



The THUMB PRINT

Thermal Thumbers Of Metro Atlanta

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Nov.-Dec., 2019

HEADS UP

Merry Christmas and welcome to the last issue of the year, and it's a whopper! We've several contest reports, closing out the 2019 contest schedule, and some important announcements came over the transom. The date for the 2020 AMA USOC outdoor Nats is set at July 27-31, as well as the AMA USIC indoor Nats at May 27-31. And there's more! Thumbs have gotten sick and made recoveries, gotten married, earned some face time in various media outlets and stepped up to volunteer for some vital Free Flight matters. Well done, everybody! Never a slacker, Dohrman Crawford also provides the tentative indoor and outdoor contest schedule. Adding to the drama, TTOMA's elected officials met for the annual meeting, holding forth on this or that, and the decisions follow. So, read up on the changes in store for 2020. Thanks to everybody for the news items, contest reports and all else that contributed to this monster. And a special thanks goes to the many members that provided photos to this visually rich issue: David Barfield, Dohrman Crawford, Frank Perkins, Jimmy Jordan and Jim Conery.

Also, Dohrman has organized the club's annual banquet at Petit Violettes this January 25, 2020, and the flyer with all the details follows. Everyone, mark plans to attend the banquet because we need to support the annual event. Not only is it good for the members to get together, but it also serves in no small way to repay our long-suffering wives, spouses, girlfriends, children, neighbors and friends for all the smells, dust, noises and missed honey-dos over the past year. Besides, taking him, her or them out for a nice meal might cut you some slack later on. You can try anyway!

In closing, the latest *Model Aviation* has a troublesome article about the latest shenanigans from the FAA. An accompanying letter from some of our friends in Congress to *Los Federales* on the AMA's behalf is re-printed in the caboose of this issue. Be sure to read both.

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

A PRE-EMPTIVE NAG

We'll keep this call for renewals all rainbows and unicorns—everything is beautiful. Just a friendly reminder, it's time to renew your TTOMA membership. The 2020 membership form follows for your use. Be a good Thumb and fill in the form provided, stroke that check signed on the line that is dotted, and mail it to Secretary/Treasurer Karl Hube at the address indicated. You'll be glad you did. No, eyes aren't on you quite yet, but you still know who you are.

THINGS TO DO, PLACES TO BE AND PEOPLE TO SEE

Dohrman Crawford has a "firm" commitment from St. Lukes on the following indoor dates. Be advised that our very good friends and supporters at St. Lukes are known to make changes from time to time, so be on guard for something of this nature. The year's outdoor dates also follow, but there're a few dates that aren't fixed quite yet. Ergo, there may also be changes here, too. So, stay tuned.

You'll probably be advised of any changes beforehand in this rag, or more urgently in our *Bulletin*. So, dust off that model airplane and throw some more fat onto the fire. The game's afoot.

Jan. 18, 2020: indoor contest, St. Lukes
Jan. 25, 2020: TTOMA annual banquet
Feb. 8 or 15: indoor contest, St. Lukes, will know soon
March 28: indoor contest, St. Lukes
April 18: indoor contest, St. Lukes
April 26: outdoor contest, NG Turf
May 17: outdoor contest, NG Turf
May 23: indoor contest, St. Lukes
May 27-31: USIC indoor Nats, Round Valley Dome, Eagar, AZ
June 13-14: outdoor contest, Chattahoochee Challenge, NG Turf
June 20: indoor contest, St. Lukes
July 5 or 12: outdoor contest, NG Turf, will know soon
July 18: indoor contest, St. Lukes
July 27-31: USOC AMA outdoor Nats, Muncie
August 9: outdoor contest, NG Turf
August 15: indoor contest, St. Lukes
Sept. 6: outdoor contest, NG Turf
Sept. 15: indoor contest, St. Lukes
Sept. 10-13: FAC Nats/Ted Dock, Muncie
Oct. 4: outdoor contest, NG Turf
Oct. 17: indoor contest, St. Lukes
Nov. 1: Turkey Shoot, NG Turf
Nov. 14: indoor contest, St. Lukes
Dec. 12: indoor contest, St. Lukes

THUMBS IN PRINT AND ON THE MARCH

The September-November issue of *FAC News* has a bit of coverage of the locals. A good blurb on the summer's Chattahoochee Challenge can be found therein, along with a big photo collage. Our models and the field looked pretty good. The issue's innards indicate Easy Dave Niedzielski did pretty well in the FAC Non-Nats, posting victories in Hi-Start Glider Scale and a second in Rubber Scale. He also made the cover with a shot minding the Easy Built Models store in a Geneseo hangar, the ever vigilant cottage capitalist. Well done, sir.

