have migrated into the hands of those most likely to benefit from or use the items, or more likely, into the hands least likely to refuse the caretaker's role. With the recent changes in management it seems appropriate to take a snapshot inventory of club assets.

So, at President Brad's request, this note is directed to any and all members in possession of any club property. If you are holding any items or documents that belong to the club, please send a note describing the item(s) to the TJ editor at wnyffs@frontiernet.net or via snail mail to the editor's address listed elsewhere in this issue. Include in the subject line "WNYFFS asset inventory" or words to that effect. Do NOT send the items. The purpose of this request is to collect information on what the club still owns and who has it.

One example of an item of interest is the missing WNYFFS banner. Rumor has it that there are two of these banners in existence. Brad claims to have seen one very recently but the other seems to have gone missing. If you have either of the banners in your possession please send word.

In any case, please do not assume that it is common knowledge that you have item X in your possession. The purpose here is to enumerate and locate club assets. That should make it easier for everyone to access items when needed.

Thanks, **Mark C. Rzacca**

Announcement: Winter Building Contest

Winter is building season in Rochester. Most of us do not get to fly much free flight outdoors this time of year. With the indoor site situation shaping up like it is, we may not have too many opportunities to fly indoor either. In order to provide a competitive outlet (and encourage contributions to the TJ) I have decided to run a People's Choice Award Winter Project Contest. The idea is very simple.

Anyone interested in the contest should take a few pictures of the project they are building this winter. Write up a paragraph or two describing the project and any interesting comments about the kit or changes you made to enhance the finished model. Send your best 2 or 3 photos along with the write up, to the editor. Entries will be published in a special edition of the TJ, sometime around April. Rule details are spelled out below.

Members will vote for the "best" project. Criteria for "best" are to be determined by the voters. It may be the best looking pictures or best technical innovation. Or, it may simply be the project that most inspired the voter to put down the remote control and get to work themselves. Voting rules will be spelled out in the issue containing the submitted projects.

A prize will be awarded to the contribution voted best project. No entry fee so the prize is a selection from my stash of 'will build eventually' kits. If this contest goes well there will be additional contests. In particular, a summer modeling activity photo contest is a likely candidate, so dust off your lenses and buy some fresh Kodak film (or pixels if you use a digital camera).

Official WNYFFS Winter Building Contest Rules

1. To enter you must be a member of WNYFFS with dues paid for 2005. (See last page for info on paying your dues.)
2. Thermal Journal Editor must receive entries by March 15, 2005.
3. Members may submit up to 2 entries. Make sure pictures and text are clearly identified so parts of multiple entries are not mixed up. Any confusion on the editor's part will be blamed on the submitter.
4. Send entries or questions to wnyffs@frontiernet.net. Please include "Winter Building Contest Entry", on the subject line. If you must use snail mail, send to Mark C. Rzacca, Attn: Winter Building Contest, 17 High Point Trail, Fairport, NY 14450.
5. Entries from four (4) individuals will be required to justify publication of the special Thermal Journal issue. If insufficient entries are received, a team of judges chosen by the editor will select a winner.
6. Hardcopy photos will not be returned. (Just to be fair, digital photos are not going to be returned either.)
7. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions as needed for clarity of writing and reproduction of photos and to insure a manageable newsletter.

The Editor's 2004 Winter Project - Here is a model I built last winter. One of the perks of being editor is you can put what you want in the newsletter.

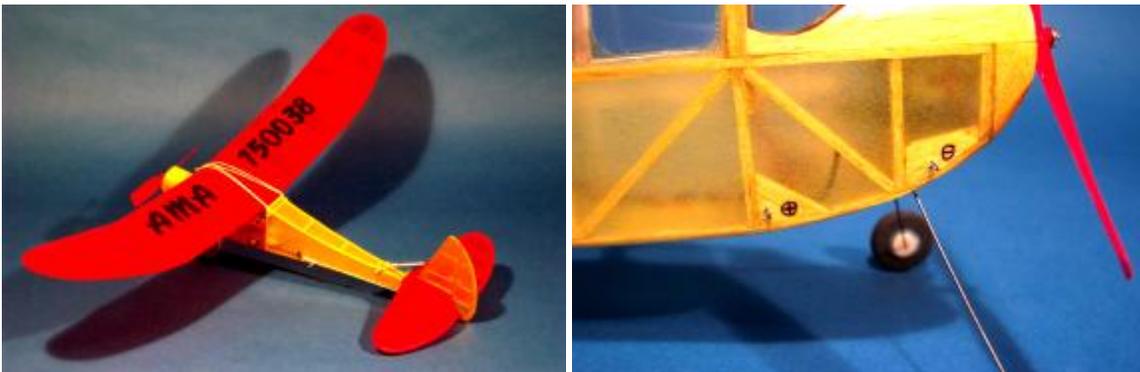


This is my Viking built for FAC Old Time Gas Replica (OTGR) competition. It is from the Al Lidberg kit. A Hiline Mini-6 and a battery of 3 cells of 110 mAh capacity powers the plane. The model has 108 square inches of wing area and, with the power system described, weighs 77.6 grams.

In order to simplify charging, two leads protrude through the right side of the fuselage. These leads can be seen in the last picture. They are marked + and - to aid in connecting the battery charger correctly. Micro-alligator clips hook on the small loops formed in the wires. It is much simpler than soldering in a connector and I don't have to worry about finding a supply of the same style connectors or maintaining a variety of plugs for my battery charger.

