

Winter 2010

Thermal Journal

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

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Submissions to the Thermal Journal in the form of letters to the editor, articles or photos (please include good caption information) are always welcome. Use the editor's address provided above. Thanks to Jim DeTar for his great article on DIY vacuum forming and Bob Clemens for the photo in this issue.

The Editor's Ramble:

We are in the prime building season here in the northeast so I hope every one is filling the air with balsa dust and dope fumes. My modeling activity has taken a definite turn for the better since my furniture project was completed just after Christmas. Along with building season, the indoor flying continues apace thanks to the good efforts of Bob Clemens. You may be interested in following along with Bob's email updates even if you don't do too much indoor flying. Sometimes we get together before the flying time to have some hangar talk. Previously we have gotten together at Dunkin Donuts. Since my participation in the Fall was limited, I can't say if there have been any get togethers this season but now that modeling is back on the front burner I'll be lobbying for more of these BS sessions. We may even be able to take advantage of the hospitality of Pieter's as a place to gather. The latest indoor schedule is included here but drop Bob a line (his email is included in the *One on One* section, page 7) if you are interested as he sends out the last minute changes to the schedule.

Opportunities to help out abound in most any volunteer organization; the WNYFFS is no exception. We are lucky to have two members step up to help out recently. First off, Jim DeTar has agreed to be the Event Director for FAC events. This will help Lyle out since it is well nigh impossible to keep up with all the rules and rule changes if one is not an active FAC flyer. Second, Vince Sadwick has agreed to take on distribution responsibility for the Thermal Journal. That means he will pick up the few printed copies of the TJ that must go out via U.S. mail and see that they are addressed and stamped for delivery to our members that lack email. Kudos to Jim and Vince.

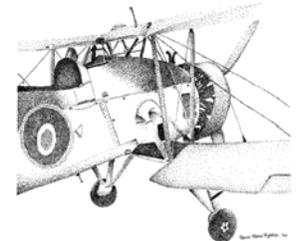
Sticking with changes to the TJ, we will be trying out a new means of distributing the electronic version very soon. In the near future electronic subscribers will receive a note telling them that the latest copy of the TJ is available on the WNYFFS website. They will then be able to download a copy at their convenience. This provides a couple of advantages. First the editor will be able (once he figures out the technical details) to send an email automatically to each recipient with only a single address on the "To" line. This should reduce the problems with spam filters we have experienced in the past. Second, once the automation is in place, we will be able to send out more frequent communications as are sometimes needed even though there is not enough material to justify an issue of the TJ. Third, by making the web site the "go to" place to get the TJ it will shift the focus to the website for up to date information.

Well, it looks like it is time to get building; if you aren't going to build right now, take some pictures of whatever you have on the board already and send in to the editor with a descriptive paragraph or two. Consider the excellent description of his foray into vacuum forming from Jim DeTar. If you don't feel like building, taking a few photographs to show off what you already accomplished provides a feeling of satisfaction all its own. Try it, you just might like it.

Till the next time, Mark C. Rzdca

Dates to keep in mind:

Indoor flying sessions are still going on; see the back page for flying times
WNYFFS Hobo Meet on May 22 & 23 @ HAG Museum in Geneseo
FAC Nationals in Geneseo on July 14 ~17, judging on July 14 following flying
WNYFFS Empire State Free Flight Championships August 27, 28 & 29 in Geneseo
SAM 86 & WNYFFS Great Grape Gathering, Sept 17, 18 & 19 in Geneseo



Also, don't forget to check out WNYFFS website: <http://www.amadistrictii.org/wnyffs/index.html>

Annual meeting minutes

The annual meeting was held at the Terry Hills Country Club in Batavia on Saturday November 14, 2009. We were pleased to welcome two new members, Bill De Forrest and Mike Cali from Oswego to this year's meeting. Club president Brad Bane called the meeting to order. As the first order of business, we covered the New Business.

