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Balsa Dust

An Official Publication Of Genesee Valley Aero Modelers, Ltd.

www.gvam.org

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NEXT G.V.A.M. MEETING

Saturday 10/10/20 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.

Did You Know?

By Nick Trezza

I hope everyone is happy and healthy and Covid-free. I've been telling everyone that I'm waiting for summer to get here and it's already gone! Oh well... Ladies and gentlemen and children of all ages, it's time for **Did You Know?**

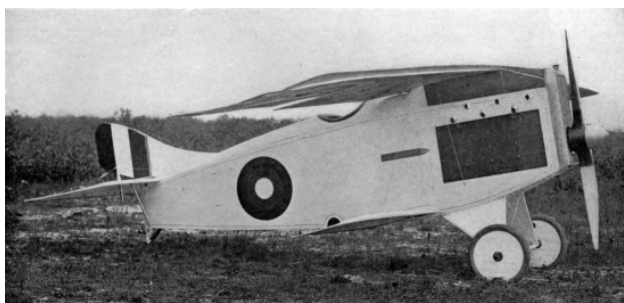
Back in 1958 North American was developing a Mach 3 strategic bomber. It was the XB-70 Valkyrie. The program was on and off again due to political reasons (we all know how that goes). Two prototypes were eventually made and the maiden flight finally occurred in Sept. of 1964. In June of 1966 the plane was going through a few flight tests when one of the F-104 chase planes suddenly veered into the wing of the XB-70 and both aircraft came crashing down. One XB-70 crew member and the F-104 pilot died. After a big investigation, and still to this day, no conclusion was reached as to why it had happened. The other remaining prototype was shipped to Wright Patterson USAF Museum because the project was too expensive to continue. The project cost US taxpayers \$1.5 billion or 10 times their weight in gold.



Next item; Louis Bleriot was a Frenchman who was the first to fly across the English Channel in the early 1900s. He formed a company and designed a biplane called the Bleriot 115. Now this was a monster biplane with a wingspan of 82'. As far as the fuselage goes, picture a very large pickle with an upswept tail section. It had 4 engines, 2 on the upper wing and one on each side of the fuselage. It had a crew of 3 and could carry 8 passengers. Besides having miles of flying wires, it had 10 pairs

of struts with cross bracing and 8 wheels. After all this, the company built 2 of them and every time they tried to fly the plane it would crash. Two primary problems were 1; fully loaded it weighed 5 1/2 tons and 2; they couldn't get it to go over 62 mph. Back to the drawing board.

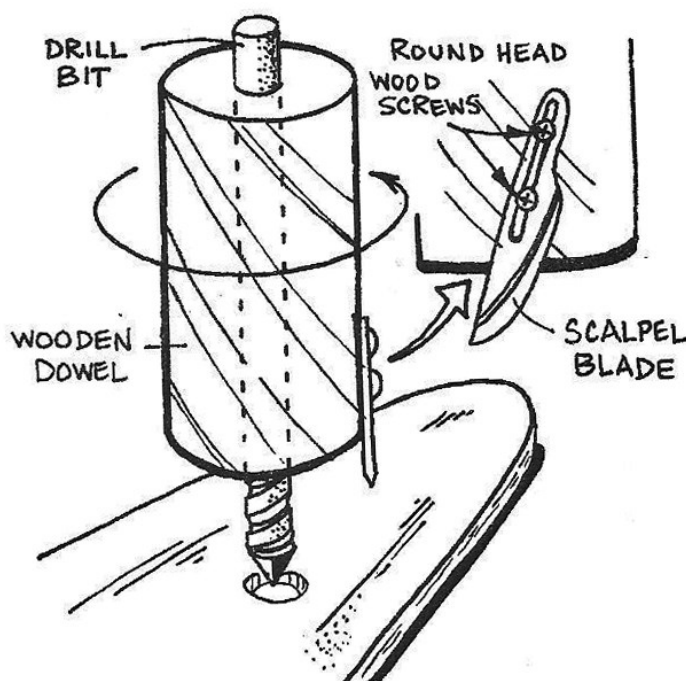
The last item is a plane that was called the Christmas Bullet. It was designed in 1918 by a guy named William Christmas. It was a biplane but looked like a refrigerator box with 2 wings and a tail. Again, they could barely get the thing in the air and every time it did fly it came crashing down and killed the pilot. In my opinion, if I was a pilot and I was supposed to give this plane its maiden flight, after one quick look if I had any brains at all I would say, "I'm not getting in that thing, I don't care how much you're gonna pay me." Again, back to the drawing board.



