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AMA Club Charter #2988

<http://www.downeastsoaring.org>

Vice President  
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Treasurer  
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207-443-3585

DSC Club Business Meeting

Saturday,  
11/9/2002

9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).

Bookland Coffee Shop,  
Cooks Corner, Brunswick

### Minutes of the September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2002 DSC Meeting

*(As recorded by Jim Armstrong)*

**President's Note:** This meeting was held at Maine Composites. Steve Savoie set up extra chairs in their conference area for the meeting. He brought coffee, donuts and muffins (Thanks Steve). There was \$6.00 left over from the lunch run at the last HLG and was given to Steve towards the goodies. After the business portion of the meeting Steve gave us a tour w/detailed presentation on each of the plane pieces they were fabricating. He explained a few molds out on the shop floor and gave a quick demo on vacuum bagging pre-preg carbon fiber. Pictures in the production area were not allowed because of the confidentiality of the products and processes. After the meeting/tour we set up Steve's winch and the Club's retriever in the schoolyard field beside Maine Composites. Special "Thanks" to Steve for a great meeting place, very informative tour and great flying after the meeting.



#### What's inside?

- Tour, and flying at Maine composites
- Minutes of September & October meetings
- So who's the new member
- Winch in a box progress
- Picture of the next Fund Raiser
- "Member only raffle" Item(s).

#### Coming in upcoming Newsletters:

- DSC member in the "Spotlight" Who wants to be next?
- What Jeremy Riecks' ICOM TC-R@ compact, ultra wideband scanner-receiver showed us?
- Glare reduction tips
- NIMH freezing charge/ discharge test results
- Ball of Tape Re-build

#### MEMBERS PRESENT AT THE SUNDAY 9/14/02 MEETING:

Jim Armstrong, Rick Hallett Anthony Palanza and friend Michael, Michael LaTorre, Jim Carroll, Jeff Carr, Bret Carr, Ethan Peters, Ken Mac Donald, Glenn Collins, Ernie Lachance, Michael Moore, Rex Olmstead, Mike Farnsworth, Steve Savoie, Clyde Beaton and guests.



#### TREASURES REPORT:

Treasurer Ken Mac Donald reported on the financial status of the Club.

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

Larry Smith notified Jim prior to the meeting that he was unable to make this meeting. He reported that he had no correspondence.

# **OLD BUSINESS**

## **DYNAMIC SOARING SITE:**

Tabled.

## **NEW THERMAL FLYING FIELD:**

Tabled.

## **PRIMARY RC CHANNELS:**

### **Background:**

- People who attended contests were asked about the frequency policy of noting your primary frequency on the Club's Web site. People mentioned some of the actions they had taken to reduce conflict. Mac mentioned that he bought a new Hitec in order to get on a different frequency.
- It appears that the goal of the frequency program "to reduce frequency conflicts" is being met. It was suggested that a link to the "Crystal Exchange Program" be put on the Club web page.
- Someone suggested one way to get on a different channel was to sell your radio to a powered flyer.

Discussed what frequency to use for Club trainer. It was noted that the list of frequencies on the Club web site and people's recollection indicated channel 60 wasn't being used. So the new Club trainer radio will be ordered on channel 60. Channel 11 is the other frequency being used on the Club trainer plane "Ball of Tape."

## **THE RICK HALLETT F3F SLOPE RACE:**

Background: We discussed having a man on man slope race. We would need safety equipment for the callers etc if it was man on man. Dennis Phelan recommended that we have an F3f slope race. Flyers fly the course individually and the best time wins.

