



THE WEAK SIGNAL

April, 2010

Toledo Weak Signals Radio Control Club, Inc.
TOLEDO, OHIO CHARTER NO. 521

President

Tim Jesky
734.384.6085

TimJesky@Charter.net

Vice President:

Phil Smith
(734) 429-4707

jphilipsmith@verizon.net

Recording Secretary:

Mike Bayes
(734) 847-7698

mjbayes@bex.net

Treasurer:

Dave Whitaker
734.850.8652

DWhitaker@bex.net

Membership:

Steve Guerrero
734-847-0020

SteveG3615@bex.net

Trustees:

Ron Kuyoth
419-292-1931

ronkuyoth@yahoo.com

Ron Webb

(419) 475-7059

rdwebb@earthlink.net

Newsletter:

Bob Kane
734-281-8514

rkane@wyan.org

Brian Harris

419-684-1522

Bclharris@bex.net

Newsletter Submissions:

toledoweaksignals@yahoo.com

Website:

www.toledoweaksignals.com

www.toledoshow.com

Club Field:

734 856 6865

Weather Vox 734 854 1055

From The President

Fasten your seatbelts! The flying season is right around the corner. We've been blessed with some beautiful and warm spring days, I hope you got the chance to get out to the field and fly some of the dust off your aircraft. Speaking of the field, you will notice when you get out there some improvements have been made. The old dilapidated porta-johns have been carted off and replaced with a new large model that is handicap accessible and has a hand sanitation station on board. The entrance drive and road has also been graded and additional gravel has been put down. You might also take note that the large dead airplane eating tree at the east end of the woods has blown down; Jerry Sorosiak swears he had nothing to do with it. Next up will be the seeding of the pond and in front of the pilot shelter. A huge thanks goes out to Tim Kuyoth and Dave Howard for making it happen. Please remember that no flying is allowed while this work is being performed.

As of this writing, the 2010 Expo is in the books. Attendance appeared to be very good and in talking to the exhibitors they were very happy with sales. As usual the club will be briefed as figures become available.

The field opener work party was held on April 18th at noon.

THANK YOU to all who attended!

Just a quick reminder, meetings will be held at the field beginning in May. Start time changes to 8 pm. Our May activity meeting will feature a presentation by Dr. Keith Shaw. Keith is one of the pioneers of electric flight and always has an interesting message. Till next month.

Take a Kid flying,

Tim



THE WEAK SIGNAL 2010 CONTESTS

The start of the 2010 contest season is not far off and rumor has it that we will be back to having funds to support the program and encourage as many as we can to participate. The decision to involve our newer members in organization seems to have gone down well. I know from my own experience that diving in at the deep end is a sure way of getting to know your fellow members very quickly and I hope the more seasoned members provide as much support as is needed to pass on tips and tricks to help the new guys.

I expect the fight for Club Champion will gain intensity this year, Dick Peebles Club Champ for the last two competitive seasons may find Dave Myers a real threat with his previous Champion wins.

As always we will be needing helpers throughout the calendar so please call me 419-262-2468, or the particular CD and volunteer , don't let the new members down – there is cash at stake!!

Phil Toyne

Contest CD's

Please send in your Newsletter Article to notify the club members that there will be a contest on your date. Also please send in a post contest report so our members can read about what they missed!



THE WEAK SIGNAL 2010 CONTESTS

Weak Signals 2010 Contest and Field Event Calendar

| Date | Event | Apprentice CD | Mentor CD |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| May | | | |
| 8 th | All wood Sailplane | Not part of contest calendar | |
| 16 th | Heli Fun Fly | Joe Arnold | Rick Lederman |
| 23 rd | Fun Fly | John Tripp | Louis Beringer |
| 29 th | All wood Sailplane | Not part of contest calendar | |
| June | | | |
| 5 th /6 th | Open Sailplane | Not part of contest calendar | |
| 13 th | Old Timer | Bob Anderson | Bob Epelding |
| 27 th | Sailplane | Todd Cruickshank | Mike Bayes |
| July | | | |
| 11 th | Old Timer | Robby Duzak | Tim Wolfe |
| 18 th | Pylon | Clifford Gordon | Kevin Matney |
| 25 th | Sailplane | James Hogg | Rick Lederman |
| August | | | |
| 1 st | Old Timer | Randy Peebles | Gene Navoy |
| 7 th /8 th | Open Pattern | Not part of contest calendar | |
| 11 th /12 th | Open Old Timer | Not part of contest calendar | |
| 15 th | Fun Fly | Ron Muir | Brian Harris |
| 22 nd | Pylon | Bruce Sobry | Paul Trestan |
| 29 th | Sailplane | John Worden | Tom Como |
| September | | | |
| 12 th | Fun Fly | Tim Hawley | Brian Harris |
| 18 th | All wood Sailplane | CD Phil Smith | |

