



WNYSEF FLYAIR

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
WESTERN NEW YORK
SAILPLANE AND ELECTRIC FLYERS



Nov/Dec '05

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From the Editor

First up this month – a reminder to renew your membership. If you are a dues-paying member, a renewal form has been attached to this newsletter for your convenience. Please use this form whether you decide to renew in person or by mail so we can keep our contact information database up to date. This will help to ensure that you get your newsletters and notices of upcoming events in a timely manner.

Next – a reminder that the annual holiday party will be held at the Orchard Park Municipal Building at 7:30pm on Thursday, December 15th. Come out and say “hi” to friends you haven’t seen since flying season ended.

Finally – look in this newsletter for a flyer advertising a WNYSEF field trip to the Niagara Aerospace Museum. We’re going to take a Saturday morning in January and have some fun looking at WNY flight

memorabilia. We may even have our very own tour guide. Carpooling available!

Thank You from Mary Ellen Chinchen

[Ed.. – On November 2nd, I received a card titled “**Thank You Very Much**” which contained the following text:]

WNY Sailplaners,

Please forgive the lateness of this note to express my gratitude for your generous gift. I have recently moved (for the third time in three years) and am finally getting settled.

I am very happy to have your

group continue to use the property on Tough Row Hill. It is truly a special place, and gladly share it with your group who treat the property with respect and reverence.

*Many Thanks,
Mary Ellen Chinchin*

The 19th Annual Ron Kirk Memorial Electric Fun Fly

By Lyn Perry

Saturday, August 27th was a BREEZY day – winds were just under our cancel limit, but twelve intrepid folks showed up to participate. Six of us were there to fly, and registered a total of 22 planes – pretty good!

We set up at the North end of the field, almost under the infamous cell tower, talked, showed off new planes and waited for some fool to fly.

Ultimately, five of us did venture into the air more or less

Upcoming Events

Date	Event
Dec 15 (7:30pm)	Meeting and Holiday Party – Orchard Park Municipal Building
Jan 19 (7:30pm)	Meeting – 2006 Event Calendar – Orchard Park Municipal Building
Jan 21 (10:00am)	Niagara Aerospace Museum Field Trip

successfully, although no one-hour flight medals were awarded. Dr. James and Roman II each had about 15-minute flights, I did five minutes with my Sparky, Andy flew his Zagi, and Frank (of all things at an electric fun fly) high-started his Dart three times for a total of three minutes in the air.

Rita Kirk was with us again (although she moved to Delaware last year, she drove in by herself for a wedding) and awarded the Pilots' Choice trophy (one of Ron's, from the 1948 Plymouth Detroit Nationals) to Jim Sonnenmeier for his Sig Jenny, which captivated everyone.

Honorable mentions go to Roman III, who came all the way up from Texas to be with us (I figure he gets "Longest (full-scale) Flight"), and Rita, who definitely deserves "Longest Drive".

Better weather next time for the 20th!

Mohawk Point Report

By Bill Pike

Fred and I went to Mohawk Point today [Thursday, November 3rd]. The winds were



forecast to be strong ... and they were. In the photo you can see Fred trying to fly without a plane. But he finally used his RAZOR with good success. I flew my favorite, the Metaterra CUTTER, but decided not to risk anything else. There were only a few onlookers from the road and we had the place to ourselves.

As you can see, there has been a lot of erosion and, with the waves, there is not much beach. The lift band has been changed by the slides; we had good lift all the way down to the water. The soy beans had been harvested so there was no problem landing a bit back from the edge if it turned out that

way. Sitting in the dead area back from the edge, we enjoyed the blue skies and sunshine. Not bad for November.

Customs was straight on through with no cars ahead of us in either direction. The bridge toll is now on the Canadian side and no waiting there either. Traffic was light and there was no construction so we had a pleasant ride.

Bill

Dragonette Review

By Bill Pike

Several years ago, I was interested in the Dragonette by Dave's Aircraft Works. But it seemed to be too limited and I dismissed the idea. Later, Warren Laufer bought one and showed the kit at the club meeting in Clarence. Thinking it was too delicate for him, he never built it.

This summer, Fred Maier asked me if I knew about the Dragonette and I recalled that Warren had one. I spoke with him and was told he had given it to a mutual acquaintance. That fellow was not a flyer and had started building it but not gotten very far. Thus it passed to me. Since I had all the components on hand, I put it together.

