

SMOKE SIGNALS

N E W S L E T T E R

CALENDAR

March 5

Club Meeting
CANCELLED

March 14

Lebanon PA - Flea Market

March 19

Club Meeting
Annual Auction - Swap Meet

March 29

Whitman Flyers
RC Flea Market

2015

JANUARY

BIRTHDAYS

March 10 Joseph Czeto

March 13 Patrick Boll

March 23 Dave Bell

March 27 Philip Friedensohn

March 28 Sherwin Smith

CALENDAR

April 2

Club Meeting
Show & Tell

April 16

Club Meeting
Seminar - Applying Night
Flight Lights

FEBRUARY

BIRTHDAYS

April 13 Curtis Underdue

April 18 Mark Klein

April 26 Ted Evangelatos

April 30 James Tavernese

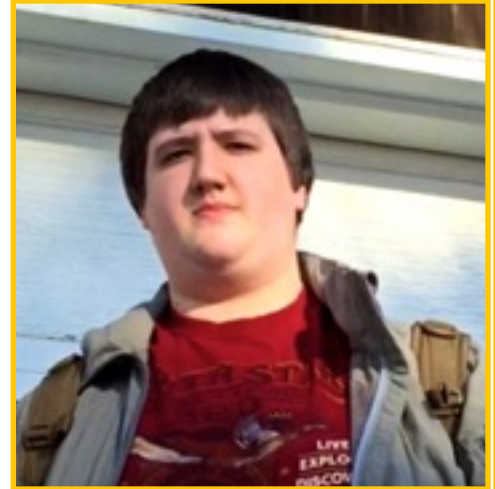
Send all suggestions to:
newsletter@meroke.com

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President Lou Pinto suggested that this year I include biographies of our younger club members and show what fine young men they are as well as dedicated club members. We started with Patrick Boll now it is Robby Wenk's turn.

I was born on Long Island in Huntington Station and have grown up there. I attend Huntington High School and am currently a junior. I do not play any sports, just keep myself entertained through various hobbies. I do not have a job as of now, but wish to get one so I have some spending money for my hobbies.

I found out/joined the club because my cousin Bryan saw an RC jet for sale and wanted to buy it. Knowing Nelson flew planes and lives across the street from me, Bryan asked him about the jet and Nelson invited us to the field and from there it just grew on my cousin and I and we joined the club and hobby. My favorite plane to fly would be either my micro Stryker or a very very micro Cessna that I put together.



QUESTION: How did you get into our hobby?

ANSWER: I found out about the hobby and began to fly from Nelson, as stated in my bio.

QUESTION: What are your favorite subjects in school?

ANSWER: My favorite subjects in school would be math (only because it comes natural to me so I find it to be like a free period), science(except for earth science, that was horrible), and wood shop.

QUESTION: What career path do you want to pursue?

ANSWER: At the moment I have no clue what I truly would like to have a career in, but it would be really cool to find a career relating to any of my hobbies; some of which are actually full time, successful jobs for people.

QUESTION: What do you want to accomplish in your life?

ANSWER: In my adulthood, I don't have many accomplishments that I wish to achieve, just to have a nice house(nothing fancy, just nice and simple), free weekends would be optimal, a decent job to support a happy life-style, and a nice car/truck.

QUESTION: What are your interests other than R/C flying?

ANSWER: Most of my other interests outside of the RC hobby are hands-on activities relating to a shop scenario.

QUESTION: What is your favorite maneuver when you fly?

ANSWER: I don't know too many flying maneuvers, but I find rolls with fast planes to be fun and look cool, as for flying on the simulator, I find a lot of fun attempting to hover(never longer than 3 seconds max).

QUESTION: What is the one thing that would surprise us about you?

ANSWER: A fact about myself that I think would surprise most people in the club/hobby is that the first time I flew, I hated it and thought it was the most boring thing in the world, but now I love it.

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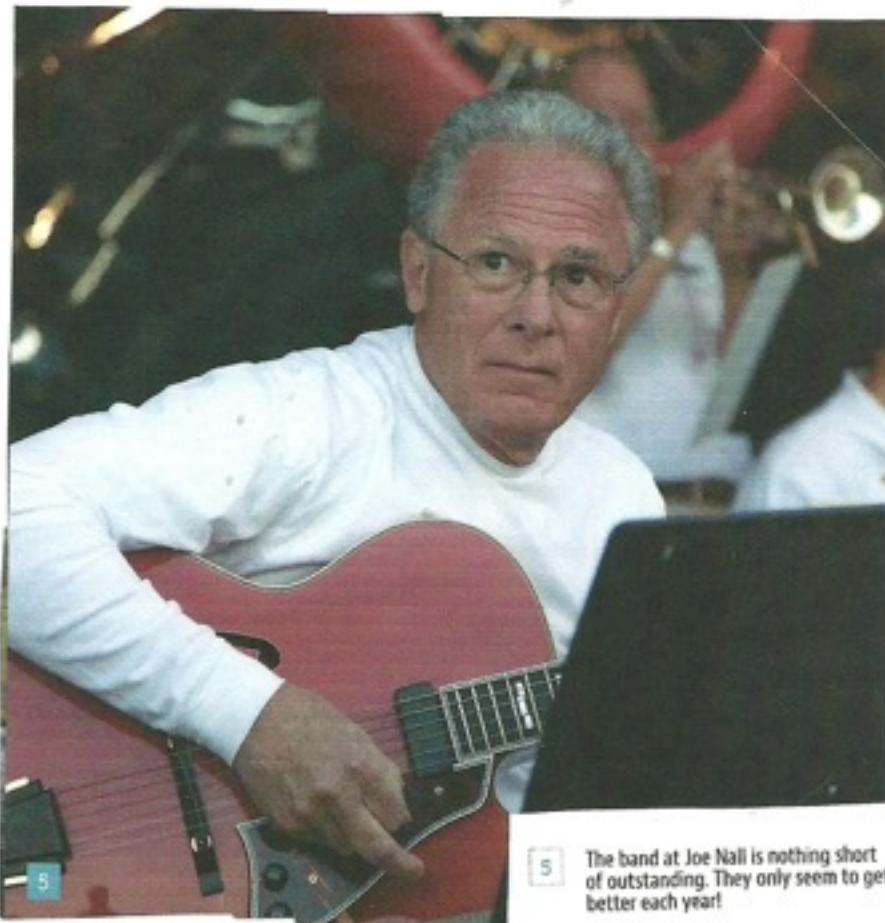
From a new member to an old member...this comes from Lou Pinto.

