



OMFC Fliteline

The Newsletter of the
Oakville Model Flying
Club

December 2002

OMFC December 2 meeting highlights

Newly Elected President Brian Anderson, called the meeting to order at precisely 7:30 PM!

The meeting opened with an address by Mike McDermott. The text of his words can be found on page 3. Please read what Mike has to say and take some time if you knew Jack to remember all he has done for our hobby and our club. He will be missed.

It's almost that time again...Frozen Finger Fun Fly is just around the corner. The executive would like to lay out a few rules for next years first "Official Flight of the year for OMFC" contest. Just have fun! Hand launching is again approved. Of course, good luck finding someone crazy enough to hand launch an airplane in sub zero temps with an engine screaming away mere inches from their face. Bring your scrap balsa and ply for the bonfire. The day starts at 11:00AM and the race is on at 12:00 Noon.

As we begin to plan our club activities for the Summer of 2003, the executive needs motivated and willing volunteers to aid in organizing and executing the 8th annual OMFC Air show. As this is undoubtedly the biggest event we put on each year, the club really needs your help. If you are interested or just have questions as to what would be involved, please contact a member of the executive.

At the November Executive meeting the Executive made the following appointments:

- Burt Armstrong as Webmaster
- Roger Young as CFI
- Wayne Mckee as Assistant CFI

At the next regular meeting of OMFC, Keith Houston will make a presentation on the full scale Fairey Firefly.

President Brian Anderson closed the meeting at 7:50 PM and the membership broke off to view the many demonstrations that included the following:

- Engines: Jim Eichenberg and Dave Slote talked about two and four stroke engines and what can be done to bring the old ones back to life. Dave even dissembled a four stroke before our eyes and knew what all the little parts were for.
- Covering: Helmut Schmitter showed the techniques of covering a model airplane with a covering iron and heat gun. The model he covered had open stringers along the top of the fuselage and Helmut did a fine job covering this more difficult area.

Cont. on Page 3

Inside this issue:

OMFC December Meeting highlights	1
In Memorium.... Jack Swift	2
Dec 2 meeting highlights cont.	3
Dates for 2003	3
2003 OMFC Executive	4

Points of Interest

- ?? The Frequency board at the South field has been removed for winter maintenance. Please use caution when flying at the south field to ensure frequency control procedures are maintained.
- ?? The South field road is now closed off at the top of the hill. If you fly there, you will have to carry your equipment down to the field.
- ?? Don't forget to pay your 2003 dues. OMFC dues go up to \$70 for an open membership and to \$95 for a family membership on January 1, 2003.

In Memoriam.....Jack Swift

Jack Swift passed away on November 21st 2002. Jack had been a member of OMFC up until a few years ago and over the years served in many executive roles, including club President.

Jack and his wife Betty came to Canada from England in the late 50's and for many years Jack worked as a professional model builder, building miniature models from blueprints. His passion in life was scale aviation modeling and Bi - Planes from the golden age figured prominently. His love of researching and building scale model aircraft knew no bounds; he has been known to find old time aircraft and to photograph and generally climb all over them in order to draw up plans for every part of the aircraftand I mean, every part! Jack also took a strong interest in amateur film making, filming animal life, insects and of course, airplanes.

Over the years Jack designed and built numerous scale aircraft. There are at least 10 Jack Swift aircraft plans still in circulation. Jack was on several Canadian national scale model teams, building scale models to a level most of us can only dream of, even with the will and determination required. Jack understood aerodynamics, engineering, stress and load factors, which complimented his amazing building skills. He was a good pilot but had his flying skills equaled his awesome building skills, he would have been unbeatable.

I got to know Jack only in the mid 90's and at first I found him difficult to get to know, being ornery and opinionated [him that is!]. To a guy who was just starting out in this hobby with lots of interest and questions and little knowhow, he could be, to put it plainly, a pain in the butt! One day, at the south field when I could not stand his apparent continuing offhand attitude any longer, I erupted into a string of bad language including questioning his parentage.....he fell about laughing at my outrageI then started laughing also and from then on we started to become friends. I was constantly trying to pick his brains and to understand how and why he built the way he did. I eventually realised that part of Jack's initial problem with me, was that I was such a novice, that it was difficult for me to understand what he was telling me.....how many times did he explain something only to hear me say " Whaaaaaaat ?? Or Huh ?? " I finally understood his frustration with me. I did however learn a lot from him and I keep hoping that I will eventually build at something like his level; I know, I do not have his abilities but I have his passion for this hobby and I will keep trying.

