

Pilot Briefing

December 2012

Volume 4 Issue XI



Upcoming Events– November

3rd_Regular Meeting PUMC 7 PM

17th– Board Meeting PUMC 7 PM

30th– Holiday Dinner– See page 5 for details....

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Warren Batson

Vice President:
John Philbrick

Secretary:
Flavio Ambrosini

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Membership:
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Field Director-Wallkill
Rick Rizza

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News Editor
Ron Revelle

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Bob Allen

President's Corner

Hi members,

The 2013 budget will be presented and discussed with the membership at the December meeting. This is a good opportunity for members to get a first hand understanding of what makes up the MHRCS budget. As in the past few years the budget does not have much fluff in it. However, due to the large participation and many nice comments, the 2013 budget still contains funds for the activities that members have enjoyed the last few years. I hope you can take the time to attend the meeting and understand how your dues are being spent.

The holiday party held at the Church meeting place will be Nov 30th at about 6:30pm. I understand we have about 20 people signed up at the last count. A good meal is planned and lots of time to visit with friends. Hope you plan on attending.

Anyone that has visited the Aerodrome the last few years can attest to how Mother nature has been harsh on the “old” Aerodrome . I use the work “old” because the Aerodrome is about 60+ years old now. I am still amazed that many of the original buildings are still standing. Many have been repaired more than once as you might guess. At a recent work party we had our lunch under one of the old hangers and many MHRCS members were discussing the construction techniques used on these old buildings. While they may not pass any now code books they have stood the test of time very well. The weather is closing in for the winter so I am not sure if we will get many more work parties in this year. Will see what happens. If you are interested in helping come on out, we always have fun.

Events

Frost Fly

There will be a frost fly planned for **Sat Jan 5th** or **Jan 12th**. It is too hard to predict what the weather will be at this time, so watch your emails for more information.

Building Seminar

The building seminar is set for **Jan 19** with a snow day of **Jan 26th**.

Building season

I have heard a lot of chatter about peoples latest winter projects. Some of them are very interesting. I would like to encourage you to bring some of these great projects to the MHRCS meetings. It is always nice to see what other people's building techniques and their like in aircraft. These projects always start some good Q&A sessions and we all learn something. So bring out those projects. It does not have to be finished to bring to the meetings for everyone to enjoy.

See you at the meeting.

Warren Batson
President

Building Season is Upon Us– by Ron Revelle

As we approach the 2012 Holiday Season, we are getting seriously into the second RC season as Bob Noll's lovely wife Lanny used to call it. If you are getting underway with a project, grab a camera and take a few photos of the progress you are making. Send them to me with a few notes on the project. There is less going on at the fields this time of year with Walkkill closed for the season. Some of us have managed to get a few flights in during October and also in November. But there will be plenty of space in the newsletter to cover your project.

In my own shop, my second Nieuport 17 is well underway. As most of you know, my first Balsa USA Nieuport bought the farm. It was a really nice flying plane and I have some great video of it in the air which was shot by Scott Stauffer of SKS Video Productions. While I was in the pit area with my plane at WOD Scott came by and asked if it was a new plane and asked me to let him know when I planned to fly it. As I approached the line to fly, Scott showed up with his camera and got some beautiful coverage of the plane in the air. After I landed, he came to the area where the MHRCS gang was set up and interviewed me and took some additional static shots of the Nieuport.

Obviously when the 21st Carl Haauger's Warbirds Over Delaware video was available I gave Scott a call to see if the shots of my plane ended up on the cutting floor of the editing department. I was surprised to have him tell me that it had not and in fact it was the first plane featured on the DVD. So I have some professional coverage of the plane that was.

A structural failure caused the plane's demise the week before Rhinebeck. During the third flight in preparation for Rhinebeck it appeared that a wing strut came lose and down she went. I wasn't as upset as you might expect. Disappointed for sure. I wanted to fly the Nieuport at Rhinebeck this year. But as I looked at the plane in its broken condition I recalled what Bill Cosby once said to his son on the Cosby Show. "I brought you into this world and I can take you out and make another on just like you!" And that is what I am doing this winter. I picked up the kit at Rhinebeck from Balsa USA and have it pretty well framed up now. I will use a couple of surviving parts from the first Nieuport. Both the horizontal stab and the flying rudder escaped injury. The rudder had a lot of stencil work on it so that will save some effort. This week I called in the order for solartex and an aluminum cowl. The second build goes along quite a bit faster and naturally .