Also, the November-December issue of *FAC News* has Easy Dave and Gary Morton traveling up to Muncie in September for the FAC Outdoor Champs and the Ted Dock Memorial contest. Both did pretty well. Easy Dave scored a first in Scale Towline and a second in Embryo. Easy Dave did OK at the Ted Dock with a second in Embryo, and Gary scored a second in Thompson/Greve and Dime Scale and a third in Old Time Rubber Fuselage. Unfortunately, the contest results were only posted down the third place, so we can assume there was more drama than indicated. The two-contest week contest has some weather challenges, too, but the several dozen fliers did a lot of flying. Well done, sirs.

Additionally so inscribed, our well-traveled Easy Dave and Gary enjoyed some success at the later Barron Field Air Races in Wawaywanda, NY. Easy Dave won a first in Scale Towline with his well-traveled Slingsby Prefect and a second in Catapult Jet Scale. As before, results were only recorded down to three places, so let's assume there was additional action galore. Likewise, well done again, sirs.

THUMBS IN SERVICE

This just in from Dohrman: "I'm the Chair of the Model of the Year Committee of the National Free Flight Society (NFFS) Annual 2020 Symposium Report. Our committee is very interested in finding out which designs or innovations impressed you most in 2019. We're looking for innovation, excellence in design, craftsmanship, and/or a stellar contest record. Models in consideration shall have been built and flown recently, not in decades past.

"We have an excellent committee of expert modelers who will select the winners from those nominated. The winners will be presented in the Sympo to be published this summer and made available through NFFS.

“I would like nominations in Scale, FAI Outdoor, AMA Outdoor, and AMA/FAI Indoor. We will also consider new Free Flight technology, techniques or devices that are revolutionary and important. Any Free Flight modeler of any country is free to make a nomination or receive the award.

“Send your nominations to Dohrman Crawford at tum25@bellsouth.net. Thank you in advance for your help. If you’ve any questions or need of additional information, please contact me.”

THUMBS ON THE MOVE

This just in from proud grandfather Jimmy Jordan: “Matthew Canady, my grandson, turns 18 today. Happy Birthday, Matthew! Matthew has been flying rubber powered airplanes for half his life with memberships in the Academy of Model Aeronautics, Flying Aces Club, Carolina Area Free Flight Association, and Thermal Thumbers of Metro Atlanta. He is a senior in high school and over the years has won a number of medals in Science Fair and Science Olympiad competitions with projects based on free flight airplanes or rubber as a power source. Last year he was inducted into his high school’s chapter of the National Technical Honor Society. After high school he plans to continue his education and earn his Airframe and Powerplant License. He wants to work on airplanes!

“The photos show his progress. First model at age 9 (a Peck ROG) and an introductory flight simulator lesson with Blue Line Aviation at 17. Thanks to all of you, our Free Flight friends, who have been a part of Matthew's journey. He has become a fine young man and I am proud of him!

“Best regards, Jimmy Jordan.”



THUMBS HITCHED

As previously announced, Robert Marier and Brooke Lindsay were married on schedule last September, and what a delightful ceremony it was, too. A number of Thumbs attended. The marriage ceremony itself went amazingly breezily. Apparently, the Methodists of Cartersville don’t mess around with the major business at hand. We were soon ushered into the nearby Booth Western Museum for the reception and allowed to walk around the closed museum for over an hour. It was a solid surprise all around. As luck would have it, there was a Warhol exhibition on the top floor, an unexpected treat. Needless to say, if you’re in the Cartersville area with some time on your hands, check it out.

The brisk brevity of the ceremony didn’t carry over to the reception, however. It went on late and took a lot of doing, if you get my drift. The spread was first rate and the open bar, convenient. The DJ soon had things hopping. (Methodists and Catholics are better dancers than Baptists, less guilt, I presume.) It was a great sendoff to the young couple’s journey. Brooke looked absolutely dreamy, a triumph of the genetic code. (Nice pull, brother!) Robert, well, he didn’t embarrass himself and filled out that tuxedo in a reputable fashion.



THUMBS ON THE MEND

Gary Baughman suffered a serious injury the morning of the Turkey Shoot. He fell down some stairs loading his car. No mere ankle twist here, rather, two broken vertebrae and cracked ribs. However, being a stout-hearted lad, he was out of the hospital in a few days and is hitting the rehab hard. He says he's doing great, and feeling very aggravated about the whole thing. A quick and full recovery is expected.

THE RULES, THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'

The latest round of Flying Aces Club rules changes are out and in immediate effect. The full blurb can be viewed in detail on their website. Only three changes seem of major consequence. First, a minimum weight of five grams, minus rubber, is in effect for the Phantom Flash event. I agree with its stated purpose, namely to prevent the event with being an expert's exercise. Five grams is a good weight, "easily" attained by doing a little wood selection and other measures.

