

President
Jim Armstrong
207-725-5758

Secretary
Mike Farnsworth
207-729-7290



AMA Club Charter #2988

Vice President
Glenn Collins
207-547-2030

Treasurer
John Emery
207-841-4615

<http://www.downeastsoaring.org>

February 2012 issue of the DSC's "Quiet Happenings" Newsletter

Downeast Soaring Club Upcoming Events

Event	Date	Time	Location
DSC February Business Meeting	Saturday, 2/11/2012	Door open at 9 AM, 9:30 AM Business meeting; 11 AM Show & Tell	Topsham Public Library: 25 Foreside Road, Topsham, ME
March 2012 DSC Business Meeting	TBD (Watch your e-mail) Usually 2 nd Saturday of every month during the winter months	TBD (Watch your e-mail)	TBD (Watch your e-mail)

Note: #1 Change to an event will be announced by e-mail and posted on the DSC web site as soon as it is known. Check your e-mail before coming to a DSC event.

MEMBERS PRESENT JANUARY 14, 2011 MEETING:

James Armstrong, Bob Constable, John Cheetham, Glenn Collins, Steve Everett, Mike Bergerson, Mike Farnsworth, Bob Berry and Steve Everett.



TREASURES REPORT:

- Acting treasurer Jim Armstrong provided the DSC treasurer's report.
- Jim said that he wasn't renewing the Club's RC magazine subscription to Quiet & Electric International until we could cover all other obligations too.
- Received \$25 from John Seredynski for 2 dues.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- DSC Secretary Mike Farnsworth provided the bill for the Downeast Soaring Club Web site from Mikes Hosting Service. Cost for yearly hosting plan, Email Hosting, and Domain Name hosting is \$200.
- No other correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS:

DSC 2012 DUES:

Here is the info on ways to pay DSC dues:

1. *Cash: \$12.00 to DSC Treasurer John Emery or James Armstrong. See note #1.*
2. *Check: \$12.00 check **made out to "Downeast Soaring Club"**. Check can be delivered in person or mailed to (~~DSC Treasurer, John Emery, 59 Andrea Street, Topsham, ME 04086.~~) DSC Acting Treasurer, James Armstrong, 292 Foreside Road, Topsham, ME 04086. See note #1.*
3. *PayPal: \$12.50 PayPal payment to Downeast Soaring Club account at downeast-soaring@comcast.net. See #2 and #3.*

NOTES:

Note 1: One of the rules of the Topsham library is "The Conference Room may not be used to ... exchange money or other property...." End quote. Therefore, at the Topsham Library, dues may only be paid before or after the meeting in the parking lot.

Note 2: PayPal charged DSC a Fee for every \$12 received. Fee was 67 cents. That is why Dues using PayPal are \$12.50.

Note 3: This PayPal account is used exclusively for DSC funds

FROG KITS:

