

OMFC Fliteline

The Newsletter of the
Oakville/Milton Flying Club
December 2008

Merry
CHRISTMAS



*Season's
Greetings*

Opening Remarks

Well...here we are again...the Christmas / Holiday Season which, hopefully, we can all enjoy, regardless of religious backgrounds and beliefs. Spend time with your family, friends and loved one's and have a great one!!

The January 1st Jim Eichenberg "FFF" is on again.....regardless of weather. Lemans start at 12 noon. So dig out that old trainer or workhorse and find a buddy to help do the crew work. Only gas engines are allowed....electrics are too easy! This is also the time to bring out those airplanes that didn't make it, to cast them into the ceremonial fire pit. There will be the usual juicy 5 year old frozen hot dogs plus liquid refreshments for one and all. The usual coffee sweeteners will be on hand and these are all brought and paid for by Jim himself..... what a chance to get a freebie from old Scrooge himself ! Family and friends are welcome. See you there!

December Meeting

Our new Club President, Percy Ford-Smith, opened the meeting. We had a good crowd on hand but no new members or guests. Percy advised that we had a number of issues to discuss but he wanted our guest speaker to take the floor. That person being Laddie Mikulasko, a member of the Burlington Model Flying Club.

Now Laddie is a very well known electric flight propo-
nent and has attended several OMFC sponsored electric

Fun Fly sorties. Laddie had several of his planes on show and virtually all of them have been "sold" [design wise] to a variety of RC magazines. For instance, a few of his planes are on sale in kit form from Balsa USA. Laddie has always been interested in different "stuff", be it more challenging or out in left field. He says he is not a very good pilot but he loves designing kits and plans for his unique blend of aircraft taste. He has tons of 3 views for a huge variety of aircraft and this is where he starts on any given project. The white amphibious plane with the engine pod just above and behind the cockpit



is a New Zealand design and the company only got to the prototype stage when they went belly up. [Ed: note the photos do not do

the model justice, it is a very pretty airplane. The back section with it's soft "V" shape culminating with the "V" tail make it something special]. The aircraft landing gear is detachable for on land flying and Laddie says it flies and lands well in both mediums. The plane has foam wings and a balsa body. Initially, when setting the plane up, he was trying to mix ailerons with rudder and did not fare too well, so he abandoned the mix idea and went with a traditional set up.....which he says works well. The aircraft is electric powered and flies on 6 cell lipo batteries, the equivalent of a 90 size four stroke. The plane was only built in 2008 and has already won some contest down South.



The "Dart" aircraft is a scaled down



[to 50%] “Northstar”....and is another great flyer. Depron foam is used for wings. Now this is a thin sheet foam and can be purchased at Skycraft Hobbies in Burlington and in some home products stores. Now on this stuff you have to use Gorilla type glues....luckily, we have several Gorilla types in the Club, so no problem here. The Dart aircraft will take off from both grass and water!

The writer has seen the larger version perform at a Float Fun Fly a few years ago and the performance and maneuverability of the model is astounding.

Now the “Bug” says Laddie is a great flyer and is very stable.

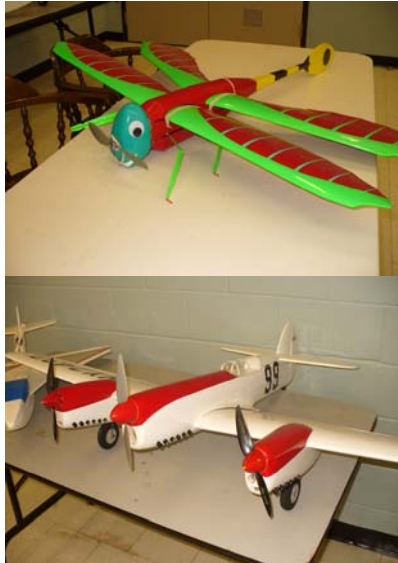
Up next was a 3 engine electric model of a 1930's Bellanca.

[**Ed. note:** Dave Slote built a 3 engine gas version of this aircraft and flew it successfully for many years]. Laddie says that the worst handling feature shows up on landing and you have to be careful and keep on the sticks.

Laddie appears to have moved to a totally electric stable. He continues to design and build, and one of his current projects is a Canadair waterbomber.

