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AMA Club Charter #2988

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<http://www.downeastsoaring.org>

March 2012 issue of the DSC's "Quiet Happenings" Newsletter

Downeast Soaring Club Upcoming Events

Event	Date	Time	Location
DSC March Business Meeting	Saturday, 3/31/2012	Door open at 9 AM, 9:30 AM Business meeting; 11 AM Show & Tell	Topsham Public Library: 25 Foreside Road, Topsham, ME
April 2012 DSC Business Meeting	TBD (Watch your e-mail) Usually 2 nd Saturday of every month during the winter months	TBD (Watch your e-mail)	TBD (Watch your e-mail)

Note: #1 Change to an event will be announced by e-mail and posted on the DSC web site as soon as it is known. Check your e-mail before coming to a DSC event.

MEMBERS PRESENT FEBRUARY 11, 2012 MEETING:

James Armstrong, John Cheetham, Bob Berry, Pete Upton and Charlie Kerr, and new member Richard Dowzall.

New member Richard Dowzall is interested getting into slope and thermal. He flies a Piper Cub electric and has an electric Helo. He is really looking forward to sloping. Works in a sail loft and is really interested in flying gliders also. Richard found out about the Club through Ray and Robins. He found all the info on the Club through the Club Web site and printed out the application to the Club.



TREASURES REPORT:

- Acting treasurer Jim Armstrong provided the DSC treasurer's report.
- Jim noted that Charlie Kerr sent in \$25 for his 2012 dues. Jim asked Charlie if he was paying for 2 years. Charlie said no and that the extra was a donation to the Club. Special Thank you to Charlie for his generous donation.
- Jim noted that he renewed the Club's RC magazine subscription to Quiet & Electric International.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- None

OLD BUSINESS:

DSC 2012 DUES:

Here is the info on ways to pay DSC dues:

1. Cash: \$12.00 to DSC Treasurer John Emery or James Armstrong. See note #1.
2. Check: \$12.00 check *made out to "Downeast Soaring Club"*. Check can be delivered in person or mailed to (~~DSC Treasurer, John Emery, 59 Andrea Street, Topsham, ME 04086.~~) DSC Acting Treasurer, James Armstrong, 292 Foreside Road, Topsham, ME 04086. See note #1.
3. PayPal: \$12.50 PayPal payment to Downeast Soaring Club account at downeast-soaring@comcast.net. See #2 and #3.

NOTES:

Note 1: One of the rules of the Topsham library is "The Conference Room may not be used to ... exchange money or other property...." End quote. Therefore, at the Topsham Library, dues may only be paid before or after the meeting in the parking lot.

Note 2: PayPal charged DSC a Fee for every \$12 received. Fee was 67 cents. That is why Dues using PayPal are \$12.50.

Note 3: This PayPal account is used exclusively for DSC funds

FROG KITS:

After the meeting Pete Upton and new member Richard Dowzall purchased Frog kits.

WEDNESDAY RC BUILDING SESSIONS:

Background: Bob Berry had a suggestion to get together on a Wednesday night to do some socializing/building like we did at Ken Macdonald's. Several members were interested. We could do most of the meetings at Bob Berry's house but also go to other people's houses if invited. Example of reason for meeting would be to go over charging a Lili, Lipo or Life (a123) and to build Frogs to raise money for the Club.

UPDATE:

Bob Berry, Frank Bennett, Charlie Kerr and John Cheetham invited people to their house on Wednesdays from 1PM to about 4PM.

MIDCOAST MODEL FESTIVAL AT THE OWLS HEAD TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM:

Bob Berry and a friend attended this event and had a great time. While looking at all the



displays he noticed a plane that John Cheetham and Jim A. worked on at his house. They put new wire struts on it and installed the motor and gear on a new fuselage. Previously Jim glued the wing, which had been broken in half. Here is a picture of Frank Powers and his refurbished Super Cub. Frank is anxious to see it fly again.

NEW BUSINESS:

MAINE JET RALLY (SANFORD REGIONAL AIRPORT:

John Cheetham mention the this event was being planned for this summer.

