

**The THUMB PRINT**  
**Thermal Thumbers of Metro Atlanta**

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AMA Charter # 1834  
 FLYING ACES club  
 SAM  
 TFFS

## May-June, 2019

### HEADS UP

Welcome to the year's third issue. It's pithy with newsworthy items. We've several more contest reports within, news of our fellow Thumbs' endeavors hither and yon and select contributions from the membership. A salute to Frank Perkins, Josh Finn, Jim Juliano, Gary Morton, Nick Ray and Savannah Canady, thusly recognized. You'll find an update on the club's high point tourney. We run the flyer for the upcoming Chattahoochee Challenge again for your further note and nag. Make plans to attend. This contest is well-publicized in the national media, and we anticipate a good turnout like last year. We correct an error of omission with the publication of a very good piece from Gary Morton on the FAC's WW I Combat event that should've been in the last newsletter. Oopsie! Ciao, y'all.

### RENEWAL NAG

OK, this one goes out to the slackers. You know who you are. Stroke that membership check to Karl "Karats" Hube, signed on the line that is dotted and mail it to the address indicated. The membership form follows. Eyes on you!

### THINGS TO DO, PLACES TO BE, PEOPLE TO SEE

This year's remaining indoor and outdoor contest dates follow. We're in the thick of it now. It's not like we don't give you things to do on the weekends. So, glue some sticks together and show up somewhere with a model airplane.

June 22-23: outdoor contest, NGA Turf Farm, Chattahoochee Challenge

June 29: indoor contest, St. Lukes

July 20: indoor contest, St. Lukes

July 21: outdoor contest. NGA Turf Farm, Southern Fried Fiesta

Aug. 5-9: AMA Outdoor Nats, Muncie, IN

Aug. 18: outdoor contest, NGA Turf Farm, Fizzle while you Sizzle

Aug. 24: indoor contest, St. Lukes

Sept. 28: indoor contest, St. Lukes, revised

Sept. 22: outdoor contest, NGA Turf Farm, Summer Swan Song

Oct. 26: indoor contest, St. Lukes, revised

Oct. 6: outdoor contest, NGA Turf Farm, Last Fling til Spring

Nov. 3: outdoor contest, NGA Turf Farm, Turkey Shoot

Nov. 16: indoor contest, St. Lukes, revised

Dec. 7: indoor contest, St. Lukes

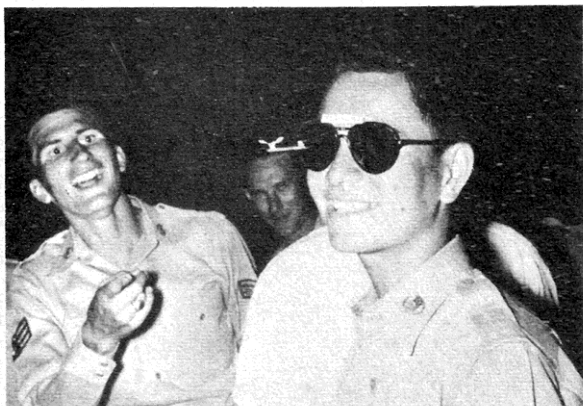
Jan. 18, 2020: indoor contest, St. Lukes

