

SMAC Happ'nins

Newsletter of the Sanilac Model Aviation Club

1st Edition 2006

Happy New Year! 2006

2006 got off to a great start with many of our SMAC members attending the New Year's Day fun fly out at Arnold Field. On our trip down to the field I was telling my dad that I was anticipating the ground conditions to be not so good. Most of the snow had melted making the field not suitable for a plane with skis or wheels. I thought that the only planes that would make it into the air would be launched by hand. I was wrong. Dennis Bigger had brought the Sig Kadet "Emily I" that was set-up with skis. After a short preflight he was ready to taxi out to the runway. Well, the pit area was about 60% wet grass and 40% snow. That was a little too much resistance for the plane to overcome so Dennis carried the plane a short distance over to an area that was 100% snow. After a short run the plane was in the air. Dennis mentioned that the plane has plenty of power and once you get the front ski or wheel off the ground it pretty much jumps off the ground. Michael Quaine brought his Sig Cavalier that had wheels on it. Once he had his plane



Norm Brings in the ThunderTiger after a flight

warmed up he found a grassy spot that wasn't too soupy and Mike's plane also had no problem leaving the ground. So anyway we had two Sig's in the air and Dennis and Mike proved me wrong. The two Sig's did a little formation flying but no combat thankfully. Bob Samuleson also took the controls for a while so that he would get in his New Year's flight. It's great to have members that like to pass around the fun!

After the gas powered airplanes did their stuff, Norm Hurren set-up the high start

line to launch his Thunder Tiger glider. Throughout the years we've had a few members that have been interested in gliders. It wouldn't surprise me if someone else picked up a glider this year and tried some "quiet flight".

Richard Shoegren got in the action by hand launching his Yellow Tiger Moth. The Tiger Moth is a park flyer with a wing span of about 34" (that's just my estimation judging by the pictures). Richard said that the plane has about 3 flights on it. Did I

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Sanilac Model Aviation Club
Editor: Dave Krueger
989-479-6177
dkrueger@avci.net

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SMAC Officers — 2006

President:
Bob Samuelson
rcsnls@greatlakes.net
Phone: 810-679-3962

Treasurer:
Dave Krueger
dkrueger@avci.net
989-479-6177

Safety Officer:
Norm Hurren
njhurren@greatlakes.net
810-622-8911

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mention that the Tiger Moth is Yellow? Man I love yellow airplanes.

Even though the temperatures were mild and the winds were fairly light, one could get a little cold after a while. On top of that I knew the field office was warm and I knew there was some good eats inside. I withstood the temptation to go inside and got out my trusty 3DX foam electric airplane for a quick New Year's Day flight. The plane flew as expected, she's a good little ship.

As usual the food was great as we took a break and warmed up with some food, fire and a little razzing up of each other. What are friends

2006 SMAC CALENDAR

SMAC Meetings: 2nd Sunday of the month.
Arnold Airport 7 PM

Training Night: Thursday evenings, SMAC Field
(while Daylight Saving Time is in effect)

Club Flying Night: Tuesday evenings, SMAC Field
(while Daylight Saving Time is in effect)

January:

- 12 SMAC Meeting - 7pm Arnold Field
- 29 Propbusters Swap Meet @ Goodell's County Park

February:

- 5 Owosso Swap Meet @ Baker College
- 10 Indoor Flying at the Birchwood Sports Dome
- 18 Thunderbirds Swap Meet, Kalamazoo - 1 pm
- 19 The Flying Aces Swap Meet (Flint Area) 9am - 1pm
- 24 Indoor Flying at the Birchwood Sports Dome

March:

- 12 SMAC Meeting - 7pm @ Bob & Nancy's house
- 18 Alps Swap Meet in Gaylord

April:

- 7 - 9 Weak Signals Toledo RC Show

for if you can't pick on each other a little bit? It's all in good fun I assure you. Nancy, Joyce and Carole certainly did their part to spice up the conversation.

Many of us felt like taking a nap, I know that Bob really could have but we somehow managed to get back out to the flight line and put the planes up in the air. It's like I said 2006 got off to a great start.



The President's Address

By Bob Samuelson

It's 2006 and with each New Year should come new airplanes! I didn't receive a new one from Santa so I had to pick one to finish from several I had started some time ago. The Sukhoi will fly this year as will the Christian Eagle. The Sopwith Pup and the Decathalon are ready. Oh yes, can't forget the G-Shark.

Dave Krueger would like to hear from others about their projects.

The Christmas party was very nice but wish more could have attended.

The New Year's Day fly was also enjoyable. I got to fly two different planes that day. Dennis Bigger's trainer and Mike Quaine's Cavalier. Norm made several flights with his glider. Dick and Dave flew their electric planes.

There are some good swap meets coming up over the new few months. January 21 is the Midland Swap Meet. The Propbuster's swap at the Community Center at Goodell's County Park is January 29. Owosso is February 5 at Baker College and March 18 is the Alps swap in Gaylord. If you need more information on any of these, please give me a call.

Six of us went to Gaylord last year and it was a very nice weekend getaway. We are planning on going again this year.

There has been discussion about having other clubs come to our field and fly this summer. For instance, River District Eagles coming on the second Saturday of the month and Propbusters on the last Saturday. Maybe this would get more members out flying. Think about it and we can discuss it at the March meeting. Notices will go out as reminders for the March meeting.

I wish all of you a Happy New Year and a safe and enjoyable flying season!



Richard Shoegren displays the Tiger Moth just before his New Year's Day flight.



Here is some preflight activities on the flightline Dennis gets the Sig Kadet ready for the first flight of the year. It looks like he has plenty of help!

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Dave Krueger, Editor
404 Bartlett st.
Harbor Beach, Mi. 48441