



The THUMB PRINT

Thermal Thumbers Of Metro Atlanta

www.thermaithumbers.com



AMA
Charter # 1834

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May-June, 2013

HEADS UP

Welcome to the third issue of the year. Summer is officially upon us, and the outdoor season is in full swing, and we've enjoyed some good weather at the N GA Turf Farm. The St. Lukes flying site still delivers good opportunities for indoor fun. We should consider ourselves very lucky. We're busier than three-fisted IRS agents! As a result, a lot of contest reportage follows, both indoors and outdoors. The club's full dance card has produced a horde of high point contenders, and year's first ranking follows. Hopefully, we'll have more excitement in our annual tourney than in year's past. Be sure to attend the Peach State Indoor Champs this June 15 at St. Lukes; it'll be a hoot.

Other news follows, some of it sad. A few Thumbs are injured and/or ailing, and news of Don Peacock's passing follows.

This is it from me from here for now. Ciao, y'all!

GOODBYE, OLD FRIEND

Once again, the Grim Reaper struck too close to home. Our OFB Don Peacock suffered a stroke last April and passed away. He left a large extended family and many modeling friends. Like the rest of y'all, I liked Don a lot. There never was a more cheerful and positive-minded person. He was one of those guys who were comfortable in his own skin. I always felt good around him, and we talked often.

We didn't see much of Don the last few years, mainly because of his and his wife's caretaking of their many relatives that needed help down in South Georgia. To say that he undertook these duties without any complaint would be inaccurate, to say the least, and from what he told me, he had the rights to some belly-aching about it. Still, he dutifully shouldered the yoke with humor, and wisecracks when necessary.

Don had a long and interesting life. He grew up in the Everglades, west of Miami, before all the excitement and glamour hit. He was proud to call himself an original Florida Cracker. (An unfortunately misunderstood term, really, for those who know the history) He always had a steady hand and natural aptitude for engines, and after military service, began working in the world of marine racing in South Florida as a master machinist and engine builder. After decades of this work, he saw where things were heading in his industry and thought ill of it. He relocated to South Georgia, settled in Pineview and began working at Boeing's engine plant in Macon until retirement. (He quipped, "Don't worry about the flag. I took it with me.") He wisely put a bit of his money away over the years and bought and lived on a small tree farm, and that kept him busy and earned a little money during his retirement.

I'm going to miss Don a lot. He was always one of my gold-standards for hanging around for your full life tenure and carrying yourself with a lot of class. I suspect his large family will find the going a lot tougher now.

PLENTY TO DO

There's no shortage of things to do 'round these parts. Pay particular attention to the PSIC on June 15 at St. Lukes, the two-day contest at the N GA Turf Farm and the Muncie Nats. Be there.

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

THUMBS IN PRINT

As many of you know, our OFB Richard Schneider is "a person of some note" in national Scale Control Line circles. He's judged umpteen big contests and has multiple appearances on the USA's WC team. Fortunately for us (and him!), he dabbles in FAC events both indoors and outdoors.

He passed along to these offices the April, 2013 issue of *Control Line World* which contains a long article by Richard on his history in control line flying and life in general. He provides plenty of photos of friends and models through the years and is a very good read. I must say, he writes "real good" well for a Tech grad!

THUMBS IN PRINT II

Young Nick Ray wrote a very good article on his latest WC-grade F1D for the January, 2013 issue of the NFFS digest. Those of you who're NFFS members have already seen it; those that aren't, well, you're just hearing about it. You're getting your just due, in either case.

Nick goes into great detail about his development process, in particular his efforts to redistribute the mass in his model to aid stiffness. There's also a fine three-view and close-up shot of his variable pitch propeller, really something to see. Well done, sir.

THUMBS ON THE MEND

Two Thumbs are now enjoying the benefits of modern medicine. Brook Dixon, Sr. is now the owner of a new shoulder joint. Brook Jr. says his rehab is going well. Good luck to Senior.

Mickey Walker is now the owner of a new knee joint, his second at that same locale. Such surgery is a little tricky, but he says it all went well. His rehab is going well, too, and he's making good progress. Well done, Mickey!

Young Robert Marier had a run-in with the family lawnmower and lost. Relax, he has all his appendages. He was pull-cranking the stalled mower when it backfired. He had too good a baseball grip on the lanyard with his right hand, and it snapped his ring finger bone. He'll have a cast on for six weeks, getting it removed just in time for the Nats. In the meantime, he's pretty much left-handed and useless for anything other than eating and using a remote. This strikes me as a warrior's injury, Robert, and there's no shame in that. Plus, it's a good story, well worth the telling, and chicks dig scars.

