



The THUMB PRINT

Thermal Thumbers Of Metro Atlanta

www.thermalthumbers.com



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Charter # 1834

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NFFS

September - October 2011

HEADS UP

Welcome to the September issue. On time once again, I deserve a pay raise. You'll find a lot of contest coverage, complete with full reports and many pictures from Dohrman, Jim, Karl, Barf, Howard, and your editor. Looking at the last few months' flying since the last issue, we're blessed with some great weather, a welcome change from all of last year and early this year; most of which was one long blowout. Not too many models went either across or into the Mighty Hooch, again, a welcomed change. At the end of this tawdry screed, we post the high point totals to date, to either inspire or deflate. Inspired or deflated, you can do something about it by flying in the four remaining contests this year. And these details follow. The game's afoot. Karl, our esteemed treasurer, provide another fine article on making better trailing edges. Thanks, y'all!

Time to get out of the way. This is it from me for now from here. Ciao, y'all!

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

We've started our fall contest schedule at St. Lukes Presbyterian Church in Dunwoody. Contest reports follow for September. We've dates for October 15 and November 19. As far as November goes, we're trying something special. Given the success Bill and Nick are having at St. Lukes, we've applied for and been issued a sanction for a category I records trials this November 19. Aptly entitled the Peach State Record Trials (PSRT), this writer and CD would like to see it develop into an annual affair. This outcome will require your eager participation. This effort is based on our belief that the Great Hall at St. Lukes has much potential for category I record-setting. Why not? A flyer follows. Be there or just read about it.

UNDER THE CATHEDRAL OF THE BIG BLUE SKY

We've two more contests remaining this year in our outdoor schedule at the N GA Turf Farm, October 23 and November 6. Note the November date is a reprise of Gary's Turkey Shoot Fun Fly. All of us recall what a hoot it was last year. A flyer follows. Be there or just read about it.

THUMBS IN PRINT

The 2011 NFFS Symposium is out and it's a dandy. I encourage all to get their copy. There's much to learn within its pages. For those that don't know, there's no primer as to the

editor's approach to each issue. The editor pretty much creates the contents according to his or her inclinations, and rightly so. (Frankly, they don't pay you and that's the least they can allow.)

Editor Dave Lacey has collected an impressive collection of papers, largely centered on the informational needs of the beginning and intermediate modeler. There's the usual sprinkling of highly esoteric technical expositions, of course, but there's many more papers like how to trim a rubber model, prepare a gas model (and yourself) for contest day, and better size the rubber and prop for your scale model, and more. If you're the sort that doesn't usually buy the symposium because, frankly, you don't get much out of it, you might want to reconsider this year's purchase.

Two Thumbs are featured within the 2011 edition's plumb 226 pages. Bill Gowen reprises his Model of the Year selection from last year with another. This time his national record-setting Tandem A-6 got the nod and is featured in some detail. His write up and tasty drawing is all you need to build your own version. Good job, Bill.

Your humble scribe puts forth an instructional paper providing some direction for the beginning free flight modeler who wishes to progress to a higher level of participation and achievement. I manage to spear a few sacred cows along the way, as is my wont. I honestly think the beginning modeler will find much of use therein. Several other similarly themed papers do the same.

THUMBS ON THE MARCH: LOCAL BOY DONE GOOD

For those of you that haven't heard, our own Nick Ray won a place on the USA F1D team. He'll be going to defend Old Glory next year against the world's best. Getting onto the team was no easy task. Young (and oddly unaffiliated) Nick had to compete against this country has to offer at Lakehurst, NJ recently. Congrats to Nick and his fellow team members, John Kagan and Brett Sanborn.

THUMBS ON THE MARCH II: WAGONS, HO!

Dohrman, Graham, and Gary traveled to Colorado and attended the Rocky Mountain Champs over Labor Day weekend. Dohrman provides the following report, "In the early parts of the 19th century, thousands of settlers set off on foot and in wagons to cross the Great Plains and settle in the West. It took about 6 months to make the journey, provided you or your animals did not get sick, were injured or suffered from an Indian attack. You could also run out of water and food along the way. There were (and still are) a lot of graves on the way to Oregon or California. Many people simply would not make the journey then, and there are far more people today who would never consider going on such a trek. I would have been gone like a shot. Westward Ho! What an adventure! Even with all the shortcomings, how could you not make the attempt?"

