



The THUMB PRINT

Thermal Thumbers Of Metro Atlanta

www.thermalthumbers.com



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Charter # 1834

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NFFS

September-December 2006

HEADS UP

I should either apologize or brag about the double issue you have in your hand. The size of which is many thanks to you and the tardiness is gratis, me. You, kind reader, can decide. Just the facts: the last four months has been nuts as far as work goes. However, I made a ton and it sure spends nice. Not that I enjoyed much shallow consumerism and instant gratification. I did, however, pay off two credit cards and threw off some of the chains of The Man's oppression of the Working Man. Alas and furthermore, what part of my free time not usurped by the toil of financing this tawdry lifestyle was taken up by the beginnings of my duties as 2007 NFFS Symposium editor. My paranoid estimates of the amount of time this Mother Of All Burdens will assume is bearing the predicted, and not necessarily, reassuring fruit. Not that it isn't proving to be an engaging task and a bit of fun at times. Imagine herding cats on a global scale. More later.

You've two items begging your immediate attention. First, it's time to renew your club membership. The required form follows, so just print the form provided and mail it to Diamond Don with a check payable to TTOMA. You've until February 15 before the price goes up. Not only will you save yourself five dollars, American, but you'll get a burdensome monkey off the back of yours sincerely and Don. Last year, the renewals trickled in until summertime and that's way too long. Do your brothers in arms a big favor and renew soon. We'll let it go at that for now. Be forewarned, however, for much nagging will ensue for the laggards. You'll know who you are.

The registration for the annual banquet on January 27 follows. It promises to be a good one. We're having it at the usual venue, the Crowne Plaza at Powers Ferry and I-285. We'll have the use of the pre-function room, so bring your latest projects for show and tell; last year's fleet was very impressive. Dohrman corralled a fine speaker; I forget the gentleman's name, but he is a retired pilot that builds full-sized gliders the old-fashioned way, out of wood and fabric. Dohrman says his shop is really something, full of great tools and giant pieces of wooden gliders that look like huge model airplanes. Hopefully, he'll bring a lot of slides or whatever. Be there. A few months back, we had an unfortunate incident at the sod farm. I won't go into the details here because both your humble editor and Fearless Leader Elect Frank address this bit of slack-jawed, knuckle-dragging, numb-nuttery in detail later in these pages. This mustn't happen again! The new GM is a much harder case than the aero-friendly and chummy owners. Please read these bits and behave accordingly. We might lose the field if we don't. It's that simple.

We've a bevy of photos from Gary, Barf, Dohrman, and Tim and thanks a ton, y'all. Yvonne provides a outdoor contest report from October. Unfortunately, my outdoor contest report from September is lost to the ages, as well as the original working draft of this issue. The pertinent floppy disk went south and it just makes my Dell spin its wheels and make scary noises. I understand this happens occasionally, but this was the first time for me. The need to back up my back ups strikes me as a little retarded. The things they're not doing with electricity these days.

That's it from me for now from here. Send your dues in to Don, get your banquet reservations in to Dohrman, and try to glue some sticks together.

THE USUAL SUSPECTS

We voted on officers during the November meeting and the additionally burdened are as follows: Frank Hodson, prez; David Barfield, veep; Geoff Grosgruth, secretary; Don Brown, treasurer. They'll be formally announced at the banquet, but I'll put them in the cross-hairs, hereto.

GATHERING OF THE TRIBE

Mark your calendars for the first weekend in March for the annual Perry Model Show. No, not that kind of model. It's hard to imagine that happening at "the crossroads of Georgia." That quaint moniker did make some sense before the interstates, but I digress. This model show is merely the largest model airplane swap meet and trade show in the USA. Heck, let's call it the world. At 800 tables plus, I'd like to see the Euro trash or some bunch of Third World ragamuffins top that total. They're welcome to try, though.