TEN –HUT!

The latest *Flying Aces News* is out and has the recent promotions. Three Thumbs, Karl Hube, your editor and Gary Morton earned bumps in rank to Captain, Major and Colonel, respectively. It's worth noting the Gary earned the Blue Max in the process! Well done, sir. Air Marshall Easy Dave still leads the pack with 71 kanones. It's also worth noting that new Thumb, Major General Dean McGinnis, has the second most with 30. The full roster, ranked by kanones, follows. Hopefully, I've not left anybody out.

Air Marshall

Easy Dave Niedzielski 71

Major General

Dean McGinnis 30

Lt. Colonel

Gary Morton 19

John Barker (presumably ours) 18

Major

David Barfield 12

David Mills 10

Captain

Dohrman Crawford 9

Gary Baughman 6

Karl Hube 5

Lieutenant

Brook Dixon, Sr. 3

Ed Hardin 2

Jim Jennings 2

Al Pardue 2

Jim Altenbern 1

Frank Hodson 1

Richard Schneider 1

Barry Sholder 1

THE STATE OF JOURNALISM TODAY

Your trusty editor missed one Thumb out of the reportage from the Winter Coupe contest in Pensacola. My bad. Frank Perkins, a new Thumb, dropped me a line and corrected the omission. He did rather well, winning P-30 and scoring a second in CLG and a third in HLG. He forwarded a photo of his glider fleet, which follows. I zoomed up the photos, and these are some very well built gliders. Welcome to our ranks!

Frank attended our April and May contests, coming from his new home in Tuscaloosa. (He's an Auburn man, BTW, so he's living in Injun country!) He likes our flying site and promises to

be a regular at the sod farm. Hopefully, he and Al won't get all liquored up one day and TP the hangar!

A PRECARIOUS BALANCE OF FORCES

Once again, Gary Baughman submits something for these humble pages that really strikes a chord for the work-a-day reality of this tired, old world. Contrary to the accepted wisdom that lift, drag, gravity and thrust holds sway in all matters aerodynamic, he sets us straight with the following graphic. Was it not ever thus? Thanks again, Gary, you just made us all a little smarter



MAKING A LIST, CHECKING IT TWICE

Here's the club high point totals to date, through May. The numbers indicate there're many members in the mix with twelve on the board, and the issue is in doubt at this early juncture. Get tah yo whittlin'. The game's afoot.

Dohrman Crawford 16
David Mills 14
Frank Perkins 13
Karl Hube 10
Jim Altenbern 8
Bob Thoren 7

Bill Gowen 5
David Barfield 4
Frank Hodson 4
John Barker 3
Hayden Asworth 3
Gary Baughman 1

NEXT ISSUE

Expect something the first week of July. You'll find full reportage on the Peach State Indoor Champs and all our other contests in the interim. Also, look for a full pimping of the Muncie Nats. It's not that far off!

As always, feel free to pass along anything in the way of articles, photos, rants, or whatever. Don't make me work too hard! Ciao, y'all!

April Outdoor Contest Report

Wow, what a difference a year makes! Last year, the TTOMA club had the best weather of the year for the April contest. Our first meet of this year started with what the weatherman said was to be a cloudy, rainy, and blustery day. However, the weatherman is not always right, and the weather at the field had high clouds with a few peaks of sun, temps in the high 70's and breezes from the south at 5 to 10 mph. Obviously, the weather forecast scared a few people off, but we had six official flyers and had a great time and some good official flights. It was decided by the flyers that because of the wind speed and direction, maxes would be limited to 90 seconds. The club welcomed Frank Perkins, a new flyer from Tuscaloosa, who brought a good assortment of models. We got along great with him and hope he will be back for more contests. Also, we had Dean McGinnis from Dothan, and we're glad to see him. The rest of the club missed a pretty good flying day. So, don't believe everything the weatherman says. Come out to the May 26th contest and fly something. Now for the scores, Jim Altenbern, CD, reporting.