Well, that's it for me gang. Get out there and fly!!!... *Nick T. V.P.*

Tips and Tricks

Here's a neat little trick that might come in handy every now and then. For making nice neat uniform holes in balsa this do-it-yourself hole saw works pretty well. Pick a wooden dowel the same diameter as the holes you want to make. Run a drill bit down through the center, affix a hobby/scalpel blade to the outside and voila! An easy, quick, made to order hole saw...



It's still warm enough to do some flyin'!



Photos from the Field



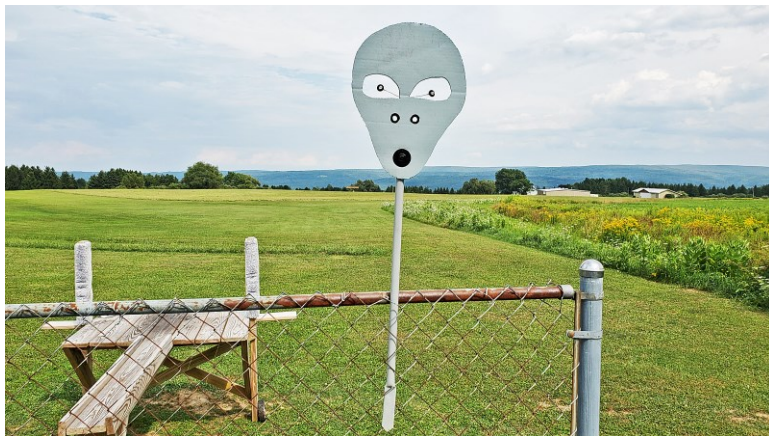
Bill getting ready to get busy with a hot rod



Nick makes ready for some glow fuel action



Jim McBride's son, David, donated a wonderful hand-crafted bench which will serve as a nice long-term tribute to Eric and Gail



Look out, Dick! They're comin' for ya!



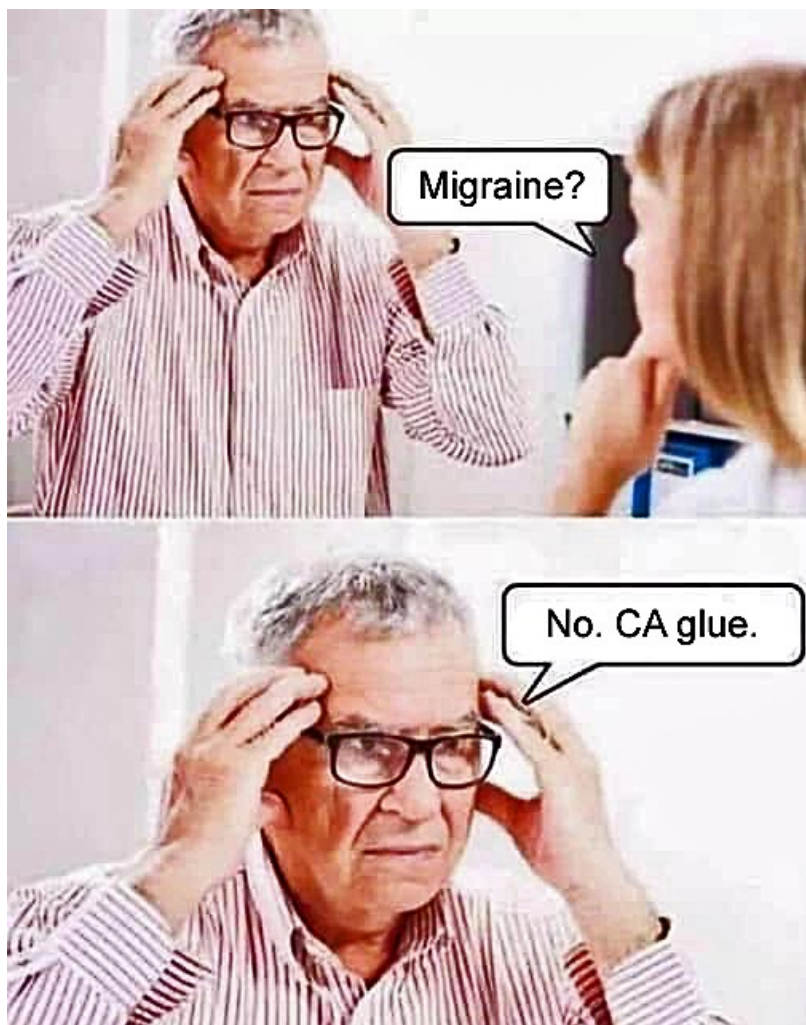
The new shelter donated by Chris Keefer's Mom



Man (Chris) cannot live on RC planes alone



Yep, lump me in there with everyone else ☺



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 GVAM YouTube channel - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/Uck7v-HTFGO-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