



# THE KNIGHT FLYER



Oct – Nov - Dec

2014

## RALLY WITH A TOUCH OF RAIN

**T**here was a flurry of activity, early on Saturday morning as our 33rd rally was getting underway.

The tall tower of the communications truck rose high above the shelter.

Channel Two news had arrived and was in the process of setting up to cover our event.

Many of the pilots had also arrived and were busy setting up their planes for the days activities.

The television cameraman was working with a couple of pilots to arrange several action shots of an aircraft speeding toward the camera.

He succeeded by laying his \$10,000 camera on the runway and letting a plane take off mere inches above it.



**Preparations Underway**

Our noon pause in flying provides time for several specialty flights.

Several multi-engined war-planes and a jet took center stage for a spectacular show.

There were some 3-D acrobatic demos and a helicopter or two as well.

The food shelter was all fired up, cranking out hamburgers and hot dogs.

The afternoon was great for flying and all of the pilots took advantage of the great conditions.

This level of activity continued all afternoon, but as forecast, the dark clouds eventually moved in.

**Continued on P-2**



**Waiting their Turn**

It looked like it was going to be a slow day because of the threatening clouds.

In spite of that, spectators drifted in and soon the field was nicely crowded.

Flying got off to an early start and continued unabated till noon, when the first candy drop took place.

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## The Knight Flyer

Continued from P-1

Around 5 PM, flying was called due to lightening on the horizon. The pilots raffle was hastily executed.

As the pilots dinner was about to get underway, the rains came.

Several volunteers hastily moved one of the large tents over to the food shelter and the dinner was able to continue as scheduled.

Sunday morning, the clouds still hovered over the field, but in spite of the threat, flying went on.



Gatekeeper Nathan holds kids in check.

As the morning moved along, spectators drifted onto the field and the pilots continued to fly.

Around noon the sun appeared and the day turned out to be quite nice.

Several candy drops were held and the little urchins streamed out onto the field to retrieve the goodies.

Although, the rain complicated this year's rally, the overall response was very good.

Over fifty flyers attended and a great many spectators crowded the field both days.



Spectators relax and enjoy the show.

## Burgerfest

The Burgerfest venue looked like a neat opportunity to promote our upcoming scale rally.

A pop-up and a handful of brochures situated along main street in Hamburg was all it took. The steady stream of pedestrians gave ample time for small talk and a chance to discuss model aviation.

Answers to questions like, "**Who are the flying Knights?**", and "**What do you guys do?**" help to introduce our club to the citizens of Hamburg.

Many people are simply not aware that model aviation is alive and well in Hamburg and all across the country.

Often in the past, conflicts of one kind or another arose over noise issues and flying space. They were often solved with a spoonful of knowledge.

So the opportunity to tell people about who we are and what we do will reap many benefits down the road.



In the near term, we were able to tell them all about the planes that we fly and talk about the upcoming opportunities to actually go out to our flying field and see them in action.

The scale rally and the Model Aviation Day were two events that we wanted to encourage as many people as possible to come out and visit .

Naturally, the day was dreary and wet, keeping the crowd down. In spite of that we talked to many interested people and handed out a lot of brochures describing these upcoming events.

# Our 2014 Summer Picnics

## July

The Ray Barron Flying Field is located high in the hills of Little Valley.

It has become the custom over the last few years for Ray Barren to host the July family picnic.

The flying field is located just across the road from Ray's house.

What an ideal location! On a hillside, no trees, although there is a somewhat ominous cornfield adjacent to the runway.



Chicken Grillin'

Several pop-ups occupied the apron alongside the runway. A number of Knights were happily flying a variety of planes.

Ray along with the club provide chicken for the 4 PM dinner.



Looking out over the flight line

With many "dishes to Pass", an excellent meal was enjoyed by all who attended.



Uh-Oh, this corncob's in trouble

Ray puts up a huge tent to accommodate the flyers and their families, although several large trees also provide shelter from the July sun.

July's picnic is always a super time and looked forward to all year.

## August

Progress at the Emerling Road field has been steady.

Carved out of farmland, it has been improved to the point where even small models can easily take off and land.

This year a toilet facility has been added, not that airplanes need one.

However, this kind of upgrade, makes the field much more user friendly.

The parking area was graded and seeded.

Continued on P-6



Bob and Greg break in the new grill.

# Model Aviation Day 2014

In an effort to help the general public become familiar with the modeling hobby, the A.M.A. introduced the concept of a nationwide day of activity by all of the RC clubs across the country.

Here in Hamburg, NY, the RC Aircrafters of Cheektowaga and the Flying Knights of Hamburg again joined forces to celebrate the day.



