



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

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

### Editorial

Enough of this winter! I know some of the more intrepid members fly throughout the year but, for me, winter is the time to stay inside and build and summer is the time to fly. In any case, I need the winter to repair the damage done during the summer. Then there are those who emigrate to Florida for the winter and who can blame them?

So, let's see what I can put together for your entertainment this month. I have some input from members which is always very nice to have and, as always, I hope you enjoy this edition of Skywords.

I would like to write some more profiles of members. So, if you know of likely candidates or victims, please let me know. I also want articles, pictures, anecdotes from you. Let me have material for your newsletter to [Binker@sympatico.ca](mailto:Binker@sympatico.ca)

*Cheers. Lawrence.*

### The February Meeting

Chris McHugh and Mark Thompson talked about electric flight which included a lot of valuable information. They also put on a convincing demonstration of electric indoor flying. Many thanks to you both.



### Miscellaneous signs:

At an optometrist's office, "If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place."

At a car dealership, "The best way to get back on your feet -- miss a car payment."

Outside a radiator repair shop, "Best place in town to take a leak."

**Thursday, March 24th.  
Kevin McLeod will present  
Jets!**



Lawrence presents the Herb Stoneham award to Howard McNamara in recognition of his fine work running the wings program.



And the Cliff Moore trophy to Bill Montgomery in recognition of his fine work as co-manager of Bayview for some four years.

## What's Happening at the Flying Field

*This from Bill Swindells*

I thought that I would write a small piece for the newsletter to let everyone know what is happening at the flying field, specifically Bayview Park on King Road. We are still flying, sometimes with wheels, and other times with skis or floats. In particular, last weekend, March 13<sup>th</sup>, floats were rally the order of the day because the surface layer of snow was light and fluffy. Floats would ride upon the top of the snow, while most skis would burrow into the snow, and create too much drag for the aircraft to gain speed for takeoff. If you need proof of the flying activities, check out my personal web site follow the menu to Photo Gallery and the link to WEBSHOTS. The web site is located at

<http://www.mountaincable.net/~cdflyer>

I will try and post additional photos during the year as events and candid shots at the flying fields are available.



Also check out the EVENTS section, this will keep you informed of the events and happenings that about to occur. If you are aware of any that are not posted, please let me know, and I will get them included in the listing. **Next major event after the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting is Toledo, April 1, 2 and 3.**



Should anyone be interested, I have put on a CD all the candid shots from 2004. There are over 800 photos of flying event shots, from the Frost Fly, 2004, Toledo, Top Gun, Canada Day, Corn Roast, Scale Rallies from Olean N.Y., Chatham, Hamburg N.Y. and Oakville, as well as plenty of candid flying field shots. If you are interested in the slide show CD, please let me know, and I can provide the CD for a small nominal fee of \$2.00. This will help offset the costs of producing the CD's

Congratulations to Rick Scott who has assumed the responsibility of web master for the BRCM site. Check it out, Rick has made some significant changes which look great, although there are a few areas that still need to be updated, but that will come with time.

Let us know what you have in mind and what to see in your newsletter and a the meetings

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## The Great Rubber Race

Report from Art Titmarsh

Even though we captured 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes (medals) we lost out on total score from sheer numbers. 1st prize overall went to Tony Moore, 2nd prize overall went to Charlie Chomos and 3rd prize overall went to Art Titmarsh, Ivan Wismayer was a very close 4th place finisher with Carl Gross capturing best ARF prize. Bernie Sudol even won the 50/50 draw. All in all, we won everything except the trophy which they won only by outnumbering us, We definitely were the best flyers! The scoring for the trophy definitely is geared to the most participants and is usually won by the home team because the visitors are such a small group.

And from Ivan:

Tony Moore got 1st, Charlie got 2nd, Art, Tom & I tied for 3rd and Carl was fourth. Ken was also there. Bernie won the 50/50. That's the good news. We had more points than they did, but with their wacky point system and that they had more participants, we lost the cup till this new November.

