

Winter 2015

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, articles or photos (please include appropriate caption information) are always welcome. Use the editor's address provided above.

The Editor's Ramble:

Our planning meeting was held in early January. Once again, we were most ably hosted by the Banes. Thanks Brad and Ruth for opening your home and providing a great venue along with a splendid meal. Details for the Spring Opener, ESFFC and the Pirate Challenge were mostly worked out at that session. Official announcements for those contests are included in this issue. A few points have yet to be resolved for the GGG; in particular, opening up the Bungee Launch technique to more glider types requires a bit of working out of launch system details.

This issue also includes the minutes from our annual meeting held in November of 2014. Be sure and print out a copy to bring to this year's meeting so you can read along.

Indoor flying continues through March. Check the web site for remaining dates. This may be the most well attended indoor seasons since we have begun flying at Pieter's Life Family Center. At the last session, on February 7, there were well over a dozen regular flyers along with a group from Penfield's Bay Trail Middle School's Science Olympiad Team.

For the middle schools, the Wright Stuff competition is Elastic Launch Glider. On the surface, elastic or catapult launch gliders seems like a great introduction to model aviation. However, achieving stability during the high speed launch as well as a good glide in a fairly tight circle can be difficult for the neophyte. (Keep in mind that many of the participants in the Wright Stuff were not modelers to start with. They entered the event because it is part of the Science Olympiad.) Add to that the need to gain max altitude without hitting the ceiling and you have a fairly tightly constrained event. While building a model able to achieve good glide performance is quite feasible if a good plan is available, trimming for launch and glide can be frustrating. Especially when, as is inevitable, the model is damaged before everything is worked out then, with field repairs, it no longer necessarily conforms to the plan. With balloon launch glider, it was much simpler to set up the glider. They could be kept very light. The glide was pure poetry while the light weight kept crash damage to a minimum. The only difficult part was getting the glider off the balloon in a good attitude for gliding. Presumably, there were objections to that event since we haven't seen it in several years.

Continued on page 2

Dates to keep in mind:

Indoor Flying: Several sessions to go in 2015. See website for additional dates.

Spring Opener: May 16 & 17, Rain Date: May 30 & 31

National Warplane Museum Airshow: July 10 (arrival day) 11 & 12

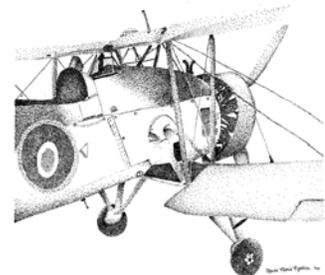
Empire State Free Flight Championships: August 14, 15 & 16

Pirate Challenge: August 28, 29 & 30

Great Grape Gathering: September 11, 12 & 13

Don't forget to check out WNYFFS website: <http://www.wnyffs.org>

National Warplane Museum web site: <http://nationalwarplanemuseum.org>



The Editor's Ramble Continued:

Anyway, the contestants from Bay Trail were certainly enthusiastic. It was a real delight to see the energy displayed by the team. By the end of the session they had one of their models flying very well. A number of the team members were able to launch to near maximum altitude with consistency. Your editor even got one of his models to fly similarly. My model was based on the plans available on the AMA website. Note that those plans do not exactly conform to this year's rules. However the changes from last year are minimal and can be easily accommodated. The AMA plan is easy to build and does not require much in materials and no special tools are needed.

Working with the Elastic Launch Gliders has also called to mind the fun of flying FAC Jet Catapult Gliders at the Ted Dock meet last fall. Harrison Knapp and I did not expect to do especially well in that event so we agreed to get the flights in by walking along, each with their own model to fly and a stop watch to time the other. Our intuition was correct; neither did too well but we enjoyed the walking and talking and flying. We found a small rise in the field and waited for the light breeze to offer the potential for some ridge lift. If memory serves, Harrison broke 30 seconds with his Phantom F-4 while my Heinkel HE-178 approached 30 seconds but couldn't break through. Sounds like sufficient inspiration for an indoor contest! Details are provided below. I'll try to pull together a few plans for the website for guidance and inspiration. Note, some of the plans may be more "working drawings" than plans. These models are relatively simple. Take a look at the plans; build from those or roll your own. It's really easy and a lot of fun for the effort.

