

September, 2003

TOPCAP

The Newsletter of the ORCC

**This Month's Meeting: Tuesday Sep, 2nd .. Features:
Videos of the summer fun, Electronic ignition, Vacuum bagging**

Your President's Message

I hope that everyone had a relaxing summer with friends and family and that you were able to get some flying in even though the weather didn't seem to be totally cooperative! Didn't it seem like the weather was nicer during the week than on week-ends? I hate that! In my case, I managed to fly fairly often and I very much enjoyed the camaraderie I experienced at the field...and I think that I was able to further improve my flying skills just a little bit more.

ORCC Summer Events

There were a number of events held at our various fields over the past few months including the Float Fly, 2-Day Thermal Duration Contest and Dynamic Hobbies SMALL event. Thank you to everyone involved in organizing these events. If you weren't able to attend, they will be covered in this and coming issues of TopCap.

Volunteers Needed

A lot of work goes into running a big and diverse club like the ORCC. The ORCC is enthusiastic about new volunteers stepping forward to help out. **IMPORTANT:** You definitely **DO NOT** need to be a seasoned RC'er or long standing club member to get involved. In my case, I have only been in the club for 4 and a half years and I've spent the last 3 years on the Executive. It is your interest, enthusiasm, fresh ideas, and willingness to help out that we need...that's all! Many hands make the work easier. Please contact me or any other member of the Executive if you are willing to get involved. Here are just a few of the ways in which to can contribute to our club: helping out to organize and run events, fall field clean up, and the club Executive, to name a few.

Fall Agenda

Overall, I think that the club is chugging along quite well. Please let any of us on the Executive know if you think otherwise. Of course, there are always things to do and things that we *could* do. For instance, our tireless Coordinator of Memberships, Aurele Alain, is busy dreaming up new and more efficient ways of conducting the registration process. Watch this space.

In addition, the new website is up and running. I hope you like it and find it useful. Work is on-going to further expand and improve its capabilities. We are open to your suggestions for refining and improving the site. Send in your digital pics and video from this year's flying to be added to the site.

The Executive has a few surprises up its sleeve(s) this fall. I don't want to spill the beans yet...but I think you'll be pleasantly surprised. Watch this space.

Fall FunFly

Our annual Fall FunFly is scheduled for Saturday, October 4, 2003 at the West-end field (no rain date). This, end-of-season event (even though we never really shut down, do we Shah-ram?) is a great opportunity to show up with a couple of models, do some flying, have lunch and hang out with the gang, and maybe even win a prize. We encourage all shapes and sizes of models at this event...so let's try to make it as diverse as possible. How about seeing more helis, sailplanes, and electrics this time 'round? I'd also encourage new members to the club and all pilots who have earned their wings over the summer to participate.

Departure: Todd Murray, Executive Secretary

Regrettably, Todd Murray, our club Secretary, will be leaving the ORCC and returning to Sault Ste. Marie at the end of the summer. Although Todd joined the club and learned to fly only recently, he has been a great support to me and the rest of the Executive since stepping forward to take the position in February. His major contribution was taking on the re-development of the club's website. Although Todd is only starting to become a "builder," he has developed a niche area: working with composite materials to build and fly FAST planes. After learning to fly (during the winter, mind you!) several years ago on a SPAD Debonair, Todd's flying abilities accelerated quickly as did the speed of his models. Todd now flies some very advanced models with high performance piped engines that make a heck of a lot of noise! Some of the models in Todd's hangar are capable of speeds in excess of 150mph! Thank you Todd for all of your help and your friendship. I truly hope that we'll see you back again at the ORCC down the road. Happy flying in the Sault.

That's pretty much it for me at this point. We'll have lots more to share with you over the coming months.

As always, I heartily encourage club members to contact me directly with any questions or concerns that they may have. My e-mail address is weekesj@rogers.com. My home phone number is 727-0066 or you can call me on my cell at 797-1988.

