

## Hawk Talk



## Hawk Talk

THE VOICE OF THE OMAHAWKS R/C INC Vol 72, # 03

President... Luke Hughes

Co-Editor/Publisher

Secretary... Rick Sessions

Vice Pres... Grant Schulte

Joe Hunt/ Grant Schulte

Treasurer... Kevin Hyde

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Friday, Mar 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 -6:30 PM - 9:00 PM @ Oakview Mall--Able Ace**

**NEXT BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023-- 7:00PM – 8:30PM Call in PC/Phone  
w/Zoom**

**MEETING PROGRAM: Club updates, virtual cookies, and committee updates**

**ALL CLUB MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND BOARD MEETINGS**



## Club's President's Message for March 2023

Welcome NEW members that recently joined, or the many of you who have rejoined the Omahawks for 2023! As we approach the time of the year when Hawk Field seems to start buzzing with activity. Please be sure to have your membership dues in, and AMA in good standing.

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Treasurer Kevin REALLY appreciates you getting those in as early as possible so he can process members efficiently.

**Kevin Hyde has volunteered as Treasurer for about ~~25 years~~ rather 31 YEARS; thanks for the diligent work Kevin!!**

~ Luke Hughes

### Kevin's H provided the following input!

#### Annual Membership Renewal now available

Look on the menu under the "Members Area" for a link

Once you subscribe you won't ever forget to pay your membership renewal.

You can pay with credit/debit or PayPal Account.

#### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

This link will allow you to automatically pay your Omahawks Membership dues every year.

[Click on this link to open a PayPal page](#)

After providing the required information,  
your membership dues payment will be automatically paid on this date every year  
until you un-subscribe.

### Omahawks Member Meeting February Minutes

February 24th, 2023, 7:00pm @ Oakview Mall

**Membership Count: 124 (14 junior members, 12 new members)** Treasurer Kevin Hyde again encouraged everyone to use the auto-feature for annual membership on the website. Look for the tab on the website and your card will be charged through Pay Pal annually.

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### **Old Business:**

**Field Improvements:** Vice President Grant Schulte has applied for a “Field Improvement” grant through the AMA. Stay tuned for updates. Luke has been in contact with the new City of Omaha Parks Director. A meeting is being set up to discuss the long-term plans for Hawk Field. Spring clean up day is set for Saturday, March 18 at the field. Bring the usual implements (leaf blowers, rakes, shovels, etc) as we plan to get started around 8:30-9:00 AM weather permitting.

**Web Camera:** Dan Fitzgerald has the second camera up and running.....at his house.....he has a plan to get it installed at the field. He is concerned about the heat on the south and west side of the building but thinks it will be do-able. Luke Barker has donated the weather station, Luke H. will push to have that up and running this spring as well.

**Safety Initiatives:** Jim Boomsma gave his safety report including an update on the new AED. Still waiting on shipping. Supply chain issues are still in play like with most purchases. He said the first aid kit, located in the new building, is up to date and ready for the upcoming season.

**Tom Floyd Memorial Fund has been established.** We still have several of Tom Floyd’s planes for sale. They are located in the back storage room at Able Ace. For those of you who may not have been familiar with Tom, his planes and equipment are of the highest quality. Please visit with Rick Sessions or Luke Hughes if you are interested in purchasing one of these beautiful birds.

### **New Business:**

**Float Flies:** Dick Behrens is working diligently on finding a location or locations for our Float Fly's as Standing Bear Lake is now completely drained and will remain so for the next two years. Dick B. And Luke H. will keep us apprised as the plans are finalized.

**FRIA Status and AMA:** A discussion was held regarding FRIA. (FAA Recognized Identification Areas). There is a lot going on here, Luke H. spoke with the national FAA representative at the STEM event on the 18th. Conveniently for us, he lives in Omaha. He is in contact with the AMA and everything sounds pretty positive for our application thus far. Luke has been in contact with the president of the Las Vegas, NV club and has received good information from him as well. The new rules will

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take effect in September. Contact Luke if you have any thoughts or questions regarding FRIA.

**Training Nights:** A "Training Night" meeting to kick off the new season will be held on March 14th. Contact Rick Sessions if you are interested in helping with Training Night this season. We had great participation last year and this year is shaping up to be even better. The Champions Run event is also a go again this year. It will be a similar framework as last year and our weekly training night. Contact Luke H. or Rick S. if you are interested in helping with this event.

**STEMaha Event Recap:** Hague Howey spoke about the StemAHA event held on February 18th. He was very pleased with all of the groups, businesses and clubs that participated. There was a good turn out of students and parents as well. Hague received accolades from the club members for his organization and hard work that he put into the event. The next StemAHA event will be held at the Millard Airport on September 2nd. (The Saturday of Labor Day weekend, prior to our Monday Air Show.). Richard Gibson's helicopters were a major draw for the Omahawks display. Richard would like to get more members involved in flying helicopters, please visit with him if you are interested. He says it is easier to learn now than it used to be!

