

Newletter Editors:
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The Johnstown R/C Club

Digital Dope Sheet



May 2008 Newsletter

Johnstown R/C's Forty-Sixth Year

Join us online at www.JohnstownRC.org

MALL SHOW.....

Johnstown RC Clubs Annual Mall Show will kick off May 2nd, 3rd, and 4th at the Galleria Mall Center Court! We will “set up” on Thursday night, the 1st, from 7-9 pm. Please plan to come up and help out during the Thursday night setup, or “man the booth” while we are “open” during regular mall hours. Don’t forget to bring a few planes to put on display, the more the better.

TICKET SALES.....

Make sure you sell those tickets, or at least buy a packet, because this is our only real fundraiser for the entire year! We make about \$800 profit on this activity and this income goes a long way toward paying for the flying field mowing bill. Would you rather take your turn at mowing the field! I don’t think so! Call Ken Reese at 266-1180, or stop by the restaurant and pick up a packet or two! We need your help on this!

NEXT MEETING.....

Our next regular scheduled meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 6th, at 8:30 pm**. Note the time change, we will start one hour later than we have been to allow for some evening flying prior to the meeting. So come on out and fly a bit, then we will meet over at the Richland Twp. Municipal Building for our monthly meeting! Pizza at Pappy’s afterward.....**BE THERE!**

CODY WINS AWARD.....



Cody Sliko didn’t make it to the annual club banquet to pick up his “Most Improved Jr. Flyer” Award, so here Club President Sam Kaplitz presents Cody his award plaque at the April Club meeting. Cody has steadily improved all during the 2007 flying season and certainly earned this recognition.

LUTHER RECOGNIZED.....



At last months awards banquet, president Sam Kaplitz presented our clubs webmaster, Roger Luther, an award for his work on developing and keeping the clubs website up to date. If you haven't visited the site, check it out at www.johnstownrc.org. If your picture isn't somewhere on the site, you have not been coming to meetings or events! Roger tries to keep it updated every two weeks or so. You can go there to find out about upcoming events, dates, and times, and also to look at literally hundreds of pictures of our clubs activities during the past few years. You might even find a picture of a crash or two! Hey, this does happen, sometimes even to the best of them.

VETERANS CORNER.....



This month we recognize club veteran Jim Patterson. Jim's been around a long time, having been there for those early meetings held in Caleb Butler's basement when the club first started way back in 1962. Jim has been involved in flying all types of RC planes over the years from very large, to just average sized. Then, last year Jim succumbed to the "electric revolution" having purchased an electric powered "Mini Pulse". Most Saturday's last summer, you could find Jim putting the Mini thru its paces. Jim is always available to give a

helping hand to newer club members, and a number of years ago he even owned his own "Hobby Shop"! So, Jim Patterson knows a lot about RC and our hobby! In his spare time, when he is not flying or building model airplanes, Jim keeps busy cutting hair at his barbershop in St. Michael, PA. Next time you see Jim, thank him for his many years of service to our club! Jim has held a variety of offices for our club, and really has supported the clubs activities over the years. You could also ask him for a haircut.....he is even better at that than flying model airplanes! Jim reports he has had a few accidents over the years with his planes, but NEVER with a haircut! (he says you can always just continue on toward a butch!)

FIELD WEATHER REPORT.....

Hey guys, here's a phone number that may be helpful to you prior to departing for the field. 814-535-3511. This is the number for Johnstown Cambria County Airport's Automated Weather Observing Systems (AWOS). The automated recording provides a lot of information including sky condition, visibility, temperature, dewpoint, **wind direction and velocity, peak gusts**, altimeter setting, and density altitude. It also notes dangerous weather when applicable. It is updated hourly unless there is a drastic change in conditions. The recording can be rather confusing to the average Joe and has a lot of useless information for the average RC flier, but if you're sitting at home wondering how windy it really is at the field, or if it's fogged in, this just might help. I think the main concern for us RC flyers is the wind. It will be stated "Wind, 180 at 10." This would be a 10 knot wind out of the south. 10 knots is 11.5 mph so not much difference. Temperature is in Celsius. If

want the conversion, here it is.....Celsius to Fahrenheit: Multiply by 9, then divide by 5, then add 32 . Want to keep it simple? Double Celsius and add 32. You'll be pretty close. As for the time when the system was updated, add 4 hours to the Zulu time stated during Daylight savings and 5 hours for Standard. I hope that this might be of some use to the club members. This phone number is a free service, compliments of the FAA.