I always have a good time. And even though the assembled traders is pushing 98% RC stuff, I still get to garner some goodies. There's nuggets here and there, if you get there earlier enough, more precisely, if you get there before Fearless Leader Elect Frank. If you feel like rubbing elbows with some AMA, SAM, MECA, and NFFS functionaries, there's targets of opportunity a-plenty. The Air Force Museum at the Warner-Robins AFB is on the way, so you can actually make a day of it. Tell your wife, girlfriend, or life partner, it's educational! When is the last time you got to kick the tires on a SR-71? Enough coercive prattle, be there. And bring money.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Here's the confirmed dates next year at North Cobb High School: Jan. 20, Feb. 17, March 17, and April 21. Mark your calendars thusly. The Peach State Indoor Champs(PSIC) is in April, CD'ed by yours sincerely. The North Cobb gym is a good category II site and the PSIC will be a National Indoor Cup event. More details to follow in the next issue. The school is easy to find; it's a few miles west of downtown Kennesaw on Old Hwy. 41 at the Blue Springs intersection. Once you're at the school, follow the white and orange signs. Maps to the site can be found on our web site. Be there.

THUMBS ON THE MARCH I

A few Thumbs went to the SAM Champs in Muncie and did a little damage. Al Pardue scored a unique coup when he won the FF Concourse event with his immaculate Earl Stahl Hurricane, also the SAM Champs featured rubber model of the year. The photos tell a familiar tale: Al's Hurricane looks like it came off a mold. They don't give these concourse trophies away and the competition is always tough. Well done, sir.

Graham Selick and Dohrman Crawford graced the podium in .020 Replica with a first and second place with their Strato Streak and Aerbo, respectively. Bill Duke scored a fourth in 8 oz. Wakefield('39 Korda) and a second in Large Stick(Lanzo) against two tough fields of big names. Dohrman ran outside the points but in the middle of the pack in both 1/2A and 1/4A Nosgas. Dohrman flew in the glider events, but I've not found any results published anywhere. Maybe he won something. Search me.

THUMBS ON THE MARCH II

Club protégé, Nick Ray, did TTOMA and the USA proud at the Junior World Championship in the Hungary/Bulgarian/Romanian salt mines. He lead the earlier rounds and finished a solid fifth amidst sturdy competitors. The club send him a bit of pocket money and Nick had enough class to write a thank you note for this and the club's other support and encouragement the last several years.

How many people these days write thank you notes? Not enough, let me assure you. Class will always win out and blood will always tell. No sweat, Nick, the pleasure was all ours. His thank you note was e-mailed to all members on the internet, but for those not so graced, it is re-printed later in these pages.

THUMBS ON THE MARCH III

Several Thumbs made their presence felt at the recent Gathering of Turkeys at Pensacola. Bill Duke did a vast amount of damage, including a first in Moffett, Gollywock, and Commercial Rubber, seconds in Large Fuselage and Jimmie Allen, and a third in Small Stick. Bill Neighbors scored a fourth in Nosgas 1/2A. Al Pardue scored a second in Commercial Rubber. Aside from these podium finishes, all those flew in a multitude of events and had a busy weekend.

A NOD OF THE GREEN VISOR

Club pal, George White, does a great job at the helm of the "Thermalier", the rag of the Pensacola Free Flight Team. Every editor has his causes and inclinations. Mine is a contrarian's slant on policy issues and shameless club promotion. George's is the nearly obsessive collection and publishing of wonderful and apropos how-to hints and construction tips. We owe George a debt because he performs an important role in our sport. There's a lot of knowledge out there that's not written down, and therefor, not accessible to most modelers, particularly the novices.

The recent addition and collation of George's articles to the PFFT website changes all that. Already an encyclopedic effort, it can only get better. Go to the PFFT website, <pensacolafreeflight.org>, and click on the Articles Index. I've not counted, but there might be hundreds of articles in the index. Much to chew on, Kemosabi.

I'll go ahead and mention another time-saver from the same issue. Throw away all your wax paper and Saran Wrap. Both have their problems, as all of us know. Go to the grocery store and buy a big honking roll of "parchment paper." It's cheap, lies flat, and nothing sticks to it. I mean nothing, not even white glue or CYA. Your wife, mistress, or life partner might already have some in the house already. Mostly, it's used it for something called "baking", whatever that is. And don't forget to ask first before you grab it and take it down to the basement, never to return.

