

# Wing Tips



## February 2016

The Newsletter of the Mid-Hudson Modelmasters

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### 2016 Club Officers

President: Brad Quick

Secretary: Larry Kunz

Sgt. at Arms: Flavio Ambrosini

Vice President: Lloyd Quick

Treasurer: Tom Eng

Junior VP: George Amenta

### Club Calendar

#### Coming Up:

- **Building Workshops 2/6, 3/5** – Brad’s building workshops, Brad’s facility on Salt Point Turnpike, Poughkeepsie. Build one of 2 designs Brad has or bring your own project to obtain assistance and advice.
- **Saturday, February 6, Science Olympiad flying events.** Ulster County Community College, 8 am to 2:30 pm, volunteers are still needed. Scott Owitz has all equipment needed and can be contacted at [mowitz@hvc.rr.com](mailto:mowitz@hvc.rr.com)
- **Friday, February 19, 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.*
- **Friday, February 26 - 28, 2016 WRAM Show,** Meadowlands Exposition Center, Secaucus, New Jersey. For more information see [www.wram.org](http://www.wram.org)
- **Thursday, March 3: February Wing Tips articles & photo submissions due,** Send your submissions to [wingtips@modelmasters.us](mailto:wingtips@modelmasters.us) Due date is first Thursday of each month.

#### Regular Events:

- **MONTHLY MEETINGS:** The following dates are for the Highland Middle School location. March-tbd, April-15, May-13. Meetings beyond May have not yet been determined.
- **INDOOR FLYING SESSIONS AT SENATE GYM, SUNY Ulster:** next session is 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. Yes, even through the winter months as long as the driveway is not covered with snow.
- **INDOOR FLYING AT SCHENECTADY ARMORY** **INDOOR FLYING AT SCHENECTADY** –. For more information please see <https://sites.google.com/site/epamodelers/home/schenectady-armory-indoor-flying> There are updates to dates and times. Jesse hopes to see Modelmaster members in Schenectady.

## From the President's Cockpit

The year is off to a good start for the Model Masters.

A number of us met in January for our second in a series of four build sessions. Bob Santoro has been picking up delicious chicken dinners for us to kick things off, then everyone gets to the business of building airplanes. Some people are building a small Piper Cub out of Dollar Tree foam board. Others are building a giant Piper Cub out of Dollar Tree foam, fan fold foam, and 3/4" insulation foam from Home Depot. Most people have their fuselages and tail sections formed and some are working on the wings. In the next session we should start putting these together to build something that looks like an airplane.



*January Build Session*

Others member have been attending the build sessions to build other projects that they have been working on. It's just fun to hang out with friends while we do the hobby we enjoy. So, if you haven't made it to a build session yet, try to join us for the next one on February 6th.

Our annual dinner was a huge success again, thanks to Bob Santoro's organization skills. He organized a great meal at Capola's Restaurant. The dinner was well attended and more spouses than ever showed up and put up with our antics for the evening. DJ Amodeo presented Bob Santoro with a beautifully



“proclamation” to honor him for his years of service to the club. The text of the proclamation is included below. Bob received a standing ovation from those in attendance, who showed how much they appreciate his dedication to the club and his general overall character. John Amenta received the “Most Improved Flyer” award. Now, he just needs a good crash, so he has some pieces to glue onto the award! Dominick ran the auction again this year and did a great job as usual.

After initially saying that we should hold off on registering our



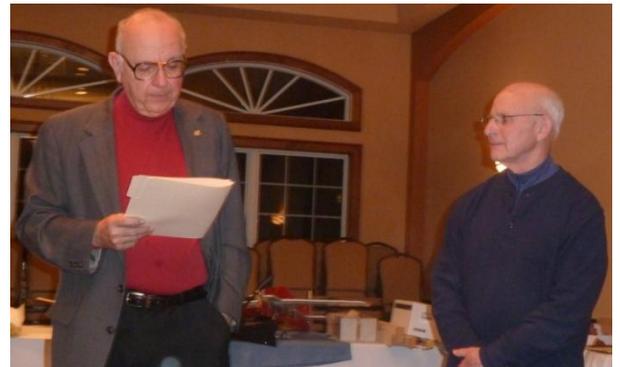
*Vapor Pylon Race Starting Line*

“drones” with the government, the AMA now says that we

SHOULD register. They promise that they will continue to fight for our rights as model flyers and are hoping that eventually they will make it so that being an AMA member is good enough for the government. We'll see what happens.

