



TASK



Volume 31 Issue 4

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Web pages: www.soggi.ca

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“May Peace be your gift at Christmas and your blessing all year through!”

Happy Holidays everyone! Our Christmas luncheon at Mandarin this past weekend was truly lovely. Having lunch served at a buffet enabled everyone to get up and mingle and this worked out nicely. I had a great time and I think everyone in attendance (a total of 26) did, too. I would recommend we repeat this next year. (Except for the handcuffs, maybe! Hahaha)

No word on a field yet. I'm hoping to have some options available for discussion in January. This is my last President's Report and I would like to thank everyone in the club, and especially the executive and volunteers, for their support and help these past few months. It's been fun sitting at the front of the room & cracking a whip!

I know this support & help will continue for Bob Hammett & the new executive in the new year.

Thank you! I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year with many hours of soaring!!

Ann Tekatch



SOGGI 2015



*Warm
November
Flying
Days
2015*



Hope you all enjoy this. Some thoughts of Chris Williams, one of the UK's most prolific glider designer/builders.

TARANISOARUS REX

Last time around I mentioned the acquisition of a new transmitter, FrSky's Taranis. A precious few gaps in the current monsoon meant that I had a chance to try it out, so here are some of my early impressions. Brilliant...!

(Sorry, you want more?) For me, it's all about the telemetry. For the past ten years or so I have been content with the Big Three as supplied by the trusty Picolario. Battery, Vario, Altitude.

To this can be added...Range! My previous/current kit will, if you set it up correctly, beep at you if it thinks that the receiver is going out of range. The trouble is it will also beep at you for a variety of other reasons, and you need a discerning ear indeed to separate one out from the other. Two things happen when you range check the Taranis: a numerical value is displayed on the large screen, which diminishes as you walk away from the model. At a certain distance a voice emanates from the transmitter giving you a range warning.

There is a certain word in the English language that, when it enters the human ear, bypasses the brain and races straight down to the sphincter. That word is the word 'CRITICAL'!

As you reach the limit of the receiver's range, that is the word you hear, and believe me, it has the power to wake you up far greater than that of a mere beep. There can be little doubt that this set up would have saved the poor, benighted Spatz when its receiver shut down on that fateful day last year.

When I launched the new, re-liveried Topaze I had been happily flying around for about five minutes when I felt a definite crinkling in the region of the derriere. It was the critical word again, this time in relation to the rx battery. I landed swiftly and started the preliminary enquiry. Sure enough, upon operating the controls, the battery voltage was jumping momentarily below the preset warning level.

(It later transpired that one of the aileron servos was binding)

It takes a lot of knobs and switches to operate 16 channels and if they can all be mixed together at will, it will also obviously take a fair bit of swotting to work out how to make it all happen. Two things helped me out with this task. The first is the software that allows you to programme the Tx from your PC, and you don't have to pay a fortune for the USB lead either!

The second is the Big Brain that resides inside Smallpiece's dome-shaped cranium. It is my opinion that when he retires from this Mortal Coil to concentrate on the pushing up of daisies, his grey matter should be left for scientists to puzzle over in wonderment.

Some time ago, readers with longer memories will recall, was the occasion of the demise of my 1:3.5 scale Dart17R. It was a freezing cold day and gloves were a necessary requirement. During a low, fast pass, I fumbled for the retract switch, inadvertently knocking the elevator stick forward. Obeying both the laws of physics and those of aerodynamics, the poor thing dived for the ground. (This is a sight also

guaranteed to race straight to the sphincter). Full military-up elevator was the panicked response, and the wings gave up the ghost.

Smallpiece has a long, institutional memory; he also has acquired a Taranis. Every now and then he would fire a mix or custom function over to me via e-mail, for me to marvel and wonder at. (I would then transfer it to my Tx and claim it was all my idea). The last one was a real doozy...