"It was in this spirit that three of us here in Atlanta decided to make the Great Crossing to Denver. Graham Selick, Gary Baughman and I decided earlier in the year to make it to the Magnificent Mountain Men's Rocky Mountain Championship. Graham and I rode in his new minivan, which was packed to the roof with modeling supplies and planes for all three of us. My bike hung on the rear bumper. Gary got a cheap ticket and went to Denver on a plane. (He owes us big time.)

"I grew up in the hills of Southeastern Ohio in a tiny village beside the Ohio River. Stand and raise your hands straight up over your head. Now pull them down towards your sides to about a 45 degree angle. Now lower them just a little more. That is the view of the sky I had growing up. Contrast this with the view in Western Missouri and all the way to Denver. It is a very foreign look to someone raised in the hill country with lots of trees! It is certainly different from

the jungles here in Georgia and Florida. If your model goes off the field here, it may land in a place a cat could not get through. Not so in Denver! You keep looking at the horizon and saying, "Wow!" The flying site outside Denver exceeds my wildest dreams for a place to mess around with models. Five miles on a side, the Denver boys set up in the middle and fly whichever way the wind dictates. Perfect.

“They have a very active club of excellent fliers who are remarkably friendly and welcoming to strangers bearing not gifts but model planes. It would be hard to imagine a better group of fliers to have as your pals. We enjoyed this part of the journey the most. Thanks to all for your excellent hospitality! The MMM are a terrific club and great hosts.

“With two drivers, it is fairly easy to make the trip from the South in two days. It’s just under 1500 miles each way. This will be surprising to some, but actually, the road trip was very enjoyable. We drove all day at 80-85 mph and averaged right at 20 mpg in Graham's new Kia Sedona minivan. Coming back, I “map-quested” the route to Atlanta, and discovered that Columbia, Missouri was within 6 minutes of being half way. Motels on the road are inexpensive, and can easily be found in the \$50 range. A GPS is invaluable for finding your way back to the hotel in strange territory.

“Accommodations in Denver were set up at an Extended Stay Hotel. Each person had a small suite, and the tariff ended up being about \$40 bucks per night. Some of you reading this may be so cheap you will think that expensive, but it ain't! A number of fliers camped on the field. Personally, I'll take the motel and Rosie's Diner for breakfast. There are lots of places close to the hotel to eat. Altogether, it was a very, very nice setup about 25 minutes from the field.

“If you aren't planning a trip out to Denver to fly, you should. There are a couple of things you should consider that may not occur to you. A chase bike is almost a necessity, as the retrieves can be very long. Put some Stop Leak gunk in the tire tubes as the cactus can get to them. Be sure to stay hydrated and drink more water than you think you should, standard practice here in the South. Wear some kind of leather shoe or boot. The field is thick with grasses that have seeds that stick into your shoes, and go right through a tennis shoe like a spear. They won't make it through leather. We also noticed most of the fliers wore gaiters around their ankles. Once I started pulling the stickers out of my shoes and socks the whole time, it made more sense. Take your cell phone on all retrieves, and also take water.

“Go for it! It is a fantastic site with good people, and you won't regret having gone on your own personal Great Crossing.”



Loaded to the scuppern, all boats away!



Gary winding for WW I mass launch



Field isn't too shabby, 35 sq. miles!



Gary preps his gas jobs, Graham consults

A WORTHY CAUSE

The Tyson family is selling a dandy FAC-type stogie to defray the costs of sending the 2012 USA Indoor World Champ Team overseas to defend our national honor. A picture follows. It looks like it would work just fine, just the right size for smaller models. The cost is \$30 or \$35, postpaid, I forget which. Get yours today. Contact the Tyson's at: ddtyson@peoplepc.com .



WHERE WE STAND, EYES UPON THE STARS, FEET UPON THE GROUND

Here's where we stand thus far in the club's high point tourney, according to your editor's running count. My absence from the September FAC contest and lack of vigor in the next day's Summer Swan Song caused the ranks to close considerably. That's OK—I've a doctor's excuse. (Dame Fortune does not always smile upon the virtuous.)

