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WNYFFS August Update

1 message

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To: m.news45@gmail.com

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Greetings model aviation enthusiasts,

ESFFC

In just two short days, our forty sixth Empire State Free Flight Championships will be held on the grounds of the National Warplane Museum. At this point (according to wunderground.com) the weather looks GREAT for Sunday, good for Saturday and fair for Friday. As usual, we have a full slate of events on all three days. For the FAC flyers, scale judging will once again be handled by Vet Thomas and his talented and enthusiastic niece, Megan. Depending on weather conditions, Vet and Megan may be flying down to Geneseo, so the exact judging time on Saturday morning is not yet established. Vet will provide an estimated time of arrival on Saturday morning so you can check in with yours truly or the CD's table.

BTW, Vet has been teaching Megan to fly full scale. She has been progressing quite well. We may not gain another free flight enthusiast but she is always happy to help out on the field with timing or other such tasks. Thanks in advance to Megan and Vet.

Pirate Challenge

Following close on the heels of the ESSFC is the Pirate Challenge. Just two weeks after the ESFFC we will return to Geneseo for a mostly FAC affair. We are anticipating the usual enthusiastic crowd of flyers. As we did last year, we would like to make this a more intimate affair by having a meal on the field following at least one of the day's flying sessions. If you are thinking of attending let the editor know of your intentions and the likelihood of actually making it. (Naturally, it is understood that bad weather of biblical proportions will lead some to modify their plans. We're just looking for a rough head count.) In addition, if you are traveling with a younger flyer or spouse etc., let us likewise know.

Your editor is much disappointed that his Fokker D-VII will not be available for the FAC Power Scale competition at either of these contests. While preparing for the FAC Non-Nationals, the wings were forcibly removed by a cartwheel landing. I have a limited amount of patience and time for any given model during the season. The Fokker's allotment of both is up. It really was just beginning to look good too.

Following these two August meets is the Great Grape Gathering on the eleventh through the thirteenth of September. It may seem like a ways off but it will pass by all too soon.

Miscellaneous

If you are looking for something to do on the quiet weekend between the ESSFC and the Pirate Challenge, consider these options.

Saturday, the National Warplane Museum will be holding their first ever NWM HUGE Garage Sale. No details on the web site at this time but when last I spoke with Donna, they were collecting stuff from all over. There was a modest amount of model aviation stuff (kits mostly, mostly RC but some FF) piling up in the FAC storage area. Hopefully there will be more by the time of the sale. For further information, check out NWM website (nationalwarplanemuseum.org) or contact them directly at the NWM Office (585) 243-2100 or via email nationalwarplanemuseum@gmail.com

If that isn't enough, Jim DeTar has sent around information on a fundraiser which will benefit Pieters Family Life Center. We are provided a very generous discount on the rental fee for use of the gym at Pieters. Anyone interested can support the team from Pieter's by using this link which will take you directly to the PFLC Team Page: <http://legacymileand5k.kintera.org/faf/search/searchTeamPart.asp?ievent=1131500&lis=1&kntae1131500=295A83AB9D3147AFBBCA608B709A9D60&team=6427408>

In case you didn't guess, PFLC stands for Pieter's Family Life Center. Naturally, you should donate well ahead of time so that you will be free to attend the NWM Garage Sale! Make sure you mention you are from the WNYFFS when you make your donation. If there is any interest, we can take up a collection at the ESSFC.

Finally, the mea culpa section. In an earlier note, mentioned the “alfalfa” section growing on the NWM flying field. Of course there is no alfalfa; it is winter wheat. That note was written just after returning from a trip to Arizona where a brief visit had been made to Buckeye. Being in the vicinity, I couldn’t resist checking out the site for the upcoming WestFAC Nationals. That field is planted in Alfalfa. (BTW, it does look like a pretty cool site and I understand the crop will be harvested before the contest this fall.) Regarding the Winter Wheat section at Geneseo, the crop has been harvested. Remaining stubble may be a bit tough on tissue but it should not offer too much resistance to model recovery.

Wrap Up

That looks like the long and the short of it for now. Please do let your editor know at wnyffs@rochester.rr.com if you are planning on attending the Pirate Challenge (August 28 through the thirtieth) and if you will be bringing a youthful participant or even a young observer.

Thermals and gentle breezes,

Mark C. Rzacca, editor, Thermal Journal.