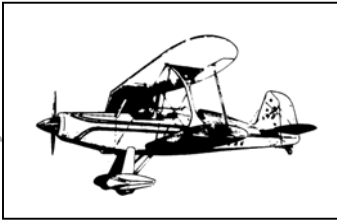


Newsletter Editor
Roger A. Luther
raluther@atlanticbb.net

The Johnstown R/C Club

Digital Dope Sheet

AMA Charter # 718



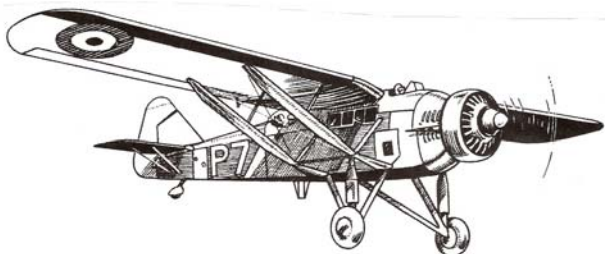
March 2009 Newsletter Johnstown R/C Club's Forty-Seventh Year Join us online at: www.Johnstownrc.org

Upcoming Events.....

March Club Meeting: Tuesday, March 3rd, 7:30 pm at the Richland Twp. Municipal Building, Rear Entrance. Bring something for "Show & Tell"

Annual Club Banquet: Our club will hold it's annual awards banquet on Saturday, March 28th 6:00 pm at the Windber American Legion Hall, Windber, PA. Plan on bringing a friend and your best plane to put on display! Make your reservations now! (Banquet form on last page)

Annual Mall Show: The Club Mall Show will be on May 1-2-3, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, at the Johnstown Galleria Mall. Setup night is on Thursday, April 30th from 7-9 pm. Get a few of your planes ready to put on display for this event



Full Scale Plane Lands at Johnstown RC Clubs Field!

No Kidding! This really happened! I may have told some of you this story before, but when I took a distant relative, Merle Luther, out to our field to give him an RC demo, he related this true story! Merle was in town for a family funeral and stayed in Salix, his old home where he was born and raised. Merle and his Dad, Dorsey Luther, owned and operated the "Salix Airport" sometimes referred to as the "Luther Airport". Our club had one of its first flying fields there in the late 1960's. His dad had a farm very close to our current field, and they owned a number of planes, hangers, and they gave flying lessons there. In fact, my brother Jay, learned

to fly there in the late 1940's using the GI Bill. Merle was quite a pilot! While we were at the field, he commented- "You know, I think I flew a plane out of this very field a long time ago". Of course I was curious and asked for more. It seems one of his student pilots was returning from a solo flight and ran out of gas short of the airport. He was forced to land the light plane on our field, which in the 1950's was just a high weed field. He walked the short distance back to the airport, whose main runway is now the street where club member Grant Moore now lives, to give Merle the bad news. Merle came over and surveyed the situation, and rather than try and dismantle the plane and haul it out, he felt he should be able to fly it out. They brought over jerry cans of fuel, put enough in to fly, and then taxied the plane up to the left or higher end of our field. He ran up the rpm's, and had some helpers hold the plane as long as they could, then left'er go and came down the field, left to right, was able to takeoff, circled the airport, and then landed it where the student pilot first intended! How's that for a true story about our field!

2009 Fly-In Review.....



Steven Moxim, Sam Kaplitz, Sam Robertson & ... our newest club member, Alex Reasinger

As reported in last months newsletter, the 09 edition of the In-Door Fly-In was a really big

success! Everyone had a great time and all sorts of flying “things” were present. Again, we want to thank the Johnstown LDS Church, Neil Woffinden, his wife, Bob Anderson’s wife, and all the others who helped them prepare for this great event! Everyone had a fantastic time and the poor weather may have kept a few members at bay, but there were 22 club members braved the poor weather to be present for this premier annual event.



Above Cliff Majercsik and his daughter Abby get their planes ready to fly at the recent In-Door Fly-In. More pictures from the Fly-In are available on line by going to our clubs website www.johnstownrc.org and clicking on the link for the Fly-In Album located about half way down the opening, or “Home Page”.



Above, Bonnie Luther, Judy and Herb Ewald, plus Caleb Butler, enjoy the food Neil and his helpers had prepared for us. Everybody had a great time! Don’t miss next years In-Door Fly-In!

