



## The News Letter of the Burlington Radio Control Modelers Club

Box 85174 Brant Plaza, Burlington, Ontario, L7R 4K4

### Editorial

The January meeting was largely taken up with the annual general meeting at which the treasurer presented the budget for the year 2002 and a new board of directors was elected. Your new board is listed as part of this newsletter.

Two trophies were awarded to two outstanding members. **Bud Childerhose** was awarded the Cliff Moore Memorial Trophy for his long term contribution to the club as manager of the Wings program.

**Keith Lush** was awarded the Herb Stoneham trophy in recognition of his unstinting help maintaining field equipment for both of our fields.



Having just completed covering a model with Ultracote on Ultracote, I thought you might be interested in a detailed review of the process originally published by Horizon Hobby.

**Laddie Mikulasko** has been up to his usual tricks and has produced yet another spectacular model.

This one is a model of a Spruce Goose which will be powered by eight speed 400 electric motors with energy provided by 13 cells of indeterminate size.

**Bill Swindells** has prepared a comprehensive schedule of events which I have shown on a separate page.

As usual, I want more stuff from **you**, the members. What are you building? What happened to you last season? Talk to me at 416-622-3705 or FAX 416-622-4134 or by E-mail: Lawrence.Cragg@Sympatico.ca or S-mail to suite 2010, 820 Burnhamthorpe Road, Toronto, M9C 4W2



**Thursday, February 28th.**  
**Flying the Grumman Goose in the bush**  
**a talk by Reg Phillips.**  
**Alan Howard of CWH will talk about the**  
**next Hamilton Air Show**

### Bayview Field

As many of you will have noticed, progress with Bayview reconstruction has stalled. To some extent, this is a winter pause but your executive was concerned about apparent confusion as to who is committed to do what. Accordingly, we have taken a more active role in an attempt to clarify just who is going to do what, when, and what with.

**Dick Fahey's** ongoing relationship with the City have proved invaluable; personnel in the Halton Region, the City of Burlington and the Brick Company have been most helpful and sympathetic to our concerns and are getting organized to restore our field.

It is too early to set a target date for completion but we are confident that everything possible will be done to get our field ready for us as soon as weather permits.



Laddie Mikulasko with his "Spruce Goose"

## The President Writes

### “FROM WHERE I’M STANDING”

First of all I want to thank all of you who put your confidence in me to be your President. I believe we have a slate of executives/officers who will keep this club vibrant and active for the coming years. As a founding member of the BRCM back in 1973 it feels good to become it’s TOP DAWG for better or worse. I will leave this position in the best shape I can.

## Ultracote® Tips & Tricks

*This article by John Adams, research & development manager of Horizon Hobby is printed with their kind permission. I thought this article would be of particular interest to those of you immersed in a winter building project.*



A beautiful, professional quality finish adds that all-important final touch to your model. It’s what gets those extra stares at the field...and makes you proud of a job well done. Some expert builders would have you believe that covering is an art that takes years of experience to develop, but the truth is that you can achieve it with some basic know-how and patience. Understanding the materials you’re working with is vitally important, and, surprisingly, this is where many modelers make the biggest mistakes.

Each brand of covering has unique properties. So if you learn using one type of covering and then try using those techniques with a different brand, it often leads to marginal results. I’ve been using UltraCote exclusively for the last 15 years. UltraCote offers several unique properties that are advantageous over other film coverings, making it easier for me to achieve and maintain a professional finish. Applying UltraCote requires its own learned techniques.



### Multi-temperature, Maximum Control.

UltraCote is unique in that different things happen at different temperatures. This allows for precise control during covering. Covering with UltraCote becomes many times easier— with vastly improved results — when you understand what specific temperatures do to UltraCote, and when to use those temperatures.

### 220°F-Application

The adhesive is activated at just over 200° F. At the recommended application temperature of 220°, the adhesive reaches its full bonding strength. No shrinkage of the film occurs, so no distortion of the film takes place. Use the 220° application temperature when applying covering and



I hope all my years of business experience will help the club move forward in the right direction. Unfortunately I have been away but will return in April ready to go to work. In the meantime you can count on Lawrence Cragg to fill in until then. If you have any need to communicate with me please contact Lawrence.

Let’s have a great year of safe flying and a lot of fun as well.

