



The THUMB PRINT
Thermal Thumbers Of Metro Atlanta

www.thermaithumbers.com

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NFFS

Jan.-Feb., 2013

HEADS UP

Welcome to the first issue of 2013. All is before us. As is our usual wont, we've a full slate of events this year both indoors and outdoors. The Grand Hall at St. Lukes and the N GA Turf Farm await, and let's never lose sight of how lucky we are to have the cheap and free (respectively) use of these facilities. They're many in the nation's Free Flight community who can't boast of the same. Get to your workbench, and we'll see y'all there.

Several news items of import follow, the most important of which is the report on and photos from the annual banquet. A good time was had by all. Also, all should be sure to read the following flyer for the Peach State Indoor Champs on June 15 at St. Lukes. The site has received some solid national publicity during the last year, and we hope to draw a good and far-flung crowd this year. Your editor will CD the contest again this year, so any questions should be directed this way.

Please make plans to attend the Southeast Model Show in Perry this March 1 and 2. It's simply the best on earth that day for a model airplane nut to be. The honchos in charge say the event is fully booked again, so we can expect over one-thousand tables full of stuff to peruse. Yes, the vast bulk of it is RC-oriented, but FF nuggets abound and at usually cheap prices. I recommend you attend Friday afternoon when the pickings are most bountiful. (And before Fearless Leader Emeritus Frank has his full way with the bountiful repast!) Look for a dandy blurb on rubber lube from Down Under provided by Karl. The results are interesting, but nothing too shocking.

Time for me to get out of the way. Ciao, y'all!

RENEWAL TIME

For those that haven't renewed their TTOMA membership yet, you snoozed and you loosed. It's still not too late, but the toll has increased to the full twenty-five dollars, American. This doesn't constitute an excuse, however, so the nags will continue unabated. A membership form follows. Send Karl that check. You know who you are.

THE GAME'S AFOOT

We've a full slate of contests this year, thanks once again to Dohrman's yeoman efforts. The dates and locales follow. Mark your calendars thusly. Maps to our flying sites can be found on our website, and you can call the CD's for any questions. Be there.

March 09 Indoor 1-9@ St Lukes Bill Gowen
April 20 Indoor 1-9@ St Lukes Dohrman Crawford
April 27 April Fools Sod Farm Jim Altenbern
May 18 Indoor 1-8@St Lukes Bill Gowen
May 26 May Daze Sod Farm Frank Hodson
June 8, 9 Pensacola Fiesta of Five Flags Grabski [?]
June 15 Indoor Peach State Champs 9-8@St Lukes David Mills
June 22 FAC Sod Farm Karl Hube
June 23 June Bug Jamboree Sod Farm David Barfield
July 08-12 NATS Muncie, Indiana
July 13 Indoor St Lukes Bill Gowen
July 21 Peach State Champs Sod Farm Whit Russell
Aug 7-11 Indoor Nats University of Illinois Armory, Champaign, IL
Aug 17 Indoor St Lukes Dohrman Crawford
Aug 25 Pop Purdy's Contest Sod Farm Graham Selick
Sep 14 Indoor St Lukes Bill Gowen
Sep 21 FAC Sod Farm Jim Altenbern
Sep 22 Summer's Swan Song Sod Farm David Mills
Oct 6 Last Fling til Spring Sod Farm David Barfield
Oct 12, 13, 14 Gathering of Turkeys Pensacola George White
Oct 19 Indoor St Lukes Dohrman Crawford
Nov 03 Turkey Shoot Sod Farm Gary Baughman
Nov 16 Indoor St Lukes Bill Gowen
Dec 14 Indoor St Lukes Dohrman Crawford

ANNUAL BANQUET

We had another great evening at Petite Auberge again. The turnout was about what it was last year, in the neighborhood of thirty souls. As always, the food was first rate, and I heard no complaints. (My salmon, tomato thingie and bread pudding were delightful.) The weather offered no surprises or adventures, offering clear skies and mildly brisk temperatures. Plenty of photos follow, proving once again we clean up pretty good.

The Show and Tell portion of the program brought the usual of bounty of projects completed since next year. The highlight for me was Al's Aristocrat, the overall Concourse Winner at the 2012 SAM Champs. It is a lovely model and a real pleasure to look at. It and the other models can be seen in the photos that follow.