Jim DeTar and Bob Clemens and I also had a very nice time supervising the high school Science Olympiad event in January. While at that event, we offered to help any interested teams. Pre-printed business cards with contact information made it easy to over promise our services. We will be working the middle school event in March. Anyone interested in helping out will certainly be welcome. With timing (event guidelines suggest having three timers for each official flight), model check in and data recording activities, it can get pretty busy. Send an email to the newsletter editor if you're interested.

Anyone who has not paid up their dues recently should consider doing so. Nobody will be cut off from the Thermal Journal for not paying their dues; the TJ is sent out (via email) to all interested parties whether dues are paid up or not. Membership dues go to support free flight activities, most notably the National Warplane Museum Series of model meets. Your \$10 contribution is the seed money used to set up and host the NWM free flight meets announced in this issue of the TJ. In addition, the club donates money to the museum in an order to do our small part to help keep that institution fiscally sound. Send your dues to club treasurer, Ruth Bane, at the address provided on the front page.

It has long been the policy of WNYFFS to strongly encourage its members to join the National Warplane Museum. Membership numbers are critical to a museum maintaining its status as a formally recognized museum in New York State. By becoming a member you strengthen the museum and help secure access to one of the best free flight fields in the Northeast. You will also gain free admission to the museum's annual airshow, the Greatest Show on Turf! For those who have not attended the airshow, you are really missing out on something special. The sights and sounds of classic warbirds flying off a grass field is a real treat. There is no telling how much longer the owners of these aircraft will be willing to continue operating these flying museum pieces from the Greatest Generation. Every year the museum tries to bring in a couple of different aircraft. Last year there was a P-38, flying off a grass field no less! In past years we have seen a Fairy Swordfish, a Douglass Dauntless SBD along with hosts of P-51s and other WWII warbirds too numerous to recall. If you have any interest in aviation, the airshow is a must do event in New York. There is plenty of great food, including tasty Angus burgers; and they let you bring your own cooler too!

That's all for now. Build light, build straight and fly often,
Mark C. Rzdca

INDOOR CONTEST: FAC JET CATAPULT SCALE GLIDER

WHEN: Indoor flying session on March 7.

PRIZES: Aviation relation literature - to third place.

RULES: See FAC Rulebook (<http://www.flyingacesclub.com/FACrules3.html>)



**SCALE
DOCUMENTATION
REQUIRED FOR
MAXIMUM
SCORE!**

The
Western New York Free Flight Society
presents the
2015 Spring Opener
for the
National Warplane Museum Series
of
Outdoor Free Flight Contests

MAY 16 & 17 2015

RAIN DATE: MAY 30 & 31

Version 1 January 19, 2015

Event Particulars

Saturday, May 16 9:30 AM to 4 PM

- FAC Two Bit Plus One Rubber
- FAC Embryo
- FAC Old Time Rubber Fuselage
- FAC Modern Civil
- Nostalgia Gas
- Classic Gas

Sunday, May 17 9:30 AM to 4 PM

- FAC Dime Scale
- FAC Golden Age Combined
- FAC Combined Race planes
- FAC No Cal Scale
- Nostalgia Gas
- Classic Gas

Location is the National Warplane Museum in Geneseo, NY.

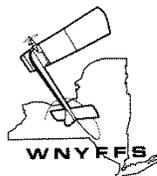
As always, AMA or MAAC proof of membership is **required** for all flyers, contest or casual. Field use fee of \$10 covers both days and helps support the National Warplane Museum.

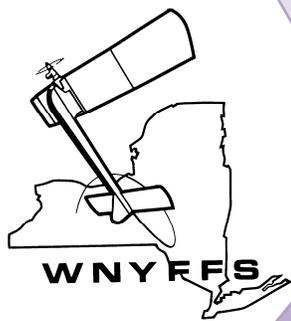
As the first flying event of the National Warplane Museum Series, the Spring Opener provides an opportunity to clear the cobwebs off your existing fleet and work the kinks out of any new models. The event list is light as are the prizes; bragging rights only. FAC events with the required minimum number of flyers will be reported to the Keeper of the Kanones. FAC events will be flown per the 2014~2015 Rulebook.

Keep in mind that weather and field conditions can be difficult in May. It is not unusual to find conditions are not suitable for even the most Gung Ho competitor. Send an email to wnyffs@rochester.rr.com if you would like a status report just prior to the meet.