The above article was submitted by club member Cliff Majercsik, thanks Cliff! Hey, here's an idea, stick your head out the door and get a feel for the temperature, and then look at the neighbors flag to see how the wind is blowing!Or call 814-535-3511.

New Member...STEPHEN MOXIM



Stephen Moxim has the distinction of being our youngest official club member! Stephen has been coming to our field since he was a youngster, being the grand nephew of veteran club member Paul Yuhas. Stephen is 13 years old, and a 7th grade honor student at Windber Middle School. In addition to the spiffy trainer airplane shown in the above photo, he has also dabbled in small electrics. He became an official glow plug flyer late last summer with Paul being his mentor and instructor.

He has a half dozen or so successful flights under his belt so far. Stephen's other interests include baseball, fishing, and photography. We welcome Stephen into our club and when you see Stephen at the field, give him a pat on the back and offer some encouragement!



GREAT WEBSITE TO VISIT.....

Cliff Majercsik also put me onto this great website for anyone starting out in RC flying. The site is called "Getting Airborne" and it has a wealth of knowledge on it concerning all things RC. It was started by two experienced RC flyers named Mike Buzzeo, and Ken Isaac. They have great articles on RC Airplanes, Engines, Radios, Simulators, Videos, and many other topics. They are well written and very helpful, even for experienced RC hobby folk! Check it out at www.gettingairborne.com . I'm going to add this very interesting website as a link on our "links" page on our website. If you meet up with a first time flyer, or someone relatively new to the hobby, give them this website to visit. Thanks again Cliff!

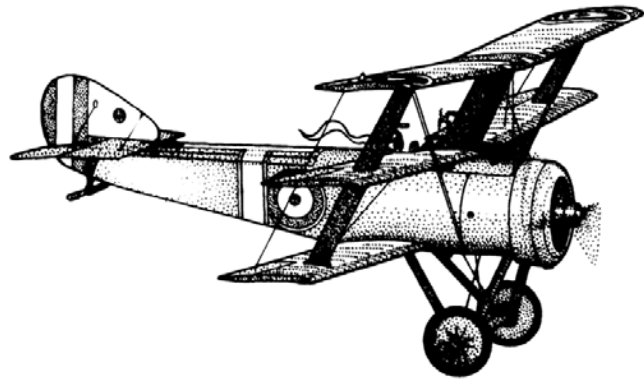
YOU KNOW YOU ARE AN RC MODELER WHEN.....

A few issues back I ran some neat sayings about those of us who love the RC hobby. Here are a few more.....

You know you are an RC Modeler when:

1. You don't have time, or the knowhow to iron wrinkles out of your shirt, but you spend a whole evening ironing wrinkles out your Monocote!
2. You would rather watch your batteries charge in your new radio than spend some romantic time with the wife!
3. You keep "debonder" next to the first aid kit in the medicine cabinet.
4. You don't understand how anyone could not know what CA is!
5. You buy industrial-grade power tools to cut balsa and lite-ply.
6. You get a new plane, radio, or engine, and have a "show and tell time" at the next club meeting, just like you did in kindergarten.
7. You are disappointed when all the presents are unwrapped at Christmas and you didn't get anything to support your RC hobby.
8. Your wife is embarrassed to take you to social events because she knows you will talk to everyone about airplanes until you find someone that actually cares.
9. And finally.....

There are three prices that you pay for a model plane. A. The price that you actually paid for it. B. The price you told your wife you paid for it. And C. The price you pay when your wife finds out what you actually paid for it!



FIELD "WORK DAY" TURNS OUT TO BE A REAL "BUMMER"

At our last meeting, we decided Saturday, April 19th would be a good day to plan a "work day" at the field. Well, about 4:30pm on Friday night, on April 4th, some young fellows decided to tear up our field using their 4-wheel drive pickups! They really did a job on it too, doing several "donuts" and making a real mess of things. Authorities report that somebody saw them leave the field, followed them, and actually got their license number, so prosecution is expected. A few club members did a little repair work on Saturday, the 5th, but a larger group turned out on Sunday to help repair the damage. Whether we get restitution is problematic. We did however get a price estimate from a local landscaper to present to the police in their attempt to get the perps to pay for the damage. We'll see!



