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Secretary
Mike Farnsworth
207-729-7290



Vice President
Glenn Collins
207-547-2030

Treasurer
Ken Mac Donald
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AMA Club Charter #2988
<http://www.downeastsoaring.org>

DownEast Soaring Club Upcoming Meeting

Event	Date	Time	Location
January Club Meeting	Saturday, 1/14/2006	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Corner, Brunswick *See Note 1

Meeting Minutes of November 12th 2005 and December 10th 2005 (As recorded by Jim Armstrong)

MEMBERS PRESENT AT THE NOVEMBER 12TH 2005: James. Armstrong III, Glenn Collins, Michael W. Farnsworth, Rick Hallett, Ken Mac Donald, Steve W. Savoie, Lawrence Smith, Nelson Frost and Marty Feldman.



MEMBERS PRESENT AT THE DECEMBER 10TH, 2005: Jim Armstrong Glenn Collins, Mike Farnsworth, Rick Hallett, Winn Price, Dick Rosenberg, Ken Mac Donald, and Michael Moore.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

At the November meeting Larry Smith Reported "No Correspondence." At the December meeting Mike Farnsworth reported that he updated Michael Moore's DSC membership status at the meeting on his laptop.





TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ken Mac Donald reported the financial status of the Club.

OLD BUSINESS

CLUB TRAINER STATUS:

Background: Mike Farnsworth reported that the club trainer status has not changed. Waiting to get extra club gear from Glen Collins to get it in working order. The radio started glitching after the gears were replaced in one of the servos. Could be that the receiver is bad or a servo is bad...

Update: Glenn Collins has some Club gear that he will be bringing down

CLUB TRAILER AUCTION: Ken received the \$100 check since the last meeting.

2006 DSC OFFICER ELECTIONS:

Officer elections were held and the results are:

President: Jim Armstrong

VP: Glenn Collins

Secretary: Mike Farnsworth

Treasurer: Ken Mac Donald

Appointed Officer positions:

Safety Officer: Rick Hallett

Field Marshal: Charlie Kerr

Newsletter Editor: Jim Armstrong

Chief Flight Instructor: Forrest Sumner

As you can see, you have a dedicated group of Officers.

NEW BUSINESS

AMA DVD VOLUME #1: Jim asked if the Club wanted to purchase the series of AMA CDs that were being offered. Only a few members had received the first unsolicited issue. Ken Mac Donald

is getting the whole set sent to him and he sends back the ones he isn't interested in purchasing. He just sent the Volume #2 back. After some discussion it was decided not to purchase the whole series. However, if Ken Mac Donald (or anyone else) receives one and thinks the Club should have it in the Club library then Jim will purchase it.

DSC VIDEO LIBRARY: Jim passed around a paper that showed the latest DVD offering by Radio Carbon Art. He has permission from the Club to purchase any Video that he feels the Club would be interested in. He wanted to know if anyone wanted to see this one and the answer was yes.

DSC VIDEO LIBRARY CHECKOUT PROCEDURE: During the above discussions the checkout procedure was mentioned. It was suggested that we put it out in the newsletter and put it at the top of the DSC library listing. Eventually the video list and checkout procedure will be put in the "Member Only" section of the DSC Web site and only current members will have access to it.

DSC LIBRARY CHECKOUT PROCESS:

1. Members can view what is available by going to the DSC Web Page.
2. All you have to do to obtain an item is send an e-mail to the librarian Jim Armstrong (or call) to let him know what you're interested in. He will let you know if it is available. The listing on the web site will be periodically updated as to who has what video but isn't real time.
3. Let the Librarian know how you want to get. Options are: A. Pick up at a meeting if you let him know a few days before that you are going to be there. B. Pick it up at his house. C. Pick it up on Wednesday night glider night. D. Pick it up at a contest/fun fly.
4. The librarian will update the master list on his computer to indicate who has checked out an item.
5. Items should be returned directly to the Librarian and not given to someone else. This is because we have lost track of items. There is one exception to this. The person, who has the item checked out, can give it to another Club member but must put out an e-mail to the Club listing saying who they gave it to.

Note: Jim's computer has crashed several times and if other people get the e-mail on who you gave it to we may be able to recover the information.