Maine Jet Rally (Sanford Regional Airport)

Start Date: Sept 6, 2012

End Date: Sept 9, 2012

Description:

This event represents the pinnacle in Radio Control Flying. Last years event drew over sixty five R/C model jets with most of those being turbine powered.

We've also added a day to the flying schedule this year as well. Flight operations will be, Thursday 12:00 PM till 7:00 PM, Friday 9:00 AM till 5:00 PM, Saturday 9:00 AM till 5:00 PM and Sunday 9:00 AM till 3:00 PM.

Mark this date on your calendar as the Maine Jet rally is a spectator favorite. The event will be held at the Sanford Regional Airport again this year. To learn more about the event, contact Ray Labonte at 207-797-5196.

Sponsored by: [Ray & Robin's Hobby Center](#)

More Info: MaineJetRally.org

INDOOR FLYING AT UNITY COLLEGE:

Background: John Phelan [mailto:filigree@uninets.net] puts out a schedule for Indoor Flying at Unity College to those people that expresses an interest.

Update: Indoor flying is continuing to be scheduled.

DSC FREE MAGAZINE RAFFLE:

Each attendee was given a free raffle ticket for a Free RC Magazine raffle.



DSC DRAWING LIBRARY:

Jim showed the following drawing, which will be added to the DSC Drawing Library for member checkout:



AMETHYST FALCON

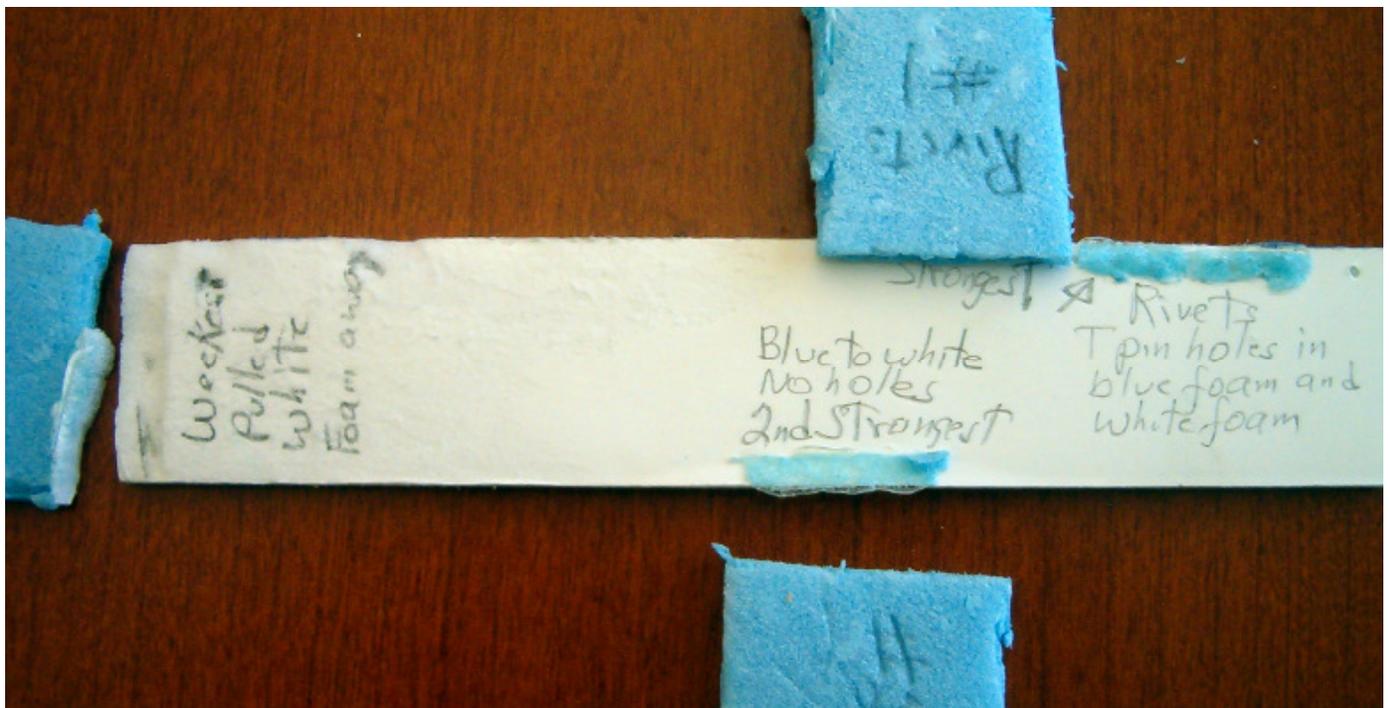
36 INCH SPAN SCALE ULTRALIGHT BIPLANE FOR 4 FUNCTION R/C AND 200 WATT BRUSHLESS.

