



July

Minneapolis, Minnesota U.S.A.

2006

## Beautiful Planes Vie For 'People's Choice' At TCRC Building Contest

by Jay Bickford

Due to flooding at the field on the originally scheduled date of Saturday, May 20th, the 2006 TCRC Building Contest was alternatively held at the June 13 monthly club meeting. There were a total of 11 models entered in this year's contest, including 6 models in the ARF category (only half of which belonged to Larry Couture this year), 3 in the Sport/Pattern category, and 2 in the Scale category. This year, like last, there were no entries in the Trainer category.



Chris O'Connor and Steve Meyer give a plane the once-over during judging of the Building Contest. (Photo by Jim Cook)

The models entered in this year's contest spanned a very large range, including an electric sport flyer that weighed just over 1 pound, to a giant scale gas plane that tipped the scales at over seventeen pounds, and

everything in between. A lot of skill and time went into bringing these models to completion, and a big hearty "Thanks" goes out to all that participated this year.

This year, judging chores went to all members in attendance at the June meeting. Since there was a full house at the meeting, we had 20 plus judges. Each member was given a judging form and was to select the best plane in each category and also vote for the plane they felt was the 'people's choice'. Judging took the better part of 45 minutes and each model really got a complete critical review before the votes were tallied.

CD for the Building Contest was Jay Bickford and he counted all of the votes and then announced the winners of each category:

**ARF:** First Place – Yak 54, owned by Chris O'Connor, Second Place – Giles 202, owned by Steve Meyer, and Third Place – Tower Voyager, owned by Jon Perry.

**Sport/Pattern:** First Place – Aamco Sportmaster, owned by Sherwood Hegen, Second Place – Orange Crate, owned by Thomas Thunstedt, and Third Place - 3DX, owned by Jay Bickford.

**Scale:** First Place – Extra 300L, owned by Chris O'Connor, and

**Continued On Page 3, Col. 1**

# From the President's Hangar

by Bill Jennings

As I write this column I'm beginning to relax after yet another close call with the river level. The Minnesota River came within six inches of flooding the field again this past week... It has since dropped almost three feet and continues to head in the right direction. Let's hope this is just Mother Nature's way of letting us know that she's still in the driver's seat!

Since last month, we've held a successful field cleanup effort. Many thanks to everyone who turned out on June 3rd to help remove the silt and grime left behind by the flooding. Also, thanks to those who have taken a turn at mowing the grass. With abundant moisture and the nutrients in the silt, it's amazing how rapidly the grass has been growing. The field has quickly recovered from the several months of being buried under floodwater. Our next challenge will be to take down the willow shoots and marsh grass that continues to grow taller at the east end of the field.

We've also held another successful Building Contest with many nice models displayed at the last membership meeting. There were no completed entries from the Kit Building workshop held this past winter. As a participant of the workshop, I'd have to admit that my building skills haven't matured to the point that I'm ready to enter a contest. However, I've *really* learned how to skillfully patch up the bruises on my ARF's after piloting errors. With a whole year to gain more experience, I'm looking forward to entering a few planes next year.



SMMAC pilot, Tim Johnson, taxis his turbine jet aircraft out for a flight at Jordan on June 24th. (Photo by Ken Duncan)

By the time this newsletter is printed our first shared event with the Southern Minnesota Model Aircraft Club (SMMAC) will be over. You can read the details elsewhere in this newsletter. Also history will be our visit to the SMMAC field in Owatonna to try flying on their runways... Those who saw my slides at the last meeting will really be surprised when they see the actual field. It's really quite impressive!

I've really learned a lot by visiting other clubs in the area, and I think it's a good idea for everyone to expand their horizon periodically. I've met a lot of great people who share my interest in flying RC planes, but I've also learned a lot that will make my building and flying easier and more fun. I'm hoping the success of these events will lead the way for additional shared events with other clubs in the future.

During the month of July we also have the Electric Fun-Fly and Campout on July 8th and 9<sup>th</sup>, and the Silent Auction as part of our next membership meeting on July 11th. We should also begin to see some progress being made on the construction of the new tractor storage shed and the renovation of the old shed. Many thanks to John Dietz and Jim Ronhovde for heading up these much-needed projects.

Until next month... see you at the field! ☺

**TCRC's Jordan Field  
Is Just Waiting To  
Have Your Aircraft  
Soar Above It!**



## 2006 Building Contest

Continued From Page 1

Second Place – Goldberg Anniversary Cub, owned by Morgan Larson.