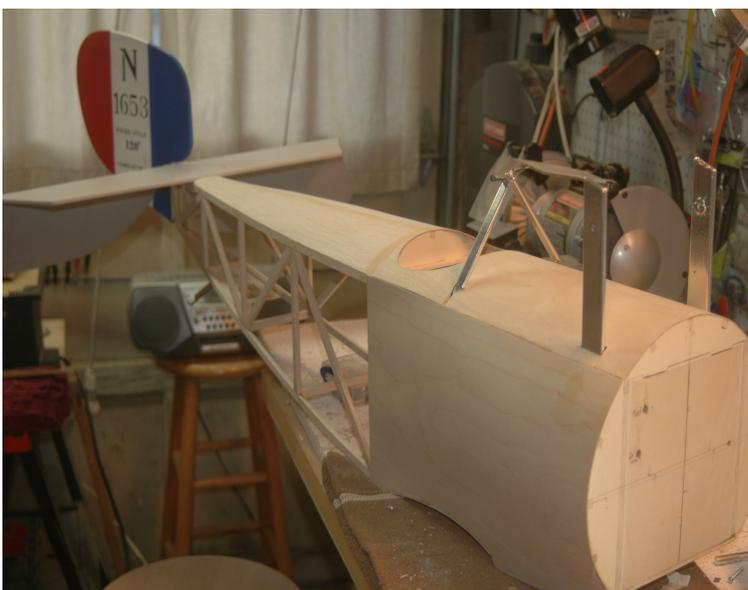
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beefing up the areas that I suspect caused the problem on the first Nieuport. I find that I am enjoying the building part of the hobby more these days.

What's my next project? That is still a toss up. I am leaning toward the Sopwith Camel when it comes out this next year. But I have not totally ruled out building the 1/3 scale Sopwith Pup. I love the way my 1/4 scale pup flies and it has served me well. In any event I still have some time to make that decision. Anyway I have a 1/4 Balsa USA Cub that is ready for trim painting and I want to get that to the field this coming year. Now, a couple of photos of the Nieuport 17 # 2!



The Nieuport getting its tail skid. This is just the beginning of the process. On the first one, the tail skid built per plans was very easily knocked loose due to lateral pressure on it when the plane was turned on the runway. The whole structure is quite large so I beefed that one up with plywood side supports and a quarter square hardwood rail on both sides of the side supports for a larger footprint on the fuselage.



Here it is with the old flying stab attached and the old horizontal stab sitting on the fuselage. Fortunately on the first Nieuport I modified the attachment of the horizontal stab from gluing it on to using blind nuts and bolts.



The wing struts are stained and I plan to varnish them next. The cabane struts are covered with aluminum tape that I got at Lowes.



Here it is with wings attached.



And this is my 19 month old grandson Elijah getting some stick time. I couldn't get him away from the simulator. I think that is a very good sign. And if some of you guys don't start sending me some articles for the newsletter you are going to see a lot more photos of grand kids!

Mid Hudson RC Society
Annual Holiday Dinner
6:00 PM
Friday, November 30
Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church
2381 New Hackensack Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Menu:

Appetizers - punch
Cape Cod Chicken/cranberries
Loin of Pork - Applesauce
Potatoes
Honeyed carrots
Green Beans
Salads
Assorted bread/butter
Coffee/tea
Fresh Cranberry Pie

Entertainment:

White elephant gift exchange*

Cost: \$20 per person

RSVP to John Philbrick by November 24

Johnp793@aol.com, or 757-880-1757

- White Elephant Gift Exchange. Bring an RC or modeling related item worth between \$10 & \$20, gift wrapped. Each participant will get to choose a gift, and will proceed in random order. The first person opens a wrapped gift and the turn ends. Each of the rest may choose whether to open a wrapped gift or "steal" a previously opened gift. If a person has his gift stolen, he also has the option of choosing a wrapped gift or stealing an unwrapped one. When a wrapped gift is opened, the turn ends. When all gifts have been unwrapped, the game ends. Note- we may include one or more variations- limiting the number of times a gift can be stolen, and perhaps permitting the person who went first to have a final turn at the end, if s/he wants to steal a gift instead of the ones s/he has.

Wishing all of you a wonderful Holiday Season and a very Happy New Year.
CAVU, Ron Revelle