However, we're not done just yet. We've two the Oct. and Nov. outdoor and indoor contests before you can get out the granite carving tools. There's a bit of flying yet to be done in these four remaining gatherings. The circle will be squared and the line will be toed. The game's afoot. I've running counts on the other categories, if you're interested.

David Mills	79	Bill Gowen	13
Dohrman Crawford	52	Richard Schneider	8

Karl Hube	44	Gary Baughman	5
Jim Altenbern	36	Gary Morton	5
Al Pardue	27	Sandy Downs	4
John Barker	18	Barry Sholder	4
David Barfield	17	Graham Selick	3
Bob Thoren	16		

NEXT ISSUE

Look for something around Christmas. We should have the details on the annual banquet, which I presume will be at the same place as last year, Petite Auberge at Toco Hills Shopping Center. Hopefully, these plans will be finalized, and we can pass those along then if not sooner. Also, we should have the rest of the indoor schedule for the winter by then, including the date (sometime in April, I presume) for the Peach State Indoor Champs (PSIC). We'll carry the flyer for the Southeast Model Show in Perry, which I believe will be on the traditional date, the first weekend in March.

As I always do, I beseech the multitude for contributions in the way of articles, plans, photos, and rants. Don't make me work too hard! Ciao, y'all!

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of TTOMA

campbellcustomkits.com

Tail Spin is a commercial friend of TTOMA

tailspinaviation.com

AUGUST CONTEST

We had some gusty winds and rough turbulence for the day. So as the substitute CD, I let everyone get away with all their tricks and note passing. No one spent time in the principal's office and school ended about 45 minutes early. We had 9 flyers and the scores are listed below. This is all that was left with me. If anyone has anything more, let me know. David Barfield, reporting.

SCat Jet

Dohrman Crawford	Fokker S-14	64
David Mills	Yak 15	55
David Barfield	A-10 Warthog	5

CLG

Jim Altenbern	Straight Up	170
Dohrman Crawford	Pathfinder	142
Bob Thoren	Lil' Mat 14	96
David Mills	Straight Up	62

Rubber Scale

David Barfield	A5M5 Zero	26
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P-30

Al Pardue		61
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Embryo

David Barfield	Sparky	28
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Hi Climber MOY

David Barfield		48
David Mills		44

SEPTEMBER INDOOR FUN FLY

This gathering wasn't a sanctioned meet, but we decided to write down some scores and get some points. We put some air under some indoor models and had a few hours fun. Bill Gowen showed up sporting his new knee and he says he's doing great. The scores follow, David Mills reporting.

Legal Eagle

John Barker	1:05
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No Cal Scale

David Mills	Lacey M-10	5:31
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Easy B

John Barker	3:00
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35 CM

Nick Ray	13:45
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Ltd Pennyplane

David Mills	Comet Phantom Flash	1:00
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SEPTEMBER FAC CONTEST

FAC flying appears to be slowly growing here in our club. We had 7 fliers sign up to fly on what was an almost perfect flying day out at the field. Light winds, little drift, and reasonable temperatures made it a good day to commit aviation. We moved once, early in the game and

ended up at the grassy knoll for the duration. Most of the flying involved close competition, with only a few seconds separation between fliers.

For the first time in years we had 4 actual scale models flying in Rubber Scale. We even had a WWI Mass Launch of sorts. (Only two fliers, but that is two more than we have had in a while.) The usual suspects, Embryo, etc. were present, but it was pretty cool to see some scale models flying around. Josh Finn brought his eight-engined Spruce Goose down from a Clemson Pep Rally long enough to wow the crowd with a pretty flight. It took 5 people to handle it while the 8 motors were wound. It made a majestic flight in a large circle, and then made a perfect landing on the grass, exactly like a seaplane landing on the water. Way to go, Joshua!!!

(It would be much simpler to use the GHQ scoring for peanut next year; it needs to be announced ahead of time, much less cipherin'. I would like some feedback from FAC experienced types on whether or not this is a good idea. It looks like a good idea to me.)

