

THE MASTHEAD PLANE

The Burgess HT-2 Speed Scout was a very rare bird, indeed. Only one was built as a private venture offering from the Burgess company, and no information about its performance survives. Technically, it was a single-bay biplane on floats. The interplane struts were solid sheets, however, tilted inward at a forty-five degree angle, and continuing down to the twin floats. The lower wing was only about two-thirds the span of the upper. It was powered by a 100 h.p. Curtiss OXX-2 engine. What makes it truly unique is the fact that it was constructed entirely of fabric and **BALSA** wood, aside from the aluminum engine mount! Can you imagine walking into the hobby shop and asking for a balsa spar 34 feet long?

TREASURER

If you check the officers' roster at the head of the paper, you will see that we have a new treasurer. **Robert Huard** volunteered at the December meeting, and was voted in by acclaim. Thanks, Robert, and thanks, Terry, for your service to the club!

DAM SWAP

Charley Thomas, swap chairman, said the swap will be held on Sunday, January 11th. He has the volunteers he needs. See you there are 9 a.m. for the shoppers, 8:30 a.m. for the helpers.



PROPWASH

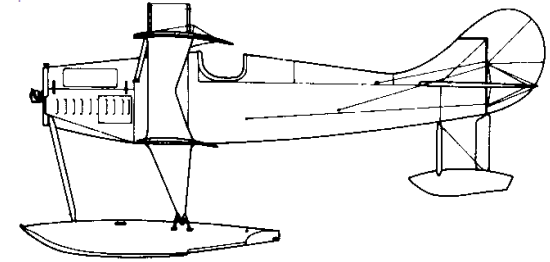
VOL XXXI, No. 12 December, 2008

Mark Blair	president	313-805-3027
Ray Piper	vice-president	313-386-3401
Tim Kirsten	secretary	313-565-6093
Robert Huard	treasurer	
Dennis Gazdecki	safety	734-442-3402
Bobby Harmon	field	313-541-4204
Al Zerber	membership	734-427-4872
Ken Goodlesky	at-large	313-584-9182
Ron Wasielewski	at-large	248-941-9336
Charles Henry	at-large	313-926-0961
Mike Cuba	editor	734-522-7638
Charlie Thomas	swap shop	313-565-2973
Bob Mayhew	archivist	313-291-6855
Nick Kyriacou	video archivist	313-277-0908
Eric Joy	webmaster	313-538-2560

website <http://detroitaeromodelers.org>

WEB SITE NEWS

Our website license has been renewed, and with a new webmaster **Eric Joy** and his trusty assistant **Mike Archangeli** we should be updating the site, and getting the newsletter online at last. Huzzah!



SHOW AND TELL

Mike Cuba brought in a non-flying R/C model that he used in his recent theatrical production of **You Can't Take It With You**. The script calls for a snake in a terrarium that frightens people at three points during the show. Mike used a 2-channel radio to make the plush beanie-baby snake lift its head, and sway from side to side. Snavelly (the Snake) was the hit of the show. The audience thought he was a puppet until the terrarium he was in was picked up and removed from the stage!

Ron Wasielewski brought in his finished Nitro Models Long EZ. The model, at six and a half pounds, weighed considerably less than the advertised weight. The wingspan is fifty-seven inches, and it is propelled by a Super Tiger .51 with a pusher prop. Interestingly, since the fuel tank is behind the CG, the model should be balanced out with a full tank of fuel, as opposed to the normal practice of balancing the plane empty. The principle is the same in either case. You want the plane to start nose-heavy and go to neutral with a forward tank, or start neutral and go to nose-heavy with an aft tank.

Vince Blasky showed us a half-scale pilot bust made of hollow fiberglass that he got from G and L Hobbies in Nashville for about \$30. Kind of makes you wonder what the plane is going to be!

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL HOBBY SHOPS!