GLIDER NIGHT BUILDING AT KEN MAC DONALD'S:

Members have started to meet at Ken's house. Ken is scratch building an electric Frog. Jim bought the plans and built it with his grandson this summer. Jim found out about the Frog when he was in Arizona. The guys out there said that it was a great flying plane. They were right. It is more durable than a Lite Stick because it is a pusher and will fly in more wind. Jim purchased another Lite Stick this summer for training purposes, but is going to switch to the Frog because of its great flying characteristics and because it uses the GWS Lite Stick motor and radio gear. Update: Bob Berry is building a Frog at Kens.



DSC FREE MAGAZINE RAFFLE: The president gave everyone a raffle ticket at the November and December meetings. Several magazines were given away. More magazines will be raffled off at winter meetings as soon as they are available from the Wednesday night reading room. Glenn Collins, Rick Hallett and Dick Rosenberg took home a RC magazine.

SPRING/SUMMER/FALL WEDNESDAY GLIDER NIGHT FLYING:

1. Discussed how bad the weather was during the past Wednesday glider night. High winds or rain interfered with a lot of flying.
2. Jim proposed to have some theme nights during the upcoming Wednesday night flying sessions. He is looking for ideas. Some that he thought of are:

A. Frog all up last down.
B. HLG
C. Piggy back
D. 2 Meter Thermal
E. Open thermal
F. Spot landings
G. Avero challenge
H. Most unusual
I. Collins special Combat
J. Electric Stick Combat

DSC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: Friendly reminder that DSC dues were due. Jim said that the membership renewal money in Pay Pal will be put in the Club checking account after the renewals stop.

AMA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: Members reminded how easy it was to renew AMA. All you have to do is call **1-800-IFLY AMA**. To check your AMA status, go to the AMA site and enter your AMA number and last name. Simple as that.

Go to: <http://www.modelaircraft.org/MembershipQuery.aspx>

Membership Verification

This page enables you to verify an AMA membership. Enter an AMA number and last name, then click the 'Verify' button.

The membership for EVAN TURNER - AMA #75683 is valid until 12/31/2007.

AMA Number:
<input type="text" value="75683"/>
Last Name:
<input type="text" value="Turner"/>
<input type="button" value="Verify"/>

POD CAST MINUTES: Jim brought up the new rage of “Pod Casting.” He wondered if anyone new anything about it. It might be a new way to transfer Club information like the newsletter. One thing he saw on TV was that once you sign up for an item, it downloads it in the background. Something to look at in the future as members becomes familiar with it.

SAND PIT KEYS: Mike has the number of the master key and had one made from it. He will make others and make sure they work.

DECEMBER MEETING YANKEE GIFT SWAP:

Background: Jim made a suggestion last year to have a Yankee Gift Swap at every December meeting. Members were for it. Gifts to be in the \$5.00 range. Preferably hobby/tool related. If you come to the December meeting it is NOT mandatory to participate in this gift exchange.



If you bring a gift you should get a gift.

Presents were exchange and we had a lot of laughs.

Michael Moore picked the number one so he opened the first present and at the end could exchange it with anyone else's present. He kept what he had opened. Except for Michael, each person had an opportunity to take a present from someone else when it was their turn. If they did, then the person that had the present taken away could pick another present and open it. So they might have lost

something good, but now they had the excitement of opening another present. Some of the presents this year were: EPP Slope Plane, Epoxy, new designed wire cutter & strippers and gag gift.

ELECTRIC FUN FLY:

1. DSC co-hosted an electric Fun Fly this past September at the BAM Field. It was a lot of fun. DSC was reimbursed for all expenses related to this event. Jim sent out almost 100 letters to vendors soliciting prizes. Money made on this event was given to BAM for the use of the BAM Field on Wednesday nights and to support cleaning of the Port-A-Potty. Members said they wanted to continue co-hosting this event.



2. DSC received a “Thank You” card from Betsy Schmidt who did the cooking and serving for the 2 day event and made some nice airplane cookies. Her note said “Dear DownEast Soaring Club, I want to thank you for the beautiful flowers. I really enjoy serving lunch and visiting with all of you. Sincerely, Betsy Schmidt.” Special “Thank You” to Frank Bennett for picking up the plants that were given to Betsy Schmidt to express our appreciation for all she did.