Second, they've broadened the idea of "tissue" covered surfaces to include Polyspan, a synthetic fabric. I agree with their reasoning, although I can't think of a use for something this heavy in scale work. It might find a use in some of the larger duration events. No harm in this, so why not? Lightweight Polyspan isn't mentioned specifically, but I **assume** it's OK for use.

Lastly, Simplified Scale has undergone a reasonable change to popularize the event and increase contest flexibility. Basically, the minimum wingspan limit is no more; ergo, it has an unlimited wingspan now. So, if your *ersatz* Dimer doesn't exactly have the structure required and might be more detailed, you and CDs have the option of putting it into Simplified Scale. There's some serious fine print that's still in effect, so you're advised to read that boilerplate over again.

THE RANKS, THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'

About once a year, I delve into the FAC Kanone List and publish the latest ranks for the club's membership and friends thereto. As in years past, there's been a slow move upward for everyone. Hats off to David Barfield and Dohrman Crawford for earning their Blue Maxes since the last ranking published here. Note the twenty (20!) of us Thumbs on the active list having earned kanones. It strikes me as a high percentage for any FAC squadron, considering our diverse interests. Well done, sirs.

Air Marshall

Dave Niedzielski 85

Major General

Josh Finn 34

Gary Morton 33

Dean McGinnis 30

Colonel

David Mills 21

Lt. Colonel

David Barfield 17

Dohrman Crawford 16

Major

Hope Finn 10

Karl Hube 10

Captain

Jim Conery 9

Gary Baughman 8

Mathew Canady 6

Lieutenant

Jim Altenbern 4

Brook Dixon, Sr. 3

Jim Jennings 3

Ed Hardin 2

Richard Schneider 2

Al Pardue 2

James Martin 1

Barry Sholder 1

After many years of "urging" on this editor's and others part, the FAC Memorial List is accurate for two years in a row! Thusly enshrined, peruse the following roll call of our departed friends. They're all missed.

Wayne Brock 50
Oscar Smith 21
George Perryman 20
John Barker 18
Don Peacock 2
Frank Hodson 1

HORSES FOR COURSES

At the October outdoor contest David Barfield brought out his lovely “Echo” P-30 model built long ago from the kit by late Ken Grubbs. I believe it was of the first laser cut kit seen by many of us. Ken saw the need for a true beginner’s kit, that is, a kit that was easy to build and also suitable for a variety of events. If memory serves, Ken and I had a chat those many years ago about rules for this or that current category, and it was designed with this in mind.

Dohrman Crawford and I gave it a long look in nostalgic appreciation. Dohrman asked me if it was eligible for Moffett, Small Mulvihill and whatever else. Well, I’ve an old kit and went over the plan one evening with a ruler, calculator and No. 3 Ticonderoga. The results for other categories follow:

Moffett

Yes, it’s eligible for Moffett and good to go, as is. Its fuselage cross-section comes in right on the money. (Thanks, Ken!) The landing gear allows the required rise-off-table launch. However, relieved of P-30 prop and rubber limitation, a larger folding prop and more motor could be used to good effect. I’d go with something in the 10-to-12 inch diameter and 8-to-10 strand range.

Small Mulvihill

As far as Small Mulvihill goes, the plan makes the landing gear removable, so you want and hand-launch it. The same folding prop could be used, along with a well-braided motor no larger than 20 grams. Be advised, a 20-grammer might not fit even with artful braiding.

Mulvihill

The only limitation here is the 300 squinch projected wing area limit, so employ any combination of the foregoing bits and take a shot at it. Picking thermals would help, for sure. At the very least, this flight line will offer a bird’s eye view of how the big boys do it. A little ambition is a fine thing.

Coupe

The only requirement here is the 10-gram motor limit, so you could fly it as a box-stock P-30. A better move might be using the well traveled (by now) folding prop, using a thicker motor cross-section (a shorter motor peg location is shown on the plan) and foregoing the landing gear. Flight line, ambition, etc.

Dawn Unlimited

Why not? The motor is enclosed inside the fuselage, the only rule bearing on the matter. So, have at it. Be sure to set your alarm clock. If it’s at the USOC Muncie Nats, Dohrman will buy you breakfast at the 12th St. Café.

ROW Rubber

OK, we’re well in the weeds now, but you could attach some floats and have a go. Why not? You might want to look at this issue’s “Bim-Bam” plan for inspiration on same. The sodden ROW guys at the Nats have a ball, and there’s always a good story or two.