Jan. 25, 2020: TTOMA annual banquet

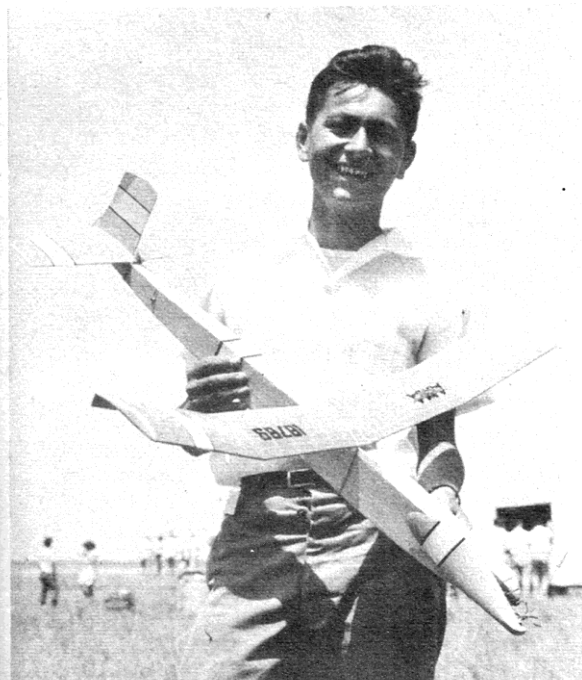


### THUMBS ON THE MARCH III

Your trusty editor is still trying to get some “organization” to his hoard of old model magazines. Not than I’m complaining. It’s only a matter of time before I run across something cool. The two photos that follow are an example. They were found in the 1967 *Air Trails Model Annual*. They feature two photos of our known Jim Juliano from the 1956 Air Force International Championships held at Ellington AFB in Texas. Yes, we were all young once, including Jim!



“Thermal” eye glasses were designed so timer can keep your plane in sight for full 6 minutes. Designer Jim Juliano demonstrates.



Jovial James L. Juliano, A/2c from Robbins, Ga., AFB, holds first place Unlimited Rubber winner; combined with Wakefield.

### THUMBS IN ERROR

Frankly, your trusty editor isn’t always so trusty. Earlier this year Gary Morton provided these offices with a long article on the Chattahoochee Challenge’s special WW I Mass Launch event. He held forth on this or that aspect of the event and presented a plan of the prize-winning Junker CL. 1 from our OFB Ollie Benton, plus 3-V documentation. It follows at the end of this newsletter because I forgot to put it in the last newsletter. Oopsie!

The Junkers CL. 1 and its hangar mate the D.1, a single-seat fighter variant, are very historic and forwarding looking aircraft by Junkers and were introduced late in the so-called Great War. Even a quick look at either shows just how prescient the Junker engineers were. All the vital check-off items in the world’s later fighter and ground attack aircraft are there. Heralded as the “Tin Donkey” by the Kaiser’s pilots at the time, faint praise that, its place in history is assured, nonetheless.

### THUMBS IN PRINT

The latest issue of the NFFS digest has more than its fair share of Thumbs therein. Josh Finn’s mug graces the cover, along with his 800-squinch, monstrous Hand Launch Stick design, *Hourglass II*. The photo of the launch of same is shot at the West Baden atrium during lunch, and Millennials can actually be seen ignoring their dumb phones! High praise that.

Frank Perkins also publishes a fine article with a plan and photos of his Nats-winning Small Mulvihill Rubber design, *miniMUL 1.5*. Frank is a modest man and would probably be embarrassed at the following accolade. Namely, his line of designs for this category has an unsurpassed record at the USOC Muncie Nats since the event’s inception. The model can be seen therein dressed in the glorious splendor of this Auburn grad’s martial colors of blue and orange, if you’re a NFFS member, that is. If not, join. The form follows. You know who you are. Eyes on you!

## THUMBS IN THE MARKETPLACE

Josh and Hope Finn have added a delightful new item to their product line. It's a Chi-com, rubber-powered Free Flight RTF that has to be seen to be believed. Check out the photo. The "P1B-1 Sky Voyager" is really something to see and a contender for the best Free Flight RTF ever, IMHO. It's obviously the product of a real model flier and production smarty pants. The list of inexplicable cool items carried aloft is pretty impressive: a well-engineered folding prop with Montreal stop, molded tube fuselage, a fine closed-cell wing of 24 in. wingspan (I'm guessing) with a good airfoil and elliptical dihedral and an empennage with the right moments and areas. And to think of all the firms that tried to do this and didn't get it right. Good grief! The introductory price is twenty-five dollars, American. For more info contact Josh at: <http://jhaerospace.com/product/p1b-1-sky-voyager-model-b/>

It's too bad they injection-molded all the plastic widgets in orange. Red would've looked so much better.