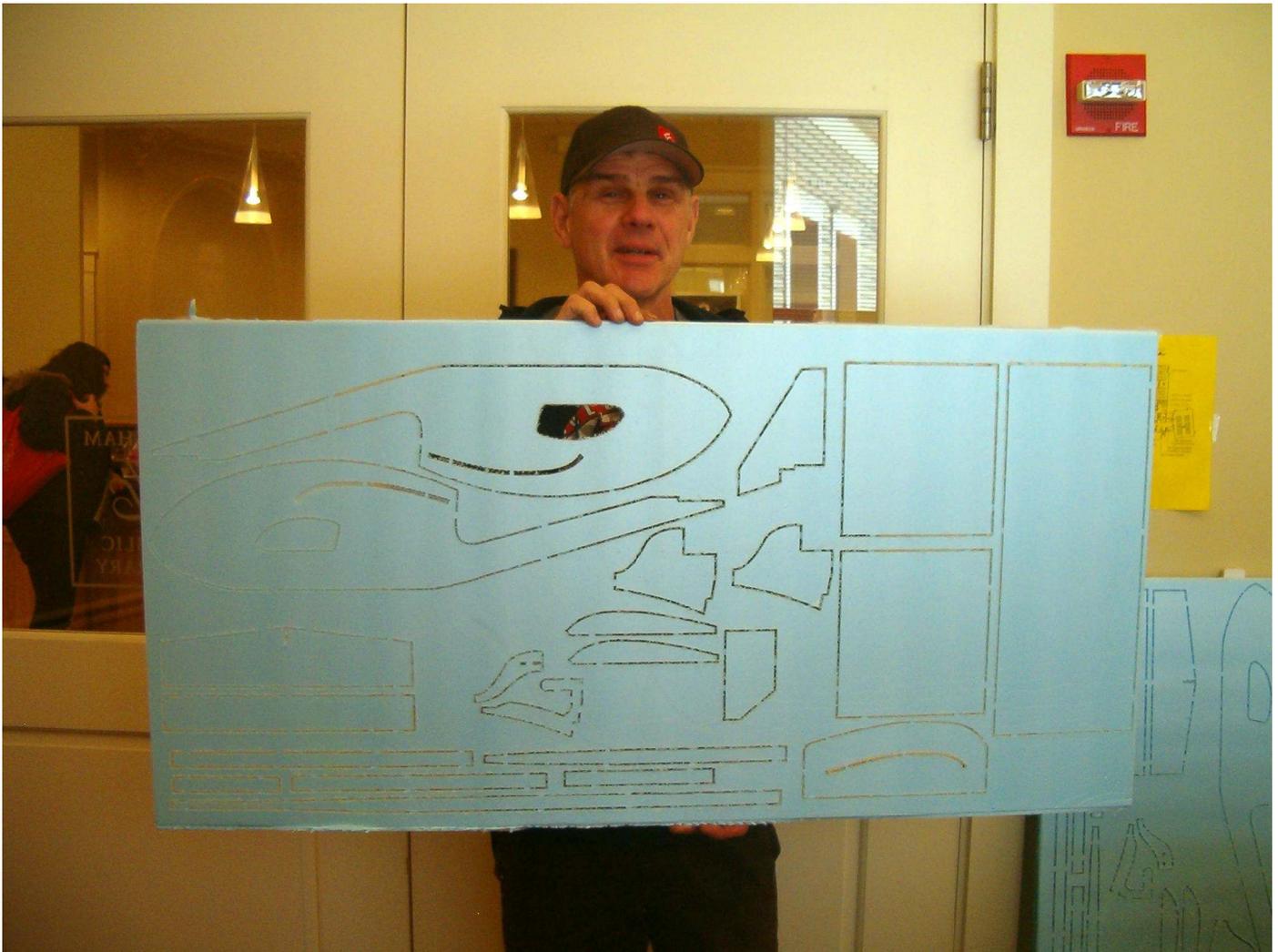
Background:

- *At a previous meeting we discussed the benefits of the Frog. The Club decided to give a free Frog Kit to any Club member who didn't get one. Steve Everett cut out some Frog Kits for club members. Steve passed them out at the October meeting. Steve, Glenn and Jim donated some foam sheets for the Kits that we are giving to Club member Free. Jim thinks that every Club member should own a Frog or two. It is a fun plane. It Flies in the wind and is easy to repair; in fact most repairs are made at the field with Jim's low temp glue gun that he powers from a car jump start battery. The other benefits of the Frog are it has a low cost, it is a very good combat plane, and is a great beginner plane.*
- *December Update: Steve Everett said that the Cycle to cut a Frog Kit is about 28 minutes. His*

electric bill has gone up a lot from the use of the CNC cutter. He felt that \$5.00 a kit would be fair to cover his expenses.

JANUARY UPDATE:

- **Steve redid the design and eliminated hatch inserts to give room for wing tips and center section. This makes it a complete kit. Steve said he added the 1/32 ply to his son's Frog nose as suggested by Dick Rosenberg at last meeting and it really strengthened it. CNC cutting time has been reduced from 28 minutes to 11 minutes.**
- **Steve said to keep the cost of the kit to \$5.00 plus foam at a total cost of \$7.50. Steve said the Club would get reimbursed for the foam and part of the remaining \$5.00 will be a Club donation. He brought in 4 kits for sale.**



- **After the meeting Bob Constable bought a kit for his grandson and paid \$10 and said the extra is to go to the Club.**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT RC BUILDING SESSIONS:

Background: Bob Berry had a suggestion to get together on a Wednesday night to do some socializing/building like we did at Ken Macdonald's. Several members were interested. We

could do most of the meetings at Bob Berry's house but also go to other people's houses if invited. Example of reason for meeting would be to go over charging a Lili, Lipo or Life (a123) and to build Frogs to raise money for the Club.