If you have never come out for any of the FAC event contests, make an effort this winter to build one of the Earl Stahl scale models and fly it next year in our Earl Stahl MOY contest. It would be nice to double the number of scale jobs out there floating around over the turf. Here are the results, respectively submitted by Dohrman Crawford, CD:

Peanut Scale

Joshua Finn	R. Burroughs R5	136.5
Gary Morton	Lacey M10	125

Rubber Scale

Joshua Finn	Spruce Goose	163
Dohrman Crawford	D. Turbulent	98
Gary Morton	Fokker DVII	77

Dime Scale

Joshua Finn	Bristol Brownie	308
Gary Morton	Fairchild PT-19	294
Karl Hube	Bristol Brownie	229

Embryo

Dohrman Crawford	Jabberwock	317
Joshua Finn	Prairie Bird	316
Karl Hube	Voodoo	302

Old Time Rubber

Al Pardue	Wren	167
Jim Altenbern	Pacific Ace	156
Joshua Finn	Miss Canada Sr	105

SCat Jet

Karl Hube	Hawker Hunter	113
Dohrman Crawford	Fokker S-14	99
Joshua Finn	Miles M.52	49

Two Bit Plus One

Al Pardue	FA Moth	137
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No Cal Scale

Gary Morton	Cessna 210	252
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WW I Mass Launch

Josh Finn	Albatross
Gary Morton	Fokker DVII



Dohrman's new Turbulent flies!



Dohrman does it again, except better this time!



Two from Josh, his magnificent Spruce Goose . . .



and his less so Miles M.52

SUMMER SWAN SONG CONTEST

Frankly, the contest is a bit of a blur for this correspondent and CD. I was still walking wounded from my bout with food poisoning from the last three days. I missed the FAC contest the day before and two days work. So, it wasn't just my GI tract that was hurting. What can I say? Seven pounds weight loss the quick and ugly way, *le tableau outre*.

The weather was a repeat of the previous day—warm temps, sunny skies, and mild breezes from any and all directions. We had a decent turnout with about eight fliers and as many gawkers. Clarence made an appearance and it was a real treat to catch up with him. He's doing OK.

P-30

James Altenbern	360
Karl Hube	357
Al Pardue	197
David Barfield	44

E-36

Graham Selick	302
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Embryo

Karl Hube	Voodoo	269
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CLG

Dohrman Crawford	291
Jim Altenbern	187
Al Pardue	99

HLG

Dohrman Crawford	210
David Mills	88

Dohrman Crawford	Jabberwock	95
David Barfield	Sparky	44

Hi Climber MOY

Al Pardue	91
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NosGas

Graham Selick	C Hustler	277
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Coupe

David Mills	93
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David and Don either awe- or dumbstruck



Barfield's Sparky Embryo



Gary and his Chambermaid Dime Scale



Karl bids *adieu* to his Embryo

PEACH STATE INDOOR RECORD TRIALS

November 19, 2011

The Thermal Thumbers of Metro Atlanta are hosting our inaugural indoor record trials in the Great Hall at St. Lukes Presbyterian Church in Dunwoody, GA, where we've been flying for years. The Great Hall is a great category I site with a ceiling height just three inches below the maximum. The room is drift-free and offers a smooth ceiling with few hazards, and the walls are cushioned. The room also features a long, vaulted ceiling running down the center of the room that offers several more feet in height. This is a good room for setting records, as Bill Gowen has done recently in F1M (world) and A-6. A review of the AMA's indoor records reveals many are over twenty years old. This presents an opportunity for more modern designs and aggressive fliers.

St. Lukes is located in the northern Atlanta suburbs and is very convenient to hotels, restaurants, and shopping, including nearby Perimeter Center mall. The immediate area can be reached directly from the airport via the MARTA train. St. Lukes is on Mt. Vernon Rd. about one mile east of Ashford Dunwoody Rd. Detailed maps to the site can be found at thermalthumbers.com.

The CD will be David Mills (AMA #7717), and he can be contacted at 404-509-4209 or davidmillsat1@gmail.com. AMA membership is required to fly. Adult fliers will be charged a fee of \$10.00; kids can fly for free. Flying starts at 8:00 am and ends at 5:00 pm. Come see us and make your mark. Good luck!



THANKSGIVING TURKEY SHOOT FUN FLY

November 6, 2011, 9 am to 4 pm
N GA Turf Farm, Whitesburg, GA
Gary Baughman, Contest Director (CD), gjbman@bellsouth.net, 770-422-8489
Entry Fee: \$10.00

Don't miss our second annual Turkey Shoot Fun Fly! Ask the guys who attended last year's Shoot. The entire flying day was spectacular, and the events were a hoot.

