



March

Minneapolis, Minnesota U.S.A.

2005

# TCRC Auction Just Keeps Getting Bigger

by Jim Cook

Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM the first item went up for bid at the 29<sup>th</sup> TCRC Annual Auction. Seven and one-half hours later at 5:30 PM, the last item crossed the auction block.



**Scott Anderson sells a nice looking Corsair at the TCRC Auction.  
(Photo by Jim Cook)**

When the dust had settled, 490 R/C items had been sold, including 253 completely built airplanes. Including airplane kits, the total was just short of 300. The number of sellers was up from last year while the number of buyers was down. This combination resulted in there being

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## TCRC Meeting Place Changes

TCRC will be meeting in a new facility on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> and for the foreseeable future.

An increase in the monthly rent at the nice facility at the South Hennepin Technical College forced this change.

The new meeting place is in the Fellowship Hall of CrossPoint Church located at the southeastern corner of the intersection of 98<sup>th</sup> Street and France Avenue in Bloomington.

The Fellowship Hall is located just inside the main entrance of the church and to the left.

Start time of the meeting has not changed. It will still be at 7:00 PM on the second Tuesday of every month.

There is a map and more specific directions to CrossPoint Church located on page 6 of this newsletter.

Be sure and let other members know of this location change. Let's see a great turnout of members to initiate our new home at the March 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. ☺

# From the Pilot's Seat

by Jay Bickford

Boy, was February ever a busy month for TCRC. We started out with our regularly scheduled monthly club meeting at Hennepin Technical College on Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2005. At the meeting we learned that due to increased fees being charged by HTC for the meeting room (\$150 per night!) we decided to move the meetings to another location. Our next club meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall of Cross Point Church in Bloomington, on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM. The church is located at the Southeast corner of 98<sup>th</sup> Street and France Avenue. (A detailed map is located elsewhere in this issue.) This will be our meeting location for the foreseeable future or until a more centrally located site can be found. If you know of a possible meeting space located near our old location at HTC in Eden Prairie, please let a board member know. Our goal is to make the meeting site as centrally located as possible so that the majority of club members can attend.



**Auctioneer Scott Anderson looking for bids on a beautiful biplane at the TCRC Auction.**  
(Photo by Jim Cook)

Of course, after the meeting the next big event was the annual TCRC Auction that was held at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Richfield on Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. We had another great event this year, and even set a record for the number of items that went across the auction block -- 490. Here are a few more interesting auction statistics for you. We had 208 registered buyers, and 59% of these people, or 124, purchased at least 1 item. There were 79 registered

buyers, and as mentioned previously, 490 item lots. There were 46 no-bid lots, or 9.38% of the total. There were 253 complete planes that were auctioned. Of this total there were 20 biplanes, 7 Cubs, 10 floatplanes, and 14 trainers. Not included in the count of complete planes were 44 kits. The auction started at 9:55 AM, and finished at 5:15 PM. Allowing 20 minutes for drawings, etc, the auction lasted 420 minutes. This means that approximately one item was auctioned every 51.6 seconds. Thanks to all the TCRC members and their family members that came out and helped with this great annual fundraising event!

I am sorry to announce that as of March 15<sup>th</sup>, Bill Jennings has resigned as our Club Treasurer. I want to say a hearty "Thanks" to Bill for all the hard work that he put into this position during the past 3 months. We can thank Bill for our great looking new laminated TCRC Membership cards, as well as the beautifully done 2004 TCRC Year in Review Power Point Slide Show that was presented at the January meeting. Thanks Bill!

I am pleased to announce that John Dietz has agreed to serve out the rest of Bill's term as Treasurer for 2005. John has been a member of TCRC for 22 years, and was happy for this opportunity to serve the club. The next time you see John please welcome him on board as the newest TCRC Board member.

Also, as promised for the past couple of months, I have included a brief TCRC Improvement Ideas Questionnaire with this issue of the *Flare Out*. Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey and rank the items on a 1 (low) to 5 (high) scale according to their importance to you, and then return the form to me. I will report the survey findings in next month's newsletter.

Until next month . . .

☺

## New Treasurer

TCRC's treasurer, Bill Jennings had to tender his resignation in February. Bill did a great job with the TCRC Auction this year. The club would like to thank him for the hard work.

Long-time member John Dietz volunteered to complete the 2005 term of TCRC treasurer. Thanks to John for stepping in and lending his expertise. ☺

# TCRC Auction

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lots of bargains available for the buyers.