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### Upcoming Events:

**Tuesday, March 14 – Training Kickoff Meeting, 7-8 p.m.**

**Saturday, March 18 – Omahawks Field Spring Cleanup, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.**

### **Show and Tell**

New member Greg Bumpus brought in a PT-17 that he bought online from a flier in Kansas. Prior to the meeting, club members helped him install and program a new Spektrum receiver. All seemed to be functioning well. It is a great looking plane with a yellow & blue paint scheme. Look for Greg to be flying it soon weather permitting.

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Jim Henley brought in his repaired biplane fuse that met with some serious misfortune at the air show.....see the website for Dan F's graphic photos of the crash. He detailed how a bad receiver lead to some servo replacements that caused the crash. Jim H. listed all of the damage to the plane including the departure of the engine. The fuse is beautifully repaired and looks brand new. He covered it in a material called "Solar Tex" and plans to paint it soon. If you want to see some master craftsmanship, take a look at Jim's plane.

Another new member, David Spargo brought in his Flite Test "Bushwhacker." He did a great job of putting it together and Dean C. helped him with the radio install. He has been learning to fly it and and he is pretty enthusiastic about model aviation and asks a lot of great questions. Look for David out at the field often as he lives very nearby.

David also brought in a bag of "stuff" he has found out at the field. If you are missing a canopy with red trim see David. He found it sticking out of the snow. He has also found the parts to a yellow tail assembly. He has a small Estes type rocket, still intact, that he would like to return to the rightful owner. Last but not least, he has a white foam canopy, that looks to be from a "Habu" possibly.

### **Welcome New Members**

Luke introduced two new members, David Spargo and Greg Bumpus. You may have seen them at the flying field recently as they both have planes that they are learning to fly.

### **Raffle**

Lil' Debbie Cosmic Brownies—Rick

Flite Test "Bushwacker" kit.—David .....who was drawing the tickets and ironically has a Bushwhacker! Now he has two.

\$25 cash—Jim

**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:50 p.m. Motion by: Luke Seconded by: Shaun

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### **Field Projects:**

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1. Parking lot stones. (Luke & Jim B. did some stone fill work.)
2. Water run off issues.
3. TV mount on shed
4. Shingles on peak of pavilion and old shed.
5. Paint bleachers and benches. Stain where needed.
6. Wood fence rail repair.
7. Runway sealing.

## Omahawks Business Meeting February Minutes

Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 7:00pm via Zoom

**Board Members:** Luke, Cole, Dan F., Jim H., Kevin H., Rick S., Shaun B., Paul E., Richard G., John P., Luke, Grant

**Guests:** Doug L., Hague

**Comments/corrections from last month's minutes?**

**Officer/Chairman/Editor Reports:**

**Treasurer Report:** (Kevin) Review and accept financial reports

**Membership Count:** 124 (14 junior members, 12 new members). Kevin says we're slightly ahead for this point in the year. Membership tends to jump when flying season begins and more people join/realize they need to renew.

**Newsletter Report:** (Joe) Do biographies, Safety articles (Jim Boomsma), Solo pilots, training (Rick)

**Old Business:**

**Multi-Club Discount:** Among the three participating clubs, 21 Omahawks members took advantage of the multi-club discount. About 11 were new members to Western Flyers, five were new members to the Lincoln Sky Knights. Western Flyers had three

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members who joined, and two of those three joined all three clubs. Lincoln Sky Knights gained seven members but did not have any members join other clubs.

**Field Improvements:** We have a to-do list of projects, have applied for an AMA Field Improvement Grant to help pay for some of it. Spring Cleanup Day is **MARCH 18**.

**STEMaha Event:** Good attendance at the Feb. 18 event at Oakview Mall. Big thanks to Richard Gibson, who brought his large turbine helicopters for the display club table. They were a hit. Hague says he appreciates the club's support, there was some good traffic around the Omahawks table and lots of kids trying the simulators. Luke estimates a few hundred people attended, at least. Shaun B. filled in as a substitute teacher after the event, talked to some kids who were there. Those kids really enjoyed it. Some parents liked the career exposure some kids got.

**Safety:** Luke says Jim B. will have a first aid kit ready to go by March, also expected to get the AED.

**Marketing ideas:** Luke says we're doing a great job, we'll continue talking about what's best for our club. Training, HobbyTown, Social Media for key events, Youth Outreach (STEM/Hague), One on One, Oakview, Parks, Champions Run golf course.

