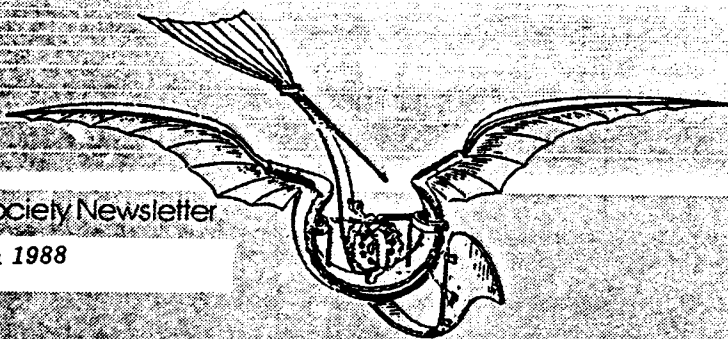


Ornithopter Modeler Society Newsletter

Autumn 1988



flapper facts

FIRST, LET ME CORRECT MY REPORTING OF AL ROHRBAUGH'S NEW CAT IV RECORD - IT WAS 12:36. (SORRY ABOUT THAT, AL.)

NOW, ON WITH THE RECORD TRIAL AT THE AIR DOCK IN AKRON OVER THE FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND. WOULD YOU BELIEVE THAT THE CAT IV RECORD WAS SET 8 TIMES IN TWO DAYS? RECORDS WERE SET TWICE BY DON SLUSARCYK, WITH 8:54 AND 9:08; TWICE BY AL ROHRBAUGH, WITH 12:44 AND 14:25, AND FOUR TIMES BY ME. WHAT A GOOD TIME WE HAD FLYING! I STARTED MY OFFICIAL FLYING WITH A FLIGHT OF 12:40, SETTING A NEW CAT IV RECORD BY 4 SECONDS. IT WAS AL'S TURN AND SURE ENOUGH, HE DID 12:44, AND ALSO SET A NEW CAT IV RECORD BY FOUR SECONDS. MY NEXT ATTEMPT ALSO SET A RECORD OF 13:38. (I HAD BEEN WAITING TO DO 13+, SO I COULD NAME MY ORNITHOPTER "MISS TEENAGE AMERICA"). WELL, BY THIS TIME THE DAY WAS LATE AND AL HAD TO LEAVE FOR HOME, SO HIS LAST FLIGHT OF THE DAY WAS 14:25 FOR THE FOURTH NEW RECORD OF THE DAY. I PUT UP TWO MORE FLIGHTS. THE FIRST WAS 14:06. SINCE THE AIR IN THE AIR DOCK WAS STILL GOOD, I PUT UP MY LAST FLIGHT OF THE DAY. IT SET YET ANOTHER NEW CAT IV RECORD FOR THE FIFTH TIME WITH 14:50!

SUNDAY WAS A VERY EXCITING DAY FOR "MISS TEENAGE AMERICA". SHE FLEW TO THE BOTTOM OF THE STEEL 179'6" AND SET A NEW CATEGORY IV RECORD OF 15:18! I BELIEVE WE HAD ABOUT SIX CLOCKS ON IT. WHAT A HIGH THIS WAS FOR ME!

LABOR DAY WEEKEND, WE FLEW IN THE BLIMP HANGAR IN AKRON, OHIO, BUT THE WEATHER WAS NOT COOPERATING. IT RAINED ALL DAY SATURDAY AND YOU KNOW WHAT COLD DAMP AIR DOES FOR FLYING. REGARDING TIMES, FRANK, AL AND I WERE IN THE 12 MINUTE RANGE. JOE WAS HAVING HIS PROBLEMS. ONE OF HIS MODELS GOT CAUGHT IN THE DISCHARGE AIR FROM THE AIR CONDITIONER AND GOT TORN UP PRETTY GOOD. I ALSO LOST ONE MODEL. IT GOT HUNG UP IN THE STEEL DOOR AT ABOUT 150 FEET. I COULD HAVE WALKED THE STEEL AND PICKED IT UP, HOWEVER, I WAS NOT ALLOWED TO, JUST BECAUSE IT WAS 150 FEET HIGH! WELL, I WON'T BREAK ANY RULES. I HOPE TO GET IT DOWN SOME DAY. I DO WANT TO MAKE ANOTHER TRIP AND TRY TO RETRIEVE IT. I AM WORKING ON A DEVICE TO ATTACH TO A BALLOON AND WITH WALT VAN GORDER'S HELP, I WILL TRY TO RECOVER MY FAVORITE PLANE. I PRAY THEY WILL NOT DECIDE TO OPEN THOSE DOORS. WOULDN'T THAT BE MURPHY'S LAW?