SHOW AND TELL OR JUST TELL

- John Cheetham showed a great way to hold your small servo horn screws. You put a magnet from a brushless motor on the metal screwdriver and it transfers the magnetism to the tip of the screwdriver. Its holding power is way more than just a magnetized tip screwdriver. When making repairs in the field this is real important.
 - He brought in some real nice chocolates and passed them around for everyone to have. You can see an empty chocolate wrapper in the picture. Thanks John,



- Jim Armstrong showed some destructive testing him and his son performed on blue and white poster board (paper covered white foam).



- Of the three tests of gluing these foams together the **weakest joint** was gluing the blue foam to the white foam after removing the paper from the poster board. Left test on picture.
 - The strength of the joint was improving by gluing the blue foam right to the paper on the poster board (**2nd best**). Bottom test on picture..
 - The **strongest joint** (**1st best**) was made by putting holes in the blue foam and white foam (right through the paper on the poster board). The holes made **rivets** into the blue foam and poster board, which **greatly** increased the joint strength. Top test on the picture.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER (JIM ARMSTRONG):

Subject: 2BFly | The Ultimate Guide To Electric RC Aviation

John F Seredynski sent me this link to 2bfly.com. It is the Ultimate Guide To Electric RC Aviation.

<http://2bfly.com/>

John said: "Jim: I found this site, check it out. There is some good stuff for almost everyone if you look at all it contains .JFS p.s. they have a nice app for phones

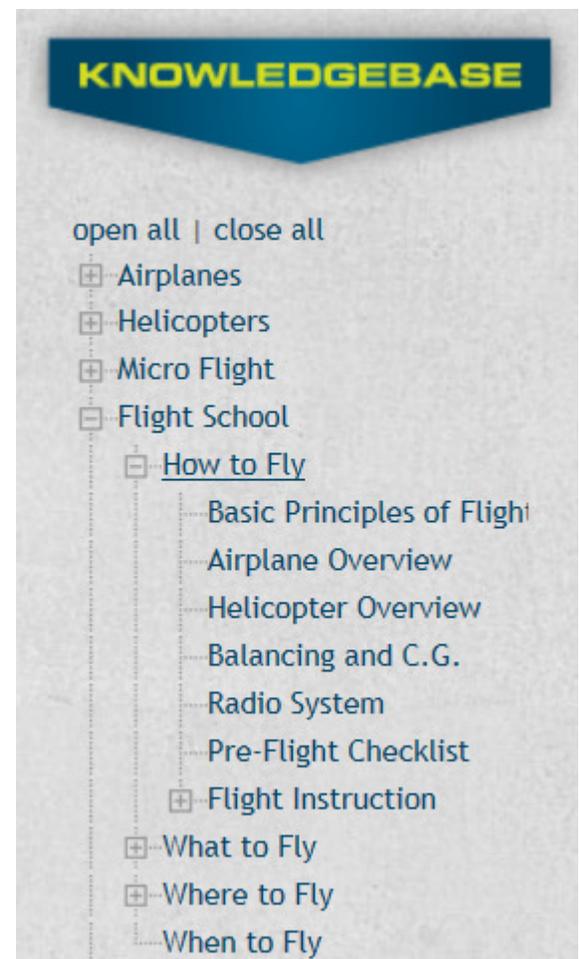
Here is a small sample of what it contains. Good info.

