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ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL WINTER PARTY!

Thanks once again to the terrific efforts of Ramona and Clark Follett, I can say once again... "a GREAT time was had by all!"

As one would expect (it being held at the Old Library), the Winter Party's repast was excellent. If there was any complaint, it was only that there was "so much food" that I couldn't eat everything! I'm sure that no one went away hungry, and many went away saying... "I ate too much" and holding onto their stomachs. But as "Mr. Food" of TV fame always says- "oh-h-h-h, it's so-o-o-o good!"

Many were the awards given out during the evening. I'm sure I didn't get them all (my "shorthand" isn't all that good, nor fast), but I'll give you what I was able to take down.

Beginning on the "funny side" of things... Dave P. got one for "Hardest and Softest Landings"; Ed F. for his "Cub Episode"; Tom O. for "Tail wheel Problems";



What a spread... it took eight chafing dishes to hold it all!

Tad M. for his "Treed Telemaster"; Randy B for His Pitts' Oops!"; and President Walt H. for "Starting Problem Solved".

Speaking of "funny"... Dave P. seems to be trying to permanently retire the Bonehead Award- winning it for the second season in a row! Ramona told him "once more and it's yours!"

Among the ladies, raffles were won by Audrey K., Vi B., Ida H. and

(PARTY Continued on page 2)



A very happy lady, Audrey K., wins one of the distaff raffles

BY WALTER ... THE REPORTER OF WONDERS???

I realize that the story I am about to relate is unbelievable, but I swear that it is 100% true. It was on December 21st of 2008, in the Cuba school gym, that a miracle happened. This miracle can be verified by the great throng of onlookers who witnessed the event.

Flying of various RC models had been occurring for over three hours when Dave Pratt decided to sally forth one more time with his new helicopter. The craft zipped around the arena, with Dave's usual abandon, for several minutes, when suddenly (and Dave swears that it was without his permission???) the machine decided to perform a never before attempted maneuver. What was this miraculous maneuver you may ask, this event that so startled the observers that they were spellbound and struck speechless, unable to grasp the enormity of it?!? It was nothing less than a miracle, a wondrous happening, and event that will surely go down in the annuals of aviation history. It was spectacular, it was thrilling, and it was truly awesome. Again you may ask...

(MIRACLE Continued on page 3)

MODEL AVIATION PRINCIPLES 101: Good judgement comes from experience. Unfortunately, the experience usually comes from bad judgement

(PARTY Continued from page 1)

a whole slew won the table arrangements (which had been put together {very nicely I might add} by Ramona F.)

Raffle prizes won by members throughout the evenings' program included trim irons to Jim G. and Dick S.; a gallon of fuel by Brad D.; a heat gun to Tad M.; a CG machine to Tom O.; a Robart incident meter by Don W.; glue to Gary B. and Ramona F.; a modeling saw to Mike Z.; a glow driver to Bob B.; tap and drill sets and a dead center locator to Jim K.; a "woodpecker" to Kip K.; a prop balancer to Walt H.; and complete airplanes to both Randy B. and David P.

All the "Master of Ceremonies" duties were handled very ably throughout the evening by a combination of Ramona and Clark F., assisted by President Walt. I think the three of them deserve a special hand, a thank you if you will, as the festivities neither dragged, nor were they too fast to be able to keep up with. Any faults found in this article however, are caused only by your editor's inability to get

info down in a timely and readable manner!

I'd like to add that forty three showed up for this party, which is a testimony to the great camaraderie of the members, and the great company provided by their significant others.

Ending on a serious note... the last two awards of the evening which were very well deserved, and emblematic of the regard in which these two men are held by their fellow members., went to Ed F. and Jim G.

A new award, the "Innovator of the Year" went to Jim Goodemote, along with a very nice plaque.

The "Golden Prop Award", given to our member of the year, went to Ed Flicker; once again, with a very nicely done plaque.

What can one possibly say about these two gentlemen? They both are certainly pillars of this organization, and it's almost impossible to imagine it without them. Congratulations to both of you- and a very well deserved "Thank You" for all you do!



A happy raffle winner with his "goodies"!

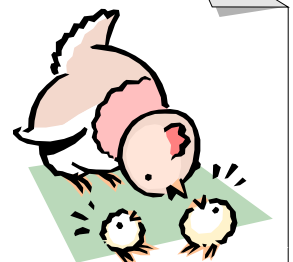


... And yet even another!!!



