

# Wing Tips

Laurel Highlands Model Airplane Club

AMA #557

104 Rocky Mt Court Latrobe, PA 15650

www.lhmac.org

*Regular Meeting February 13th at 7:30 PM St Pauls Church*

*Breakfast 8:30 AM, February 11th Eat n' Park in Greensburg*

*Breakfast 8:30 AM February 25th Eat n' Park in Greensburg*

*All breakfasts to be at Eat n' Park until further notice*

## Officers for 2009

President: Rene Marquis  
724-523-3320

V. Pres. Jim Pennington  
724 832-0207

Treasurer: Mike Bossick  
724 834-7904

Secretary: Don Accorsi  
724 537-7577

Field Control: Jeff Hails  
724 423-3149

Editor: Jeff Hails  
724 423-3149

## Prez Says

**GREETINGS: Hope all is well with everyone! Even though the day's are getting a bit longer, there is still a little ways to go before the odor of burnt glow/gas fuel and cooked LiPo's fill the air ...**

We were able to set some dates for the 2009 flying season but still have a few more to set. These include: chairpersons for the Scale Contest, Endurance/Timed Flight, Snyder Cup and for the two funflays for the May and August picnics. Please give some thought to volunteering your services for these worthwhile events. As we discussed, and I thank you for your input, some of these events just need to be tweaked a bit but more importantly the membership needs to know well in advance, preferably written up in the newsletter, what these events/contests entail.

Thank You to Bob Bushmire for his article which appears in the newsletter. If any of you wish to write a column, place an ad or include a newsworthy article, please do not hesitate to do so, this is your newsletter.

It is most unfortunate that R/C Report magazine published its final edition for March 2009. It was, in my opinion, one of the best R/C airplane only magazines with an honest evaluation of new products as well as interesting articles covering the hobby. Gordon Banks, its publisher, in his editorial stated that the magazine became a victim of the sluggish economy as well as mistakes made throughout the years in the format of the magazine. We have now lost two magazines, RCM and R/C Report.

Hope to see many of you at the meeting on February 13, 2009.

**Rene**

Minutes of the Meeting of January 9, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Rene Marquis with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

There were 19 members and one guest present. One new member, James Bussard, of Youngwood, was voted into the club. The minutes of the December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as published in the January, 2009, newsletter. Secretary Don Accorsi reminded the members that the deadline for dues payment is now past, so there is now an additional \$5 late fee for dues payment. He also circulated fliers for (1) the M.A.R.S. Winter Swap Meet, Mars, PA, January 18<sup>th</sup>; (2) the Murrysville Area RC Society Flea Market & Auction in Export, PA, on Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>; and (3) the Central Penn Aeromodelers Flea Market in Lebanon, PA, on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. The Treasurers report was approved, as given by Mike Bossick. Vice President Jim Pennington announced the raffle prize: a Nitro Models "Fascination-50" F3A ARF (an aerobatic pattern plane). Field Control/Safety Officer Jeff Hails reported that the field is in good shape, but there is no word as yet on a replacement park maintenance manager for (deceased) Wayne Johnson. Jeff also reported, as Newsletter Editor, that there were still 3 bounce-backs on e-mail newsletter deliveries, which he is trying to correct. **(Secretary's Note:** Members can help with this by making sure that Jeff has their correct e-mail addresses and by adding Jeff's [*new*] e-mail address: [jgh453@wpa.net](mailto:jgh453@wpa.net), to their address books.) Webmasters Charley Zera and Rob Whalen reported that the website has been updated with pictures from the New Year's Day "First in the Air" Fun Fly. They are still encouraging everyone to send them more pictures.

### **Old Business:**

- (a) Mammoth Park Maintenance Manager:** Still no word from the park office on any appointment of a new maintenance manager.
- (b) Mall Show:** Decision on whether or not (and where) to have a mall show was tabled until next month, when more information should be available.
- (c) AMA ID Labels:** ID labels for aircraft are still available from President Marquis at \$1.25/pkg. of 10.
- (d) Late Dues:** Unpaid dues for 2009 are now late. A late fee of \$5.00 will be charged for all late dues payments.
- (e) New Year's Day Fun Fly:** President Marquis reported that the fun fly was well attended (approximately 25 people), and the weather was "crisp" but bearable. The first electric in the air was Rob Whalen's Matchless Juka Foamy. The first glow powered plane in the air was Rene Marquis' Rascal. There were plenty of cookies, as usual, and Mark Yothers took many pictures, including an excellent group shot, which are currently displayed on the website, [www.lhmac.org](http://www.lhmac.org). At the January meeting, Steve Mickel graciously presented the two "First in the Air" winners with trophy plaques, which he made himself. (Thanks, Steve, that was very nice!)

