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# The Transmitter

Suburban RC Barnstormers - P.O. Box 524, Bloomingdale, IL 60108

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July 2006

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<http://www.suburbanrcbarnstormers.com>

## Coming in July and August

July 10<sup>th</sup>, Club Meeting, 7:00pm, Bloomingdale Library

July 16<sup>th</sup>, Fun-Fly # 3, Pratt's Wayne Woods. 9:00am pre-flights, 10:00am first flights

August 6<sup>th</sup>, Giant Scale Fun-Fly, Pratt's Wayne Woods

August 14<sup>th</sup>, Club Meeting, 7:00pm, Bloomingdale Library

August 20<sup>th</sup>, Fun-Fly # 4, Pratt's Wayne Woods. 9:00am pre-flights, 10:00am first flights

## Fun-Fly #2 Results

*By Dave West.*

Our second outdoor fun-fly of the season took place on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Despite the wet weather, we had 16 club members in attendance with 11 flying. The event, titled "Midway Runway", involved landing (and coming to a complete stop) within the confines of a runway defined by surveyor's tape. The catch was that the runway would get progressively narrower. The 150-foot long runway started out 50 feet wide. Each pilot had an opportunity to land at this width. Pilots not landing within the runway were eliminated. Then in limbo fashion, the runway width was reduced. The process repeated until only one pilot remained.

To keep things moving, a contestant's plane needed to be in the air when the previous plane touched down. However, only two planes could be in the air at any time. It is amazing how an engine that "starts every time", can act up under such pressure.

Thanks to the efforts of all involved, we completed two full rounds, with each round having five passes (in spite of brief rain delays).

Scott Stampfli was the last survivor and winner of the first round. In the second round, only Ron Hilger and Jeff Peca remained after the runway shrunk to about 5 feet wide. After two fly-off attempts at narrower widths, neither made the target – so, they tied. Overall, Scott,

Ron, and Jeff shared first place (and the Blue, Red, and White ribbons).

This time the coveted Green Participant Ribbon was awarded to Jes Stampfli for helping out and making a run to Dominick's for more hot dog buns. Remember, that even if you don't fly, you are welcome to come out to a fun-fly. We can use your help (and you get a free lunch and entry into the door prize drawing too!).



Special thanks to Jim Scahill for grilling the dogs, Jeff Peca for taking over the door prize duties, and John Howe for bringing the shelter. The next fun fly is July 16<sup>th</sup>. Steve Dietrich will run the event, which will feature golf balls and putters!

# SPAD Fest 2006

Although I didn't get any direct reports of the goings on at SPAD Fest, I did receive a number of photos. SPAD Fest was held June 16-18 at the Rantoul Illinois Airport. It is clear from these pictures that participation was good, the weather was excellent, the food terrific, and the event a great success! Ed. (Photos by Scott and Jessie Stampfli)



# Notes of the Barnstormers Meeting

June 12, 2006

## Attendance

Thirty-six members were in attendance.

## Officer Reports

**President: Jim Scahill** the meeting was called to order at 7:20 PM.

**Vice President: Orvil Fluharty** announced that one of the door prizes was donated by **John Krygier** – 12 – 1 mini took kit. The other door prize is a Wing Jig. The rollover prize is a Spectrum radio.

**Treasurer: Bob Elsner** stated that the reason we were meeting in the D room was due to the timing of submitting the request and the Library's schedule. I believe we will be meeting in the D room again for the July meeting. Budget: There is \$7,434 in the bank.

**Secretary: Ruth Egging** handed out membership cards and name badges.

## Committees

**Flight Instruction: Jim Scahill** was not available the weekend of June 10<sup>th</sup> and, due to Spad Fest, will not be available this weekend (June 16, 17, and 18). He should be available the rest of the year.

**Fun Fly: Dave West** announced the results of the first fun fly at the field. The key to the Fun Fly was consistency, however Jeff Peca Won, Jim Paroline 2<sup>nd</sup>, Lou Gages 3<sup>rd</sup>, Scott Taylor 4<sup>th</sup>, and John Howe 5<sup>th</sup>. The first pylon race took place after the Fun Fly, with the results of Jim Paroline Won, Jeff Peca 2<sup>nd</sup> and John Howe and Dave West 3<sup>rd</sup>. It sounded like everyone had a good time.

The next Fun Fly will be on June 25<sup>th</sup> and the event will be Midway airport runway. The runway gets narrower, maybe shorter.

**Giant Scale: Jeff Peca** said that there were about 25 pilots, good food, a good turn out and a good time. Dave West had the fastest landing.

## Old/New Business:

**Spad Fest:** will be held this weekend at Rantoul. Sign up by tomorrow and get a \$4 discount or can register at the event. Some people registered as a donation. Shirts and Hats are for sale too. Purchase a shirt and hat for \$16. The shirt alone is \$10 and the hat is \$8.

