

Pilot Briefing

Volume 2 Issue 1

January 2010



Upcoming Events!!!

Regular Meeting. January 4, 2009

7:00 PM, Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church

Hi everyone,

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
John Philbrick

Pilot Briefing Editor
Ron Revelle

This is the last newsletter of the 2009 year, Boy, the year just flew by. By now many of us have settled into our winter building routine. I have a few projects on the build benches myself. I have heard about a few other great projects and I hope to see them at one of the meetings in the coming months.

As many of you know, the Hopewell fiend is now closed down until we can make contact with Toll Brothers. Heavy equipment has dramatically changed the look of the property in the last 3 weeks. The road into the field is actually impassable due to a soil erosion fence that was put across the road. This was required by the town. This issue of the newsletter should have a few photos of the shed being moved off the field and over to the Wallkill. Everything went smoothly with the move. If you have not been to the field to see the work you can go to the MHRCS yahoo group to see a video made by Bill Lederer.

Monday Jan 4th will be the first Meeting of 2010. At this meeting the board will present a new 2010 budget for the members to vote on. Since it does not look like Hopewell may be usable at all in 2010 the Board has moved and removed the budget line items for the Hopewell filed. I hope to have a good turnout from our members so we can vote and close this item. This needs to be closed so the new membership renewal forms can be made and sent to the members.

A new membership renewal form will be placed on the MHRCS web site and I will send out an email if this is passed on Monday. Members can then send in their 2010 renewals.

In closing out the year I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and hope to see you at the Jan meeting.

Warren Batson
MHRCS president

The Times They Are A Changin'

The Hopewell Field is just a memory now! So many of us got our wings there. There are many photos to remind us of the field. Those we store in our minds are perhaps the most permanent. Some of mine are of those of days when we flew from the other side of the field. Days when there were club debates as to if mufflers should be required. And the agreement not to fly before 12 noon on Sundays so those coming out of church wouldn't be greeted with sounds of Enya 60's buzzing around.

Thanks to John Philbrick with providing us with the following photos and comments regarding the transition out of Hopewell.



Warren pushing the shed onto the trailer. While this was posed, we really had to do this! The shed was jacked up, and the trailer driven under it, picking it up by the heavy beams that went front to back probably for exactly this purpose. Then the trailer was cranked back up to level, with the shed at the very end. A winch was hooked to the front, and all of us pushed as the winch pulled it forward until it was over the wheels as shown.



Here are two shots of the shed on the trailer, one taken from the NE corner of the field.



This is the entrance road, taken from just beyond the wide spot near where the sign used to be. The old plane catching trees have now gone to their reward! The entire right side of the road is now bare beyond this point. It would be wonderful to fly there now, as there are only a very few trees on the far side of the field from the flight line.

Oh, if this looks cold, it was! The wind was blowing and the temperature was down. In a way this was good- Warren says that the ground was still hard when they got to Wallkill, and thus were able to get the shed off loaded there without any problem. A little later, after the sun had had a chance to work, the ground would have been softer and the truck might have had a problem.

Thank you John Philbrick and thanks to all that worked on moving the shed....

Winter Building and Flying– by the Editor

Well, it is New York's second season as Bob Noll's wonderful wife Lanny used to call it.... Building Season! I am sure many of us have our work lined up for us. From updates via E-mail, Pres. Warren's D7 is progressing very well. I am back to sanding the Pup after a brief period of time salvaging a 20+ year old Gentle Lady sailplane that I built and never flew. That was a mistake! And the second mistake was flying it! I recovered the fuselage and fixed a wing spar that was damaged by just living in our house too long! I took nose block off and installed a small electric motor! On the advice of Bob Magee, I ordered a couple of HiTec HS 85 servos. I installed them and headed to the field. It flies great! Is there anything in this hobby that isn't addictive? I have been out flying the Gentle Lady three times this month and am hooked! What a blast. I am one of those guys who must get air time all year. Even on some days when I should know better. On my last trip to the field the wind was blowing so hard it was pulling the wing off the fuselage. I managed a good flight anyway. The landing was a bit unique. I brought the plane in for the landing and it literally stopped forward movement about two feet off the ground due to the wind. I managed to complete my first Harrier landing. A very gentle vertical touch down with no forward slide.

I have not flown a sail plane since when I used to test fly them for guys in our club upstate. I don't know what happened, but I have been bitten this time. Of course, I didn't have much interest in Cubs in those days either and now I have one that I am flying, another that was given to me that I am rebuilding and covering.....and guess what Santa left at my house? Yup, a Balsa USA 1/4 scale Cub kit. Now the big question. What do I build after I get the Pup done? I am already looking at the next challenge in the way of sail planes. Good thing this hobby is so inexpensive...NOT. I think I will be picking the brains of the sail plane guys in the club before making my decision.

Well, I hope you all were treated well by Santa and are looking forward to the Winter building time. See you on Monday evening at the club meeting....
Wishing you all a

Happy New Year!



The 24 year old Gentle Lady with a nose job that has captured my interest! And yes, I use more than one elastic band on the wing to fly!