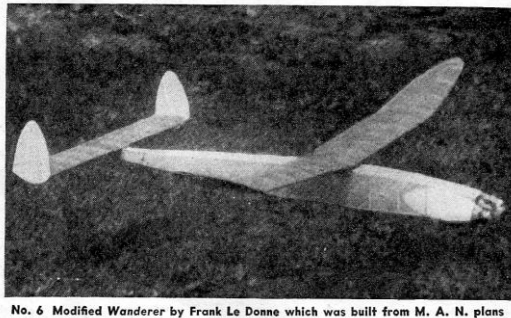
Hi-Start and Classic Towline Glider

No Shine-ola here, y’all! The plan shows modifications for towline glider suitable for both events. Why not?

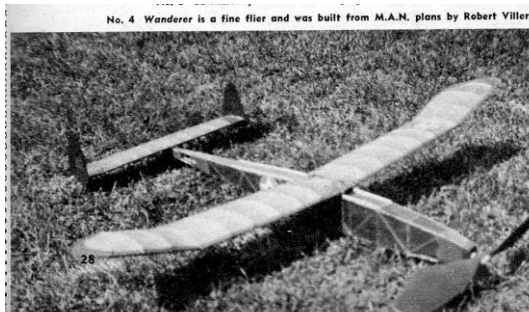
TREASURE TROVE

We resurrect our foray into the past after a few issue’s absence. However, this installment wasn’t the result of idle time thumbing through old magazines. Rather, it’s the result of being consulted on the date for the introduction of the “Dyna-Moe” by Wally Simmers by members of the NFFS Rubber Committee. (Earlier in the year, Dohrman and I realized we were on it! Who knew?) That date was quickly settled righteously by others, namely being kitted before WW II.

Afterward, Chairman Don DeLoach and I swapped a few messages about this or that. I mentioned some long-stashed, period photos of the “Wanderer”, a popular Small NosRub model, showing a folding prop and diagonal fuselage braces, both worthy enhancements. Long story short, the changes were approved. (Archivist can find the former in the April, 1949 *Model Airplane News* issue and the latter in the Sept., 1947 issue of same.) These photos follow for your files, so go ahead and replace that “Wanderer” freewheeler with a folder, presumably of the same 12.5 inch diameter, and add some diagonals while you’re at it. (Word is Jim O’Reilly is updating his already fine CAD plan of same.) There the matter sat for a few days.



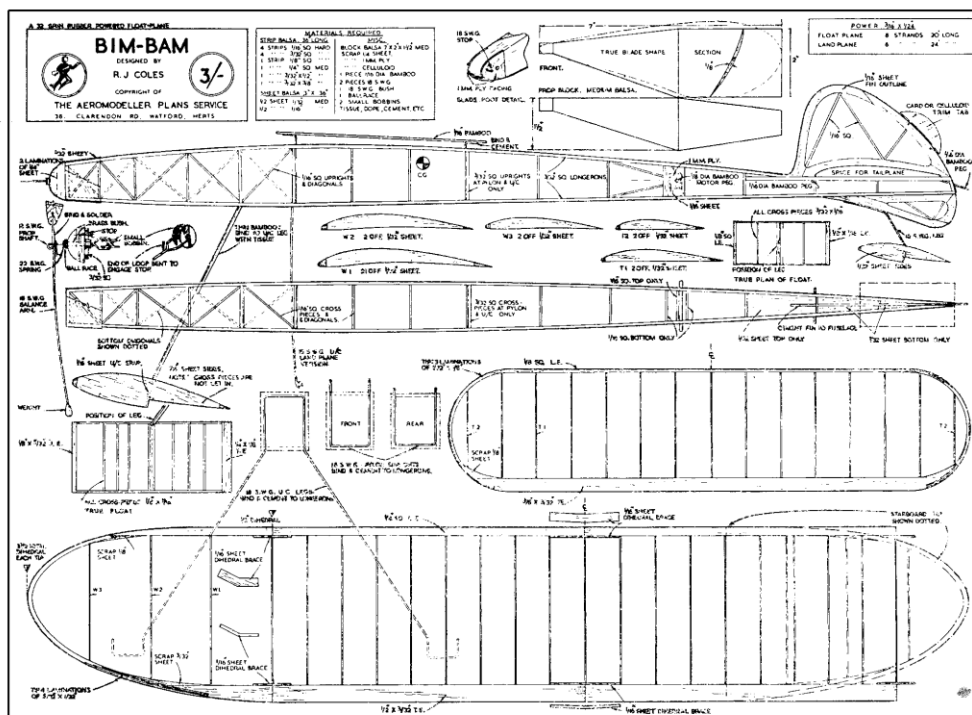
No. 6 Modified Wanderer by Frank Le Donne which was built from M. A. N. plans