EVEN THOUGH NO NEW RECORDS WERE SET, IT WAS A THRILL TO SEE THE FOUR TOP ORNITHOPTERS IN THE COUNTRY FLYING AT ONE TIME! FRANK KIESER, AL ROHRBAUGH, JOE KRUSH AND I WERE ALL IN THE AIR AND IT FELT LIKE THE FOURTH OF JULY TO US! WHAT A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT!

ON SEPTEMBER 24 & 25, WE FLEW IN WEST BADEN, WHICH IS ALWAYS FUN, BUT COLD, RAINY WEATHER AGAIN! I GUESS IT'S GETTING TOO LATE IN THE YEAR FOR US. SUNDAY WAS BETTER AND WALT VAN GORDER SET A RECORD WITH HIS EASY B OF 22:06. THE BEST I COULD GET OUT OF MY ORNITHOPTER WAS 10:00, SO I WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL NEXT YEAR TO TAKE ANOTHER CRACK AT FRANK KIESER'S 11:32 RECORD.

JONAS ROMBLAD OF SWEDEN WOULD LIKE TO GET TOGETHER WITH ORNITHOPTER FLYERS WHO FLY IN CAT 1 & 2. HE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SWAP PHOTOS. HIS ADDRESS IS AS FOLLOWS:

JONAS ROMBLAD
ANNEBERGSSVAGEN 32
136 66 HANDEN
SWEDEN
TEL. 08-7454309

WHY NOT DROP OUR INTERNATIONAL FRIEND A LINE, WHILE YOU ARE THINKING ABOUT IT? HE WOULD REALLY APPRECIATE IT.

I PLAN TO DO SOME OUTDOOR FLYING IN LAWRENCEVILLE THE WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 8, AND HOPE FOR GOOD WEATHER! OUTDOORS IS EVEN TRICKIER, WITH THE WIND FACTOR ADDED.

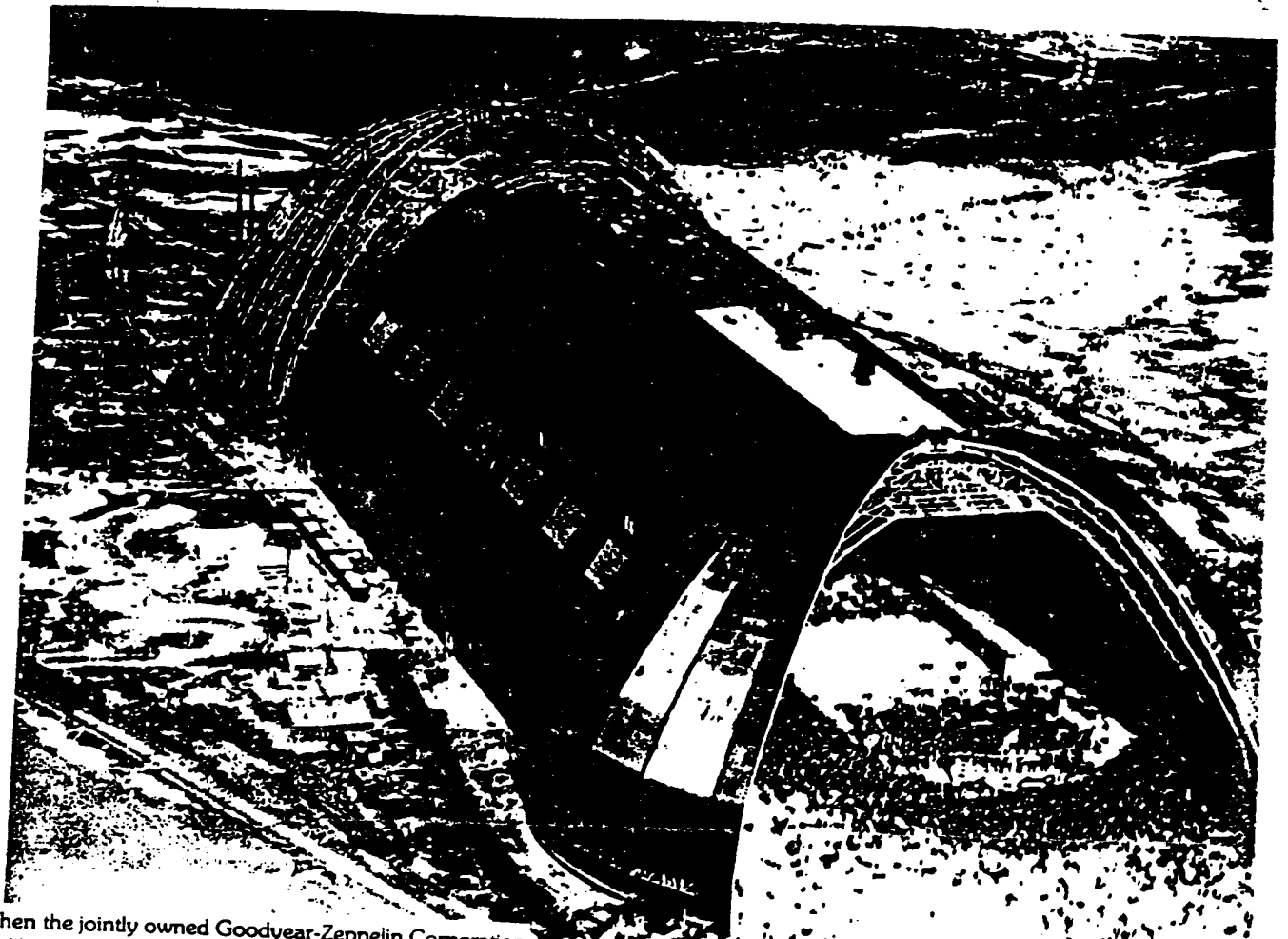
WE WANT TO EXTEND CONGRATULATIONS TO BILL GOUGH ON BEING INDUCTED INTO THE HALL OF FAME. GOOD GOING, BILL.