- Discussed having classes:
  - war bird
  - Flying wing
  - Rick Hallett's Devil

We had our first unofficial F3F Rick Hallett slope race at the sandpit after the June meeting. Jim set up poles with streamers for the contestants to see. Callers were manned and the racing began. Mike LaTorre and Jim manned the far turn. Both agreed that even with only one flyer at a time it would be prudent to have safety equipment on. You can see by the pictures how hard it was to see because of the sand (no pictures were in focus, just a sandstorm). Steve Savoie flew his Coyote and at the speed he was traveling it would have hurt if you got hit with that duralene fuselage. Based on this I think the Club should buy the gear necessary to have a true man on man race. It would be much more fun. We need to find out what AMA requires for racing and then discuss at a meeting.

Update: Discussed need to review AMA rules for racing. Believe Mark Higgins has run wet power races. He will be contacted to see what is required.

## **WHORFF TOPSHAM SANDPIT SLOPE SITE:**

Background: Discussions held on giving a gift certificate to Mr. Whorff for letting us fly slope at his sandpit. Also discussed getting permission from the club to insure the site if Mr. Whorff agreed to it. Jim talked to Mr. Whorff Jr. on insuring the field. He was all for it. Jim also talked to Mr. Whorff senior and asked him what he liked to drink. Club approved buying him something to show him that the Club really appreciated being allowed to slope at the pit.

Mr. Whorff Sr. offered the key to the gate to Mac so that Club members could get in and out when the gate was locked. VP. Mike Farnsworth has possession of the key and went over the rules for its use.

Update: Jim bought Mr. Whorff a gallon of what he likes to drink (i.e., Black Velvet). When he went to the sandpit Mr. Whorff wasn't there. One of his workers who was going to see him latter in the day and said he would give it to him on our behalf.

Jim needs to get information from Mr. Whorff Jr. so that he can send in the AMA insurance paperwork.

## **CLUB RETRIEVER:**

Background from previous newsletter: Members discussed the benefits of the Club having a good working retriever. Members agreed that the Club should have one. After some discussion, it was agreed that we should have a committee look into what one to buy and report back to the Club. Jeff and Steve were nominated for the committee, but were not present to accept. What do you say guys. Will you do it? Anyone else interested in being on this committee? Steve said he would chair the committee. Mike felt that the retriever we had would work. Steve said he would take it and evaluate how well it worked as compared to his, which works great. A suggestion was made to evaluate it after the next meeting 9/14/02 at Maine Composites in Richmond.

Update: After this meeting Steve set up the Club's retriever, with the new line. It worked great in the Richmond soccer fields beside Maine Composites. The grass was cut which isn't the usual situation we fly in. The retriever still needs to be tried at the Minot field when the grass runway has the weeds up.

Steve suggested that the turbo switch (i.e. shorts out resistive load) that increases the retrieve speed be modified. He recommended one switch that has 3 positions. The first position of the switch would be off, the 2<sup>nd</sup> position would be slow speed (Used in high grass so line isn't pulled under line already wrapped on wheel), with the 3<sup>rd</sup> position Turbo. This switch would replace 2 switches. The on/off switch and the Turbo switch would be combined. It would make working the retriever easier. Rather than working 2 switches you work only one. Great idea Steve.

Steve asked for Club permission to purchase a switch and it was given to him.

Steve liked the battery on the back of the Club retriever. Steve gave retriever lessons to Michael Moore and Glenn Collins. Thanks to Michael and Glenn for learning how to run the retriever. Everyone that wants to do thermal flying using the retriever should learn how to use it.



## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **NEW MEMBER:**

Club members welcomed Anthony Palanza into the Club. Anthony is Mike LaTorre's nephew. Anthony brought a friend Michael to the meeting. Anthony has had several flying sessions and is doing great. He has been re-building the Club's "Ball of Tape" with his Uncle Mike.

### **CLUB TRAINERS/FLIGHT INSTRUCTION:**

*Background: Jim said the following in the last Presidents Corner "I have been instructing several people recently. It is much easier when you have a buddy box. The Club transmitter for the DAW 1-26 doesn't have trainer cord capability. The Club needs to purchase several setups that have this capability. I think we should buy some used gear so that we can keep it locked up for our use."*

Jim informed the Club that the receiver in the DAW1-26 was damaged. Discussed the need to purchase a replacement and a transmitter that had trainer cord capability. After some discussion it was decided to purchase a new radio with trainer cord capability. It was left up to Jim to make the decision on what to buy and then to purchase it.