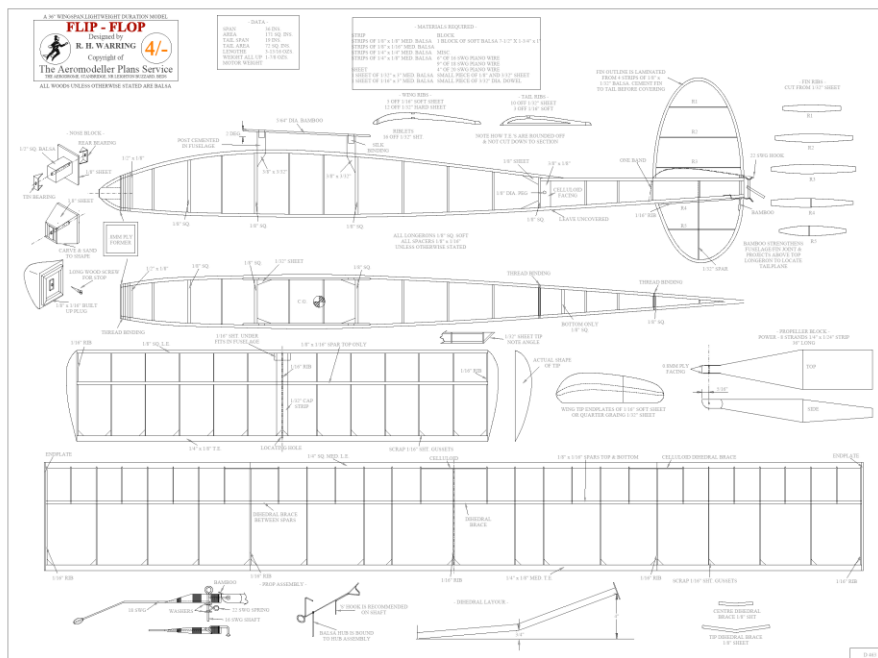
No. 4 Wanderer is a fine flier and was built from M.A.N. plans by Robert Villeris

Embroiled in another matter with colleagues Sergio Montes and Andrew Longhurst of *Free Flight Quarterly*, I mentioned the “Wanderer” developments, and that I now might have a great Small NosRub stable mate for my veteran “Last Resort”. Andrew chimed in with recommendations of three designs he preferred over the “Last Resort” based on much personal contest experience across the pond. He also provided the following relevant plans from old *Aeromodeller* issues: namely, “Bim-Bam” by J. R. Coles (Feb., 1955), “Flip-Flop” by Ron Warring (Feb., 1952) and “Yardstick” by Brian Faulkner (Oct., 1953). All are intriguing and worthy of a good look. Unfortunately, the fine print indicates only the “Bim-Bam” falls under Small NosRub’s 150 squinch projected wing area limit. Alas, the other two come in over.

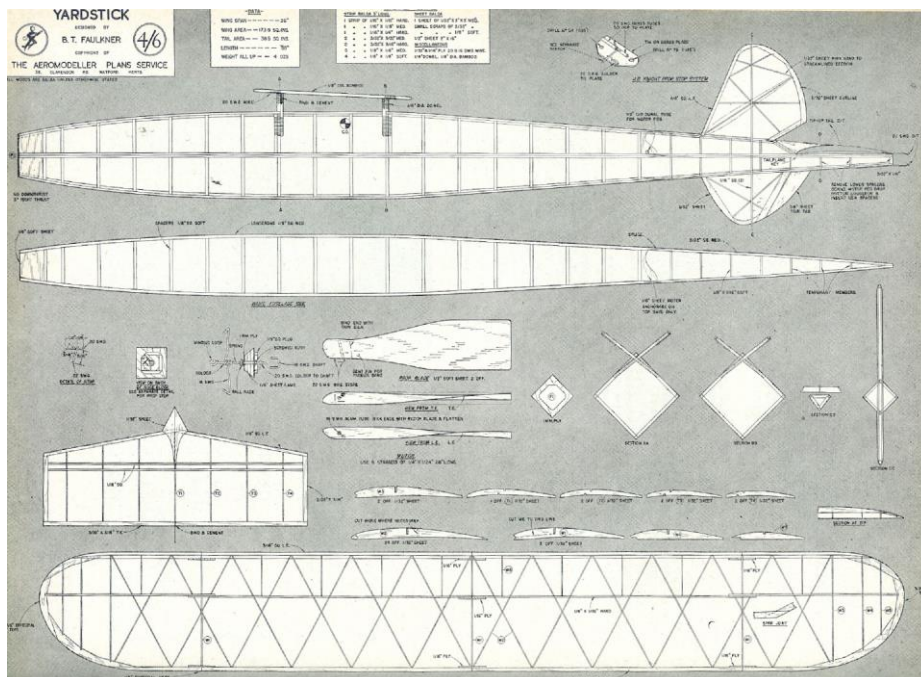
First, we have the “Bim-Bam”, and it offers much. All areas and moments agree. Landlubbers needn’t fret the floats and focus on the single landing gear option mounted below the wing leading edge station. The structure is lightly drawn enough to allow a very beneficial airframe/rubber weight ratio. The wing is sparless, but the leading and trailing edges sport enough cross-section to ease strength concerns. The wing airfoil looks lovely, almost Benedek-ish, as does the stab’s conventionality. The broad, single-bladed folder should churn the air well enough. Overall, nothing offends the eye or vexes the mind. This bird will fly and look good doing it.