## AN INTERIM RECKONING

The first effects of the outdoor flying season's results are in and are accumulated below. Yes, a bevy of additional fliers is added, and there's been a shuffling of the leaders. Such is to be expected. A bit under half of the year's flying is done and in the books, thusly rendered. The game's afoot.

Hope Finn	35	Lee Russell	9
Dohrman Crawford	31	Jim Altenbern	9
Josh Finn	30	David Barfield	6
Richard Schneider	27	David Mills	6
Doug Demasie	20	Karl Hube	4
Frank Perkins	16	James Martin	4
James Conery	15	Dan Crews	2
Nick Ray	12	Gary Morton	1
Bill Gowen	10		

## NEXT ISSUE

Look for something by late June or early July. It'll carry the full recount of the Chattahoochee Challenge along with photos, as well as any other contests in the interim. We'll also do a full pinging of the upcoming USOC Muncie Nats. Expect to be encouraged to attend and invited to stay at Camp David, too.

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



**Chattahoochee Challenge June 22-23, 2019**  
**Sponsored by the Thermal Thumbers of Metro Atlanta**  
**And FAC Squadron 57 Phantom Squadron**



**Saturday 8:00-5:00**

**FAC Rubber Scale\***

**Jimmy Allen**

**Simplified Scale**

**Jet Catapult Scale\*\***

**P-30**

**Embryo\*\***

**No Cal**

**Blue Ridge Special NBM**

**WW1 Mass Launch 11:00#**

**Golden Age Mass Launch 1:00**

**\*Single Engine Planes only**

**\*\*Judging done the day of the event**

**#Combat/Observation monoplanes permitted, no high wing or parasol models.**

**RULES: 1. All events will be flown to either AMA or FAC rules depending on which organization supports the event. Sod Farm is a Cat 3 field. The CD will determine if modified rules for maxes will be needed due to the weather. Any modifications will be communicated at the beginning of each day.**

**2. FAC Rubber and GHQ Peanut will be the average of three flights.**

**3. A plane that qualifies for both Jimmy Allen and 2 Bit+1 may be flown in either event, but not both.**

**4. Judged planes and documentation should be brought to the HQ table between 9:00 and 12:00.**

**5. All fly offs will be a Mass Launch.**

**AWARDS: Ceremony between 3:30 and 4:00 Sunday. Certificates given for first 3 places. Points awarded to contestants for placing they had in events entered.**

**Prizes awarded based on total points obtained.**

**CONTEST DIRECTORS: Jim Altenbern [jaltenbern0705@charter.net]**

**Gary Morton. [gmorton@centurytel.net]**

**Directions to sod farm can be found at [www.thermalthumbers.com](http://www.thermalthumbers.com). NGTurf, 1487 Black Dirt RD, Whitesburg, GA 30185**

**Sunday 8:00-3:00**

**FAC Rubber Scale\***

**GHQ Peanut Scale\*\***

**2Bit+1**

**Dime Scale\*\***

**CLG**

**Embryo NBM**

**Phantom Flash**

**Blue ridge Special**

**WW2 Mass Launch 11:00**

**Combined Racer ML 1:00**

## 2019 APRIL FOOLS OUTDOOR CONTEST

We could have celebrated just being able to have an April contest because the last two years had the season opener rained out! A dozen flyers signed in and ten posted 84 official scores while the other two fellows used the day to work on trimming new or repaired models. Looking back at past April score sheets showed that this year had the best attendance in a very long time.

Everyone was really pleased to see Frank Perkins return to the field. Most of you know that Frank was injured in a traffic accident in Tuscaloosa early last year. His recovery has been a slow, steady process that kept him off the field through the entire 2018 season. The layoff didn't dampen his skills as he came storming back with max-out performances in both catapult glider and P-30.