Courtesy of George, Fearless Leader Elect Frank passes along just a sample of his oeuvre in the form of a good article on pacifiers for fuel tanks, which we're happy to reprint later in these pages. This article is just a teaser for the treasure trove awaiting you on the web site. George

was/is an old Navy hand and did accounting for the blue water boys, among other duties. I get the sense some of the early part of his nautical career was dedicated to the preservation of topside metal. Scraping old paint off old steel makes one appreciate the more intellectual vocations. Old sea dogs and old tricks. Thank you, George.

SOME HORN-TOOTING

A few issues back, TTOMA was featured in “Free Flight”, the NFFS rag. They spelled our name right and a little pub never hurts. As we know, several of our club essentials are especially noteworthy. For one, we’re one of the largest free flight clubs in the country, and for another, we do very well on the competition trail, both at national and regional meets. And through the results of our youth-mentoring efforts, we’ve managed to throw a little limelight on our young charges. A daisy chain of backslaps all the way around, y’all.

After reading my puff piece in the digest and then a pleading from Rex, the NFFS president, about everybody renewing their memberships, I got curious about how many Thumbs were NFFS members. Whipping out my new NFFS roster, I made a quick tally and was soon surprised and delighted to see thirty-seven(37) were NFFS members, a little over two-thirds. I wrote Expat Walt with the info and mentioned it at the Muncie BOD meeting. People were astounded by the number all the way around. Apparently, this percentage is exceptional.

One is tempted to ask why. Clearly, it’s the right thing to do. Therefore, we’re only doing what’s right. Maybe we should better ask why others don’t belong to the NFFS. I read several dozen newsletters and most newsletter don’t nag their members and readers like I do. And it’s not all me because, throughout the year, several Thumbs proselytize our fellows at strategic moments.

My fellow editors: Get On The Stick! Time to dust off the whipping post and get to flogging. Nagging works! The NFFS memberships rolls are about to slip below the 1500 mark “an’ dat jez ain’t riiite!”. If every newsletter editor worked his bully pulpit, every club might add ten new NFFS members. That would put us back over the 2000 mark. What’s a little berating among friends.

THE PRODIGAL SON RETURNS

Expat Walt is leaving the scenic and breezy confines of Key West and moving to St. Simon’s Island. Too many hurricanes and evacs, I guess. A wise move, no doubt, because the Georgia coast seems to avoid much of the “sturm und drang” that usually plagues the aforementioned and fabled, pirate port o’call.

I received an e-mail from him a few weeks ago, declaring such, and he mentioned, among other things, the profusion of UGA boosterism on the island. Yes, pardner, you’re deep in Indian Country. St. Simon’s has traditionally served as the staging area for the annual UGA/UF blood/brew fest, aptly named the World’s Largest Cocktail Party. The “Go Tigers” banners are few and far between, but don’t worry, everybody will treat you OK. To both school’s mutual credit, the Georgia/Auburn rivalry remains just this side of what one might call gentlemanly. Both colleges save their venom for other lower life forms. Thank your lucky stars you’re not a Gator fan. Now, that might get ugly. Not that I’m complaining. Friends don’t let friend attend college in Gainesville, Florida. (Sorry, Rex. I guess this means we’ll never get married.)

I spoke to a climatologist many years ago about the relative paucity of Georgia-bound hurricanes while holding forth at an airport bar. His theory was that the continental shelf extends so far out offshore at this portion of the southeast’s shoreline that it shields us in some way that

was lost to me in its details. I've found in my humble walk through life that one is likely to hear more wisdom in airport bars than remember it. Frankly, I prefer the simpler and more clarifying theory that we Georgians are just more righteous than our neighbors to the south, east, and west. Ergo, it's just God's will. Yea, that's the ticket.

FIRST, THE GOOD NEWS

Ah, yes, the good part. I've been appointed/sentenced to be the editor of the 2007 NFFS symposium, hereinafter referred to in-house as the "007". Who knows what I did to deserve this honor. Anywho, I'm looking forward to it. I'm sure I'll learn a lot in the process, particularly in the publishing software area. Frankly, I'm a bit taken aback by the responsibility I've assumed, but I've been promised a lot of help. And being a life long bachelor, I know how to beg.

