

November 2020

Balsa Dust

An Official Publication Of Genesee Valley Aero Modelers, Ltd.

www.gvam.org

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Editor: Peter Donk 2044 Deiter Rd. Wayland, NY 14572 peterdonk@aol.com

NEXT G.V.A.M. MEETING

Saturday 12/12/20 1:00pm at the Honeoye Public Library
(8708 Main St. Honeoye)

This date/time is reserved but tentative as the library is not currently allowing group meetings due to COVID-19 restrictions. Max will pass along info to the membership when that changes and meetings become definite.

Dues Are Due

The 2021 flying season approaches and that means annual GVAM club dues are due once again. Many members have already paid this year's dues but for any holdouts the time has come. Adult membership remains at \$75.00, junior membership (19 and younger) \$1.00 and social membership (non-flying) \$15.00. Dues can be mailed to:

Glenn Crocker, GVAM Treasurer
21 Highview Trail
Pittsford, NY 14534

Viking Funeral

Here's what Glenn had to say about this pic he sent along: *I was charging the MX (yellow and blue plane) and the tone went off that the battery was charged. When I went to the other room to turn things off, I saw smoke coming out of the fuse. By the time I got it out the back door (walkout basement) flames had appeared and by the time I got the fire extinguisher the side of the plane was burning. Something shorted in the charging line but I can't tell what caused it. The battery itself was not damaged but the line from the charger through the switch to the battery was smoked. The insulation was melted. I think something occurred at the charger connection because the connector was really smoked. Good thing it wasn't a LiPo and good thing I was in the basement when things went south.*



Did You Know?

By Nick Trezza

Hi gang. Hope everyone is healthy and had their share of turkey. I'm typing this article socially distant from everyone. No one is within 10' of me or cares what I'm doing. Well, here we go...

The first item is a plane that was made around 1924 called the Dayton-Wright TA-5. It was a biplane that had a span of almost 35'. The main problem with the design was, in order to reduce drag, the plane had a monowheel landing gear, meaning it had 1 single wheel under the fuselage and 2 smaller wheels, 1 at each wing tip. They figured it would have similar functionality as a seaplane that has a main float and a smaller one at each wing tip. However, when a seaplane is sitting in the water, the fuselage is fairly level. With the TA-5 it sat on the ground very nose high. So, on takeoff and landing the pilot would have to look through the radial engine and, with the plane flopping side to side, the pilot had almost no forward visibility. The whole idea was dropped.

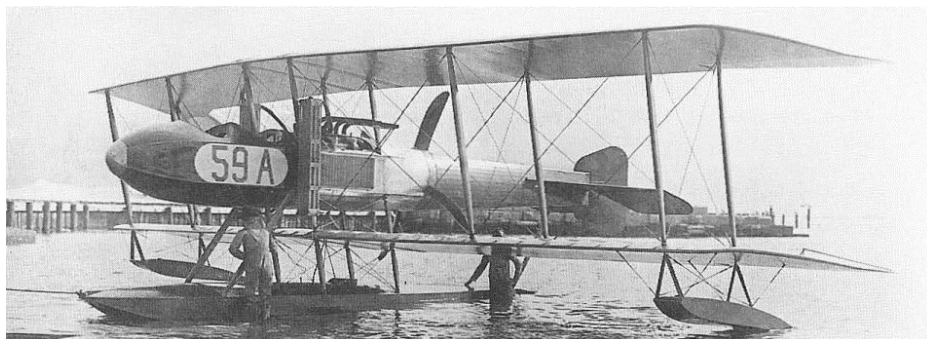


The only TA-5 built (prior to installation of monowheel landing gear)



Next item... Way back in the 50s an Italian company got the idea to take a PA-18 Super Cub and put “bogie” type wheels on it (2 in tandem on the left and 2 in tandem on the right) to better handle rough terrain. It only had brakes on the 2 front wheels and looked really goofy but it remained in production until 1982. It never caught on. So, maun-naug-a-dea-aque-sea which means back to the drawing board in Italian.

The last item... This one is unbelievable; A plane called the American Gallaudet D-2. Picture a biplane that's a seaplane having a main float, a float on each wingtip and the wingspan was almost 47'. Now what was really wacky was the fuselage layout. The first 5 or 6 feet was nosecone, then you had the cockpit for the pilot, behind that a passenger cockpit, 2' behind that was a 400Hp Liberty engine and behind that was (wait for it) the 4-bladed propeller incorporated into the fuselage. The blades of the prop stuck out from the fuselage and rotated around the fuselage. The rest of the fuselage was behind and had the tail section with elevator and rudder. This was done to put the engine and the prop near the CG of the plane. The plane was never put into production (big surprise) because the prop kept hitting the water and shooting water back all over the tail section. I'll bet the guy sitting in the rear cockpit about 18" from the running 400 Hp engine must have had an enjoyable ride.