Hope to see you at the September meeting. Bring a model for show and tell and maybe win a prize. As well, we'll be drawing for gift certificates! But remember: *You must be a registered ORCC member and present at the meeting to win.*

John

Dynamic Hobbies SMALL Event ... July 26. 2003

By John Weekes

As many of you already know, this year's annual SMALL (Small Model Airplane Lovers League) event normally put on by the ORCC's Mosquito Squadron was fortunate enough to receive major sponsorship from Dynamic Hobbies so the decision was made to change the name to reflect Dynamic's significant contribution. This was the fifth year for the event in the Ottawa area and the fourth year at the ORCC West-end field.

It was a big success. There were 23 registered pilots, many more RC pilots who showed up to watch, chat, and have lunch (32 for lunch), and many members of the public (including LOTS of kids) who stopped by to take in the fun.

The skies were mainly overcast for the day, temps were decent, and rain held off until after all of the prizes were awarded in the afternoon. Glow-powered models continue to dominate the event, however, the fewer number of electric power models may have been due to the strong crosswind (20 kph+) that blew all day.

The flying was non-stop except when lunch was served and for 2 rounds of RC Combat demonstrations. I was beaten badly by combat veterans Todd Murray and Shahram Ghorashi although my SPAD Derelict survived the sorties! Silly me...I should have noticed all of the "kill" markings on their models before I went up against them!

Thanks to Dynamic Hobbies we had some really great prizes this year. Every pilot who registered with a SMALL or electric model got a ticket for the draw. The Grand Prize was a 6-channel Futaba EXA radio that was won by Robert Zinck and was awarded by none other than Richard Barlow, the Ottawa Valley Zone Director (Zone G). Richard and his wife travelled up for the day on their motorcycle for a surprise appearance.

Other major prizes included an MDS .28BB engine that was won by Louis Rocque, a battery cycler, and a power panel. I look forward to seeing what kind of model Louis dreams up for this little engine...rest assured it'll be a beauty!

A number of plaques from Dynamic Hobbies were awarded in the following categories;

Technical Achievement	Louis Rocque	DC-3 (twin electric)
Smallest Model	Jack Cuss	IFO (electric)
Pilots' Choice	Mark Winstanley	DH Moth (electric)

On behalf of the ORCC, I would like to thank Fred Zufelt and the rest of the gang at Dynamic Hobbies for their tireless help organizing the event and for their generosity in donating the prizes. Together, we really tried to make this *the* event of the summer. Their support helped us to make this year's SMALL event a success.

I'd also like to thank the rest of the organizing committee, namely, Tom Ross (TopCap Editor) and Shahram Ghorashi (CFI-Powered and Chair, Winter FunFly) for their help preparing for the event and to our resident chefs Shahram and Todd Murray (Secretary) for preparing a great lunch of BBQ Chicken, Sausage, and salads. >>

Thanks also to Karel Tettelaar (Manager, West-end field), Brent Norman (Instructor), and various other "ghost" lawn cutters who helped make the field look its best!

Finally, I'd like to extend a special thanks to Deborah Park (Ken Park's better half!) for her support and help with organizing, registration, and the transmitter impound. Deborah is an enthusiastic supporter of the SMALL event and was presented by Dynamic Hobbies with an appreciation award in recognition of all of her efforts. Thank you, Deborah!

Also, this year's event was dedicated to Ken Park who is a communications specialist currently serving with the Canadian Armed Forces in the Persian Gulf and was unable to attend. Ken helped originate the SMALL event both in Canada and at the ORCC. We'll be looking for his leadership in organizing an even bigger and better event for 2004 -- the 5th Anniversary for SMALL at the ORCC.

Plan to attend the 2004 Dynamic Hobbies SMALL event, planned for July, 2004. Come and join in the fun and help make next year's event even BIGGER and BETTER than this year!