An Unforgotton Meroke Club Member Joe DiPrima

While reading a past copy of the RC Flyer Magazine which I received at the WRAM Show I noticed a past member and president of our club. Joe DePrima had been a long time meroke member until moving to Carolina. He was my first flight instructor. Joe contributed greatly to where us Merokes stand today helping in design and building the first Meroke Safety Benches. He was also involved in the clubs building programs and also editor of the clubs newsletters. Joe also took the Merokes in the AMA Club Leader status.

He was a great guitar player as you can see from this photo playing with the Joe Nall Band.

*Article written by
Lou Pinto (Meroke President)*



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I asked Nelson Ramos to write an update on the BUILD CLUB activities and as usual he came through with flying colors.



Meroke R/C Club

Meroke building program update.

Where are we now with this model building program? When was the start, how are we progressing and what and will be the finish.

We started the Meroke airplane model building and repairing session the first week of November 2014 continuing until the last week in March 2015. Meeting every Saturday morning from 9 AM until 12 noons. Every Saturday is a full morning most of the table are full with models

needing repairs, stripping covering, swapping parts from one model to another, and of cause building from a kit and setting up the elevator, rudder, ailerons and engine carburetor.

We started by stripping our battle torn paint ball trainers, removing the engines, electronics, hardware everything we could use we striped. Thanks to our members who contributed trainers we started to install the parts we removed to make two flight worthy trainers.

By the end of December the trainers for the 2015 flying season were completed. We did some repairs on the trainers replaced balsa, added covering and what ever was necessary to complete and make it ready for test flight starting this April.

At the beginning of the New Year we started the Meroke electric airplane. The kit FUN ONE was another contribution. This kit is made for glow fuel engine but is being built for electric. . As we are now in the last week of February we still have the month of March to complete this model. The Fun ONE is fully constructed and we are on schedule to start the film covering. By the end of March the two trainers and the Meroke electric will be ready for test flight.

Some Meroke members came in with models that needed complete restoration. Stripping the covering and learning how to reconstruct the wing and the fuselage. One member also did some kit bashing, changing the tail section and engine compartment.

We had ARF 's needing some attention correcting existing problems, one member had tank problem, another had more right turn and little left we had cowl issues on one model another ARF we had to set up the computer radio, balancing issues and setting up a glow engine for down and right thrust.

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We all learn how to build, set up, repair balsa, covering, engine, electronics, work with fiberglass. But I think what's important isn't just do the repairs but how and why all this affects the model flying. The information given to those Meroke members will help them on future models. The Meroke R/C Club is known for teaching. For those seeking instruction on flying and building this club fills the requirement.

We have flight instructors and off season we have the building program. : Learning the correct way, flying safe building correctly.

A special thanks should be given to one of our member, James Gilmartin the old battle torn paint ball trainer that in my model experience opinion aren't worth repairing Jim is resurrecting them. Jim removes the covering and found that the covering was holding the wing together the same with the fuselage (LOTS of Balsa Pieces).

After many weeks of reconstructing by Jim now this paint torn battle trainer is ready for covering and should be ready for April. Why did he take on this project and why take it home work on it spend time and the monies needed to complete this trainer at no cost to the club.

James Gilmartin wanted to learn. It's harder to build a model without plans, no kits and not knowing where to start. After this building season he should be able to repair his own model. This is the reason for the Meroke model building sessions.

This has been a very busy year for the guys and myself. I'm in the middle of building a Top Flight giant scale P-51 D mustang. I will have electric retracts, sliding canopy, detail cockpit, 9 servos digital, one actuator (for canopy). 50 CC gas engine with custom exhaust system, and I plan to install a battery power sharing system. For the finishing I'm thinking of painting this model. Lets see how much this thing will weigh when it's completed.

In the middle of all this we had the pleasure of having a visit from Hoftra University Students. They came with their video camera, interview some members and posted edited version on YOU TUE.

A reminder to our Meroke R/C Club members this building program is for all who wish to learn. Any member can just visit and see the work that's' going on.

That's enough for now see you guys in April for the test flight.

Nelson

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MEROKE SPECIAL MOMENTS

Jerry Koenig giving a demo of his new Plane balancer which he purchased from Dons Hobby.....



Meroke member Paul Rozek winner of the AMA Futaba Transmitter at the 2015 WRAM SHOW,