Old Business

Reports

Club treasurer's report was made by club treasurer, Ruth Bane. Our finances were in good order despite reduced income from outdoor meet. This was followed by club secretary Mark Rzacca reading of the minutes from last year's meeting. Last year's minutes and the treasurer's report were unanimously approved by the members present. Along with our normal sources of income, Mark Rzacca presented a check for \$50 from Rick Isaacson of Pittsburgh PA. Rick made the generous contribution to the club in gratitude for (successful) efforts made to recover his Large Rubber Stick model, the Gull. Thank you Rick. In addition, another \$21 was received from the sale of items from Dave Rosenberg's estate.

Donation to Historic Aviation Group Museum:

We had an extended discussion regarding the amount we should contribute to the HAG 1941 Museum. Once again Brad relayed how our donation last year of \$600 was quite well received. Despite the hard economic times, the consensus was that we repeat the amount again this year. The motion was unanimously approved.

Empire State Free Flight Championships:

Brad has identified a potential conflict, once again, between the Nationals and our meet. The Nationals are scheduled for August 2-6 in Muncie. Thus this meet will end only one week before the normally scheduled weekend of our meet. Our previous experience has been that attendance is down when the meets are so nearly coincident. Unfortunately, selection of alternate dates for the ESFFC is difficult. HAG air show is scheduled for July 10 & 11. At this time we do not have a scheduled date but three potential dates have been identified. Following are the dates, in order of preference based on discussion of the membership present:

1st choice: August 27-29

2nd choice: August 10-21

3rd choice: June 11-13

It was also noted that FAI portion of the meet will have to be determined at a later date. It is not clear how that portion of the meet will be run. It was reported that Teena Nippert will not be running the events in 2010.

Jack Barker suggested shifting events initially scheduled for Friday to Saturday or Sunday, if and only if, nobody flies on Friday. There will be no official policy to this effect. However, it is in the CD's purview to move events due to weather or other special conditions. It is possible that an event can be moved, but it will not be official policy to do so based on participation.

One Porta-Potty will be booked for the ESFFC.

Hobo Meet

Bob Rambo agreed to once again run the Hobo meet in 2010. Date will be May 22, 2009 with a rain date of May 23.

Meet schedule for 2008:

The following dates were announced for free flight meets at the Historic Aviation Group Museum in Geneseo:

- ✓ May 23, 2010, the WNYFFS Hobo Meet
- ✓ TBD, the WNYFFS Empire State Free Flight Championships, Contest Director (presumed), Lyle Whitford

Planning Meeting for 2010:

Planning meeting will be held on January 2, 2010 at the Bane's.

Executive Opportunity:

Brad has announced that he is interested in retiring from the role of president of the club. All members should consider this opportunity to play a leadership role in the club. Contact Brad to find out particulars of the responsibilities of this important office.

Motion to Adjourn:

Bob Clemens motion to adjourn was unanimously carried

Mark C. Rzacca

For the record, here is a summary of the club's membership as of the annual meeting held in November 2009:

We have 37 members paid up for 2009

We have 5 members recently in arrears (paid in 2008, not in 2009)

A few notes on the Thermal Journal:

We have 26 paid up members with email

10 paid up members take the newsletter via snail mail

83 "complimentary" members, 3 receive the newsletter via snail mail

Over all about 130 copies will go out via email, about a dozen will go out via snail mail in 2010



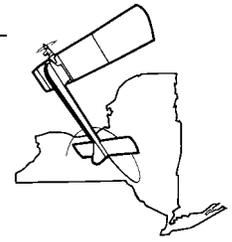


SPRING HOBO MEET

May 22 & 23, 2010

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Geneseo Field

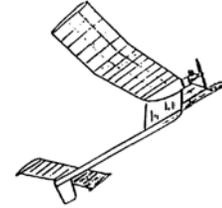


Now that spring is just around the corner it's time to get your models and yourself tuned up for the coming contest season. What better way than at our Hobo Meet. You can fly, socialize, win some merchandise, and make a Contribution to the Club treasury and have a good time. Dinner at one of the local restaurants is a distinct possibility!

Around lunchtime on Saturday, we will take time for a brief memorial service to remember deceased club members and other flying friends. Everyone is invited to bring along a plane or other memento. We will reminisce and drink a toast. Any planes can be flown as part of the memorial and would be a fine tribute to friends and friendship.