John Weekes

West End Field ... By Karel Tettelaar

Thanks to the help of several of our members the Field has been looking pretty good and in good shape this Summer. Brent Norman did an outstanding job of sanding and painting the garage doors which really made the building look much better. Shahram, in addition to his CFI responsibilities, has been keeping the fridge well stocked and recently replaced the burner in the Bar-B-Q. We also have some "phantom" grass cutters who have kept the fast growing grass in check; both for looks and ease of taxiing for those of us who occasionally find the runway too narrow. I do not know who all the grass cutters are but did catch Al Denton doing a three hour stretch on the mower the other day. A special thanks goes to all the Club members who have helped keep the area neat by not leaving garbage laying around and who have Recycled in the blue bin and put their garbage in the other bin. It makes my life much easier!

There are a few repairs needed to the facilities at the Field and we have discussed them with the City staff at the Landfill (Trail Road Waste Facility - TWF). Namely the gate is in need of replacement, the locking gate post needs to be replaced and the wood in the garage door is severely rotted in several places. Unfortunately, the TWF has had it's budget significantly reduced so that we cannot expect any repairs soon. The condition of the gate is the major concern at the moment and we can help keep it from getting any worse by lifting it at the end when swinging it open and closed so that it does not drag on the ground. I am looking into an interim solution until a new gate can be installed.

Just a gentle reminder that we have several setup tables for setting up and working on our aircraft. Please use these and leave the picnic tables for their intended purpose. They are not very appealing when they are covered with spilt fuel and oil .

Scale Sailplane Summer

By Gudmund Thompson

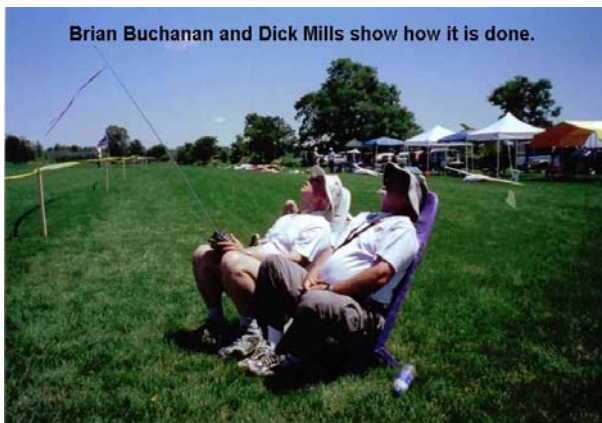
After a slow start, the summer of 2003 has proven to be very enjoyable for the scale sailplane fliers of the ORCC. The slow start was due to the fact that the first few events that we normally attend in southern Ontario were plagued by really crappy weather and a number of personal inconveniences conspired to keep us from attending the big JR-sponsored aero-tow in Illinois. During that period, however, we were able to use the local facilities to hone our skills and test new planes. As an example, Ben Tolley's test flight on his Westwind was 46 minutes long.

My Fox saw its maiden flight at the Arnprior IMAA event in May. The participants at this event almost universally drove to the field in the rain, but the day turned out quite nice with some very good flying taking place till about two o'clock in the afternoon – when a big rain cloud convinced us to pack up and leave.

The Fox's proving flights really took place during the Can-Am Aero-Tow at Wainfleet in July. The fact that there were lots of tugs available allowed me, during the two days of this event, to put twenty flights on the model. One of these was fifteen minutes in length, as I was able to work a ridge of gusty wind for a good period of time. The most impressive flight of this event, however, saw Dick Mills, with some help from his friends, managing to keep in his ASK 21 in the air for 57 minutes. There were also two really big models at this event, a six-meter Nimbus and an equally large DG 1000.

The next event was the Oakville Aero-Tow in August and the Ottawa contingent, again, made a very strong showing. I actually thought I was going to win the duration contest when I clocked a 44-minute flight with the Fox. For some reason the thermal duration sailplanes that were in the air at the same were unable to find the great bits of air that I was finding. Some wags actually suggested that I was flying the Fox all wrong!!! In the end, however, Brian Buchanan, with his ASH 26, settled in to his flying chair and completed a fabulous 1 hour, 25 minute flight, easily securing the longest flight trophy.

