



THE KNIGHT FLYER



Apr - May - Jun
Editor

2007
Jim Devlin

Mall Show 2007

This year we showed off 27 models. They represented a wide spectrum of aircraft designs.

You could find biplanes, sport planes, and fighter planes from both world wars. There were helicopters and float planes.

We have been participating in the McKinley Mall show for a number of years.

One of the features of the event is the air-plane beauty contest.

Each plane is given a number and the visitors are asked to pick their favorite plane.

This is a popularity contest.

The visitor might pick one simply because it was his or her favorite plane when they were a child.

Or perhaps someone in the family once owned or flew that kind of plane.

It could be just the color scheme that strikes their fancy.

Even the size of the model might be the sole criteria.

Whatever the reason, the visitor chooses the model that strikes his or her fancy.

This year the top pop vote went to Sarah Chamberlain and the LT-40, Spongebob. Her prize was \$25.

The second prize of \$15 went to Tom Filipiak and the P-38 Lightning.

And, finally, the \$10 third prize was captured by Chuck Schummer for his P-51 Mustang.

The winning planes are shown on Page 2.



Outstanding array of models

Our simulator was set up, along with our DVD player.

Visitors were able to watch some of our many model videos and actually try their hand at flying with the simulator.

The Dart program was held on Saturday and Sunday afternoon.

It is always a favorite part of the show. About 150 children were each given a penny glider.

The gliders were soon zooming about in an empty part of the mall.

Continued on Page 2

Hamburg Airport Day

Last year, on the Hamburg Airport day, the weather was less than desirable with on and off rain.

At the time we didn't know what to expect, so the event turned out to be a pleasant surprise.

Well, now we know.

A great pancake breakfast, lots of interesting exhibits, planes and even airplane rides.

All this sent the crummy weather blues packing.

This year, the event will be held on Saturday, June 2.

We have been asked again to provide a few models for a static



Civil Air Patrol serves breakfast

display in the hanger.

Anyone who did not make it for last year's event is invited to stop by.

Continued from Page 1

The idea of the program is to interest young people in aviation. Some day one or two of the little tykes may be flying an RC model, or even carving out a career in aviation.

This years show seemed to run very smoothly and captured a lot of interest from the people shopping the mall.



1st place; Spongebob



2nd place: P38—Lightening



3rd place: P51—Mustang



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Chinese Auction

After a mild and snow free winter, the weather suddenly turned sour.

On the eve of our famous Chinese Auction, drifting snow, whiteouts and sub-zero wind chills made their appearance.

But, that did not deter the stalwart band of knights from attending the premier event of the year.

About 20 members braved the inclement conditions, eager for a chance at the fabulous array of prizes.

One could feel the tempo rising as the moment approached. Prior to the



The prizes beckon

meeting, members cautiously placed their tickets into the cups in front of each of the treasured items.

Each carefully avoided the appearance of being too eager, so that their enthusiasm would not tip others off.

In a slowly evolving drama, the tickets, one by one were pulled by Trina Scaglione.

Don Moffit, headed up the committee and did a super job of organizing this event. As each ticket was pulled he called out the name of the lucky winner.

The excitement remained high until the very last item was claimed.

The proceeds of this event are used for field improvements at our North Collins field.



Eager bidders line up

Tee Shirt Contest

During our rally, last year, it was hard to miss the beautiful 25th anniversary tee shirt.

It had been designed especially for the anniversary.

This year, we would like to hold a design contest for a tee shirt that will be sold at our 2007 rally. It is open to all of our members

The design should not include the date or year of the rally. All designs must be submitted by May 4th, so there isn't much time.

Put those latent artistic skills to use and create a unique design that expresses your ideas.



It could be any aeronautical or modeling theme.

There are only 3 rules.

1. The size will be **12 inches by 12 inches.**
2. You can only use **3 colors.** White is a color.
3. Your design **must be submitted by May 4th.**



THE CHEROKEE'S ROOTS

The Piper Cherokee was never a concept plane.

It never made the "Greatest Planes" list.

But, go to any small airport in the states and you are likely to see one.

Introduced in 1961, the Cherokee sported constant chord rectangular wings, (often referred to as Hershey bar wings).

It introduced the use of similar curves, fiberglass and plastic construction to the small plane market.



Fig. 1 Piper Cherokee

It was a 4 place aircraft with a fixed tricycle landing gear.

The stretched version could carry 6 passengers.

It was a very popular club plane and trainer in the 70's.

There were 10,086 of these aircraft built. See Fig. 1.

But where did the Cherokee come from?

The maker of the Cherokee is the Piper Aircraft Corp.

The Piper Aircraft Corp is synonymous with the yellow high wing Cub.

The company was founded in 1929, when William Piper bought a stake in Taylor Brothers Aircraft Corporation.

The Taylor company had produced several high wing aircraft, but had fallen on hard times.

The first years for the fledgling Piper company were poor due to the depression, but the company managed to survive.

Then in 1937, the factory was totally destroyed by a fire.

Mr. Piper, now the sole owner, relocated to Lock Haven, Pa. where he bought a much larger facility and changed the name to Piper Aircraft Corp.

To meet an increasing demand for small aircraft, he developed an assembly line production system.

The company soon became one of America's foremost small plane manufacturers.