NO BUILDER OF THE MODEL RULE! This isn't your daddy's regular old AMA contest! Beg, borrow, or lease a model from your OFB and fly for a "prize in the skies." No lame excuses for not flying a model, even if you come to the field empty handed.

Mano e Mano Mass Launch Schedule:

10 am--Any TTOMA MOY, past or present

11 am--Rubber Scale

High Noon—Embryo

Catapult Glider Tournament

10:30 am-3:00 pm. Entry closes 10 am. CD to draw up the tourney brackets

Target Time Event

CD will announce the target time at 9 am. Fly any class of model. Event closes at 3:00 pm. In case of tie, CD will set a new Fly-off Target Time. One 3:10 pm fly-off will be a one flight mass launch between contestants. Flight time nearest the new time target wins!

Longest DT

Timer will start watch at DT and timed to the ground. Strategy works here.

Sacrifice Your Turkey

Dig out that old, obsolete model that has been hanging around your shop too long. Patch it up; bring it out to the field; declare it to the CD prior to the first flight as your official "old turkey"; and fly it without a DT. Sacrifice that POC model to Hung, the God of Thermals. Longest time in sight OOS flight of the day wins a \$25.00 gift certificate.

Awards

Ceremony to be at 3:30 pm-4:00 pm. One \$25.00 Publix gift certificate will be awarded to a contestant whose name is drawn from all participants making at least one official flight. Multiple winners OK. No fly, no win.

ATTENTION: Rules will be made up (beforehand or along the way) at Contest Director's discretion. Any gripes, arguments or misunderstandings will be settled by "Jaws", my pet piranha, "Mikevik" my pit bull, or by a cold nose poke in the privates from my wiener dog, "Gabriella". (Contestant may choose or CD will assign.)

AUGUST MEETING MINUTES

President David Barfield called the August meeting to order at 12:48 pm on August 14th at the N GA Turf Farm during the regular monthly contest. Ten members were present.

Treasurer's Report

Don Brown presented information showing the club balance at the beginning of the reporting period July 5th 2011 was XXXX.XX. Since that time, the July 10th outdoor contest added \$61.00. There were no expenses for the month and the ending balance on August 12th was XXXX.XX. Jim Altenbern made a motion to accept the report as presented and David Mills gave a second to the motion. The members voted unanimously to accept the report.

Secretary's Report

Jim Altenbern presented the minutes from the July meeting. No changes or additions were offered, and David Mills made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Al Pardue gave a second to the motion, and the members voted to accept the report.

Old Business

David Mills brought up the Model of the Year event, and it will be the Earl Stahl rubber scale models. David Barfield has submitted our rules for the event to FAC headquarters for approval, so the winners can get Kanones. As of this meeting, FAC has not answered back on the rules.

David Mills discussed event of the year and suggested the E-36 models. He and Dohrman Crawford discussed costs of materials and different models that could be used. No further action was taken on EOY.

Dohrman Crawford has set up a private store on the internet with Café Press to get T-shirts printed with the club logo. David Barfield will send an alternate logo with the Mini Maxer in it to Café Press. Dohrman will put a link on the TTOMA website so members can order the shirts with either logo.

New Business

David Mills discussed the Nats and the weather during Nats week. The heat was pretty bad, but everyone took proper precautions, and the nights were cool enough for good sleeping. There were 227 people registered for the FF events and there were lots of E-36 models being tested. David noted there were lots of E-36 models damaged or destroyed.

David Mills discussed making one of the fall indoor dates a category I record trials event at St. Lukes. The month of November was mentioned as a good date, and David Mills will get some advertisement out in the modeling press to see if there is any interest.

With no more business to conduct, David Mills made a motion to adjourn and Jim Altenbern made a motion to second and the meeting ended at 1:20 pm. Respectfully submitted by Jim Altenbern , vice president.

SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

TTOMA President, David Barfield, called the September 25 meeting to order at 12:55 pm. The meeting was held during the regularly scheduled flying session at the N GA Turf Farm with twelve members present.