STARS Rally / DISTRICT II FunFly Notice:

One event we are planning on having during this year's festivities is a "glider building" booth for youngsters. To prepare for this... would ALL MEMBERS please save the top halves of styrofoam egg cartons from now until then. We'll need your help to save enough!



(MIRACLE Continued from page 1)

“So, what was it?”

Well, hang onto your hats, because what it was was the first ever recorded SLAM DUNK by a helicopter, and, according to Dave... there was “nothing but net”. Surely, Dave deserves a reward for this feat. THE BONEHEAD, MAYBE!?! NAH, can’t be the Bonehead award because Dave insists that the craft did it all on it’s own.

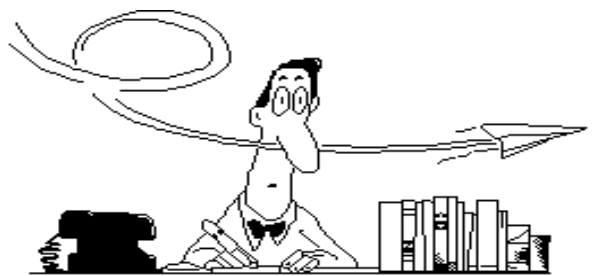
EDITOR’S NOTE: Now, before you all decide that “Flash” Hibbard got a little too close to the Christmas eggnog... I want to remind you that he is a valued member of my crackerjack reporting staff! If “Walter, Reporter of Wonders” says it’s so... it most definitely is.

And by the way, this past Sunday (January 25th) Dave did the same thing to his “Vapor” fixed-wing. Does there seem to be some sort of a pattern developing here?!?



From the Newsletter Editor’s Desk...

I attended January’s planning meeting at Clark and Ramona Follett’s home last night. President Walt had a very full schedule planned, and we got through all of it. Many excellent ideas were not only tossed around, but written down, and discussed at length. Our leader has many good ideas, wants very much to implement them, and to do so **NEEDS THE SUPPORT AND HELP OF ALL OF US!**



Most of you will remember the meeting some of us attended at Randy B.’s office in Bradford. Just like that meeting, many excellent thoughts were put forth. But all the ideas in the world won’t accomplish anything, without the commitment of our members. We have an opportunity to really put our name back on the map with an excellently run and full-of-fun Rally/District II Fun Fly this summer, but it won’t become a fact without you.

Attend as many meetings as you can between now and July / volunteer to help where needed / give some thought as to where YOU could really make a difference / don’t wait to be asked to do something- speak up. I don’t know about Uncle Sam, but “Uncle Walt” wants you, and so do the rest of us!

‘til next month then... *Tad*

CLUB BIO OF THE MONTH



Many of you will know the guy dishing out the radios at our annual rally as Don Wehlage. Read on and get to know this member who seems to always have a smile on his face.

Don has been with Dresser Rand for 31.5 years, and he manages the test department. "We test any unit or product that Dresser makes."

Mary Ann is his spouse of 15 years.

...master scuba diver...

When asked about his other interests and hobbies, Don mentioned, "Just work". Upon further questioning, however, we found that Don is a master scuba diver. He enjoys motor boating, and couples that with his interest in diving. Although Don claims that it's not that difficult, you do need some basic skills and exhibit some competencies. You need to be comfortable in the water, for one. Don mostly dives and boats up in the Finger Lakes.

Don remarks that there was no one person who got him interested in flying. "It's funny, as long as I can remember I was interested. Not necessarily who, but I was just interested as a child." Don started out with u-line/control line, and in 1996 moved into the remotes when he joined the STARS.

Don's favorite plane to fly "was" his Pepsi Chipmunk until he crashed it. It was totaled. "Now I've got to build another. Right now don't have anything to fly."

When asked about his best flying experience, Don responded, "Quite a few of them...loved the Pepsi...it suited my flying ability...many good times with that one. Had over 280 flights on it. It was an intermediate to advanced plane."

From what we've just read, you can imagine his worst flying experience. You guessed it, the Pepsi crash.

As with most of us, Don has an opinion on glow vs. electric: "I still prefer a gas engine, although the electrics are fun and convenient. You can get quick flights in at the field."

"...over 280 flights on it..."

"I'm not very good at it", was how Don spoke of 3D flying. "Would like to do more practicing....I think it should be part of competition...certainly demonstrates a pilot's ability, takes the right type of plane".

