



The Thrustline



AMA Chartered Club 1165

www.skystreakers.org

April 2008

NEXT MEETING

10 April 2008

7pm, Downstairs

AmVetsHall, New
Gloucester, Maine

Club Officers/Contacts

President

Nelson Frost

Vice President

Mac McLaughlin

Treasurer

Dave Edwards

Secretary

Mac McLaughlin

Safety Officer

Peter Flanagan

Field Marshal

Allan Mendenhall

Board of Directors

Peter Flanagan

Charlie Nelson

Joe McVay

Newsletter Editor

Peter Flanagan

spits@maine.rr.com

Welcome Newsletter Editor

Peter Flanagan is the new editor for the Thrustline. I suspect there will be a few bumps in the road as I figure out how to make this computer software do its thing to produce a monthly newsletter, so expect a few glitches along the way. In large part the newsletter is what you will make it. Hopefully you will send in some information, text or pictures to add some diversity to the newsletter each month.

I have volunteered to produce the newsletter with the condition that I won't get involved with printing, folding, stamping and mailing a paper copy, so starting with this issue the newsletter will be available online at the website only. I would like to put my effort into the production of the letter, not in the repetitive task of printing and mailing. I am involved with a large variety of local clubs and almost all of them have converted to the electronic format only. It represents a considerable savings in time and also saves the club a major expense in printing and postage.

Ray, at Ray and Robins Hobby Center has volunteered to make printed copies available in the hobby shop for anyone who doesn't have access to the electronic edition of the newsletter. I hear rumor he might mail a copy out to those who truly have the need for a printed copy. Please express your thanks to the Hobby Center as the printing and mailing is the tedious task which turns many newsletter editors off to the whole idea of getting involved in the first place.

Mud Season — The Road

With the snow actually melting now everyone is thinking of getting out to the field and getting some flights in. Unfortunately there is a small problem. In the past couple years the entry road has suffered some serious damage during mud season with travel into the field. Last year some ruts were more than a foot deep. Tearing up the road creates some real problems. It is another cost to the club, and potentially a major cost, to have the road graded. Even if someone donates the service to the club, it still creates an unneeded irritant to other club members and to the Waterman family, the land owners who graciously allow us to use the field. So to avoid road damage the gate will be kept locked and the

Road-

New gate combination will not be given out until the road is dry enough to avoid the damage it has suffered in past mud seasons. The gate combination and road opening date will depend on the weather, Nelson will email all club members when the road is open, the notice will not have to wait for the newsletter. Hopefully spring will come soon!



Photos March 30, 2008

From the President:

At the last meeting Peter Flanagan volunteered to assume the duties of Newsletter Editor. He agreed to do it only if he didn't have the responsibility of any printing and mailing duties. Our club members for the most part have access to the internet so that they can get the newsletter from our website. If my memory serves me correctly, Ray said he could have some newsletters mailed from his shop. There are only a handful of people who do not have any access to the website so we should decide whether to continue mailings. Anyone who wants a newsletter could pick one up at the club meeting so mailings may be a luxury the club doesn't want anymore.

As requested at the last meeting, I have established a PayPal account for Skystreakers. The e-mail and bank account has been verified and things are up and running. To test the system, I put through my renewal for 2009 successfully. Since then, at least one other person has used the website to renew. The pay now buttons on the club info page takes you to a login page at PayPal. If you have an account, you simply sign in and continue with payment. If you don't, you can either use a major credit card or establish a new PayPal account. Starting a new account will take longer because you have to transfer money into the account to use for payment. I would encourage you to get and use PayPal for online use. It's safe and fast and works great with EBay.

The club also voted this year to withhold the gate combination until the road is cleared for use by the field marshal and Eric, Carla, or Mrs. Waterman. I think it's a great idea because it takes all the guesswork out of it. When the time comes, I will immediately post the combination on the website and possibly set up a phone tree to call members and let them know it's a go.

Don't forget we have a Cub for sale that was donated by Jim Beech's wife. Our goal is to use the money from the sale of the cub to buy a F22 Raptor PTS to be made available for trainer night.

See you at the next meeting,

Nelson

Upcoming Events

This year the Father's Day Cub Fly-In will be held at the Propsnapper's field in Scarborough. The fly-in is open to all single engine, high wing monoplanes regardless of size. This means Cubs, Taylorcraft, Aeroncas and yes it includes your trainer airplane. There is no entry fee! AMA is required. The Propsnappers will have the newly rebuilt field open this spring at the landfill site. The field is much longer, wider and LEVEL, without the low spots. In fact the height of the landfill has been reduced so the walk up to the field is easier. Of course this means the Skystreakers field will be open for normal flying that day. I plan to alternate sites for the Cub Fly-In from year to year. Father's Day is Sunday, June 15, 2008 .

Other events at the Skystreakers are listed on the Skystreakers web site, www.skystreakers.org

Ray and Robin's Hobby Center web site has an updated list of area events, so visit their site at www.mainehobbies.com

The Maine Scale Shootout will be held the last weekend of August- August 22, 23 and 24, 2008 at the Skystreakers, in a similar format to past years.

THE MINUTES TO THE MARCH MEETING

The March meeting of SkyStreakers was called to order at 7 P.M. by President Nelson. There were 15 members present. It was a busy meeting , with several topics discussed.

The first order of business was the reading of the Treasurer's Report, by Dave. It was accepted as read.

Nelson read a letter I had received with the dues and extra check from Greg Austin. Greg donated one hundred dollars to the club to use for runway work, or as we see fit. Thanks Greg!

OLD BUSINESS

The subject of Field Repair, mostly pertaining to the resolution of the problems with the paved area, was discussed at length. The facts that the area is used very little, and that the cost of repaving would be so expensive led the discussion in the direction of removal, rather than repair. Nelson said that he would remove the asphalt if that was the decision of the membership.

The lack of a Newsletter Editor was discussed, with Peter Flanagan volunteering to take the job. This is obviously one of the toughest jobs the club has, if done properly. Peter will only do the job as an exclusively web based newsletter. If someone wants to do the mailed ones they are welcome to do so. I'm challenging all members to send something to Peter for the newsletter. It's really hard to do a quality job if you also have to come up with ALL the content. Thanks Pete!

NEW BUSINESS

The new business started with announcing the dates for the coming seasons events. They are as follows: The annual Cub/High Wing Fly-In will be held on Father's Day (as usual) but at the Propsnappers Field .

New Business-

The IMAC contest will be on July 19-20

The State of Maine Scale Shootout will be August 23-24

The State of Maine Jet Rally will be at the Sanford Airport Sept.13

The club voted to buy a slightly used Alpha Trainer package for \$100, to be used on Trainer Night.

The club voted to withhold posting the GATE COMBINATION until the field and road are ready for use. This will eliminate the possibility of damaging the road, before it dries out properly.

The FUEL RAFFLE was won by Dave Edwards & Dick Dumais.

SHOW & TELL

Mike Ladd brought in a wing for a Cub that he is building, that was altered to have removable wing panels. This will make for easier transport to the field.

President Nelson flew his electric CX2 helicopter for those present. He had set it up on his computer radio, so the rates were fully adjustable.

Respectfully submitted;

Mac McLaughlin

And we all flew happily ever after,

THE END