

THE MASTHEAD PLANE

The Airco DH-5 was one of the earliest attempts to provide the pilot with the maneuverability of a tractor biplane with the field of view of a pusher. It was designed to replace the Airco DH-2, both designs coming from Geoffrey DeHavilland. The DH-5 was equipped with a single Vickers machine gun firing through the propeller arc with the aid of an interrupter gear.

It quickly gained a bad reputation, only partially justified. It had a tendency to lose altitude quickly when maneuvering in a dogfight, and with only one gun, it was undergunned compared to contemporary German fighters. The general feeling was that it was inferior to the Sopwith Pup, also in action at this time.

On the other hand, it was very sturdily built, and with its excellent visibility, it excelled at ground-pounding. The wingspan was 25 feet, 8 inches, and its top speed was 102 m.p.h. at 10,000 feet.

For the modeler, the challenge is to see if they can build a model with scale lines that does not have the bad flight characteristics of the prototype. Other than that, only the unusual biplane placement might elicit some head-scratching. Where would you put the CG?



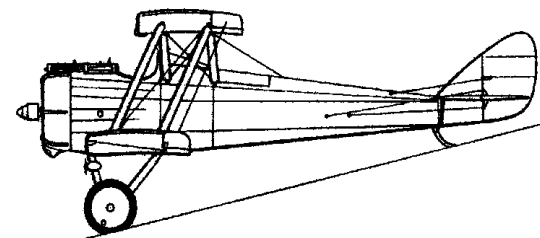
PROPWASH

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Mark Blair	president	313-534-9634
Ray Piper	vice-president	313-532-7286
Tim Kirsten	secretary	313-565-6093
Robert Huard	treasurer	313-565-5895
Dennis Gazdecki	safety	734-442-3402
Bill Gillespie III	field	313-333-0700
Al Zerber	membership	734-427-4872
Ken Goodlesky	at-large	313-584-9182
Ron Wasielewski	at-large	248-991-9336
Charles Henry	at-large	313-926-0961
Mike Cuba	editor	734-522-7638
Charlie Thomas	swap shop	313-565-2973
	archivist	313-291-6855
Nick Kyriacou	video archivist	313-277-0908
Vince Blasky	webmaster	248-228-4945
Mike Archangeli	webmaster	313-386-7401

website <http://detroitaeromodelers.com>

Helicopter Fun Fly	6/25-27	
Business meeting	7/13	7 p.m.
Electric Fun Fly	7/17-18	
IMAA Fun Fly	7/31, 8-1	
Business meeting	8/1	7 p.m.



BUSINESS MEETINGS

Business meetings will be held at the field June through September. The rain date for each meeting is the next day with good weather.

STATIC DISPLAY AND AIR SHOW ROUGE RESCUE DAY

DAM member **Tom McNulty** reported that we served about 240 hot dogs at the 2010 Rouge Rescue Day. Many thanks to all those who volunteered!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers to set up and tear down all three fun flys scheduled for this summer. In each case, the setup is at 5 p.m. the day before the event, and tear-down is around 3 p.m. the Sunday of the event. Volunteers are also needed for flight line and spotting duties.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership chairman **Al Zerber** reports that we have 92 members as of the June meeting. This is down about ten percent from last year at this time. A ten dollar late fee will now be assessed for those who have not yet renewed their membership.

FIELD NEWS

President **Mark Blair** set out the ground rules for what could have been a raucous meeting at the field, and did so very graciously. As a result, although very different opinions were expressed during the debate, it was kept orderly, and personalities were kept out of it. Thank you, Mark.

By a fairly narrow margin the proposal to install a porta-potty at the field was passed, with two amendments to the motion. The installation is contingent on City approval, and instead of specifying a new unit, we are looking for a good reconditioned one. Once we have permission, we will discuss siting, odor and security issues.

The motion to buy and store a portable electric generator at the field was defeated by a slightly larger margin. Problems cited in its defeat were security, weatherproof storage, and storage of flammable liquids at the field.

Acquisition of an updated first aid kit for the impound box was passed by acclamation. **Mark Blair** and **Ray Piper** will find out what is needed in the kit and get it set up. Thank you, gentlemen!

Darrell Bell told us about the HAWKS club in Cincinnati, which has a field in a city park much like ours. They have a long-term agreement with the city that allows them to make whatever improvements they wish to the field. Some members of the club have expressed interest in finding out how they did it, and trying to do the same here.

STAN SPIEWAK

It was really nice to see Stan back at the field for the June meeting. He celebrated his 88th birthday on June 4th, and wanted to thank the club members for their prayers and support during his recent illness. He's still waiting on a new hip, but the docs want him to get some more meat on his bones. If that's not a veiled hint to take him out to dinner, I don't know what is!

DOOR PRIZE AND RAFFLE

Frank Hansen won the \$15.00 **Nankin Hardware** gift certificates, and **Dennis Gazdecki** won the \$25.00 raffle prize from **Nankin Hardware & Hobby**. Congratulations, gentlemen, and thank you, Nankin!

DARRELL BELL HONORED

Long-time member **Stan Spiewak** made a surprise appearance at the June meeting at the field to present CD **Darrell Bell** with a commemorative helicopter in appreciation of the work he has done for the club. On closer examination, the model was a coaxial twin-rotor model with oversized tundra tires. Power is apparently supplied by pulling it along behind you with a string! Darrell is reportedly looking into converting it to electric power.

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31425 Myrna, Livonia, Mi. 48154