'Remember the Dart 17?', he wrote. 'Here's a mix that would have prevented its deconstruction.' The premise is this: with the retract connected mysteriously to the altimeter, the model would ascend with the wheel down until it reached a certain, preset altitude, whereupon, all by itself, the wheel would retract. On the way down the opposite would occur and, no matter how thick the pilot's gloves, or indeed the pilot, the wheel would come down all by itself. He tested the idea out by switching on and climbing up the stairs at home. Sure enough, downstairs, wheel down, upstairs, wheel up.

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Christmas past remembered:

Mistletoe hung from the gas brackets in all the front parlours; there was sherry and walnuts and bottled beer and crackers by the dessertspoons; and cats in their fur-about watched the fires; and the high-heaped fire spat, all ready for the chestnuts and the mulling pokers. Some few large men sat in the front parlours, without their collars, Uncles almost certainly, trying their new cigars, holding them out judiciously at arms' length, returning them to their mouths, coughing, then holding them out again as though waiting for the explosion; and some few small aunts, not wanted in the kitchen, nor anywhere else for that matter, sat on the very edge of their chairs, poised and brittle, afraid to break, like faded cups and saucers."

For dinner we had turkey and blazing pudding, and after dinner the Uncles sat in front of the fire, loosened all buttons, put their large moist hands over their watch chains, groaned a little and slept. Mothers, aunts and sisters scuttled to and fro, bearing tureens.

Auntie Bessie, who had already been frightened, twice, by a clock-work mouse, whimpered at the sideboard and had some elderberry wine. The dog was sick. Auntie Dosie had to have three aspirins, but Auntie Hannah, who liked port, stood in the middle of the snowbound back yard, singing like a big-bosomed thrush. I would blow up balloons to see how big they would blow up to; and, when they burst, which they all did, the Uncles jumped and rumbled. In the rich and heavy afternoon, the Uncles breathing like dolphins and the snow descending, I would sit among festoons and Chinese lanterns and nibble dates and try to make a model man-o'-war, following the Instructions for Little Engineers, and produce what might be mistaken for a sea-going tramcar.

- A Child's Christmas in Wales by Dylan Thomas

For Sale

FOR SALE:

1. Gentle Lady :

Wing - conventional construction - silk and dope covering

Fuselage - reinforced nose, otherwise standard

Tail surfaces - conventional construction - silkspan and dope covering

All -up weight:20.5 oz. (615 grms)

Radio: Hitec Laser 4 ch (19) Nicad batteries in TX & RX, 2 servos.

Field equipment: Flight box, misc. related tools, charger and Hi Start

Approx 20 flights - one 18 min. thermal flight, most 5 to 6 mins.

2. Bird of Time :

Wing construction to specs and drawings -

Silk and dope covering

Fuselage: conventional - rubber to dowel wing attachment

Tail surfaces - to plans and specs - silk and dope covering

All-up weight - 44 oz (1320 grms.)

Radio: Futaba Conquest, PCM, FP-T5NLF 6 ch (56) Hi/Lo rates

All Nicad batteries.

Field equipment, shared with Gentle Lady

Flown approx 10 flights, one 20 min. thermal flt. most 5 to 10 mins.

To view: **Call Richard Fahey, 827 Shadeland Ave. Burlington L7T 2M2**

905-637-5469 or rjfaheyflies@yahoo.com

2015 SOGGI Executive

President:	Position Vacant – Held by Ray Munro up to September 1 st	
Vice President:	Ann Tekatch	(905)-575-5433
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Editor:	Dick Colley 101, Bracheid Avenue Waterdown, Ont.	(905)-296-4027 L0R 2H5

Deadline for February Issue of Task: January 22nd 2016

2015/6 Calendar of Events

2015

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Meetings:

- **December 13th** **Annual General Meeting, Rockton Library Hall** **1:30pm**

2016

- **January 10th** **Membership Meeting, Rockton Library Hall** **1:30pm**
- **February 7th** **Membership Meeting, Rockton Library Hall** **1:30pm**
(1 week early so we don't conflict with Valentine's Day)
- **March 13th** **Membership Meeting, Rockton Library Hall** **1:30pm**
- **April 10th** **Membership Meeting, Rockton Library Hall** **1:30pm**