HOBO EVENTS

020 Replica	10 sec - 2 min max
AMA Classic Power-.15 and under	7 sec - 2 min max
AMA Classic Power- over .15	7 sec - 2 min max
Nostalgia – Glow	9 sec - 2 min max
Nostalgia – Diesel	16 sec - 2 min max
HL/Cat Glider – best of three	1 min max
Open Rubber	2 min max
P-30	2 min max



Initial entry fee is \$2/event, \$1 for Jr. and Sr. Each re-entry is \$1/event with previous flights scratched. Winner of each event gets a raffle ticket, each entry and re-entry gets you a raffle ticket for the raffle, at the end of the day. You pick what you want from a table of goodies. Goodies are contributions from members, so if you have an old kit or a bundle of balsa or a small tool that you would like to contribute, bring it along. Good items on the table are welcome too; an old ignition engine or a Mogle timer might instill a strong urge in the contestant to own, that creates a more determined competitor, who flies more flights, and buys more raffle tickets, and wins more events, and takes home more merchandise, and has a better time. So be that contributor and strong competitor and attend the first meet of the year.

Come on down to Geneseo, get the winter creaks out of your body and get the in the first flights of a new flying season. All events will be flown on Saturday with Sunday available as a rain day or for more practice flying.

We'll see you all there, **Bob Rambo**

FAC EVENTS

In addition to the events listed above, we will also run a few *casual* FAC events. What does casual mean, you may ask? Well it means we fly in the events to the official FAC rules, but with much less rigor in terms of administration. Each flier helps out with the record keeping by recording their times on a tally sheet and there are no prizes/ trophies; just friendly flying and kanones, since we do plan to file the report as required. A \$10 field use fee will cover both days of FAC flying. Here are the FAC events that will be flown at the Hobo Meet:

Saturday

FAC Scale
Traditional Dime Scale
Old Time Gas Replica
Two Bit + 1

Sunday

Modern Production

Embryo
Golden Age Civil & Military combined*

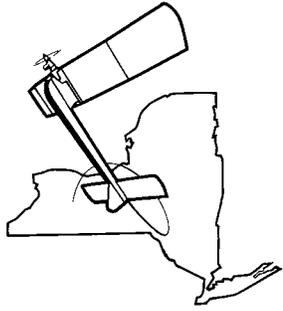
No Cal Scale
Phantom Flash

FLYING ACES

The schedule is tentative and subject to change based on the weather or other field conditions during the meet. In particular we may to defer events due to wind or possibly fly some events, such as No-Cal, in the evening. The key is to have fun flying, experience a little friendly competition and enjoy good company.

Come on out and have a good time, **Mark C. Rzadca**

* Permission to combine events has been granted by FAC CINC Ross Mayo



The Western New York Free Flight Society

Presents the 41st Annual

Empire State Free Flight Championships



Schedule of Flying Events

Friday 8AM to 5PM

- A-B Classic Gas
- B-C Nostalgia Gas
- .020 Replica
- Moffett
- Old Time Rubber
- Classic Towline (J)(S/O)
- Diesel Qualify

Saturday 8AM to 5PM

- ¼ A Nostalgia Gas
- ½ A Classic Gas (J)(S/O)
- ½ A – D Gas (S/O)
- A Nostalgia Gas
- ½ A AMA Power (J)
- Mulvihill
- Nostalgia Rubber/Wakefield
- FAC Rubber Scale
- FAC Golden Age Civ. & Mil.*
- FAC 2 Bit Rubber
- FAC Embryo Endurance
- FAC Modern Production
- F1A, F1B, F1C (Open)
- F1P (J/S) (Open)
- Diesel Qualify

Sunday 8AM to 4PM

- ½ A Nostalgia Gas
- C-D Classic Gas
- Old Time Gas
- P-30 (J)(S/O)
- Catapult Glider (J)(S/O)
- FAC Dime Scale
- FAC No Cal Scale
- FAC WW II Mass Launch
- FAC Old Time Gas Replica
- F1G, F1H, F1J (Open)
- Diesel Fly Off

* Permission has been granted by FAC CINC Ross Mayo to combine Golden Age Civilian and Golden Age Military events.

