

SKYWORDS

The Newsletter of :
Burlington Radio Control Modelers Club
P.O.Box 85174 Burlington Ontario L7R 4K4
WWW.BRCM.org

Sept. 2014



THE NEW CHICKEE AT BRONTE



Photo courtesy Tom Gwinnett.

CANADA DAY 2014 at BAYVIEW



Carol and Nick offering hot dogs for lunch. The weather was not good;; Carols' smile was one of the few good things of the day! Thanks Carol and Nick. We were much happier having been fed.



Don Irvine performing a water pickup / water drop during a blustery Canada Day. Not an easy task.

Thanks to Bill Swindells for the photos.

WAR BIRDS OVER THE BAY 2014

Once again Warbirds is behind us, and once again it was a great success. In spite of a less than favourable weather forecast we still managed to attract over thirty pilots and a large number of spectators who were all well entertained and of course fed and watered by Nick, Carol and Goose. As it happens the weather was glorious the whole week end apart from a short shower Saturday afternoon.

The success of Warbirds over the years is only made possible by the dedicated group of club volunteers, this years group had to contend with some very different methods of organisation. We introduced the control tower and new method of communications, it had a few glitches but the general consensus was that it is a great idea. We have to thank Don Irvine for getting our control tower for free. It went together like a Lego project and came down even quicker.

It was my fifth and last year of being so involved with this fantastic event, I can only hope that someone else will pick up the ball and run with it. Warbirds has gained a large following in Southern Ontario and really put our club on the event calendar.

I would like to thank all the volunteers and especially Bill Swindells for his tireless work with the Warbirds website and gathering all the sponsors donations which once again were enormous, plus of course coming out to do his usual sterling job as announcer in spite of his health issues.

All in all we did well again donating \$1000.00 to the Carpenter Hospice.

Paul Chitty Event Director



More photos next page



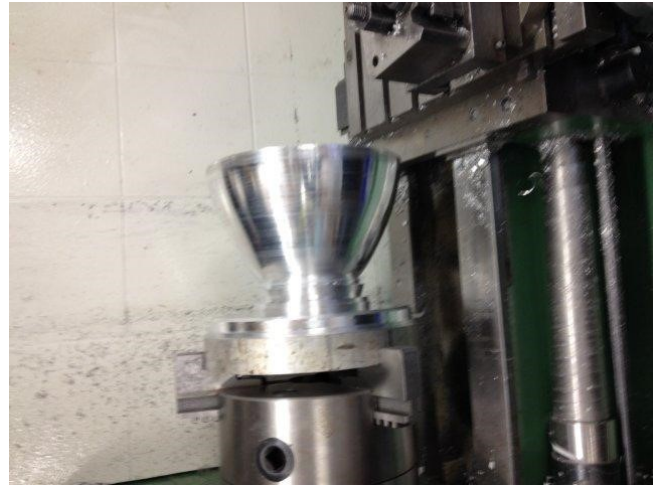
Dave Cummings writes:

In light of the Toronto Maple Leafs making the playoffs this year, Karl decided to commemorate the event. NOT!

This handmade machined spinner project is for my new BF 109 Messerschmitt.

I've been waiting for over two years to obtain one from Troy Built Models who have had this on back order with the Chinese and no sign of it coming.

It's a unique size. 6 1/2" diameter by 4 3/4" in length. No spinner manufacture had anything close in size and shape so Karl (aka MacGyver) took on the challenge. We obtained a huge chunk of aluminum round stock 7" diameter by 7" long weighing just over 26 lbs. The finished target weight with backing plate is 14 ounces. Now that's a lot of whittling.



Links.

Within a club of 160 or so members there has to be one helluva lot of expertise in a wide variety of trades and professions. And so I propose to provide members with a method of advertising – free of charge – through a page on our new web site. Each “advertisement” would provide the member's name, his/her trade/profession/service and a contact address which may be a simple phone number, an email address or a web address. Kind of like a yellow pages for brcm members only. I *could* handle graphics but I really don't want to get into that. So, plain text please.

If you are interested in letting other club members know about your services, send the details to me at Binker@sympatico.ca

Of course, I don't know what the response will be to this idea. I may get nothing or I may get swamped. Either way, I'll deal with it when I get it!

Reflections about Skywords.

A few members do not have email and, for them, I prepare a set of envelopes from my membership register. I give these to Bernie Sudol who mails a hard copy. There are only eight of them.

As I prepared these envelopes, I thought back to how we used to do it. I produced my first Skywords edition in January 1999. I took the original to a printing service to get some 150 copies made. We then had a Skywords party at the Bayview shed where a number of volunteers folded the copies, stuffed them into envelopes, licked the flaps to seal them, then hand wrote the name and address of the recipient copied from a hand written list of members. Finally, we licked the stamps and took the product of our labours to a mail box.

If all that sounds tedious, it was and the first 'improvement' was to employ special bottles from Grand and Toy to wet the envelope flaps. Next was the notion of a computer maintained list of members – something we would automatically do today but in 1999 that was a bit of a novelty. That list evolved into the membership spread sheet that I use today to produce the set of envelopes for Bernie. But in 1999, only a few members had email and we still had to address the envelopes by hand.