We continue to fly every Saturday morning at the Redl Park Field in almost any weather conditions. We all know that Scott will be there no matter what the conditions are, so it motivates us to get out and join him. Five of us were out there this past Saturday with temperatures in the 20's, the wind blowing strongly, and snow flurries. So if you are ever wondering if anybody is at the field, we probably are, so come join us.

I've gotten a couple of volunteers to do some “Ten Minute Talks” for us at the next couple of meetings. In February, Flavio will be talking about shrinking bottles to make plastic airplane parts. If you have something you would like to share, send me an email.



*Proclamation*

We had some fun pylon races at the end of January's meeting. We'll have another mini-contest in February. Come join us for some fun!

**Proclamation Text:**

WHEREAS, BOB SANTORO has been a member of the Mid-Hudson Modelmasters for many years, and

WHEREAS, BOB SANTORO, has served as Secretary and President of the Mid-Hudson Modelmasters, and

WHEREAS, BOB SANTORO'S four year tenure as President of the Mid-Hudson Modelmasters has been a most beneficial time in the history of the organization, and

WHEREAS, largely through the tireless, dedicated and energetic efforts of BOB SANTORO, much has been done to greatly enhance and improve the everyday operation of the club; enhance and expand club activities; improve communications within the club; excite the enthusiasm of its members; and encourage participation in club events and activities, and

WHEREAS, BOB SANTORO, has done much to encourage new members to join the club and to provide them with a hearty welcome friendly smile, assistance to find mentors and to obtain sound advice to help ensure their enjoyment of the hobby; and

WHEREAS, BOB SANTORO, has taken a special interest in encouraging young people to become involved in the hobby and has often gone out of his way and used his own life experiences to provide added assistance to aid them, not only in their enjoyment of the hobby itself, but beyond that to provide encouragement, assistance and guidance in improving their social and other life skills, and

WHEREAS, BOB SANTORO, has been very sensitive to our position in the community and has done much to improve the club's relationship with the Administration at the West Road School and the Pleasant Valley Town Officials, and to that end has done much to educate the school and town about our efforts to conduct our activities in a safe, proper and controlled manner; and

WHEREAS, BOB SANTORO, has worked tirelessly to improve the facilities at our Redl Park flying facility; has ensured that necessary work parties are organized and with much help from other members has helped keep the field in useable condition virtually every month of the year; and

WHEREAS, BOB SANTORO, has even arranged for an Eagle Scout candidate from a local Boy Scout troop to complete his final project which greatly improved the appearance and usability of the club flying site; and

WHEREAS, BOB SANTORO, has taken a special interest in encouraging and ensuring the safe operation of our activities by developing, publishing and implementing various safety rules, procedures and protocols; and

WHEREAS, BOB SANTORO, in furtherance of his objective to improve the club, has long been known for scheduling and conducting numerous board meetings, regular meetings, special meetings and, has even been known to have meetings just to determine whether and when to have another meeting, and

WHEREAS, BOB SANTORO, has done much to encourage and arrange for social and other club sponsored activities to ensure participation by members and their families, including, but not limited to, the Annual Club Dinner; various Fun Flies; the Annual Picnic; winter flying at the Highland Middle School and other locations; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined to be right and proper that BOB SANTORO be publicly recognized for all that he has done to improve the activities, organization, communications and overall fun which its members enjoy,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Mid-Hudson Modelmasters and its members gratefully acknowledge BOB SANTORO for all the good work he has done to improve the well being of the club and this proclamation is issued as a small token of appreciation for all of BOB SANTORO'S efforts on behalf of this organization.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Brad Quick, President of the Mid-Hudson Modelmasters, have set my hand, this 22nd day of January, 2016

## **MEETING MINUTES – Highland Middle School, January 15, 2016**

**Open Flying:** from 6:30 till 7:30

**Business Meeting** conducted by new MM president Brad Quick. - Called to order at 7:30.

- Brad mentioned that our bi-laws require meetings to follow Roberts rules of order, but that we will not be too formal about it.

