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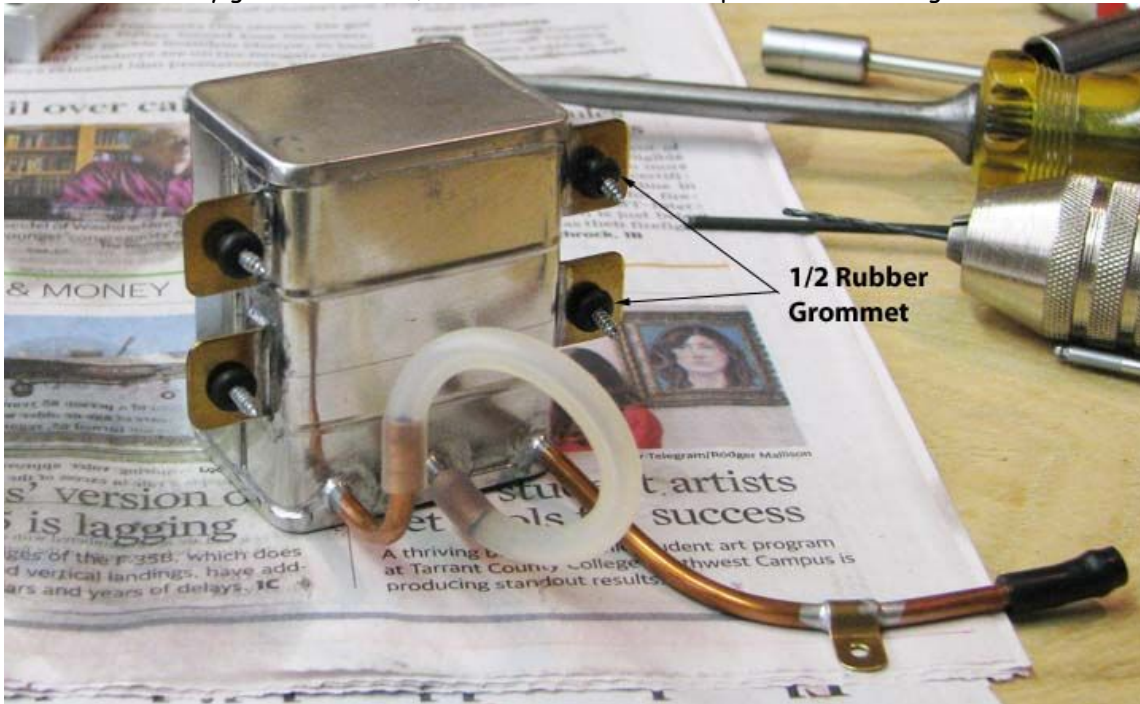
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Subject: 2010 Flt Test Prgm - 29 Sailplane Readied for Second Round of Flight Tests

2010 Flight Test Program

I put the McCoy 60 back in the Sailplane today and got it ready for its second round of flight tests. I received so many feed back comments about vibration causing air bubbles in the fuel line that I felt I needed to do something to try and improve the situation. So I took two servo rubber grommets and cut them in half. I put each of the four grommet halves on each of the tank's four mounting tabs as shown below before mounting the tank to the bottom of the motor mounts. Not a very good fix I know, but at least its an attempt to do something.



Then the engine/tank assembly was reinstalled on the Sailplane's firewall as shown below. This is only going to be a temporary or a "band aid" fix. As such, I think I will only fly the Sailplane one time at the SAM Champs to qualify it for the Concours competition event. Then once we return home from the SAM Champs, I will address this vibration properly this fall. This will include having some matching aluminum motor mounts machined, fully shock mounting the fuel tank, and having the McCoy 60's internal balance checked and corrected if necessary.



I replaced the four steel 4-40 Allen head screws holding the stab on with nylon screws, which have a lesser tendency to vibrate loose. However, I went one step further as a safety precaution. First I drilled two .031" holes through the Allen head of the nylon screw at 90 degrees to each other. Then I ran a piece of 28 Ga. brass wire through the closest transverse hole in each nylon bolt head and twisted the ends of the wire together as shown below. This wire forms a continuous loop, which will prevent the nylon screws from backing out even if they have a tendency to get loose. This turned out to be a great "fix" that is never seen and will prevent the Sailplane's stab screws from ever coming loose again.



I think I will call George Grant this evening and see if he could help me test fly in the morning instead of Friday. Again, wish me luck.....Tandy