It was fun to have new member Joe Richards on the field getting his first look at what is flown these days after a long break from models. I think Joe caught P-30 and BRS fever!! Give him a hand when you can and he'll be in the competition fight very soon.

The weather was very flyable although the wind picked up earlier than expected and the direction was not helpful. The first P-30 flight of the day showed that a two minute flight was almost off the field, so maxes were reset to 60 seconds for CLG and 90 seconds for all other classes. Three non-DT models were lost including two Blue Ridge Special models and a CLG on a quick "test flight."

It was a great start to the 2019 outdoor season!!! Karl Hube, CD & Keeper of the Scramble Scores, reporting. Here are the scores for the day:

Event	Model	Name	Flt 1	Flt 2	Flt 3	Flt 4	Flt 5	Flt 6	Total
BRS	BRS	James Altenbern	123	177	166	OOS			466
BRS	BRS	Dohrman Crawford	27	64	99				190
BRS	BRS	David Barfield	68	80	23				171
BRS	BRS	Doug DeMaise	43	50	57				150
CLG	Sidewinder	Frank Perkins	49	60	60	60			180
CLG	Pathfinder	Dohrman Crawford	35	32	20	29	28	60	127
CLG	Catapiglet	James Altenbern	34	43	39	35	36	39	121
CLG	Boll Weevil	Doug DeMaise	39	28	33				100
CLG	Adela	James Conery	17	4	9	26	35	26	87
CLG	CC-8	Lee Russell	7	11	10	11	5	2	32
CLG	Neptune	James Martin	14						14
No Cal	Fairy Barracuda	James Martin	106	48	63				217
No Cal	Chambermaid	Karl Hube	59	98					157
P-30	P-30	Frank Perkins	90	90	90				270
P-30	Speckled Bird	James Conery	88	69	90				247
P-30	wwt.P-30.max	David Mills	46	70					116
P-30	Teacher's Pet	Doug DeMaise	33	37	46				116
P-30	Speckled Bird	James Martin	23	71					94

Phantom Flash Phantom Flash David Mills 59 59									
SCat Jet	Vampire	Dohrman Crawford	23	12	17	13	20	22	65
SCat Jet	Vampire	James Conery	12	17	18	9	12	19	54
SCat Jet	U2	Doug DeMaise	11	13	15				39
SCat Jet	Hawker Hunter	Karl Hube	8	13	14	7			35
Small Mulvihill wwt.smulvi.max David Mills 62 104 - - 166									

## MAY OUTDOOR CONTEST REPORT

As day of beauty, May 19 would be hard to beat. Early on, we had just wonderful conditions with very little drift. What drift there was went right up the field. Perfect. Not to mention the arrival of the DeMasies with their traditional load of cookies. I tested several to make sure that they were safe for the participants. These are definitely Five Star Cookies! Thank You!

Then the wind came. It blew hard enough that only short fuses kept planes on the field. I had an 80 second P-30 flight that ended up about 100 yards short of the river, and that's going the length of the field. Later a wind shift moved airplanes more to the NE, and my Square Eagle max went beyond Black Dirt Road and far up into the hay. Only Frank Perkins showed his Texas wind flying roots by getting 3 maxes in P-30. SCat Jet was an exercise in frustration, and with the wind getting stronger, we decamped around 4pm.

Minor note for the players. Please write down your scores on your score sheets! We need those official flights. Everyone please try to make it to next month's big FAC contest. We could use fliers in WW1, Golden Age, Jimmy Allen. Plenty of time to get something built! Think of the cookies! Respectfully submitted, CD and cub reporter Dohrman Crawford, reporting. Here are the scores.