Date: August 27, 28 & 29, 2010

Location: Geneseo, NY at the 1941 Historic Aviation Group Museum

Entry Fees: \$25 for all events and field use fee. Juniors, \$5 covers all events. Casual flyers *must* register with CD.

Contest Director: Lyle Whitford

For questions regarding the meet, contact Lyle at 716-795-3831 or at whitford@localnet.com

Event Director for *FAC* events is Jim DeTar

Event Director for *America's Cup* events is John Clapp

Dinner: At the Yard of Ale on Saturday, August 28. Check out the details at the CD's table.

Rules for Empire State Free Flight Championships, a category

III meet except:

- Old Time Gas
16-second engine run for ignition (no glo)
12-second engine run for old time diesel
- .020 Replica, 12 second engine run
- Moffett, Mulvihill & Old Time Rubber:
First three flights, 2 minute max,
Each additional flight, max increments by 1 minute
- America's Cup
Flown in 1 ½ hour, overlapping rounds starting at 8 AM both days, i.e., 8 – 9:30, 9-10:30, etc.
- National Cup
Qualifying events for this contest: ½ A, AB, +CD Classic, Moffett, Mulvihill, 1/4 A, 1/2 A & A Nostalgia, Nostalgia/Wakefield, Catapult Glider, P-30, Classic Towing.
- Junior National Cup events
Classic Towline, ½ A AMA Power, P-30, Catapult Glider.
- Diesel Unofficial Fun Fly
Three flights Friday and/or Saturday, 12 second run, 120 second max. Total of 250 seconds or more qualifies for Sunday 8 – 10 AM fly off, 12 second run.
- Classic Towline: Straight Tow - no bunt NFFS Rules as of 2005.
- FAC Rubber Scale judging 8 –12 noon on Saturday
- Max times are subject to CD's discretion based on field conditions
- Check in at CD's table for latest in field rules and flight times.

Valid AMA or MAAC Proof of membership required for all contestants and casual flyers.

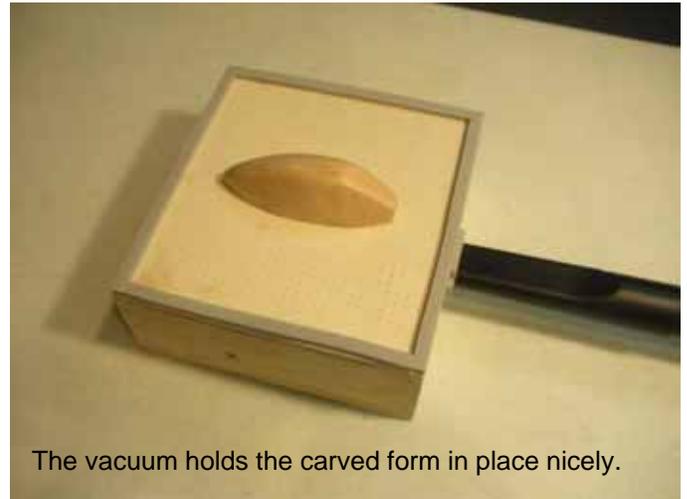
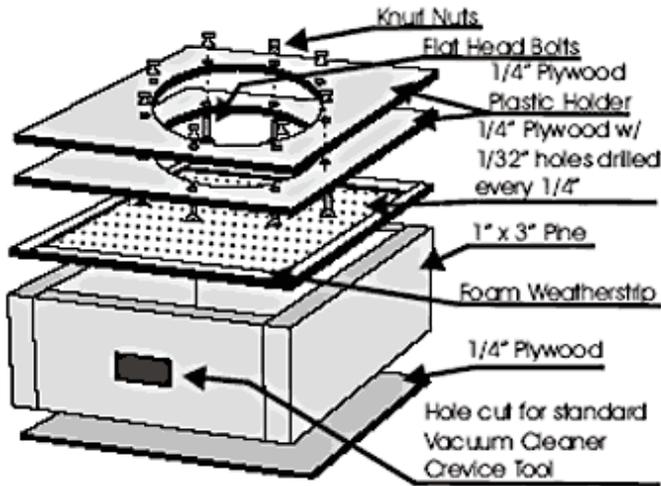
D.I.Y. Vacuum Forming

Jim DeTar

A modeling requirement of many World War II and Modern Military type aircraft is a cockpit canopy. There are many nice kits available of such aircraft which include a canopy, but what if there is no kit for the aircraft you would like to model? Or not available in the specific size you would like to build? Faced with this dilemma, it may be time to equip yourself with the means to D.I.Y. (Do It Yourself).