I have flown it by hand launch, and at the slope with much success. It flies surprisingly well in light wind and is great on the Squaw Island slope with west wind about 10 mph. While it doesn't break down for transport, it is small enough to fit in the trunk. Yes, it is rather limited but it has been a new and rewarding experience. I see that it is still available at DAW.

Span 29.5 inches
Length 22.5 inches
Area 150 square inches
Weight 5.1 oz. (bigger battery)
Airfoil 7% MH32

2005 Fall Finale Contest Report

By Marty Timm

If you had to describe a perfect day for a sailplane contest, it would have been Sunday, October 2nd. Light winds, sunshine, warm temperatures – days like this in a WNY October are a rare treat. It was such a nice day that in addition to our contest regulars, we were visited by Bill Neuman, Uwe Ziegelmueller, Harold Becker, Freddie Maier, Richard Grady, Dr. James Lauria, and Dan Wopperer and wife Christie who all watched the festivities. Dan



Bill Pike with Dragonette

took numerous pictures, some of which can be found in this newsletter. Special thanks also to Bud Leonard for stopping by with his frequency scanner so we could watch for conflicts. Honorable mentions go to Bill O'Neil and Mike Kucera for making their treks from Rochester and Canada respectively. Special thanks go to Mike for all the time he spent helping out by manning the retriever.

CD Jim Roller ran the event with its traditional format – four rounds of flying with a total target time of 20 minutes in the air. Bonus points could be earned for landing in either a large (30 points) or small (60 points) landing circle. As is often the case with this event, with several pilots getting very close to the 20 minute target time, the pilots' skill at landing became the critical difference in determining the finishing order.

For such a nice day, the number of incidents was surprising. I started things off by going to

switch on my ex-Roller Barracuda only to find that I had no power – the previous night's charge notwithstanding – and I ended up flying my Bird of Time in both the RES and Open classes. Bill O'Neil gave us quite a show when he launched his RES ship and found it to be barely controllable enough to get it down in one piece, not once

but twice. Bill fared no better in Open class when his plane's wings folded on an otherwise gentle launch by Lyn Perry. Roman spun, out of control, into the trees at the South end of the field. The cause is yet to be determined. Bob Kellner's Sagitta rolled in (difficult for a poly plane) due to the wing incidence pin coming out. Tom Koszuta separated fuselage from wing on launch. The wing landed less than 10 feet from the winch, while the fuselage scored a perfect spot landing in the nearby baseball diamond.

When all the flying was done, Jim Roller had captured first place in both classes, missing a perfect score in Open class by only one point. Note that the top four finishers in Open class were within 12 seconds of a perfect flight time. As indicated earlier, the landings made all the difference. The results are as follows:

RES Class

#	Pilot	Pts
1	Jim Roller	1403
2	Jim Sonnenmeier	1351
3	Roman Paryz	1348
4	Marty Timm	1312
5	Tom Koszuta	1285
6	Lyn Perry	1007
7	Dominic Aradio	969
8	Matt Koszuta	897
9	Bob Kellner	876
10	Bill O'Neil	DNF

Open Class

#	Pilot	Pts
1	Jim Roller	1439
2	Frank Zbytek	1378
3	Lyn Perry	1364
4	Jim Sonnenmeier	1306
5	Mike Kucera	1211
6	Marty Timm	1174
7	Dominic Aradio	1056
8	Matt Koszuta	843
9	Roman Paryz	424
10	Tom Koszuta	393
11	Bob Kellner	565
12	Bill O'Neil	DNF

**WNYSEF
Holiday Party**

**December 15th
7:30pm**

**Orchard Park
Municipal Building**

**Food
Fun
Frivolity
and
2006 Officer Elections**



Rainbow Lake Photos courtesy of Bill Pike

Western New York Sailplane and Electric Flyers

Invite you to the

Niagara Aerospace Museum Field Trip

Saturday, January 21st at 10am



The Plan: Anyone interested in participating in a guided tour of the museum for our group should be at the museum at 10am on Saturday, January 21st.

Location: Niagara Aerospace Museum, Niagara Falls, NY

Fee: \$7 per person

(but if we get 20 or more members, the museum may knock \$2 per person off the price of admission!)

For Additional Information, contact: Marty Timm (716) 592-9520

If you need a ride, contact: Tom Koszuta at (716) 896-6393 for carpooling!