3. Our own John Emery took home the “Best of Show” plaque for his expert workmanship on several scratch built electric planes. Picture shows John Emery flying with his son Mike spotting for him.



CLUB FOAMY COMBAT: Glenn Collins asked if there was any interested in doing Foamy Combat. Members expressed a lot of interest. Glenn will come up with a design and present it to the Club. Potentially use a Johnson motor or go with a Cox plane that has a motor on it already for \$20. Cox would add consistently.

DSC WEB SITE: Mike Farnsworth reported that the Club needs to find a place to host the web site. Present site is going away. Mike said he was looking into hosting the Current Clubs on a site at his house. Cost to run the server for a year at Mike's house is about \$900. Three other RC clubs pay 200 a year and will have to switch also. Hard disk space limitation would not be an issue if hosted at Mike's house. Also Mike said he still would be able to make the changes we would like to have. Only thing Mike cares about is that it doesn't cost him any money. Club members voted and authorized up to \$200 a year to go with Mike if he decides to do it.

E-MAIL SLOPE CLARK COVE: Members received a couple of e-mails on sloping Clark's Cove this fall. Several members were able to make it. One of the times Jim, Steve, Larry and Michael were able to make it. Michael drove his motorcycle down as he just got back from a trip to Germany. He picked up the chute he ordered through the Club and flew one of Jim's planes. Steve took some pictures and had one published in the December edition of RCSD. Caption said:

- "Back cover :Larry Smith launches his DAW Schweitzer 1-26 from the bluff at Clark Cove, Maine. This flying site is on private property and is about 40 minutes from Portland. According to DownEast Soaring Club members, Lacy enjoys the flying nearly as much as the pilots. Photo by Steve Savoie



SHOW AND TELL

- Ken Mac Donald showed us the Frog he made during Wednesday night glider night. Ken explained the neat features and flying characteristics of it.



- Jim Armstrong showed an alternative to brushless motors. He has a Promax brush gearmotor on his 3D flyer. This motor is intended to upgrade 370 motors, without the expense of brushless technology. It is designed to handle 3 cell, 11.1V lithium batteries. Power is great and the brushes on the High Performance Neodym Gearmotor are replaceable. Also the speed controller BA-PP-15C is designed for a 3 cell lithium and only cost \$14.00. Savings between this setup and brushless would be over \$80.00.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER (JIM ARMSTRONG):

MEMBER PROJECTS:

I asked John Emery to send me a picture of his latest creation. It is a "Twinkle" from Fly RC plans. I saw it in person and it is gorgeous.

HERE IS JOHN'S NOTE.

--Hi Jim:

I got my Twinkle built and powered it with a brushless outrunner that I built from a kit. The plane and the motor are awesome. I have five (5) flights on the plane with two of them today off the snow. Maybe I will be a snow flyer after all as long as it doesn't get too cold (grin).

If we get a good day in the near future, I will give you a call and go flying so you can see this thing. Photo of my Twinkle attached.

John



LIPO SAFETY:

Charlie Kerr sent me a link to the British Electric Flight Association web site:

<http://www.befa.org.uk/>

The latest advice offered by the British Electric Flight Association on the safe use of Lithium Polymer cells follows:

Safety with LiPo Batteries

By Jan Bassett

Despite what a number of people may tell you Lithium Polymer (LiPo) batteries are not fundamentally unsafe, but they need to be treated with more care than NiCd or NiMH. If abused sufficiently LiPo cells can catch fire and this fire can be difficult to extinguish. The following precautions should help you enjoy using LiPo batteries without having a major incident.