Scott Anderson and Jim Cook traded off as auctioneers for the entire day with a little help from TCRC friend Dave Schuck. Scott led off at 10:00 AM and the action was hot and heavy from then on. To move the 490 items, the auctioneers averaged a sale every 51 seconds and even at that rate it was well after five before the auction was over.

Kathy Dietz was in charge in the kitchen with concessions and her crew kept the 300 plus people in attendance well fed and watered. Concessions cleared \$657 this year which was almost exactly what was made last year. Great job girls!

Brad Spencer and Gerry Dunne, along with Gerry Junior, handled the raffle. The club members had done a great job of supporting the raffle with a large amount of pre-sales, but Brad and Gerry hawked tickets throughout the morning and netted \$488 after expenses. This was just a little below the 2004 figure.

The decrease in the number of buyers lowered the income from admissions, with the club netting \$349. This was down about \$100 from 2004.

There was a great turnout of club members and spouses, and the great turnout was needed to keep each of the departments functioning smoothly. It was great to see so many of the new members working their first auction.

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# The Concessions Had Great Food and Great Workers



The concession crew made sure no one left the TCRC auction hungry. (Photo by Jim Cook)

# Some Of The Impound Workers



The huge number of planes and accessories necessitated a hard working crew in the impound area. (Photo by Jim Cook)

## TCRC Auction

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When treasurer Bill Jennings totaled up the gross dollars, \$26,904 had been spent at the auction block. This compared to \$20,747 in 2004. The club paid out \$23,967 netting \$2,747 in commissions. Total earnings for the club for the 2005 auction totaled \$4,242.

The larger number of items and the late ending of the auction prompted the board and many of the members to start discussions on how the time element could be shortened at the 2006 auction. Such things as increasing the \$20 minimum opening bid, eliminating the \$5 increment bid, considering a silent auction for items deemed too low in value, and being more selective on what is accepted at seller registration were discussed at a special board meeting held the week after the auction. The results of this meeting will be discussed at the next regular membership meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

The club would like to give special thanks to St. Peter's Church in Richfield for again hosting the auction. The church facilities are top-notch and even though the impound area was overflowing with airplanes, there is still enough room to continue being the auction site.

There were so many hard working TCRC members and spouses, it is almost impossible to name them all. The club offers a great big thank you to all who came and helped out where they were needed. It is the dedication that this membership shows that made the 2005 TCRC Annual Auction a huge success. ☺

## The Impound Area Was Overflowing With Airplanes



The 250 plus airplanes filled every nook and cranny in the impound area. (Photo by Scott Anderson)

## The Small Impound Was Full Too



Stan Erickson and Geoff Barber handled the small-item impound area. (Photo by Scott Anderson)

# Pictures From The 2005 TCRC Auction



Auctioneers Scott Anderson and Jim Cook show TCRC President Jay Bickford the view from the auction block.



Charlie Dempewolf, Bill Sachs and Scott Johnson were very busy registering buyers at the TCRC auction on February 12<sup>th</sup>.



John Dietz, Jim Ronhovde and Morgan Larson kept the books in good order.



Gerry Dunne, Gerry Junior and Brad Spencer ran a great raffle during the auction.



Just a part of the crowd at the auction.



Jeremy Steinmueller and friends had the Hobby Warehouse booth at the auction.

Photos by Jim Cook, Scott Anderson and Pat Dziuk

## Directions To New TCRC Meeting Location CrossPoint Church in Bloomington

We will meet in the Fellowship Hall, which is just inside the main entrance and to the left.

**CrossPoint is located on the Southeast corner of the intersection of 98<sup>th</sup> Street and France Avenue in Bloomington. Directions are as follows:**

### From the South (Burnsville):

Take 35W north to 98th Street exit. Go west (left) for 2.0 miles to France Avenue and turn left. Make an immediate left turn into CrossPoint driveway using the left turn lane.

### From the South (Shakopee):

Take 169 north to Old Shakopee Road exit. Go east (right) to France Avenue and turn left. Go north past the light at 102<sup>nd</sup> Street. Turn right into CrossPoint driveway just prior to 98<sup>th</sup> Street.

### From the North:

Take 35W south to 98th Street exit. Go west (right) for 2.0 miles to France Avenue and turn left. Make an immediate left turn into CrossPoint driveway using the left turn lane.

### From the East:

Take 494 west to France Avenue. Go south (left) for 2.0 miles past 98th street. Make an immediate left turn into CrossPoint driveway using the left turn lane.

