



Wing Tips

December 2015

The Newsletter of the Mid-Hudson Modelmasters

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2015 Club Officers

President: Bob Santoro

Secretary: John Knight

Sgt. at Arms: Flavio Ambrosini

Vice President: Ron Irvin

Treasurer: Tom Eng

Junior VP: George Amenta

Club Calendar

Coming Up:

- **Sunday, December 6, 1 – 5pm: INDOOR FLYING SESSION** at Senate Gym, SUNY Ulster
- **Building Workshops 12/12, 1/9, 2/6, 3/5** – Brad's building workshops, Brad's facility on Salt Point Turnpike, Poughkeepsie.
- **Friday, December 18, 7:30pm: CLUB MEETING**, Highland Middle School Gym, 71 Main St., Highland, NY 12528. Indoor flying begins at 6:30pm, meeting will begin at 7:30pm or 8pm. *Note: Please limit flying to indoor types -- fly the larger, more aggressive models outdoors or at larger indoor sites. Sneakers or other gym floor type footwear should be worn.*
- **Thursday, January 7: January Wing Tips articles & photo submissions due**, Send your submissions to wingtips@modelmasters.us Due date is first Thursday of each month.
- **Friday, January 22, 7:30pm TENTATIVE: Holiday Party, Dinner, Auction**, Coppola's, Route 9, Hyde Park.
- **Saturday, February 6, Science Olympiad flying events**. Ulster County Community College, volunteers needed.

Regular Events:

- **MONTHLY MEETINGS:** The following dates are for the Highland Middle School location. January-15, February-19, March-tbd, April-15, May-13. Meetings beyond May have not yet been determined.
- **INDOOR FLYING SESSIONS AT SENATE GYM, SUNY Ulster:** March 27, 2016.
- **OUTDOOR FLYING SESSIONS AT WEST ROAD FIELD** – Every Saturday Morning, weather permitting. It is also possible to find some members at the field on Sunday mornings.
- **INDOOR FLYING AT SCHENECTADY ARMORY/INDOOR FLYING AT SCHENECTADY** – Thursdays, 1:30pm – 4:30 pm (except holidays) AND NOW ALSO Sundays 9:00 to 12:00 thru May 2016. For more information please see <https://sites.google.com/site/epamodelers/home/schenectady-armory-indoor-flying>

From the President's Cockpit

November was a busy and eventful month both on and off the field. Due to unusually warm weather there was a good amount of activity at the field. In addition to flying, George Amenta, our new flight instructor, has been working with Kristopher Bobak, a youth member who recently joined our club. Kris is progressing quickly and will soon be signed off to fly solo at our field.

On November 8th our club participated in the annual Mid-Hudson Model Railroad and Hobby Show at the Poughkeepsie Civic Center. Over 1000 visitors attended the show, many of whom stopped off at our area to use simulators, view numerous aircraft and learn about our club. I wish to thank Bill Bolitho, Lloyd Quick, Rick Rizza, Bob DiGiacomo, Graham Foster and Bill Wittenhagan and his son for their volunteer service at this highly successful event.



Thanks to Richard Kleinhenz, we now have, in addition to our excellent and informative monthly newsletter, produced by Domenick Fusca, a means of communicating with each other at any time. At the November meeting Richard described GoogleGroups, an email system that could easily be set up and managed using one email address (modelmasters@googlegroups.com). Using the Modelmaster address will enable you to reach all members of our club. You still keep your present email address and work through your existing email system, thus no changes are necessary. You can opt out of this system, if, for any reason you don't wish to subscribe. It was well received by those in attendance and immediately established. In operation only a short time, it's evident, by the use it is getting, that it will serve us well. Please limit your use of the system to hobby related matters that will be of interest and value to our club. We do not want to clutter up member inboxes with things such as political messages. Again, my thanks to Richard for his initiative in getting this program implemented in our club.

Plans are underway for our annual Dinner/Auction which will be held on Friday, January 22nd at the Coppola's Restaurant on Route 9 in Hyde Park. This is a great opportunity to enjoy a fabulous meal, auction and fellowship of our members and their guests. I will be in touch as plans are finalized.