We are now turning our attention to the Arnprior Aero-Tow event on 6 and 7 September. If you are interested in seeing some pretty sophisticated models, both sailplanes and tugs, come out to the Arnprior field and say hello.



BIG BIRDS.....the summer of 2003

A great summer for Giant Scale fans and it's not over yet. It started on the last day in May at the Arnprior R/C field. This was the "Not so Quiet on the Western Front" event. Despite the forecast for rain etc a dozen met for the breakfast at the Antrim truck stop before heading out to the field. Well the sun came out and before long there were 27 giant flyers out at the field. This was a sort of 'warm-up' event and wasn't a sanctioned IMAA affair in order to allow many to fly their big aircraft for the first 6 flights as required before a sanctioned event. Flyers from all of the area clubs were represented. Gudmund flew his new elegant glider and some of the Stetson gang had new big scale aerobatic machines. Also there were 3 Einduckers flying in loose formation, dropping bombs and making sorry attempts to pop a balloon. By 2:30 the clouds and wind started to hurt a bit so things were wound up and draws for the golf shirts concluded the event. A free lunch of chili and hot dogs helped make the day a relaxed and fun event.

In June two of us attended the Rally of Giants at Castle Air Force base just a few hours south of San Francisco. Dave Penchuk and I flew via Air Canada along with our shipped Me 163 Komet. There were a few funny stories and lessons learned regarding the model shipment by air. But look for a write-up in a future MAAC Mag for details. Dave and I took turns flying the unique model which made a hit and was featured in the event video. The highlight was the daily fly-by very low and fast of a full scale P51 "The Grim Reaper" Daves photo of this fantastic fly-by is scheduled to appear on the cover of High Flight. So look out for it. We got a chance to talk with the pilot and his crew and many shots during a walk around as he brought it up on static display for all of us to see close at hand.

July was the always well run event at Barrie courtesy of Tom Russell and Chapter 617. There were 75 pilots attending and keeping the flight line continuously busy. Absolutely fantastic prizes and besides being free for IMAA members, there was a draw for a Unionville giant Otter kit plus a new 26cc Zenoah engine. Ivan Kristenson put on a precision display flying Mike Clements big 50% Extra. Very impressive. Also there were a lot of items on sale by vendors and swappers. If you haven't been to this event you are really missing something. It represents everything that's good about Giant Scale and the IMAA. The Ottawa attendance is always strong.

Just last weekend was the Kingston Chapt 217 event. After the power blackout and poor weather forecast we were having doubts about people attending. However there were 33 pilots signed up and the weather was clear and hot and there never was a power line at the KRCC field anyway. The Saturday night barbeque beef dinner was, as usual, one of the feature attractions. A Dynaflight kit was drawn and donated prizes awarded by lottery. Once again the IMAA members got free admission and a few other items as well.

And there's more to come folks.....It ain't over yet! The Stetson Big Bird Fun Fly is 13 Sept with the Pig Roast dinner. If you want to see what giant scale is all about then be there!! They have a great field that has improved every year and feature a great new shelter this year. Another good location for giant birds.

Brian Wattie

Memberships ... by Aurele Alain

Things have slowed down dramatically through the summer months. During the spring, it was not unusual to receive one or two membership forms by mail per day. During the July and August, I only processed 3 or 4 memberships.

There will be some changes to the membership process for 2004. Firstly, I noticed that MAAC has announced an increase in dues in the last MAC Mag. Also, the ORCC will be offering 3 year memberships with a \$5 per year discount from the regular 1 year membership. I'll be working out all the details with the executive in the upcoming months. More information to follow.

I am investigating the possibility of sending membership forms to all members via e-mail. The membership form would be "pre-printed" with your personal information (i.e. name, address, date of birth, etc). If you have any concerns about this information being sent over the Internet, please advise and I will remove you from this distribution method.

The membership forms will be sent as an attachment in MS Word format by default. Other formats may be also possible but may require experimentation. I conducted a test of my computer's automated merge and e-mailing capabilities with the executive and it was successful provided the recipient had MS Word.

