

OMFC Fliteline

The Newsletter of the
Oakville/Milton Flying Club
March 2011



March Meeting

In welcoming the members and opening the meeting, John Pretty asked if any new members were in attendance.....no.....but Rodger Young and Tim Deel were in attendance.....and that almost counts as “new” members, cause.... they ain’t been seen for a while!

Well said John, just a few items to talk about before we hand the meeting over to our guest speaker “Tom Bakoni of Hobby Hobby”.

The invoice for the North Field annual rent has arrived from the City of Milton and the rent cheques for both Fields will be sent out during the next week or so.

John then complimented Erik Genzer and Terry Sears for the great job in running the Swap Meet, which was very well attended and made the Club some “cashola”.

Turning to the May meeting and our Beauty Contest plans, John asked for a hands up for those intending to bring in a newly built model, and about five hands went up. It is rumored that Dave Slote, who is away, will also be bringing in a new plane for the show. Asking for a show of hands for those members intending on bringing ARF’s to the meeting, brought forth no hands. For the “previously built and repaired category”, several hands went up. John advised that virtually any plane can be entered and can fit one or more categories. There will be a prize for each of the three categories and also one for “best of show”.....so whatever you have got going, get it finished in time for the May meeting!!

John then asked Brian to talk about the Flight School details scheduled for May 3rd. Before doing this, Brian wants to speak to Jim Eichenberg and get a list of those members who signed up this year requiring flight instruction and then call them to suggest they attend the May 3rd evening. Last year the Flight School was not well attended and Brian wants to get a better handle on how many students are likely to turn up. It is anticipated that the first night of student instruction will be May 24th.

Terry Sears has registered all the Club’s planned activities this summer, and Event Directors have been assigned. John Pretty will be the Event Director for the Annual Air Show.

Instead of our more normal Mall Shows, we are anticipating putting a sign up and possibly some planes at the Mississauga Bread and Honey Festival and also aiming at attending the annual Milton summer downtown marketplace. More details to follow on these items.

The Club will be having a family Fun Fly day on Saturday, July 16th at the North Field complete with a “free” BBQ for one and all. Hopefully, lots of members will show up with family in hand for a great day out! For all Club planned summer events, just look at the Schedule of Events at the back of Fliteline.

Rodger Young asked about the Quad Club fly event and John replied, with backup from Jim Eichenberg, that the event seemed to have died a natural death.

John also pointed out that, as usual, the Club will need volunteers for the many planned summer events and hopes that members will be forthcoming in volunteering.

Alex Gorelik asked for the floor and advised Club members that he had found a Laser cutting service in Brampton and had a wing rib with him which was beautifully cut, complete with lightening holes! It appears that you need to put plans or details of what you require into an Auto Cad or Corel program for the laser programming machine to do it’s job [apparently 3D files will not work]. Alex says he sent his file in and his cut parts were ready in a day, and he found the cost quite reasonable.

The name of the outfit is Sawdust and Noise [sounds like my basement workshop area]. Phone number:- 905-455-6223. Email address:- guy@wecut4u.com Web site :- www.wecut4u.com. If you would like more info, give Alex a call at 905-636-1048.

Time now for coffee, a chat and the raffle before we give the floor to Tom Bakoni.

Well, Tom Bakoni of Hobby Hobby really needs no introduction said John and we would like to thank him for coming tonight to give us the benefit of his knowledge about where this hobby we love so much is taking us in the years ahead.



Tom advised that he got into the hobby in 1979 and, at the time, he was flying planes and helicopters. Five years later, the store was opened and everything on sale was kits. Now, he can't remember the last time he sold a kit! The initial ARF models he said were originally crap, but now the models are better than most people can build.

Tom feels that kits as such will die out. There has not been a newly designed kit come onto the market for years. Plans will still be available with laser cut wood packs, but he feels the majority of modelers will go with ARF's and most of them will be electric.

Tom talked about the flight simulators available today and just how good they are. He feels that most newcomers to the hobby are learning to fly on simulators and then buying park flyers and basically teaching themselves to fly. He feels that simulators are helping to create much better pilots than days of yore.

Glow engines are being replaced by electric, especially in the smaller sizes and, as we all know, batteries are getting more powerful and losing weight, so there is a natural movement to larger planes as time goes on. The cost of the larger batteries has been somewhat of a problem previously, but these costs are already starting



Nemesis NXT
56" wingspan

to come down in price to a more affordable level. It was not that long ago when everyone used to laugh at the electric guys; well, no more, says Tom. From his perspective, he feels that LiPo's and brushless motors are outperforming and outselling glow engines. Gas engines are more popular than they were for the larger models but he sees a limited market here.