### **New Business:**

- (a) Float Fly Dates for 2009:** May 9<sup>th</sup>, June 6<sup>th</sup>, July 11<sup>th</sup>, August 8<sup>th</sup>, September 12<sup>th</sup>, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- (b) Pylon Races:** Chairman: Bob Bushmire. Dates: (all Sundays) May 24<sup>th</sup>, June 14<sup>th</sup>, July 19<sup>th</sup>, August 16<sup>th</sup>, September 13<sup>th</sup>. All are Quickie 500 Stock Class.
- (c) Opening Day Picnic:** Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. Food Chairman: Brian Moore. Still need Fun Fly Chairman.
- (d) August Picnic:** Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. (Also hosting joint picnic with Keystone Clippers.) Food Chairman: Jeff Hails. Still need Fun Fly Chairman.
- (e) Scale Contest:** Chairman still needed and date to be set. Bob Bushmire noted that, in more recent scale contests, focus has been more on winning than on showing airplanes, which has perhaps discouraged many people from competing. He suggested that more emphasis on showing airplanes

might encourage more participation.

**(f) Endurance/Timed Flight Contest:** Chairman still needed and date to be set.

**(g) Snyder Cup Trials:** Chairman still needed and date to be set.

**Note:** President Marquis suggested that we consider possibly modifying, but not necessarily eliminating, items (e), (f) and (g) to help improve participation. Steve Mickel suggested possibly having more than one event on the same day. Rob Whalen suggested that we might want to consider reviving the Cross-Country Fly, although more recent laws and regulations may make this type of event less feasible. The whole events issue is still open to discussion and suggestions. Everyone please give it some thought.

**(h) RC Air Show:** Plans are still being contemplated for one after June of this year.

**(i) April Meeting Date:** Changed from April 10<sup>th</sup> to April 17<sup>th</sup> because of Good Friday.

**(j) Awards Banquet:** Chairman still needed and date to be set.

**(k) Field Upkeep & Repairs:** In addition to the usual beautification projects done on the spring work day, the Tx Impound needs to be scraped and repainted, and the benches need to be recoated with wood preservative. These projects will be scheduled on the same day as the regular work day. A motion was carried to appropriate the money to purchase the materials needed.

**(l) Toledo Bus Trip:** Meyers Bus Company has quoted a price of \$2,050 for a 47 passenger bus round trip from Greensburg to Toledo. This amounts to \$43.62 per person, assuming a full bus load. This is substantially higher than past years. It is questionable whether we can get a full bus load for the trip at that price. Issue to be decided later. Member feedback is needed.

### **Show & Tell:**

Greg Lazarchik showed his Fly Boy ARF, Mfg. by The Wings Maker. It is equipped with preinstalled retracts and priced at \$129. It is powered by a Saito 72 engine, which is a bit too much (40 is recommended). All parts fit together perfectly. It's a very nice ARF for the price.

Mark Yothers showed the completed 3.9 oz. (scratch built) "Skeeter" profile electric that he showed (in "bare bones") last month. The SIG Bond glue that he used weighed a total of 0.49 oz. He also wanted to point out that SIG Bond glue is much lighter (when dry) and stronger than CA glue.

Doug Hagy showed his Electri Fly Yak-54 Foam Sheet profile ARF. It comes prepainted, is good quality and weighs just under 6 oz. without the 1 oz. battery. He said it is great fun to fly indoors, and pointed out that there are two indoor flying clubs in this area.

Rene Marquis reported that there is a new brand of CA cement available. The brand name is TiteBond. It comes in Thick, Medium, Thin and **Gel**. It can be purchased from Woodcraft.com.

Rob Whalen showed a set of 6 Foam Electric Profile "Jukas" of his own design. They each weigh 4.3 oz., ready to fly. They are equipped with foam hinges made from Zefron, with which he has been experimenting. He will make these planes for anyone interested.