Once again we are fortunate to have a rain date. Even if we fly on the original contest date, the rain date will be available for flying. We will fly the same slate of events on the rain date.

Whether you are itching to get going on the first outdoor contest of the season or need some time on the field to tune up for the "Big Meet", the Spring Opener is your best bet for early outdoor action in Upstate New York.





The Western New York Free Flight Society

Presents the 46th Annual
Empire State Free Flight
Championships

2015



Part of the
National Warplane Museum Series
of
Outdoor Free Flight Contests



Friday Aug 14 9AM to 5PM

A-B Classic Gas
B-C Nostalgia Gas
.020 Replica
Moffett
Nostalgia Rubber/Wakefield
Old Time Rubber Fuselage
Classic Towline (J)(S/O)
Early 1/2A Nostalgia
1/2A Old Favorites (see below)
Diesel Qualify
FAC Dime Scale
FAC No Cal Scale
FAC Modern Civil
FAC Old Time Rubber Stick
FAC WW I Mass Launch

Saturday Aug 15 9AM to 5PM

¼ A Nostalgia Gas
½ A Classic Gas (J)(S/O)
A Nostalgia Gas
Hand Launch Glider (J)(S/O)
Mulvihill
Old Time Rubber Stick
36" Bungee Launch Glider
Cloud Tramp
Diesel Qualify
FAC Rubber Scale
FAC Jet Catapult Glider Scale
FAC Golden Age Military & Civil
FAC 2 Bit + 1 Rubber
FAC WW II Mass Launch
FAC Phantom Flash
FAC Half Wakefield

Sunday Aug 16 9AM to 4PM

½ A Nostalgia Gas
½ A AMA Power (J)
½ A – D Gas (S/O)
C-D Classic Gas
Old Time Gas
Catapult Glider (J)(S/O)
P-30 (J)(S/O)
E- 36 (NFFS event)
Diesel Fly Off
FAC Rubber Scale
FAC Simplified Scale
FAC Old Time Gas Replica
FAC Embryo Endurance
FAC Old Time Rubber Fuselage
FAC Race Planes Mass Launch,
Bendix, Thompson & Greve comb.

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
- 1/2A Old Favorites: Any power model using a nostalgia legal
1/2A engine or the Cox TD 049/051. All fixed surfaces, no
composite structures except for the motor mount. NFFS
nostalgia rules for engine runs and maxes.
- Junior National Cup events
Classic Towline, ½ A AMA Power, P-30, Catapult Glider.
- Classic Towline: Straight Tow - no bunt NFFS Rules as of
2005. Alternate Bungee Launch specifics to be announced;
see CD at the contest.
- Bungee glider: 36" or less wingspan, to be launched from a
bungee consisting of 75 feet of line and no more than 25 ft. of
1/8" rubber (single strand), attached to a pole or stake fixed to
the ground. Three qualifying flights of 60 seconds, flyoffs in
increments of 60 seconds.
- 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.

- National Cup – all events will be offered
- CD for FAC events is Jim DeTar, email: jrdetar@yahoo.com
- FAC Scale judging will occur on Friday 9 – 11 AM or following
the conclusion of flying on Friday. Scale flights may be taken
on Saturday or Sunday day in any combination.
- FAC events will be flown to 2014-2015 rule book unless
otherwise noted.
- Max times are subject to CD's discretion based on field
conditions
- Check in at CD's table for latest in field rules.
- AMA or MAAC Proof of membership required for all
contestants and casual flyers.

Date: August 14, 15 & 16 2015

Location: Geneseo, NY at the *National Warplane
Museum*

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

Contest Director: Ruth Bane
Contact Ruth at 585-765-9363 or
windwhip47@aol.com

Dinner: At the Yard of Ale on Saturday, August 15.

Version 1 January 19, 2015



**Western New York
Free Flight Society
and the
YANKEE AIR PIRATES
are pleased to announce the
PIRATE CHALLENGE
2015**



Part of the
National Warplane Museum Series
of
Outdoor Free Flight Contests

By popular demand, Nostalgia Gas and Classic Gas will be included! Each day will be contested separately. Director for these events is Brad Bane.

