



THE TRANSMITTER



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE

JERSEY COAST SPORT FLIERS

AMA CLUB #1265, EST. 1973

WWW.JCSPORTFLIERS.ORG

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ANOTHER AUCTION IS IN THE BOOKS

After a year's hiatus due to COVID, our annual auction was back! On November 13th our club descended on Croydon Hall for a day of selling stuff. We wondered how this would play out— would we be inundated with sellers and buyers, or would folks still have reservations about getting together in larger groups. You can find out by checking out the article in this issue!

It's hard to believe but another year has flown by. As I write this we just moved into December, folks are celebrating Hanukkah, and I plan on hunting down a fresh Christmas tree with my family this weekend. We wrapped up our last points contest of the year less than two weeks ago and have one more contest to look forward to in 2021— Santa's Training Mission, which isn't a SFOTY event but is a lot of fun and involves eating and flying (a great combo!). Compared to 2020 this past year was SO much better, but we still have a ways to go before things feel truly "normal".



Speaking of "normal", one thing that would definitely feel more normal would be having more participation from club members at our various events, whether they be flying events or simply coming to our monthly club meetings. While I realize that the season is winding down, we've had a lot fewer guys coming to the field in general this year, and attendance at our club meetings has been similarly impacted, especially once we had to move back into the library. The Exec Board's wish for 2022 is to have more members get back out and hang with us for club activities. To help drive this we are looking at a number of different ways of adjusting the club calendar to entice guys to get out of their houses and join us at the field. We'll have a lot more info on this in the January '22 newsletter after the Exec Board meets and puts together the new calendar.

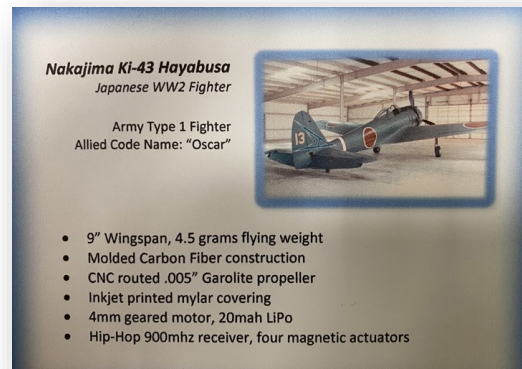
On **December 15th** we'll have our last club meeting of the year at the **Eatontown Public Library starting at 8pm**. As members know this is our annual holiday party so it would be great if everyone could please come out and join us for some light snacks and beverages. Folks are also encouraged to bring food to share. This is also when we'll have our election for the 2022 Exec Board—if anyone is interested in running for a position please let me know and I'll convey your interest to the board. Thanks!!!

November Club Meeting Minutes

We had another small turnout for our meeting at the Eatontown Public Library, but it was great to see all of those who were able to make it out!

Quick Summary of Business:

- Stu gave the Treasurer's Report.
- Dave spoke about the recently completed Club Auction at Croydon Hall. More details are available in the article in this issue.
- Stu gave a readout of the proceeds from the auction. If anyone has any questions related to any of the financials you can reach out to Stu for more details.
- Dave said that in talks with the park ranger at Dorbrook we will be allowed to start flying at night in 2022!!! This has to be arranged for in advance with the park but we definitely plan on putting a few night flying events on our calendar for the upcoming year.
- We talked about the low turnout for club events of late. The Exec Board has some ideas on how to try and get the membership re-engaged— look for some new ideas and some surprises on the 2022 club calendar coming out in January.
- At the December meeting we will be having our traditional holiday party with snacks and beverages. All club members are encouraged to come, and if they want to bring food to share that is greatly encouraged. The club meeting will be a week early again this year on Wednesday December 15th.
- Also it's time for Exec Board elections, which will be happening at the December meeting. If anyone is interested in running for a position they can reach out anyone on the Exec Board for details, or they can contact me and I'll also help fill in the blanks.
- We had our Model of the Month competition. Mike Cripps' micro Nakajima Ki-43 "Oscar" won the competition against Jason Cline's Formosa night flyer.



2021 JCSF Club RC Auction

I think I'm not alone when I say that I REALLY missed the auction and flea market season last year due to the pandemic, and having to shelve our event last fall was really hard. So it was great that we were able to get the band back together this year and restart the tradition that is the JCSF RC Auction at the ever popular Croydon Hall gym in Leonardo.

The tradition kicked into gear early the morning of Saturday November 13th as a number of us arrived at the gym to help set everything up for the day's activities. There were two schools of thought on how this day would play out— one was that there was a huge pent up demand and glut of stuff to be sold, which would translate into a VERY busy day, or the notion that guys were still wary of COVID and used to saying home, which would weigh down the activities. To make sure that we didn't get buried on the auction front we made a change this year to up the prices at the Fixed Price table from a maximum of \$20 to a higher value of \$40. This actually worked very well and the guys manning the Fixed Price table were busy all day.