NOW, HOW ABOUT THIS FOR A BARGAIN? YOUR THRIFTY EDITOR ANNOUNCES THAT IF YOU WILL COOPERATE AND FILL OUT THE ATTACHED FORM TO UPDATE OUR MAILING LIST, THERE WILL ONCE AGAIN, BE NO DUES FOR 1989. THEREFORE, IF YOU WANT TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE FLAPPER FACTS, YOU MUST MAIL THE COMPLETED FORM TO US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

IT IS ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO WRITE THE NEWSLETTER, BUT WE COULD CERTAINLY USE SOME MORE INPUT. WE COULD PUBLISH MORE ISSUES IF WE HAD MORE INFORMATION. THINK ABOUT IT.

FLAPPINGLY YOURS,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Roy' with a stylized flourish underneath.



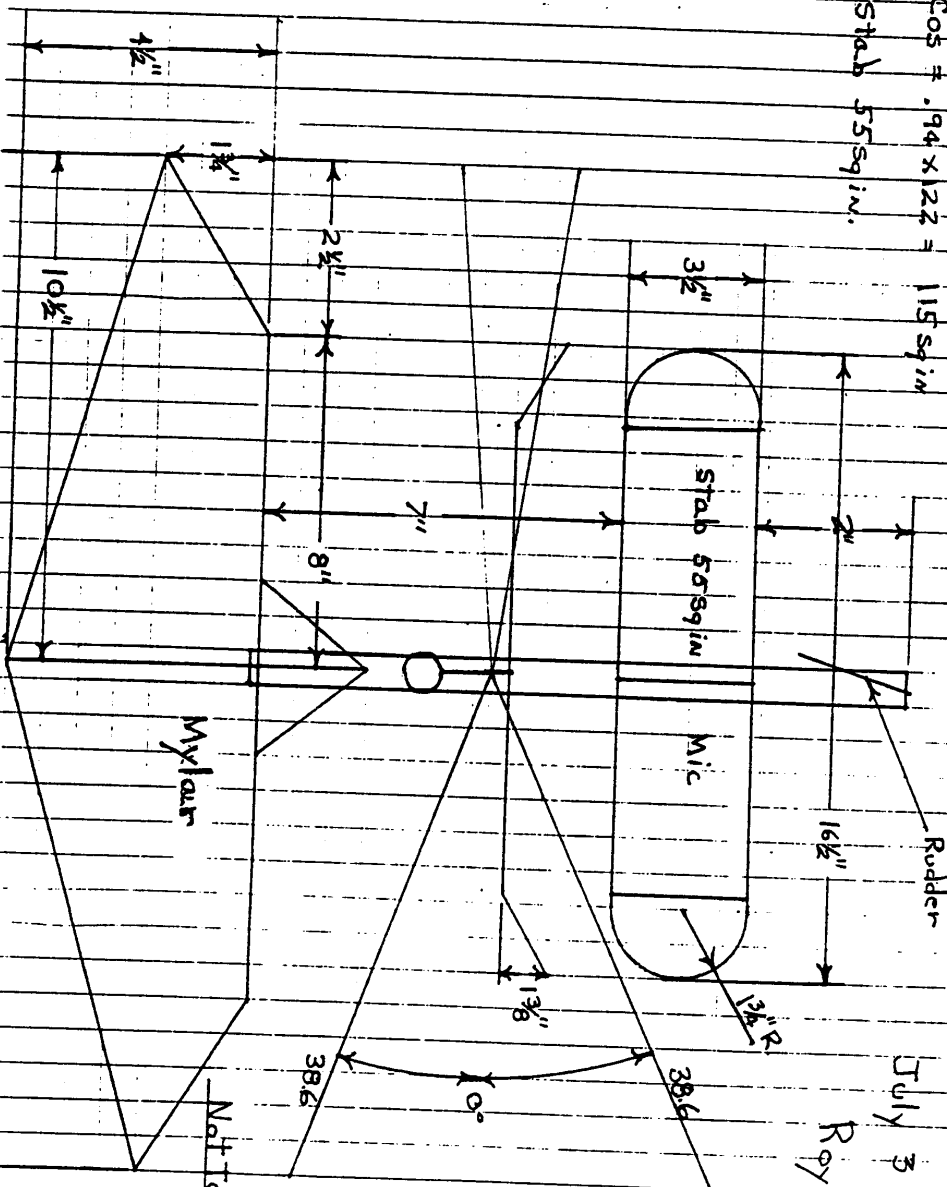
When the jointly owned Goodyear-Zeppelin Corporation of Akron, Ohio, contracted in 1928 to build two airships for the United States Navy, it first had to create an entire new industry. Hundreds of American workers had to be trained to work with imported German engineers, and thousands of patterns and procedures had to be perfected.