Next, we have the two designs that unfortunately are in excess of the Small NosRub's maximum projected wing area limit by a dozen squinches or more. Ergo, they'd fly cheek-to-jowl with the redoubtable likes of Chet Lanzo's "1948 Class D Stick", E. Bennett's 1953 "Thin Man" and the many redoubtable Wakefields of the era. Regardless, when eagles dare!



Regardless, we present the "Flip-Flop", although at first blush it isn't the trio's belle of the ball. However, its reputation precedes the cameras. (Archivists will note its resemblance to the previously published Geddie "Tiercel", and kudos if you did!) The structure is lightly drawn, promising a favorable airframe/rubber weight ratio. The wing offers conventional construction, spars a-plenty and rarely seen endplates. The airfoil is a little odd in being so highly undercambered, but as George Perryman advised us many times, "air is blind". The large fin should point the model well enough and has a symmetrical section. (Me thinks the large subrudder was perhaps a trimming afterthought.) The broad, single-bladed folder should churn the air well enough. This bird will fly and look cute doing it.



Finally, we have Brian Faulkner's "Yardstick", the most highly touted of the trio and a serious competition machine by Andrew's reckoning. Easily the most modern looking, this is a very sleek device, and for a diamond fuselage lover, a pearl-clutching moment. It won't be an easy build, but looks like a real go-getter. All areas and moments oblige, but the small 25 percent stab does tempt contemplation. However, the text assures the previous 33 percent version was too large, and the smaller one works just fine. The wing assures with a modern section and diagonal ribs. The modern, two-bladed folder is drawn for a low-pitched, fast climb, but the bendable wire Z-bar allows for something fatter, if desired. The lengthy fuselage caters to a long prop run. The adjustable subrudder is a nice touch. The NFFS Plans Service has a copy for sale. This bird will fly and look racy doing it.

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Many of us make plans for the future. Far fewer actually get around to doing anything about it. Well, Mickey Walker is the exception to the multitude. While presently fit as a fiddle, he's been finding homes for his vast hoard of model airplane goodies, as well as those of the late Frank Stewart and Dick Konkle. He's made a lot of progress the last few years, but has a few things that still need a new home. Namely, he's hoping to give away most of all his Old Timer and Nostalgia gas jobs to the club. (Note none have engines, as his entire collection is sold to a single buyer and long out the door. (No doubt the earth's magnetic field wobbled a tad as a result.)

If I recall correctly, there're nineteen (19) fine gas jobs, minus the aforementioned boat anchors. Of these, twelve were last flown at the 2002 SAM Champs and 11 had podium finishes. These are in fine shape and need only a little care and some internal combustion adjuncts. Also, there's a dozen or two more that can be completed to some degree from the multitude of bits lying about.

Keep your eyes open for an announcement in the TTOMA Bulletin as to when exactly the festivities will occur, projected right now for sometime after the New Year. Mickey's place is in west Kennesaw and convenient from all points. Details to follow.

NEXT ISSUE

Look for the next issue shortly after the banquet, maybe in late February. There might be some changes in our contest schedule due to events beyond our control, and look for those then. We'll carry the flyer for the Southeast Model Show when available; presumably it'll still will be on the first Friday and Saturday in March.

As always, I beseech the multitudes to forward anything to these offices in the way of articles, photos, plans, photos, rants and raves. Don't make me work to hard! Later, y'all!

2020 TTOMA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____ AMA # _____

Address _____ State and Zip Code _____

Other Family Members and AMA # _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

\$20.00/year. 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 Hube/104 Smith Forest Lane/ Alpharetta, GA 30004/770-886-0604.