Treasurer's Report

Don Brown reported that the club beginning balance on August 12th was \$X,XXX.XX. During the reporting period there was an input of \$90.00 from fees collected at the August 14 outdoor contest. In addition, Jim Jennings joined the club with a prorated half-year membership of \$12.50 for a total addition of \$102.50 during the reporting period ending September 23, 2011, resulting with a closing balance of \$X,XXX.XX. David Mills made a motion to accept the report, and Howard Klemmetsen gave a second. The members voted unanimously to accept.

Secretary's Report

Karl Hube presented the minutes from the August meeting. There were no requests for changes and Howard made a motion to accept the minutes as read. David Barfield seconded the motion and the members voted to accept the report.

Old Business

David Barfield reported that FAC has not yet responded to the request for Kanones to be granted for our MOY Earl Stahl club event. He said he'd stick with it.

Dohrman Crawford asked for new people to make an effort to qualify as Contest Directors as he has carried a major part of the CD load this year and does not want to repeat the process. Jim Altenbern and Karl Hube stated that they would file the required paperwork to qualify so they can help with next year's competitions.

David Mills indicated that a Category I indoor record trials will take place on November 19 at St. Lukes. He said sanction is in hand, and the next newsletter will have a flyer with the details.

New Business

David Mills passed around a collection of Earl Stahl drawings that will qualify for next year's Model of the Year club event. David also reminded everyone that Stahl drawings are available on <theplanpage.com> website, too. David Mills also suggested that the No Cal FAC event be selected as the 2012 Event of the Year. This class was suggested because it's both indoors and because of the high performance that can be achieved with a minimum of material, labor and cost invested. No action was taken on this matter at this time.

Karl Hube opened a brief discussion about our liaison with the owner of the sod farm. Historically, Frank Hodson was our ambassador to the farm, but Frank has not been active in some time. The discussion centered on using holiday cards and restoring the holiday gift item like a food basket to the office staff and owner. No action was taken, but a budget target will be needed by November for this process.

David Barfield asked if anyone thought we should modify our meeting schedule and content. This item came up because of discussion of the highly successful Colorado Magnificent Mountain Men club that has one major business meeting per year. However, they still have informal dinners once a month that keep the communication going. The general consensus was to leave our current meeting schedule alone as it allows the out-of-town members to stay involved on an ongoing basis.

There being no further official business, David Mills made a motion to adjourn, and Howard gave a second. The meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm. Respectfully submitted by Karl Hube, secretary.

MAKING BETTER TRAILING EDGES by Karl Hube

Trying to find good balsa stock to make straight, strong wing and stabilizer trailing edges can be a challenge. For most small models, it is fairly easy to strip a trailing edge blank from a balsa sheet and then plane and sand it to final dimensions. One of the most useful little tools in my shop is the simple balsa stripper.

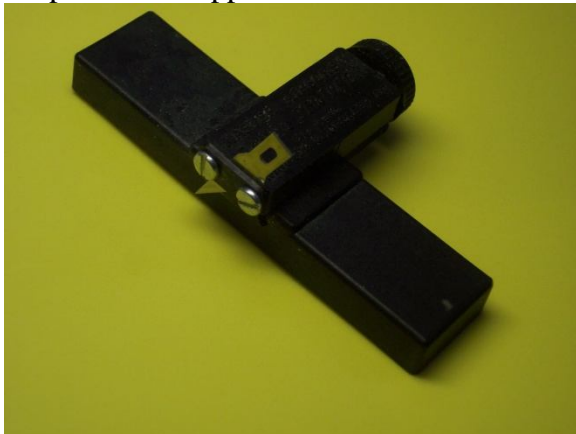


Fig. 1 Balsa Stripper

However, many times a wide strip cut for a trailing edge has warps in both directions, laterally and vertically. The warp across the vertical (thin) direction is easy to steam out, but the lateral warp is a really tough problem and looks something like:

