

SOUTH FORK FLYERS : ON THE RADAR



February 2007
Tom Woods

This is a monthly article introducing you to the South Fork Flyers...one person at a time.

This month's subject is Tom Woods from Neilsville, WI. I chose Tom because in my opinion, he embodies what makes this hobby so much fun.....enthusiasm! 2007 will be just his **SECOND** year flying r/c airplanes, though you'd think he's been at it a while watching him fly. He spent more time at the field last year than I did (which is quite an accomplishment), and it shows in the progress he made by the end of the season. Also, by fall, he had designed and built floats for his Cub, and was flying off the water near his home...unassisted!!

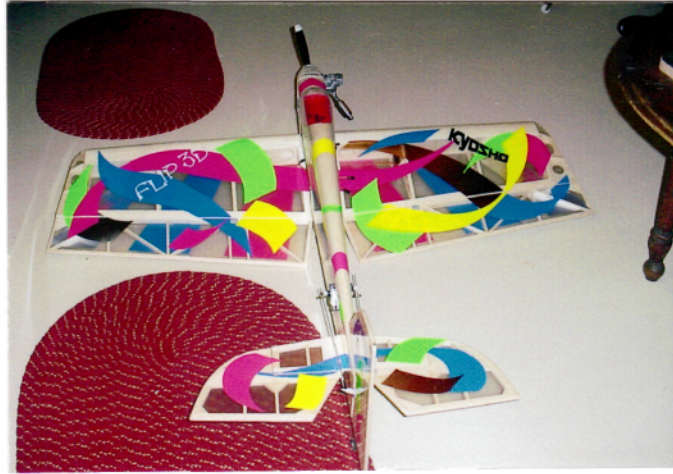
As you can see from the pictures and videos on the website, Tom's a huge Piper Cub fan. The video of the Cub flying off of our boat pond is his, as well as the last (high res) video of Tom and Arlin Jenness flying his Cub off of the grass. As I said, 2007 will be Tom's 2nd year of flying radio control planes, and he already has a couple of new projects he's been working on over the winter for the upcoming season.

Tom is now finishing up a brand new Piper Cub ARF (almost ready-to-fly), which he has put a Saito .82 4 stroke engine in....isn't this a beauty?



He feels (we ALL do) that he's ready to move up to something a little more aerobatic, too. So, he bought and refurbished this Flip 3D plane from our club Vice-President Jeremy Malecki. He put a

Magnum .70 in this, so that should be a blast to fly (and watch), as I would imagine it will have some serious power!



Now, he can calm his nerves with the Cub, and get his adrenaline rushes trying out some 3D flight with the Flip. it should be an exciting summer for Tom, and I personally can't wait to see him fly again.

It's people like Tom getting into the hobby that helps make it so enjoyable.....good people that make this sport even better than it already is! He's always quick to help you out if you need it, and give you a laugh or a smile when you need that, too!

To any novices out there, or even those of you just thinking about taking up r/c, Tom is proof of what you are able to accomplish if you set your mind to it (and ask for a little help). I'm sure he'd be the first to tell you "DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME"....come on out to the field and get some assistance from the veterans we have on hand. But also, don't give up. Be patient (in building AND learning to fly), and practice, practice practice.

So stop out and visit our flying facility sometime, it's one of the best you'll ever find. We're 3 miles east of Thorp on 29, then 1/2 mile south of 29 on Fisher Avenue....you can't miss it when you drive past. Who knows, you may see Tom out there perfecting his ever growing flying skills!

Until Next Month,

**Michael Jenness
President
South Fork Flyers**

email: mjenness@mtc.net