Upon questions from the floor, Laddie advised that there was now much cheaper commercial Depron style foam available from stores such as Rona and Home Hardware. He suggested that where a permanent bend is required in the foam, it should be backed with fiberglass cloth. Polyurethane [Gorilla] type glues and sealers should be used and the sealer gently sanded. He also suggested using talcum powder in the primer paint coat and after sanding you get a beautiful finish [think I'll give my wife that tip!]. Laddie suggests Canadian Tire type plastic finish paint. Going back to the foam, he suggests removing the sticky paper coating on the commercial type Depron and use an alcohol based product [don't use your good stuff here; this is the \$5.00 for half a gallon variety] to clean up the residue.

When questioned about the motor for the Amphib, Laddie advised he had used an outrunner type which cost



approx \$100.00. He used 3,000 to 5,000 MA lipo power packs, with a 20C or 25C capability. The aircraft draws up to 60 amps and swings a 14X5 3 bladed prop [needed to clear the body]. Laddie is willing to offer any help or advice to anyone but plans and designs are, of course, off limits due to their sale to various magazines etc., I think he said he had sold 52 designs at last count! The Amphib has been sold to Flying Models and will be available next year.

John McNicol [our very own electric spark plug] asked him” to be very honest.....have any of your models not flown?””Yup” said Laddie. [**Ed. note;** don't you feel so much better now that question has been laid to rest.....thanks John].

Bob Zak asked him how well his multi engine Dornier WW2 float equipped aircraft flew??.....”very well” was the response.

That ended Laddie's talk.....with great applause.... thank you Laddie for sharing your expertise and models with us.....it was much appreciated.

Prez Percy suggested we take our coffee break and socialise a while and buy some raffle tickets before we reconvene the meeting.

Following the coffee and raffle draw, Brian Anderson took the floor and passed around some photocopies of a table he and Bill Funnell had built for use at our fields. The table is built on a design other clubs have been using including many US clubs. The cost for the prototype was \$150.00 with wheels being a large part of the cost [\$20-\$25]. Brian asked if any one could lay their hands on wheels, including those from hospital carts or from the precious kid next



door's skate board or trolley.....well.....after all, tis the season for sharing.....right? In addition to wheels, we also need axles. The table in the photo above is the finished prototype and is already stationed at the North Field. The Club intends to build another six or seven this Spring and they will be located at both the North and South Fields.

Several members offered up “wheel” solutions and Brian took down the info. The aim is to build about 6 or 7 units for no more than \$100.00 each. There were various totally useless suggestions....such as plywood wheels /Fred Flintstone wheels.... should they have winter or all season tires etc., etc. [Who lets these guys out at night??]



Prez Percy retook the floor.....some good news for the South Field. He met with Great Gulf Homes and it looks like we can proceed to repair the road just as long as no liens are attached. On the question of the start of development of the property.....no news, but in view of the deteriorating economy, we could get lucky with some delays.

Percy advised the membership that due mainly to declining attendance, there has been further discussion about whether or not we will continue with the Annual Air Show or just have a Fun Fly of some sort next June. Rodger Young questioned the likely support of a Fun Fly as many people feel that OMFC does not really support other clubs in the region when they have meets, citing the Quad Club Fun Flies as an example. There was much discussion about this. Rodger feels we should look at the Air Show concept again.

Jim Eichenberg recalled the year when we had a Fun Fly where several members were up all hours the night before starting at 3 a.m. roasting a giant pig on a spit at the North Field and how that worked out. The meeting got a bit out of hand when everyone was jumping in and commenting on all the Boars, Boors and Pigs in the Club.....Yours truly missed out on some great one liners flying around.....I am contemplating getting a tapping machine so I don't miss anything next time.

Tim Deel jumped in stating that the Air Show was started as a community booster and a PR event and did we want to turn away from that type of activity?? Jim Eichenberg felt we could still invite the kids to a Club Fun Fly and could still let them fly trainers. Obviously, a lot more discussion is needed.

We had a question from the floor about Club decals.....John Ross has a supply if anyone needs some.

Another question from the floor....any more hats..... yes, says Jim, he will have some for the next meeting.

Don't forget the FFF advised Jim.....we have lots of wood, food and drink.....bring out those old planes for the funeral pyre and wear lots of warm stuff!

Note from Bill Funnell, North Field Manager....YOU WILL NEED A MAAC 2009 CARD TO FLY.

Tim Deel jumped in again.....he feels concern for the kids and the public at a general Fun Fly. He feels that we cannot control the flying and skill level of the pilots attending. At the Air Show, the pilots are vetted so to speak and a higher safety level exists. More discussion ensued..... Tim raised some good points.