### From the West:

Take 494 east to France Avenue. Go south (right) for 2.0 miles past 98th street. Make an immediate left turn into CrossPoint driveway using the left turn lane.

## Toledo Road Trip March 31

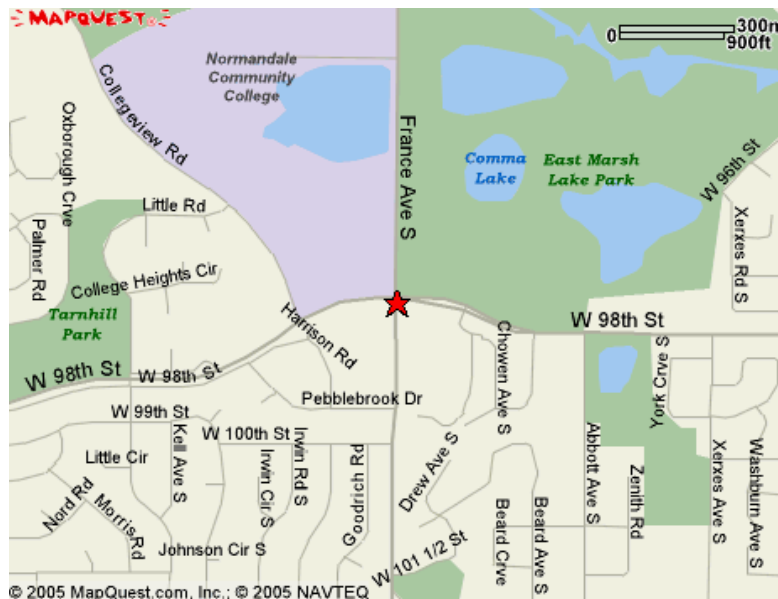
The biggest event in R/C, the Toledo Expo will be held at the Seagate Center in Toledo, Ohio on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> this year.

Scott Anderson and Jim Cook will be renting a motor home and driving out to the event, leaving on Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. Scott and Jim would like to have two other TCRC members to share the motor home and make the trek with them.

If you have never been to the Toledo Expo, you have missed the granddaddy of all R/C events. Every company that sells something that has anything to do with R/C airplanes has a booth at the event. In addition, there is a huge swap meet that occupies almost as much space as the Expo itself.

In addition, the number of unbelievable aircraft that are entered in the building contests is huge, and the craftsmanship phenomenal.

If you are interested in going to the Toledo Expo this year, give Jim Cook a call at 952-445-5257 or Scott Anderson a call at 952-934-1471. You'll have a great time! ☺

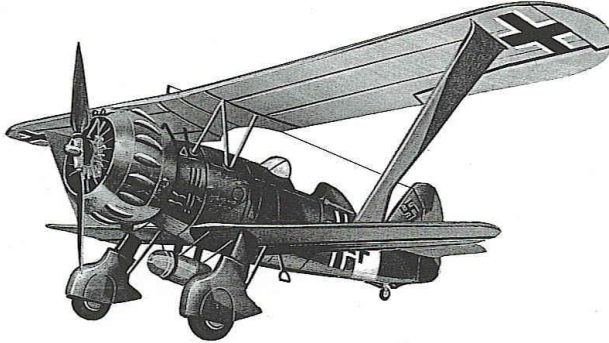


**TCRC meets every month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall of CrossPoint Church located on the southeastern corner of the intersection of 98<sup>th</sup> Street and France Avenue in Bloomington. Guests are welcome to attend these meetings.**

# Henschel HS 123

by Conrad Naegele

The February Mystery Plane was the German Henschel HS 123.



Prior to the onset of WWII, night fighters were popular with almost all aircraft designers and builders. However, particular attention was being paid to ground attack aircraft with our eye to dependence on motor transport and increased use of armored vehicles.

