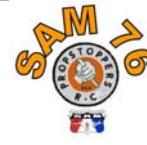




The Flightline



Volume 40, Issue 5

Newsletter of the Propstoppers RC Club

AMA 1042

May 2010

President's Message



Well this will be our first outdoor meeting this year so don't forget your planes and helicopters.

The field is drying up slowly just follow the path in the grass and you will not get stuck.

This Sat. is pride Day for Middletown Township and we again want to have a Propstoppers presence, so please try and make it you will get a free drink and something to eat. Set up time is 9:00 till 10:30, leave time is 4:00 PM. Experienced Flyers may fly planes or helicopters; this is a tight field but we can make as much noise as we wish; glow is OK. Please bring Models for display.

We will be giving out gliders again this year. Hope to see you at Pride Day and the monthly meeting the following Tuesday

Dick Seiwell

Agenda for May 11th Meeting At the Christian Academy Field; Fly at 5 pm meeting at 6:30

1. Membership Report
2. Finance Report
3. Picnic Plans
4. Show and Tell and Fly

Minutes of the Propstoppers Model Airplane Club April 13, 2010 at the Middletown library

Call to order by Vice-President Dave Bevan took place at 6:30

PM

Roll call by membership chair Ray Wopatek showed 20 members and one guest present

Minutes of the March meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter

Treasurer's report was presented by Pete Otinger and accepted by the members

Old Business:

President Dick Seiwell reminded the members that the field is still very wet and muddy.

Dave Bevan spoke to some people at the Sleighton school about a possible field.

Dave Harding told of his experience with the Widener college model team that is still building their model. President Seiwell reminded us that the next meeting in May will be at the Christian academy field.

New Business:

Dick Seiwell presented a history of the fields that the Propstoppers have used over the years. He pointed out that we have lost all of these fields due to noise complaints. He reminded us to be very careful not to make waves especially with the neighbors.

Show and Tell:

Mike Williams showed a foam heart (FLO, Flying Love Object) that came out of the workshop run by Dave Harding last week.



Mike Williams with his Flying Love Object from the foam construction workshop

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Calendar of Events

Club Meetings

Summer Monthly Meetings
 Second Tuesday of the month.
 Christian Academy Field
 Fly at 5:00, meeting at 6:30 pm.
11th May

Tuesday Breakfast Meeting
 Tom Jones Restaurant on Edgemont
 Avenue in Brookhaven.
 9 till 10 am. Just show up.
 Flying after at Chester Park 10 am.

Regular Club Flying

At Christian Academy; Electric Only
 Monday through Friday after school till dusk
 Saturday 10 am till dusk
 Sunday, after Church; 12 pm till dusk

Special Club Flying

Saturday mornings 10 am
 Thursday evenings in the Summer
 Tuesday mornings 10 am weather permitting
 after breakfast at Chester Park.

Check our Yahoo Group for announcements;
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/propstoppers/>

Beginners

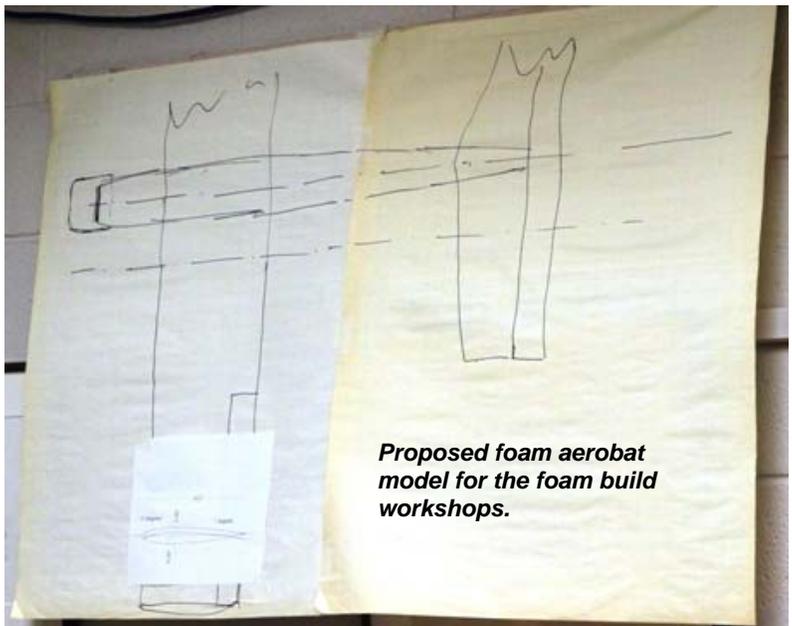
Beginners using due caution and respecting club
 rules may fly GWS Slow Stick or similar models
 without instructors.
 The club also provides the AMA Introductory Pilot
 Program for beginners without AMA insurance.