As the years rolled by, more and more members got on-line and we stopped mailing to those who had an email address and I developed procedures to produce envelopes directly from the membership list. Today, with some 140 members, only eight of them do not have email – or have it but haven't told me. Bernie gets hard copies, stuffs the envelopes and mails them.

And so we came to May of 2006 when I ended my career as editor of Skywords but the membership spread sheet developed in those early days lives on.

Lawrence. a.k.a. Binker@sympatico.ca

WWW.BRCM.ORG ?????

I would like to take this opportunity to clarify a club matter about which a number of members have inquired.

You probably recall that in the spring a team had been assembled to re-engineer the club web site. The team had a number of objectives in bringing the site up to 2014 standards: 1) enhance the content, 2) enhance the functionality, 3) standardize and modernize all screen displays, 4) create a platform that would allow more members to be involved to ensure that each site component was current and relevant and to ensure sufficient knowledge and expertise for backup purposes, and finally 5) create a platform that would accommodate possible future enhancement such as automated membership and event management if the membership saw some advantage to this.

In addition, at that time documents were circulated and a presentation made in an effort to explain the intentions of the team and allow feedback and input from all members. We would like to thank those who provided such input.

Recently Lawrence Cragg sent out an email announcing the implementation of a new club web site. This is the source of the confusion. The web site that Lawrence announced and which is currently the active site, although incorporating some of the design features of the team's project development document, is not the site that the team had designed or presented to the membership.

During the summer Lawrence advised the team that the club would need a new site by the end of September as the then current web management service was not interested in renewing the club contract for another year. As the team could not meet that target date, a decision was made that Lawrence would develop the site, which is the site that is currently active.

At this time, the development team that was assembled in the spring is evaluating whether or not the project should proceed. The final decision will be greatly influenced by team's perception of where the club membership as a whole would like the club to be in five years. RC Flying clubs cover a spectrum from "a flying field" to a "world class facility" with every possible combination and permutation between these two extremes.

The proposed project will be classified as "On Hold" until this decision is made. The target date for the decision is November 2014.

Again, thank you to all those who provide support, input, and encouragement.

Joe Fazzari

I recently purchased a Freewing Mosquito from Motion RC in the USA. I ordered it on Tuesday and it arrived on Friday. Now that's service. I ran into trouble getting both motors running and emailed Motion RC about noon Thursday. By 1 pm Thursday I had the following reply. Guess what—it worked! These folks are good.

- 1) remove the prop from the plane (very important for safety)
- 2) turn off your radio
- 3) remove the battery from the plane
- 4) Turn on your radio and set the throttle stick all the way up to full throttle
- 5) Plug the battery into the plane
- 6) You will hear the ESC beep twice (two quick beeps) (don't allow any more than the two quick beeps – if it beeps any more, unplug the battery and start over)
- 7) Quickly set the throttle on the radio back down to the zero immediately after you hear the two quick beeps. You will hear two more beeps followed by the normal "start up beeps".
- 8) Unplug the battery from the plane, turn your radio off and everything should now function properly

***IMPORTANT:** *Please note step 6 - If you allow the ESC to beep for more than 3 seconds, the ESC will go in to programming mode - you don't want programming mode. If this happens simply turn everything off and start over. Don't touch any radio controls or you will accidentally start reprogramming the ESC. It is very easy to accidentally turn on the ESC motor brake in this mode.

Now the ESC knows the position of zero and full throttle on your radio and the ESC will remember this forever. You only need to do this once however you should do it again if you ever rebind the receiver to the radio using the bind plug. Also do it again if you ever move the receiver to a different plane. In that case rebind and reinitialize.

***IF YOU ARE TRYING TO BIND WITH A SPEKTRUM RADIO/RECEIVER: ***

With Spektrum, their radio's default setting is to have all the trim tabs centered, including the throttle. For FMS and Freewing ESCs, they interpret the centered throttle as meaning that the throttle stick is up a little bit when the battery is plugged in, so as a safety precaution, the motor doesn't arm (imagine if a prop was connected, that would be bad!).

So, the fix is simple: Unplug the battery, turn on your radio, reduce the physical trim tab next to the throttle stick all the way to zero, turn the radio off, then rebind the radio back to the receiver. It will then boot up normally.

I wanted to share this with you—this is the first time I have had this problem and I have flown electric planes for years. Keep this handy / you may need it.

Try this link—it's a U-Tube video of a 'Drone' flying thru and around fireworks.
Something for our guys to strive for?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a9KZ3jgbbml>

CLUB CALENDAR

Thursday Sept 25 Club Meeting
Central Library 730 pm

Thursday Oct 23 Club Meeting
Central Library 730 pm

Thursday Nov 27 Club Meeting
Central Library 730 pm

Thursday Dec 18 Club Meeting
Central Library 730 pm



General Meeting

4th Thursday of every month

(excluding June, July, August, December)

Burlington Library – New Street

Flying Fields: King Road

North of North Service Rd

Bronte Park

More Information at: www.brcm.org