Brad, once again will be hosting a series of building workshops at his manufacturing plant on Salt Point Turnpike, Poughkeepsie. A number of members will be building the large and small cubs that Brad has designed, built and flown. Anyone desiring to build any project of their choosing is welcome to attend. You may have plans for a foam plane, a balsa kit that has been sitting on your workbench for a long time and just need the motivation and support of a group to get you started. This workshop is for you. The 1st session is scheduled for Saturday, December 12th at 1:00 PM. If interested let Brad know by emailing him on GoogleGroups.

I would like to remind everyone that we are still looking for volunteers to help out with the Science Olympiad competition that is being held at Ulster County Community College on February 6, 2016. Scott Owitz has once again volunteered to coordinate the flight portion of the competition. Volunteers are needed to judge and time the events. All events are interesting and fun to observe and the commitment is minimal. Please let me know if you can assist Scott.

The 2016 membership application is now available on our website, as well as being printed in this newsletter (http://www.modelmasters.us/mm_pages/2016%20Membership%20Application.pdf). Although the deadline for submitting dues is March 1st we encourage payment by January 1st. This gives our secretary time to print new membership cards in time to pass out at our holiday party in January, thus saving on postage. The dues remain the same and there will not be a solicitation this year for field maintenance expenses as we have sufficient funds to cover this area.

I would lastly like to mention that I will not be seeking reelection this year. It has been a pleasure, honor and opportunity to have served such a fine club. I was able to achieve the goals and objectives I established when I first took office four years ago because of all the help and support I always received from fellow officers, the newsletter editor and our dedicated members. Under new leadership I'm confident our club will continue to offer services and programs that will provide opportunities for members to enhance their skills in flying, building and becoming more knowledgeable about this exciting and ever changing hobby. And for the last time I will say, our hobby is as much about the people we meet as the aircraft we fly.

I would like to wish all our members and their families a very joy-ous and healthy holiday season. Bob

MEETING MINUTES – Highland Middle School, November 20, 2015

1. Meeting was called to order by President Santoro at 7:40 PM
2. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2015 meeting. [Motion Approved]
3. Treasurers Report
 - a. There is \$1928.83 in the treasury plus \$500.00 in escrow for the Highland MS indoor site.
 - b. There is \$312.21 in the field maintenance account which is included in the amount shown in 3a above.
 - c. A motion was made to approve the Treasures Report [Motion Approved]
4. Welcome to new member: Peter. He indicated that he is happy to have a place to fly his electric planes
5. Club Logo - John was asked if he could replace the airplane in the logo with a more conventional biplane. John said that he would try to have something ready for the December meeting.
6. Train Show at Civic Center - Thanks to the many members that help at the Train Show. A static display was set up along with several laptops running flight simulation programs. The simulators were the big hit of the day.
7. Holiday Party and Auction
 - a. Tentative date and place is Friday, January 22, 2016 at Coppola's, Route 9, Hyde Park.
 - b. A motion was made to allocate \$400.00 for the purchase of items to be auctioned. [Motion Approved]
 - c. A member requested information about the auction. It was explained that by participating in club events during the year, you earn ModelMaster Dollars. At the Party/Auction, you will be given the full amount of MM Dollars that you earned which can then be used to bid on items at the auction. **REMINDER: NO CASH ALLOWED. ONLY MODELMASTER DOLLARS WILL BE ACCEPTED**
8. Indoor Flying at Ulster County Community College. - It has been difficult getting dates for indoor flying. December 6 and March 27 are the only available dates so far.
9. Gifts for Town Employees
 - a. A motion was made to give a \$50.00 gift card to each of the Town Employees responsible for mowing the field.
 - b. Bob will check with the Town Supervisor on the appropriateness of giving such a gift.
10. Science Olympiad
 - a. Volunteers are needed to assist at the Science Olympiad flying events. February 6, 2016 at Ulster County Community College
 - b. John K and Larry K (maybe) indicated a willingness to assist.
11. Club Communications - A motion was made to adopt Google Groups for Club Communications. [Motion Carried]
12. Building Workshop - Brad will be hosting a building workshop. This year it will be a large (9' wingspan) Piper Cub. He will also have plans to build a smaller Cub for those not wanting to go so large. The build will take place at Brad's facility on Salt Point Turnpike, Poughkeepsie. Build Dates 12/12, 1/9/16, 2/6/16 [This date conflicts with the Science Olympiad may be changed to 2/13], and 3/5/16. These are all Saturdays.
13. Nomination of Officers
 - a. The Board is seeking nominations for the following positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Sgt at Arms. Even though nominations were made in some of the categories, you may also self nominate. The following nominations have been made...so far:
 - President-Brad Q (has not accepted the nomination at the time of this writing)
 - Vice President Lloyd Q (has not accepted the nomination at the time of this writing)
 - Treasurer-Tom E. (incumbent)
 - Secretary-Larry K.