### **SOARING VIDEOS AND CDS:**

Jim received e-mails from Rick Hallett and Michael Moore recommending the Club purchase two new videos that have come out. They are:

- **Secrets of Thermal Soaring** Learn about the mysterious energies of thermal lift with this exciting new video from Radio Carbon Art and soaring expert Paul Naton. Perfect for the beginning to advanced soaring or electric glider pilot, this new video is guaranteed to improve your thermal knowledge, flying technique, and air reading skills. If want to learn to soar high and long like the pros, then this video may be one of the best investments you make in improving your flying skills. Simply the most comprehensive thermal flying video available.
- **Scale soaring and Aero Towing** are becoming very popular world wide. Our new video **Pro Aero Tow** features the latest gliders and tow planes performing at the big annual International Scale Soaring Association's event in Southern California. This film

features tons of cool scale action and lots of information on Aero Towing techniques. A 'must have' video for anyone who loves the beauty of scale sailplanes both modern and vintage.

We discussed what format to purchase: VHS tape or CD format or both. Club decided to purchase both. How many we buy will depend on deals for quantities purchased.

Question came up on video list. Several members responded and said it was in the newsletter a few issues back.

### **DSC WEB SITE:**

- Discussed putting newsletter in a public section of the newsletter. There were more pros than con, so the decision made to move the newsletters to a public section of the newsletter.
- Jim explained that he has noticed some minor words missing from the text in the newsletter after it was published. He said that when he works on the newsletter, the words run together after spending a lot of time on it. He could use some help proofing it. Steve Savoie volunteered his wife Vicky to do the proofing. Mike said that even after the newsletter is posted to the Web it could be corrected and re-posted.
- Mike said that he is planning on working on putting in the DSC video/book library index/issue file in the Club DSC Web Site.
- Mike asked if the combat pictures in the last newsletters were doctored to show 2 planes going at it in combat. Jim said they were not. They were just screen shots from actual video. Because it was taken with the Club video camera, Jim was able to slow down and stop the video to the actual moment these planes were in. Then he could just capture the screen shot. Mike liked them so much he wants copies for use on the web site.
- Discussed saving the newsletters in smaller size lower resolution PDF file format. Michael Moore has a program that does this. If saved in medium resolution the text looks good but the pictures are a little fuzzy. For example the last newsletter had a picture of the back of Jim's T soaring shirt which had the letters CASL (for Central Arizona Soaring league). You could read it easily in the published version but it was unclear in the medium resolution format. Decision made to use the Medium resolution PDF file format if the newsletter size turns out to be over 2 Megs.

### **2003 SLOPE COMBAT EVENT AND RULES FOR PERPETUAL TROPHY:**

- In the last newsletter Rex Olmstead provided us with the first draft of the rules for 2003 Slope Combat contest event. People liked what he provided. We will continue to review them and post agreed to guidelines. Combat will be held after the Club meeting in January, February, March and April.
- Committee established to handle the individual areas of the contest. Committee is Mac McGlaughlin, Rex Olmstead, Mike Farnsworth, Jim Armstrong and Michael Moore.
  - Everyone that enters the event will get a prize for each entry fee. Committee will select and purchase prizes. Funds from the entry fee will be used for the prizes. If they go over budget funds from the Club kitty will be used.
  - Committee will establish final rules before conduct of the first event in January 2003.
  - Committee will establish judges, Contest director for each of the four Monthly events, and any other area that needs to be addressed.



**PRIZE COMMITTEE:** Recommendation made to establish a prize committee. Their task would be to establish a plan to request prizes from vendors. Their goal is to raise money to fund the purchase of prizes for Club events throughout the year. Committee was established. Prize Committee members are Glenn Collins, Ernie Lachance, and Jeff Carr.

