

# FLIGHT LINE

The Communication Forum for the  
SkyKnights R/C Club

Web Page <http://www.sky-knights.org/>

Editor: Gary Norton, 11484 SE 129th Street, Portland, OR 97236  
PH (503) 698-6449

Volume 42, Issue 1

AMA Charter No. 707

October 2003

## **Dawn Patrol and Aeroplane Races**

August 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> saw the second annual Dawn Patrol and Classic Aeroplane Races sponsored by the Northwest R/C Aviators take place at Grant Sharp's Green Acres Field in Molalla. John Raddebaugh, CD and Master of Ceremonies kept things running smoothly and efficiently throughout both days with the scheduled old time aeroplane races plus several impromptu, low-key races and contests. There looked to be over 30 WW I or older airplanes on hand for the fun.

Joe Topper had his new prototype Fokker Spin on hand for the races. See the picture page. Unfortunately, after repeated attempts to get the beast in the air, it would just not rotate. Joe tried several different weight distributions and some other tricks but nothing worked. Finally, the plane did a pretty severe cartwheel and damaged the tail and flying wires causing Joe to give up.

The scheduled aeroplane races were flown both Saturday and Sunday and the best of the heats was declared the winner. During the first heat on Saturday, Bruce Harlow had a terrible time getting his Nieuport under control. The plane has a very small rudder and a light crosswind caught the plane taking him way over the pits. Bruce hung on and managed to get the aircraft back over the runway and a safe landing. Things were pretty tense there for a while.

Gene LaFond managed to win the race followed by Gary Parker and Dick Heininger with Dick's big Antic.

There were other races for fun during the event. One was for just the WW I birds which Joe Topper managed to win with his Nieuport 28. A second race consisted of the fastest time through a given distance and then the longest time through. Joe also won that event by doing continuous loops after entering the course until he got tired and then exiting the course to hammer the slowest time. All's fair in love and war.

There were four Antics on hand for the event but John DesIlets lost his on Friday. John also crashed his DR I making his outing a bit frustrating. The DR I looked repairable so John should have it in the air again soon.

Bruce Harlow was the first up at dawn with a bombing sortie. The light was just beginning to show in the East when Bruce took off. He was soon followed by a whole gaggle of war birds that filled the early dawn skies.

Grant Sharp was honoured with a plaque for his allowing the use of the field. It is a great place to fly. He was also given a new Proctor Antic Parasol kit.

A lovely lass handed out the awards and prizes but I did not get her name. She certainly made not winning first place a highlight for these old pilots and their old airplanes. All in all a nice show hosted by Mr. Raddebaugh. I hope to be there next year.

### **New Club Roster**

The new 2003-2004 club roster will be available at the club meeting. If you do not make the meeting, the roster will be mailed out. If you do not receive your roster in the mail soon after the meeting, contact Bill Ely at 503-657-3480 for a copy.

### **Club Gallery**

Has anyone noticed the club gallery on the web site lately? Craig Cook is quietly doing a bang-up job of covering the various club events throughout the year. Take a peak next time you are on the web. You might see your ugly mug there along with some great airplane shots. Nice work Craig.

### **Lendhart's Airpark Burgled**

Our good friend, Jack Lendhart, had his airport office burglarised August 30<sup>th</sup>. Items stolen were hand-held radios, charges, the old safe and a Honda Valkyrie. One of the suspects is about 30 years of age, approximately 5'8", 160 pounds driving a late model white Ford service truck with racks and fuel tanks, generator, etc. in the bed of the truck. There was no license plate on the rear of the vehicle and no company name on the truck. If anyone has any information on the suspect or anyone tries to sell any of the stolen merchandise, please let Jack know at the airport. The address is: AirHaven, Inc., 29502 S. Meridian Road, Hubbard, OR 97032.

As an aside, Jack has donated his helicopter collection to the Evergreen Air Museum in McMinnville. A good reason to visit the

museum in your spare time to check out the choppers and the new SR-71.

### **Northwest Pylon Racing on Hold**

In a meeting on Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, an ad hoc committee reviewed the possibility of continuing pylon racing at the new Clark County R/C field in back of the Clark County Fairgrounds. The consensus of opinion was that the racing would be put on hold until further notice.

The new field is located inside the new Amphitheatre parking area with the runway and over fly area among light standards that are about 50 feet high and spaced on a 200-foot grid. In addition, the runway is asphalt paved and the surrounding area is gravel. The committee looked at several different possibilities to set the pylons including using the light standards as pylons. The conclusion was that there was too much inherent danger of hitting a light standard while racing and the landing area was too rough for the airplanes that have no landing gear. Alternatives were to add landing gear to the planes, go electric to slow things down, or a new flying site. Food for thought at this point.

### **Hansen Scale Aviation Video #72**

Dick Hansen has another new video out this month. It covers the 2003 Dawn Patrol, 2003 Central Oregon Jet and Scale Rally, Nanton Alberta Air Museum and the Wetaskawin Alberta Air Museum. Dick pumps these tapes out faster than you can get the results of the contests.