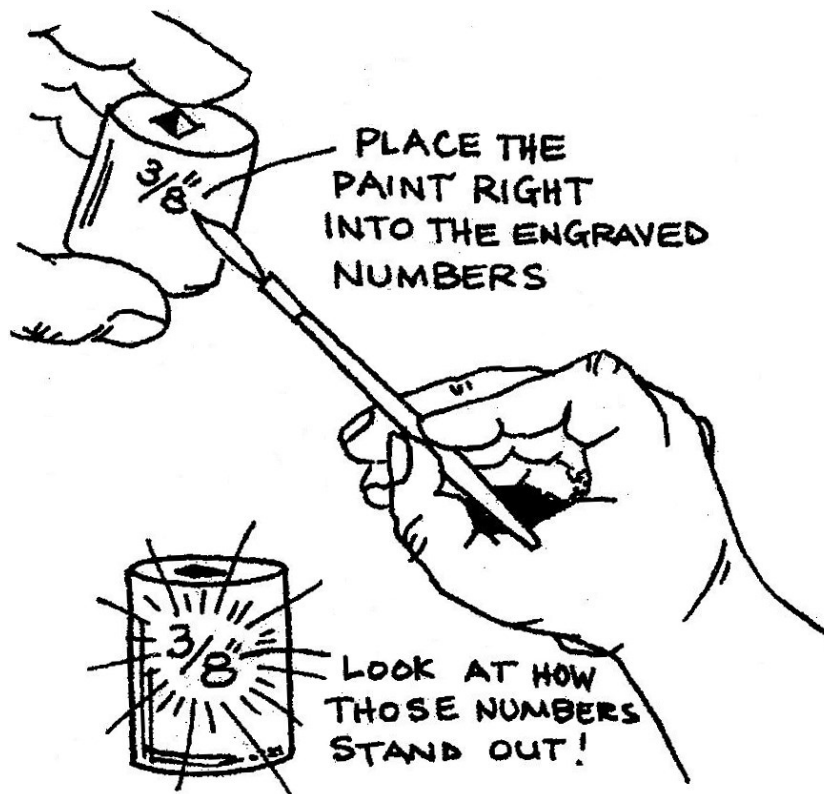


Well gang, that's it for me. It's time to wind up the cat and put out the clock. Stay safe and enjoy the holidays! *Nick T. V.P.*

Tips and Tricks

Have you ever found yourself fumbling through your tool collection squinting at the small engraved numbers on your sockets trying to find the correct size you so desperately need? If you're aging rapidly with questionable eyesight like some of us this little ritual is more likely the norm rather than the exception. Here's a quick tip to make those times far less frustrating.

Clean the grease and grime off your sockets then apply a little white model paint directly into the engravings and wipe away the excess. A little dry time and Voila! Legible labels for your prized tools which could save untold hours at the workbench.

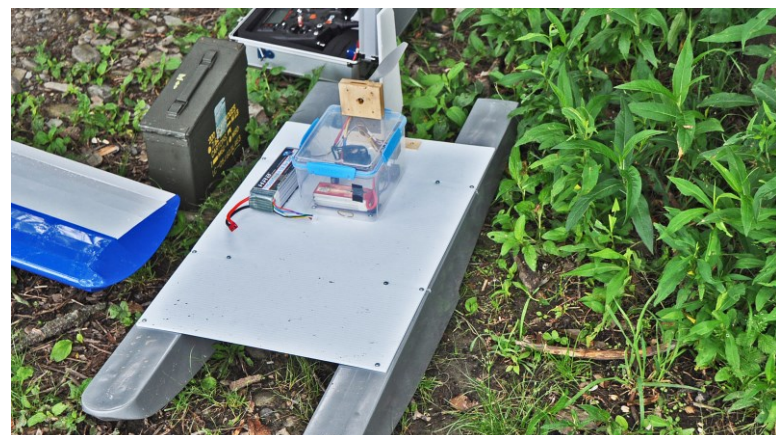


Pictures from the Pond

June, 29th 2020



Jim getting the Seamaster ready. Isn't retirement wonderful?



Max's plane retriever. Didn't need it this time out



Max with his electric Seamaster. It flies great



The dynamic duo hard at work



Bill's green monster Seamaster. No visibility issues when this one's in the air.



Trevor getting the Taylorcraft ready. He had a new prop that pulled really well



Bill firing up the green monster



Off the water and flying very well



A good shot of the guys doing a little shoreline social distancing. Notice how the surf's starting to come up. Must be Trevor's wind switch was not working very well

MURPHY'S LAW OF RC FLYING



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Genesee Valley Aero Modelers website - <http://www.gvam.org>
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GVAM YouTube channel - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCk7v-HTFPGO-6NRtHYM5C6Q>
Windy.com (wind/weather forecasting) - <https://www.windy.com/42.737/-77.542?41.810,-77.542,7>
Weather Underground - <https://www.wunderground.com>
Academy of Model Aeronautics - <http://www.modelaircraft.org>
AMA District II - <http://rcpilot.wixsite.com/amadistrictii>
AMA YouTube Channel - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBnIE7hx2BxjKsWmCpA-uDA>
Rochester Aero-Modeling Society - <https://www.ramsrc.org>
Windy Ridge RC Flyers (Hammondsport) - <https://www.rcflightdeck.com/club.cfm?id=1283>
Canandaigua Sky Chiefs - <http://www.canandaiguaskychiefs.org>
Southern Tier Aero Radio Society ("STARS" - Cuba) - <http://www.rcstars.org>
Sky Rovers RC Flying Club (Phelps) - <http://www.skyrovers.org>
Finger Lakes Air Pirates (Seneca Falls) - <http://www.flapsrc.com>
Radio Control Club of Rochester - <http://www.rccr1957.com>
AeroFred (free model airplane plans) - <https://aerofred.com>

If anyone has any projects or experiences or anything at all RC-related you'd like to share here please feel free to send it to me and I'll include it in a future edition... Pete peterdonk@aol.com