



THE KNIGHT FLYER



Jul - Aug - Sep

2013

FIFTY YEARS AND COUNTING

Fifty years ago several modeling enthusiasts were flying their models at a airfield owned by of one of them. They thought there might be enough interest to form a club in the area.

They went to a trade show hosted by the Flying Bison's, an RC club in Amherst and set up a booth.

Fourteen people showed up. The year was 1963. The very first Fun Fly was held in August of 1964 with about 25 members.

Early problems arose over noise complaints and the fledgling club obtained the current North Collins field.

During the field disputes, the club held Fun-Flys at the Orchard Park Airport until the Nike Site became available in the middle seventies.

Interest was high and several members formed an Air Show Team which flew for six years.



Gerry Updates the Club History

Since then we have met at St. James church.

The tiny group grew over the years into a robust club averaging 70 members or more.

As we grew, new events came into play.

Successful scale rallies and auctions are now a part of our annual activities.

The story was told again at the 50th Anniversary dinner held at J.P. Fitzgerald's Pub in Hamburg.

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Dining at Fitzgerald's

Also in the seventies the meeting location moved from the Boston Public Library to a building at the Nike Base in Hamburg. The club met there until the late nineties when the town took over the facility.

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Forty people gathered to celebrate the fifty years.

A slide show assembled by Jim Devlin was played during the dinner.

Jerry Piscitello, an original member delivered a short history of the club.

A very enjoyable time was had by all those who attended.

New Flying Field

Everyone knows how town activities have encroached on the Hamburg Nike field over the last few years.

Flying is now prohibited after 5:00 PM for most of the summer.

Several weekends are also off limits to flyers, due to contests held by soccer groups or other activities.

In North Collins, everyone is aware of the problems posed by the horse farms.

Houses are beginning to appear across the street.

No one knows what will happen in the future.

The club was recently offered a new field on a farmers land that is not too far from the Hamburg area.

It's about the same distance as our current field in North Collins.

The field is located on Emersling Road in the Town of Colden.

Being farmland, it is in rough shape with high and low spots.

Several work parties had been organized somewhat unsuccessfully, with progress is being slowly made.

Don Doman brought his front loader out which saved a tremendous amount of work with wheelbarrows and shovels.

Orv Chatwood used an industrial roller to flatten the field which was lumpy from farming.

Jim Ehrig secured a large lawn-mower.

At the end of the day, things still didn't look well.

The field was still in poor shape so the club had an industrial size bulldozer take it down and smooth it out.

Flyer's 2013 List Posted

Each year a field roster is posted at the Nike Base field. It is mounted in the shelter.

Over the past few years people who did not belong to any local club precipitated several safety violations that threatened the loss of the Hamburg field.

Our clubs along with the town agreed to restrict flying to actual members of the two clubs and their guests.

The 2013 list is now posted.

All members with a current Knights membership card are allowed to fly at the Hamburg Field.



Now, We're Getting Serious

This worked quite well and seed was planted.

The grass is now growing and looking good. The question now will be cutting the grass.

A back of the book analysis of the grass situation at North Collins reveals that it cost north of \$4000 over the last several years to maintain the field.

It seemed more cost effective to try to purchase a 54 inch mower and have members mow the field. The large size mower should get it done quickly.

The club authorized the purchase and the membership seems committed to make it work.

Annual Work Party

People arrived at the North Collins field early on the first Saturday in May.

Every year the field needs to be dressed and usually there is some major task that calls for attention.

The commercial "Johnny on the Spot" service had checked out the field and determined that it was too difficult to get the truck back into the area where the facility was located.

Yikes!

That meant that we had to re-locate the current unit.

Even worse, it had rained for several nights and the field was extremely wet.

Those tasks that had to be postponed because of the field conditions were addressed later in the month on a catch as catch can basis.

Never the less, work started.



Nathan Flattens the Field

Many of the other routine tasks, such as cutting the grass, raking up debris and sprucing the area were severely restricted.

The roof on our utility building was also in need of repair.

In spite of the impediments, much did get done and by noon everyone was ready to call it complete and break for lunch. The club supplied the hot dogs and drinks.

June picnic

We enjoyed a Sunshine Sandwich. A day of beautiful sun with two days of rain on top and bottom.

A large number of flyer's and family arrived early in the afternoon to take advantage of perfect flying and picnic weather.

A large variety of models took to the air. A nice mix of gas and electric aircraft.

All of the fliers seemed to be paying close attention to the stringent rules that apply to the North Collins field.



The High Point of the Day

After a serious confrontation, it was agreed that the flight rules already in place would avoid future problems.

At the Nike Base:

John Newman — 824 - 5744
Bill Eberhardt — 627 - 3486
Jim Devlin — 627 - 7221

At North Collins:

Chuck Caruana: — 337 - 0144
George Fox — 648 - 0667
Call to make arrangements for all persons involved.

The Knight Flyer

New Kid on the Block

Last year we saw a strange new flying object appear at various flying events.

Its popularity seem to mushroom overnight.

Suddenly, they were everywhere.

It's reported that one appeared in the flight path of an international flight approaching JFK in New York, (which is by the way, a total NO-NO).

But smaller cousins seemed to proliferate at every indoor flying venue.

Looks like a helicopter, flies like a helicopter, but it isn't a helicopter.

So, what is it and how does it work?

Well, the name was a Quadcopter and in this article we will try to discover how it functions.