Now the bad news. I'm realistic about the time demands I'm about to be put upon myownbaddself and I'm hereby notifying all my fellow Thumbs I will not be editing our rag for the first half of next year. I simply won't have the time. Ergo, someone needs to step up and take over for a few issues. I don't think it's too much to ask. I've been doing it for about twenty-five years and I need some hardy soul or souls to spell me while I pull the other plow.

Forearmed is forewarned. It's on y'all. Success is where preparation meets opportunity. You know how you are.

The task isn't as burdensome as it sounds because Brook Junior and I have it down to a system. Basically, everybody e-mails you all their meeting minutes, contest reports, photos, and other contributions to which you then provide captions, labels or whatever. You develop a final draft of your text, generally about four or five pages. The content of which is up to you, be it club news, policy rantings, engaging story telling, shameless club promotion, or anything you think people might want to or need to read. Brook Junior then sorts out everything into our usual format and e-mails it to me for my(your) final review. The newsletter is then e-mailed to everyone via my two e-mail folders, club members and VIP's. Then, you print out the remaining five or so issues on your(my) printer for those members without internet access and mail them via USPS. That's it.

Honestly, it's not as onerous as it sounds. What free flighter worth his salt can't come up with four pages of blather every two months. The rest is just being a traffic cop for e-mail attachments and doing a little nagging along the way.

A NEW MAN IN THE BARREL

Longtime District V Contest Coordinator, Bob Junk, is moving to Oklahoma and is giving up the job. Equally longtime FF hand and club pal, Bob Thoren of Huntsville, Alabama is hoisting said yoke and assuming those duties. Ergo, all within eyeshot of this missive should direct their sanction applications to Bob # 2 from henceforth. He's a card-carrying rocket scientist, so he should do fine. Many thanks to Bob #1 for his many years of steadfast service and bon chance, ami, to Bob # 2. Henceforth, please mail your sanctions to Bob # 2 at 10002 Bluff Dr., SE/Huntsville, AL 35803-1704. They're one hour in the past, so allow a little extra time.

Bob # 2 came to see us at the sod farm few months ago and we may see him again. It turns out our field is only a little over two hours away from Huntsville and he has family in town. Also, we are one hour in the future and you can't say this advanced consciousness isn't an advantage. Hey, look it up!

SPEAKING OF ALABAMA

I've made several trips down to Mobile and back the last month and on each one I've spied the immense side yard of the Hyundai plant immediately south of Montgomery. The expansive grounds between the plant and I-65 are huge and covered in the proverbial, tall grass. I'd estimate its size at roughly 3/4 by 1 1/2 miles, but don't hold me to it because my Volvo's odometer doesn't work. Whatever its actual size, it looks three times as wide as our sod farm, much longer, flat, and rectangular. The land was originally pastureland and some fences remain, as do a few scrawny trees. Frankly, it appears eminently flyable and accessible.

Yo, Easy Dave, Bob T, and Al, somebody needs to give this field a good look. It has potential. Often, these multi-national corporations have full time public relations departments that handle community relations items like ours. Why not, talk's cheap.

SPEAKING OF BOB

I just received the contest flyer for MACH's annual contest down in Pensacola to be held at the familiar 8A Field. Bob Thoren will CD the contest as is his perennial wont. I'll send you the flier with all the particulars via e-mail at the speed of light if you message me accordingly. They're hosting HLG, CLG, and Classic Towline on Saturday and Coupe, P-30, and Commercial Rubber on Sunday.

The weather is usually good and the field is a joy to fly on, one mile square of lawn. That is, as long as you know how to cut fuses. Once off that field, you're in a world of hurt. Most manage just fine; those that don't have entertaining stories to tell. Seriously, it's a good weekend and a great opportunity to get some early air under some fall and winter projects. You can reach Bob directly at <dtthoren3@comcast.net> or at the above address.