### New Business:

**2023 Events/Priorities:** Upcoming Spektrum Q&A workshop at HobbyTown on Thursday. Luke and John Peterson will help answer questions, John will show folks how to reprogram. We're also planning two events this year at Champions Golf Club, last year's gathering was a big hit. One will likely be in late April. Western Flyers is going to have a fun fly that morning, Luke will schedule it so they don't conflict and members can attend both.

Also, we're going to do float flies at a lake by Bennington this year. Dick B. has been working hard to arrange a new location while Standing Bear Lake remains drained and unusable.

Luke is going to meet with city parks officials re: the use of Flanagan Lake. May also discuss other needs at Hawk Field.

**FRIA Status and AMA:** Paul shared a video about potential issues ahead of the new Remote ID rules in September. We have applied for FRIA status. Luke talked with an FAA official at the STEMaha event, he said he's working directly with the AMA.

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**Training Night:** Our training night meeting is March 14. We're going to put Rick back to work leading the program. We have a few Apprentices and Avistars about ready to go, will also bring out a few simulators and the big screen for outdoor use. Instructors, get your buddy boxes ready. We want to have at least 4-5 electric foamies available for newbies, and the faster/heavier glow-powered Avistars for more advanced students. We might put SAFE receivers on the Avistars to help keep them more manageable for students. Kevin will call to restart trash/toilet service. First training night will be **APRIL 6**. We're going to have a BBQ food truck again for at least the first one.

**New Field Camera:** Dan has purchased one and it's ready to go. Maybe install it after the field cleanup day? Dan wants to make sure we find a spot that minimizes sun exposure/damage. We'll likely have it facing the parking lot to show how many vehicles are there. Do we want to angle it to view the gate? Dan might try to get some sample angles to consider.

**Website:** The club website has changed a bit, should be a little more presentable on phones. Same happened with the 100-some other clubs nationally that use the same website template.

**Tom Floyd Planes for Sale:** A few of Tom Floyd's high-quality planes are still available for sale, will be available to check out at the member meeting. Rick suggested we put a few out to entice members. Now might be a good time as the flying season nears and people look for new planes.

**Helicopters:** Richard G. wants to get more people in our club into flying helicopters. A few members tried flying some micros at Oakview and had a lot of fun. Luke will bring a few of his own to try at the member meeting. They might seem intimidating, but Richard says new technology and simulator practice has made them easier to learn.

### Upcoming events:

**Spektrum Q & A with Luke @ HobbyTown, 2/23, 6-8 p.m.**

**Member Meeting @ Oakview 2/24 @ 7 p.m.**

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:07 p.m. --Motion by: Luke    Seconded by: Grant



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### Field Projects:

8. Pavilion roof shingles need replacing on peek. Also old shed. (Aren't you glad the new shed is metal!)
9. TV Mount
10. Parking lot stones. Next step: prepare to meet with Parks Director Matt Kalcevich
11. Water run off issues. (Parks)
12. Paint bleachers, benches, Bender table. Other staining?
13. Wood fence rail repair.
14. Runway sealing.

### Volunteer Areas:

1. HobbyTown Rep to stock cards, posters
2. 2023 Events: leaders and helpers
3. See above New Business

## Featured Articles

### Building a Fly Baby

Article and Pictures by Grant Schulte

## It flies!

My first kit-built balsa RC plane, a **Shive Specialties Fly Baby**, survived its maiden voyage a few weeks back and landed in one piece.

The flight was a bit dicey and revealed the need for some small improvements, but overall, it was a thrilling reward for the many hours I spent building in my basement.