- It was mentioned that a Science Olympiad student had stopped by earlier looking for help with catapult launched gliders, but he had left, and it is also a bit late to help the students for the upcoming Olympiad (Feb 6)
- Next Build Workshop is Sat 2-6. All are welcome – not just those building the prescribed models. Come build what you want. Come just for general building advice and to socialize.
- Drone registration. AMA now says to go ahead and register. Once per person, not per plane.  
The rules are ambiguous, but
  - a) You must have your FAA “Small UAS Certificate of Registration” with you when flying.
  - b) You must have your AMA number on each aircraft – but NOT **we think**, your FAA number.
  - c) No one seems too sure about the 400 foot altitude rule.
- New Model Masters hats are ready - contact Bob Santoro. He will bring them to the party.
- ModelMasters holiday dinner/party will start at 6:00 PM Friday 1/22 @ Coppolas in Hyde Park.  
About 30 are signed up. Will do traditional gift exchange before dinner. Bring a gift valued around \$10.  
The gift you unwrap must be exchanged for one previously unwrapped by someone else.  
(take what you want, But the next person may take it from you !)
- Please renew your AMA membership and pay your ModelMasters dues. (we have 26 renewals so far)
- Treasurer’s report:  
\$1537.35 plus \$500 in escrow to Highland Middle School. \$212.31 in the mowing fund.  
Our club AMA insurance has been paid, and the Dinner site has been paid for.

### Show & tell

- a)(Name Unknown) presented a partially completed 40 year old “Scientific” balsa kit he is working on.
- b) Brad presented his latest project with a tapered laminated foam wing.

### Presentation:

- Volunteers wanted to do 10 to 30 minute talk on the subject of their choice at a future meeting.
- Brad did a presentation on “Styrospray” which is a technique he is experimenting with to coat and protect his laminated foam planes.

### Pylon Races:

- a) Vapor class: About 10 members raced their Vapors for 3 laps around crepe paper pylons hung from the ceiling.
- b) Open class: Two members flew (an Ember-2, and a Champ) around the same course.

### Open Flying: Resumed

## Inexpensive little multi-rotors by Richard Kleinhenz

Seems like wherever you go you stumble across little multi-rotors. Malls, department stores, supermarkets - soon your barber may have a multi-rotor point-of-sale! Here are some of my favorites.

The Eachine H8 has replaceable batteries, headless mode and 'return to home'. Those latter functions are so-so. Like all these quadcopters w/o GPS it keeps track of direction changes and starts flying in the direction it \*thinks\* is home and if it's right on you need to take it out of this mode before it runs you over. Also you need to remember that it just adds vectors from memory.... if it tumbles and lands upside down and you reposition it for its next flight, you have to re-initialize it. Return-to-home does not change height to come home nor land as it does with more expensive GPS-enabled quadcopters.. The H8 is available from the US for \$16 (price dujour) It does fly pretty nice and does good flips. Tiny radio. [http://www.banggood.com/Eachine-H8-Mini-Headless-Mode-2\\_4G-4CH-6-Axis-RC-Quadcopter-RTF-p-975808.html](http://www.banggood.com/Eachine-H8-Mini-Headless-Mode-2_4G-4CH-6-Axis-RC-Quadcopter-RTF-p-975808.html)

