

Pine Barren Modelers R/C Club



From the President's Desk

Spring will soon be here, and I commend all those who go out and brave the cold and continue to fly. For others, such as myself, we are looking forward to dusting off our planes and going over them to insure that they are safe and ready to fly. Until then, we still have until the end of February to enjoy the indoor flying at the Central Regional Middle School.

I know some of our members are into building their own planes from scratch, using foam board, while others are using the latest 3D printers to print their R/C planes.

On the left, we have a foam RC plane designed and built from scratch by Bill Bowne. He calls this version the Dawg-E. Bill has been building scratch foam planes for many years and we all enjoy watching them fly.

The plane on the right is a 3D printed P51, and we are all looking forward to seeing the end result. I believe this is Al Simons' first attempt with 3D printing an RC plane. It has been very time consuming and challenging. I believe there are over 200 parts that needed to be 3D printed.



With the 2024 flying season upon us, we have quite a few events planned and we will need all of our members to come out and support the club during these events. Thanks to Ron Jasper, we now have an "All Day/Night" flying event which starts at sunrise and ends sometime after dark. Last year's event went really well so we decided to add it to this years calendar once again.

Club Officers
President—Rich Bombardier
Vice Pres.—Dennis Spatcher
Treasurer—Ralph Ferrara
Secretary—Micki Bowne
Safety Officer—Pat Lovenstein

Contact Us:

For website, classified ads, or any other club information, visit our web site at:

<https://pbm1727.org/>

or our Facebook group:

[PBM on Facebook](#)

Links to club officer and other e-mails are via the website. You can also mail us at:

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To e-mail the Newsletter Editor, use the web site link or:

newsletter@pbm1727.org

Our membership is doing very well and continues to grow. We are now around the 100 member mark and I feel we may grow even more. This growth is due to our members and the way they treat our guests.

We are in need of a Quartermaster who will take on the responsibility of maintaining our cooking supplies and ensuring that we have everything we need for our events. This title will come with a free membership for the following year. Please see Ralph Ferrara if you are interested in this position.

Richard Bombardier
President
Pine Barren Modelers RC Club

Meeting Highlights

There was no February meeting, so there are no meeting highlights. Sorry!

The Boat Doc(k)

This episode has us looking at the Eachine EBT04, I bought mine in November of 2023 to do some testing to see if it was worth racing with the “**Jersey Shore RC**” group. This little guy fits into the mini boat class. I found this on E-bay for a really good deal but through Amazon and Aliexpress it is hit or miss—maybe because of popularity (don’t know). It is not as sleek looking as the UDI Arrow, but it has its own appeal with the LED lighting, self-righting ability, and price.

The EBT04 is a mono hull that is stock with a 3000 kv motor, no battery, LED wing and a radio setup with a low battery and signal loss alarm. This little guy is spec’d out for a 2s battery, ---if you are bashing or playing I would go with a 2s battery but I’m in it for speed so 3s is my weapon of choice. My testing showed it can actually handle a 3s battery and by doing that increases our rpm to the prop an extra 4000 rpm-- I don’t know if it will be competitive but I’ll give it a fair chance. (*Editor - it isn't the boat, but the hand at the controls that really matters.*). If you are going to use it in a pool use the rubber nose cone to protect both the boat and the pool liner—lol, because you will hit it.

Todd Bunn

[EBT04 at Bonanza.com](#)

[Watch it on Youtube](#)

[Todd's Hobby Zone](#)

For more on R/C boat racing (and dry land events!), visit Jersey Shore R/C's Facebook page at:

[Jersey Shore R/C](#)

Helicopters are fun too!

by Paul Meier

This is a review on a very flyer-friendly helicopter. The Flywing 200 is designed for the beginner to expert 3D class and is in the 200 class, making it very portable and easy to store.

The heli is RTF, with no assembly needed. It has a rotor measurement of 455 mm, the body length is 440mm, and the height is 130 mm. Power to the main blades comes via a direct drive inrunner motor, as does the tail rotor.

The unit comes with a pre-programmed transmitter that is bound at the factory, and a 6 point gyro. With a 3s 800 mAh Lipo at 50c, scale flying flight is approximately 7 minutes.

The Flywing 200 is preset with GPS, RTH (Return To Home), and RTH on low battery. Indoor flying can be controlled by a height limiting setting. All of the above settings can be turned on and off by a simple switch on the transmitter. Fine tuning the heli is done by a Bluetooth app on the owners phone. The heli's price (with transmitter) is \$349.00 and includes free shipping from Heli Direct. Replacement parts are very inexpensive and easy to get.

Flying 200 at Heli Direct



Bill's Corner

Micki and I've been in the Hobby for around 50 years. During that time, we've been in 15 different clubs ('only' 13 for Micki) in 11 states and two countries. In all that time, three clubs stand out: The Spirits of St. Louis, St. Louis Missouri, the Anchorage Radio Control Society, Alaska, and the Pine Barren Modelers. Your club.