The plane climbs out very nicely. So far, it has had no problem making consistent 2-minute maxes. It is difficult to achieve the precision time typically required in the fly-off for OTGR because the plane is so light it really floats, even when dethermalized.

To enter the CLEEMAC World-Wide Postal Contest (see your July/August 2004 issue of Flying Aces Newsletter), I changed the power system to use 3 cells of 50 mAh capacity. This reduced the all-up weight to 70 grams. The conversion to the smaller battery was just completed prior to the FAC outdoor Champs in Muncie. That was where I planned to fly for the CLEEMAC contest in order to take advantage of that large field for the unlimited round. With the new power source the Viking had a harder time making consistent maxes. Fortunately, the thermals were very good in Muncie and I was able to get in some very good flights. For the unlimited flight the Viking managed a very respectable 4 minutes and 21 seconds.



One on One

If you want to talk to a free flighter directly, the names listed here are people in the area who can offer advice on getting started or have a suggestion for a first kit or tips about what to ask for at the hobby store.

Auburn

Brooks Goodnow
22 Lakehurst Drive
Auburn, NY 13201
315-252-9170
bgood@a-znet.com

Canandaigua

Jack Barker
2067 Route 65
Bloomfield, NY 14469
585-624-2844

Buffalo

Brad Bane
60 Lake Ave.
Lyndonville, NY 14098
585-765-9363
windwhip47@aol.com

Rochester

Bob Clemens
95 Shoreway Drive
Rochester, NY 14612
585-392-3346
rclemens@compuserve.com

Brockport

Vet Thomas
970 Clarkson-Parma Road
Hilton, NY 13021
585-392-5164
vthomas1@rochester.rr.com

To Join the WNYFFS complete this form (or a facsimile) and send it along with a check for \$10 (annual dues) payable to:



Ruth Bane, Treasurer, WNYFFS
60 Lake Avenue
Lyndonville, NY 14098

Name _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____
Work Phone _____
Email _____
AMA/ MAAC # _____

Please consider membership in AMA/MAAC. While not required for membership in WNYFFS, AMA/MAAC provides supplemental liability insurance covering model flying activities and is required at most WNYFFS flying activities.

Contest CD's

Brooks Goodnow
22 Lakehurst Drive.
Auburn, NY 13021
315-252-9170

Vet Thomas
970 Clarkson-Parma Road
Hilton, NY 13021
585-392-5164
vthomas1@rochester.rr.com

John Carls
43 Murphy Road
Bradford, PA 16701
814-362-7789

Lyle Whitford
9003 Lake Rd, PO Box 72
Barker, NY 14012
716-795-3831

Application for Membership

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ e-Mail _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Occupation _____
Hobbies _____

Membership entitles you to free admission to our air show and to the museum, a 10% discount in the HAG store, *Hangar Tales* for a year, a window sticker for your car, and membership card (which must be presented to obtain the perks).

Membership Type: _____ Regular \$30 (age 18-59)
_____ Senior Citizen \$25 (age 60 & up)
_____ Junior \$10 (age 17 and under)

Mail this application (or a photocopy) with your check to:

1941 Historical Aircraft Group Museum
PO Box 185
Geneseo, NY 14454-0185



Background on the WNYFFS

The Western NY Free Flight Society began in the late 1960's with a few modelers. Today the Society now numbers nearly 100 members in 9 states and Canada. For over 30 years the club has hosted the Empire State Free Flight Championships in late summer, as well as a "fun fly", each spring, both are held in Geneseo, NY. Powered by rubber, gas, diesel, electric, CO₂, compressed air or that old standby- muscle, these events exact the best from the planes and presents the fascinating challenge of outdoor free flight to the folks attending. There is no "off season" in free flight. Once a year a major contest is hosted in conjunction with the Flying Aces Club. The Empire State Indoor Championships are held at the Buffalo Bills field house in Orchard Park, NY.

If you haven't already paid your dues for 2005 this will be your last issue of the Thermal Journal! Not only that, you won't be eligible for the Winter Building Contest announced in this very issue!! If you renew (or start) your membership you will remain (or become) part of the most prestigious regional free flight organization in Western New York!!! You probably can't find a better use for \$10. Send your check to the treasurer. The address is provided on the front page.

Directions to Dave's house:

Starting from 390, south of the city, take the exit for Lehigh Station Road (253) and head east for about 2 miles. Turn right onto Pinnacle road; continue south for about half a mile. Turn left on to Tomahawk Trail. Continue on Tomahawk Trail until it tees into Gate House Trail. Turn right onto Gate House Trail. Watch for Dave's house, number 208.

Planning Meeting Announcement

A planning meeting and casual get together will be held at 1PM on Sunday, January 23, 2005. This get-together is a non-business meeting and will include discussion of modeling and general conviviality! Dave Rosenberg has generously offered the use of his home in Henrietta. Refreshments will be served. RSVP's will be needed by Saturday, January 15. Write to Dave, either at 208 Gate House Trail, Henrietta NY 14467 or email to drosenberg208@mailstation.com. Simple directions are provided below, if you need more specific directions try www.mapquest.com. Members are encouraged to bring their current projects for show and tell. The welcome mat is out to all who wish to attend.

Do you have email?

The preferred delivery means for the TJ is via email to members equipped to accept that format. If you are receiving a printed copy of the TJ and are able to accept via email, please inform the editor at the address provided on the front page. This reduces costs to WNYFFS and work for the staff. Ed.



Mark C. Rzdca
17 High Point Trail
Fairport, NY 14450