Here is a picture of just a small part of the damage caused by the fellows who did this! We felt it important to get the sod turned back over quickly, since it was very wet, and that would insure a quicker recovery. When Don mows in a few weeks, he can roll it like he did last year, and we should be back in the flying business fairly soon! We might have to add a little topsoil and grass seed later to bring the field back in to A-1 shape.

Here are a few more shots of the damage to our field taken on Saturday, April 5th.



Here Fred Rohde attempts to fix some of the sod which was ripped up!



Midfield shot showing some “donuts”



Roger, Cliff, Jim, Izzy, Bill, Sam, Fred, Bill
The “Turf Repair Crew” on Sunday 4/6/08

Nine club members worked hard and got most of the turf returned to its proper place on Sunday afternoon, April 6th. During the originally scheduled work day on the 19th, we applied over **5 TONS** of topsoil and 25 pounds of grass seed to the damaged areas. Now it's up to mother nature to heal the field's wounds. We were pleased to have the two young men who did the damage come out to the field on the 19th. They apologized to the group, and stayed for a couple hours or so and chipped in to help repair the damage. They also offered to pay us the cost estimate, and we agreed on a

payment of \$1000. We shook hands, and then Roger Luther did a short flying demo for them. SO, perhaps we made some new friends for our RC hobby, and a couple young men learned a valuable lesson. One of the lads offered to come by my home and I let him spend some time flying on my G-3.5 Simulator! He did pretty darn good for his first try at RC flying!



Here's a picture of part of the group who helped out during our workday. Several others were also there, but left before this picture was taken. A special thanks to Jeff Lively, who left his Kubota tractor at the field for us to use during our work. We used it to roll the newly seeded areas, and it came in very handy. Thanks to everyone who helped out with the trucks, topsoil, seed, shovels, rakes, etc. We also put up the tarp in record time with all the guys pitching it to help.

In the picture to the right, the gang works to fill in the gaps with topsoil, and then rake it smooth for the grass seed. After that, we rolled it with Jeff's Kubota tractor. Let's hope that during the coming two weeks we get some adequate rain to help bring the grass up!



Above. a group of the guys help to spread the topsoil and rake in the grass seed!



Here Jason and Brad shake hands with Roger after presenting a check for \$1000 to the club to pay for the damage to our field.



ONE MORE NEWS ITEM.....

Neil Woffinden is retiring from UPJ this month, and for one of his last “classes” he took his students on a “field trip”! Well, the field just happened to be our flying field, and Caleb and Roger put on a demo for his students! They all really enjoyed the show, including the wreck on take off, by some anonymous pilot! After the demo, the class flew a number of kites designed by Neil. Almost everyone had a great time! Here are a few pictures from that day, Thursday, April 17th.



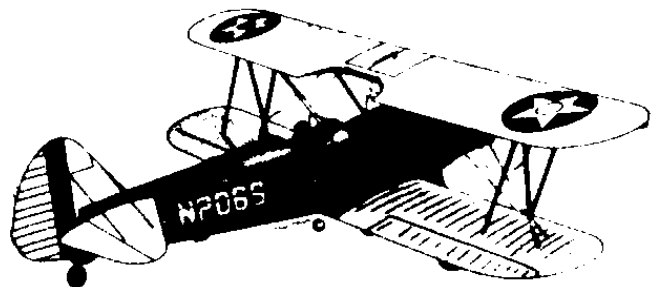
Note the shadow from the kite in front of this group of kite flyers! Neil and Caleb are in the middle of the group.

THE BOYS ARE BACK.....

During these nice spring evenings a number of the club’s members are coming out to fly. The “morning guys” have been out also, so if you haven’t been flying yet, get those planes charged up and come on out!



One evening last week we had a good group out to our flying field. Here Scott, Ken, Izzy, Travis, Caleb, Rick, and Roger pose for a picture, which is now on the front page of the club’s website!



We will see you at the Mall Show!