### P-30

Frank Perkins Huevos con Queso 360  
D. Crawford Square Eagle 291  
Jim Conery Speckled Bird 176  
Doug DeMasie Hieronymus Bosch 169

### Blue Ridge Special

Doug DeMasie 226

### FAC Racer

Gary Morton Chambermaid 134

### SCat Jet

David Barfield P-59 66  
Jim Conery Vampire 50  
Doug DeMasie U-2 45  
D. Crawford Vampire 44

### Catapult Glider

Doug DeMasie 89

### Phantom Flash

David Mills 81

## MAY INDOOR CONTEST REPORT

We had 9 flyers attend the May indoor contest. For a holiday weekend I thought that was a pretty good turnout. Classes ranged from Hangar Rat to Hand Launched Stick. As usual Doug DeMasie and his wife brought some delicious cookies. It's worth your while to attend just for the cookies. Josh Finn was putting up some nice times with his Pennyplane kit model. A great kit that has plenty of potential. I hope to see everyone in June. CD Lee Russell, reporting.

Hangar Rat

Dohrm Crawford 1:59+2:14+2:04= 6:17

D Demasie 0:59+1:24+1:24=3:47

R Schneider 0:59+1:07+1:06=3:12

Chattahoochie Challenge

R Schneider 1:15+1:40+1:33=4:28

No-Cal Scale

R Schneider Piper Cub 4:09

Hope Finn unknown 3:45

Josh Finn unknown 1:56

Dime Scale

R Schneider 0:39+0:43+0:45=2:07

Limited Pennyplane (best 1/5)

Josh Finn 9:04+9:34+9:08--9:34

Dan Crews 4:23+3:57+4:31--4:23

Ministick(best 1/5)

Nick Ray 6:09+7:22+8:49+2:00--8:49

Unlimited Catapult Glider (best 2/9)

Josh Finn 8.1+20.7+25.6+23.7--49:3

Hope Finn 23.5+19.5+21.9+22.0+5.3--43.52

A-6

Hope Finn 4:45

Hand Launched Stick

Josh Finn 35:43+36:53=72:36

**2019 TTOMA MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ AMA # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ State and Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Family Members and AMA # \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\$20.00/yr. for adults and other adult family members in same household. No charge all aged 19 yrs. old or less. Send check, payable to TTOMA, to Karl "Karats" Hube/104 Smith Forest Lane/ Alpharetta, GA 30004/770-886-0604.

<b>NFFS MEMBERSHIP &amp; RENEWAL APPLICATION</b>	<p>Mail to: NFFS Membership Office P.O. Box 74 Grosse Ile, MI 48138 USA</p> <p>Dues include a mandatory \$0.50 per year for NFFS membership.</p> <p><b>U.S. memberships (Age 19 &amp; over)</b>    <input type="checkbox"/> 2 years \$58.00 (\$18.00 Youth)    <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year \$30.00 (\$10.00 Youth)</p> <p>Youth: Age 18 &amp; under as of July 1 of the current year</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you desire <i>Digest</i> delivery via email. This saves valuable funds on printing/ mailing, and you get your <i>Digest</i> about 3 weeks sooner. As a bonus, the electronic version contains exclusive content in each issue.</p> <p><b>All Non-US Residents</b>    <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 <i>Digest</i> until membership runs out. Effective with May/June 2012 issues, all new/renewal international memberships will receive <i>Digest</i> electronically.</p> <p><b>Life Membership</b>    U.S. Residents    <input type="checkbox"/> \$500.00    <input type="checkbox"/> \$550.00 Non-US Residents</p> <p><b>First-Time or Lapsed (more than 1 year) Domestic Members</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Years for \$29    <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Years Youth for \$9    <input type="checkbox"/> International \$37.50</p> <p>Offer expires very soon...take advantage before it's gone.</p> <p><b>★ NFFS Foundation Donation ★</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Silver \$75    <input type="checkbox"/> Gold \$125    <input type="checkbox"/> Platinum \$250 or more \$ _____</p> <p><i>To help reduce expenses maintaining NFFS records, PLEASE renew for at least two years. Thank you!</i></p> <p>Check appropriate boxes below:</p> <p>New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change <input type="checkbox"/> Donation <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Amount: \$ _____ Current expiration date: Mo.-Yr. _____</p> <p><b>PLEASE PRINT VERY CLEARLY</b></p> <p>Name: _____    M / D / Y _____</p> <p>Address: _____    AMA#: _____</p> <p>City, State: _____    Zip: _____</p> <p>Telephone: _____</p> <p>Email Address: _____</p> <p>Send all renewals, address changes, applications, and membership questions to the Membership Office, email: &lt;martinr362@aol.com&gt;</p> <p>Please go to <a href="http://www.freeflight.org">www.freeflight.org</a> for credit card renewals.</p>
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# LET'S GET READY FOR THE WW I MASS LAUNCH AT THE CHATTAHOOCHEE CHALLENGE

