

September 24, 2018

WNYFFS September 2018 Update

Pirate Challenge!

The Pirate Challenge for 2018 was once again a sterling silver success. We had a good turnout with a dozen or so enthusiastic flyers. We were pleased and surprised with the number of junior participants; Gerard Kondrat was able to pack an entire junior embryo event in his Caravan! Weather was very good. Winds were light and somewhat variable but mostly from the South so we did not have to move our flight line at all. Results are included in separate attachments for your review.

One change from years past was that a lunch was not provided on the field. Instead, kits were purchased to be used as prizes. Thanks to Dave Niedzielski at Easy Build for your generous support. Of course the best laid plans of mice and men (or pirates) often do not go as intended. Prizes were originally intended for the Dime Scale event. With the enthusiastic support of everyone present, the prizes were directed to the younger pirates. Details are fuzzy but it probably started when it was noted that the three Kondrat kids each came equipped with an Embryo model. Naturally that called for a Junior Embryo event. Results for that event are included in the Kanone report. To save the gentle reader in their suspense, Eric Kondrat took first place over his younger siblings. Just to sweeten the pot, it was Eric's first Kanone. Congratulations to Eric.

Our fourth junior, Owen Houck was not equipped with an Embryo. However, he was competing in other FAC events as well as flying a Sky Bunny. In order to make it more fun (for the adults, naturally) Vet Thomas suggested a junior mass launch event for any rubber powered ship. Our four intrepid flyers were up to the task as was launch director Vet. Regrettably, results were lost but not before prizes were awarded. A few FAC rules bent/broken (e.g., no builder of the model required and wide open on model type) but within the spirit. Everybody flew what they wanted and had a grand time. No Kanones but we had prizes all around once again.



With the amazing success of the “unlimited” rubber event, it was decided to up the ante. To Challenge Vet in his role as mass launch director our next event would be Jet Cat Gliders. Once again, BOM was forsaken in the name of participation. Four competitors lined up and took aim at Hung the Mighty. The plan was to drop only one flyer with each launch thus necessitating three rounds. In the final round, the two remaining competitors, Owen Houck and Aiden Kondrat were so close that it had to be called a tie. Go figure, four competitors, four rounds! Prizes and good cheer all around.



Very special thanks to Owen Houck, Eric Kondrat, Gemma Kondrat and Aiden Kondrat as well as Master of Mass Launch Ceremonies, Vet Thomas. Check out the pictures for a real lift.

For any juniors who might be interested in participating next year, rest assured, the Pirates are on it. For next year, the Junior events will be FAC Embryo, Blue Ridge Special and Sky Bunny. With the early announcement of these events, BOM will be in effect. If Blue Ridge Special remains an FAC event, both Embryo and BRS will be “flown by the book.” Better get building now. Prizes will be awarded. Just let us know you are coming.



Non Junior events were very competitive as well. Vet Thomas and Henry Toews are both recently becoming active in the hobby again after long hiatuses. Vet has remained active as our go-to scale judge over the years. He has now returned to active flying. His recently recovered his Miss Canada took first place in OT Rubber fuselage. Henry flew a very nice Mr. Smoothie in scale and Combined Race Planes. Henry was able to best the field in Race Planes, taking first from some stiff competition. Congratulations Henry. That was likely Henry’s first Kanone as well!



Captions for Pirate Challenge Pictures

Our first picture shows Aiden Kondrat stooging up his embryo in preparation for an official flight. Our second image shows the first round launch of the “unlimited” rubber event. Darn good launch technique all around. Owen’s model is out of the frame already. Note that the blue model is Gemma Kondrat’s appropriately named “Sky Spirit”. Third up is a group shot of all the mass launch participants along with their justifiably proud dad’s and Master of Ceremonies, Vet Thomas (kneeling in front).

In the fourth image, three jet models appear to be flying in formation while Gemma seems to have had a flame out on takeoff. Launch director Vet wisely takes his position behind the competitors. Five shows everybody ready to try again. Image six shows one of the several happy rounds of prize distribution. Finally, a picture of grownups flying in picture seven with the first round of the Race Plane Mass Launch. Left to right, Wally Farrell, Henry Toews, Matt King, Bob Clemens and Jim DeTar.



Alls well that ends well

Despite the overall gentle conditions, there were some lost models. Wally Farrell lost his Interstate Cadet in the beans to the north on a particularly long flight. Jim DeTar lost his long serving Douglass Dauntless in the corn to the south when the wind shifted during the WWII mass launch event. Finally Matt King lost his Golden Age model in the corn to the east. After several person hours of searching for the errant models, they were given up as lost. After the meet ended, Matt and your editor went one more time into the corn to search for

his model with no success. Your editor was dog tired by this time so I bailed.

Matt decided to make another foray into the corn to search for his model. Once again he came up empty handed. Despite that Matt thought it was worth a try to look for Wally's plane since he remembered that he had a "good line on it". Success! Like a man on a mission, he decided to give Jim's Dauntless another chance. Once again Success! All that after giving up on his own plane. Three cheers for Matt. Here are the photos Mat sent out with the simple message "look at what I got".



There were a few other planes lost but regrettably were not located. Curiously enough, while searching for Wally's model earlier in the day, Wally and Julie located Vic Nippert's Jet Cat model lost at the FAC Nats in July! Vic's model is the red jet beneath Wally's white Interstate in the first image. Would have been cool to report that more models were found than were lost but that will have to wait for some future meet.

Pirate Humor Q: With friends like Matt, who needs a tracker? A: Apparently Matt.

Indoor Flying Dates

Our venue remains Pieter's Life Family Center in Henrietta. Thanks to Jim DeTar for managing the indoor sessions. Contact Jim for more information or to be added to his list for specific (last minute) indoor updates: jrdetar@yahoo.com

WNYFFS Indoor Flying 2018~2019

November:	11/17/18;	
December:	12/1/18;	12/15/18;
January:	1/12/19;	1/26/19;
February:	2/9/19;	2/23/19;
March:	3/9/19;	3/23/19

Build light, build straight and fly often,

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