- Prizes for every Official Club Contest:

1st \$40 2nd \$35 3rd \$30 4th \$25 5th and down \$20

- Workers :

Mentor CD \$30
Apprentice CD \$20
Workers \$20

- Any queries call Phil Toyne 419-262-2468



Sailplane League Schedule 2010

SAILPLANE LEAGUE SIGN-UP

Never flown a sailplane? Don't think you can be there every Monday? Doesn't matter! The Weak Signals Sailplane League wants you to sign up for this summer's fun. We are setting up the roster for the Monday night sailplane league and would like to have you sign up even if you can only get out to one night of flying. As you can see from the picture we run a fairly loose league where learning and having fun are more important than scoring. We get together every Monday night from 6pm to about 7:30 flying sailplanes. All prospective, regular, life or associate members of Weak signals are invited to join. You don't need to be an accomplished flyer, or even know how to fly as we will make sure that you are hooked up with someone who will show you everything you need to know. This is a GREAT opportunity to get to know your fellow members, have fun and learn about model soaring. League will run from May 31st until August 30th, subject to change. Please contact me, Brian Harris or Jim Skolmowski. Waiting to hear from you!

TOLEDO WEAK SIGNALS SAILPLANE LEAGUE 2010 SCHEDULE

| 31-May | 7-Jun | 14-Jun | 21-Jun | 28-Jun | 5-Jul | 12-Jul |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1 v 4 | 1 v 2 | 1 v 3 | 1 v 5 | 1 v 6 | 1 v 4 | 1 v 2 |
| 2 v 5 | 3 v 4 | 2 v 6 | 4 v 6 | 2 v 4 | 2 v 5 | 3 v 4 |
| 3 v 6 | 5 v 6 | 4 v 5 | 2 v 3 | 3 v 5 | 3 v 6 | 5 v 6 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 |

| 19-Jul | 26-Jul | 2-Aug | 9-Aug | 16-Aug | 23-Aug |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| 1 v 3 | 1 v 5 | 1 v 6 | 1 v 4 | 1 v 2 | Open |
| 2 v 6 | 4 v 6 | 2 v 4 | 2 v 5 | 3 v 4 | Or |
| 4 v 5 | 2 v 3 | 3 v 5 | 3 v 6 | 5 v 6 | Makeup |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | All |



The Weak Signal Stuff

Last month's was an Easy one
DC-3
Can you name this plane?



TOLEDO a geek's guide

This article was taken from RC Soaring Digest May 2010 issue.

*About a month ago the people in the MP&K and M*2K Yahoo Groups started a thread about meeting at Toledo for the Show. It sounded like fun so I made arrangements to attend. My son Jeff, who was 15 years old when we last went to the Show, met me there. The new Seagate venue is smaller but easier to navigate and the parking is a whole lot easier.*

The Yahoo Groups thread had mentioned that Dan Thompson, W^oB₄G UK, would have some transmitters and software at the Saturday morning meeting. I was interested in listening to his discussion since I'd bought an upgrade chip for an Ace MicroPro transmitter from him. He certainly didn't disappoint! He used a remarkably small laptop computer to interface with the transmitter. The interface itself was an interesting piece of programming with adapters for both serial and USB computer connectors. The program he used would display much the same information as available on the LCD display on the transmitter but in an easy reading format. In addition, he had a display of the stick initialization procedure that let the user check for dirty sticks or mechanical flaws by watching the laptop screen and moving the sticks. Obviously such parameters as endpoint adjustments and expo setups were much easier to adjust using the laptop.

Ken Morgan had a red Ace transmitter there with the MicroPro encoder conversion that was very well done. The neatness of the wiring and switch installation were a work of art.