Your MC forgot to introduce the incoming 2013 officer slate, so let's do that now. The usual suspects will resume their responsibilities from last year: David Barfield-prez, Jim Altenbern-veep, and Karl Hube- secretary and treasurer. We wish all of them well in the coming year. Hearing no volunteer calls to take my place under the yoke, I'll continue in the capacity of your newsletter editor.

We began the awards ceremony with the presentation of the Norm Purdy Service Award to Kay Brown on behalf of the late Don Brown for his many years of service and fellowship to our club. The rest of the awards ceremony offered less drama that we're traditionally used to, reprising the same limited walks to the podium as last year. Making a short story even shorter, your editor won everything again, in spite of my admonishing of the multitude from the podium at the banquet last year and in print throughout last year. These trophies would include the

George Perryman Perpetual High Point, Bob Baker Old Timer, Spirit of Comet, Scale High Point and Club Model of the Year. A good sign, there was some tightening of the rankings in 2012 from 2011, and perhaps 2013 will provide more suspense. Additionally, the sourdough rolls tossed up to the victor at the end of the high point presentation in lieu of applause made for some good snacking later that night. Many thanks.

The full high point totals follow. Before anybody gets too proud, we recall one year when the late, great George Perryman brought in over two hundred points. I really miss that old man . . .

David Mills	108
Dohrman Crawford	92
Jim Altenbern	56
Gary Baughman	46
Karl Hube	37
David Barfield	35
Bill Gowen	28
John Barker	26
Al Pardue	24
Bob Thoren	22
Gary Morton	17
Joe Ryan	14
Richard Schneider	12
Barry Sholder	8
Graham Selick	6
Dean McGinnis	4



A TREASURE TROVE I

Many of us knew of and used the technical how-to compendia our friend George White has been working on for many years. I know I have. The Pensacola club's website has been its home, but I've been concerned over the years that it wasn't getting enough exposure. We needn't worry any longer. The massive archive has now been placed on the NFFS website, and hopefully, it'll get more hits as a result. I encourage everyone to give it a look. It's really an impressive body of work. Thanks, George! See <freeflight.org>.

A TREASURE TROVE II

The future of the excellent *Indoor New and Views* was a shaky one until just recently. This magazine/newsletter has been the reliable source of exclusively indoor Free Flight coverage for decades. I've always found it delightful and a good and informative read.

However, it was moribund for too long, and its future didn't look good. Well, not to worry, young and oddly unaffiliated Nick Ray has assumed the editorship, and all is well and production resumed. Current and all past issues can be found on: <indoornewsandviews.wordpress.com>. I gave the website a good going-over and found it to be very accessible and easy to use. There's a ton of very cool stuff to be seen with a few easy clicks. I chatted with Nick recently, and he has plans to further enhance the magazine's scope and quality. Let's just hope his jobs as Emory

University's scuba instructor and newest math professor affords him the time! Good luck and have fun, Nick!

THE BEAST FROM THE SOUTHEAST

Some might recall the report a few issues back on the Perryman Potlatch last fall. Those few that attended were indeed blessed. A big part of my haul was the replica George built in the late nineties of the *He-Man Unlimited* model he flew back in 1952. The model, pictured alongside, is an interesting one, the basis of which was his Wakefield of the same year, published in the *1953 Zaic Yearbook*.

Early the day of the event Steve Perryman grabbed his daddy's replica of the mighty *Kluge* which was built at the same time. Happily, he then forced the *He Man Unlimited* upon me. Honest!

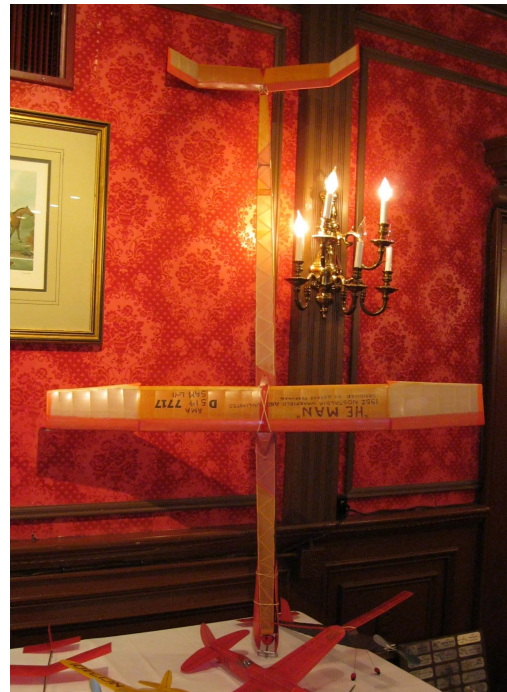
Unlike the mighty *Kluge* of a few years in the future, the design's wing didn't use the fully allowed 300 sq. in projected area. Rather, George built a somewhat larger wing and stab, the wing enjoying an increase in both span and chord, while the stab retained the same chord but enjoying a longer span. My conjecture behind his use of the actual 262 sq. in wing and larger stab in hand is that he wanted to use the same fuselage and prop from the Wakefield of his 1952 fleet. Given the overall, significantly larger component dimensions of the mighty *Kluge* a few years hence, this assumption seems very reasonable.