The Gambler-AG:

Video of Jack Pignolo's Gambler

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqDNK8iF2R0>. The

DSC Club has two gambler kits for sale/ with motor mount. Now is the right time to build one. Cost is a bargain at a Club discount price of \$65. You save a lot because there is no shipping cost, a free motor pod is included from Allen Wright, and clear covering is provided free. Add it up and see how much you save. Go to <http://www.wrightbrothersrc.com/> for FMI on Gambler AG.



Winter get togethers:

- We met at Bob Berry's house several times. Bob provided Coffee and his wife made us cookies. Lots of fun. During these get together's, Bob and Frank Bennett scratch built a foam RC eagle, from templates that Frank developed. On Wednesday the 21st of March Jim flew a maiden flight on it. It was extremely windy and gusty during that Electric/Glider night. You can see how windy it was by looking at the picture. Look how Frank and Bob are holding it. There are 4 (four) hands on it to keep it from being blown back into the fence. We waited a long time for the wind to die down, but it never did. Jim attempted to fly it anyway. He had a goal of just getting it into the air and (1) proving that the motor had enough power, (2) proving that the balance and engine thrust were OK, and (3) that the flying characteristics were all good. Oh and (4) to have a safe landing in the grass. To his and everyone else's amazement it flew fantastic



even in all that wind and gusts. The wind hardly bothered it and the flight showed that it can fly in the wind. It came in straight for the landing and wasn't hard to keep level for a nice landing.

- John Cheetham invited us over to his house several times. We had girl scout cookies on for Saint Patrick's week. And you can see the green shamrock napkins below the center picture of the yardstick and in one picture at the bottom. Notice the Pink table cloth and ping napkins for Valentine week. At John's house we tackled many items. In the picture you can see Bob working on his Backup Frog, Jim working on the Super Cub, Frank working on the Eagle, Dick working on his Playboy, John using his lathe to make Jim some dowel mounts for his brushless motors. Take a look at all of John's planes and yes each and every one is flyable. Also one of the pictures shows John Cheetham and Frank Bennett filing the end caps on a piece of jim's kitchen laminate counter top. Jim snuck it



in. They showed him how to use a router to cut the laminate edges and use a file for final edge grooming. Thanks guys.

- Frank Bennett invited us to his shop too. We had a pizza party several times because we met around supper time i.e., 4pm to 7 pm. Coffee was always flowing. The pictures that Jim took of John Cheetham and Fran Carignan eating pizza didn't come out. In fact several pictures were defective. We soldered on 3 antennas that had been broken off. One of Dick's synthesized receiver that needed an antenna soldered back onto it and Frank had two Hitec feather receivers that



needed their antenna soldered back on. Frank had a 60 amp Opto speed controller that doesn't have a BEC with it for his G32. It needed to be programmed and is fun to do. This summer we programmed the one ESC on his crop duster powered by a G46 after several tries. Jim found a way to put the *Turnigy Be Found Lost Model Beeper* in any plane with any receiver and with any amount of battery cells and without having to put it between the receiver and a servo. This allows you to easily move it to any plane you are flying. We did a wattage test on some of Frank's new G32, G25, G46 motors. Also, Charlie Kerr sent Jim the instructions to his 3 lipo chargers. We reviewed and evaluate them. Dick has one, just like one of Charlie's, so it was good to hear what he had to say about it. Jim had two 110 2s/3s chargers that we reviewed. We also worked on Fran's Storch.. After a long evaluation we found we needed to change bolt hardware on the control horns to include bushings and to use a rod like John Cheetham's storch. Also we found the servos to be too small for all the aileron, slats, drop fowler flaps.

