

January 2, 2018

WNYFFS January 2018 Update

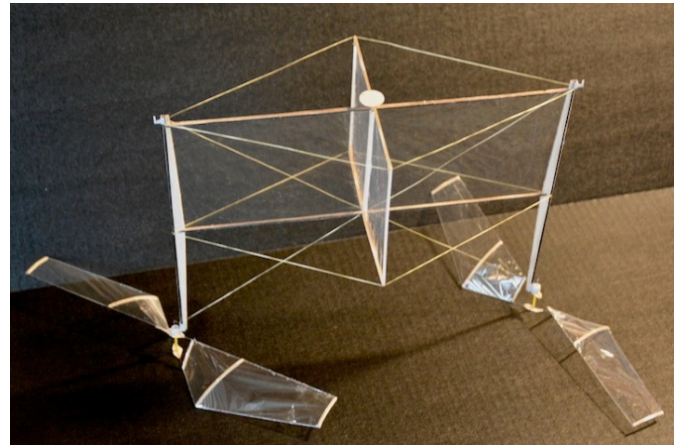
Planning Meeting

Our planning meeting is still on tap for January 6. If you have made the resolution suggested last month, the Banes already know you are attending. If not, call now. The phone number is 585-765-9363 or send an email to windwhip47@aol.com. See you there.

Science Olympiad

A few more judges would be appreciated at the Senior Science Olympiad would be appreciated. No experience is needed. Send an email to the editor if you are interested. Saturday, January 27 is the date for the event. Additional particulars are not available at this time but the contest usually runs all morning and into the early afternoon.

Vic Nippert sent pictures of his helicopter built from the Freedom Flight kit. It is certainly an impressive model. In fact it looks like a model of an M C Escher drawing! Vic's ship came in at 4.2 grams. That is a fair amount over the minimum weight of 3 grams but (knowing Vic) that is still probably a pretty good accomplishment. This year's rules do not limit the amount of rubber allowed; that may be the main hope with models built by less skilled hands. It is also a risk. With an excess of power, mismatched forces and torque from the two rotors may produce some interesting flight patterns. As pictured, the model is in the correct orientation as a pusher. When inverted, Vic notes that the rotors free wheel, even in an apparently still room. It's a real object d'art.



Jim's notes on DT timer springs

Your editor is pleased to present these comments from Jim DeTar:

The light weight viscous timers are a useful part of a dethermalizer ("DT") setup on our models. They require some means activation, that is, a steady pull for the desired length of time to then release the DT mechanism, whether a pop up tail, wing, or pop off wing.

Rubber bands, elastic cords, and springs have been used. All require some trial and error to set up with the proper amount of tension on the viscous timer. There must be sufficient pull to move the timer arm fully to the release point, but not so much pull as to run the timer too quickly, resulting in a "short DT" and less than desired flight time.

Here are a couple of examples of spring applications, which seem to me to be the most reliable in providing a consistent force on the timer.

The first is my venerable Flying Aces Moth. The timer and spring are the types sold by Hobby Specialties. The spring appears to be of .008 wire. The wire arm and reel for the pull line are my additions. With some trial and error in setting the line length, getting the desired pull force and run time was achieved. My experience had been that the nature of



these timers seem to vary slightly from one to the next, so that, unfortunately, each requires some trial and error to setup.

The next is my One-Half Wake model. This uses the small "button" viscous timer as sold by F.A.I. Model Supply and Volare Products. These small timers don't take much to move them. The spring used here is also of .008 wire, but the spring itself is smaller diameter than the Hobby Specialties' used on the Moth.

Finally, here is a test set up to experiment with different pull tension and length of springs. Maybe this will help me cut down on the trial and error process.