**Awards to
Third Place**
for events
listed here

Friday, August 28, 2015

Flying 9:30 AM to 4 PM

- FAC Golden Age Combined (TOTF – Scale)
- FAC Combined Race Planes (ML)
- FAC Two Bit Plus One (TOTF – NS)
- FAC Old Time Rubber Cabin (TOTF – NS)
- FAC Simplified Scale (Misc. timed event)
- FAC Jimmy Allen (TOTF – NS)
- Nostalgia Gas
- Classic Gas

Saturday, August 29, 2015

Flying 9:30 AM to 4 PM

- FAC WW I Mass Launch (ML)
- FAC Rubber Scale (Scale – Judged)
- FAC Power Scale (Scale – Judged)
- FAC No-Cal Profile (Misc. timed event)
- FAC Embryo Misc. (Misc. timed event)
- FAC Phantom Flash (TOTF – Scale)
- FAC Half Size Wakefield (TOTF – NS)
- Nostalgia Gas
- Classic Gas

Sunday, August 30, 2015

Flying 9:30 AM to 4 PM

- FAC WW II (ML)
- FAC O.T. Gas Replica (TOTF – NS)
- FAC Modern Civil (TOTF – Scale)
- FAC Dime Scale (Misc. timed event)
- FAC Old Time Rubber Stick (TOTF – NS)
- Nostalgia Gas
- Classic Gas

ATTENTION:

Flying times posted for the events are subject to change based on weather conditions. If the weather is good we can extend the flying (on either end) or if weather is bad, flying time may be shortened. Stay in touch with the official AMA CD of record, Jim DeTar (jrdetar@yahoo.com) or Mark Rzdca (wnyffs@rochester.rr.com) In addition to flexibility regarding flying time, the events flown are flexible as well. If sufficient flyers make official flights (per the current FAC rule book) to warrant a Kanone, the event will be included in the report.

Version 1 January 19, 2015

**AMA Sanction XXXX, valid AMA or MAAC ID required
Entrance Fee: \$10 for contest & casual flyers
Location: National Warplane Museum in Geneseo, NY**

Annual meeting minutes from 2014 meeting

Club president Brad Bane called the meeting to order at 1:41 PM. As the first order of business, we covered the Old Business.

Old Business

Club treasurer's report was made by club treasurer, Ruth Bane. Our finances were in good order with \$2551.50 on hand.

Club secretary, Mark Rządca, read the minutes from 2013 meeting.

Both reports were accepted as read.

Art Thieme made a motion to repeat the \$150 donation to the National Warplane Museum in support of membership. These funds are given to the museum to use as they see fit in support of the stated purpose. This motion was carried unanimously.

New Business

Changes to the flying field at the National Warplane Museum

Brad & Ruth reported that on a recent trip to the museum, they found that a portion of the flying field had be plowed and sown with winter wheat. Although there was much discussion, little is known for sure at this time. Speculative suggestions regarding the motivation for planting a crop were discussed. Once again we recognized our critical dependence on the Museum to provide an outdoor flying venue. Having an alternative site or sites is very appealing but the opportunities are limited by our space requirements and reluctance on the part of owners to take on any liability. Two suggestions were the high power rocketry field (near Geneva?) or the field in Lima. Neither alternative is very appealing. It was noted that winter wheat is harvested in mid to late July which would likely put us in a good position for our main meets which are scheduled for August and September.

For now it was agreed that all should keep their eyes open and report any opportunities to a club officer. Mark to inform Ross Mayo of the FAC.

Flying Dates

Once again, concerns were raised with regard to the dates for the ESFFC. Dates for the AMA Nats in Muncie are not known but the indications are that they may once again be shifted later in August, making selection of our dates problematic, especially in light of our need to book dates with the HAG Museum by the end of the year. As there was no good solution it was agreed to keep the currently booked dates

For the record, here are the currently known dates for next year's meets:

Spring Opener: May 16 & 17 (Rain date: May 30 & 31)

Empire State Free Flight Championships: August 14, 15 & 16

Pirate Challenge: August 28, 29 & 30

Great Grape Gathering: September 11, 12 & 13

Announcement of planning Meeting for 2015:

Planning meeting will be held on January 3, 2015 at the Bane's. All are welcome. Doors open at 12 noon or a bit before if you are nice to the hosts.

Motion to Adjourn:

Ruth Bane's motion to adjourn was seconded and unanimously carried.

Mark C. Rządca



Mark C. Rządca
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