The Cheerson CX10 is even smaller. Built-in battery. Does flips. \$17 shipped from US (cheaper from China). Had one for a while and gave it to a friend. I find it a little small and sensitive, but extremely cute. Tiny radio. <http://www.banggood.com/Cheerson-CX10-CX10-Mini-24G-4CH-6-Axis-LED-RC-Quadcopter-RTF-p-926614.html>

A current favorite in my living room and hallway is the Bayangtoys X9 [http://www.gearbest.com/rc-quadcopters/pp\\_164621.html](http://www.gearbest.com/rc-quadcopters/pp_164621.html) Larger radio, extremely tight flips, doesn't seem to lose any height. I find the slightly larger radio easier to use. Currently \$18.29 for the black one, price changes daily. Mine was \$15 black Friday, last weekend it was \$21. From China. Very stable flier. It's a clone of the Nano QX Horizon sells. The chinglish manual is terrible and doesn't even mention the headless mode and RTH - thanks, google!

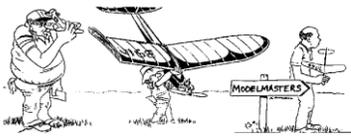
If you want to try video, the JJRC H6C for under \$40 is a good entry point. It has a fixed video camera, a slightly larger radio. [http://us.banggood.com/Wholesale-Warehouse-JJRC-H6C-2\\_4G-4CH-RC-Quadcopter-with-2MP-Camera-LCD-Transmitter-wp-Usa-952869.html](http://us.banggood.com/Wholesale-Warehouse-JJRC-H6C-2_4G-4CH-RC-Quadcopter-with-2MP-Camera-LCD-Transmitter-wp-Usa-952869.html) .

The Syma X5C is a bit larger and has a 720P HD camera. [http://www.gearbest.com/rc-quadcopters/pp\\_73260.html](http://www.gearbest.com/rc-quadcopters/pp_73260.html) Currently \$50 shipped from China. It flies very stable, can do flips, has removable batteries, and can handle a bit of a breeze. It was my first video quadcopter and I think it's a great value to try try aerial video. The larger size is better for outdoor flying since you don't lose track of it so quickly.

A step up (IMO) is the JJRC H11D [http://us.banggood.com/Wholesale-Warehouse-JJRC-H11D-5\\_8G-FPV-2\\_0MP-HD-Camera-Headless-Mode-2\\_4G-4CH-6Axis-RC-Quadcopter-RTF-wp-Usa-994589.html](http://us.banggood.com/Wholesale-Warehouse-JJRC-H11D-5_8G-FPV-2_0MP-HD-Camera-Headless-Mode-2_4G-4CH-6Axis-RC-Quadcopter-RTF-wp-Usa-994589.html) . It transmits a video signal back via wifi to an included monitor. It is a stable flier, and the camera angle can be adjusted. Of course this is getting into a slightly higher price range, \$85.

JJRC H20 Hexacopter - I just got this one today. Just wanted to try a hexacopter. It flies like any other small quadcopter, of course, similar to the X9. Very stable, very tight flips without losing height. Advantage of a hexacopter is when a motor dies (and these brushed motors are really not high quality!) it'll still fly with 5. A quadcopter will NOT fly with 3 motors! Replaceable batteries, removable bumpers, headless. Tiny radio. \$18.29 shipped form US. [http://www.banggood.com/JJRC-H20-Mini-Headless-Mode-2\\_4G-4CH-6Axis-RC-Quadcopter-RTF-p-986430.html](http://www.banggood.com/JJRC-H20-Mini-Headless-Mode-2_4G-4CH-6Axis-RC-Quadcopter-RTF-p-986430.html)

Hard to resist impulse buys at these prices! And they make nice presents - I always seem to have one or 2 to give away Of course there are many others out there and the scene changes quickly. You can't always tell if identical-looking models offered under different names are actually the same - sometimes there are different levels of firmware with different functionality. But at these prices, it's better not to sweat the fine points!



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# *Wing Tips*

«First\_Name» «Last\_Name»  
«Street»  
«Town», «State» «Zip»