My plan is to fly it at the 2013 Nats in Large NosRub under the recent rules changes that permit the models of the dearly departed to be flown. Sharp-eyed readers

will note the new, required nomenclature affixed to the wing.

Who knows exactly how much rubber this moose will use? I suspect it'll need at least 24 strands of Tan SS about five feet long. I estimate such a motor to weigh around 120 gm., a little over ¼ pound of gumband! Given the fact the *He Man Unlimited* presently weighs a svelte 117 gm. empty, there's a strong suspicion of robust performance, to say the least.

Flying the model will prove to be an adventure, no doubt. It's a real handful at six feet in length and will be a two-man job to both wind and launch. I'm not worried. I expect it to draw a crowd.



NEXT ISSUE

Look for something in late March or early April. We'll carry a report on the Southeast Model Show and look for some indoor contest reports and some serious nags about club membership renewal. Feel free to forward any contributions you have in the way of articles, plans, photos, polemics and idle rants. Ciao, y'all!

Campbell's Custom Kits is a commercial friend of TTOMA

campbellcustomkits.com

Tail Spin is a commercial friend of TTOMA

tailspinaivation.com

2013 TTOMA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____ AMA # _____

Address _____

State and Zip Code _____

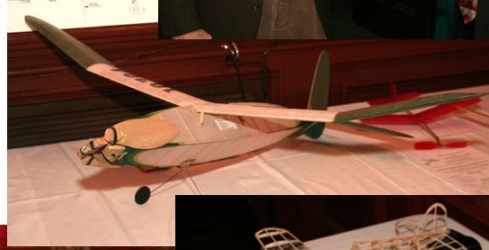
Other Family Members and AMA # _____

Telephone _____ E-Mail _____

\$25.00/yr. adults, plus \$1.00/yr. for all juniors and for additional family members in same household. Send check, payable to TTOMA, to Karl Hube/104 Smith Forest Ln./ Alpharetta, GA 30004/770-886-0104.

<p>IMPORTANT RENEWAL INFORMATION</p> <p>To continue receiving the NFFS Digest without interruption, your dues should reach the NFFS Membership Office at least two (2) months before your current expiration date. For example, if your Digest mailing label says your month of expiration is August, NFFS should receive your payment by June. Do not wait for a reminder from NFFS. You will be late and miss an issue.</p>	
<p>NFFS MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL APPLICATION</p>	
<p>Mail to: NFFS Membership Office 118 Gentry Circle Lafayette, LA 70508-6326 USA</p> <p>Make checks payable in U.S. dollars to: National Free Flight Society</p>	
<p>Dues include a mandatory \$50 per year for NFFS membership.</p>	
<p>US Residents (Age 19 & over)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 years \$58.00 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year \$30.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you desire Digest delivery via email. This saves valuable funds on printing/mailing, and you get your Digest about 3 weeks sooner. As a bonus, the electronic version contains exclusive content in each issue.</p>	<p>Youth Membership (U.S. only)</p> <p>Age 18 & under as of July 1 of the current year</p> <p>Copy of birth certificate required for new memberships.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 years \$18.00 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year \$10.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you desire Digest delivery via email. This saves valuable funds on printing/mailing, and you get your Digest about 3 weeks sooner. As a bonus, the electronic version contains exclusive content in each issue.</p>
<p>All Non-U.S. Residents</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 years \$58.00 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year \$30.00</p> <p>NOTE: Current international members will continue to receive printed Digest. Starting with May/June 2012, issue all new/renewal international memberships will receive Digest electronically.</p>	
<p>Life Membership</p> <p>US Residents <input type="checkbox"/> \$500.00 Non-US Residents <input type="checkbox"/> \$550.00</p>	
<p>First Time or Lapsed (more than 1 year) Members</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 years for \$29 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 years Youth for \$9 <input type="checkbox"/> International \$37.50 Offer expires Jan. 1, 2013</p>	
<p>★ NFFS Foundation Donation ★</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Silver - \$75 <input type="checkbox"/> Gold - \$125 <input type="checkbox"/> Platinum - \$250 or more \$_____</p> <p>To help reduce expenses maintaining NFFS records, PLEASE renew for at least 2 years. Thank you!</p>	
<p>Check boxes to what applies:</p> <p>New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Donation <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Amount \$ _____</p> <p>PLEASE PRINT</p> <p>Name: _____</p>	<p>Current expiration date: Mo - Yr _____</p> <p>Date of birth: M / D / Y _____</p>
<p>Address: _____</p> <p>City, State: _____ Zip: _____</p> <p>Telephone: _____</p> <p>(IMPORTANT - PLEASE PRINT VERY CLEARLY)</p> <p>e-mail address: _____</p>	
<p>Send all renewals, address changes, applications, and membership questions to the Membership Office. e-mail: carl.bakay@yahoo.com</p>	
<p>Please go to www.freeflight.org for credit card renewals.</p>	