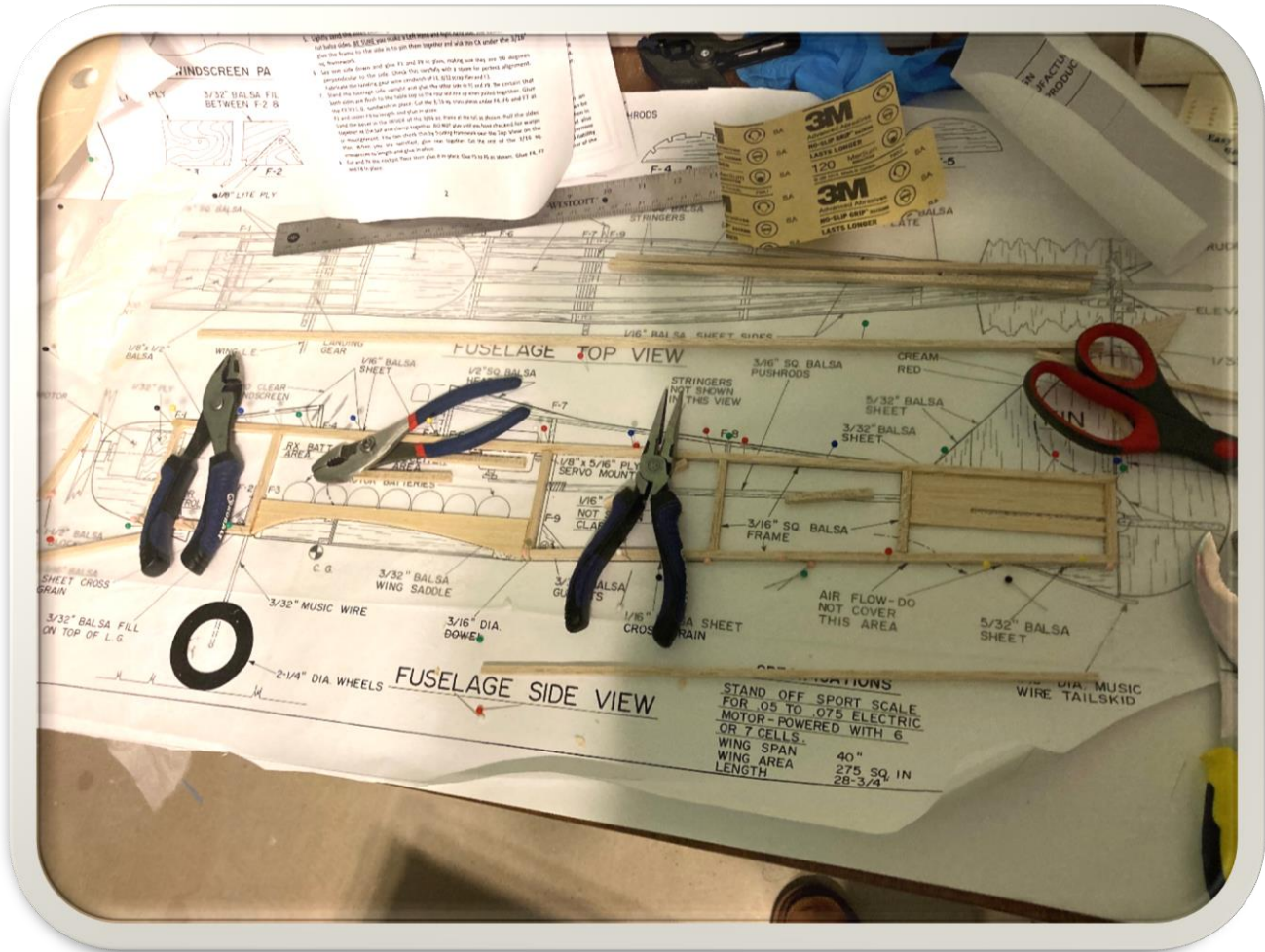
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## Fly Baby Kit waiting for me to start!

The biggest surprise of the project was the amount of time it took. At several points, I thought I was 80% done. In reality, I was closer to 20%. Patience and persistence ruled the day.

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The Fuselage is started, is it time to fly yet?

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### The main wing takes form

Assembling the frame was easy enough. I used to build rubber-powered free flight planes in high school, although none of them ever really flew.