About 5 years ago Jack had a stroke, which virtually shut down his ability to speak and to model. To a man who spent virtually every waking moment since he retired in his workshop or at the flying field, this was almost a death sentence in itself. I have been visiting Jack over the past few years several times a month and sadly have watched him slip away. His passing on November 21st was, I am certain, a relief for him and his wife Betty, whom I have come to admire for her daily unsung care of Jack, coping with all his sufferings and frustrations, almost entirely on her own. At the end Jack was alone with Betty, I was away and Betty told no one. I feel badly that no one from our club stood up at his memorial service and said a few words about a remarkable man, so I wrote down a few comments for the Fliteline newsletter.

I will miss him.....Thank you

Mike McDermott OMFC



Meeting highlights cont.

- Fiberglass: Roger Young gave a demonstration on fiber glassing balsa. This is a great way to prepare your skinned model if you want to finish with paint. Were not sure though why Roger was using rare and probably valuable baseball cards to spread the epoxy!

- Balancing: Chris Kanski brought in a great tool for balancing model planes and even balanced a few for some of our members. Thanks Chris and I'll call you when I'm ready to balance my next project.

- Electric: Our favourite electric guy, John Nichols, answered our questions about electric R/C. He even brought a few examples of this quiet side of our hobby. With the rising prices of Hydro in Oakville, we can expect some of the dark side guys to come back to the light!

- Scale: Mike McDermott brought in a couple of his examples and answered questions on how to do that little extra to really make that plane look real. Nice work Mike!

You can view pictures from the nights activities by going to the OMFC web page and clicking on the Sport flying link under areas of interest.

48th Annual Weak Signals Toledo Show

April 4,5,6, 2003
**SeaGate Centre
401 Jefferson
Avenue Toledo,
Ohio 43604**

Show hours: Fri/Sat
9am to 5pm - Sun 9am
to 4pm

OMFC Dates for the 2003 Season

January	1st	Annual Frozen Finger Fun Fly, 11:00 AM North Field (Drumquin Park—Jim Eichenberg)
January	6th	Regular Meeting of OMFC, 7:30 PM, Unit 13, 785 Pacific Rd. Oakville Talk on the (full size) Fairey Firefly, by Keith Houston of the OMFC.
February	2nd	Sunday , Annual OMFC Swap Shop, Time to be announced.
March	3rd	Regular Meeting of OMFC, 7:30 PM, Unit 13, 785 Pacific Rd. Oakville Tony Kreg will give a presentation on Scale Aerobatics.
April	7th	Regular Meeting of OMFC, 7:30 PM, Unit 13, 785 Pacific Rd. Oakville It is hoped to have a presentation on Turbine engines.
May	5th	Annual Beauty Contest OMFC, 7:30 PM, Unit 13, 785 Pacific Rd. Oakville
May	24th	Electric Fun Fly, North Field (Drumquin Park)
June	8th	8th Annual OMFC Air Show, North Field (Drumquin Park)

Merry Christmas
and a Happy New
Year to all the
Members of
OMFC.

We'll see you in
the new year!!



Your 2003 OMFC Executive

From left to right:

Jody McConnell
 Jim Eichenberg
 Roger Young
 Frank Pilih
 Brian Anderson
 Tim Deel
 Burt Armstrong
 John Ross
 Vince Watkins



Missing are:

Andrew Orange
 Mike Ross
 Wayne McKee

OMFC Executive 2003

President: Brian Anderson
Vice-President: Jim Eichenberg
Past President: Tim Deel
Chief Flying Instructor: Roger Young
Assistant CFI: Wayne McKee
Web Master: Burt Armstrong

North field Manager: Vince Watkins
South Field Manager: Frank Pilih
Social Director: Andrew Orange
Field Acquisition Manager: Mike Ross & Wayne McKee

Secretary-Treasurer

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