TTOMA Cat 1 Record Trials
1/12/2013
Report and results

After a temporary setback (a hundred or so young ladies having a “kidnap breakfast”) we got started flying around 11:00. Five fliers recorded 16 official attempts at State or National records during the day. Actually that total is for one F1D flight by Joshua Finn and 15 catapult glider flights by yours truly. Many other flights were made but none recorded. Gary flew a model in nearly every AMA and FAC class during the day (or at least it seemed that way). Nick Ray and Hope Finn flew many F1D flights during the day.

I made 2 series of catapult glider flights trying to get 2 lucky launches but it didn't happen. I did manage a 49.4 practice flight so WIF7 will probably be back next month for another try.

F1D

Joshua Finn 20:21

SCLG

Bill Gowen 44.6 + 47.1 = 91.7 first try
 45.1 + 46.7 = 91.8 second try

FEBRUARY INDOOR CONTEST REPORT

Odd hours we are keeping at St. Lukes these days, due to conflicts with the church schedule. Be that as it may, we had some fine flying on Feb 9th until close to 9pm. While not much official flying was done and logged, much practice occurred in the F1D world.

There was quite a lot of glider flying done as well. One of Bill Gowen's protégés, Sebastian Perez, showed up with a finely made catapult glider. He proceeded to get it fine-tuned and then might has set a national record! Well done, Sebastian! (Bill believes this is a new national senior record. He has the details, if you are interested.) Please make sure to get to know Sebastian at the next meet. I have a feeling he will be doing well in the Science Olympiad glider comps. He is a fine, young man, and I hope we see more of him here at TTOMA.

That's it. Try to build something to fly and come out and do it. One of the best flying sites around awaits you. Dohrman Crawford, CD, reporting. Here is what was put up as official flights:

F1D

Joshua Finn 23:17 20:47 22:22

Standard Catapult Glider

Bill Gowen 35.4 5.2 11.2 38.5
Sebastian Perez 25.3 20.2 28.5 29.7 26.0 29.2 27.2 11.5 4.0

PEACH STATE INDOOR CHAMPS

“America’s Flyingest Indoor Contest”

June 15, 2013

Great Hall, St. Lukes Presbyterian Church

Dunwoody, GA

The Thermal Thumbers of Metro Atlanta are hosting our twenty-second annual state indoor free flight championship. We invite all AMA members, family, and friends to come and join the fun. The public is invited, but only AMA members can fly, so bring your AMA card. However, kids with indoor free flight models who attend can fly; we’ll provide a complimentary AMA membership.

The contest is sanctioned by the AMA and all events, except as noted, will be flown per the AMA rule book as Class A and Category I. Registration and official flying begins at 9:00 am. The building must be clean and vacate by 8:00 pm. Lightweights will be segregated from the heavyweights per the flight schedule. An effort will be made to fly mass launches in rounds for kanones if possible; otherwise, mass launch events will be flown sudden death with no kanones.