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### Meanwhile

On the sunny shores of East Naples, Florida, Bryan Dixon caught this "yellow tipped crevell jack" then threw it back. He says it can't fly but it sure can fight.

About the name: I don't know if he's kidding or not. I only know it's definitely not a kipper. Oh well, at least he didn't eat the ghastly thing!

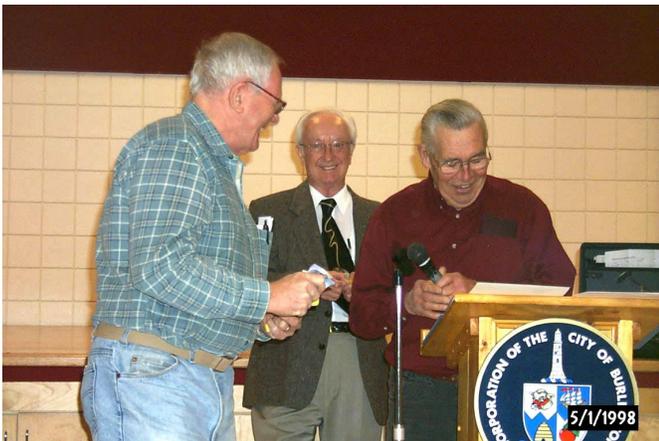
Ed.



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### The February Draw

Art Titmarsh corralled most members into contributing to the 50/50 draw. He collected \$228 of which half went to the club. Here is a picture of the primary winner (we had two).



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### You might be an R/C modeler's wife if:

*This is from the wife of one of our members. I'll never tell!*

- Your spouse proudly displays pictures of aircraft, but has none of you.
- You say "aircraft" and not plane.
- There isn't a C-cell in sight for the kitchen clock but there's a plethora of something called NI-MH.
- You have a fine layer of "airplane dust" on your furniture and you don't live near an airport.
- You have noxious fumes arising from your basement every winter.
- You only have to pre-scrub one knee of his pants.
- You have Flash cyanoacrylate in your freezer.
- There is more than one scar on his cranking hand.
- You have no idea how all those 'planes' got into the house, or how much they cost.
- On a beautiful Sunday morning in June he agrees to accompany you to a family function ..... it's windy.
- Your spouse is having elective surgery but won't have it scheduled between April and October.
- The only wearing apparel he will happily purchase is any part of flying club "uniform."
- He spends hours hunched over the work bench with a Barbie-sized iron, but the only one who actually irons clothing is you.
- The structure of your house is in peril due to sagging floorboards below the stash of model airplane magazines (anyone need one from January of '96 ?)
- You scan the "Events Calendar" in Skywords before making any plans.
- He comes home from flying quiet and depressed and you make no comment about the wreckage that trails in with him
- You know that Futaba makes servos (okay, I had to look that one up!).



Oooops!

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## Events Calendar 2005

*These are an outline of events planned to the end of 2005. Dates are subject to change. 'TBD' = To Be Determined. Names shown in Italics are the coordinators of the event. Note: not all of the 'victims' have agreed to serve in the assigned roles!*

*If you have any ideas about what you would like to have at the meetings, please let me know. Likewise, if you know of any event that should be included in this list, please let me know.*