Harold Jones, President BRCM

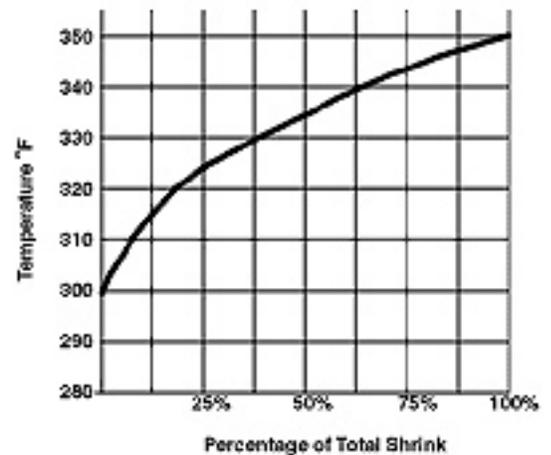
when applying UltraCote trim pieces over UltraCote. Remember, if your iron is set at 220°, no shrinkage or distortion will occur, so there is no risk of distorting seams, trim lines or trim pieces and full bonding strength occurs.

**Watch out for...** Don’t press! Heat liquefies the adhesive, not pressure. Let the heat do the work and avoid gouges. It’s natural to want to apply pressure, but it doesn’t affect the bonding strength. If you’re using a sock (highly recommended), it will be necessary to go more slowly over a given area, as it takes longer for the heat to penetrate the material. Some modelers turn up the heat to 240° when using a sock, but I prefer to stick with the 220° temperature and go at a slightly slower pace. This creates fewer air bubbles.

### 300°F- Shrink Onset

At 300°F, UltraCote will begin to shrink. Use this temperature after the covering is applied to tighten it, remove wrinkles and remove imperfections. It’s amazing how many wrinkles can be removed at this temperature, and it’s important to start removing imperfections at this minimum shrink 300° setting. UltraCote features a unique property that allows for a controlled shrink rate based on the selected

temperature. While it begins to shrink at 300°, at 320°, UltraCote shrinks 18% of its total shrink rate (see chart). It’s important to use the minimum temperature necessary to



achieve a smooth wrinkle-free finish. Most modelers don’t realize that to further shrink most brands of film covering, it must be heated above its previously exposed peak temperature. In other words, if a covering was already exposed to 320°, it will be necessary to go above 320° to further shrink the covering. Use the lowest temperature possible to achieve a smooth wrinkle-free finish at the start and you’ll have the largest available shrink rate remaining, should you later need to shrink the film. **Watch out for...** Stay away from seam lines and edges! Remember, 300° is

well above the adhesive activation temperature, and seams will pull away. If you have some stubborn wrinkles close to the seam line, try this trick. Soak a washcloth in cold water, then fold it twice and place it on the seam line, covering the seam but exposing the wrinkles. With your iron at 330°, quickly apply it to the wrinkled area (about 5-10 seconds). The washcloth will keep the seam cool, and prevent it from pulling apart and distorting.

### 350°F- Maximum Shrink

At 350°F, the maximum shrink is achieved. You won't use this setting very often, but it's important to know the total shrink temperature range. That's because the amount of shrink rate you'll have left is based on the temperature you use to shrink the covering.



For example, if you're shrinking your film using 320°, by referring to the chart, you'll find that 82% of the total remaining shrink is left. That's good! That means that, if in the future you need to re-shrink the covering, it won't be a problem. But a word of caution: use the highest temperatures only as a last resort to shrink wrinkles and imperfections. In most cases, if you need to use this much heat, you'd be better off to just replace the covering with a new piece. **Watch out for...** Stay away from seams and edges. This high temperature can cause bubbling and blistering.

### Removing UltraCote®



You may come to a point when you'll need to remove or replace a piece of UltraCote. In many cases, the covering will simply pull away, but if you're having a tough time, use your heat gun. Lift a corner of the covering, and then pull away

while directing heat in the area to be removed. I just recovered the 2-year-old Reebok CAP 232 pictured here using this heat gun technique, and it looks as good as new!

### Bubbles and Blemishes Hangar 9™ Heat Gun



When your airplane sits out on a hot sunny day, you may notice that the covering bubbles and wrinkles. This is common with all brands of film covering, no matter what the manufacturers claim. But getting rid of those wrinkles is easy. You'll need a heat gun, a covering mitt, a wet washcloth,

and a fine straight pin.

Heat the affected area, and notice how the air underneath

the covering expands, making bubbles. As you continue to apply heat, moving in a 6" circle, it will release the adhesive bond. At first, several small bubbles will appear, but as you continue to work the area, the bubbles will join to form one large bubble. Now pop the bubble with the pin, and immediately wipe the area with a covering mitt to reattach the covering. It may take several attempts, and you'll get better after you do it a couple of times.