AMA: Easy B

Ltd. Pennyplane (J, SO)

Mini Stick

IHLG (J,SO)

Standard Catapult Glider

Unlimited Catapult Glider

Bostonian (J,SO)

F1L

F1D—regional qualifier

35 cm

Helicopter

A-6

Mass Launches: Hangar Rat

WW I

WW II

Racer

Civilian

Phantom Flash

FAC: Dime Scale

Peanut Scale

Rubber Scale

No-Cal Scale

Embryo

TTOMA: Chattahoochee Challenge

Hangar Rat

Contest Director: David Mills, 404-509-4209, davidmillsatl@gmail.com

Fees: The adult (open) fee will be \$10.00 for unlimited events. The youth (senior and junior) fee will be \$1.00 for unlimited events. Adult test and fun fliers will be charged \$10.00.

Directions: The flying site can be accessed from either the Hwy. 400/Abernathy Rd. exit or I-285/Ashford Dunwoody Rd. exit. The church is on Mt. Vernon Hwy. about one mile east of Ashford Dunwoody Rd. The Great Hall is at the extreme opposite (NE) corner of the property. A map is available at <thermalthumbers.com>

FLYING SCHEDULE

9:00 am registration
9:00-10:30 am lightweights
10:30-noon heavyweights
10:30 am Hangar Rat mass launch
11:00 am WW I mass launch
high noon WW II mass launch
12:00-1:00 pm anything goes
1:00-2:00 pm heavyweights
2:00 pm Racer mass launch
2:00-3:00 pm lightweights
3:00 pm Civilian mass launch
3:00-4:00 anything goes
4:00 pm Phantom Flash mass launch
4:00-6:00 pm lightweights
6:00-7:30 pm anything goes, defer to lightweights
8: pm building clean and vacate

Flying heavyweight models (No-Cal or heavier) in lightweight periods always requires CD's permission prior to winding and/or launch. Flying lightweight models during heavyweight time periods is at flier's risk. Special consideration can be given, but CD's word is final.



The Great Hall at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, Dunwoody, GA

Life with lube. Why do we do it ?

by Adrian Bryant

Rubber lube allows strands to slip and slide easily over each other. More turns. Without lube, we would soon be trying to wind a solid mass of rubber. French chalk and face powder were the lube of choice at the dawn of aeromodelling. Great for A Frame Pushers and Stick models. With the event of built-up fuselages, who wanted a stick and tissue bag of powder. What was needed was a lube that would stick to the rubber and slip.



Modellers soon found you could use any slippery stuff, except axle grease and motor oil. Castor oil, lanolin, glycerine, soft soap etc in various combinations were used and are still being used. There are still a few old modellers about.

My introduction to rubber lube was neat's-foot oil. Made from the shin bones of young calves. Not used today.

As we got smarter, castor oil etc didn't sound scientific enough. We needed to go "up market" with a formula. Soon there were a great number of them.

A popular formula from the 30's and still used to day is the old stand by **2-4-6**:

2 oz glycerine
4 oz soft soap
6 oz water
Keep stirring.

Many concoctions were developed. Some liquid, some paste. Try this one.

Boil 6 oz of castile soap in 6 oz of water. When dissolved, stir in enough graphite to make a paste.

I used to make enough 2-4-6 to fill a syrup tin, enough to last a 100 years. Why? Because I always simmered my new motors in lube before use. Don't ask me why.

Over the last 20 years some modellers have moved into more hi-tec stuff. Dow33, Slip and Slide, Son-of-a Gun, Octopus ooze, etc. Even WD-40 is in there with the best of them.

In the late 90's, I conducted a number of tests to find the best rubber lubricant for our use. Rubber used came from a '96 batch of FAI. 24" of rubber was made into 4 strand motors. Motors were stretched to 18" and wound to break at that position.

Product	Turns
Dry.....	328
Face powder	360
Lanoline.....	376
2-4-6.....	380
Glycerine.....	380
Castor oil.....	384
Silicone.....	384

A number of Hi-Tec lubes were tested and all broke around 384 - 385 mark, maybe they all start life out of the same drum, and end up with a fancy name? Politicians give fancy names to what we call Tax.

All lubes have their good points; pick the one that suits you. They tell me it's like picking a wine; you pick the one you like. And I have seen some funny turns come out of a bottle of wine!

We are now in the year 2011 and I decided to see what improvements we have made over the years. I made up a motor of the same size, lubricated it with a glue stick and got 384 turns. Some things have improved over the years!

But we won't stop here; aeromodellers will always push forward into the unknown.