Specially interesting in this tape is Joe Topper's attempts to get the new Fokker Spin to fly. After several attempts at takeoff the plane would not rotate. Joe tried several different fixes at the field but, in the end, the plane cartwheeled and did enough damage that Joe had to give up. And Joe was all set to win the race. I will let you see the tape to find out who won.

If you like jets and love the sound of turbine engines then the segment on the Jet and Scale Rally is for you. Included on the tape is Joe Topper's ill-fated flight of the big Junkers JU-52. Joe lost the ailerons and crashed barely missing the crowd. Got to see it to believe it. Bruce Tharp's "Double Whammy" is also featured with its two Dynajet engines roaring through the Eastern Oregon skies; all worth the price of the tape.

Tapes are available from Dick for \$19.95 (\$15.00 to SkyKnight members). Contact him at 503-653-2578 or [www.aero-sports.com/hansen](http://www.aero-sports.com/hansen).

### **Elections**

Nominations are due for new club officers for next year. All positions are open so now is your chance to take control and inflict unbridled power on the masses. Please keep campaign speeches to less than one hour so we have a little time for other business.

Voting will take place by those in attendance at the November meeting. If you do not want to be elected to something, you better show up to cast your ballot and defend thy self.

### **Pearl Harbor Days**

It's inventory reduction time! Got any airplanes you can't sell, won't run right, hate with a passion? Here comes your chance to eliminate some of that excess baggage at the Estacada Airport on December 7<sup>th</sup> at the annual Pearl Harbor Days. Flying will start around 9ish weather permitting. The 14<sup>th</sup> will be the rain date, as if rain ever stopped anything. Landing fees are \$5.00.

Our good friends, the airport owners Bob and Bev Veley, will have the usual hot dogs and a hot fire for your convenience and comfort. This is always the wildest fun fly

you will ever see or participate in so come on out, you won't be disappointed.

New this year will be a rule! No more pylon racing around the limbo poles. You must be able to drop a bomb and you must fly the routine. We will also try to have some sort of crowd control to keep spectators back from the flight line.

All proceeds will go to the Children's Cancer Association so come on out and join in the flying or just come to watch and donate a buck or two to the cause. What better reason do you need to join in? See you there.

### **September Meeting Highlights**

Guy Foreman commented on the Velvet Wing Fund. For new members, the Fund was established to provide for a cash payout to the survivor of a member at his/her death. To become a member of the Fund and therefore, eligible for the payout to your beneficiary, you need to contribute \$5.00. Each time there is a member death, the Fund is paid out and then it is required to kick in another "fiver." Check with Guy for details.

Due to being blown off the map at Pine Hollow this year, the question has been raised if there might be another flying site as good or better than Pine Hollow. If you have any ideas let Bob Tinsley know.

Bill Ely asked all members to try and get the Flight Line off the web site rather than having a copy mailed. This saves the club considerable printing and mailing costs and besides that, the pictures are in living color. If you can get your copy off the web, let Bill know so he can delete your name from the mailing list.

Indoor electric flying started at Camp Withycombe on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October. Next round will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and will start at about 5:00 pm. Bob Tinsley has details.

See the calendar or the web site for other dates.

Bill Hobbs has volunteered to build two new club trainers for next season. He will use the gear out of the existing trainers (that have taken a beating). The models will be based on the new SPAD craze using coroplast.

Show and tell included yours truly's new Proctor Antic Monoplane powered by a Laser 70 and covered with Nelson Lite Fab.

Jim Lucas showed his own scratch built design of a high wing, slightly better, than a trainer. He did everything the old fashion way such as covering with silk and dope, balsa built up wheel pants, nylon string baseball stitching for hinges, etc. Power is from a Saito 56. Nice clean looking aircraft.

Fred Countryman has his P-51 foamie electric powered plane. The plane has plans on the web where you just download the various parts, apply them to the foam, cutout and glue together and, viola, you are about ready to go. Fred won the prize for show and tell.

The raffle prizes for the evening went to:  
Electra Jet – John Fox  
Sig Electric Jenny – Bob Wood  
Ultra Stand – Glen Thornton  
Coffee Mug – Dave Elasser  
Great Planes Sanding Bar – Jerry Baker  
And Gary Cosmer took the glue

All the raffle prizes this month were purchased from Coyote Hobbies in Oregon City at a nice discount. In addition, the hobby shop provided some free rulers and key chains for the members. Patronize these shops to show them our appreciation.

Jim Gindlesperger, Bill Redding, Dave Anderson, Dale McDonald, Joe Short and Harry Clark each won a door prize. The

prizes were a choice of hats, shirts and crying towels.

### Training

Tuesday night training has come to a close for the year. Thanks to all the instructors who gave their time. If you need help during the winter (and the field is flyable) give one of the instructors a call.