It was time to close the meeting.....January 5, 2009 is our next meeting date.

Executive Meeting

Points of interest:

- Frank Pilih's Annual Glider Aerotow event date for the South Field has been set for August 9/10, 2009. Please mark your calendars accordingly.
- The discussion of Leader Members is still being kicked around; John McNicol is the only Leader Member in the Club at the present time but as you know, Jim Eichenberg's name will be put forward. The Executive feels that there could be others in the Club worthy of this title and are looking to the membership for further suggestions. Any persons being proposed should have been a registered MAAC member for at least 10 years and the person has to have been involved in the Club's activities for a number of years. If you have any suggestions, please contact a member of the Executive.
- Jack Devito, our Social Director has advised that Automated Cafeteria Services has generously donated several boxes of hot dogs to the Club for Jim Eichenberg's FFF on January 1, 2009. Many, many thanks to Automated Cafeteria Services!
- The late fee for membership renewal remains at \$25.00 and this takes effect after the Frozen Finger Fly on January 1, 2009.
- Jim Eichenberg will bring a supply of OMFC hats for sale to our next meeting on January 5, 2009.
- Our intrepid ground's keeper "Hugh" has been in hospital for a hip operation and we are happy to advise that all went well. "Get well soon Hugh and a Merry Christmas to you and your family!!"

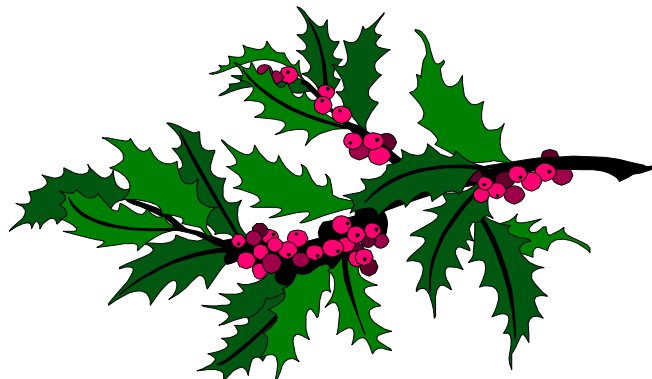


- On behalf of the Club, Brian Anderson visited Hugh in hospital with a small gift.
- The South Field road has been graded with a new road surface and, hopefully, it will settle down nicely over the winter. To keep traffic off the new surface, which would do more harm than good at this time of year; the road has been closed down at the main gate. Obviously, you can still park your vehicle and walk down the lane to fly if you wish. The road will need some tidying up work in the Spring so, hopefully, we will have some volunteers when the time comes.
- The Club roster of membership names is proceeding well and will be ready by Spring 2009.
- The OMFC Swap Meet run by Erik Genzer is scheduled for March 1, 2009. Anyone wanting to book a table should contact Erik at :- egenzer@hotmail.com.

Closing Comments

Yours truly is a scale model aficionado and, from time to time, I cover my models with half ounce or three quarter ounce fiberglass cloth and I use the West System of resin and hardener for a great finish, enabling me to put on a pretty good paint job. Some times, I have needed extra strength fiberglass with carbon fiber reinforcing or I have chosen a cross type weave for extra strength.

I used to buy these products from auto shops, model shops or marine dealers. Apart from being more expensive, they do not have all the products available and, more importantly, they do not always know what is the best product for a particular job or problem. Dave Slote put me in touch with Composites Canada located at 5205 Timberlea Boulevard in Mississauga and they are very helpful and their prices are very reasonable. They carry an amazing selection of stuff. Dave even got me into building my own very first molded fiberglass cowl for a twin engine bomber and it worked a treat!! So think of them for your next job.



Have a Merry Christmas
and a Great Holiday Season!!!

OMFC 2008/2009 Executive

President:	Percy Ford-Smith	North Field Manager:	Bill Funnell
Vice President:	John Pretty	South Field Manager:	Frank Pilih
Past President:	Jim Eichenberg	Social Director:	Jack Devito
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OMFC Meeting Dates for 2009

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>
Monday, January, 5th.	Meeting	Percy Ford-Smith
Monday , February, 9th	Meeting	Percy Ford-Smith
Monday, April, 6th	Meeting	Percy Ford-Smith
Monday, May, 4th	Meeting/Possible Beauty Contest.	Percy Ford-Smith

OMFC Event Dates for 2009

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Event Director</u>
August 9th/10th	Glider Aerotow	Frank Pilih