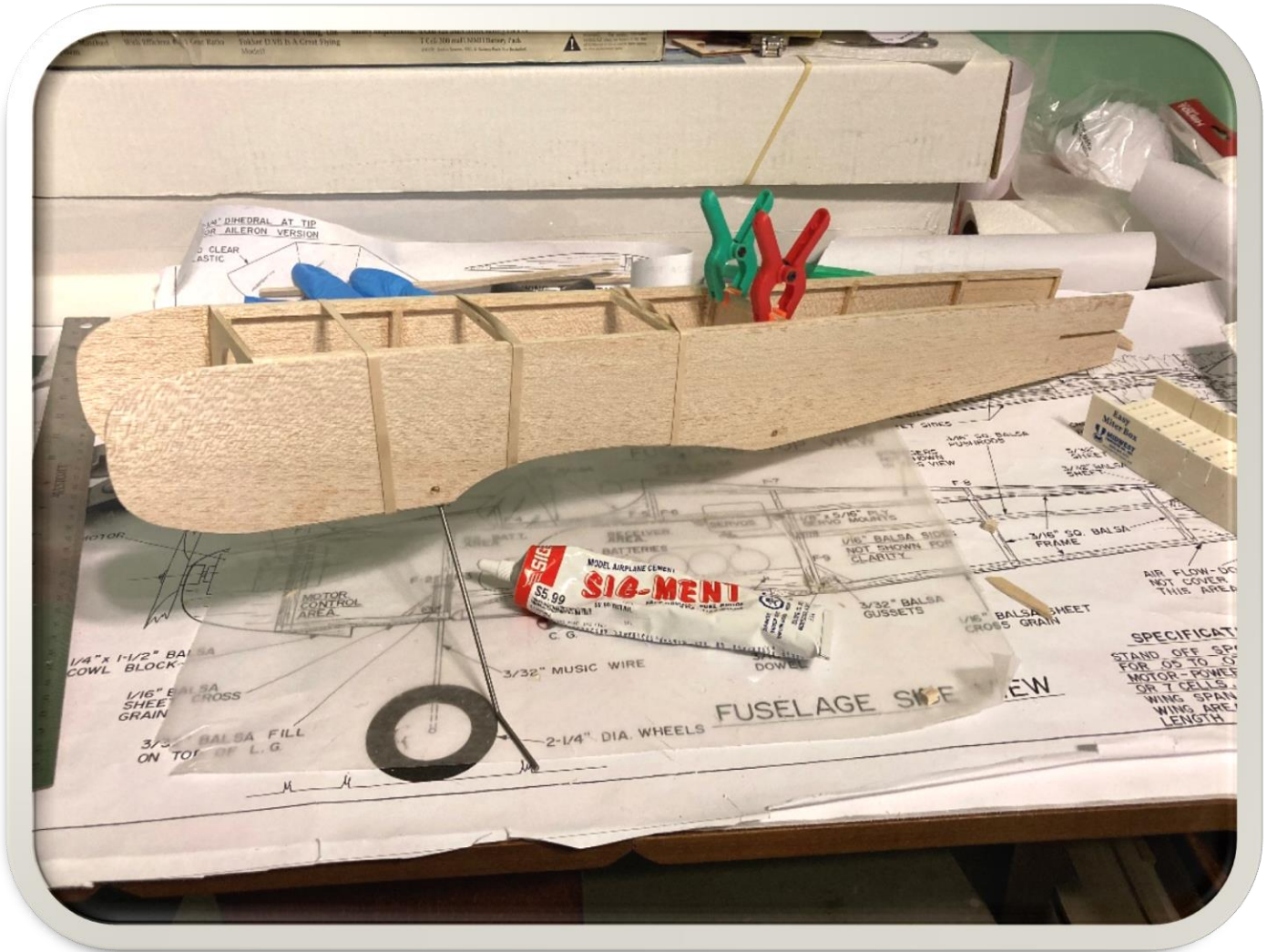
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### Another new skill completed

The biggest challenge was learning new skills that were required to complete this model. I had never built a dihedral wing. Or constructed a servo tray. Or installed control-surface hinges. Or used any type of heat-shrink covering.

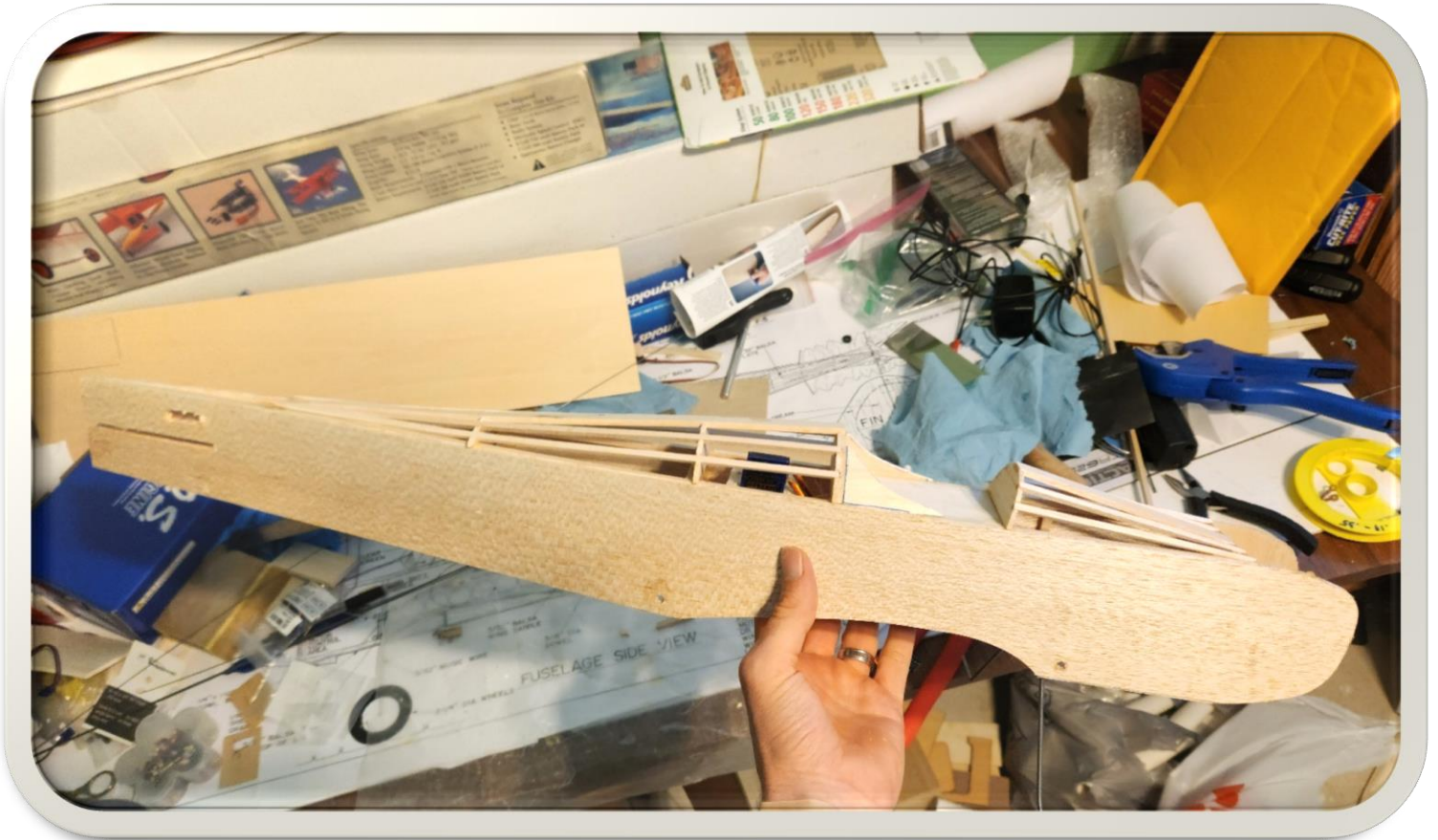
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### Fuselage coming together!