Dime Scale

Karl Hube B. Brownie 105
David Mills C. Airmaster 101

Earl Stahl MOY

David Mills Wildcat 186

A Nostalgia

Gary Baughman 227

SCat Jet

Karl Hube 59

P-30

Frank Perkins 270

HLG

Dohrman Crawford 125
Frank Perkins 113

Catapult Glider

Frank Perkins 199
Dohrman Crawford 167
David Mills 135
Karl Hube 113
Dean McGinnis 45

Old Goat Smackdown

Dohrman Crawford 256

May Daze Outdoor Contest

We had eleven contestants including one Junior, Hayden Asworth, Graham's grandson. Four contestants were from out of state, two from Alabama (Frank Perkins & Bob Thoren), Gary Morton from Tennessee and Jim Altenbern from South Carolina. Ten events were flown for a grand total of ninety "Official Flights". A total of sixty-three High Points were earned.

It was a beautiful day, even with wind shifting. We held our May club meeting and minutes will be published in our next newsletter. See y'all in June for two great days (6/22 FAC & 6/23 Everything Else) of fun and frolicking. Frank Hodson, CD, reporting.

AMA Hand Launch Glider (JSO)

Frank Perkins Sidewinder 264 sec
Dohrman Crawford Who Dat? 163 sec
Bob Thoren Twirly Bird 107 sec
Jim Altenbern Meercat 29 98 sec

AMA Catapult Glider (JSO)

Bob Thoren Schrodinger's Cat 253 sec
David Mills Straight Up 235 sec
Jim Altenbern Bo Weevil 172 sec
Frank Perkins Sidewinder 209 sec
Dohrman Crawford 194 sec

AMA P-30 (JSO)

Karl Hube Scorpion 360 sec
Jim Altenbern Airshark 272 sec
Dohrman Crawford Tail Firster 66 sec

AMA E-36 (JSO)

Hayden Asworth Amazoom 294 sec

FAC Dime Scale

David Mills Cessna Airmaster 126 sec
Karl Hube Bristol Brownie 15 sec

FAC SCAt Jet

David Barfield Bell Airacomet 132 sec
Karl Hube Hawker Hunter 3 sec

FAC Comet Phantom Flash

David Mills 333 sec (oos!)
Frank Hodson 30 sec

TTOMA Earl Stahl MOY

David Mills Wildcat 140 sec

FAC Embryo Endurance

Jim Altenbern Cruiser 144 sec

TTOMA Blue Ridge Special (OGSD)

Dohrman Crawford 253 sec
Frank Hodson 222 sec
Hayden Asworth 197 sec
Jim Altenbern 142 sec

Perryman HP Trophy Earned-5/13

Dohrman Crawford 9
Jim Altenbern 8
David Mills 9
Bob Thoren 7
Frank Perkins 6
Karl Hube 5
Frank Hodson 4
Hayden Asworth 3
David Barfield 2

Spirit Of Comet HP Earned-5/13

David Mills 2
Frank Hodson 1

Scale HP Earned-5/13

David Mills 3
Karl Hube 2
David Barfield 2

Earl Stahl MOY HP Earned-5/13

David Mills 1

Tail Spin is a commercial friend of TTOMA
tailspinaviation.com

Campbell's Custom Kits is a commercial friend
of TTOMA

campbellcustomkits.com

April Outdoor Scenes



May Outdoor Scenes



April Meeting Minutes

Vice President Jim Altenbern called the meeting to order at 12:30PM on April 27, 2013 at the North Georgia Turf Farm. Seven members were present.

Treasurer's Report

Because there have been no meetings since November of 2012, a brief Treasury review was presented by Karl Hube. As of January, 2013, the club balance was \$ X,XXX.XX. Since the beginning of the year, banquet award expenses, AMA fees paid plus income from member dues, as well as contest entry fees have brought the current balance to \$X,XXX.XX. It was noted that \$150.00 of AMA fees included the club charter renewal, as well as site insurance for both the North Georgia Turf Farm and St Luke's indoor facility. David Mills made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented, and Dohrman Crawford gave a second. The motion was approved unanimously.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the November, 2012 meeting were read. David Mills made a motion to accept the minutes, and Frank Perkins gave a second, followed by a unanimous vote to the motion.

Old Business

The matter of AMA memorial bricks was re-introduced, based on several discussions in 2012. David Mills volunteered to talk to AMA during his attendance at this year's Nationals this summer to see if we can get flexible pricing and to inspect the brick installation.

At the end of 2012, there was still an open matter of what we can do to produce new TTOMA T-shirts. Last fall, David Barfield located a company named Colorado Timberline that was considered to be a source for printing shirts. Exact costs and quantity requirements are still unknown.