The name Quadcopter comes from the obvious fact that it has four rotating blades, one on each corner.

We are all familiar with the problems that confronted the early pioneers during the development of the helicopter.

The biggest difficulty was stability. How to make the device stay upright and under control.

In those early days the idea was to mount a blade on top of a mast and the rotation would lift the entire structure into the air. Leonardo Davinci had worked that much out.

Unfortunately, the rotation of the large blade caused the supporting structure to rotate in the opposite direction.

Simple physics.

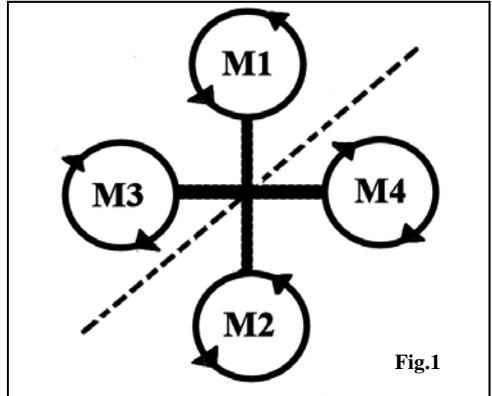
Of course Leonardo lived before Isaac Newton and "for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction", wasn't quite understood yet.

In the 1930's it was discovered that a smaller propeller mounted on a boom to counteract this torque did indeed fix the problem.

A second method was to use a counter-rotating blade which also neutralized the torque.

The Quadcopter uses this method to achieve stability.

By making the rotation of the two blades along opposing sides of the centerline as shown in fig 1, opposite in direction, inherent stability is achieved.



Obviously, if the rotation of all of the rotors is increased simultaneously, the Quadcopter will ascend and if it is decreased, it will descend.

If the differential speed of the blades along the centerline is changed, the Quadcopter will tilt and move in the direction of the tilt. Forward and backward motion is generated the same way.

The forward rotors will decrease speed, the device will tilt and move in the forward direction.

A more complex motion is rotation. This corresponds to a rudder action.

Looking at fig. 2, we can see that as M1 & M2 are increased, (while M3 & M4 are decreased), the unit will rotate left about its center.

Reversing the speeds, (not rotation), will result in rotation in the opposite direction.

Summer Activities

Dates to keep in mind for summer fun!

**Canandaigua
Sky Chiefs 2nd Annual
Fun Fly 2012**
Sat-Sun, June 9th & 10th
Gehan Rd. Canandaigua, NY

Knight's Club Picnic
July 14 Ray's Place
Aug. 11 NC field
Sept. 8 N C Field

FONRA
Fly Over Niagara
Wing & Rotor
July 20, 21
Free
10 AM—\$ PM
Reservoir State Park

**RCCR Electric Fun Fly
2013**

Sat-Sun Aug. 18, 19
Northhampton Park
Ogden, NY

**Warbirds
over the Bay
Burlington, Ont.**

Jul 27, 28
Bayfield Park
\$10 reg \$15 on day

Stars Rally
July 13, 14
Olean Airport
Ischua, NY



Knight's Scale Rally
Aug. 3 & 4
Hamburg, NY

Geneseo Air Show
1941 Theme
Full Scale
Old Planes & Warbirds
July 12 to 14
Geneseo, NY

**Flying Dutchmen
Annual Scale Rally**
Sept 7, 8 Kitchner, Ont

Sky Rovers
Jul 27, 28 2013
Ford Field
Phelps, NY

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Open House in Hamburg

Another drizzly day greeted the visitors to the Hamburg airport.

Much like Last year without the cold wind.

The overcast skies did little to dampen the spirit of those who came to enjoy the pancake breakfast. Eggs and sausage flanked the pancakes.

What a great deal.

Flying was restricted due to the low ceiling but there was plenty to see.



Cooking up Breakfast

There were a number of civil aircraft and helicopters around the area and in the spacious hangers. The Knight's had a nice static display.

The crowd was light but continuous throughout the morning.

It's good to see the interest in aviation, especially among the young members of the Civil air Patrol.

The day before the open house the CAP members were invited to come out to the Nike Field and try their hand with RC model flying.

The Knight's and the RCAir-Crafters hosted this training session and threw in a hot dog/hamburger lunch.



Visitor From the Past

A couple dozen young people took part.

The Town of Hamburg is home to a contingent of the Civil Air Patrol.

This nationally recognized organization is called into action whenever there is a plane down in the area.

The members are actively engaged in learning how to fly aircraft and take serious classes in all aspects of flight.

They will eventually pass the stringent FAA exam and obtain a pilot's license.



RC Flight Lessons

What could be more natural than to let these future pilots try out an RC plane.

KNIGHT'S SWAP SHEET

If you have something for sale, or looking for that special something, put your request in "The Swap Sheet". Free to all club members.

3rd Q 2013

Schedule
Fri. 7/19, 8/9,
8/30, 9/20
St. James Church 7:30
New members 6:30

Board Meeting
Tues. 7/16, 8/6,
8/27, 9/17
7:30 pm
Pegasus

Officers

President: Jim Erhig III
Vice Pres: Chuck Caruana
Secretary: Greg Stromecki
Treasurer: Ray Barren

Board

Bill Hauth **Bob Rodgers**
Bob Waldruff **Orv Chatwood**
Editor Jim Devlin

The Flying Knights of Hamburg, NY

Academy of Model Aeronautics - A Chartered Radio Control Flying Club
www.theflyingknights.com



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