Somehow, I figured out how to add ailerons, which was an option for the plane, even though the official build instructions never explained how to do it.

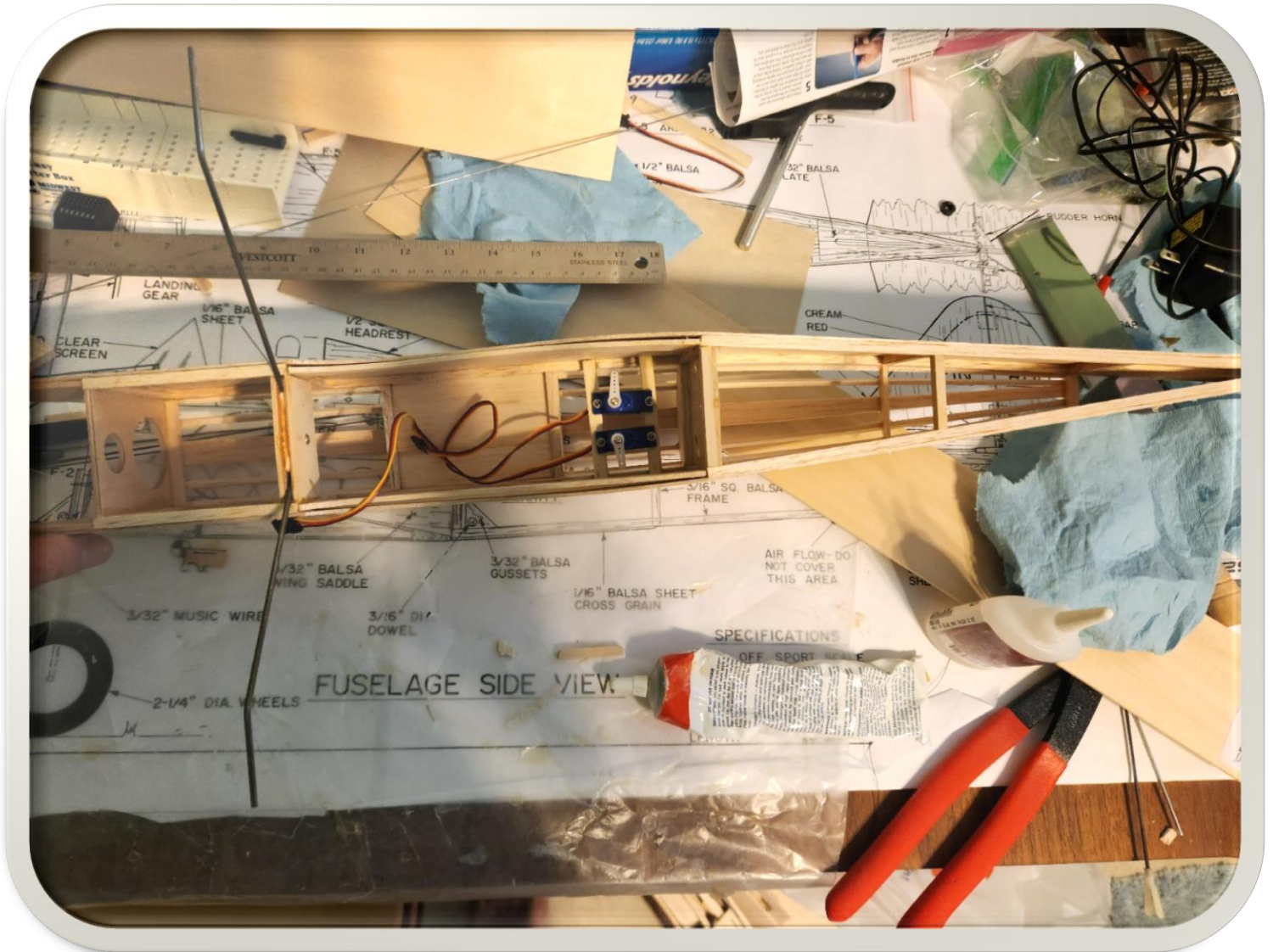




### Fuselage Nearing completion!

Throughout the process, I leaned heavily on YouTube and internet forums for advice. But no one