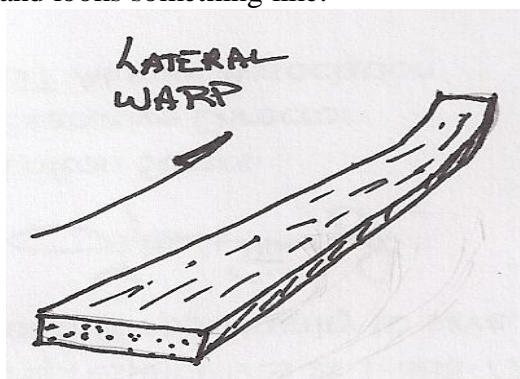


Fig. 2. Lateral Strip Warp

I now have a method that solves this problem. I wish I could claim it as an original approach, but like most of my better

ideas, it started with someone else! Tony Cordes in the UK illustrated this method in an Aeromodeller article on A2 design many years ago. As a means of illustrating Tony's work, let me use a Classic Towline wing trailing edge I'm working with now. The wing requires a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch X $\frac{1}{8}$ inch trailing edge. For this, I stripped out six pieces of balsa about $\frac{3}{16}$ inch wide from a $\frac{1}{8}$ sheet of balsa stock. Then, the whole lot is glued up as shown in Figure 3.

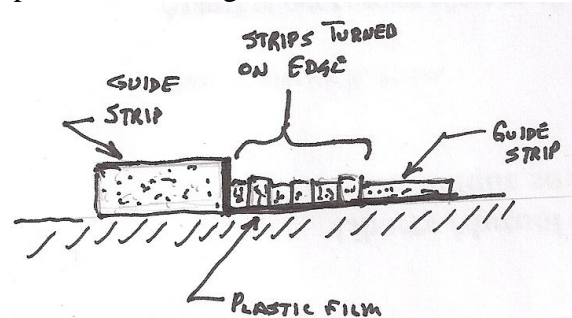


Fig. 3 Trailing Edge Blank

Note that the strips are turned on edge for gluing. The key piece in the setup is the guide strip on the left which must be straight! Generous use of masking tape and an assortment of weights will keep everything in place for a twenty-four hour cure.

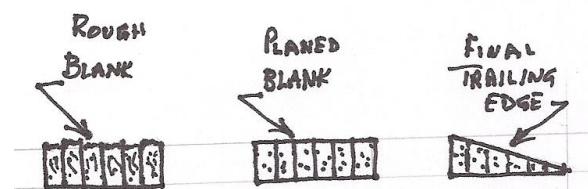


Fig. 4 Final Planning To Shape

After the glue has cured, you can start planning and sanding the blank to final shape. Do not forget to sand on both sides of the piece so you do not introduce a span-wise warp in the trailing edge. You will find that the glue joints add little weight, but they do add to the stiffness of the component. For bigger models like power models and towline designs, a tough material is needed for the trailing edges. For my Classic

Towline, I wanted balsa with a density of 12 to 14 lbs/cubic foot to work with. This requires a sheet of 1/8 X 3 X 36 inch balsa weighing between 40 and 50 grams. Most of the balsa I order falls in the 5 to 8 lb/cubic ft range, so I look at the area hobby stores for heavy stock. If you don't have a scale with you, try to find sheets that you can barely dent with your thumbnail and you'll be in the right range. Tony Cordes gave that suggestion and I seem to hit the 12 to 14 range every time! For smaller models like P-30's or for stabilizers, something in the 6 to 8 lb/cubic foot should work.

By the way, this method is also effective for large leading edges or leading edges that have mixed materials like balsa plus spruce or basswood.

Give it a try and see how great the results can be!!

TTOMA 2011 CONTESTS

15 Oct. 2011 Indoor St. Lukes Presbyterian, Dunwoody, GA

23 Oct. 2011 Last Fling til Spring NG Turf, Whitesburg, GA
David Barfield 770-977-5517 gollywock@yahoo.com

6 Nov 2011 Turkey Shoot Fun Fly NG Turf, Whitesburg, GA
Gary Baughman 770-422-8489 gjbman@bellsouth.net

19 Nov. 2011 Peach State Indoor Record Trials, St. Lukes Presbyterian, Dunwoody, GA
David Mills 404-509-4209 davidmillsatl@gmail.com

2011 TTOMA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____ AMA # _____

Address _____

State and Zip Code _____

Other Family Members and AMA # _____

Telephone _____ E-Mail _____

\$20.00/yr. adults, plus \$1.00/yr. for all juniors and for additional family members in same household. Send check, payable to TTOMA, to Don Brown/477 Safari Cir./Stone Mountain, GA 30083/404-292-0379. **\$25.00/yr. after 2/15/2011.**

**Special last half of year offer: \$12.50 for adults!!!
Better late than never!!! Good until 12/31!! Join now!!!**