### **2003 DSC OFFICER ELECTIONS:**

Discussed upcoming DSC Officer Elections. It appears current slate of Officers are interested in running again for 2003. No one else at the meeting was interested in running for any of the Officer positions. If no one else expresses an interest to run for a position, one ballot for current Officers will be cast at the November election.

### **CLASSIFIEDS:**

Several people have asked that we do something with the "Classified" section of the DSC Web site so people know if the item listed is still available. People at the meeting mentioned seeing the winch that was listed for months after it was sold. Jim recommended we add a date field or just add the date at the beginning of the text. We discussed automatically deleting items after 2 months, but this was voted down for now. Members are asked to update the date monthly if item is still for sale and to delete it from the listing as soon as it was sold.

### **F3J or not to F3J:**

Rick Hallett asked if he should continue with having a yearly F3J (Hand Tow) contest in October. There were pros and cons brought up. Most felt it was an institution as Rick has been doing it for about 10 years now. Rick said he will continue with this unique event.



### **PLANE RECOVERY:**

Steve brought up recovering slope planes from out of the top of large oak trees. He recommended the Club look into purchasing "Lineman's telescoping poles." Mike Farnsworth to talk to his neighbor, who works for CMP, about it. Ken MacDonald said that his friend Frank Rendee was into Free Flight Ignition and used a set of telescoping poles to recover

## **SHOW & TELL:**



- Jim Armstrong brought his laptop to the meeting and showed people the fabulous FREE flight simulator program by FMS. He will put copies of the free program on a CD since it is a large file.
- Ernie Lachance showed us 48" delta wing electric plane he built. He made it from 3/8" Fan Fold Foam and that is why he calls it the FFF. He uses a standard RC outfit and as such installed a mixer on the plane. It has a geared Speed 400 and swings a 9X5 folding prop. Powered by NiMH pack and weighs in at 21 ounces. It flew real nice after the meeting. He let several people fly it.

- Jeff Carr brought in an electric plane he bought on the Web.

**FLYING AFTER MEETING:**

- Special thanks to Glenn Collins and Jim for taking pictures and video that was used as the source of the flying pictures in this newsletter. Also special thanks to Michael Moore for pictures in past newsletters and the great pictures on the DSC Web site links.



- Michael Moore got a 10 minute DHLG flight and had to fly inverted to get it back/down.

**OCTOBER MEETING BACKGROUND:**

Prior to the October meeting, Jim sent out the following information on e-mail and snail mail: *“September minutes will be combined with the October minutes from the F3J contest. October meeting will be held around noon at the F3J contest in Minot. The meeting will be kept as short as possible. Therefore Show and Tells are asked to be brought to the November meeting instead.”*

**DSC Meeting 10/19/02 as recorded by VP Mike Farnsworth**

**TREASURES REPORT:**

None.

**SECRETARY’S REPORT:**

None.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**DYNAMIC SOARING SITE:**

Tabled.

**NEW THERMAL FLYING:**

Jeff got permission to use the field on the corner of RT. 9 and the Rabbit Rd. when it is cut. Jeff thinks that this field will be good for F3J.



## DSC WEB SITE:

Mike still has not done anything with it. The newsletter section will be made public.

## THE RICK HALLETT F3F SLOPE RACE:

Reviewed AMA rules for racing. Helmets are not required. Races are usually begun with a flying start. We can fly without signaling if the spotters write down the cuts for each heat. Most races are 5 laps or more. Members discussed the formats and possible classes for racers such as a one design or foamy war bird or zagi. It was decided that the classes should be formed based on what was brought by the competitors for the day. This would allow the greatest flexibility for the competition to accommodate the attendees and flying conditions. We could end up slope racing anything from HLG's to Unlimited racers.

## WHORFF TOPSHAM SANDPIT:

Jim to send insurance form to Mr. WHORFF so that correct information on sandpit is submitted.

