

Skywords

The Newsletter of
Burlington Radio Control Modelers

September 2018

<http://www.brcm.org>

General Meeting

7 P.M. Thursday September 27
Burlington Library New Street

The first meeting of the season.
Be there, why be the one that
never knows what's going on!

It's your club

The October meeting (not this one, the next) is devoted to WW1 aircraft. Bring whatever you have, a plane or plans, memorabilia or magazines

Agenda for September meeting.

Many many interesting things including :
Dwayne talking about his recent MAAC
article. Indoor Flying. Social Events.
Wings and Blades program. Air Cadet
Grant



What's this?

Safety Is Everyone's Responsibility

Skywords is edited by Tom Gwinnett who is responsible for all errors

A group of BRCM fliers (Dwayne Baldwin, Joe Fazzari, Geoff Norman) have been working with 735 Squadron of the Air Cadets in Dundas to establish a program of model building and flying for interested cadets. We found out in early September that the grant submitted by 735 and BRCM to cover costs of planes, equipment and supplies was funded by the Hamilton Community Foundation.

The program will begin in January. We hope to include model construction and indoor flying during the winter, then get some basic training outdoors at Bayfield in the spring.

If you are interested in participating, get in touch with Geoff Norman at norman@mcmaster.ca or (905) 648-2706 .

Search and Rescue by FPV

Although I have been building balsa models off and on since I was a kid in the sixties, I am a recent convert to radio control. And what a change has occurred in the interim! While the kits are very similar to those around in the old days, (in many cases, identical, such as the Top Flite and Sig kits), the electric motors and the electronics are simply mind-bogglingly different. My first mentor in my renewed activity was Mike Penney, who was an air cadet back when I was an instructor, and likely I can take credit for initially hooking him on model aviation. And in return he and his son, Paul, helped me get my feet wet in RC modeling the second time round.

Which brings me to a recent incident that prompted the title of this article. About a year ago, we were flying a Telemaster 40 buddied in a less than optimal day with high and gusty winds. I was off the end of the field over dense forest when a wind caught it. The aircraft was forced into a stall before anyone could do anything about it, and crashed into the tree canopy. Mike and I walked down to the area and crashed through the trees for an hour or so, and it became pretty evident that we had not a ghost of a chance of finding it from the ground.

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Search and Rescue by FPV -cont-

The next day, Mike and Paul brought his FPV PT40 out to the field for a “search and rescue” operation. With the help of GPS they began flying a grid pattern over the area where it went down, beaming a signal back to the laptop. Mike intended to go home, throw the video up on his big desktop screen, and slowly scan it to see if they could find any pieces. Instead Paul just looked at the video on his laptop on the field, and spotted a tiny speck of white in the tree canopy, about where we saw it go down.

At this point the technology really took over. Paul used Google Satellite on his laptop to locate the exact latitude and longitude of the white speck. Mike then set off for the woods with his iPhone GPS on. Since Paul knew the GPS of the white speck, he guided Mike right to it. Mike discovered that the speck was the right wing panel, which broke off when the plane hit the tree and was left at the top.. Amazingly, the rest of the aircraft came crashing through the tree cover right to the ground, shedding bits along the way. Mike and Paul then went over the crash site, which was a rough circle about 20 foot radius, very carefully. By the time they were done, they had located every piece of electronics except the one aileron servo mounted in the right wing in the tree—motor, ESC, receiver (it was sitting on a log), Eagletree, 3 servos and a 4S battery, which was destroyed.

The FPV “search and rescue” operation saved me about \$500 in electronics. Maybe we should organize this nationally.



What is the airplane and where is the airport?

Front page, it's a Curtis JN-4 Canuck