



# FLIGHTLINE



<http://www.monroeareaclobusters.com>

August 2010

## One Crazy Year - Over Half Gone!

**Weather, Other Distractions Confound!** We find ourselves at the middle of August, meaning that we've past the halfway point in our approximately 6-month flying season. And, boy, has it been a doozy! This year got off to a slow start with wind, rain and a soggy flying field resulting in several cancellations of our Wednesday night pilot training sessions. The first float fly of the year was even canceled due to the newly-instituted policy of grounding model aircraft whenever there is a Presidential visit to the Metro Detroit area. This has now affected our operations on two occasions.

If all that wasn't enough, then came the heat! Wow -- it's been hot one, and this has also played into impromptu changes to the training schedule. If it wasn't the heat, it was the wind. If it wasn't the wind, it was the rain. Sometimes, it was a combination of all three! For these reasons, instructors and training pilots alike had to be flexible in order to get their stick time. For the first time since I've been a MACB member, training has occasionally taken place on alternate days and times, rather than adhering to the Wednesday 4PM-to-dusk schedule that has been the prevailing practice. These changes have been made on an ad hoc basis at the discretion of **Training Office Ralph Smith**, who has attempted to notify training pilots of the changes whenever possible. I've also stepped up my effort to notify members of event cancellations or last-minute changes via email and a scrolling 'breaking news' box on the left side of the MACB web site's home page.

As the season has progressed, it seems like we've had more of our 'official' events canceled by the weather than have actually taken place. We did manage a **Cub Fly** in June, which was sparsely-attended. An August 1st **Poker Fly** saw **Bill Kish** pull out a last-minute winning hand with some bravura flying under difficult conditions to take first place. One of the scheduled **Glider Contests** did have a couple of participants, but the most recent one, earlier this month, was canceled by high winds. Our annual **Memorial Picnic**, did take place as-scheduled on a steamy July 11th.

### 2010 MACB Officers

Commander.....	Tom Wagensomer
Vice Commander.....	Leo Cupp
Secretary.....	Tom Smith
Treasurer.....	Pati Wagensomer
Membership Officer..	Chuck Hainy
Training Officer.....	Ralph Smith
Field Officer.....	Jerry Cross
Operations Officer....	Jerry Jesion
Trustees.....	Rod Laura Roger Anderson Dennis Durrell
Website, newsletter..	Chuck Brillowsky

### Important Dates Ahead -- Mark Your Calendar!

One of the most heavily-attended and popular events of the year is coming up. On **Sunday, August 22nd**, we'll 'go to the dogs'. Frequently referred to as "**The Dog Show**", this is a day of flying and fun for everyone, and the club will donate its proceeds from a **50/50 Raffle** and modest gate admission fee to the **Humane Society of Monroe**. We'll also have a smaller raffle of the type we feature at meetings.

Once again, the ever-villainous **Star Wars** characters will invade the flying field, with **Darth Vader** and his contingent of **Storm Troopers** seeking to create a disturbance in **The Force** at approximately 2PM. Don't forget your lightsabers!

*Do you have something you'd like to contribute or see in the newsletter or on the club website? More intelligent content can be had if you don't have to rely on me to think it all up!*

Flyers can gather at the field earlier, but we expect the festivities to begin around noon. We'll have the big tent to fight the sun, and there will probably be several smaller ones, as well. A food vendor will also be on-hand if your tummy starts to rumble.

You can contact me by email:  
[cbrillow@monroeareaclobusters.com](mailto:cbrillow@monroeareaclobusters.com)  
or phone: (734)675-9044

Questions or more information: Call Chuck Hainy, (734) 241-7770

**More Important Dates:** We've reached that time of year where we start to think about elections. Actually, we're a little behind the curve on this one, as we were supposed to have announced a list of candidates by now. So we're playing catch-up.

You may refer to the **2010 MACB Officers** list on the first page of this newsletter to refresh your memory on the various positions in the club. All offices are open, along with two trustee positions. If you'd care to run for one of these open positions, or if you'd like to nominate someone else, please contact **Rod Laura** at (734) 379-3774 or via email [rodneylaura1@comcast.net](mailto:rodneylaura1@comcast.net). Candidates will be announced at the next regular club meeting, August 24th.

The election is scheduled to be held at September 14th meeting.

We're always looking for ways to reduce costs, so that we can avoid raising club dues. With postal costs rising again by another 2 cents, I'd like to once again encourage members to receive the electronic version of the newsletter via email, rather than requesting a printed one via postal mail. We realize that some members don't have internet access, and will continue to serve them with a printed version, and we will also accommodate those whose expressed preference is for a paper copy. However, the default delivery method for new members will be PDF email attachments, and it's hoped that we can someday eliminate the need for the printed version entirely.

It should be mentioned that your email is not sold or divulged to outside interests. It only goes into the club membership database and my email distribution list. We occasionally send out a special notice regarding a change in a scheduled event, or something else relevant to club members, but do not send out advertisements or spam. I mean, how many performance-enhancing drugs do you need, anyway?

One advantage of the email version is that any images included in the newsletter will appear in higher resolution and in color, rather than blurry black-and-white on a printed page. An electronic-only newsletter could also contain more extensive content and graphical elements, along with interactive links to relevant websites, an online version of the membership roster, and other nifty features.

These are all things that could be accomplished now, but only by creating two different versions -- one for email/web and one for print. Unfortunately, your newsletter editor is a lazy lump and not keen doing twice the work at this rate of pay!

One other item I've meant to mention for a long time: If you'd like to have a **monroearcloudbusters.com** email address, I can set you up with one at no charge, and you can use it for any purpose you'd like. Just contact me via phone -- (734)675-9044 or email -- [cbrillow@monroearcloudbusters.com](mailto:cbrillow@monroearcloudbusters.com) and we'll get you going.

**Breakfast Clubs** No question about it -- as a group, we love to eat! We have a longstanding group that gets together every Wednesday at **Zorba's Coney Island, 26582 Telegraph Road in Flat Rock**. This group of earlybirds normally convene starting at about 8AM for food and chitchat.

A second group of MACB members who live to the south started a similar get-together on Saturdays at the **Fifth Wheel Truck Stop, 8500 N Telegraph Rd in Newport**, which is within shoutin' distance of our flying site. Must be tougher to get out of bed on Saturdays, 'cause this group starts at about 9...



Images from the **2010 Memorial Picnic**

Extreme left: The plaque commemorating deceased MACB members. Just because there are some blank spaces, don't think you can go & die on us!

Left: A very realistic-looking bomber lets loose its payload. This looks like a **Jim Beavers** model, but I have no data to confirm.

Thanks to **Rod Laura** for his photographic expertise!