Chris Boehm of the Detroit Cloudbusters has an article on the Small Flying Arts website entitled "The End of the Wobbly Noseblock" which describes a vacuum forming noseblocks

http://www.smallflyingarts.com/Archives/Feature_Articles/wobbly_noseblock/wobbly_noseblock.htm. The article includes a sketch of an easy to build device that you use with a vacuum cleaner.



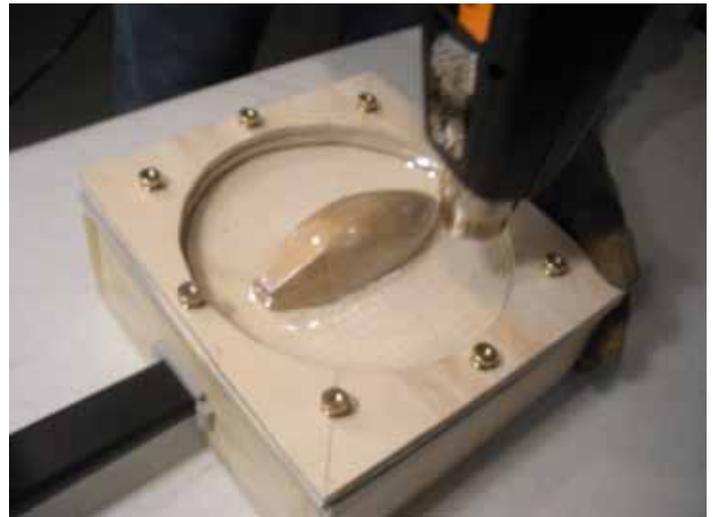
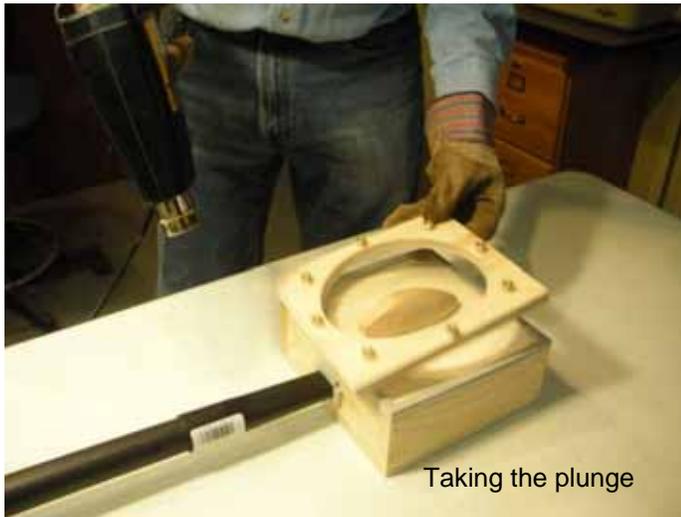
I modified Chris's design slightly by using 1/2" rather than "1x" (actually 3/4") pine which I found at the local Lowes store. The only tedious part was drilling the many 1/32" holes in the top piece. To do this, I stuck a piece of 1/4" grid graph paper to the 1/4" plywood with a removable glue stick, and drilled away with a Dremel drill press. Doing this a little at a time, rather than all at once, made the job less daunting.

Jim's D.I.Y. continues on the next page.