Revised Club Logo

- Sgt. at Arms-Flavio A. (incumbent)

14. Show and Tell

a. Brad presented the fuselage for an Extra 300 that he is building. He covered the fuselage with styro spray which provides a harder covering than naked or painted foam. There is a weight penalty however, when using this covering material. Of particular note was the landing gear which was made from a metal yardstick purchased from Harbor Freight.

15. Next Flying/Meeting - December 18, 2015 at 6:30 PM (flying). 7:30 PM (meeting)

16. Meeting adjourned: 8:37

Respectfully Submitted-John Knight, Secretary

MEET YOUR FELLOW MODELMASTER MEMBER – William Wittenhagan

1. How did you get into the hobby/sport?

I saw a flier in the Staatsburg Post office announcing an event at the Staatburg Library about flying planes. We loved the fact that everyone was very helpful and it was a great event for us as a family.

2. How long have you been in the hobby/sport?

Only since July 2015.

3. What aspect of the hobby/sport are you most interested?

I like the flying aspect but I really want to build planes with my Son.



William & son, Billy

4. What was your 1st plane?

We bought a ready to fly Stratocam from Horizon.

5. Do you have a favorite Plane? If so which one and why?

I love the Bi Planes, I think they look cool. Reminds me of movies from when I was young.

6. What is the most challenging part of the hobby/sport for you?

Finding the time to train on the simulator and getting to the field every week.

7. Do you have goals regarding what you want to accomplish in the hobby/sport? What are they?

Yes, I would like to train the boys in Royal Rangers (a boys mentoring ministry) how to build and fly planes

8. Do you have other hobbies or areas of interest and if so what are they?

I am a Royal Rangers Commander and we mentor boys while we go camping and hiking.

9. What advise do you have for new people getting into the hobby/sport?

Yes, get involved in a club. The Club is family friendly and very helpful and eager to advise and instruct newcomers and experienced fliers. Do something every week to help the loss of interest in this or any hobby.

Video Recording Options for Quadcopters and Planes by Richard Kleinhenz

At our breakfast club (Stormville club) Bill had his Hero3 video camera with him that he is planning to use with his new quadcopter, and we had a discussion on alternatives. The GoPro Hero3 is the de rigeur option, and rather pricey. There are several models of it, identified by color, with different capabilities, but they tend to be in to \$200-300 price range. Some people are looking at these cameras for Christmas and don't really want to get into the top-end price-wise.

So here are a couple of other options I know of. I have an SJCAM SJ4000. The SJ4000 is very similar in size and capabilities to the GoPro. Comes with a ton of mounting options, and you can get it on Amazon for \$80 give or take a bit. There is an 'original' (which I have) and a wifi version. Very likely cheaper yet from China, but there are lots of knock-offs apparently so do a bit of research if you're looking for the best bargain. Should have 'SJCAM' printed on the front. The SJ4000 has a built-in screen for setup so you don't NEED a smartphone. The wifi model gives you the option of programming it from your phone and getting video feedback. Obviously the original model w/o wifi has no

video feedback. Hobbyking has a version of this under their Turnigy label (http://www.hobbyking.com/hobbyking/store/__66581__Turnigy_HD_WiFi_ActionCam_1080P_Full_HD_Video_Camera_w_Waterproof_Case.html) A decent review <http://www.techmoan.com/blog/2014/2/3/the-sj4000-action-camera-review.html> and <http://www.techmoan.com/blog/2014/9/22/at-last-its-the-real-sj4000-wifi-review.html> for the wifi.

