



Balsa Dust

Editor: Glenn Crocker
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★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **NEXT MEETING** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
DATE: Thursday, February 8, 2007
LOCATION: East Bloomfield Town Hall
TIME: 7:30 p.m.

Prez Sez

GVAM Indoor Flying
February 17th 2:30 until 5:30
Honeoye Central School

Well it appears that winter has finally arrived and it has certainly had an impact on the number of times I have gone out to fly. Having said that, I have been out 3 times this month including the Frozen Finger Fly. I think that is a new record for me.

I hope that everyone's winter project is well under way. I have been working on my Seamaster and progress has been good. Hopefully it will be ready to cover by the end of this month. I hope that everyone has been able to devote some time to activities related to building whether it be scratch, plans built, or ARF. I must say that I am thinking more and more about purchasing an ARF. The quality has improved and the selection has increased. For the first time I am finding myself building something that is available as an ARF.

I am looking forward to the activities that are coming up in the next few weeks. Usually by now plans to attend the WRAM's show are being firmed up. The late winter auction held at the Campbell School will be held in the next few weeks. And the spring auction held by the Chief's will be coming up in late winter/early spring. I look forward to these events to get out and see fellow modelers and shake off the cabin fever that most definitely will be setting in by that time. I encourage more of our members to participate in these events. It is a good opportunity to see what other people are building and flying and it is a good time to pick up some new to you equipment for the coming flying season. Look for the dates for these events in the newsletter.

I would like to get some feedback from the members that have been attending the meetings on how you like the entertainment we have been having. I want to know what kind of entertainment you want, and need your opinions. That's all for this month.

Happy building,
Jim

At The Field

By Glenn Crocker

The 23rd annual Frozen Finger Fly is history. There were about 17 members present. We also had one visitor who saw the announcement on our web site and wanted to see who was deranged enough to do this. There was no snow but the weather was better than had been forecasted. We thought we would have to do a drive by then head for the restaurant due to the rain but the rain held off and the 25 – 30 mph winds held off as well. The electrics predominated but there were a few gas models in the air. Doug Farnsworth brought his shoe string and after quite a bit of coaxing and threatening, it got in the air. Dave got some air time with his electric hornet. Charlie flew his Lazy Bee. Without the floats that occasionally tip down it was no fun at all. There were no sudden dives and everything was nice and smooth. Ned could not find his snow drift so he decided to pass. Dick's new electric flew impressively. I think he said it was the planes 2nd or 3rd flight.

When you look at the photos at the restaurant you can see who is at the head of the chow line. His initials are Charlie Vogel. I believe this is Charlie's favorite part of the Frozen Finger Fly. It really was a good feed.

Winter has been holding off and Charlie, Nick, Dick and the afternoon crowd have been taking advantage of the flying weather. If this keeps up Charlie won't have time to put retracts into his P-39. I haven't got much flying in during the nice weather. Charlie usually calls as the wind is increasing and tells me how good the flying was.

I contacted the Titusville Terror and he is enjoying the Florida flying weather and wished us all a Merry Xmas. He isn't burning fuel (like he does up north) but he says he goes every day to cheer the club members on.

Enjoy the break from flying. It would be a good time to check things out for spring and make repairs that are needed. If you do fly enjoy yourself and stay safe.

From The Fuel Fool

I will be purchasing fuel again this year. Based on the requests I have had I am planning to get Red Max. As a result of feedback and my own experience we felt Red Max performed a little better than the fuel we used in 2006. I will be taking orders at the February and March meetings and plan to have the fuel at the April meeting.

The lubricant will be 20% made up of 18% synthetic and 2% Castor oil unless a different mix is requested. Their standard lubricant is 19% all synthetic.

Price/Gal: (2cycle and 4 cycle is the same price)

- 10% Nitro \$14.25/gal.
- 15% Nitro \$15.25/gal

Dues are Due

It's that time of year again and dues are due. I would appreciate your dues by March 1st 2007.