By 1938, it began producing the J-3 Cub. Fig. 2.

Easy to fly and relatively inexpensive, the Cub soon became so well known that it was another word for personal aviation.

During the early forties, the Cub was modified for military use.

The Military was so impressed that it bought thousands.

They were used in training, medical evacuation, reconnaissance and artillery spotting. It was called the "Grasshopper".

Four out of five American pilots got their start in one of these planes.

After the war, civilian aviation grew rapidly and in 1954 Piper launched its first all metal plane, the Apache.

It was the first in a series that was named after an American Indian tribe as a salute to Piper's own American Indian heritage.

The twin engine plane was successful. In 1957, Piper built a new R & D facility at Vero Beach, Fla.

The first aircraft designed there was the PA-25 Pawnee, a crop duster.

The 1960's brought out a new plane that would prove to be the first of a successful new family

It was the PA-28 Cherokee.

The Knight Flyer

This versatile plane began as a two seat sporting and training aircraft.

With a larger engine the airframe was converted into a four seat version.

This single engine, four place design accounted for more than half of the companies sales in the decades that followed.



Fig. 2 Piper Cub

New models included the Archer, Dakota, Arrow, Seneca, and the Saratoga.

These were all based on the same basic design.

In 1965, a stretched version for six passengers came out.

It was the PA-32, better known as the Cherokee Six. In 1967, Piper entered the business field with the PA-31 Navajo, a powerful cabin class twin.



Fig. 3 Piper Seneca

In 1970, the founder, William Piper died in Lock Haven at the age of 89.

Some referred to him as the Henry Ford of aviation.

The following year, the company brought out the PA-34 Seneca. Fig. 3. This was a light twin built on the airframe of the Cherokee six.

The latest version of the Cherokee family, the Saratoga was introduced in 1997.

This reliable plane has seen duty around the world as a charter aircraft and a dependable multi-engine trainer.

In 1983, while most aircraft com-

panies were cutting back, Piper introduced the PA-46 Malibu, a totally new design.

In 1995, the company president, (Charles Suma) and a core of employees took over the company.

Over the years all the models were constantly improved.

The Piper company has produced great aircraft for

nearly 80 years.

Today, the only plant operating is in Vero Beach, Fla.

The Cherokee, has been a considerable part of that heritage and it's popularity continues to remain high to this very day.

Flight Instruction



The following members will provide regular flight instruction.

Use your **roster** to contact them for training arrangements by phone or email.

**Mark Chamberlain Stu Brierley
Frank Shattuck John Newman**

The following members are available for instruction at the flying field.

They will be very happy to help you anytime that they are at the field.

**Tom Filipiak Bill Scaglione
Jim Devlin Jerry Piscatello**

Club Cherokee

This winter, some 16 knights gathered at Bill Hauth's place on Tuesday and Wednesday to work on what has been one of the classic models of all time.

The founder of our club, Norm McCormack was involved in the first test flights of this model which was designed and produced by Vern Kreible of Akron, NY.

It looks like there are about 23 Cherokees under construction.



Checking the measurements



An assembly line

Times have changed and there are new methods of construction as well as new materials.

Bill came up with a simple way to assemble the fuselage

Utilizing new adhesives now available to the modeler, fuselages rolled off the assembly line at Bill's Place like chicklets.

Of course, the new wings had to be foam and balsa.

These materials were purchased

in bulk, so the cost was held at a minimum. This has been an especially fertile venue for our new members to learn some of the secrets (tricks of the trade), of building.



Embryonic wings

Excitement is building and everyone is holding their breath for the first flight of one of the new models.

May 5th Work Party NC Field



FIRST SATURDAY IN MAY

Bring rakes
and shovels

Come early – Stay late
Food will be provided

**A REMINDER FOR ALL FLYING KNIGHT'S CLUB MEMBERS
AS THE FLYING SEASON APPROACHES**

LATE LAST SUMMER, THE CLUB MANDATED TO CHANGE THE FLIGHT PATTERN BACK TO THE "FIGURE 8" CONFIGURATION AT THE NORTH COLLINS FIELD THIS IS ABSOLUTLY NECESSARY TO PREVENT FURTHER PROBLEMS WITH OUR NEIGHBORS ON SHIRLY ROAD.

WE NEED EVERYONE'S COOPERATION IN THIS MATTER.

KNIGHT'S SWAP SHEET

INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE

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Complete ready to fly -----\$350.00

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Wing loading -- 25.04 Oz., Airfoil ----- symmetrical

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Do not call Knights or Editor to execute sales.

2nd Q 2007

Schedule

Fri. 5/4, 5/25

St. James Church 7:30

New members 6:30

Fri. 6/15 Nike Field 7:30

Board Meeting

Wed. 4/11, 5/2, 5/23, 6/13

7:30 pm

(check meeting card for location)

Officers

President: George Gard

Vice Pres: Mark Chamerlain

Secretary: Gail Scaglione

Treasurer: George Fox

Board

Jim Pravel Bob Rodgers

Bob Waldraf Orv Chatwood

Note! The meeting for Friday, April 13th has been cancelled!



The Flying Knights
c/o 5761 Diana Lane
Lake View, NY 14085



The Flying Knights of Hamburg, NY
Academy of Model Aeronautics - A Chartered Radio Control Flying Club
www.theflyingknights.com