Rick Swiderski showed his E-Flite miniature helicopter and flew it in the room. It is equipped with contra-rotating rotors, a 2.4 GHz radio, LiPo batteries, and is very easy to fly. The LiPO batteries cost \$10 each.

John Hathaway showed his new hangar sign, "Hathaway's Hangar", which his daughter made for him for Christmas.

**Raffle:**

The Nitro Models "Fascination-50" F3A ARF was won by Phil Petrella.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Don Accorsi*

**Wanted: J-Tec 40P Pitts style muffler. Call Ron Gade 724 832-7896**

## **WHAT WORKS FOR ME**

***This month we are going to talk props. ALL PROPS ARE NOT THE SAME ! Having said this let me explain what i mean . Some props flex and lose pitch when a load is put on it. This is common in all size props, in small props it is mainly due to the material it is made of and the thickness of the blade. Blade width and shape also play a part in flex. The air foil shape of the prop is very important as to how the prop pulls the thicker the blade not the with will determine R P M on any brand of the same size. Now that i gave you a little tech here is what works for me***

Props from 7 to 16 in. APC props are preferred

Props 18 and up MEJZLIK composite NX wood XZOAR wood

Now i will give just a few to avoid TOP FLITE wood ZINGER wood ALL PLASTIC such as master airscrew follow these and props will not be a problem for you

*Bob*

# *The Old Model Doctor*

**Courtesy of Sacramento Area Modelers Radio Control Club**

## **Model Doctor #28**

***The old (very old, actually) Model Doctor has heard that women's nylon stockings are a cheap substitute for 1/2 ounce fiberglass and are especially handy in covering a wing. Simply slide the nylon over the wing, pull out the wrinkles and apply the resin.***

## **Model Doctor #29**

***Fabric and yardage stores sell a material product known as "pellon". This can be used for general reinforcement and is especially good for wing center sections. Be careful when you do apply it, as it does have "grain" and should be applied in the direction that affords maximum strength.***

## **Model Doctor #46**

***The construction phase of a built up balsa model has been known to take several weeks, and sometimes more time! During this period it happens occasionally that a finished sanded piece, all ready for covering or painting gets bumped and dented. There is a way to get these dents out of balsa without additional filler material.***

First, wet the dented area with plain ol' water. Make sure the dented section is well saturated and the water has soaked into the wood. Then take a Monokote iron, set to its hottest position and gently iron over the dented area. The steam being generated in the wood forces open the compressed section (i.e. the dent). I have seen this method take out some pretty big dents. In fact, it is not uncommon that a little additional sanding is required because the "dent" ends up higher than the surrounding area.

## **Model Doctor #47**

Didya ever go through all the trouble to make up your control surface push rods only to find at installation time they were a 1/4" too short? Try this as an easy way to get the lengths exactly right. Tie a string to the control horn on the control surface. Drop the free end of the string through the fuselage. With the control surface in the neutral position, tie the other end of the string to the servo arm. Cut off the excess string at both tie points. Now, cut the string at both tie points and what you end up with is a piece of string which is the exact length of the push rod you will need to fabricate.

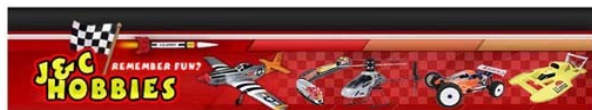
## **Model Doctor #63**

***Scott Morasci has found an easy way to cut complicated designs and numbers from both trim Monokote as well as regular Monokote. He draws out the design on paper and cuts out the paper to create a full sized pattern for the design. Then, using spray adhesive, he sprays the Monokote backing with adhesive. The adhesive will grab the full size paper pattern (make sure you lay down the pattern in such a way that the cut out Monokote comes out correctly). Cut out the monokote with a new #11 Xacto blade. Setting the Monokote on a glass surface also helps with clean cuts. When the design is cut out and you peel the Monokote backing off, you get a piece of Monokote that faithfully duplicates your design and, you also end up with a reusable pattern.***

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A cartoon-style illustration of a red biplane with a pilot wearing a yellow helmet and goggles. The plane has white crosses on its wings and tail.

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