Petite Violette Restaurant

2948 Clairmont Rd., Brookhaven, GA 30329

404-634-6268

January 25, 2020

Arrive at 6:00 pm for social hour and Show and Tell, dine at 7:00 pm

Petite Salade Maison

*Fresh cut Mixed Greens topped with Walnuts, Cranberries, Grape Tomatoes, Feta Cheese and Garlic Herb Crouton.
Served with house French Vinaigrette*

* * *

Choice of Entrees:

Boeuf Bourguignon

Slow roasted Beef Short Rib. Topped with Button Mushrooms, Pearl Onion and Carrots and a Burgundy Sauce

or Mediterranean Sea Bass

Seared Mediterranean Sea Bass topped with Sautéed Spinach, Tomato and Garlic, over Pommes Puree, Beurre Blanc Sauce.

or Chicken Chasseur (Hunter Style)

Pan Seared Chicken Breast topped with a Mushroom Cream Sauce, served with Pommes Puree and Haricot Verts

* * *

Tagliatelle and Fresh Vegetables

Tagliatelle Pasta, Asparagus, Tomato, Mushroom, Parmesan tossed in EVOO

* * *

Strawberry Romanoff

Vanilla Bean Ice Cream topped with fresh Strawberries, Raspberry Sauce and Whipped Cream

or New Orleans Bread Pudding

Our House made Bread Pudding topped with Buttery Bourbon Sauce

* * *

Coffee and Iced Tea

Price \$44.00 (includes tax and gratuity)

Price is the same for all entrees. Wine, beer and liquor are extra at cash bar. Please write on the form below the names of whom will attend in your party and indicate each person's choice of entree and dessert. Make your check out to Dohrman Crawford and send it and completed form to: Dohrman Crawford/1400 Mile Post Drive/Dunwoody, GA 30338. **I must have your money in hand by January 15th.**

Name(s)	Entrée	Dessert	Amount
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September Indoor Contest Report

Despite some challenges in scheduling, our September meet featured a very busy day of competitive flying. Six fliers flew 11 events, several of them pretty hotly contested. The air was a bit tough to navigate, and Nick Ray struggled to get full performance from his fancy Ministick. Not shown in the results are the numerous test flights Nick made with his own very beautiful 27-inch span unlimited model. Josh Finn, co-CD, reporting. (Bill Gowen wasn't able to be CD, but Nick and Josh Finn filled in his stead.)

Limited Pennyplane

Hope Finn 5:14

Josh Finn 4:48

HLG Jr.

Caleb Finn 10.2+8.2=18.4

Ministick

Nick Ray 8:32

Hope Finn 5:40

Josh Finn 3:44

Lee Russell 1:55

A-6

Hope Finn 5:14

Chattahoochee Challenge

Richard Schneider 1:57

Doug Demasie 0:58

F1R

Hope Finn 6:20

Dime Scale

Richard Schneider F. Stratoplane 118

Hangar Rat

Hope Finn 0:41+1:39=2:20

Josh Finn 0:47+1:26=2:13

Doug Demasie 1:06+0:58=2:04

No-Cal Scale

Hope Finn Chambermaid 5:45

Richard Schneider Goon 3:32

Josh Finn Cassutt Racer 2:39

Doug Demasie Chambermaid 2:34

Phantom Flash

Hope Finn 1:27+2:30+1:31=5:33

Josh Finn 1:17+1:08=2:25

Doug Demasie 0:53+0:56+0:27=2:16

Hand Launch Stick

Josh Finn 23:20

Order of the Rainbow Unicorn

Nick Ray

Hope Finn

Richard Schneider

Doug Demasie

Summer's Swan Song September Outdoor Contest Report

Just have to say this was a wonderfully, tolerable day. Still warm, but not too hot. Winds were acceptable, and no matter what, everyone seemed to have a great time. The day featured the Great Gollywock Mass Launch. Results and photos of the day follow below and on further pages. David Barfield, CD, reporting.

Gollywock Mass Launch

Dohrman Crawford 129

Doug DeMasie 95

David Mills 94

Jim Conery 90

David Barfield 81

E-20

Jake Tedder Granddad Special 180

James Martin Heat Stroke 100

P-30

James Martin 185

David Mills Hammerhead 120

E-36

Frank Perkins DIY E-36 360 + 38

Catapult Glider

Frank Perkins 124
Doug DeMasie 88
James Martin 47

No-Cal Scale

James Martin Beautiful Wind 124

A Electric

Scott Lapraick 120

Bostonian

James Martin Beaver 119

2019 Old Goat Smackdown Championship Results



He did it again! Doug DeMaise blazed a path to victory in the Fifth Annual Old Goat Smackdown World Championships scoring a commanding lead. And he did it with a pink model! Back in 2017 Doug entered and won his first TTOMA competition which was that year’s Old Goat Smackdown.