Trainer leaves on another mission.

Last year, a very successful event was held.

So, once more the Nike Base Field buzzed with the sounds and sights of model aviation.

As always, the weather plays a huge part in any outdoor activity and especially with our hobby.

Saturday, August 16th turned out to be a dreary day and this contributed to a low spectator turnout.

Even so, some twenty two people tried out model flying for the first time using the buddy box system.

The wind was a little tricky, which made it difficult.



Concentration is definitely needed.

A novice would not actually know when he/she was actually controlling the plane or if it was doing its own thing.



A little body language helps...

Thirty three members and pilots came out to host the event. These intrepid folks put on a great show for the audience throughout the day.

## The Knight Flyer

Continued from P-4

This event supports the Wounded Warriors Project and all of the pilots contributed a landing fee for the day.

Two helicopter pilots, (both of the expert class), put on a fantastic show, until one of them had a disastrous encounter with a not so gentle mother earth.

The club also ran the food concession, delivering great hot dogs and hamburgers.



Father and son concentrate on a common goal

Of course the stars of the show, were the young boys and girls, (and a few grown-ups), who opted to fly with an instructor for a small fee.

Alas, at five PM the rains came and all the fun wound down.

Along with the periodic raffles, the clubs realized over \$700 for the wounded warriors. This will be combined with similar amounts all across the country.

Last year, the A.M.A. was pleased to donate over \$70,000 to this very worthy cause.

The Wonder of Aviation, Awesome!



## The Knight Flyer

### Continued from P-3

Because of all these improvements, it was decided to have the August picnic at Emerling.

People arrived early and flying started in earnest.

Many brought pop-ups which was a good call. The August sun was hot, but the day was ideal for flying.

The club had purchased new grills, so even the dinner prep went smoothly.



Pop-ups line the Emerling field

## September

After a hasty scramble for someone to shepherd the September picnic, Greg Stromecki stepped up to the plate.

All of our picnics must have someone to take charge of the event. The job is not a difficult one. It involves making sure that the hot dogs/ hamburgers will be available at the field and that we have a 'Chef in Chief' to cook them.

Other than that, there is little to actually do at the picnic. "Dishes to pass", takes care of all of the rest of the food. Flying takes care of itself.

Next year, hopefully we can get these activities nailed down early and avoid any last minute ambiguities.



Lots of planes make a busy flight line

The flight line featured a great array of models of every kind.



Bob reels in his giant scale Cub

In any case, our September picnic came off without a hitch. About two dozen pilots took advantage of some beautiful flying weather.

Along with spouses and kids, a good sized crowd attended this event.



Knights/guests sit down for dinner

Right on time, Greg had hamburgers and hotdogs ready to roll, (no pun intended). The more people we have at the event the greater the variety of dishes. The same holds true for the dessert table.

Everyone had a wonderful time. The September picnic is the last picnic of the season. Next on the horizon is the famous Chili Fly which will come up in October.

# Christmas Party

**Dec. 5, 2014**

**Pizza and Wings**

**Don't miss it!  
After meeting and  
voting.**

## Chili Fly Scheduled

The famous Chili Fly has been scheduled for Sunday, October 5th. Flying begins at noon and the Chili will be served at 4 PM.



**No winter schedule has been issued for indoor flying at ECC South.**

**No season schedule has been issued for flying at the Agri-center.**

**Everyone will be notified when these schedules become available.**

**Our FIRST indoor event will be held at the  
Agri-Center in Hamburg.  
Tuesday, October 14th**

The fee for the evening is \$10.

Fly from 5 PM to 10 PM.

All planes must be 8 Oz or less, All Helis must be 250 or less.

## ***KNIGHT'S SWAP SHEET***

If you have something for sale, or looking for that special something, put your request in "The Swap Sheet". Free to all club members.

## 4th Q 2014

**Schedule**  
**Fri. 10/3, 10/24 11/14,**  
**12/5, 12/26**

**St. James Church 7:30**  
**New members 6:30**

**Board Meeting**  
**Tues. 10/21**  
**11/11, 12/2**  
**7:30 pm**  
**Jacobies**

## Officers

**President: John Scarantino**  
**Vice Pres: Jeremy Moore**  
**Secretary: Greg Stromecki**  
**Treasurer: Ray Barren**

## Board

**Bill Hauth Bob Rodgers**  
**Bob Waldruff Orv Chatwood**  
**Editor Jim Devlin**  
**Webmaster Stu Brierley**

# The Flying Knights of Hamburg, NY

Academy of Model Aeronautics - A Chartered Radio Control Flying Club

[www.theflyingknights.com](http://www.theflyingknights.com)



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