Dave Harding gave a report on his foam construction workshop and a foamy project that he will begin at next month's workshop. Second Thursday of the month at the Gun Club.

Dave describes simple foam fuselage construction using the bones of his foam Hurricane. Bill Fili looks on.



Possible foam wing construction from Dave's foam Hurricane (broken!)



Proposed foam aerobat model for the foam build workshops.

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Adjournment took place at 7:45 PM

Richard Bartkowski, Secretary.





Foam Construction

Foam Airplane Building Workshop

John Moloko urged me, Dave Harding, to hold a series of workshops on building foam airplanes, so we held the first session at the Delaware County Field and Stream location on Creek Road in Middletown in mid April.

Some of our new members have been flying up a storm with store-bought airplanes but now have the itch to either modify them or build something different.

I have built many foam airplanes over the last ten years, but the modeling world has exploded this part of the hobby into many different directions.

With no prior direction expressed by those who promoted the event we went prepared to examine the options. There are broadly four types of foam used in construction and each leads you to a different genre.



We began the evening by examining these four foams. The first is Depron or its equivalent. It is a fairly lightweight produce with a skin on each surface. It comes in various thicknesses. BP Hobbies sells a similar material in 3 mm and 5 mm thicknesses; about 1/8 inch and 3/16 inch.

<http://www.bphobbies.com/view.asp?id=V603330&pid=A3818148&img=1>



This is the material used in many of the indoor 3D airplanes and a whole bunch of scratch built planes that I have featured in prior articles harvested from my trips to California. Indeed I brought to the meeting the plans for an F-22 that I published a few months ago and quickly built a small version to demonstrate the process of constructing them.

The next two products come in a form called FanFold. This means there are about 20 sheets 2ft x 4ft folded together like a concertina. One product available at Lowes is about 1/8 inch thick and also has a skin on each side. It is blue in color. Joe Mesko has made a variety of models in this material and it can be used for indoor and outdoor models. Here is one of Joe's creations.



Joe Mesko with 1/4 inch blue foam delta? Flies great!

A similar but thicker product made by Dow Chemical is about 1/3 inch thick also with a light skin and it is pink. Here is one of my experimental deltas flown by my #1 grandson Matt.



Matt Everett with 1/3 inch pink foam delta.

And another held here by Rick Grothman has been "finished" with the application of low temperature film covering.



Rick Grothman with 1/3 inch pink foam delta with low temp film covering!

This leads me to the first critical factor with foam construction. You must be careful with glues and paints as many of them will dissolve the foam. I use hot melt glue, white or yellow wood glue and epoxy. Some use foam safe CA, not regular CA or the kicker as they will dissolve the foam. But I must say that over the years I must have bought four bottles of foam safe CA and without fail each has gone completely hard by the time I came to use it for the first time! BTW, this does not happen with regular CA. It seems to just go on and on.

Many people finish their foam models with colored packing tape but I have found that if you are careful you can use inexpensive thin brown packing tape and heat shrink it then spray paint. Of course you must make sure the foam is completely covered or the paint will find a way to get in and eat! This is the method I used in finishing my B-24 Liberator bomber shown in the heading photo.