## CLUB RETRIEVER:

Status combining the on/off switch and the Turbo switch on the retriever (Steve)

Tabled - Steve not present.

## SOARING VIDEOS AND CDS:

The videos were shown to the members present.

DSC 44	RCA Secrets of Thermal Soaring (VHS)	Mike Lattorre	10/02
DSC 45	RCA Secrets of Thermal Soaring (DVD)	Bob Buxton	10/02
DSC 46	RCA Pro AeroTow (VHS)	Mark Higgins	10/02
DSC 47	RCA Pro AeroTow (DVD)	Michael Moore	10/02

## CLUB TRAINERS/FLIGHT INSTRUCTION:

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- Prior to the meeting Jim informed Mike that he had purchased a new Club trainer radio as authorized by the Club at the last meeting. He purchased Lazer 4 Hitec Radio for Club trainer on Channel 60
- Laser 4 Features: Elevon Mixing, V-tail Mixing, ATVs (Adjustable Travel Volume), Servo Reversing and buddy box capability.
- Quick discussion held. Rick wanted to know about the purchase of a second for the buddy-box.

## 2003 OFFICER ELECTIONS 2003 DSC OFFICER ELECTIONS:

Discussed upcoming DSC Officer Elections at September meeting. It appears current slate of Officers are interested in running again for 2003. No one else at the meeting was interested in running for any of the Officer positions. If no one else expresses an interest to run for a position, one ballot for current Officers will be cast at the November election.

- October update: The current slate of officers was nominated for the November election.

## PLANE RECOVERY:

The topic of recovering slope planes from out of the top of large oak trees was brought up brought up at the last meeting. It was



recommended that the Club look into purchasing “Lineman’s telescoping poles.”

- Ken Mac Donald Ken talked to Frank Rendee and he knows of a guy who is selling a 80 foot telescoping pole for \$~300.
- Mike talked to a CMP line crew manager about obtaining a used pole. No luck. They use them until they are no longer usable for anything except generating splinters. New ones are about \$300.
- Members passed a motion to buy a new pole.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **COMBAT COMPETITION:**

Members voted to end the combat competition for the year. Mike will post the results on the forum. We all know who the winner will be since he has a commanding lead. All should genuflect in his presence! Next meeting we will decide on a trophy. Should it be another perpetual trophy? Or does he have too many already? Mike and Rex are working on a format for next year. Seems like the fox is in the hen house again.

### **MEETING/CONTEST SUMMARY:**

It was a very cold, damp, and windy meeting. The worst part was the stench. It seems that a few of the members, and mostly the one contest director, had stumbled into a "tar pit" of manure. The results were not pretty. At least the wind was blowing strong enough so people could try to stand up wind. We managed to get few pictures. The entire contest presentation ceremonially was captured on video. Of particular mention was the documentary of Rick posting and "normalizing" scores. Michael Moore had the best flight of the day, but ended up with a zero because he did not make the landing zone. (Jeff has a picture of the time on the stopwatch). Next years contest schedule will be discussed at the next meeting. Bring your ideas, dates, and contest directors (sans manure please).

*President’s comment: Thanks Mike for running the November meeting and providing the above minutes.*

## **PRESIDENT’S CORNER (JIM ARMSTRONG):**

### **WINCH IN A BOX PROGRESS:**

Rick Hallett gave me some Monofilament for the “**Winch in a box**” that Mac McGlaughlin built. I had to have the winch motor rebuilt, but it was worth it. Tried it out at the BAM field and it worked great. Everything fits in the box, even the battery. It put up my heavy scratch built Legend without a problem. Need to recharge the battery full and try it again. The battery may not be big enough for a more than one person but for me it worked just right.



**MEETINGS AT BOOKLAND:** Meetings at Bookland will start in November. Mark your calendar for the 2nd Saturday of the month from November to April.