UPDATE:

Bob Berry invited people to his house on Wednesdays from 1PM to about 4PM.

CNC FOAM CUTTING MACHINE:

Mike Farnsworth said he had a lonely piece of equipment; A CNC foam cutting machine that was built by Rick Hallett and is looking for a good home for it. It's free. Mike said if anyone wants it let him know.

NEW BUSINESS:

FAA REPS SPEAK TO MEMBERS ABOUT COMING RESTRICTIONS:

Discussed upcoming potential rule changes to RC flying. The following is from AMA:

We now know that the release of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the small Unmanned Aircraft Systems rule has officially slipped to 'Spring 2012'. However, there's still a chance we may see the NPRM sooner rather than later and it wouldn't be too surprising to see the proposed rule as early as February or March.

Here's what we know so far:

- *FAA has determine the need to regulate model aircraft (MA) activity and are including operating criteria for MA in the upcoming small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) rule.*
- *Though the exact content of the rule is not yet known due to the ex parte requirement of the rulemaking process, we have been told the MA criteria will be very restrictive.*
- *The proposed rule will specify when, where and how model aircraft fly and will most likely include significant restrictions on altitude, speed, and operations near airports.*
- *The rule will also have a provision allowing AMA to develop its own set of 'standards' that if accepted and adopted by the FAA can be used as an alternative means of complying with the sUAS regulation, if and when it's implemented.*
- *AMA currently has a workgroup in place that is working with FAA's Unmanned Aircraft Program Office (UAPO) in developing a set of standards that, with greater attention to safety, will hopefully allow modelers to continue to operate and enjoy the hobby in much the same way as they do today. Unfortunately, we are still a long ways away from finalizing the content and being able to speak to the specifics of the MA standards.*

- *AMA is timing its standards development process so as to have a set of MA standards accepted and adopted by the FAA by the time the sUAS rule becomes regulation in mid to late 2013.*

We know that the release of the sUAS Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is imminent, but until the proposed rule is published and the actual content is known we're unable to isolate and speak to the specific issues. We're in an unfortunate wait and see mode. Nevertheless, this is still a very dynamic situation and we need to remain vigilant and attentive to the issues as things evolve. Once the NPRM is released, it's extremely important that each and every modeler and anyone with an interest in model aviation participate in the public comment process. The most current information on the NPRM and the proposed rule can be found on this webpage, on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/AMAGov> and on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/AMAGov>.

MIDCOAST MODEL FESTIVAL:

- Frank Powers and John Seredynski informed Jim about the Midcoast Model Festival at the Owls Head Transportation Museum.
- The following is from Owls Head Transportation Museum:

Midcoast Model Festival

March 24 & 25

Modelers from throughout Maine and beyond display a mix of both kit models as well as hand-made creations. Featuring everything from antique model steam engines, to cars, planes and trains. All sizes accommodated. Indoor and outdoor airplane and car model demonstrations. "Make-and-take" family activities and more. Event Hours: Unless otherwise noted all events open to the public at 9:30 AM and the Museum closes at 5 PM

The Owls Head Transportation Museum exhibits and operates a large collection of pioneer-era aircraft, antique automobiles, engines, bicycles, carriages and motorcycles.

- Jim asked if the Club was interested in having a display at this event. He asked for volunteers to coordinate and to participate. Members felt it was too soon to commit. They will check there schedule before next meeting. Decision tabled till next month.



HONORARY MEMBER:

Jim proposed that Forrest Sumner be made an honorary Club member. He maintains the RC field in Bowdoin and cordially invites the Downeast Soaring Club to hold some Fly Ins there. He is looking forward to piggy backing our glider to launch height on the back of his powered planes. It was seconded and a vote was taken after a discussion. Vote taken and recommendation was unanimously approved.

FRANK POWERS OPERATION:

Jim notified Club members that Frank would be in the hospital for about 5 days and then rehab facility. Here is said.