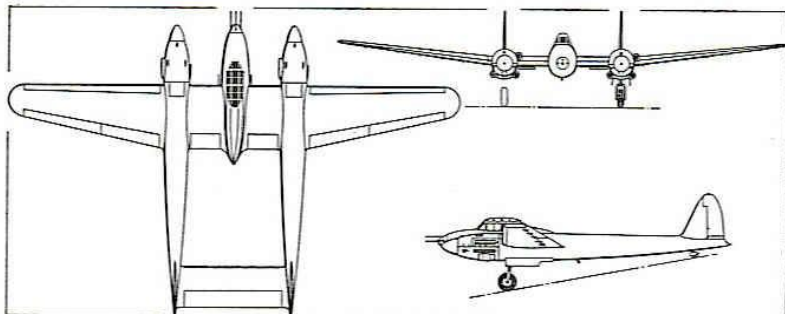
The Germans were among the first to recognize such a need and in 1935 the still clandestine Luftwaffe secured the Henschel 123. First flown in 1935, this plane was bloodied in the Spanish civil war in late 1936 and 1937. Of mixed construction, steel tube and the old reliable fabric, this was a robust biplane with a covered cockpit, a dependable, fairly strong engine plus modest armament.

The Henschel soldiered on into WWII with action in Poland, Belgium, France and Russia. It was finally replaced, concurrently, by the JU87.

During the testing phase in 1935, 36 pilots called it a pleasure to fly – light on the controls and strongly built.

The Henschel was powered with a BMW 132 9-cylinder radial air-cooled engine that developed 880 horsepower. It had a wingspan of 34.5 feet, a gross weight of 4,488 pounds and a range of 550 miles. Its armament was two 9.9mm machine guns and two 440-pound bombs. ☺

## March Mystery Plane



## New Member

Mike Burk joined TCRC at the end of February. Mike lives at 829 Old Settlers Trail #3 in Hopkins, 55343. His phone number is 952-220-5555 and his e-mail address is [mirat@ens.net](mailto:mirat@ens.net). Mike flies mode 2 and has transmitters on channels 40, 47 and 60. He currently has a lot of interest in electrics.

When you see Mike at a membership meeting or the field, be sure to introduce yourself and welcome him to TCRC. ☺

## 2005 TCRC Roster To Be Mailed

Pat Dziuk and Mike Timmerman have been working hard putting the 2005 TCRC Roster together and Pat announces that the new edition will be distributed to those members in attendance at the March 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. Those not present will receive their copies in the mail later in the month.

The 2005 Roster has a significant change – there are now pictures of the members. Photo sessions have been conducted at the last two or three meetings and a majority of the members now can be seen in the roster.

An electronic edition of the 2005 Roster is available at the website, TCRCOnline. The roster is located in the 'members only' section and can be accessed by members using the instructions listed on the website.

A big thank you to Pat and Mike for putting together a great new roster. ☺

## From The Co-Pilot's Seat

by Gerry Dunne

Hi everyone!

We have just got through one of the best auctions I have been at for a long time, and from what I hear one of the more profitable ones. We had a great turn out of members to work in the various areas. Because of the large number of planes and other R/C items for sale, we sold non-stop from 10:00 AM until 5:30 PM. At the end we were all tired, but it was still a very enjoyable day. Thanks to all who came out and put in their time and energy to make this a success.

I am trying to finger out if it summer or winter! One day it's warm and the next day snow starts to fall. It is still good flying weather though.

Li-poly batteries aren't too keen on cold weather so if you are using those type of batteries keep them warm. This brings me to my next subject for the March program. I will attempt to do 'electric planes 101'. Please remember this is from my experience over the last few years flying electrics, which has been mainly trial and error. However those experiences have given me some good information I can pass on to others so they can do the trials with a lot less of the errors.

In May I am going to host our first Night Flight Fright. It should be interesting. I have done some

night flying myself and it takes a little while to get oriented because you have no horizon to judge where the plane is. So start thinking about getting some lights onto a plane and lets have so fun in May. I do know of a website where you can purchase landing and navigation lights for R/C planes. Give me a call for info.

Well that it for now. So fly fast, fly safe, and try and land on the wheels. ☺

## TCRC Raffle a Nice Success

by Gerry Dunne

The 2005 edition of the TCRC Raffle which is always held in conjunction with the annual auction was another success.

Brad Spencer, Gerry Dunne and son Gerry manned the both and sold lots of tickets to those in attendance at the auction. The sales were helped by the pre-sale to the members of the club. Thanks to all you purchased tickets.

Here are the winners of the 2005 raffle:

TCRC member Marvin Boote won a bottle of CA.

We had two gift certificates for Hobby Warehouse that had been donated by Tom and Jeremy Steinmueller. I do not have info on who won these prizes.

TCRC member and Florida snowbird Larry Edelman won the OS FX 46 engine.



**Keith Allerson with his Tiger Wing electric kit.**

(Photo by Scott Anderson)

The electric airplane kit was won by Keith Allerson, who collected the prize right at the auction.

