

Pilot Briefing

Volume 1, Issue 5

June 2009



Upcoming Events!!!

Next meeting: June 5th

Just a quick reminder that our June meeting will be Friday the 5th at the Hopewell field.

Activities will start around 5pm. Short meeting at 7pm.

There will be food and drink,

Come on out and join in the activities.

Officers:

President :
Warren Batson

Vice President:
Vic Horton

Secretary:
Flavio Ambrosini

Treasurer
Whitney Philbrick

Membership:
Rob Stubbs

Field Director-Hopewell
Mark Monroe

Flight Instructor
Walt Ericson

Safety Officer
Jerry Rohling

News Editor
Bob Magee

Directors at Large
Bob Allen
Rick Knight
Bob Magee

Pilot Briefing Editor
Ron Revelle

President's Corner

The 3 fields are in good shape for the 2009 flying season, thanks to the many members that helped at the 3 work parties. Now it is time to get some good use out of these fields.

The latest work party was at Red Wing field on May 16th and 21 members turned out to clear the tall brush at the North (left) side of the field and the one loan big tree on the South end of the field. The brush was NOT totally cleared on the North side of the shallow lake by design. Many members at the work party thought it would be a good idea to leave the low brush in front of the lake so that it may stop a plane or 2 from going into the water if a short landing is made.

From what I am hearing and seeing on the club Yahoo group, it looks like the Red Wing field is getting some regular use. This is good. The owner of the field was very impressed at the work party turn out, and is looking forward to seeing our guys do some flying.

So far this season has seen it fair share of wind and rain.

Here is a list of the people that helped at the Red Wing work party.
Peter Jagich
Craig Domonkos
Roger Stabe
Al Stouter
Henry Klein
Mike Tebolt

Ron Gerardi
Whitney Philbrick
John Philbrick
Flavio Ambrosini
Bob Allen
Bill Winkler
Gino Digregorio
Bob Schalze

Warren Batson
Thea Kjellstrom
Steve Smith
Ron Knapp
Dennis Urciuoli
Bill Rebh
Norman Coard

President's Corner Continued

I would like to give my personal thanks to the following people for hanging in to the very end to get all the chipping done. We did not get finished till about 2:30.

Peter Jagich
Flavio Ambosini
Bob Schalze
Thea Kjellstrom
Steve Smith
Ron Knapp
Bill Rebh
Norman Coard

If you do not see your name it was not on the sign in sheet, please let me know so you can get your work hours.

Do Not forget that the June meeting is on Friday June 5th starting around 5pm. There will be food and drink.

I will close with a reminder to make sure the gate is locked at all our fields.
The combo's are on the back of our membership cards.

I have received 4 calls in the last 3 weeks about the gate at Hopewell being closed and not locked or completely open.

Many thanks again to all that helped at the work parties.

Warren Batson

Walkkill Field Activities– by the Editor

The work party members for the Walkkill Field have not been published yet but the field is looking great! Thanks to Rick Rizza for providing e-mail reports of field conditions from time to time. After a windy weekend, Monday, June 1st saw some good field use as shown in the photos below..... And a few more on page 4.



Whit's beautiful PT-19 flaps down for landing



The team of Leo and Emily get their newest plane ready for a maiden flight. What a great couple!

Continued on page 3

Wallkill Field Activities continued.....

Last month I mentioned to Rick Rizza that I would like to begin highlighting club members' flying backgrounds in the newsletter. Without any hesitation, he stepped right up to the plate with the following short bio of his flying career. Thanks so much Rick.....and Who is Next?

Landing Lights on for "Rick Rizza"



My Flying Life
Richard "Rick" Rizza,
Wallkill Field Chair

Hello, fellow Mid Hudson RC'ers! As I move toward the end of my first full year as a member of this fine group, I want to thank you all for making me feel welcome. I was asked to reflect a bit upon my history of aviation related activities, and looking back, I can remember at age 7 asking for and receiving my first "gasoline powered airplane." Memory fades through the years, but I think it was a WenMac .049 control liner, something shiny silver and jet like. With my father's assistance (no, he wasn't a flier), I took the controls for, as you can imagine, a short up and down flight that may have made 3 circuits before ending abruptly. Not badly damaged, my dad decided to take a turn, with similar results. There might have been one more flight for that plane, but that was the end. And, the beginning.

Around the same time, I saw a Disney film about sailplanes on TV, called "The Boy Who Flew with Condors." I wanted to fly sailplanes after that. Love of sailplanes transferred to love of ALL planes, and thru my youth, I owned and flew just about every Cox model there was (I still own a few!) and also started building and flying the smaller balsa kits from Guillows, Sterling and Scientific, all as .049 powered control liners. Along the way to adulthood, I also managed to collect enough full scale lessons and flying to qualify for an FAA Private Pilots license, and accumulated about 250 hours before life happened and kids came along and much of my aviation life was put on hold. I still managed to play with the occasional Cox model, and also built and flew the whole Estes line of model rockets.

Continued on page 4

Fast forward about 20 years and one divorce, and when my youngest son, Philip, saw RC models flying and asked me if we could do that, how could I do anything but say "YES!!!!!!" So we bought a PT 40 kit and installed it in my spare room and started construction. He soon lost interest and it sat there until the day I went to work on it and finished it up. It flew, and it flew well, and although it didn't last (the crash was spectacular!), the bug had bit me good. I salvaged the guts and transferred them into a Duraplane and never looked back. That was about 10 years ago.

A lonely man, a credit card, and an Ebay account is a dangerous combination! I prowled the RC categories and bought way more airplanes than I should have! Many of the ads start off like this: "This is from my dad's collection..." and I imagine some of my stuff will have a similar fate. I have at least 10 models now in flying condition, ranging from small foamies up to gas giants, and at least that many awaiting my attention. I have begun to travel to events and enjoy watching as much or even more than flying in them. 2 years ago I went to my 1st Joe Nall, and last year, my 1st Warbirds over Delaware. I flew off water for the 1st time recently, and am trying my hand at electric ducted fans. And my heart is in my mouth every time I take a plane up still!

Rick Rizza

May 14, 2009



The editor's cub after a great day of flying.



Whitney range checking Leo and Emily's new plane..... Sorry couldn't resist that! No, wait a minute, is that a light saber Whit is holding...

Reminder..... Please be sure to lock the gate at the field if you are the last person to leave. We have such great fields, let's keep them that way..... And great fields thanks to tireless efforts of talented officers. Thanks to all of you.

CAVU till Next Time! Ron