- Charlie Kerr invited us to his shop on Wednesday 3/18/2012. John Cheetham, Dick Rosenberg, Jim Armstrong and Frank Bennett attended. We didn't fly on this day because it was snowing and raining. Bob Berry was going to bring his Eagle so we could put a Deans T connector switch on it and continue to work on his backup Frog. Bob couldn't make it because his furnace broke down and needed to be worked on. Charlie had coffee and chocolate chip cookies for us. We enjoyed checking out all of Charlie's models. We worked on Charlie's Cub. We redid the push rod on one of the ailerons. Deans plug to ESC needs to be replaced. Position of battery Velcro needs to



be relocated. Changed motor rotation. Also went through all of Charlie's Lipos and made recommendations. John Cheetham and Jim made a deans charge cord so Charlie could charge some Lipos on his new 110/12V balance charger. Frank Bennett took some pictures and Jim will get them from him latter. Here are a few that Jim took.



You can see the huge wing on the shelf for the tow plane that Charlie is building. It is a Robin Hood 99. The gas engine is a Quadra 52 .

Received this nice e-mail from Charlie.

From: Charles E. Kerr **Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2012 8:39 PM

To: James Armstrong

Subject: Wed. meeting

Jim, Thank you and others for the visit to my workshop. As you could see I am a busy man with plenty of models to work on.

Need to spend more time with you on charging to get my mind in line. It will all work out in the future.

I put the cells in the LYPO bags & metal case. Will clean them out tomorrow and want to learn more about the 123 cells. I had one fire in my old shop and DON'T want ANOTHER!!!

Thanks again, Charlie

New frogs are a flying (Sounds like a Christmas song):



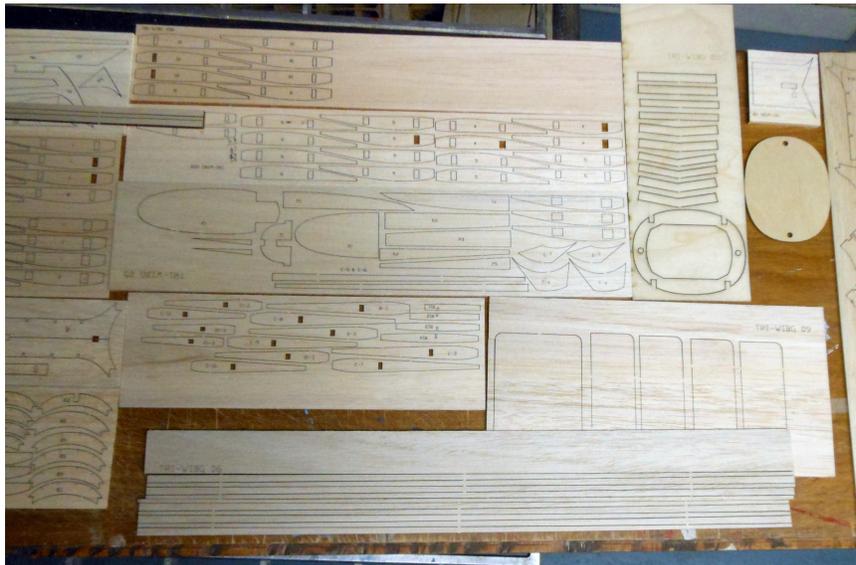
- Last month I mentioned that 6 new Frogs have been built and have been flown. This month one more has been finished and flies great. The foam wing was hot wire cut by Tim Will, using the templates that John Cheetham made. It was cut out of 2" pink foam. It has a flat bottom and is very thick compared to fan fold. John Cheetham scratch built the fuselage out of poster board. It is huge. He calls it the Pollywog (Fog on steroids). John is changing the batteries for its next test flight.

Winter projects:

- John Cheetham scratch built a biplane called the ELF. It has a five (5) foot wingspan and powered by a TowerPro Brushless Outrunner 3015-7 1000kv / 470W. It flies great.



- John Cheetham purchased a short lazer cut kit of a ?????? He is working feverishly on it now and you will have to wait to see it being built before I tell you the name of it. The pieces are made with quality balsa and lazer cut perfectly. An excellent kit. Look at all the nice pieces.



Happy *safe* Flying,

Jim