The grand prize was won by TCRC president Jay Bickford who added a very nice computer radio to his list of assets.

A big thank you to everyone who purchased tickets and helped make the raffle a big success. ☺

## TCRC Improvement Questionnaire

President Jay Bickford has put together a TCRC Improvement Ideas Questionnaire that can be found inserted in this newsletter.

The questionnaire has eight club improvement ideas listed. Jay would like to find out what the membership thinks about these potential projects for 2005.

Please take the time to look at the questionnaire and complete it as soon as possible. It may be returned to Jay at the address listed at the bottom. ☺



# Emergency Safety Alert Lithium Battery Fires

## AMA Safety Committee

**Lithium batteries** are becoming very popular for powering the control and power systems in our models. This is true because of their very high energy density (amp-hrs/wt. ratio) compared to NiCads or other batteries. With high energy comes increased risk in their use. The principal risk is FIRE which can result from improper charging, crash damage, or shorting the batteries. All vendors of these batteries warn their customers of this danger and recommend extreme caution in their use. In spite of this many fires have occurred as a result of the use of Lithium Polymer batteries, resulting in loss of models, automobiles, and other property. Homes and garages and workshops have also burned. A lithium battery fire is very hot (several thousand degrees) and is an excellent initiator for ancillary (resulting) fires. Fire occurs due to contact between lithium and oxygen in the air. It does not need any other source of ignition, or fuel to start, and burns almost explosively.

These batteries must be used in a manner that precludes ancillary fire. The following is recommended:

1. Store, and charge, in a fireproof container; never in your model.
2. Charge in a protected area devoid of combustibles. Always

stand watch over the charging process. Never leave the charging process unattended.

3. In the event of damage from crashes, etc, carefully remove to a safe place for at least a half hour to observe. Physically damaged cells could erupt into flame, and, after sufficient time to ensure safety, should be discarded in accordance with the instructions which came with the batteries. Never attempt to charge a cell with physical damage, regardless of how slight.

4. Always use chargers designed for the specific purpose, preferably having a fixed setting for your particular pack. Many fires occur in using selectable/adjustable chargers improperly set. Never attempt to charge lithium cells with a charger which is not specifically designed for charging lithium cells. ever use chargers designed for Nickel Cadmium batteries.

5. Use charging systems that monitor and control the charge state of each cell in the pack. Unbalanced cells can lead to disaster if it permits overcharge of a single cell in the pack. If the batteries show any sign of swelling, discontinue charging, and remove them to a safe place outside as they could erupt into flames.

6. Most important: NEVER PLUG IN A BATTERY AND LEAVE IT TO CHARGE UN-ATTENDED OVERNIGHT. Serious fires have resulted from this practice.

7. Do not attempt to make your own battery packs from individual cells.

These batteries CANNOT be handled and charged casually such as has been the practice for years with other types of batteries. The consequence of this practice can be very serious resulting in major property damage and/ or personal harm. ☺

## Calendar

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>Mar. 5</b>   | <b>Winter Fun Fly<br/>Jordan Field<br/>Rick Smith</b>   |
| <b>Mar. 8</b>   | <b>TCRC Membership Meeting, 7:00 PM<br/>Fellowship Hall<br/>CrossPoint Church<br/>Bloomington</b> |
| <b>Apr. 1-3</b> | <b>Toledo R/C Expo<br/>Toledo, Ohio</b>   |
| <b>May 7</b>    | <b>Building Contest &amp; Fun Fly</b>   |



## Useless Facts

by **Jim Ronhovde**

I ran across the Bald Eagles organizational claim of February 1987, which gives that group an 18-year history. They are still meeting and going strong. The only business they claimed to enact was that they were not going to have any business to perform. A totally social group.

TCRC started in June 1957. This June will be the 48<sup>th</sup>. ☺

Editor, Jim Cook  
1075 Miller Street  
Shakopee, Minnesota 55379

## Tuskegee Airman At The Auction



There were a lot of things to see and do at the TCRC Auction on February 12<sup>th</sup>. You could even visit with a Tuskegee airman. Joel dresses as one of the famed P-51 pilots and is happy to share lots of info on the famed squadron. ☺

### THE TCRC FLARE-OUT Monthly Newsletter



### \*\* TWIN CITY RADIO CONTROLLERS INC. \*\*

**Purpose:** To preserve, encourage, and further develop the hobby of building and flying radio controlled model airplanes.

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