ELECTRODYNAMICS

31091 Schoolcraft 734-422-5420

JOE'S HOBBY CENTER

Grand River & Drake Rd 248-477-6266

NANKIN HARDWARE & HOBBY

35101 Ford Rd. 734-722-5700

NANKIN HOBBY

33350 Nine Mile Rd. 248-919-0080

PROP SHOP

23326 Van Dyke 810-757-7160

RIDER'S HOBBY SHOP OF TAYLOR

22789 Northline 734-287-7405

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Tom McNulty reports that construction of the Rouge DPW tunnel will begin within the next two weeks. Outer Drive between Warren and Tireman will be closed for the next seven and a half years! Other than that, there should be no effect on field operations.

DOOR PRIZE AND RAFFLE

Eric Hendrickson won the door prize, a \$15.00 gift certificate to **Nankin Hardware**. **Bob Waite** won the raffle prize, a \$25.00 gift certificate also to **Nankin Hardware**.

DONATED KIT

Retro RC, a local maker of RC kits, donated one of their kits to DAM for a raffle prize. Our new president **Mark Blair** won the e-Moth, an electric monoplane with a wing reminiscent of the Lazy Bee, and a narrow, almost profile style body. You can contact Retro RC at Mark@Retro-RC.net or call Mark at 248-212-9666 for more information on his line of kits.

2009 FLYING SEASON

Bobby Harmon has volunteered to do the cooking at the field for the 2009 season. Rumor has it he has a great recipe for mole stew! Thanks, Bobby!

MEMBERSHIP

In a correction to the announced promotions, Bobby Harmon has been promoted to PI, not TPI. Sorry, Bobby! As of the December meeting, we have 25 members for 2009.

MOVIE NIGHT AT THE DAM

Vince Blasky suggested at the December meeting that we bring DVD's or videos of flight-oriented movies to watch before the meeting. He'll be there at 6 p.m. with the equipment. You bring the movies!

DEPARTMENT OF RUMOR CONTROL

It was reported at the December meeting that Joe's Hobby Shop was moving. Being a little skeptical, I went to Joe's and talked to **Dave Schiavolin** about it. According to Dave, the shopping center was recently acquired by Walgreen's, but Joe's has been invited to remain there. They are open to the possibility of moving, but there are **NO PLANS** in the works to do so.

WING LOADING

Wing loading is one of those concepts that at first glance seems useful, but later on has to be "fudged" depending on the size of the model. You will find that the larger the model, the higher the wing loading it requires to have the same flying characteristics as a smaller model.

An article by Scott Stoops in the February 2009 issue of **Fly RC** suggests that we should be looking at wing cube loading. You calculate it by dividing the weight in ounces by the area in square feet raised to the 3/2 power.

$$W_{cl} = W / (A^{1.5})$$

Using this formula, the cubic wing loading of a real J-3 Cub is 6.71 with pilot and fuel on board. The wing loading is 89.6 oz./sq.ft. By comparison, models of the J-3 that are realistic flyers have a wing loading ranging from 5.5 to 26.5 oz./sq.ft., depending on the size of the model. However, all those models have cubic wing loadings going from 5.6 to 7.0, using the manufacturers' recommended minimum and maximum weights.

Scott recommends the following ranges for cubic wing loadings.

Slow flyers and thermal gliders	under 4
Trainers, park flyers, 3D	5 to 7
Sport and scale aerobatics	7 to 10
Sport and scale models	10 to 13
Warbirds and racers	over 13

I like this method because it allows direct comparison of models of radically different sizes. It also gives you a target weight when you are working on a scratch-built scale model. I wonder how well it works on biplanes?

ANNUAL BANQUET

The annual banquet this year will be held at the Papa Elias Pizza Buffet, at 29210 Ford Road at Middlebelt. The date is January 27th, the time is 6 p.m., and the cost is about \$10. We will have a private room, so noise control will be simplified. It should be lots of fun. See you there!

TOOL SOURCES

If you're looking for small pliers, cutters, miter boxes, stock balsa and basswood and you don't mind cute pink flowered handles, JoAnn Fabrics or Michael's are good places to look.

Club meeting at the Redford Community Center

1/11	DAM swap	9 a.m.
1/13	business meeting	7 p.m.
1/27	annual banquet	6 p.m.

**“Good judgement comes from experience.
Unfortunately, experience usually comes as a result
of bad judgement.”**

PROPWASH

31425 Myrna, Livonia, Mi. 48154