There are a number of members in the club that do not have their MAAC number and/or date of birth on file. If you fall into this category, I will be sending you an e-mail sometime in September to get this updated.

Membership ... as of August 16th, 2003

Junior	Open	Senior	Life	NonFlyer	Total
14	101	33	9	1	158

Float Flying ... By Aurele Alain

The annual Doug Pinhey Float fly was held on Saturday, August 14, 2003. We were privileged to have guests attend from Montreal and New York state as well as some of the usual gang of float flyers. The ORCC web site has a few pictures of some of the planes on hand. Unfortunately, attendance was a little lower than usual due to the threatening weather but we only received a light sprinkle at most.

One of the most interesting airplanes at the float fly was Louis Rocque's decathlon with an on-board TV camera and transmitter. He could get a good picture quality with the TV antenna held up and outside his van. The TV transmitter that he used does not require a licence however that also limits the power and range of the signal. Regardless, this was a really neat experiment.

Thermal Thoughts ... by Dick Mills

I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer and flying so far, the weather has been kind of hit & miss at times. The glider field has been quite active this season with Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings being the busiest days.

The 2-day contest this year was well attended and the weather was nice, warm and sunny on both days. We had a nice surprise on Sunday when Joe Bedford showed up with his Bird of Time and showed us that he hasn't lost any of the skills required to be a top notch flyer.

I would like to thank all the sponsors who donated to this event, especially Discount Hobbies, Dynamic Hobbies & Multi Hobby. These local hobby shops do a lot to support our hobby and we in turn should do everything we can to support them. The results of the contest were as follows –

DAY 1

Expert		Sportsman
Eric Dainty	1 st	Ben Tolley
Dick Mills	2 nd	Vince Hendricks
Gudmund Thompson	3 rd	Graham Collins

DAY 2

Brian Buchanan	1 st	Ben Tolley
Dick Mills	2 nd	Dave Martin
Joe Bedford	3 rd	Graham Collins

Overall Champions

Brian Buchanan	Ben Tolley
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I would like to take this opportunity to let everyone know that Brian Buchanan has agreed to take over as sailplane chairman. I would also like to thank everyone for their advice and support over the past five years, it has been fun.

Big Bird Event

Saturday & Sunday 13-14 Sep
Stetson Field, Ottawa, Ont.

Excellent giant field
Saturday night pig roast
Free camping on site
Contact: **Gerry Nadon**

Don't forget the

Fall Fun Fly

Saturday, October 4th,
ORCC West End Field

It's the last official event of the season. So let's all make the most of it!

Note:

Nearly 80% of our members are reading the TopCap on the ORCC website, so we have adjusted the format to be more web and reader friendly.

This also saves the club a significant amount of money on an annual basis.

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Past President	Jean Populus	591-9738
TopCap Editor	Tom Ross	733-9470
Gliders	Brian Buchanan	824-3723
Scale Sailplane	Gudmund Thompson	837-0648
Helicopter	Len Gaultois	746-8526
Giant Scale/Scale		
SMALL / Air Combat	Ken Park	823-1933
Float	Aurele Alain	738-8797
Electric	Paul Penna	731-5627
Yachting & Indoor	Jim Zufelt	733-1210
Chief Flying Instructor, Power	Shahram Ghorashi	726-8709
3D Flying	John Weekes	727-0066
Winter Flying	Shahram Ghorashi	726-8709
West End Field Manager	Karel Tettelaar	226-5023
Mall Displays		
Webmaster	Andrew E. Mileski	565-1827
MAAC Zone Director	Richard Lyle Barlow	613/348-1696

ORCC Website : <http://www.ottawarcclub.ca>

October Meeting: Tuesday October 7th, 2003

ORCC Club Meetings The first Tuesday of each month
Date & Time: from September to June at 8:00 PM.
Location: McNabb Community Centre
180 Percy (at Gladstone), Ottawa

Submissions for the TopCap Newsletter can be sent to:
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Closing Date for the October TopCap: Friday Sep. 19th, 2003