Where some additional stiffness is required some use the fiber reinforced packing tape too. A very useful material. But you can also use carbon or aluminum tubes or even spruce strips to add stiffness to the flat models. Some people build such models with a good deal of power and stiffness is necessary if you are to survive high speed flight.

I have found the 1/3 inch material very useful in building a wide variety of models both of the Flatiron type and built up models with full fuselages. It was used in all the models shown in the heading except for the two white foam indoor "jets". I use it in conjunction with the pink extruded insulating foam found in Home Depot in 3/4, 1 and 2 inch thicknesses. This material is lighter than the others and does not have a skin. It is ideal for carving and sanding to thick shapes but you can also make outsized Flatiron models with it. Here are a couple from California and on the Show and Tell page you may see the Flying Love Object that Mike Williams decided to make at the workshop. Having decided on the model's geometry you need to make a Proof of Concept small model with which you determine the CG and elevator trim location for stable flight. We made such a model for Mike from the 3 mm Depron, overleaf.



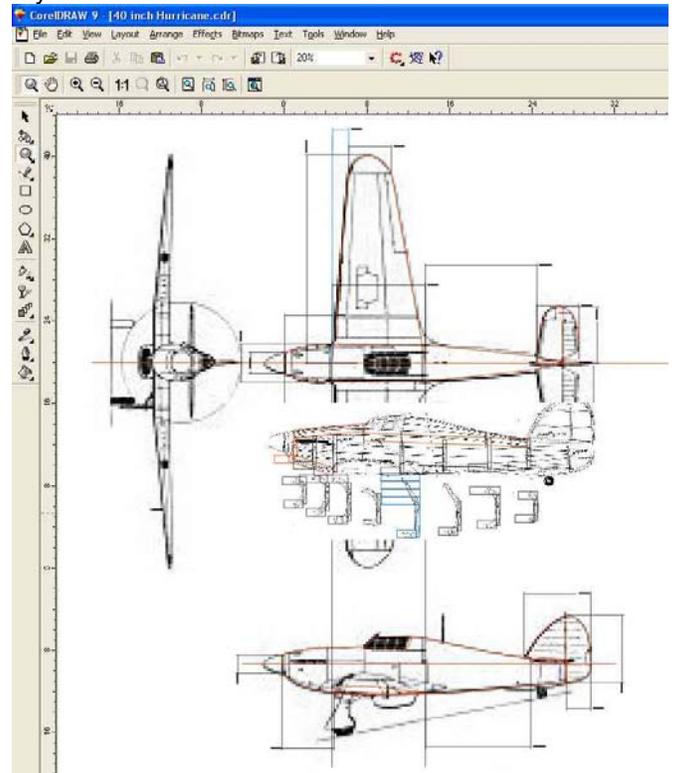
One inch pink foam Flying Cross

You can also make built-up full body airplanes in foam and this is the construction method I used in my B-24 and Hurricane models.

The process is to make a fuselage box with the 1/3 inch foam sides and thick foam top and bottom such that they can be carved and sanded to achieve the correct cross section. This involves some layout work on the drawing board so as to get the right thicknesses etc. I start with a 3-view drawing of the airplane I want to model. There are many on the web but my favorite is Eduardo's Page;

<http://www.fortunecity.com/marina/manatee/272/>

Eduardo has hundreds of aircraft 3-view drawing you may use as a starting point. I import them into Corel draw then scale them to the size I want and proceed to make out the construction details. These get transferred to the foam parts. Here is the drawing of my Hurricane.