JUSTICE IS SWERVED

This just in from Heather Bailey, the daughter of our late OFB Ray Cudworth. Their two-year court battle to reclaim Ray's estate is over. Two years and a mountain of legal fees later, Heather and her husband can finally resolve the mountain of worries the demise of a loved one can cause. Their struggle was a long one and hopefully over because they had to take it all the way to the Georgia Supreme Court.

On behalf of the club, I'd like to officially thank our man Frank Stewart for his efforts on Ray's family's behalf. His testimony for the defense, the good guys, was the key to setting things right. Personally, I'm glad it's over because the sorted actions of the jerks and sleaze bags on the other side of the table remain one of the most morally onerous and disgusting episodes I've ever seen or heard. I won't further foul these pages with the details. However, if you find me in the future with a few beers in me and some time on my hands, I'd be happy to delve into the details and rake the muck.

Once again, Frank, thank for your steadfast support of Ray and his family. If not for your actions, some genuine evil would've been perpetrated on the undeserving. In the interim, at every juncture, you've said you were only doing what was right. My point exactly. Well done, sir.

GET YOURS TODAY OR MAYBE LATER

I've been a Airshark P-30 advocate for most of the last decade. The foremost example of the "big-wing-get-it-up fast" school, the Airshark is outnumbered at th NATS and elsewhere by models of the "small-wing-prop-turns-forever" school like that of my OFB Don DeLoach's

Polecat and Kamla's Marie. However, this may change with the anticipated new kit offering from the good folks at Starlink. Labeled the Airshark III, the new kit should be a good one, if it comes out the way Starlink's other products have. I'm looking forward to it and might even buy one.

A LITTLE IDIOCY ALONG THE WAY

No one really has a good theory as to what recently happened to the lock and gate at the sod farm last November. For whatever reason, the sod farm's lock was misplaced, lost, or stolen and the gate chain was locked with our lock. Unfortunately, the sod farm's employee's were forced to torch the chain first thing early Monday morning.

As is their custom, the sod farm called Fearless Leader Elect Frank and he was soon on-site with a new and expensive lock for the sod farm to use, at the club's expense, and spewing apologies all around. We're not even sure it was one of us that had the blatant brain fart, resulting in the great inconvenience done to the sod farm personnel and to our man Frank.

This avoidable contretemps could've spelled disaster for the club and it can't happen again. I don't think I need to posit the scenario of our club's immediate and long term future without the use of that field. Frank, thanks for your efforts on the club's behalf. Let's try not to let this happen again, y'all.

NEXT ISSUE

Hopefully, you'll see the work of a new, temporary editor for I'll be up to the scuppers in sympo work. I'll provide a banquet report and the flyer for the Peach State Indoor Champs(PSIC) in April. As I do, my fellows will appreciate photos, plans, contest reports, cartoons, poems, spun yarns, or whatever. Don't make them work too hard, either.

Ciao, y'all!

2007 TTOMA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____ AMA # _____

Street _____

State and ZIP Code _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail _____

Other Family Members _____

\$25.00/yr. for adults, plus \$1.00/additional family member(s). Juniors and seniors-no charge.
Note \$30.00/yr. after Feb.15

Send your check payable to TTOMA to: Don Brown/477 Safari Cir./Stone Mountain, GA 30083

October 10th, 2006
Contest Results

We had 9 entries...it was a very windy day but sunny and beautiful. Most of the guys could not fly much because the wind was so strong better than 20 mph...but everyone hung in there and flew their hearts out.

Catapult Piglet:

1 st place - Jim Altenbern	44, 120, 38 = 202
2 nd place - Clarence Purdy	20, 109, 66 = 195
3 rd place - Dorhman Crawford	55, 100, 36 = 191
4 th place - Gary Baughman	39, 24, 24 = 87
James Martin	25, 36, 26 = 87
5 th place - Don Peacock	21, 16, 16 = 53

HLG

1 Flyer Dorhman Crawfor	47, 40, 120 = 207
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P-30

1 Flyer Gary Baughman	98, 70, 45 = 213
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Catapult Glider

2 entries

1 st place Jim Altenbern	65, 29, 43 = 136
2 nd place Clarence Purdy	31, 29, 37 = 97

That was all that was flown because of the high winds. I was really surprised that Gary Baughman even brought his P-30 out.