- The minimum safe discharge voltage is 2.5V per cell when under load, or 3.0V per cell when not on load.
 - When more than 2 cells in series are used, a controller with an adjustable cutout should be used and it should be set at or above 2.5V/cell.
 - Only charge LiPo batteries on a charger specifically design for LiPo batteries.
 - Always ensure you use the correct charging voltage for the cell count.
 - The maximum charge rate should be 1C, e.g. 0.7A for a 700 mAh cell. For best charging, low charge rates should be used where possible.
 - Check the charge voltage (or cell count) and current a second time.
 - Never leave charging LiPo batteries unattended (at any charge rate).
 - It is best to charge LiPo cells in an open space on a non-flammable surface (such as a brick or quarry tile) and away from flammable materials.
 - For long term storage it is recommended that cells are fully charged and then discharged to between 50% and 60% of their capacity.
 - Use connectors that can not be short circuited, or use silicon fuel tube to protect exposed connections.
 - Have a dry powder fire extinguisher or a bucket of dry sand within reach.
 - If a pack is involved in a crash or is otherwise damaged:
 - Remove the pack from the model.
 - Inspect the pack for damage to the wiring or connections.
 - If necessary, disassemble the pack and dispose of any damaged cells.
 - Disposal of LiPo batteries:
 - Put the pack in a safe open area and connect a moderate resistance across the cell terminals until the cell is completely discharged.
- CAUTION:** The pack may get extremely hot during the discharge.
- Puncture the plastic envelope and immerse in salt water for several hours.
 - Place in your regular rubbish bin.

CLUB TRAINER RADIO:

I want everyone to know that the Club trainer radio was put to good use this year. I instructed five new flyers using it and also certified a powered pilot for BAM.

Below is an e-mail from Felix Tang. We flew at the sandpit on a day that the wind was almost too windy to fly. I bit the bullet and put my wing up and it did OK but if you lost it once you would be in the top of the trees behind us. Felix hadn't flown there before and wanted to try his new plane. I hooked up the Club trainer radio to my plane so I could give him some stick time and walk him through what to watch out for. He did great and then put his new plane up and had a great time flying it.



Hi Jim -

Hope you are enjoying your Thanksgiving holiday.

I've been reading through the back issues of the news letter and along with the other articles, thoroughly enjoy Rick's write ups of flying sessions. What a great sense of humor. I hope to be able to meet him someday.

I too enjoyed flying at the sandpit with you and John. Thanks again for the buddy cord intro. It was of much help and a big boost for my confidence.

I'm going to poke around the local area here today to see if I can scope out any potential slope sites.

Been watching the forecast, doesn't look good for tomorrow (Sunday) ..no wind! I'll keep hoping though. Hope to see you again, if not tomorrow then in the future.

*Best regards,
- Felix*

SLOPE ON THE WAY TO THE WRAM SHOW:

For the several members that don't have e-mail I'll include an e-mail on the possibility of doing some slope soaring in connecticut on the way to the WRAM show.

-----Original Message-----From: jamesiii@ Sent: Friday, December 30, 2005 10:03 AM

Dennis Phelan called to remind me that he paid his dues with Pay Pal. Dennis also told me about the 2 slopes he has been flying at. One is a cliff that has boomer lift. There is a little walk but worth the trip. Because of the terrain foamies are the choice. The other is a landfill that has grass and anything can be flown.

When he called he was coming back from the slope to make a quick repair and was heading out again.

So if you go to the WRAM show you might want to consider bringing a sloper.

*Happy New Year,
Jim*

WRAM SHOW:

SHOW DATES ARE:

- Friday, February 24, 2006: 10:00 am to 4:30 pm.
- Saturday, February 25, 2006: 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
- Sunday, February 26, 2006: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

**Wishing everyone a very Happy and Safe New Year,
Jim**

DownEast Soaring Club Upcoming Events

Event	Date	Time	Location
January Club Meeting	Saturday, 1/14/2006	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Comer, Brunswick *See Note 1
February Club Meeting	Saturday, 2/11/2006	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Comer, Brunswick, ME *See Note #1
March Club meeting	Saturday, 3/11/2006	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Comer, Brunswick *See Note 1
April Club Meeting	Saturday, 4/8/2006	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Comer, Brunswick *See Note 1
May DSC Business meeting	Saturday, 5/13/2006	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Comer, Brunswick See Note #1

1. Breakfast starts at 9:00 in the Bookland Conference Room. The business meeting will start at 9:30 am sharp. Show and Tell at 10:30. Members are encouraged to eat breakfast during the business portion of the meeting.