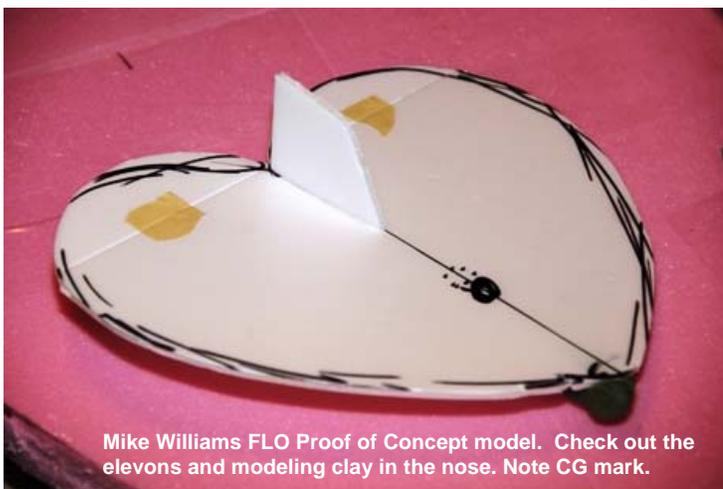
And here is the resulting fuselage box before carving.



Hurricane fuselage box with 1/3 inch foam sides and thicker extruded pink foam top and bottom before shaping.



Flying Love Object, FLO, over the Rose Bowl



Mike Williams FLO Proof of Concept model. Check out the elevons and modeling clay in the nose. Note CG mark.

In the Show and Tell section of this newsletter I am showing the wing construction of my Hurricane using two layers of the 1/3 inch pink fanfold foam formed over

*Atlantic County Skyblazers
Old Timer Meet
May 22nd, in Mays Landing N.J.*

Hey Propstoppers. Ever been to a contest? Lately? Now's your chance. The Atlantic County Skyblazers are having a contest May 22nd, in Mays Landing N.J. It's usually less than an hour trip. Get several guys together and it seems shorter.

You don't have to fly. It's a great time as a spectator. You'll see some gorgeous airplanes, and the performance will amaze you.

Dave Harding, Dick Bartkowski, Mick Harris, and I have been attending for several years. The planes being flown range from 1/2 A Scale, Old Time Texaco, and the really boomin' Class "C" Rockets. 7 Classes, at least. If enough people with electrics show up, the Contest Director may have more classes.

The location is unique; a clearing in the middle of the virgin New Jersey Pine Barrens. The field on which we fly is an emergency landing strip for the forest fire service. The club that uses the field every day is a gas sport club and they can make as much noise as they wish as there is absolutely nothing nearby. This is one reason we can fly un-muffled Old Timers. Don't you wish we lived closer to such countryside?

Two years ago Dave lost a model downwind and spent a couple of hours looking for it. What a beautiful spot with untouched streams and ponds with all manner of flora, fauna and wildlife. Didn't find the model but one of the club guys found it next day after another long search; great guys.

So, if you're not doing anything, come on down. I've never met anyone that didn't really enjoy themselves. And for you Gas Guys that live for the noise, guaranteed enjoyment.

And, as I said earlier, quick, and, easy to get to.

Cross the Barry Bridge, take 322 to mile marker 45. On the left side you will see a dirt road. There will be a sign saying New Jersey Forestry Service. If you see a florist (or fruit and veggie stand) you're just a little too far.

Oh, for lunch. Bring a sandwich or snack. They will supply the drinks.

So, here's your chance to have a great time, enjoy the noise again (no mufflers), and find out what SAM, Society of Antique Models, is all about.

See the cover shot of Mick, Dave and I set up to make the first gas powered test flight of the Boehle Giant at the 2008 meet.

Any questions see me or Dave.

Chuck Kime



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Propstoppers R.C. M.A.C



Chuck Kime, Dave Harding and Mick Harris with Dave's Boehle Giant during testing at the Atlantic City Skyblazers field in 2008.

Middletown Community Pride Day; Saturday May 8th at the Williamson Trade School

Rain or shine, on Rt. 352 below Rt. 1. Set up time is 9:00 till 10:30, leave time is 4:00 PM

Come on out and support the club, show and tell or just sit and jaw.

