

Message from the President – Wally Jaremko

The new executive is in place and is at work solving the problems that were identified. We still need a candidate for Contest Director who can bring forth ideas for participation by all members at all levels, student pilots and advanced flyers, at fun flies.

Our biggest problem in 1999 was the lack of instructors on student nights. This still may be difficult to solve for next year as well and we are looking for solutions. One idea I put forward is to have every pilot act as instructor four times per year on student nights. That would put five instructors on the field every Wednesday and Thursday from April to October. Is this a solution? Call Miki Sasvari (Chief Instructor) or myself with any comments on this or with your own plan.

We will miss Maria York as program director, but Richard Barlow has accepted this position and has many good ideas for our coming meetings.

I must congratulate all of the members who worked at the Hobby show. If this is the type of participation we can expect from our membership at other club functions, then our club is in good shape.

See you all at the December Membership meeting. It's worth your while to attend.

Vice President's Report – Tom Gottlieb

This is the first opportunity I have had to write to you in my new capacity as Vice President of Humber Valley. I will try to help the club get through some of the difficult issues we will be facing this year. Perhaps it is fitting that for the new millennium, we should redefine the club and its mission. If you missed the October / November meetings, you may be unaware of the executives' initiatives to identify current problems and try to improve the atmosphere and spirit in the club. Wally has called several meetings and has spent many hours on the phone surveying members and calling for help and suggestions for change. Accepting the need for change and doing something about it is one of the hardest things to do. Saying that "it's too hard", isn't good enough. Saying "we've always done it that way", is unacceptable. We have to reach out a little farther and colour outside the box. Make a commitment to come to every winter meeting and participate. You don't need a reminder. Mark your calendars for the first Wednesday of each and every month though to May. A club is a place to meet people and make friends. You can't do that sitting at home all winter. And by the way, have you started your winter building project yet? Whatever stage you are at, bring it in to any meeting. Trainer to expert scale. One thing we have lots of at Humber Valley is free advice.

We Still Want You

The first thing Wally did was assemble a new executive. The current executive is committed to building a better club. But we can't do it alone. There are still some important official jobs to do and some "behind the scenes" jobs still up for grabs. Humber Valley gives us the opportunity to do something we love and asks for little in return. Yet we are still having difficulty publishing the Flyer on a regular basis and we are down to one every 2 months unless we can find a new editor. This is a perfect job for a student and would be

great experience for a young computer savvy student (young or old) to add to his personal resume. Yes, you could be the editor and publisher of the club newsletter! It only takes a little word processing and e-mail skill to pull it off. The job comes with free use of the club's laser printer and scanner. We could also use some help maintaining the club member list and printing monthly labels or envelopes. Please consider volunteering some of your time for these jobs and call me.

Hobby Show Report

I hope you got a chance to get to the show at the International Center. The Humber Valley booth was a great success this year with the addition of the Great Planes Flight Simulator to our usual line up of attractions. We had an antique engine display courtesy of Richard Barlow, a "How to get started in RC board " by Gaetano Nicolo, and the club VCR blasting great RC action all day long. I would like to add special thanks to Wes Spiers who risked the life of his new Eagle 2 for demonstration purposes of a typical trainer aircraft.

The flight simulator was an incredible draw to our booth. Our thanks goes out to Miki Sasvari (Chief Instructor) who used his connections to supply the beefy computer needed to run the simulator. We decided to charge \$2.00 for 5 minutes of flying time with the help of a "qualified" instructor. There were non-stop crowds around the booth and people lining up to take turns. The 5-minute limit kept things fair and there was no resistance to the fee, which was charged to raise money for the MAAC competition flyers travel fund. The final tally isn't in yet but we raised almost \$300.00! I know – who wudda thunk it! We even had Mike Harris visit the booth with his son and his bodyguard! Extra thanks go to all the club members who volunteered to staff the booth and used every opportunity to hand out club information sheets. The info sheets had the Member Application Form conveniently copied on the back. If we don't get half a dozen new members from it, I will be surprised.

Jeff Shimo Takes First Place

Gentlemen, there is greatness among us. Our own Jeff Shimo won first prize for the best Civilian Scale model entered in the show's beauty contest. Jeff blew away the competition with his Midwest CAP/232 finished in a dazzling Matt Chapman classic blue colour scheme. The CAP is powered by a BME 2.7 cubic inch gas power plant. Other categories at the show were Military Scale and Sport. Jeff won numerous prizes including a portable CD player, cordless 900 MHz phone, a generous supply of balsa, glue, sanding sticks, sweatshirt, T-shirt and of course the first prize trophy. Not bad for a \$10.00 entrance fee and about 1000 hours of building time, wouldn't you say? The club's congratulations go out to Jeff.