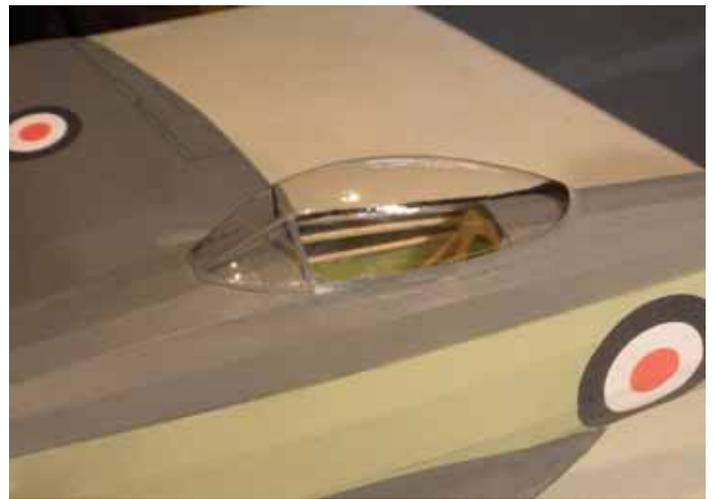


I used a variable temperature heat gun to heat the plastic. Test first on a scrap piece to determine the temperature setting at which the plastic will sag but not melt through. I found it best to as much as possible get the entire sheet heated uniformly so the vacuum force applies to the piece evenly. Note the leather glove. A stove top burner, if convenient, may be another good way to heat the plastic uniformly, but I have not tried this.

Be careful with applying additional heat. You can melt right through the plastic. Again, best to get the plastic uniformly saggy before applying to the form.



You can see a little roughness from the wooden form. More care filling and smoothing the wood would cure this situation.



Trimmed and applied to my Hawker Sea Fury. The canopy frame is painted tissue, with glue stick applied to the back and allowed to dry, then cut into strips and applied to the canopy with water. A coat of "Future" floor polish seals the deal.

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
tiqer33@thumpernet.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
rclemens2@rochester.rr.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 _____
(For Family membership, please list all names.)
Address _____ e-Mail _____
City _____ State _____ Country _____ 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). See Founders' Forum for club details.

- Membership Type: _____ Life (up to 59) \$600
_____ Life (60 & up) \$500
_____ C-47 Club \$250
_____ Family (parents & children under 18) \$75
_____ Regular (18-59) \$35
_____ Senior Citizen (60 & up) \$30
_____ Junior (17 and under) \$15

**NEW:
LIFE
MEMBERSHIP**



All payments must be in US funds.

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 outdoor season ends, the WNYFFS sponsors several indoor flying opportunities in the Rochester area.



Rick & Joy Isaacson

Last summer we had an image of Rick Isaacson launching his Gull into the twilight. Here is another picture, this time Rick is winding the Gull while most ably aided by Joy Isaacson. If you see Rick at the FAC Nationals this summer, be sure and thank him for the generous donation he made to the WNYFFS.

2010 Indoor Flying Schedule

February 13, 27 3 – 5 PM
 March 6, 20 3 – 5 PM
 April 3, 17 3 – 5 PM

The Pieters Family Center is located at 1025 Commons Way, just east of the junction of East Henrietta Road and Castle Road and just off I-390. There are large tables available on site.

Note this schedule is subject to change; to be assured of receiving the latest information send an email to Bob Clemens. See contact information provided in "One on One" section, page 7.



Clemens photo

Jim's Curtiss Helldiver

Here is a nice photo from last summer showing Jim DeTar winding his Curtiss Helldiver made from the Easy Built kit. This model has been a fine flyer and provided several wins and places for Jim.

ANNOUNCING! THE COMPLETELY NEW-ATLAS SERVOS!!

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- NEW—precision machined alum. alloy gear train.
- NEW—universal mounting.
- NEW—crash proof construction.
- NEW—near linear movement drive disk.
- NEW—size—only 2-1/2" L, 1-7/16" W, 1-1/16" H.
- NEW—transit time (developed for all type flying competition or sport), average 6 tenth sec.
- NEW—more powerful action—over 3 lbs. thrust.
- NEW—lite weights (only 2 oz. single and multi-channel, 2 1/2 oz. relay less type).
- NEW—lower prices!!!

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PCA-13 RELAY LESS BOARD ONLY—18.95	PCA-100 RELAY LESS ONLY—28.95

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