**People's Choice:** Extra 300L, owned by Chris O'Connor.

First through Third Place winners in each category were awarded blue, red, and white ribbons, respectively. In addition, the first place winner in each category, as well as the People's Choice Award Winner, were each awarded a \$25.00 Gift Certificate from Hobby Warehouse for their efforts. Because Chris O'Connor won 2 of the first place awards this year plus the People's Choice Award, he decided to donate a couple of his gift certificates back to the club for use as door prizes or awards at future club meetings or events. Thanks Chris!

Thanks again to everyone that came out and participated in this year's Building Contest. Start thinking about your winter building projects now, and let's have an even bigger and better event next year! ☺

TCRC meets every month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall of CrossPoint Church located on the southeastern corner of the intersection of 98<sup>th</sup> Street and France Avenue in Bloomington. Guests are welcome to attend these meetings.

## People's Choice Winners At The TCRC Building Contest



Chris O'Connor's Extra 300L was the People's Choice with Sherwood Heggen and Steve Meyer taking 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

## Nice Looking Float Plane!



Mike Timmerman gives Sherwood Heggen's float plane a closer look during judging. (Photos by Jim Cook)



# Pictures From TCRC's 2006 Building Contest



**Bernie Gaub, Conrad Naegle and Jay Bickford couldn't find anything wrong with this Extra 300L.**



**ARF winners Steve Meyer, Jon Perry and Chris O'Connor at the BC.**



**Sport winners Jay Bickford, Sherwood Heggen and Tom Thunstedt.**



**What would a building contest be without at least one J-3 Cub?**



**CD Jay Bickford tallies the votes at the BC.**



**Chris O'Connor and Morgan Larson won scale.**

# SMMAC Visits TCRC For A Giant Scale Fly In

by Bill Jennings

On Saturday, June 24th the members of TCRC hosted the Southern Minnesota Model Aircraft club for a Giant Scale Fly In. The weather forecast was a little doubtful leading up to the event, but Mother Nature served up an almost perfect day for flying. There were scattered clouds, light wind and low humidity, and a temperature that climbed near 80 degrees. Later in the afternoon we had a sharp turn in the weather, but everyone had ample opportunity to fly (more on that later).



**TCRC member Steve Meyer's Giant Cub comes in for a nice landing at the Fly-In at Jordan. (Photo by Mike Timmerman)**

The number of pilots from Owatonna was lower than expected, but we realized shortly before the event there would be strong competition from the Back To The 50's car show. Still, the five or six that attended more than made up for their small number with their enthusiasm for flying. Although the event was not scheduled to start until 11:00 AM, several showed up before 8:30 AM eager to fly. There was also a good turnout of TCRC members who kept their Giant Scale models in the air almost constantly. At times there were 4 or 5 planes in the air at the same time.

Just before noon, the sight and sound of Tim Johnson's turbine-powered jet certainly held everyone's attention. Tim was concerned that our runway might not be long enough to allow his model to build sufficient ground speed for lift-off. After one aborted takeoff attempt, Tim demonstrated his expert flying skills by completing a smooth

takeoff, and flying his jet at speeds approaching 150 mph. A loud round of applause greeted the speedy jet, as it was braking to a halt after a successful flight. Unfortunately, a bent nose gear strut prevented any encore flights.

Before the aroma of kerosene had cleared the air, there was already a line forming by the grill where CD Bill Jennings, assisted by Kathy Dietz, served up an assortment of brats, chili dogs, baked beans, chips and all the trimmings. Some of the hungry pilots visited the grill several times in preparation for an afternoon of flying.

Around 4:00 PM there was a very brief shower that lasted for about 5 minutes or so, and then the sun returned. However, 30 minutes later ominous clouds appeared in the west and almost everyone decided to call it a day. The few who stayed a while longer witnessed an awesome display of violent weather. The wind picked up to 60 mph and there was a torrential downpour that briefly flooded the entire field. However, it was the lengthy hailstorm ranging from pea-size to quarter-size hailstones that was most impressive. It lasted over 20 minutes and created a layer 5 to 6-inches deep in some parts of Jordan. The last three vehicles to leave the field were held up until the storm ended by a fairly large tree that fell across the road a short distance below the tractor shed. The tree narrowly missed hitting Steve Meyer's van as he was parked beneath the trees waiting for the hailstorm to end. And we worry about sticking our hands into a spinning prop...

All in all, it was a great event and everyone had a good time. ☺



# Pictures From The TCRC/SMMAC Fly-In



Sherwood Heggen's giant-scale Chipmunk soars over Jordan during the Fly-In.