Helicopters are now selling in large numbers. In the old days, the quality was not there; models and parts broke easily and frequently and parts were expensive and not always easy to get. The modern helicopter is of a much higher quality. They fly well and are very hardy. Spares are available and costs have come way down. When he started to fly helicopters a few years ago, he was constantly rebuilding. Also, the flight simulator has helped people learn the basics and it's much cheaper to push the "reset" button while on the learning curve. People are learning maneuvers with the simulators whereas, in the old days, it took hours and hours just to learn to hover.

He is already seeing quarter scale and 1/3rd model sizes flying on electric power. Glow is still cheaper as batteries for the larger models are expensive, but prices will come down and quality is going up. One thing to remember is that with LiPo's you really need a good charger. A good charger will save you money in the long run. Cheap chargers can and have shortened the life of LiPo's and nearly all battery problems can be charger related. Tom feels that lithium batteries are not even in the race.

Tom told us that SIG has new owners and that he feels there are real problems with supplies. He feels they have been going downhill for years and he is not really sure where the company is going. All kit related products and parts suppliers are suffering, even paint and covering suppliers.

Park flyers are really hot sellers. There are all types of models, even helicopters and cars are going electric. As he said earlier, helicopters are ten times better than they

At this point, our CFI, Brian Anderson, advised Tom that as a Club we have a problem with people wanting to learn on park flyers. Brian wanted to know if they [store personnel] were advising people that they can't do that at OMFC. Are they in fact suggesting to people that they do not have to join a club to learn to fly? In a training environment, it's very difficult to accommodate a park flyer with other people flying more normal type trainers. Tom feels that park flyers will lead serious people to want to join a club format with them wanting to learn more about regular type flying.

Going back to Helies, Tom advised that they are really becoming big sellers. As he said, just a few short years ago there were just a few of them around with most flyers only being able to hover....that in itself was a feat. Today most flyers are doing aerobatics. He remembers an "old guy" doing a demo flight some years ago with mostly a hovering display. There was no gyro in the thing and it would almost spin out of control, and he would quickly land.....to much applause.

We have video cams now being mounted on models, GPS's and so on. Tom has a You Tube site with some video component if you are so inclined.

At this point, there was lots of discussion between Tom and our members including the story of a guy in New York flying "downtown" and also flying over the Statue of Liberty [now how long will Homeland Security allow that?].

Tom said there was now a 4 bladed chopper available that you can fly with a phone!

In addition to kits, Tom also thinks that magazines and even plan supply companies are all going....a revolution to be sure.

Questions from the floor about internet sales. Tom says sales from the internet account for 20% of his overall sales and he even sells to the U.S. which surprises him. These internet sales are increasing all the time and the U.S. accounts for 1/3rd of all internet sales. Tom also advertises in a U.S. magazine. He feels that good service is a factor, not always the cheapest offer.

With that, Tom was given a hearty applause for his informative talk [although as a dinosaur builder, I was quite depressed!].

The meeting was closed with a reminder that Nicholas Jacobs will be presenting at the April meeting on "Electrics".