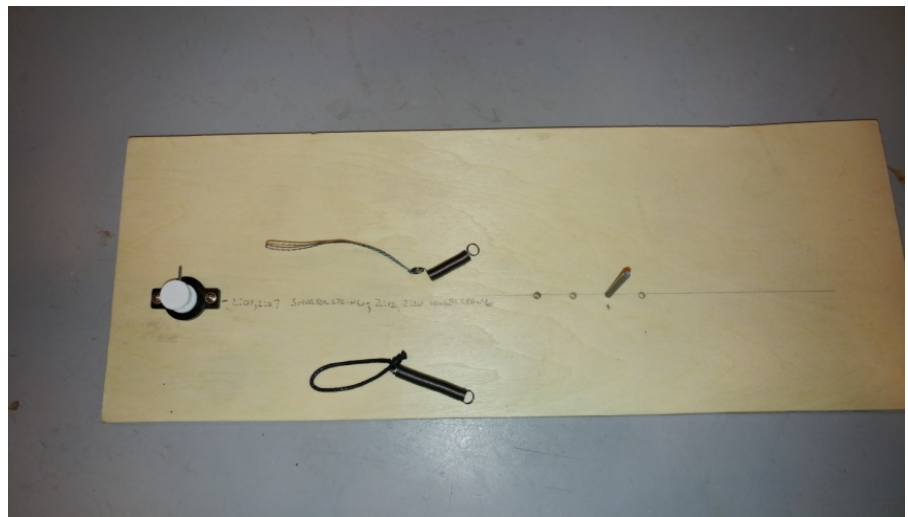
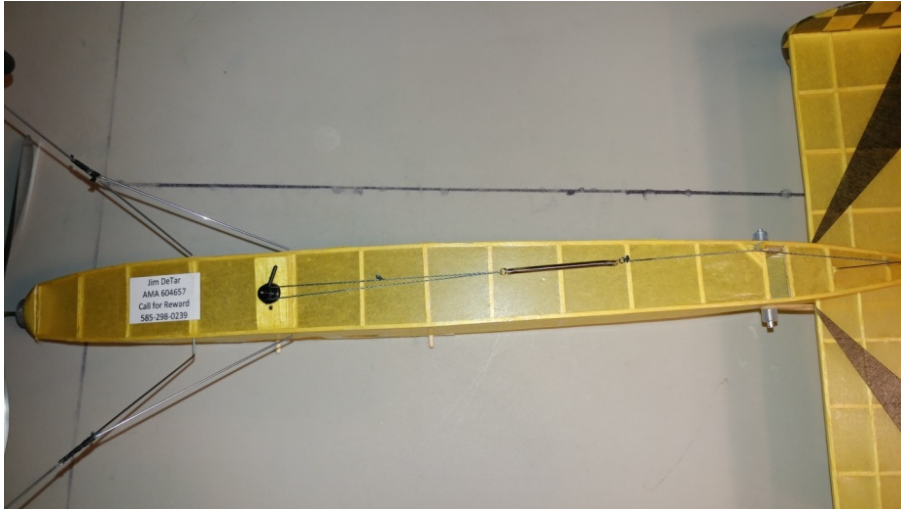
This is the Hobby Specialties type timer and spring. The shorter length of spring gave 2 minutes or slightly longer on successive tries. The longer spring was needed to consistently get 2:10 to 2:15. The shorter spring is 5/8" long (unstretched) and the longer is 1". The distance from the anchor pin to the timer is 5.75 inches.

Thanks Jim for taking the time and effort to share your experiences. I have yet to try the springs although several have been purchased over the years. Without any qualifications, everyone should follow Jim's suggestion to mock up the geometry of a given set up before implementing a DT on a model. It is certainly much easier to adjust the different components on a building board rather than on a model. This would apply whether a spring or elastic is used. In either case, the distances between the components as well as the stretched and relaxed dimension of the elastic member should be recorded. That way the setup can be re-constituted in the event of damage to the model.

That's all for now. Make the New Year a great one; start building now.

Build light, build straight and fly often,

Mark C. Rzdca, Editor, Western New York Free Flight Society Thermal Journal



Western New York Free Flight Society Dates of Interest for 2018:

Planning Meeting	January 6
Senior High Sci. Oly. @ Brockport	January 27
Junior High Science Olympiad	February 25
Spring Opener (a.k.a., Hobo meet):	May 5 & 6
Spring Opener Rain Date	May 19 & 20
Greatest Show on Turf!	July 13 - 15
FAC Nats	July 18~21
ESSFC	August 10, 11 & 12
Pirate Challenge	August 24, 25 & 26
GGG	September 7, 8 & 9