helped more than the many Omahawks members who offered friendly advice when I got stuck. Master builder **Jim Henley** was a tremendous resource throughout the build, especially when I inserted the wrong ribs into part of the wing.

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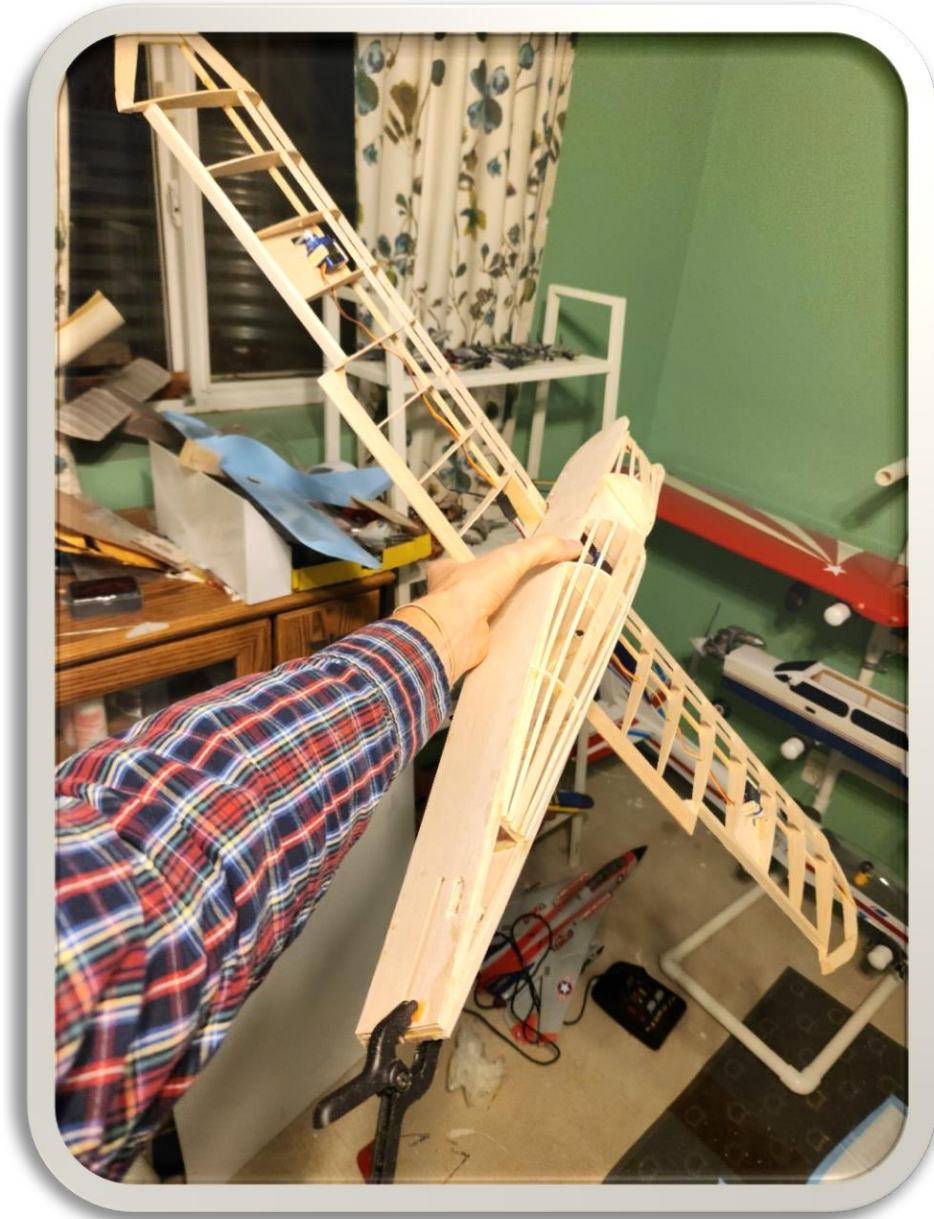


