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# The Johnstown R/C Club

## Digital Dope Sheet

AMA Charter # 718



March 2010 Newsletter

Johnstown R/C Club's Forty-Eighth Year

Join us online at: [www.Johnstownrc.org](http://www.Johnstownrc.org)

### Upcoming Activities.....

**March Club Meeting: Tuesday,  
March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:30 pm**

**Annual Club Banquet: Saturday,  
March 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm Windber American  
Legion**

**Annual Mall Show: April 30<sup>th</sup>, &  
May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Galleria Mall, Richland  
Twp. Rt. 219 and Rt. 56 Setup is on  
Thursday April 29<sup>th</sup> 7pm**

### February Club Meeting....

The club's February meeting was held on Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Richland Twp. Municipal Building. Twenty two club members were present. The minutes of the January meeting were read and approved, along with the treasurer's report. Sam reported on the success of the In-Door Fly-In held last month. The turnout was fantastic with at least 60 plus folks attending, with great food, and flying of all types. Sam thanked all those who helped to make it a success.

It was noted that the annual lease payment to Berwind has been made and it increased from \$250/year to \$300/year for 2010. When you think about it, that's not too bad considering the quality of our field facility. Sam also reported on the upcoming RC flea markets and the dates of those events at Export, PA and Lebanon, PA.

Ken Reese passed out the tickets for the Mall Show. We would ask that each club member take and sell a packet to ensure a good return to the club when the show ends.

There was discussion about the upcoming Banquet, and Sam urged everyone to get their reservations in prior to the March 20<sup>th</sup> cutoff date. The social time will be at 6pm with the meal at 6:30. Attendees were urged to get at least one plane ready for display at the banquet. The annual event will again be held at the Windber American Legion hall. Sam also covered the fuel sale which will be in mid-March. More info on this will be included in an article later in the newsletter.

The other item covered was the Mall Show. We will again use the space across from the Bon-Ton on the lower level, which is real close to Aunte-Annie's pretzels! This location works well, and saves our members lots of walking back and forth to obtain those great pretzel snacks. Please get your planes repaired, built, and ready for the Show, we would like to have at least 40+ planes on display as in past years. Your newsletter editor was on a trip to Florida, and therefore missed this meeting. Our thanks to Paul Yuhus for taking the notes and sending them to me.



Roger and Shorty practice their flying skills while in Florida on the flight simulator

## 2010 Dues now over due....

During the February meeting President Sam revealed that only 36 club members had renewed their club membership for 2010. At the end of 2009 we had 56 paid members, so quite a few of you have not yet paid for this year. Let's get the checkbook out and get this done so we can go into the flying season with ample funds on hand. Remember, to fly at our field, or any RC field for that matter, both your local club dues, and your AMA dues must be paid. Thanks for taking care of this promptly.

## Presidents Corner.....

Each year about this time, I ask our president to write a short column to our members. Below is Sam's missive for this year.



From the Club President

As we near the March meeting, I must say that "enough is enough".....winter weather that is! March and April usually kickoff the new year's flying season. Roger will keep us posted on the upcoming Annual Club Banquet and Mall Show dates in other articles in this newsletter. My highlight this

month is to remind all of our flyers to get that new plane built, or last years old reliable checked out and in top shape for the upcoming season. Dust off the covering, tighten the screws, oil the wheels, check the muffler mounts, and don't forget the flight box! You might want to charge your batteries too. I almost forgot, don't forget to check that pesky nose wheel and steering setup!

All these things can be checked out in a few evenings to ensure a safe and enjoyable first vist to our field, if and when the snow finally melts! I hope to see everyone at the banquet on March 27<sup>th</sup>, and at the Mall Show in April/May.

## Fuel Sale.....

As stated in last months newsletter, I'm going to take my pickup down to J&C Hobbies in Pittsburgh to make a "truck load" pickup of fuel for the 2010 flying season. I'm making a cutoff date of March 15<sup>th</sup> for you to have your order into me and payment has to be upfront. I will be purchasing "Wildcat RC fuel" I've used it all last season with very good results. There will be no substitutions. I'll make the trip, and unload it into Ken Reese's garage for your pickup. Plan to pick it up around the time of the banquet. Send your check made out to Roger Luther for the amount, and how many gallons you want, or the number of cases. Send it to 41 Wesley Drive, Johnstown, PA 15904.

**Wildcat RC fuel 10%**

**\$15/Gal. Or \$56/case of 4**

**Wildcat RC fuel 15%**

**\$16/Gal. Or \$60/case of 4**

Include your phone number so I can call you if there are any questions, and to inform you of when to pick it up. I want to try and keep it simple and not get too complicated with other types and mixtures to contend with.

## 2010 Awards Banquet....

Last year we had almost 50 people attend the annual banquet, and we hope to top that this year. The Windber American Legion always puts on a good spread, with punch served during the visiting time. Members usually bring a plane to put on display and to be judged by the group. We always have a good time. No speaker has been selected at this time, but we usually try and have someone from the RC or aviation industry to share some thoughts for us.



Above Sam presents Cal Butler his blue ribbon for "best in show" at the 2009 Banquet. Get a plane ready for this year's banquet, and send in your reservations now. The cutoff date is March 20<sup>th</sup>, and the date of the dinner is Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm. We hope to see you and your wife/girlfriend/significant other there! It's a lot of fun!