- From: frankkpowersjr54@yahoo.com [mailto:frankkpowersjr54@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 14, 2012 7:28 AM
To: James Armstrong
Subject: RE: DSC MEETING THIS SATURDAY 1/14/2012
- Hi UNABLE TO BE THERE WILL HAVE LEFT KNEE OPERATED ON NEXT THURSDAY THE 26TH AT PARKVIEW ADVENT HOSPITAL; VISITORS WELCOME

INDOOR FLYING AT UNITY COLLEGE:

From: Vicky Burwell & John Phelan [mailto:filigree@uninets.net]
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2012 7:59 PM
Subject: Indoor Flying at Unity College

Hi All,

First I must apologize for no development of indoor flying sessions this winter. I have had too many major events to allow play time schedule. However the last four flying sessions during Spring 2011 were attended twice by me alone and twice by me and Bob C. So was interest slipping or did everyone have too much?? I knew that one person had to be on the west coast, but

I spoke to Bob C. and got emails from Drew F and Mike B saying they wanted to fly - I know Kody and family are only occasional participants but others could chime in. I will contact the athletic director at Unity College to see if we can line up some flying sessions thru April.

John P.

Update: Schedule will be out soon.

[DSC FREE MAGAZINE RAFFLE:](#)

Each attendee was given a free raffle ticket for a Free RC Magazine raffle.



[DSC DRAWING LIBRARY:](#)

Jim showed the following drawing, which will be added to the DSC Drawing Library for member checkout.

Patrol: A 55" span shoulder-wing electric sports model for 4-function R/C. Designed by Andy Reid. A 55 inch span sport model for 300/400 watt brushless motor and 4 function RC. It will cope very well with rough weather. Having a reasonable glide with the motor off, it will respond to any thermals that may be around to extend your flying time or just simply to allow you to slow down and relax. Patrol' has been designed as a versatile electric sports model recreating the general



style of the R/C nostalgia period of the 1950's without sacrificing the performance and advantages of the latest technology. Suits 300-400 Watt (950-1650KV) outrunner motors. Flying weight approx. 1 Kg.

LITCHFIELD SPARE TIME HOBBY SHOP:

Jim asked if anyone had been to the Litchfield Spare Time Hobby shop. He showed an Add for the Litchfield Spare Time Hobby shop. No one had been there. Several people expressed an interest in taking a trip to check it out. Update: John Cheetham, Jim Armstrong and John Seredynski made a visit. They have very limited electric stuff but still a place to visit if you go by going to Augusta. Going north to Augusta take the exit before the toll and then go left and go a few miles. It is on the right. Outside you will find an RC Car track with lights and grandstand. They will order just about anything you want.

2.4 RADIO CLINIC DVD:

John Seredynski donated a 2.4 Radio Clinic DVD to the Club. Bob Berry checked it out. If you want to be next to view this video, let Bob Berry know.

SLOPE SITES:

- Members of the Prop Snappers RC Club in Portland have been Sloping off of a hill at the WM landfill site. Mike at Ray and Robbins said that they have successfully used the RTF Expire to slope.
- Glenn Collins, Mike Bergenson, and Steve Everett said that the Club needs to do some sloping at the Wolfneck slope site. They tried it last year and it was a nice spot. Mike Bergenson said in an e-mail: " The spot in Freeport at Wolfsneck is absolutely awesome.... Glenn says equivalent to Clarks Cove with easier access. I finally got to chuck a glider off a cliff... well, a little cliff. That's Glenn's Alula flying majestically.?"



SHOW AND TELL OR JUST TELL

- **TURNIGY ACCUCELL 8150** Bob Constable brought in his Turnigy accucell 8150 for people to look at.



- **JC KITTEN** Bob Constable scratch built a JC Kitten from RCmicroflight.com (online) Plans. It has a wingspan of 24 inch.



- **TURNIGY BE FOUND.** Jim showed how he attached a JST-XH 2S connector to the wire that would normally go to the receiver. He cut one of the short sides of the plug off so that it can connect to the end of any size balance plug of Lipo used to power the model. This way it takes off 2 cell voltage to run the beeper.



- **AMA DELTA DART** Bob Constable brought in a AMA delta dart that he been powered by the motors from an air hog.