The streamlined hangar built at the Akron airport to house the project was a marvel in itself. Measuring 1,175 feet long, 325 feet wide and 211 feet high, the shed was so huge that it had a climate of its own: sometimes it rained inside. Eight of its 11 massive arches rested on rollers to allow them to expand or contract with changes in temperature. To reduce the air turbulence that could damage an entering or emerging airship, almost all corners and flat surfaces were eliminated and "orange peel" doors were designed to open flush with the contours of the building.

Work on the first airship, designated ZRS 4, began in 1929 and was the focus of constant public attention—and intermittent controversy. An investigation of sabotage (unfounded), charges of shoddy workmanship (untrue) and a report that the ship would be 10 tons overweight (true, but not serious) kept the project in the headlines. Even choosing a name for the new rigid was a point of argument until the influential local publisher John S. Knight suggested it be named for the city of its birth.

Yet for all the wrangling, as its launching finally neared in 1931 the U.S.S. Akron seemed to confirm its promoters' claim that "America now takes the lead in airships."

flapping wings 61 sq in each.
 Total 122 sq in
 flapping wing 38.6
 Mid point 19.3
 $\cos = .94 \times 122 = 115 \text{ sq in}$
 Stab 55 sq in.



Miss Teenage American
 Cat 1V 15 Min. 18 sec.
 July 3 1988
 Roy White

DEAR MEMBER:

THE ORNITHOPTER MODEL SOCIETY, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF FRANK KIESER, PRESIDENT, IS APPLYING FOR A CLUB CHARTER WITH THE AMA. IN ORDER TO FULFILL AMA REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CHARTER, IT IS NECESSARY THAT YOU FILL OUT THE ATTACHED FORM WITH THE NEEDED INFORMATION FOR SUBMISSION TO THE AMA.

DUES TO THE OMS WILL BE SET AT \$7:00 FOR THE FIRST YEAR. THIS WILL COVER THE FLAPPER FACTS NEWSLETTER AND THE DESIGN MANUAL.

THE OFFICERS NOW SERVING ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS ARE:

PRESIDENT: FRANK B. KIESER
VICE PRESIDENT: WALTER EHRBACH
TREASURER: ROY D. WHITE
EDITOR: ROY D. WHITE

PLEASE SEND THE COMPLETED FORM ALONG WITH YOUR \$7:00 DUES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO:

ROY D. WHITE
ROUTE 1 - BOX 241
LAKE SERENE
CATAWISSA, MO 63015

IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE ELSE INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR SMALL, BUT ELITE GROUP, PLEASE ADVISE AND WE WILL SEND THEM AN APPLICATION OR HAVE THEM GET IN TOUCH WITH ME AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS.

KEEP FLAPPING!

PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY & STATE: _____
TELEPHONE #: _____ AMA # _____ JSO
BIRTHDATE: _____

ROY WHITE
PT. 1 BOX 241
CATAMISSA MO. 63015