The sign ups were:

Jim Altenbern from Greer, SC
Bill Gowen from Decatur, GA
Gary Morton from Apison, TN
Dorhman Crawford from Dunwoody, GA
David Barfield from Marietta, GA
James Martin from Marietta, GA
Clarence Purdy from Rupert, GA
Don Peacock from Pineview, Ga

There were several others there that did not enter but they helped time; they were:

Lynnwood Cochran
Jim Juliano
Don Brown

PROBLEMS AT THE NORTH GEORGIA SOD FARM FIELD

TTOMA has been and continues to be very fortunate, in having a reasonably good flying site as close to the Metro Area as we do. Everything has gone well in years past and our relationship with the McWhorter s' has been very good. However, since the owner Aaron McWhorter built his home at the sod farm, we have had a rash of problems arise:

1. The conflict between our September contest and Aaron's "Dove Shoot".
2. Club member(s) having their vehicles out in the sod field.
3. Gate locked up wrong, locking out field personnel. (lock was torched off)

Aaron appears to me to be less tolerant than Mark (son) the farm manager, and I am fearful that if we continue "screwing up", that Aaron one day may say "ENOUGH, OUT". Please, let us be on our toes at all times and remember that we all as club members all have a "PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY" to stop and/or correct anyone, at anytime when their breaking field rules or anything else that might cause the loss of field use. Don't look the other way or wait for someone else to act. Frank Hodson

The following message is from Nick Ray who finished 5th in the 2006 Junior

World F1D Championships:

I would like to thank the members of TTOMA for years of their generous support. Over the past four years of that I have been flying indoor with you, I have more help from various people than I can count. Furthermore, without the Monthly flying sessions offered by the club I would not have had any place to practice and learn.

I would like to say a special thanks to Bill Gowen and Chris Goins for allowing them to join me on their flying expeditions to every part of the country. Lastly, but far from least, I would like to think the club as a whole for the generous donation to my trip to the Salt Mine, this past week. Without the TTOMA I would not have made it as far as I have, and I look forward to flying with you all again this fall.

Thanks,
Nick Ray

MEETING MINUTES

The Thermal Thumbers of Metro Atlanta, 18 September 2006, Meeting Minutes

President, Howard Klemmetsen, called the meeting to order. Eleven members were present. The last meeting minutes were published in the Thumbprint. The meeting minutes were accepted as published by the members present.

Don Brown gave the treasure's report indicating that there were no deposits and no debits. At this time David Mills said he had forgotten to send a check for \$140.00 received for entry fees.

Old Business

It was motioned and seconded to take the \$300 that was returned by Gary Baughman and add \$100 to it and donate \$400 to Nick Ray a Junior competitor going to the World Indoor Championships in Rumania.

Dohrman Crawford reported on the SAMS Championships. Dohrman, Al Purdue and Graham Selick brought models to compete with. There were 120 flyers in attendance.

Howard Klemmetsen reported that the automobile parking situation at the flying field had greatly improved with everyone parking by the road.

Howard reminded us of the contest at the North Georgia Sod Farm on the 23 and 24 September 2006.

New Business

David Mills said that he is editor for the NFFS Symposium for 2007. He asked for volunteers to be editor of the Thumbprint for the first four months of 2007.

It was reported that Gary Baughman had all but November set up for indoor meets.

Howard discussed the slate of officers for 2007. It was confirmed that the current officers were willing to continue on for 2007.

Dohrman said he was looking for a speaker for the annual banquet. He mentioned a person who lives in Georgia who restores full sized old vintage wooden gliders. This sounded like a very interesting person for speaker at the banquet.

Show and Tell

Brook Dixon Sr showed his beautiful Newport 28 electric radio control model. He had down loaded the 3 view plans from a web site.

Bill Gowan showed his Muncie NATS one design, Bounty Hunter, which was featured in a recent issue of Model Aviation.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Geoff Gros Guth, Secretary

The Thermal Thumbers of Metro Atlanta, 16 October 2006, Meeting Minutes

Vice President, David Barfield, called the meeting to order. Eight members were present. The last meeting minutes were read by Geoff Gros Guth. The meeting minutes were accepted as read by the members present.