**MAINE COMPOSITES MEETING:** The Meeting at Maine Composites was a lot of fun. Special Thanks to Steve Savoie for setting it up. He was a fantastic host and served great coffee.

**INDOOR FLYING:** For those that like to fly indoor, here is the schedule.

- **FLYING DATES: THE SMALL GYM IN BATH TUESDAYS;** FMI contact John Curtis 207-353-7261
  - Time: 9:00AM TO 3:00 PM
  - 10/01/02, 11/05/02, 12/03/02, 01/07/03, 02/04/03, 03/04/03, 04/01/03

**OTHER PLACES TO FLY:**

Woolwich: 11/13-- Canceled due to conflict. Dave Longstreet is rescheduling. Paul Flons Wright flyer flew well.

Lewiston: 11/22- Multi-Purpose Center 7 PM to 10 ish PM. This is a great place to fly. 25' Ceiling below the girders and the gym is squarer. Cafeteria is available when you arrive.

**FUND RAISER "MEMBER ONLY RAFFLE:** Jim Tyrie donated a Dwight Holley's "Gobbler" multi-task Sailplane. It has split ailerons with separate flaps. Wing ballast tubes are incorporated into the design. Specifications: Wing span -112; Wing area – 983 sq. in.; length -55 in. At a future meeting members will decide what price to set for it.



**VIRTUAL SHOW AND TELL FOR NEWS LETTER: PVC SAIL PLANE STAND.**

Michael Moore sent this to me for the newsletter. Thanks Michael.

- I can run the flaps if I push it back.
- Functionally, keeps it off the dirt and the dogs from stepping on it :)
- Also going to be very useful when I am taking on or off the tips !
- Top portion swings over the wing or nose. A 5' section 1/2" PVC pipe, insulation and various T's, L's and caps. About \$5-\$8 worth of material.



**GLIDER NIGHT (EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT):**

After the change of the Clock in October we started meeting at Ken Mac Donald's house on every Wednesday evening (4 till 8 pm). On the 30<sup>th</sup> Ken, Jim, Dick, Tim and Frank Bennett attended. Jim, Ken, Tim and Dick flew in Ken's dooryard prior sunset. We fly, build and socialize a lot. Come join the fun. At the next meeting we will discuss completing the current RES MAXX building project and starting to make a mold.

**DSC CLUB BYLAWS:**

We need to send AMA a copy of the Club bylaws to re-new in 2003. Now is the time to get them out, dust them off, revise and publish in the member section of the DSC web site.

**Happy Flying,  
Jim**

## DownEast Soaring Club Upcoming Events

Event	Date	Time	Location
Clip and save			
DSC Club Business Meeting	Saturday, 11/9/2002	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Corner, Brunswick * See Note 1
DSC Club Business Meeting	Saturday, 12/14/2002	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Corner, Brunswick * See Note 1
DSC Club Business Meeting	Saturday, 1/11/2003	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Corner, Brunswick * See Note 1
DSC Club Business Meeting	Saturday, 2/8/2003	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Corner, Brunswick, ME * See Note # 1
DSC Club Business Meeting	Saturday, 3/8/2003	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Corner, Brunswick, ME * See Note # 1
DSC Club Business Meeting	Saturday, 4/12/2003	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Corner, Brunswick, ME * See Note # 1
May MTG / No Host Slope Soaring Pizza Festival	Sunday, 5/4/2003	Business meeting 11 AM till Noon, Flying before/after meeting.	Clark's Cove, Harpswell, ME ; Low tide 10:59

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.
2. For all events held at Clark's Cove: Pizza and Subs can be purchased at the Morse convenience store on RT 123, 1 mile past Allen Point Road (1 mile from Clark's Cove)
3. 'NO HOST' means no one is in charge of the get together. Everyone is on their own. A 'NO HOST' scheduled on a non meeting day may have no one show up. The biggest reasons for not attending are wind not predicted for S/SW or other plans.



c/ o President / Newsletter Editor  
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