



# The Signal

February 2007

Volume 3

## Of Special Interest:

- Frank Vitelli gives a demo about applying Flite Metal.
- Next Club Meeting on **Monday**, March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Bridgewater Library at 8:00pm in Rooms A & B.



The meeting was held on February 27<sup>th</sup> and called to order at 8:06pm.

**Attendance:** Patrick Aanstoots, Paul Brill, Len Cacciatore, Carl Claesson, Greg Clarke, Tim Cullen, Chris DeBlass, Dan Edelman, Len Ferenchak, Alvaro Guerrero, Ken Hoeg, Serhiy Holodnyak, Marc Julius, Joe Lachowski, Richard Levesen, Rich Negrn, Jeff Randolph, Tony Rossi, John Santak, Dave Shields, Tom Viechor, Jim Vigani and Frank Vitelli.

The club was happy to welcome our guest: Mike Scuch

And the club is very happy to welcome our newest member: Paul Kupersmith.



## Flite Metal Anyone?

Frank Vitelli gave a fascinating demonstration at the February meeting on applying Flite Metal to an airplane. He explained that there is one person that sells it and it's quite expensive... over \$150 to cover a 1/5 scale warbird, with the tools.

It's difficult to become proficient at applying it, you have to make sure the surface is absolutely smooth, but you can tell Frank has it down to a science. He brought a beautiful Corsair and several cowlings to show us how Flite Metal works on flat surfaces and compound curves. Frank even let members of the club give it a whirl. It was very hard to do it well. The wrinkles were tough to avoid. He explained how you could scuff it up with brillo to affect different levels of shine.

Thanks Frank – very informative.



## Treasurer's Report

### Expenses

None -----  
\$ 0.00

### Income

January 50-50 \$ 40.00

Dues \$ 330.00

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\$ 370.00

**Balance As Of 2/27/2007**

\$ 2,138.74



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If you have any items that you would like listed in the For Sale section of the newsletter, forward them to the newsletter editor. Items will be listed for a three (3) month period. After three months they will be deleted from the newsletter. If you would like your ad to run longer you must make your request again.

*The club has vinyl decals for sale with the same logo as the club T-Shirts. Price is \$5 each. See Marc if you're interested.*



*Your ad could be here in next month's newsletter.*

*Contact the newsletter editor to place an ad.*

### Pictures from the WRAM Show...



Len with Dave Mathewson,  
AMA District II VP



Greg, Len and John enjoying the displays!

See Tony's Write up  
on Page 3!



Pretty empty for a Sunday...



Team Futaba shows off their skills.



## 39<sup>th</sup> Annual WRAM Show

*(Submitted by Tony Rossi)*

Well, for the few of you that don't know what the WRAM show is, it is a place that vendors and retailers can show their products to the public. I have been going since 1970 and I have seen it grow into the mega display it is today. Originally it was conceived to be only vendors showing their new products to the public since we didn't have the internet at that time and everything was introduced through model magazines and only available through your LHS. It gave the every day Joe a chance to see, touch and ask questions about all the new technology of the time. I remember when I first met Duke Fox, the creator of the greatest control line stunt engine ever produced. He was a large man and was king of the hill at the show. He was bombarded with questions in his booth and was selling engines as fast as he could reach for them. Other people that were regulars were Dave Platt (Top Flite), Carl Goldberg, Lanier, Sterling etc. There was also an awesome competition containing displays of built up kits, no ARF's. The display took up two rooms on two floors and could have used more room. Everyone was in awe of the great finish jobs on the model boats, airplanes and a new entry, cars. I remember one time seeing the prototype of the Dave Platt Spitfire, produced by Top Flite, finished by Dave Platt himself. Wow what a thrill! The spitfire had not been released until the show and it was well worth the wait. I could go on forever about how great those days were. Those really were the golden days of the hobby. Today's hobby has really changed with the advent of quality ARF's and really powerful electric motors. It is nice to see how it has evolved.