The doors opened to sellers and buyers at 8am and the merch started flowing in. We had a few large lots that started to make their way into the gym, and we were careful to make sure everything was well organized to maximize room. However, as the morning proceeded and we got closer to our 10am auction start we came to the realization that there was a lot more space on the floor than we expected, and that it seemed the turnout wasn't what we had hoped for. We started the auction promptly at 10am, and put up a strong pace to keep the action moving and the audience entertained. However, with less merchandise than normal, we wrapped up the event by 1pm, which based on recent standards was about two hours earlier than usual for this event. Our normal post-auction dinner at the diner was now looking like a lunch. As we cleaned up the gym a strong storm front came through and the majority of us got soaked as we packed up our cars and headed out for food and post-auction discussion.

As it turns out our proceeds for the auction were significantly off this year (you can ask Stu for details if you're interested). A bright spot was that the Fixed Price table doubled their profits for this year, likely due to the change in pricing we allowed. Because there was such a sizable change in the proceeds for the auction we're not sure if this is part of a larger trend or a blip due to the continued effects of COVID. We're planning to watch the next two big events coming up in 2022 (Atom's RC and Lebanon) to see how they make out to see if this is a pattern or not.

One thing I do want to point out is how well this year's auction ran, despite the fact that we had less help running the event than years' before. Due to a number of factors some key individuals couldn't make it, so we had to make due with fewer folks. However, everyone came in determined to make this work and we pulled it off. As the Auctioneer I was able to see how things were running and I was amazed at how everyone pulled out their A game and made everything work so smoothly. I was so appreciative of how everyone worked so hard—it was pretty awesome...



Surveying the merch...



Action at the Fixed Price table

Turkey Shoot 2021 Contest Report

by Mike C.

On Sunday, November 21st, we held the annual Turkey Shoot contest which I once again CD'd with Sandy again acting as co-CD. This is another bomb drop contest with a dart-board style target with a turkey basket sculpture as a bullseye. Points are scored for hits on the main target, with extra bonus points for hitting the turkey, and a whopping 100-point bonus for landing inside the turkey basket. Each pilot had 3 minutes per round to drop as many bombs as possible. To level the playing field, this year we allowed for electronic bomb drop mechanisms (though Adam L. opted for the traditional nails-in-a-board gravity dropper). We also scattered the plastic pumpkins from the pumpkin bowling contest as extra bonus targets, with a 50 point bonus awarded for landing inside a pumpkin.

As has been the norm for this year, the turnout was low with only 5 pilots, but the weather was reasonably nice with tolerable winds and temperatures. The rule changes helped to increase the scores this year, and with the extra pumpkin bonus targets, it was anyone's contest up until the third and final round. Unfortunately (for most), the pumpkins remained elusive with only two confirmed hits, but luckily for me, I dropped a pickle right into one of the pumpkins in the second round, which put me in the lead, which I held onto despite strong third rounds by most everyone else.

The final standings were:

- 1st – Mike C.: 136 points
- 2nd – Tom C.: 92 points
- 3rd – Rob K.: 74 points
- 4th – Adam L.: 60 points
- 5th – Dave M.: 26 points

In addition to keeping track of scores and ensuring the pilots were ready for their round, Sandy acted as my re-arming crew chief, so the record of her being the good luck charm for bomb drop contests remains unbroken. Remember that for next year's contests...



Turkey Pilots



Gobble gobble!!!



Bombs away!



Tom coming in low

Adam's Byron F6F-3 Hellcat

During this past NEAT Fair Adam started talking about taking on a new project— something that he could potentially turn around and sell to help fund some of his other projects, such as his Blazing Wings 1/4 scale P-40. After he got home he found his jewel in the rough—a well-worn Byron Hellcat complete with all hardware and a Sachs 4.2 engine. Adam proceeded to set an aggressive timeline for the “restoration” - two months—which would allow him to shift his attention to the P-40 at the beginning of December. And thus the adventure started...

While I'm not going to dive into the gory details, let's just say that Adam spent most waking moments while at home working on the Hellcat. After going through the plane and addressing a number of mechanical issues and replacing all of the old Futaba servos, he dug into the paint and detailing. The pictures do a much better job of showing the work that went into this effort.

On Sunday November 21st Adam brought the Hellcat out to the field for her test flight. Naturally some ignition gremlins popped up, but after addressing them Adam gave the plane a thumbs up, pressurized the tank for the retracts, and proceeded to fire her up and taxi up to the flight line. With everyone watching Adam took the Hellcat into the air, the Sachs 4.2 singing sweetly. After a few (relatively) low passes Adam dropped the gear, did a dirty pass, and came in on final. As the plane settled in he realized that one of the gear was only partially down, so he touched down on one wheel and knocked the other gear down into a locked position. He then brought her down and taxied her back to the line, much to the delight of the crowd.

Oh, and BTW—I think he's decided to keep the plane ;)



As purchased...



Let the sanding start...



Primer applied



First blue applied



Now the darker blue over it

Adam's Byron F6F-3 Hellcat

(continued)



Finished sans weathering...



Mmmm... weathering...



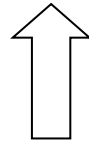
Taxing out



Keeping that wing up!



Awfully relaxed for a test flight



First Class Mail



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting – Wednesday December 15th, 8:00 PM at the
Eatontown Public Library. Holiday party plus Model of the Month
and raffle.

Sunday December 19th – Santa's Training Mission—11am (Rob K. CD)

Saturday January 1st— Brass Monkey—Noon (Mike C. CD)