

The Aerogramme

Official Publication of the NorthEastern Drone Society

May 15, 2011

**AMA Club
#187**



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**Field
Marshals:**
Don M.
Al G.

NEDS BUILD CONTEST WINNERS

Article by Jim K. Photos by Don M.

This year, no model categories were used, and members simply voted for the best modeling project of any type. First prize went to Bruce H. for his heli. Re-votes were needed to break ties for second and third places. Dave M. took second prize for his Cosmic Wind, and Bob P. took third place for his Tiger Kitten. Trophies were wooden plane silhouettes crafted by Greg Watson with engraved plaques by Sue Gould.



Bruce with his first place winning helicopter.



Dave and his second place winning ARF Cosmic Wind



Bob P. and his third place winning Tiger Kitten.



Howard's wheels for floats; will it work?

MAKING A CUSTOM CANOPY FROM A 2-LITER SODA BOTTLE

By Curt Gould

1. Make a wood form the length, width and shape of the canopy you need. Make the form large enough to have extra material so you can trim the canopy to size.
2. Take a 2 liter soda bottle and cut off both ends (top and bottom). Leave a little of the curvature at each end. The curvature already in the plastic will be used to help make the canopy.
3. Insert your wood canopy form into the center of the soda bottle. Place blocks of wood, no wider than your form, in the bottle underneath the form. Their function is to "make-up" the leftover space so that the plastic bottle is tight on the canopy form.
4. Using a heat gun begin heating the bottle. Work on the top of the canopy first then the sides. Soda bottles are thermoplastic, you can shrink them (to a point) around the canopy form. If the form and make-up blocks become loose while heating add additional make-up blocks or push the ones you are using further into the bottle. It is important to keep tension on the plastic around the canopy form at all times.
5. After the canopy has shrunk around the form, and before removing it from the form, draw lines on the plastic with a felt pen where you want to cut the canopy. It's a good idea to keep the canopy a little oversize so you can trim it to fit later.
6. Trial fit the canopy to the plane, trim as needed and then attach it.



Photos Clockwise from top left:

1) Wood form. 2) 2-Liter soda bottle with ends cut off. 3) Form in bottle with "make up" wedges in place. 4) Form and bottle after heating. 5) Lines for trimming excess. 6) Final formed canopy. Left: Canopy installed on plane.

THANK YOU MEMBERS!

I would like to take a moment to thank all of the NEDS for the support of the raffle at our meetings. Your tremendous generosity allows us to raffle some really nice items, several times each year without breaking the bank. So far, thanks to all of you, we have always covered the cost of the larger items raffled. Again, I just wanted to give a heartfelt thank you to all of you and wish you all blue skies and light winds!

Will Hughes, VP NEDS

SAVE THESE DATES:

Next NEDS meeting June 2nd at the Coventry Field, 7:00 pm.

Float Flies are planned for June 5th and September 18th at Mansfield.

Fun Fly Cookouts, combined with monthly NEDS meetings, are scheduled for July 10 and August 14 (Sundays) in Coventry.

MOWING SEASON

BY RON V.

We need volunteers to sign up to mow our flying fields at both Coventry and Mansfield. We are hoping we can get several members to take a turn so we won't have just the same two to three people doing all the work. You can sign up on the NEDS forum in the "weekly flying" section. Stipulate the field you will mow and the date and day. Please take a turn and mow the field.

Minutes of the NEDS meeting of May 5, 2011

The Building Contest meeting was held at the Buchanan Center in Mansfield at 7:00 pm with 25 members attending.

Treasurer's Report for April:

Income \$171.00 (Dues \$144.00, Raffle \$27.00)

Expenses \$99.51 (DEP permit \$50.00, Newsletter \$9.50, PortaJohn \$26.50, Raffle prize \$13.51)

Net gain \$71.49

Total (cash and checking) \$2626.77

Announcements and New Business:

Ray Shedrick said he can no longer do the grass cutting for the club because of equipment problems. He was thanked for his good service. Fortunately, several volunteers from the club will be able to do the mowing, and a signup sheet on the web site will be used for scheduling.

Don MacDougall announced that Google Earth now has better pictures of our 2 flying fields. They can be added to our web site.

George Hovey proposed that the club build a field table for pre-flight checks. His proposal was approved.

President Greg Watson volunteered to build the table, and he declined the Club's offer of reimbursement for his labor. To make easier the table's removal from the field each day, wheels will be added.

The night's raffle prize was a flying lawnmower "Sky Cutter" ARF. It was won by Don M.

Building Contest:

The Club's annual Building Contest was well attended and had 11 contestants:

Bruce Hamilton: large scale modified helicopter with lighting.

Curt Gould: electric powered foamie byplane

Bob Plankey: uncovered balsa-framed Ace kit Tiger Kitten.

Nick Carlo: foam Saber jet and Seawind boat plane.

Don MacDougall: SIG Kadet LT40.

Will Hughes: Tower Hobbies Uproar.

Howard Ogushwitz: fuse fitted with very large float 'wheels'.

Bill Glode: Quicky 500 V-tail racer and SE-5 biplane.

Pat Cianciolo: foam black RS71 from plans.

Greg Watson: Extra 300 ARF with extended control movements.

Dave McChesney: gas-powered Cosmic Wind ARF.

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Upcoming Events:

NEDS Float Flies at Mansfield: June 5 and September 18.

Fun Fly Cookouts in Coventry, combined with monthly NEDS meetings, July 10 and August 14 (Sundays).

Recorder: Jim Knox

First Class Mail

NorthEastern Drone Society
PO Box 83
Storrs, CT 06268

NEDS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

1. Complete form, include a photocopy of your AMA membership ID card and return to Treasurer.
2. Dues are \$18 per year if you are under 18, otherwise the cost will be \$48.

NAME: _____

STREET: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

FREQUANCIES USED FOR FLYING: _____

Applicant Certification: I agree to abide by the club rules, by-laws and AMA Safety Code.

SIGNATURE: _____

Mail to: Gary Warzocha, PO Box 83, Storrs, CT. 06268