- Senior membership: \$45.00
- Junior Members (19rs or younger): \$1.00
- Full time college students: \$1.00

Hints and Tips

Convenient Cleanup

Want a nice, neat, convenient way to clean up that airplane? Use baby wipes—those soft wipe tissues that come under various brand names and are packaged in handy plastic boxes. The wipes must contain some kind of cleaning agent because they remove oil well and the lanolin acts like a polish.

Marking Dark MonoKote

Putting any kind of decent marks on MonoKote is difficult, especially if the MonoKote is dark in color. This becomes a hassle for you when

trying to accurately place control horns or mount a switch to a surface that's already covered.

Try putting down a piece of masking tape in the approximate location then line up the horn or switch plate and make your marks on the tape. The marks are visible and you can cut or drill right through the tape. You can pull the tape off easily by pulling it sideways over itself—don't pull straight up or you may lift off the covering.

*both from Hangar Talk
Orange City, Iowa*

Painting Foam Models

From the "Robbins Nest" by Dennis Robbins

Many people are building with foam these days, and Blucore fanfold and Depron seem to be the material of choice. One drawback to scratch building with foam is the color choices. You get to choose from either blue (Blucore) or white or gray (Depron).

Most of us like a more visible color scheme, and painting is the only way to obtain the desired look. I paint most of my aircraft, and I'd like to share my simple techniques for painting foam.

The first step is to make a paper template of the design you want. I then place this on the airplane in the desired location, and mark the corners of the template. I use some type of colored permanent marker which hopefully matches the paint color being used, and connect the dots, more or less. This gives me a border, and paint can be applied between the lines.

The paint I use is the cheap, acrylic, water-based paint found at your local craft store. These come in small plastic bottles and only cost roughly \$.75 to \$1.00. You will be amazed at the color selection.

All you need to get started is a small container to squeeze a small amount of paint into, and several sizes of inexpensive paint brushes. I also keep some craft sticks on hand for stirring the paint if needed.

To thin the paint, add water and stir away! The last thing you need to know is be patient! Let the paint dry completely and you will be rewarded with a model everyone will be envious of.

Hi-Sky R/C Flyer, Midland, Texas

From a Past Junior Member

You sometimes wonder if former members remember their flying experiences with us. The following is a note from James Harney. James was a junior member who had a great time and at times tested the laws of Physics. He is in the Marine Corp and may be in Iraq. Dave has put his photos on the website.

Good Evening!

This is James, Gene's nephew. I just wanted to write and say thank you for the pictures on the website. I got a chance to finally look at it, and I saw some familiar faces, as well as some new ones since I have been gone. It's great to see you all doing well, and the club doing well also. I have since joined the Fredericksburg Aero Modelers here in Virginia, with a number of about 30 others. Makes for a whole lot of quiet time at the field, and the scenery does not compare with that of the field back home in NY!!!

I just wanted to say hello to Glenn, Eric and my uncle Gene for now. I am planning a trip up there in the near future, so I will be sure to bring my new additions to the family with me!! I once again appreciate the photos on the website, and if you like, I can send more.

Take care and I hope you all had a great holiday!

James Harney Jr.
Call sign "tapeworm"

GVAM 23rd Frozen Finger Fly



The 2007 gang. I believe there were about 17 present. Some may have made the break to the restaurant.



Charlie and Jim loading electrons into Jim's twin.



Doug fueling up the Shoe String



Jim finishing a successful flight.



Ned was looking for the snow. No Luck this year!



Charlie and Eric aren't butting heads. They're just ganging up on the poor little plane.

G. V. A. M Balsa Dust February 2007
GVAM 23rd Frozen Finger Fly



You can see who was first in line. Good thing the Terror wasn't here.



Joe wanted to know if he could come back and eat again if he flew again.



The Chow line at the "Funky Chicken"



Chris Keefer and his copilot (Brian) enjoying Brunch.



We have filled the planes, now we fill the flyers.



Chris, Jim, Dick and John.



G.V.A.M. Newsletter
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