Bill Jennings and Kathy Dietz manned the grill for all of the pilots and spectators at the Fly-In.



Chris O'Connor's Extra really looked great as it passed over the runways at Jordan.



Tim Johnson's turbine-powered plane makes a nice landing approach.



Pilots and spectators relaxed in the shelter between flights.



The last three vehicles to leave the Fly-In got blocked by a tree taken down by the high wind.

Photos by Ken Duncan, Mike Timmerman and Bill Jennings

# Safety At The Field

by Larry Couture

I am writing this after the Giant Scale Fly-In of June 24<sup>th</sup>. The day was great until about 4:00 PM when it rained and hailed -- which I had no control of -- and did not stop on my say so. Things went very smoothly between all flyers and the spectators except for one take off which I pointed out to the person in question. A jet was flown at the field and all the proper equipment and requirements were in place and we all had fun watching the flight. Due to other things taking place that day or weekend our Giant Scale turnout from SMMAC was somewhat limited but we enjoyed the people and planes that did show up.

I would like to take this time to thank all the members and guests that have been at the field this month for following the rules, as it makes my services and job very

easy and enjoyable. I am not able to be at the field all the time so I hope that all the rules are followed when I am not there.

There is one rule that I want to make issue of which is an AMA requirement. That is that all aircraft must have on or in the name and address, or AMA number of the builder affixed to it. This a rule that is very hard to enforce because my x-ray vision is not working and may not ever work, so please take note and everyone please do this since it is for your protection and the protection of others if your model should fly away or cause damage to something.

That's it for this month. Keep flying, and land with the rubber side down. ☺

**Silent Auction  
July 11 Meeting**

<b>Calendar</b>	
July 1	TCRC Field Trip To SMMAC Field Owatonna RC Club
July 8,9	Electric Fly-In & Campout Jordan Field CD Gerry Dunne
July 11	TCRC Membership Meeting, 7:00 PM Fellowship Hall CrossPoint Church Bloomington
July 11	Silent Auction at TCRC Membership Meeting, 7:00 PM
July 18	3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr Board Meeting
July 25-27	Oshkosh EAA Air Show & Fly-In
August 4,6	25 <sup>th</sup> Annual Park Rapids Fun Fly CD: Jim Ronhovde
August 12	Pattern Fun Fly Jordan Field CD: Chris O'Connor
August 19	Model Aviation Day & Open House Jordan Field CD: Scott Anderson





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## Myasishchev M-55 Geofizka

by Conrad Naegele

The June Mystery Plane was the Russian Myasishchev M-55 Geofizka.



In the late 50's and early 60's, our CIA started its spy program over Russia, by using high-altitude balloons that could be programmed to rise or descend, but just drifted. This was prior to the U-2 and the Gary Powers shoot-down by a missile. In response to these balloons, the Russians developed a high-altitude long-winged turbo jet, armed with guns and missiles. This was code named the M-17, 'Stratosfera'. The west was not aware of this aircraft for some years. With the onset of the U-2, there was no need for the M-17.

At this point, the M-17 was reworked, with considerable change, wingspan, engines, armament, and the plane became a useful high-altitude research plane. First built in 1985, with a long anhedral wing, an additional engine, twin booms needed to keep the tailpipes to a reasonable length. The plane, while not fast, at 406 mph, it performed numerous research programs. In addition, it appeared at many European air shows.

This plane had extensive use of honeycomb fuselage and wing panels. It carried 2,200 imperial gallons of fuel in five wing tanks.

The plane was powered with two Solovyov D-30 turbofans that each developed 20,944 pounds of thrust. It had a wingspan of 123 feet and a gross weight of 52,469 pounds. It had a maximum ceiling of 70,160 feet and a range of 3,085 miles. It had a crew of one. ©

## From The Co-Pilot's Seat

by Chris O'Connor

It's almost 4th of July. Hopefully all of you have been out to the field to fly. It's drying out nicely and is in good shape.

Jay Bickford was the CD of the Building Contest that was held at the June meeting and it is covered in its entirety elsewhere in the newsletter. My only comment is that it's too bad we didn't have more planes entered. Not any of the planes built in the workshops this past winter were there. Maybe next year. Thanks Jay for all the work you did.

This past Saturday was the giant-scale fun fly with the Owatonna club at our field. Turn out wasn't bad for the first time. A big reminder that TCRC is invited to the Owatonna field July 1 for the SMMAC fun fly. More from President Bill on that.