**I think I need electronics in here somewhere!**

**Greg Ruhe** provided a magazine article about my specific kit that proved extremely helpful. **Skip Brown** gave me a few pointers early in the build. Many others provided moral support.



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### **Coming together Nicely!**

The day I decided to test-fly it was windy, but the atmosphere was still the calmest and warmest it had been in months. I decided to risk it. I drove my Fly Baby to the field, installed a lipo battery, attached the wing, set it on the runway... and ground-looped the plane almost immediately! Stupid taildraggers.

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After a few minutes of cautious taxiing, I tried again. The Fly Baby raced down the runway and jumped into the sky. I climbed to a safe altitude, bounced around in the breeze, and turned the nose downwind. The plane was responsive – way too responsive – and I realized my control surfaces had too much throw. Even tiny movements on the sticks caused sharp climbs, dives, and stomach-churning banks.



**Ready for her maiden!**



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The plane felt a smidge tail heavy as well, and I decided not to push my luck. After a few jarring laps around the pattern, I cut the throttle and glided down for a landing. I aimed for the runway, but didn't compensate enough for the wind, and ended up in the grass. That was probably a good thing. The Fly Baby landed hard and nosed into the ground, damaging the tailskid in the process. But the plane stayed in one piece! I count that as a victory.



### **Beautiful Shot in the Sun!**

Overall, this experience with my first build has me hooked. It's a lot like writing... you build and persevere and improve in little bits here and there, consistently, for as long as it takes. Eventually, you produce something really cool. I still have a lot to learn, but this project allowed me to clear a major hurdle. The skills I've acquired will serve me well on my next project. I'm already looking forward to it!

**Exceptional Aircraft For Sale**

**from a Master Builder (Tom Floyd)**

*for very reasonable prices*

Flyers, you won't find any expertly built planes then these beauties, Tom typically built everything to a very high degree of finish, his equipment was always first rate and he spared no expense to getting these RC Aircraft near perfection.

For the cost of a boxed balsa kit you can get a legendary RC plane with a great pedigree! All are receiver ready!

**Call Rick Sessions for more info! @ 402-312-6482**

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**First up - 40 Size Sport Acrobat!**



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**Second - Large Radian**  
**Perfect for E-Sailplane Events**

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**Third up – Great Example of Twin 90 Piper Cub**



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**Number Four - Giles 90, 4 stroke**



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**Next is - Topflite 60 size**

**(you can fly circles around Luke with this baby)**



**And Last but not the Least – a beautiful Kaos 60 size**

**Ready for the Labor Day Airshow!**

## Upcoming Events

- **\*\* Breakfast get-together every Tuesday Morning @ Hy-Vee, 10808 Fort St, Omaha**

**Every Thursday --10:00 AM – 1:00 PM – Indoor Flying @ Community of Christ Church GYM, 140 Kanessville Blvd, Council Bluffs, IA 51503.**

For further information email Kevin: [ulavenger@yahoo.com](mailto:ulavenger@yahoo.com) Cost for the Session is \$5.00 includes Coffee and a Donut.

Come fly, or **drive you're RC Car/ Truck** in the gym with us where the weather is always perfect every Thursday!

- **March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 - 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM Monthly Membership Meeting @ Oakview Mall--Able Ace**

### **Training Night Kickoff with BBQ Truck! Come Hungry!**

- **April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - 6:00 PM to Dusk Thursday Guest Training @ Hawk Field, Standing Bear Lake, 138th and Fort Street, Omaha, NE 68164**
- **April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - 6:00 PM to Dusk Thursday Guest Training @ Hawk Field, Standing Bear Lake, 138th and Fort Street, Omaha, NE 68164**
- **April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM Monthly Board Meeting**
- **April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - 6:00 PM to Dusk Thursday Guest Training @ Hawk Field, Standing Bear Lake, 138th and Fort Street, Omaha, NE 68164**

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For a complete list of all the Omaha Metro Area upcoming events please follow this link: [http://www.metrorcflying.com/metro\\_schedule.htm](http://www.metrorcflying.com/metro_schedule.htm)