## Miscellaneous:

**Jim Scahill** opened the floor for member discussions.

**Al Riefler** brought in a few carved solid wooden airplanes that he has for sale from his discussion last month as some members had showed an interest in them.

**Jeff Peca** asked what the club should do with the extra money:

There was some discussion on a shelter being put up, and Jim said we should wait for a little while on this. Also, the stands still need to be put up.

Spend more money on the Fun Flies. There are six left at \$50 each. This was approved by the membership.

Discussion led to why do we have to spend it, if the club wants a shelter maybe this money could be used in conjunction with the Forest Preserve to put up a shelter.

Maybe a catered pre-Thanksgiving meal.

**Scott Taylor** handed out plaques from the April static contest to the winners.

## Planes

**Steve Dietrich** showed a Magnum 28 Spad.

**Jim Scahill** showed a Dagger 40 size Spad.

## Raffle

**Gerald Hurley** won the Turkey, **Scott Hurley** won the door prize of the Wing Jig, and **Art Wojda** won the mini tool set.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

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## Ins and Outs of eBay

by Jay Bickford

I sell and buy quite a few items on eBay, the online auction site. I am guessing that many of you are not familiar with the site and how it works, so I thought I would give you a quick run down on some of the ins and outs of buying and selling on eBay.

First of all, I have a fault to admit. I am a terrible hoarder. I keep stuff—lots of stuff. Old or new, it really doesn't matter. If I think I may have a use for it in the future, I hide it away; however, this has actually worked out to be an advantage. It has given me a pretty good supply of stuff to sell on eBay, and selling stuff I already have has helped fund my RC hobby. Here are just a few examples of things I had laying around the house that I recently sold on eBay:

- Aurora space shuttle Orion plastic model kit from 2001: A Space Odyssey sold for \$100.
- Aurora Ragnarock Orbital Interceptor plastic model kit sold for \$100.
- Assorted old Tom Swift hardcover books sold for \$10-70 each.
- Aurora AFX HO scale slot cars sold for \$14-22 each.

You get the idea, and best of all there is a lot of RC airplane merchandise on eBay, whether you are a buyer or a seller.

### Buying on eBay

Getting set up as a buyer on eBay is simple. All you need to do is register. Just go to [www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com) and follow the registration instructions. It is also helpful to set up a PayPal online payment account at [www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com). Most buyers and sellers prefer to handle their payments through PayPal, and you will usually get purchased items faster if you pay this way.

You do have to register a credit card online with PayPal, but the sellers never see your number; only PayPal does. This makes your online transaction much more secure. If you don't feel comfortable giving out your credit card number to PayPal, most eBay sellers will accept money orders. However, check the specifics in the auction before bidding. Some sellers only accept payment via PayPal.

### Selling on eBay

While selling on eBay is not hard, it is a bit more complicated than buying. First of all, you have to register. If you have already registered as a buyer, you are ready to go as a seller as well.

The next item you need is a digital camera to take pictures of the stuff you want to sell. You can use a regular film camera and have a CD made during film processing, but this is more expensive and time consuming than going the digital route.

Items listed with clear, detailed photos bring more money than those that aren't. Also, make sure you write an accurate description of the item, including any defects or damage.

Next, if you are new to selling on eBay, it is a good idea to sell a few inexpensive items first to get the hang of it and to build up your eBay feedback profile. The feedback profile is a valuable asset on eBay. It tells people what kind of a buyer and seller you are. It is a good idea to build up some positive feedback before you try to sell an expensive item. Also, even though it sounds counter intuitive, list your auctions with no reserve price or with a low starting bid price. You will get more money for your items and more interest in your auction if you do it this way. If you are concerned that you won't get what you think you should from an item, search for completed auctions on items similar to yours before listing your item. This will give you an idea of what your item will bring.

Veteran eBay sellers will also tell you that there are certain days and times to end auctions that bring more money. I have found that Sunday evening is a great time to end an auction. Most people are home and getting ready to start the workweek. Basically, if it is prime time for TV, it is also prime time for ending eBay auctions. I hope this has whetted your interest a bit for the excitement and profitability of online auctions.

*\*Please note that this article is not comprehensive. Please check with eBay and PayPal for complete rules, terms, and conditions.*

# The Transmitter

This newsletter is published monthly by the Suburban RC Barnstormers, Inc.

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Material can be submitted for publication: (1) at a meeting, (2) by mailing to Suburban RC Barnstormers, Inc., P.O. Box 524, Bloomingdale, IL 60108, (3) sending it to the email of the editor, Scott Taylor, at [taylorstr@megsinet.net](mailto:taylorstr@megsinet.net)

Articles must be received by the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

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