A more recent camera that lots of people rave about is the Xiaomi Yi. It goes for \$63 at Gearbest (China). I stumbled across an offer for \$54 shipped and got me one - it's quite nice. No accessories, but who needs them? It has tripod mount threads. You need a smartphone to set it up. Form factor like GoPro or SJ4000 roughly.

Another option with a different form-factor is the Mobius. About \$70 from Hobbyking, \$65 shipped from China on amazon. Hobbyking had it for \$49 shipped from their AR warehouse during their recent sale so there might be other sales if you're patient. It needs a smartphone (or laptop) to program. The form factor makes it ideal to strap to a plane and I've seen lots of footage from people strapping it to planes in the rcgroups fora I follow (e.g on a beaver). One nice thing is the availability of a little docking station from Hobbyking that cradles it and sends back 5.8 GHz live video. Of course you need a little 5.8 GHz receiver (and perhaps FPV goggles if you want to fly FPV) and of course you need an FCC Technician or ham operator license or some such thing. This is true for all 200 mW transmitters and this is where live wifi feedback is sometimes portrayed as a way around this, but the wifi has limited range, lots of dropouts if you get near the limit and some delay, definitely useless for FPV. [painless360](#) has several videos on the mobius, just search for 'painless360 mobius' on youtube

It seems to me currently Mobius and Xiaomi Yi are the most popular options but obviously this is a fast-moving field. All these record to an internal micro-SD card.

Modelmaster Dollar Auction (your help is requested)

This year I would like to solicit your assistance in the items to be included in the auction. For our newer members, the auction is the one time in the year you can spend your Model Master dollars you have earned. The auction is held during our annual dinner (normally in January). Model Master Dollars (MMD) are earned by members participating in, volunteering and organizing club events. For example, when you attend a Model Master meeting you receive dollars. The complete list of MMD rewards can be found on the club website, RULES section. I intend to continue with the raffle, where you use MMD to buy raffle tickets.

Please send your suggestions for items to include in the auction to wingtips@modelmasters.us. The cost of any single item should be no more than \$20 (less is fine). Please include a complete description (i.e. model number, size, capacity, voltage, etc). What is even better the website or location where to purchase. It does need to be RC, free flight related. Some ideas are a specific battery size, tools, coverings, motors, ESCs. Many members are now flying smaller planes. I'm not familiar with the battery sizes. Also members are getting into FPV, perhaps there are items in the FPV area for under \$20?

I can not assure you the items you suggest will be included in the auction, but I do appreciate your input.

I appreciate your thoughts and suggestions to make the auction entertaining and enjoyable.



Mid-Hudson Modelmasters
c/o Tom Eng, Treasurer
PO Box 266
Pleasant Valley, NY 12569-0266
845-635-3226

2016 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
MID-HUDSON MODELMASTERS



Name _____

Address _____

_____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

AMA # _____ AMA Category: ___Open ___Youth ___Park Pilot ___Family

AMA (Academy of Model Aeronautics) membership is required for all members except those in "non-flying" status.

Please select below as appropriate:

Note: Adult membership is defined as those members over the age of 19 by July 1st of the current year.

\$_____ **Open** \$25.00 per year
(1 adult older than 19 on or after July 1. Full voting, 1 email (PDF) Wing Tips newsletter, full flying privileges)

\$_____ **Youth Membership** FREE
(Under 19 before July 1. Full voting privileges, 1 email (PDF) Wing Tips newsletter, full flying privileges)

\$_____ **Family** \$35.00 per year
(Applies to any one adult who resides in the same household as a current OPEN member, full voting privileges, 1 email (PDF) Wing Tips newsletter, full flying privileges)

Other Adult _____

AMA# _____ Email _____

\$_____ **Total**

Make checks payable to "Mid-Hudson Modelmaster" and send to the Treasurer listed



Domenick Fusca

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Pleasant Valley, NY 12569-0266

Wing Tips

«First_Name» «Last_Name»
«Street»
«Town», «State» «Zip»