Our club.

We've been welcomed many times and have made friends in Europe and the US, but those three clubs stand out as ones where strangers were accepted without question; where modelers who built and flew unconventional models were welcomed.

Thank you, guys!

On 4 Feb, we finally test flew the Sequel 2. All went well; the wing didn't fold and the landing gear didn't collapse. Ironically, since then, I've done more research and I believe using foam ribs is obsolete.

I looked at a series of plans from Flite Test (Yes, I know, they have a checkered reputation) and I looked a Flite Test build video. They made me think about some of foam's properties. So, it's back to my workshop laboratory! Meanwhile, I've also been looking at better finishing techniques.

I like to design and build models, but I was never that fond of covering them, even though that chore got a lot easier after my first shrinkfilm, Super Monokote, came out. But, I worked at it and, eventually, learned to do Monokote jobs that didn't look too bad (at least, not from a distance).

When circumstances made me switch from wooden to paper-covered foam models, I had to stop using shrinkfilms as ironing on most shrinkfilms would melt the foam. Couldn't go back to silk (or silkspan) and dope, either – dope would melt the foam even faster than a hot iron! So, I started painting models.

Gee, I'd found something I was even worse at than shrinkfilms. But, I kept at it, trying to keep the models light, but still at least somewhat attractive. And, unfortunately, I found that the edges of the paper/glue composite are brittle and WILL chip.

Then, the light bulb went on....Micki's Sig Klipper, from August 1976, her first R/C model build.

The Sig Klipper came with a molded foam wing, ready for covering. Micki covered that wing with Solarfilm, using an iron set at low temp (and she shrank it with her hair dryer!). No problems then, but now... Solarfilm is gone, the company closed.



Remembering her work on the Klipper, I also recalled I've been using Ultracote to iron trim on top of the painted, papered foam wings I've been building. Ultracote's glue activates at about 200F (and it does shrink, a bit, at that temp). I knew that was safe as I looked up the foam's melting temp (220F). Means I have to carefully set the iron, but it's do-able with an IR thermometer. Would newspaper protect the foam as much (or almost as much) as brown paper?

So, I thought, why not try ironing Ultracote onto some foam samples? Whilst I was at it, why not get some Parklite Ultracote, which is a low temp film and see what it can do.

So, I made up some scrap samples from some 1/4" thick pink foam scraps. One I covered with newspaper and glue composite, the other two I left blank. Plus, I had a test foam-cored wing panel (Yes, I do a lot of experimenting) and covered it with my usual brown wrapping paper and Titebond II composite. Since I already knew I could iron regular Ultracote onto the brown paper/glue composite, I decided to push my luck and try ironing on the highest temp film I have, Doculam.

Doculam is document laminating film. On the roll, it's slightly cloudy, but, when shrunk, it turns clear. It's strong, it's incredibly cheap, and it never needs re-shrinking (really!). But, finding wrinkles in clear film is tough....AND IT NEEDS TO BE PAINTED.

Have I mentioned how much I dislike painting?....

Anyway, I pulled out my ancient Monokote iron and covered the test core. I wasn't careful about making it look pretty, I just wanted to verify I could cover the core WITHOUT melting it...and it worked! Even blasting the covered core with a Monokote heat gun, with no damage. The paper did an excellent job of insulating the foam. As Ultracote's higher shrinking temp is below Doculam's, now I knew I could cover wings.

(Right: Not a pretty covering job, but no melting!)

But, what about the rest of the model?

That's all covered with newspaper and Titebond II composite, which is thinner and much lighter than brown paper. Could the lighter newspaper insulate enough? On to the next set of tests!



(I apologize for the following strange naming – I didn't think of writing this up until after I'd done my mad scientist bit.)

The three samples are:

UC Paper – Newspaper and Titebond II, covered with cream Ultracote (bottom left)

Bare Foam & UC – Bare foam and cream Ultracote (top left)

Bare Foam & Plite – Bare foam and cream Parklite Ultracote (right)

To check the films' opacity, I wrote "PL and UC" on the second and third samples with a Sharpie.



All three blocks came out fine, but, as I feared, the Sharpie lettering showed through the Parklite sample (but not the bare foam and UC sample). About as bad, both bare foam samples came out weak – you can see the creases made in the bare foam and UC sample

The lighting makes the UC Paper block look worse than it really is, but, really, it came out well. Strong and stiff, but still light.

The end result? The Parklite isn't that useful, but I'm satisfied I can go back to covering with Ultracote. So, no more painting nightmares! As added bonuses, I can now hinge with Ultracote, and Ultracoted edges won't chip as easily as the painted paper/composite.