Current instructors are:

Don Curry	503-761-9321
John Fox	503-657-4354
Dale McDonald	503-761-3109
Bob Tinsley	503-257-3057
Pete Shull	503-665-3654
Jim Kist	503-669-8208
Gary Norton	503-698-6449

### Club Jackets

Bob Tinsley has a complete inventory of jackets for sale with sizes of large (L), extra large (XL) and extra-extra large (XXL). These are ready-to-wear and come in Wolf Grey with appropriate club logos. Prices range from \$33.25 to \$34.25. Contact Bob at (503) 257-3057 to order.

<p>*****<b>CALENDAR</b>*****</p> <p>November meeting at Camp Withycombe on the 10th, starting at 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>*****</p> <p><b><u>Oct 22<sup>nd</sup></u></b></p> <p><b>Indoor flying at Camp Withycombe</b> <b>Bob Tinsley (503) 257-3057</b></p> <p><b><u>Nov 15<sup>th</sup> &amp; 19<sup>th</sup></u></b></p> <p><b>Indoor flying at Camp Withycombe</b> <b>Bob Tinsley (503) 257-3057</b></p> <p><b><u>Dec 3<sup>rd</sup></u></b></p> <p><b>Indoor flying at Camp Withycombe</b> <b>Bob Tinsley (503) 257-3057</b></p> <p><b><u>Dec 7<sup>th</sup></u></b></p> <p><b>Pearl Harbor Days</b> <b>Estacada Airport</b></p>
--

**Gary Norton/Jim Weaver**  
**Dec17th**  
**Indoor flying at Camp Withycombe**  
**Bob Tinsley (503) 257-3057**  
**Jan/Feb – date to be determined**  
**Annual Awards Banquet**  
**Jan 31<sup>st</sup> & Feb 1st**  
**NW Model Expo – Western Washington**  
**Fairgrounds, Puyallup, WA**  
**Don Sweasy (253) 445-4763**  
**\*\*\*\*\*Exec board meetings\*\*\*\*\***  
**\*\*\*\*\***  
Nov 3rd Bill Ely (503) 657-3480  
Dec 1st Ardis Hood (503) 654-0173  
Jan 5th ??????????????????

contest each year; Pine Hollow and Evergreen Scale Qualifier.  
 Bob Tinsley 503-257-3067

**FLIGHT LINE**

*Flight Line* is published monthly by SkyKnights for its members. Articles, letters and ideas for publication should be sent to the editor at 11484 S.E. 129th, Portland, OR 97236 no later than the first Monday of the month of publication. Feel free to call in information at 503/698-6449 or email to [gary.norton@verizon.net](mailto:gary.norton@verizon.net).

**Classifieds**

*Classified ads will be published for 90 days. Ads may be re-published by contacting the Editor. Deadline is the Tuesday before the regular Monday night meeting.*

**Wanted: F4F Wildcat**

1/5<sup>th</sup> scale F4F Wildcat with scale retracts and fibreglass fuselage sold about 1998-99 possibly. Would like to buy back or would entertain the purchase of any 1/5<sup>th</sup> or larger scale Wildcat.

John Desllets 503-666-4606

**Wanted: OS 40 SF**

I need an OS 40 SF case to rebuild an engine for club use.

Bob Tinsley 503-257-3057

**Wanted: Used R/C Gear**

Looking for any kind of R/C gear that you are not using. It will be used to recycle equipment to younger members of the club.

Bob Tinsley 503-257-3057

**Wanted: Good Laptop Computer**

The club needs a good laptop computer for registration and scoring at our two major

**Final Word**

Learn from the mistakes of others. You won't live long enough to make all of them yourself.

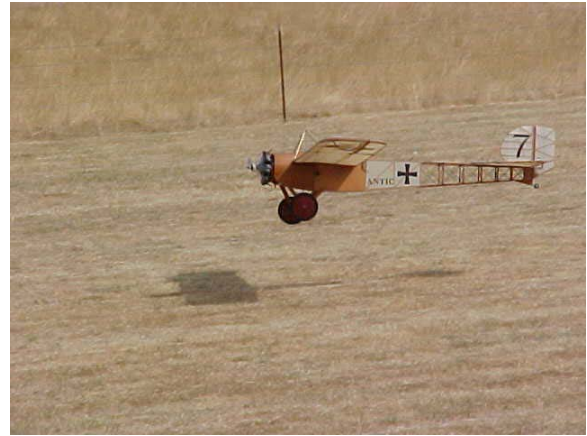
Helicopters can't fly; they're just so ugly the earth repels them.

**--oo00oo--**

Pics from the Dawn Patrol



**Joe Topper's new Fokker Spin prototype.**



**Dick Heininge's Antic completing his race round – Gary Parker the pilot.**



**Front view – look at that dummy engine hiding a Lazer 180.**



**Bruce Harlow preparing to race – Joe Topper holding.**



**Gene LaFond off to the races.**



**Bruce's touchdown after a successful race.**



**A gaggle of WWI aircraft waiting for the next sortie.**



**Bruce Harlow's Sommer on a fly past.**



**Jerry Holcomb's Anitonette that did not quite make the race.**

**That's all folks.**