Gary Morton

New this year at the Chattahoochee Challenge monoplanes will be able to engage in combat with the biplanes in the WW I Mass Launch. Although this provision has been in the rules for some time it is rarely used. As a result, the monoplanes available for combat are not well documented. Although I am not well versed in this area I have compiled a short list of the monoplanes that flew in combat. Since these were important planes, plans of them should be available on the internet. I'm sure there are others, as monoplanes were produced and tested throughout the war. Unfortunately, many of them were parasols which are not allowed under the current rules. I know there are plans and kits for some of these planes. A quick search on the internet ought to yield some choices. There are probably other monoplanes that are eligible.

## Some monoplanes that qualify for FAC WW I Mass Launch

- Fokker Eindecker E. III
- Brandenburg W.29 Sea Monoplane
- Morane-Saulnier Type L and Type N
- Junkers CL I and Dr I (single seat fighter variant)

## A Junkers CL I plan

The following plan was created by Ollie Benton who used this plan to build a Junkers CL I that won the FAC WW I mass launch at the 1997 non-Nats. His plane had a 20 in. wingspan. It is a fairly easy build. It was the first all metal airplane. The surface was corrugated. To simulate this, Ollie made an 8.5 x 11 in. sheet of parallel lines 1/8 in. apart on the computer with the lines running the long length of the paper. This was used to print the lines on silver tissue. The insignias were made and put on the usual way. (A jpeg file of this plan is available for those that message me for it-DM.)

## If a monoplane does not inspire you how about a biplane?

The fear of building a biplane is almost universal for flyers who have not experienced building them. They are not hard to build if you are careful in picking a plane that has certain features and you use a jig to set the top wing. They fly extremely well. At the recent FAC Nats the WW I event was well publicized for the sportsmanship shown by Wally Farrell. The fourth and final flight had Tom Nallen Jr. and Wally seeing their biplanes each fly over 2 minutes.

I'm going to suggest two biplanes each for a different reason. Both fly very well. The first is the Fokker DVII. If you are afraid of all the rigging in most biplanes the Fokker DVII is for you. This biplane has no rigging, except for the landing gear which is easy to do. There are many plans and kits available, and there is an almost an unlimited amount of color schemes. Make sure that the plan you pick has the bottom wing as a single piece. That way the incidence is set for the bottom wing where it fits into the opening along the bottom of the fuselage. It is then easy to make a jig to set the top angle. Everyone has a different opinion as to what the top wing incidence should be. I would suggest that you set it at the same angle as the bottom wing or a degree or two more than the bottom wing. I do not know which is best. Each combination seems to work, and I'm sure that is why there are so many opinions.

The second biplane is a Bristol Scout D. This probably is the easiest to build, and it is a great flyer. There are several plans floating around. There was a peanut plan from Lee's Hobbies published in a recent *FAC Club News*. Enlarge this plan to 20-21 in. and change the ribs to a flat bottom airfoil for a great flying biplane. If you get *Tailspin* you may already have Mike Nassise's plan of the same plane. I would also enlarge Mike's plan from a 16.4 to 20-21 in. wingspan. If you do not get *Tailspin*, he sells all of the plans that he has produced. There are over 100+ plans covering many of the FAC events flown (Dime Scale, No-Cal, WW II, Embryo, etc.). The list is almost three pages long and can be obtained by writing to him at 22