Wayne Craig had a machined single stick assembly that was really excellent. He is using a couple of types of pots that were very small and would fit up into the z-axis stick.

Carl Luft was also there to share in the fun. Carl and I talked about the slope site at Cumberland Maryland. There was a Spring 2010 event there which had good air but wasn't well advertised.

Dan had quite a group gathered around his chair as he explained the various features of the transmitter and interface. The net effect was to show us the capabilities of the chip and program that many of us had not explored.

Later, as I talked with several of the radio manufacturers at their booths it was apparent that Dan and his equipment are light years ahead of them from the programming standpoint.

*Since many of the MP&K and M*2K Groups are converting their transmitters to 2.4 GHz, the advanced features of these old radios make them exceptionally competitive today and in the future.*

I had mentioned earlier about talking to the radio manufacturers. It was a good chance to get up close to the equipment rather than looking at magazine pictures. The stuff is truly amazing for its small size and innovative design.

I was especially impressed by the Spektrum SPMAS2000L linear servo used in ultra small electric planes. This is paired up with the AR6400/ARL400L receiver to make a control unit that fits on the end of your thumb. A small electric called a Night Vaper with this control system was flown out over the crowd for over 5 minutes that also had on board lights. The young pilot caught the ship in mid air effortlessly since there was no place to land.

I remember that they used to fly RC blimps around the Show at the old arena and I thought that was neat at the time. This micro-small stuff raises that to a whole new level.

I stepped to talk to Barry Kennedy but he was mobbed with people. His offerings were breathtaking in fit and finish and the prices also took your breath away! There is no doubt that the molded ships are getting stronger and lighter while the fuselages continue to get smaller. I also admired their various colors which add some variety to the flight line of models. Most all of these ships were in the 3+ meter span range with nothing smaller that I saw. For those of us who like the 2-meter and 100 inch span stuff there was only some electric sailplanes in these sizes.

The display competition for models had some beautiful Fragis and Icons with some wood ships in there, too. There was a very nice Sagitta 900 and a Mirage that was beautifully built. It would be very hard to pick a winner out of this group since they all were the peak of their craft.

Many of the aircraft on display and at the booths were made from laser cut parts. This method of parts construction makes for some lovely structures.

There was a vendor that was cutting foam with a CNC cutter right in his booth. I didn't note his name and wish I had. The material he was turning out was very intricate and would make the structure of the tails of sailplanes a work of art.

Over in one corner of the Show was a fellow and a bunch of laptop computers. This was the booth for Full Size Plans, the "magazine" for full size printed model plans. Hanging above the tables was a ship that looked similar to a Bird of Time. The ship looked like it was covered with silk and doped with a clear plastic canopy. Again, the booth was very crowded so I didn't get to inquire about the model. The Full Size Plans "magazine" is bi-monthly at \$36 per year.

Many of us remember the old Thermic Sniffer from the dawn of R/C soaring. A new version of this thermal indicator was offered at the Show by Winged Shadow Systems of Streamwood, Illinois. This is the Thermal Scout. It is a small circuit board that connects between the receiver and rudder servo and wags the rudder when the model encounters lift. It is small enough to fit into a DLG glider or anything larger. It can be disabled from a separate channel on the transmitter for launch and landing and is powered from the flight pack. There is no radio link to the ground so current drain is very small.

Jeff and I really enjoyed our visit to Toledo and the chance to chat with everyone. It was also a terrific learning experience with exposure to the latest technology and equipment. Please check the contact list of e-mail addresses and web sites for more information on the vendors I've mentioned.



IMPORTANT DATES

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| May 8th | All Wood Sailplane event CD Phil Smith |
| May 13th | Meeting 8pm Club Field |
| May 16th | Heli Funfly Club Contest Joe Arnold CD |
| May 27th | Meeting 8pm Club Field |
| May 29th | All Wood Sailplane event CD Phil Smith |
| June 5/6th | OPEN Sailplane Contest CD Scott Harder |
| June 10th | Meeting 8pm Club Field |
| June 13th | Old Timer Club Contest |
| June 24th | Meeting 8pm Club Field |
| June 27th | Sailplane Club Contest |

Brian Harris
5811 W. Bogart Rd.
Castalia Ohio 44824