Website Enhancements Made

Over the past month I have tried to add some things of interest to our website www.johnstownrc.org. Recently, I added a picture of our 2009 club officers, (on the “Officers” page of course) and also added some aerial views of our flying field on the “Map” page. We now have a number of web albums you can click on to view our activities over the past couple years, in addition to some neat videos on the “links” page. There are literally hundreds of pictures now on our website! Check it out when you can, and it will keep you up to date on our clubs activities and upcoming events. I’m also open to constructive suggestions, so if you would like to see something else on the website, let me know and I’ll try and do it.

February Meeting Recap.....

Since I was away flying RC planes in Florida, and missed the last meeting, both Scott and Sam took some notes for me to include in the newsletter. There were 17 members present, and Treasurer Ken and Secretary Paul gave their usual reports on the previous meeting. Finances are in fairly good shape with 2009 dues still coming in. The large mowing bill for last year has been paid, as has the field lease bill. President Sam again thanked Neil and all his helpers, plus the local LDS church for hosting the annual indoor fly-in again in January. It was moved by Ken Reese, and seconded by Jim Weyman to donate \$50 to the church for the use of



their wonderful facility. Cliff and Bill Majercsik attended the auction and flea market held in Export, PA on Feb. 1st. Sam informed the group about a library subscription of our monthly magazine which was donated to the Richland Library by our club. Sam also discussed the upcoming Annual Awards Banquet scheduled for Saturday, March 28th at the Windber American Legion. He urged each member to get a plane ready for display at the banquet, and for the Mall Show. Speaking of the mall show, we were disappointed to find out we can't use the "center court" area we usually occupied during past shows. Instead, we will have to use another open area near the escalators due to a "bungy jump" ride, which is now set up in center court. (they pay for the space) Ken Reese passed out the annual tickets for members to sell prior to the mall show in May. Please do your part for our club and sell a packet or two. This is our only fundraiser for the year, and we can certainly use the extra income. Sam recounted his bad case of "cabin fever" and how he has missed those visits to the field to fly, but it won't be long now! Heck, it's almost March! We can fly in March! Sam provided a set of cables and a battery to allow each member present to get "charged up" to begin flying again! Ken Reese won the 50/50.....Again! Caleb reported he found a weather transmitter in a tree at his home, and how he returned it to the National Weather Service. Sam also showed off a new kit he is building, a 40 sized "Up-Roar" covered in red and white mono-kote.

Speaking of Landings.....



I'm sure by now you have all have heard about the fantastic landing the USAir pilot made in the Hudson River, after losing both engines to bird ingestion during take-off from New York's LaGuardia airport. Wow, what a hero he was!

Can you imagine "gliding" an Air Bus down from 3200 feet and landing on the river, all in just over 3 minutes after takeoff! What an inspiration, and how humble the pilot "Capt. Sully" was in the days and weeks that followed. Talk about the "right guy" being at the "right place", this was it. After listening to some of the cockpit chatter I was impressed how he was so cool and calmly told the co-pilot who was at the controls during takeoff, but just after the impact, that it was now "his plane" and then took control while the co-pilot frantically tried to re-start the engines. Then after they were in the water he said "that went a lot better than I thought it would"! Just a little understated!

Dues now "Over Due"

If you haven't yet sent in your dues for the coming year, please do so promptly! We don't pay our dues just for the "summer months". The club has expenses all through the year, and it takes the whole club to finance our operations. Please, if you haven't taken care of this yet, cut out the dues notice on the last page of this newsletter and send it and your check for \$40 to our treasurer Ken Shilling. Our club just received the charter and print out from the AMA, and it shows that quite a few of last years members have not yet renewed their AMA membership, so we need to take care of that obligation too! Don't forget, we need both cards to fly at the Johnstown RC Field!.....Thanks!

Banquet Speaker Announced

At the March club meeting, President Sam announced that Barney Custer, a pilot for Robert L. Kimball Engineering of Ebensburg, has agreed to be our guest speaker for the Banquet on March 28th. Barney flies both props and jets for Kimble, and does air photography work for the firm in addition to his flight responsibilities. Barney is a certified flight instructor and gives flying lessons. He used to race "Sprint Cars" in the past, so his comments to the club should prove interesting! Make your plans now to attend this important annual club event! We want to thank Herb Ewald for securing our speaker.



More pics from the Fly-In!