March 24	Meeting, Jets Wings sign up. ( <i>Howard McNamara</i> )
April 1	Toledo ETOC - Electric Tournament of Champions
April 16	EMFSO at the Toronto Aerospace Museum, Downsview. 11 am to 5 pm.
April 21 - 24	Southeast Electric Flight Festival, Americus.
April 28	Meeting, Technical sessions
May 26	Meeting, Show & Tell
June 11 - 12	Laddie's Float fly ( <i>Laddie Mikulasko</i> )
June 17 -18	Annual Chomos float fly ( <i>Charlie Chomos</i> )
June 24	Otterville 14th annual fun fly
July 1	Canada fun fly at Bronte ( <i>Ivan Wismayer</i> )
July 2 -3	Quinte Isle RC Scale Rally
July 3 - 4	Chatham CAN-AM IMAC contest ( <i>Don McLellan</i> )
July 16	Scale rally at Bayview <i>Peter Hagens &amp; Bill Swindells</i>
July 17 - 18	Club 400 IMAA Rally
July 24 - 25	Flying Tigers annual IMAC Contest ( <i>Bryan Facey / Ron Matiuz</i> )
August 7 - 8	Stoney Creek IMAC ( <i>Ken Wiersma</i> )
August 13	Tri-Club rally hosted by Oakville
August 20 - 21	The Great Lakes Model Aviation Airshow & Exposition. Stoney Creek.
August 27	Corn roast at Bayview ( <i>George Bartkus, Dale Eldridge &amp; Bryan Dixon</i> )
September 4 -5	6th Annual scale aerobatic challenge, London ( <i>Randy Brown / Bob Hudson</i> )
Sept. 10 - 11	Flying Dutchman scale rally, Kitchener.
September 22	Meeting, Round The Pole electric & rubber. ( <i>Norm Harris</i> )
October 27	Meeting, TBD
November 24	Meeting, Rubber race, BRCM V. Hamilton ( <i>Harold Jones</i> )
December 15	Meeting, Social, swap & video.



Try landing on that!

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## A Story

*This is for those of you with a nodding acquaintance with the wonderful world of computers and the internet.*

An old, bearded shepherd, with a crooked staff, walks up to a stone pulpit and says . . .

And lo it came to pass that the trader by the name of Abraham Com did take unto himself a young wife by the name of Dot. And Dot Com was a comely woman, broad of shoulder and long of leg. Indeed, she had been called Amazon Dot Com. And she said unto Abraham, her husband, "Why doth thou travel far, from town to town, with thy goods when thou can trade without ever leaving thy tent?"

And Abraham did look at her as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load, but simply said, "How, Dear?"

And Dot replied, "I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale and they will reply telling you which hath the best price. And the sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by Uriah's Pony Stable (UPS)".

Abraham thought long and decided he would let Dot have her way with the drums.

And the drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had, at the top price, without ever moving from his tent. But his success did arouse envy. A man named Maccabia did secrete himself inside Abraham's drum and was accused of insider trading. And the young man did take to Dot Com's trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to camel dung. They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican Siderites, or NERDS for short.

And lo the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums, that no one noticed that the real riches were going to the drum maker, one Brother William of Gates, who bought up every drum company in the land. And indeed did insist on making drums that would only work if you bought Brother Gates' drumsticks.

And Dot did say, "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others". And as Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel, or as it came to be known, "eBay", he said, "We need a name of a service that reflects what we are". And Dot replied, "Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators".

"Whoopee!", said Abraham. "No, YAHOO!", said Dot Com.

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## Horrible Puns

A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories. After about an hour, the manager came out of the office and asked them to disperse.

"But why?" they asked, as they moved off. "Because," he said, "I can't stand chess nuts boasting in an open foyer."

Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, but when they lit a fire in the craft, it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it, too.

## Lets get loaded...

*This from Bill Montgomery*

This article describes an easy to construct external battery load that can be used for testing 4 or 5 cell nicad receiver packs.

With the abundance of small low cost DVMs on the market today it is often tempting to use these to directly measure the voltage of battery packs. The problem with this method is that the readings will only reflect the open circuit voltage of the pack and not the actual voltage as seen when connected to a typical in-plane system.

All batteries have an internal resistance due to the physical and chemical nature of the cell material. This resistance can be thought of as a resistor in series with the actual 'voltage source' in the battery. Because DVMs draw virtually no current when connected to a battery there is no voltage drop across this 'series' resistance and therefore the DVM sees only the voltage source. But, when you install the battery pack into a plane with servos and a receiver there will be current drawn. This current passes through the battery's internal series resistance and causes a voltage drop to appear across that resistance. This in turn lowers the actual voltage that is delivered to the receiver and servos. Since this voltage is critical for the proper operation of the flight systems we should be measuring the battery pack with a load similar to that found under normal flight conditions. This load will vary depending on the number and type of servos but generally will average around 200 mA (0.2 Amps) in a typical 4 servo sport plane. We can use a 27 ohm ( 1 watt ) resistor connected across the pack or voltmeter to simulate a typical receiver/servos load.