New Business

David Mills reminded the attendees about the passing of long-time member Don Peacock. There will be a memorial service at Don's residence on Saturday, May 11 at 6:00PM.

David Mills encouraged the members to start considering candidates for next year's Model of the Year and Event of the year. David is a supporter of using one of the British Lightweights as Model of the Year. Attendees discussed the idea of using the Blue Ridge Special "Old Goat Smack Down" as Event of the Year, given the great performance of the models and the simplicity of construction. No action was requested or required at this point.

There being no further business to conduct, David Mills made a motion to adjourn. Dohrman Crawford made a second with a unanimous supporting vote. The meeting adjourned at 1:15PM. Respectfully submitted, Karl Hube, secretary/treasurer, reporting.

May Meeting Minutes

President David Barfield called the May, 2013 meeting to order at 12:30 pm at the North Georgia Turf Farm with eleven members present.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Karl Hube reported that the starting balance for the reporting period was \$XXXX.XX , and that there were no expenses during the period. There was a deposit of \$50.00 from entry fees at the April indoor contest. There were no expenses during the reporting period, and the final balance was

\$X,XXX.XX. David Mills made a motion to accept the finance report as presented, and Frank Hodson gave a second to the motion. The member vote was unanimous.

Secretary's Report

Minutes from the April, 2013 meeting were read by Karl Hube. David Mills made a motion to accept the minutes as read, and Jim Altenbern gave a second. Members voted unanimously to accept the report.

Old Business

The subject of new TTOMA club shirts was renewed, and David Barfield reported that the possible source at Colorado Timberline was not acceptable because of high prices and large quantity requirements. The next step will be to check at AMA HQ to see if they have a suggestion of a source.

Bob Thoren reminded members of the upcoming Fiesta of Five Flags in Pensacola on June 8 and 9.

Read of April minutes reminded members to consider their choices for the 2014 Event of the Year and the Model of the Year. It was mentioned that the popular Blue Ridge Special used in the Old Goat Smackdown would a good Model of the Year. However, Frank Hodson suggested that something different should be chosen since the BRS was already a regular part of the club flying schedule. No final action on this matter is needed until later in the year.

A general discussion questioned our farm gate lock dilemma, as it appears that the club lock has been removed from the lower entry gate. Jim Altenbern reported that he was on the farm on Saturday afternoon to practice when he met Shane Holt, who is farm manager. Mr. Holt did not know what had happened to the club lock, but he was glad to work with us to eliminate previous lock problems. Toward that end, he stated that he would keep a key to our lock in his truck and another in the office. Karl Hube will buy a new lock and have several spare keys made for CD's, as well as the farm staff. The lock and keys will be hand-delivered soon.

New Business

David Mills reported that he had been asked by Glenda to clear away the models and other stuff from the workshop of the late Sandy Downs with the provision that it goes go to people who would use them. Members should contact David, if they are interested. David Barfield said that he could archive the plans from Sandy's collection which included several large power models.

Frank Hodson complimented Jim Altenbern's effort to refresh and overhaul the CD kit which made the CD's job easier. Frank asked that competitors to mark their score sheets with any specialty requirements, such as when a model is eligible for extra credit like Comet models or Earl Stahl designs.

Frank Hodson brought up the point that the club website needs refreshing. Karl Hube will contact Bill Gowen, who knows how the site operates, to see how we can add new material to the site on an ongoing schedule. Frank Perkins suggested that a Facebook page might be a good solution to adding ongoing club material, while keeping basic information about the club on a fixed website. This is a new approach that will be explored.

It was asked if indoor points were included in the High Point total. David Mills confirmed that indoor and outdoor points are combined toward High point. However, as there are very few official flights posted in the indoor flying sessions, at present indoor points are not currently a big influence in the totals.

There being no further business to conduct, David Mills made a motion to adjourn, and Dohrman Crawford made a second. The supporting vote was unanimous, and the meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm. Respectfully submitted, Karl Hube, secretary/treasurer.

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)
FIL
F1D—regional qualifier
Helicopter
35 cm
A-6

TTOMA: Chattahoochee Challenge

Hangar Rat
Mass Launches:
Hangar Rat
WW I
WW II
Racer
Civilian
Phantom Flash

FAC: Dime Scale
Peanut Scale
Rubber Scale
No-Cal Scale
Embryo
Phantom Flash

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