- **FLYING WING SLOPER:**

Glenn Collins explained how he and Mike Bergerson scratch built this flying wing. He explained how he cut the wings with the automatic hot wire foam cutter, vacuum bagged the wing with carbon for the spar and used paint transfer during the process. Should be a great flying sloper.



- **PAINT FROM HD**

Jim showed the paint he purchased from Home Depot. Small bottle but only cost a \$1.00 and it has a paint brush attached to the cap. Good possibilities.



- **PUSH ROD SLEEVES:**

Jim showed several ways to make pushrod sleeves from different coffee stirrers.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER
(JIM ARMSTRONG):

FAA Modernization and Reform Act, H.R. 658. Passage:

Forrest Sumner sent me the following good news for RC enthusiasts:

---Original Message---

From: fis85@aol.com [mailto:fis85@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2012 6:29 PM

Subject: Good News

GM Everyone....Some good news regarding R/C to start the day.... Our protection amendment passed the Senate yesterday! Thanks to the AMA for all of their leadership and proactive work on this issue and to everyone who contacted their elected representatives. But stay alert and be sure you e-mail address is up to date with the AMA. A perfect example of how the AMA is much more than an insurance provider. Spread the word. Talk to those guys you know who fly somewhere without AMA membership. Thanks, Ron Revelle

Congress Passes Four-Year FAA Funding Bill

Monday, 2/6, the U.S. Senate followed the House of **Representatives in passing the FAA Modernization and Reform Act, H.R. 658**. Passage of the Bill puts in place a provision aimed at **protecting model aviation from burdensome regulation**.

This would never have been possible if it wasn't for the efforts and support of Senator James Inhofe (R-Okla) in introducing an amendment protecting model aviation into the Senate version of the Bill. And, it would never have been possible without you, the AMA member, in your response to AMA's call to action during last spring's Congressional Awareness campaign.

Through a vote agreeing to the joint [Conference Committee's report](#) on H.R. 658 the Senate finalized this Congressional act which will now be sent to President Obama for signature. Once signed by the President the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 will become law.

New Members RD2:

Please help me welcome new members Ralph Damelio and Richard Dowzall. RD2 get it? You can get there e-mail, address etc in the Member only section of the Downeast Soaring Club Web site.

Frank Powers Operation:

I visited Frank Powers the day after his operation. He was doing pretty good. His doctor put replacement parts that failed in his total knee replacement. I gave him a few magazines to read while in the hospital.

The Gambler-AG:

Video of Jack Pignolo's Gambler <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqDNK8iF2R0>. The DSC Club has two gambler kits for sale/ with motor mount. Now is the right time to build one (winter building sessions). Cost is bargain at a Club discount price of \$65 because you save on shipping, motor pod is included and \$20 less than current price. DSC is selling them at \$65. Go to <http://www.wrightbrothersrc.com/> for FMI.

Winter get togethers:

We met at Bob Berry's house several times. Bob provided Coffee and his wife made us cookies. Lots of fun. John Cheetham invited up over his house next.

The Megow Ranger Flies Again:

Radio Controlled Vintage model airplane The Megow Ranger Circa 1940 free flight scratch built by Jack Pignolo. It has been modified to fly with a brushless motor, and state of the art radio ...
Uploaded by jpnolos on Feb 7, 2012



See it fly on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=00RtIc2gVSc>

New frogs are a flying (Sounds like a Christmas song):

- Last month I mentioned that 6 new Frogs have been built and have been flown. This month one more has been started and two others are being planned. Tim Will has hot wire cut two types of wings from block blue foam. One with a flat bottom like a Clark Y and another with a similar airfoil shape as the original except the wing is twice as thick at Fan Fold foam. We will be running both through some tough tests to see how they hold up.

Winter projects:

John Cheetham is building a scratch built Fred. It is 150% of usual size, It has a 62 inch wingspan, 12 ½ inch chord, Should be a real floater.



- John Cheetham purchased a short lazer cut kit of a ?????? You will have to wait to see it being built before I tell you the name of it. The pieces are made with quality balsa and lazer cut perfectly. An excellent kit. Look at all the nice pieces.



Happy *safe* Flying,

Jim