I asked Don if he felt he had any areas of expertise. "Not sure I have any areas of extreme expertise...fairly familiar with most of the areas".

Finally, his advice for the rookie/newbie pilot: "Try to get in lots of stick time".

Until next month... *Jim Keough*

HAVE YOU EVER... had a propeller smack your hand so hard you were afraid to look!?!?

STARS-Minutes, General Meeting 1/14/09

Attendance:

Gary Baker, Jamie Bowen, Brad Davis, Randy Bittinger, Bob Bush, Ed Flicker, Clark Follett, Romona Follett, Walt Hibbard, Kip Karn, Jim Keough, Tom Orcutt, Dave Pratt, Don Wehlage, Mike Zias

Treasurers Report:

Tom O. gave the monthly report. Motion to accept by Randy B. and seconded by Don W.

Membership:

Motion by Don W. to have Jay Wade elected as a new STARS member and was seconded by Gary B. All were in favor. Welcome Jay. Ed F. reported the club has only a few more hard copies of the manual entitled "The basics of radio control" which is normally provided to our new club members who haven't any experience with RC planes. Several members suggested the club should no longer purchase this manual from this point forward, on the basis of our flight instruction manual covers many of the same topics. Don W. also suggested we search the internet to find this type of information.

Web Site:

None to report.

President's Corner:

Walt H. asked for additional ideas for the District II fun fly event scheduled to take place this year. Suggested flying electric's on Friday. Another possibility would be to place beans in a cup attached to the pilots plane and see how many are left after landing. Randy B. suggested the club develop any easy way of ranking pilots who participate in these events. Club should also consider additional fundraiser like Wal-Mart and a garage sale.

Winter Party:

Date: 1/24/09

Location: Old Library

Cocktails: 5PM / Dinner: 6PM

Romona F. reported the prizes have been purchased.

Old library asked Romona to report on head count.

Rally:

Ed F. reported the AGS will help with cooking our chickens this year.

Old Business:

Club Liability:

Walt H. reported he is still investigating alternate insurance.

Club House Electric:

Tom O. will give Dewey B. a call to see if the club house breaker has been pulled.

New Business:

Tom O. reported on the 2008 annual financial report.

Show & Tell:

Randy B. presented his Katana precision aerobatics ARF from atlantichobby.com. This is a electric balsa carbon fiber plane construction. Very high quality ARF craftsmanship.

Meetings:

Next Planning Board Meeting will be sometime in January 26 @ 7PM.

Next Regular STARS general meeting will be at JCC, Feb 11th starting @ 7:00PM.

Motion to adjourn was made by Don W. and seconded by Dave P. All were in favor.

LOOKING BACK – 10

With the ability to now control a model with multi-channel reed systems, there was considerable interest in the hobby, and the Olean Model Airplane Club welcomed a lot of new members. Not many of them are around today, with the exception of Bob Brown, Dick Hawkins, and Bob Dunn.



Glenn Flynn and
Dick Hawkins



Charlie Hildebrand



Dave Herrick and
Ken Cuyler



Paul Kerlan

Glenn Flynn and Paul Kerlan were excellent builders. Paul's models were so lightly built that the slightest hard knock, and they were history. But he could out-fly all the rest of us. Charlie Hildebrand was in and out of the hobby several times. Dave Herrick and Ken Cuyler have both passed away.



Lewellyn Barnaby



Jim Maynard



Tom Blade and
Jim Messer



Omar Bosworth

Lewellyn Barnaby, and J. Maynard gave up the hobby. Tom Blade and Omar Bosworth, have both passed away. Following are more photos taken at the Line Material field.



We were often times visited by Howard Dart, and his son Bob. They lived just outside of Jamestown, and would fly to the Line Material field in their helicopter. The first photo is Howard, and the second shows their helicopter landing at the field.

Howard and Bob were two wild and crazy guys! They really enjoyed doing whatever crazy thing you could think of doing with a radio controlled model airplane. Bob would stand at the top of Line Material field and fly his airplane around the water-tower, over 1000 feet away, shown in the above photo. It was an amazing sight – seeing the airplane disappear and come back into sight as it rounded the tower. Bob was the only one I knew that ever attempted that feat.

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Next Regular Meeting @ JCC - Olean Campus:
February 11th, 7:00pm

Next Planning Meeting: *To be announced*

Stars Rally / District II Fun Fly @ Olean-Cattaraugus
Airport, Ischua: *July 18th - 19th (it'll be here before
we know it!)*

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