## 2010 Mall Show.....



This years Mall Show will be on April 30<sup>th</sup>, and May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Galleria Mall just off Rt-219. The show will again be in the location pictured above from 2009's show, just across from the Bon Ton lower level. It worked out fine, and we had about 40 planes on display, with lots of traffic. During the three day event, several of us had our flight sim's set up to give visitors some idea of the fun we have. In the picture at the lower left, Ken Reese's P-40 War Hawk is pictured. We request that you plan to bring several planes to put on display to enable as wide a variety as possible. Please pick up some tickets to sell so we can have the funds to keep the field in tip-top shape, who knows, you may win it this year. Two of the last three years a club member has won the \$200 prize!

## Maynard Hill.....

Our veteran flyers will recongize this name, but new members might not. Maynard was an amazing RC flyer who's goal was to fly an RC airplane across the Atlantic, and after many tries, he succeeded in doing it! It's an amzing story, and recently in Model Airplane News, they had a one page article about Maynard and his record setting flight. I've reprinted it on the next page for your enjoyment. He must have been quite a guy, and he also holds the RC altitude record, at get this, .....26,990 feet!



## FINAL APPROACH

BY THE MODEL AIRPLANE NEWS CREW

# MAYNARD HILL

World record setter

MANY READERS WILL RECOGNIZE the name Maynard Hill. In the January 2004 issue of *Model Airplane News*, we featured "The First RC Transatlantic Crossing" where we described Maynard's record-setting transatlantic crossing with his TAM 5 (Trans Atlantic Model) in detail. It flew an amazing nonstop 1,882 miles on less than a gallon of fuel!

However, some may not be aware that Maynard has set an amazing amount of RC records in his modeling career. We thought an interview with this accomplished record setter was in order.

*Maynard, when it comes to RC world records, you're the man to beat. Can you tell us a little about how the quest for altitude all started?*

On July 4 and 5, 1963, the District of Columbia Radio Control Club (DC/RC) held its first trials for World Records in altitude. It was here I set the first of my string of 25 World Records by flying a radio-controlled model to 13,328 feet, nearly doubling the 7,100-foot record held then by Pietro Velitchkovsky of the Soviet Union.

*What came after that first record?*

The DC/RC held record trials for altitude on an almost annual basis on Labor Day weekends after 1963. I tried each year, but was not successful again until September 4, 1967 when I flew a seaplane to a record of 18,900 feet.

*Tell us about your seaplane.*

I put floats on my conventional model for this attempt. It weighed 7.25 pounds and was powered by a Supertigre .60, the largest-size engine allowed on FAI record attempts. Its wingspan was 8 feet and had a wing chord of 13.25 inches. The wing was covered with a brand new material called Top Flite MonoKote. I used translucent yellow to keep weight down and added 20% nitromethane in my home brew glow fuel, thinking it would supply some oxygen in the thin air we hoped to fly in.

*How were the altitude records confirmed?*

The model was tracked by radar provided by the U.S. Navy at their Naval Weapons Test Lab at Dahlgren, Virginia.



**Above:** Maynard proudly shows off his 1970 altitude record-setting ship. (Photo by Robert Grauel) **Left:** The District of Columbia Radio Control Club's first World Record trials were held on July 4, 1963. Don Clark shades Maynard Hill's eyes. (Photo by Fremont Davis)



*So what is the all-time RC altitude record?*

You might not want to believe this, but if you look at the record books, you'll see that my model made it to 19,600 feet on September 4, 1967. After some repairs and modifications, I got my good friend, Ben Givens, to fit a Yagi antenna on my standard 200 milliwatt Kraft transmitter and on September 3, 1970, I took it to 26,990 feet!

The model was still climbing at about 800 feet per minute but we had to quit because of the limits of our optics. This figure has stood as the absolute record for aeromodels for nearly 40 years. So, mind you, the record could still be beaten!

*To learn more about Maynard's altitude record-setting flight and the difficulties he encountered along the way, go to [modelairplanenews.com](http://modelairplanenews.com)*



**MORE ONLINE** A review of Thunder Tiger's Ready Mk3 ARF, podcast interviews, in-flight videos and more at [modelairplanenews.com](http://modelairplanenews.com)

**2010 Dues Form.....**

Date Paid: _____ Check #: _____	Frequencies Used: _____ _____
Name: _____	Do you use 2.4 Ghz radios Y ___ N ___
No.& Street: _____	You must have an AMA card to fly at our field., or at any RC field.
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	Is it OK to send your monthly newsletter via email? Yes _____ No _____
Phone No. _____	Send your completed form with your check made out to "The Johnstown RC Club"
Email Address: _____	to: Ken Shilling, 109 Hoyt Street, Johnstown, PA 15904
AMA # _____	
Date of Birth: _____ - _____ - _____	
Spouses first name: _____	
Membership Category (check one)	
_____ Open Membership (over 19 years).... \$40	
_____ Junior Member (under 19 years) ..... \$5	
_____ Non-Flying Member ..... \$15	

**Annual Banquet Reservation Form:**

**Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm Windber American Legion Hall**

Menu: Swiss Steak and Roast Turkey with all the fixins. Cutoff date is March 20<sup>th</sup>!

The cost is \$16 per person, 12 and under are half price at \$8 each. We will have a good program, awards, a guest speaker, and pictures from the past year. Plus, we will have a plane display, so get your new plane under construction now! Send your name, and the names of your guests in with your check made out to "The Johnstown RC Club" to our treasurer, Ken Shilling, 109 Hoyt Street, Johnstown, PA 15904.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No. Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ No. Youth: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of those attending: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_