



Wing Tips



DECEMBER 2022

The Newsletter of the Mid-Hudson Modelmasters

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2022 Club Officers

President: Kent Wien

Secretary: Larry Kunz

Sgt. at Arms: Flavio Ambrosini

Vice President: Scott Fellin

Treasurer: Tom Eng

Club Calendar

Coming Up:

- **CLUB MEETING:** Dec. 10, 10AM at Redl Field. Watch your email sent via Google Groups for any updates.
- **January 2023 Wing Tips articles & photo submissions due, Thurs., Jan. 5:** Send your submissions to hvmodelmasters@gmail.com Due date is first Thursday of each month.

Other Events:

- **MONTHLY MEETINGS:** Will be held at the field, typically 2nd Saturday of the month, 10am through fall.
- **OUTDOOR FLYING SESSIONS AT REDL PARK (aka West Road Field)** – Every Saturday Morning, weather permitting.

Model Masters Meeting Minutes Nov. 26, 2022

- + **Meeting** Called by Vice President Scott Fellin @ 10 AM at the Field
 - 11 members in attendance.
 - Next meeting is at the field on Dec 10

- + **Treasurer's report:** by Tom Eng
 - \$2381.96 is the current treasury balance.
 - Still need to get (and pay) estimate of mowing expenses from Brad..... BRAD !?
 - 2022 Membership now at 41
 - **2023 Membership at 5** (3 paid at meeting plus 2 new members covered for 2023)
Send \$25 dues By Jan 1 (\$35 thereafter)
 - Check made out to to "Mid Hudson Modelmasters"
mail to Tom Eng 27 Briar Patch Lane, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569

- + **Old business :**
 - Brad and Paul did all the mowing this year... **Thanks guys !**
 - About all the plans Pleasant Valley has for the field...
Typical bureaucracy seems to have set in.
We will keep a low profile and see what transpires.

- + **New business :**
 - 2023 Officer nominations are due !
Tom will put a request for nominations on the listbot
All current officers offered their jobs, but agreed to continue if needed.
We collectively nominated Paul Ollivett for President
(see what happens when you miss a meeting !)
 - 2023 Indoor meetings at Highland Middle School.
Tom will ask Kent to check with the school
 - Google Groups owner is still Rich Kleinhouse (who died in 2020)
No resolution on how to update this.

- + **Show and Tell :**
 - Nothing this month.

Cole Palen's Fokker D-VII by Jesse Aronstein

After seeing last month's Wing Tips article about the D-VII on display in a Canadian museum, I reached back into my memory and family album for a bit of history. At the time of the photo (1966), the D-VII was airworthy, along with a few other antiques, but Cole Palen's dream of a flying museum had not yet grown to a scheduled airshow. Chatting with him, he told us that they would fly an airplane now and then if enough people showed up. No flights that day, nor had there been any flights four years earlier, when we first visited. As you might surmise from the photo, Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome at the time was a rough work in progress, running on a shoestring and a lot of hope.



Jesse and Robert Aronstein with Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome's D-VII

A year later, Cole Palen married. His wife Rita had business and organizational skills that he lacked. The regular airshows were born and grew. Eventually, the D-VII flew almost every weekend during the summer. The announcer explained why this primitive weapon was so successful – it could “turn on a dime”, with a turning radius only a little bigger than its own wingspan. Not believable, until it flew overhead and demonstrated with a couple of flat U-turns, just like we do these days with 3-d models. It was the last original D-VII in the world that was still flying. Eventually, it needed a major overhaul and recertification if it was to continue to flying at the airshows. My understanding is that it was traded away as-was to the Smithsonian in return for two or three less rare aircraft needing less work.

Before the D-VII left the area, Vic Nippert (past Model Master officer and Wing Tips editor) got hold of a section of the original wing covering fabric. He cut it into pieces to give out as prizes at a SkyScraper club contest. On a windy day at Galeville field, I won one of the prizes with a p-nut scale Porterfield, which blew out of my hands on launch and went down less than 10 seconds later. It was a winning flight in its class, though, since I was the only one actually launching a p-nut scale model, willing to sacrifice it for an old piece of doped fabric. That historic piece of fabric from the last Fokker D-VII to fly is framed with the above photo, and now resides in Denver with our son David, a former Model Master club junior member, now a PhD aero engineer. Son Robert was also a member, who rekindled my model building interest and brought me into the club in about 1974.

Best regards to all. Keep on building and flying!

Jesse 11/6/22