More on the upcoming programs. Our meeting in July will be on helicopters. Our friend Dave Schwantz will be presenting this program on helicopters, both gas and electric. Choosing and setting up and tips on flying. This is a growing and challenging aspect of the hobby and with Dave's expert advice, it should be very beneficial in helping those of us who want to get into helicopters. Improve your skills by challenging your abilities. Who knows maybe Dave may even fly one at the meeting.

**Continued On Page 9, Col. 2**



## Silent Auction July 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting

by **Bill Jennings**

Several R/C items that were formerly owned by Gary Coss were donated to TCRC by his sister Rhonda Poland. The TCRC board has decided to hold a Silent Auction at the July 11<sup>th</sup> meeting to sell these items.

Some of the items up for bid:

### Great Planes Viper

#### 500 Sport/Racing plane

(Completely built but never flown) with OS .40 LA engine, Futaba FP-R127DF FM, Receiver w/o crystal, Futaba S3004 servos, 600 mAh battery (weak)  
(all of the above is a package deal)  
Wingspan: 52-inches  
Fuse length: 41-inches  
Weight: 3 to 3.5 lbs.

**New Hobbico TorqMaster 90 12 volt electric starter** w/ alligator battery clips

**Several glow plug igniters and chargers**

**HD Heat Sealing covering iron**

**Multi-range Westinghouse 1875 max. watt heat gun**

**Small tool/tackle box**

**Other assorted accessories and small tools**

All Items will be numbered and displayed for preview 1/2 hour

before the start of the July 11th meeting.

Each item must be bid on separately using a bidding slip.

Items will be sold to the highest bidder at the end of the meeting.

All items must be paid for and collected at the end of the meeting - checks OK.

Items not receiving bids will either be sold at the TCRC auction or sold on e-Bay.

Make sure you are at the July 11<sup>th</sup> membership meeting and be a part of the Silent Auction. ☺

## From The Co- Pilot's Seat

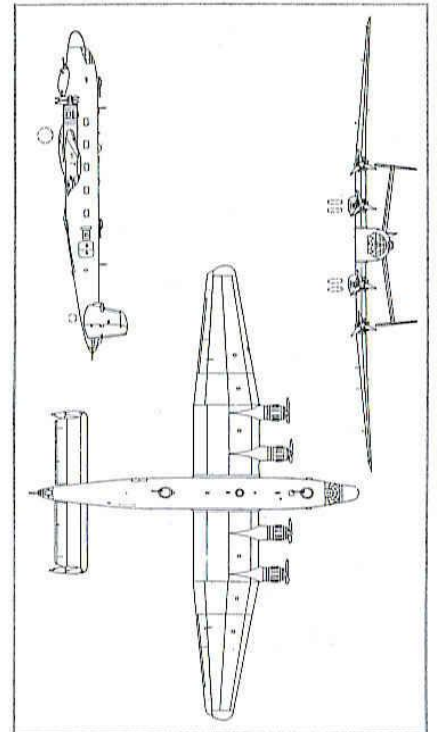
Continued From Page 8

Our meeting in August will be on electric flying. With so many people excited about electrics this is one program you shouldn't miss. Bob Savre from the Anoka County RC club and MARCEE will be presenting the program. I know Bob has a micro-plane and will fly at the meeting. Should be very interesting.

REMEMBER THAT THE MEETINGS ARE FOR YOU AND THE PROGRAMS ARE FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT AND ARE PRESENTED FOR YOU. PLAN ON ATTENDING!

That's it for this month - let's go flying! ☺

## July Mystery Plane



## TCRCOnline.com

Webmaster Pat Dziuk has put together one of the best R/C club websites on the internet.

Not only does this site give a visitor complete information on TCRC, it includes a map to both flying sites, an aerial view of the field, a complete calendar of upcoming events, and tons of pictures from club activities and of member's aircraft. It has tons of information for the person who is thinking about getting into the hobby, and even more information for the seasoned flyer wanting to learn more about R/C.

Visit [TCRCOnline.com](http://TCRCOnline.com) today. See what you are missing. ☺

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## The South End of A Jet Turbine



This is a close-up of the turbine in Tim Johnson's jet plane. Tim is from SMMAC R/C club in Owatonna and brought the plane to soar above the Jordan Field in the Fly-In on June 24<sup>th</sup>. ☺

### THE TCRC FLARE-OUT Monthly Newsletter



### \*\* TWIN CITY RADIO CONTROLLERS INC. \*\*

**Purpose:** To preserve, encourage, and further develop the hobby of building and flying radio controlled model airplanes.

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