The treasure's report was read by Don Brown and accepted by the members present. For the period between 21 August 2006 and 16 October 2006, the deposits were \$150.00, expenses were

\$506.60. At this time Don had not received the check for \$140.00 from David Mills. The check was from contest entry fees.

Old Business

It was mentioned that someone recently had used the club lock on the gate at the North Georgia Sod Farm. The staff at the sod farm broke the lock because none of the staff members had keys. The lock on the gate at the North Georgia Sod Farm was replaced by another club lock and copies of the key were given to each member of the sod farm staff.

Bill Gowan explained the category of the church gym. He said that the church gym was a category I indoor flying site. The gym would be category II if the center ceiling section was wider.

There was no flying at this meeting because the round tables were set up. Dohrman Crawford said he would inquire about the tables, because they obstruct the flying area.

A question was raised about changing the club dues since the expense of the Thumb Print copy and distribution costs were eliminated. Discussion of this question was not sustained.

New Business

There was much discussion of the contests to be held at the sod farm next year. Any contest needs two or more flyers of one model design or different model designs that are given handicap ratings. Don Brown suggested giving flying points for those attending the meetings as possible incentive to get people out to the club meetings. It was suggested that there be a model of the year and/or an event of the year. Another idea suggested was to have a model design brainstorming session to improve a specific class design to be built and flown by everyone. Another thought was an open event where different model designs are assigned a handicap rating and flown together in one event. After much discussion the following events were identified for next year's contests:

1. E36 (without the low weight restriction)
2. P-30 (Event of the Year)
3. Embryo
4. Catapult Piglet (Model of the Year)

It was suggested that the Contest Director, CD, should base the duration of flight maximum on the wind condition of the day.

David Barfield said that the election of officers would be in November.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Geoff Gros Guth, Secretary

The Thermal Thumbers of Metro Atlanta, 20 November 2006, Meeting Minutes

President, Howard Klemmetsen, called the meeting to order. Twelve members were present. The last meeting minutes were read by Geoff Gros Guth and they were accepted by the members present.

The treasure's report was read by Don Brown and accepted by the members present. For the period between 16 October 2006 and 20 November 2006, deposits were \$140.00, expenses were \$0.0.

Old Business

David Mills said that he would not be able to be editor for the Thumbprint next spring, because he will be occupied as the editor of the 2007 NFFS Symposium. He asked for a volunteer to be editor of the Thumbprint for the first four months of 2007. He outlined the task as collecting articles, photos, meeting minutes, meet schedules and contest results, and reviewing them before sending them electronically to Brook Dixon.

Dorhman Crawford said that the speaker for the annual banquet would be Bob Gaines who restores full sized vintage wooden gliders. The banquet has been arranged to be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on 23 January 2007.

David Mills said that the estate of Ray Cudworth has been settled in favor of his daughter, Heather.

Frank Hodson said that because of the gate lock problem at the North Georgia Sod Farm, the following distribution of keys would be adhered to: one key in the CD kit; one key held by himself; and one key held by Dohrman Crawford. He also said that the vehicle parking has been corrected to parking along the road and not in the middle of the field.

New Business

Dohrman Crawford said that the meet schedule for the Sod Farm has been completed and that there is a need contest directors.

Howard Klemmetsen related the results of the survey he sent out by email. The topic of the survey was whether or not to change the Sod Farm meets from Sunday to Saturday. Of the 49 individual email surveys sent out, 13 returned answers in favor to change the meet to Saturday from Sunday. Some of the members present at this meeting claimed they never received the email survey. The consensus was that the results of the survey where not conclusive in warranting a change.

Frank Hodson said that the two day contests held last summer were not well attended on Saturday. He suggested holding the FAC contest on Saturday once in June and once in September. Frank made a motion to hold two FAC contests. Motion was seconded and passed by majority vote.

David Mills said that contests should be called off only for severe weather (i.e. tornados and hurricanes, not summer showers or thunder storms).