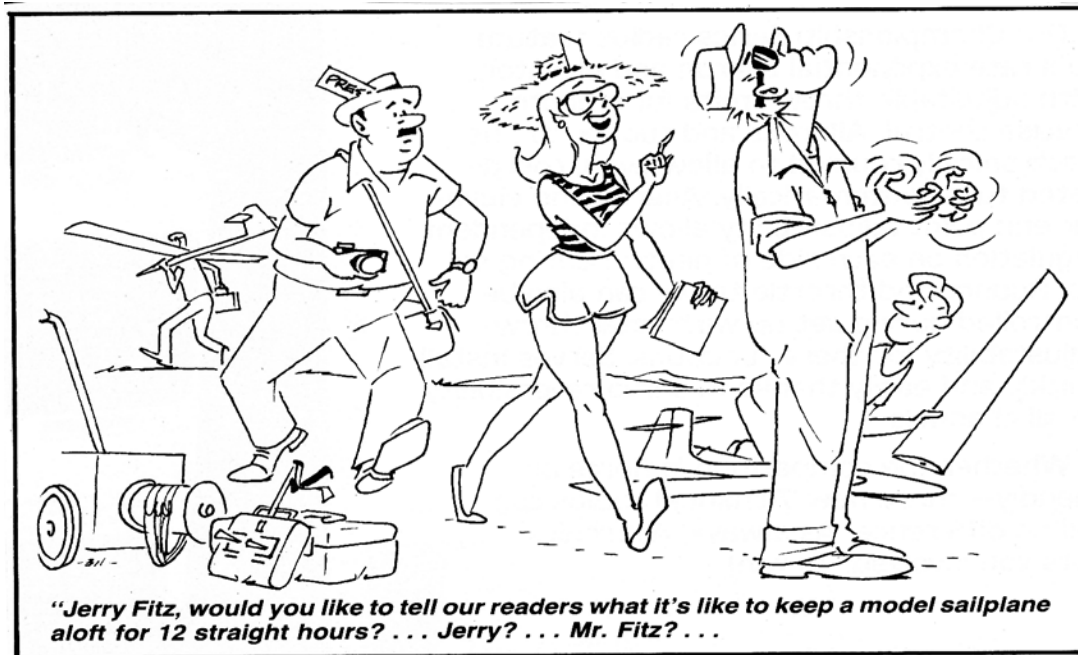
Executive Meeting

- Planning continues for events to replace our Mall Shows. It is felt "unanimously" that the Mall Shows do not really bring in the new members we are looking for. The Bread and Honey Festival in Mississauga generates huge interest and we are trying to find a way to get involved with that. Tom Bakoni has advised that maybe we can do a joint effort of some sort. Also, the downtown Milton marketplace is heavily attended and we are looking into getting involved with this event as well. More details will follow.
- Jim Eichenberg reminded us that, to date, our Air Show has generated 14,695 pounds of food for the Food Bank, plus \$4, 623.00 in cash.
- Work on redesigning the Club's web site is in progress. Details will be advised as we progress.
- John McNicol has been made an Honorary member of OMFC. John has had a variety of roles in the Club over the last few decades, including Club President and Fliteline Editor [in the old days, he had to cut and paste articles and photos, then get it all copied and then photocopied 100 plus times and then mass mailed.....it must have been a real chore]. John also single handedly brought electric flight and interest into the Club despite being derided, laughed at and the subject of other unpleasantries, along the way. Well done John and many, many thanks on behalf of OMFC and it's members. You have been a real spark and we wish you many more.
- Percy Ford-Smith is looking for a few volunteers to display aircraft at the Milton Quarry from 8 a.m. till noon on Saturday, June 4th. On this day, the public are invited to view the Quarry and all the reclaimed areas of same. Jody McConnell will be flying his helicopter, but there is no flight strip available so no planes can take off.. A complimentary full breakfast is part of the deal! Call or email Percy. Phone 416-233-7412 or email:- "the.four-smiths@sympatico.ca".
- At our April meeting [Monday the 4th] we may have some items for sale [engines, kits and such...items of Ian Ross who recently passed away.....so bring lots of cash with you.

Closing Comments

A new mailing list has been prepared and, hopefully, all of the correct information has been imparted to yours truly. This list notes those members with email and those still requiring printed matter. Printed matter mailings are down to 6 out of about 106 members. From this list, the "Photo and Video" email list has also been prepared. Some Club members do not want to be on this second list so, if you want to be on the list or not, please let us know.

A Club member has asked that this cartoon be included. Obviously, someone has been watching the Glider Aero Tow event.



E Flite Carbon Z Yak RTF. 48" Wingspan. Power BL 25 Brushless 1000kV outrunner; 60A ESC; 12x 5.25" Prop; 4s 2800mah 30c Li Po. Designer QUIQUE SOMENZINI.



See Ya!!

Carbon-Z Yak 54

OMFC 2011 Executive

President:	John Pretty	North Field Manager:	Bill Funnell
Vice President:	Terry Sears	South Field Manager:	Jody McConnell
Social Director:	Louis Csefko	Field Acquisition Mgr.:	Mike McDermott
Chief Flying Instructor:	Brian Anderson	Fliteline Editor:	Mike McDermott
Assistant CFI:	Mike McDermott		mike.mcdermott@sympatico.ca
Web Master:	Bert Armstrong bert@virtuhost.com		
Secretary Treasurer:	Jim Eichenberg 1316 Gainsborough Drive Oakville, Ontario L6H 2H5 Telephone: 905-849-9721		jeichen@idirect.com

OMFC Meeting Dates for 2011

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>
Monday, April 4	Regular Meeting and Nicolas Jacobs "Electrics"	John Pretty
Monday, May 2	Regular Meeting and Beauty Contest incl. "ARFS"	John Pretty

OMFC Event Dates for 2011

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Event Director</u>
Tuesday, May 3	Training "Ground School"	Brian Anderson CFI
Saturday, June 4	Electric Fun Fly	Jack Linghorne
Sunday, June 5	Rain Date — Electric Fun Fly	Jack Linghorne
Sunday, June 19	OMFC Air Show	TBA
Saturday, July 16th	Family BBQ and Fun Fly	Terry Sears
Sat / Sun, August 6&7	Glider Tow, South Field	Frank Pilih
Sat./ Sun. August 13/14	S.E. Zone Pattern Contest	Jim Eichenberg
Saturday, August 27	Helicopter Fun Fly, South Field	Jody McConnell
Saturday, September 24	Scale Fun Fly	Bill Funnell