This year I attended the WRAM show with a couple of club members and had a great time. Half the fun was the ride up with the chatter in the car; you would think we were a bunch of women! When we finally arrived we found a pretty good parking space and proceeded to go inside. There was an awesome display of products from vendors and hobby shops alike. Jim Vigani and Paul Gentile were manning the "AirfoilZ by 3dx" booth showing off their newest creations. Great planes had an awesome display as did Nitro Models.

The crowd was surprisingly light for a Sunday, so we pretty much saw everything on all three floors. There were free demos by Chris Chianelli of R/C Hobbies fame on the DIY network, and the Futaba Electric flight Team flying their latest electric models. There were also several workshops covering everything from care of your LiPo batteries to covering your model.

While we were there we had a chance to talk to Dave Mathewson, AMA District II VP and Joe Beshar. Dave is now into electric helicopters and we shared our experiences or should I say our misfortunes. Dave will make an effort to attend our Electric fun fly this year on August 19<sup>th</sup>.

Before we left we checked into the swap shop where there is always a bunch of cool stuff for sale. I was fortunate enough to sell a couple of planes.

Well in summing it all up, it was a good trip and I spent way too much money but I had a good time. Did I mention we stopped at The Hobby Hut on the way home? ☺



Congratulations Jim Vigani

Our own Jim Vigani took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the static sportsman display at the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual WRAM Show for his home built Spyder.

Way to go Jim!



## Somerset Signal Senders



### Support your local Hobby Shop:

The Hobby Hut  
567 Route 23  
Pompton Plains, NJ  
(973) 835-2077

Your RC Headquarters

Linda Ciesla, proprietor

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## Miscellaneous Club Business

**January 50-50:** The club took in \$51! First place (\$30) was won by Tim Cullen; 2<sup>nd</sup> place (\$15) was won by Patrick Aanstoos and 3<sup>rd</sup> place (\$7) was won by Mike Scuch. Tim donated back \$10 to the club – thanks very much Tim!

Paul Brill brought in a trainer for someone to fix up and use as a first plane. That was very nice of Paul – I'm sure he'll see it flying down at the field soon.

Spring Fashion Show – At the club's April meeting, we will have our annual Spring Fashion Show. New for this season – two different judging categories – ARF and Scratch/Kit. Bring a model that hasn't been flown before!

**Model of the Month** – the club voted to reinstate the Model of the Month for show and tell – so bring out those airplanes! They don't even have to be completed. It would be great to see the progress you're making.

Cradle Of Aviation – The club will be taking a trip to the Cradle of Aviation on Long Island on Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>.

We will be leaving from the Vo-Tech parking lot (next to the library) at 9am. The club has decided to carpool and caravan, so if you're looking for a ride or have extra space in your car – show up at the parking lot to work out the details.

Save your receipts from the museum – the club will reimburse every club member \$5 from their price of admission.

### 2007 Membership Dues are due!

If you haven't sent in your 2007 dues, please make sure you get them in before the March meeting.

Dues are the same as last year, \$30.

You can send them to the club's treasurer along with a copy of your 2007 AMA card to:

Marc Julius  
45 Stephen Terrace  
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Make checks payable to:  
Somerset Signal Senders



## Club Information

- The Somerset Signal Senders will meet **Monday**, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 8pm at the Bridgewater Library in Meeting Rooms A & B.
- Our club website is <http://www.somersetsignalsenders.org>
- Questions concerning our website can be directed to: [webmaster@somersetsignalsenders.org](mailto:webmaster@somersetsignalsenders.org)
- Head Flight Instructor: Tony Rossi
- Field Safety Officer: Len Cacciatore
- Newsletter Editor: Marc Julius, [newsletter@somersetsignalsenders.org](mailto:newsletter@somersetsignalsenders.org)
- Questions can be directed to: [President@somersetsignalsenders.org](mailto:President@somersetsignalsenders.org)

## Upcoming Events

### **March 14, 2007**

Spring Build Class Begins – See Jim or Marc for details!

### **March 25, 2007**

Club trip to Cradle of Aviation Museum

### **April 23, 2007**

Spring Fashion Show – Bring your airplanes!