Dohrman Crawford suggested making a contribution in the amount of \$300 be made to the church for use of the gym facility. This idea was very favorably received by the members present.

Don Brown suggested that Frank Hodson get another Christmas gift, a fruit basket, for the staff at the North Georgia Sod Farm. Frank said he would do this.

Election of Officers

Frank Hodson said he was interested in being president again. Frank was nominated to run for president along with Howard Klemmetsen. The majority of votes cast by secret ballot favored Frank for president. The remaining officers would continue as no one else voiced interest in running for the remaining offices and the remaining officers agreed to continue next year.

Show and Tell

Dohrman Crawford showed the uncovered wing for a Hoosier Hot Shot.

David Barfield showed an uncovered Piper Sky Cycle.

Frank Hodson brought fan fold foam and a wing formed from a piece of the foam.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Geoff Gros Guth, Secretary

Fall Picture Collage

Photo by Tim Lavender



"Wayne's been a busy boy."
Six models in two months.
The master of his domain and still married.

"Tim's new WW I peanut."
You just can't beat two wings.
Tim didn't say what it was,
but I'm guessing a Armstrong Whitworth F.K.8.
(I've way too many airplane books.--DM)



"Tim's new dimer, a Martin M-8."
Assumed to be the predecessor to the mighty M-10.
From John Blair plans. Cute as a bug.

SAM Champs



SAM Champs. Dohrman and his new DLG. Discus launch requires some grace and panache. Dohrman, however, is more graceful in the water than on land.



SAM Champs. Dohrman and his brand new Senator.



SAM Champs. Graham tweaks his Spacer. Loud and proud, it gets up there pretty fast.

SAM Champs. Al shows off his Concourse-winning Earl Stahl Hurricane. Beautiful job.



SAM Champs. Bill Duke leaves the processing tent. Which Korda is this?

North Georgia Turf Farm



Richard justly proud of his new Interstate Cadet. Doesn't the field look huge?



Richard launching his Cadet skyward. Last seen flying over the Mighty Hooch for parts unknown. A great hobby or what? This photo says it all.



Barf debuted his new Thin Lizzie. Cute as a bug. Flies well, too. From the BMJR kit.



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 At 770-955-1700, NLT January 07,2007

THE 2007 TTOMA BANQUET
 SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2007

THE CROWNE PLAZA POWERS FERRY, ATLANTA
 6345 POWERS FERRY, NW, ATLANTA, GA, 30339
 770-955-1700

RECEPTION---6:00-7:00PM IN THE WARWICK PREFUNCTION ROOM WITH
 CASH BAR

DINNER---7:00-11:00 PM IN THE WARWICK BALLROOM

MENU

TOSSED GARDEN SALAD WITH ROMA TOMATOES AND SLICED CUCUMBER
 WITH CHOICE OF TWO DRESSINGS

ENTREE

ROASTED PORK LOIN ROULADE- \$34.00/PERSON

OR

BREAST OF CHICKEN CHAMPIGNON-\$31.00/PERSON

INCLUDING

CHEF'S CHOICE OF RICE OR POTATO

CHEF'S CHOICE OF SEASONAL VEGETABLES

WARM ROLLS AND BUTTER

CHEF'S CHOICE OF DESSERT

FRESHLY BREWED REGULAR COFFEE, DECAFF COFFEE AND ICED TEA

*****TAX AND GRATUITY INCLUDED*****

CUT HERE

TTOMA BANQUET RESERVATIONS, SATURDAY, JANUARY 27,2007

CIRCLE ENTRÉE CHOICE

NAME[S]_____	ROAST PORK	CHICKEN
_____	ROAST PORK	CHICKEN
ADDRESS_____	\$34/PERSON	\$31/PERSON
_____	Total:_____	Total:_____
TELEPHONE_____	TOTAL ENCLOSED_____	

Return this form by Saturday, Jan 15, 2007, with check or money order made payable to Dohrman Crawford
 Mail to: TTOMA BANQUET RESERVATIONS, c/o Dohrman Crawford, 1400 Mile Post Drive, Dunwoody, GA, 30338