It's important to not stay in one place for very long with the heat gun, especially if you're working with a balsa-covered foam part, as warping and damage could occur. If the affected area is close to a seam, use the wet washcloth trick to prevent the seams from distorting and pulling apart.

### Preventing Heat Blemishes

Heat blemishes occur when the elevated temperature causes the trapped air in the wood to expand. With nowhere to go, the expanded air causes a bubble to form in the covering and stretches the film. When the air cools, the stretched covering remains. You'll notice this happens especially with dark colors like black or dark blue, and that this never happens on the bottom of the wing, but only the top where the sun heats the surface.



The solution? While several methods have been tried—like completely painting the wood structure with thinned white glue to prevent the air from reaching the surface—we know of only one method of preventing this from happening: don't leave your airplane in the sun! Seriously, get a cover or a tent or find some shade. Also, choosing light colors will prevent the intense heat buildup. Last summer during our hottest days, I measured the covering temperature on a dark blue airplane that had been sitting in the sun at 163°. If you keep them from getting hot, there is no problem, but, for those times when they do, practice the re-shrinking techniques mentioned above, and it will only take a few minutes to bring back that pristine finish.

### Final Tip

A very good builder and pilot once shared this perspective with me. He said that, if things go well, that new airplane you're building would last several seasons. Maybe even 5 years or longer.

Wouldn't it be worth spending a little extra effort and time during building to make it the best you can?

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# Burlington Radio Control Modelers

## Executive

### 2002

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**www.brcm.org**

Here is a schedule of events prepared by Bill Swindells.  
(Many thanks Bill. Ed.)

Keep this page! It will not be  
repeated on a regular basis.

## 2002 Outside Events

Revision Date: 08/02/02

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
<b>March 6</b> March 10 March 17	<b>Rubber Race</b> Swap Meet 4 <sup>th</sup> Show and Swap Meet	<b>Hamilton, 407 Wing Club</b> Aurora Legion, Lions Auditorium, Tillsonburg
April 5, 6, & 7	Weak Signal Show	Toledo, OH
<b>May 24, 25, &amp; 26</b> May 26	<b>Mall Show</b> Annual Fun Fly	<b>Mapleview Mall, Burlington</b> Forest Lakeside Flyers, Forest ?
June 8 <sup>th</sup> , (Rain, 9 <sup>th</sup> ) <b>June 13, 14, 15</b> June 15 <b>June 15, 16</b> June 29, 30 June 29, 30	Annual Big Bird Fly-In <b>WW I &amp; WW II Scale Exhibit</b> Ajax Scale Rally <b>Float Fly</b> 11 <sup>th</sup> Annual Air Show 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual IMAC Contest	London Forest City Flyers <b>Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum</b> Ajax <b>Christie Conversation Area</b> Otterville (Barn Storm Contest) Chatham Aeronauts, Chatham
<b>July 1</b> July 6, 7 July 6, 7 <b>July 12<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup></b> July 13, 14 July 13, 14 July 27, 28	<b>Canada Day Fly-In</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> Annual Scale Rally 5 <sup>th</sup> Ann. Scale Aerobatics Challenge <b>World Scale Championships</b> Scale Rally 6 <sup>th</sup> Ann. GTA Big Bird Fly-In Scale Fly-In	<b>Bronte Park, Burlington</b> Forest Lakeside Flyers, Forest London Forest City Flyers <b>Tillsonburg</b> Olean, NY 400 Club, Hwy 400 & Hwy 89 Chatham
Aug. 10 Aug. 11 <b>Aug. 17</b> Aug. 18 Aug.	Bill Orriss Memorial Scale Rally 2 Meter Glider Contest <b>Tri-Club Fun Rally</b> Fun Fly Scale Rally	London Forest City Flyers SOGGI, Binbrook Site <b>Burlington</b> Woodstock Hamburg. NY
Sept. 1 Sept. 1 Sept. 7, 8	Fun Fly Big Bird Bash, Sail Planes KW Scale Rally	London Forest City Flyers SOGGI, Binbrook Site Waterloo
Oct.	Annual Zone Meeting	
Nov. Nov.	Hobby Show London Swap Meet	Internat'l Center, Mississauga London Fairgrounds, London
<b>Dec.</b>	<b>Christmas, Parade</b>	<b>Burlington</b>
<b>Jan. 1, 2003</b>	<b>Frost Fly</b>	<b>Bayview Park, Burlington</b>