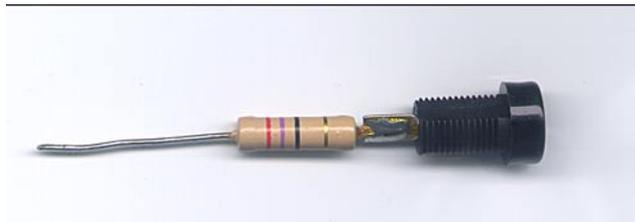
While we will be looking at an external load it is also possible to open up the DVM and solder the 27 ohm resistor across the input jacks. This produces a nice compact meter but does render the meter useless for normal voltage and resistance readings and it is often hard to find sufficient space within some of the smaller meters to mount the resistor. If a 27 ohm 1/2 watt resistor is used inside the meter you should keep your measurements short as the resistor will get quite hot.

### Parts List

- (1X) 27ohm 1 watt resistor
- (2X) low profile banana jacks (red & black)
- (2X) banana plugs (red & black)
- (1X) 1 3/8" length of 3/8" heat shrink tubing (or electrical tape)
- (1X) 2" length of 1 1/4" heat shrink tubing (or electrical tape)
- (2X) 4" lengths of flexible wire ( 20 gauge min.), red & black-

### Construction

Start by soldering one lead of the 27 ohm resistor to the black banana jack. Keep the lead short as the other lead will later be bent up to connect to the red jack.



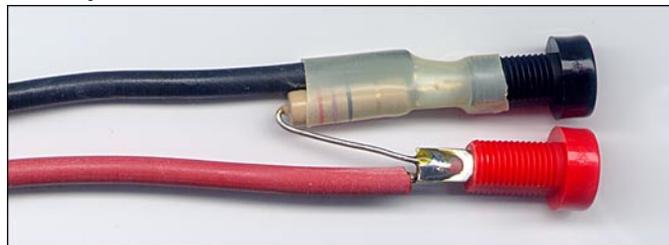
Solder one end of the black wire to the same banana jack.



Cover the resistor and connection with heat shrink tubing or electrical tape.



Bend up and solder the other lead of the resistor to the red banana jack. Also solder on the red wire.



Cover the resistor and the threaded portions of the banana jacks with heat shrink tubing or electrical tape. Slip the banana plug covers up the red and black wires in preparation for connecting the plugs. Solder the banana plugs to the red and black wires and screw on the covers.



### Use

Plug the two banana plugs into your DVM. Plug a receiver pack charging cable into the two banana jacks. Connect to the charging jack on your plane and measure the receiver pack voltage. Typical 4 cell nicad packs will read about 5.1 volts when recently charged and drop to 5 volts after a flight. A 'good' battery pack should slowly drop from 5.0 to 4.8 volts as you have a number of flights. Once the pack voltage reaches 4.8 volts you should consider recharging as the voltage will rapidly drop off from that point.

*Editor's note: Make sure that connecting to the charging jack on your model is the **last** thing you do in the connection sequence! This avoids accidentally shorting the flight battery pack.*

# Wings Program

## Student Registration 2005

This year's student registration will take place during two separate sessions:

A) Returning Students                      FEBRUARY 24 MEETING

B) New Students                      MARCH 24 AND APRIL 28 MEETINGS

Returning students should continue their instruction as soon as the weather permits. Instructors will be assigned soon after registration. This year's instructor may or may not be the same instructor that you had last year.

NEW STUDENTS:

GROUND SCHOOL will take place as soon as possible following the March and April registrations. New students will be assigned an instructor after the ground school has been completed.

NOTE: STUDENTS MUST SHOW PROOF OF BOTH BRCM AND MAAC MEMBERSHIPS TO REGISTER.