The weather for this year’s Smackdown was favorable with relatively mild September temperatures and light drift which changed directions often. However, thermals were surprisingly sparse at Blue Ridge Special altitudes.

When you look at the score summary, you’ll note there are no entries indicating an OOS flight and/or a lost model. That is very unusual in a competition with Blue Ridge Special models!

Here is the score sheet for the day, Karl Hube Old Goat Raconteur reporting:

Name	Flight 1	Flight 2	Flight 3	Total	Place
Doug DeMaise	141	96	147	384	1
Jim Conery	90	64	95	249	2
Dohrm Crawford	75	101	60	236	3
Karl Hube	76	62	82	220	4
David Barfield	86	48	80	214	5
Joe Richards	48	72	49	169	6
Jake Tedder	48	46	51	145	7

Representing Team Selick, Graham’s grandson, Jake Tedder, is the first Junior to wade into the Old Goat competition, and he did a good job. Graham’s father and Jake’s great grandfather was the inspiration for the Old Goat Smackdown. We had a good turnout of seven competitors which is two down from last year’s record nine. The September flying session was very active this year and we can aim for finally getting ten flyers on the scoreboard next year.



Fall photo collage by David Barfield

October Outdoor Contest Report

We had a great turnout of 11 fliers for the October outdoor contest. It was quite nice to have a chill in the air in the morning with the temperature of 66 degrees, along with a stiff wind of 10 mph plus from the E/SE. It seems the precedent was set with the first flight of the day belonging to Frank Perkins's P-30. It was a great flight, but the wind was stout. His model ended up in Snake Creek on the west end of the field, retrieved quickly but wet. A short meeting was held with Karl and Frank, and the decision was made to set the max at 90 seconds for rubber powered models and 60 seconds for catapult gliders. Blue Ridge Specials

held at 2 minutes. Needless to say, those who enjoyed some high times also enjoyed some long walks as well. Doug DeMasie lost one of his BRS and David Mills had to retrieve his CLG from out the trees very near where Frank Perkins's P-30 went into the creek. A good time was had by all. Lee Russell, CD, reporting.



Fall photo collage by David Barfield

Catapult Glider (60 sec. max)

Frank Perkins DLY 172
David Mills Straight Up 163
Doug DeMasie Boweevil 127
Joe Ryan 94
Jim Altenbern Cata-piglet 143

Blue Ridge Special (120 sec. max)

Doug DeMasie 272
Dohrman Crawford 236
Joe Ryan 161
Karl Hube 114
Jim Altenbern 80

P-30 (90 sec. max)

Karl Hube Scorpion II 268
Dohrm Crawford Tail Firster 245
Jim Conery Speckled Bird 206
Joe Ryan Speckled Bird 149
Doug DeMasie Icer 126
Frank Perkins E Peaz 90 (in creek)
David Barfield Echo 67

Bostonian

David Mills Tub o'Lard 131

October Indoor Contest Report

We had 7 members attend the October indoor contest. Doug DeMasie and his wife brought some delicious chocolate/peanut butter snacks. Well worth attending just for those goodies. CD Lee Russell, reporting. Here are the times.

Ministick

Nick Ray 8:45+8:34=17:19

A-6

Lee Russell 3:46

Chattahoochee Challenge

Richard Schneider 1:49+1:49+1:49=5:27
Doug DeMasie 0:32

Phantom Flash

Doug DeMasie 0:51+0:47+0:56=2:39

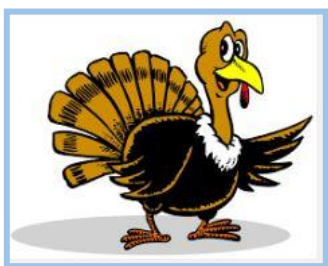
No-Cal Scale

Karl Hube 1:39+1:53+2:04=5:36
Richard Schneider 1:02+1:04+1:10=3:16
Doug DeMasie 0:37+0:53+0:56=2:26

Hangar Rat

Doug DeMasie 1:11+1:28+1:11=3:50
Karl Hube 1:26+1:13+1:09=3:48
Jim Conery 0:55+1:25+0:48=3:08

2019 TTOMA Turkey Shoot



It had been reported that our Event Director and Chief Gobbler for the day, Gary Baughman, was injured in a fall at home just prior to leaving for the field. So, we marshaled our forces based on the memory of how things have been done in the past and pressed on. From the beginning of the day, the weather conditions could not have been better for outdoor activity. The prizes we were chasing were \$25.00 gift certificates from Publix grocery stores.....a way to boost Thanksgiving feasts!

Dime Scale Mass Launch: This event was flown as a simple one round process because of the size of the field...about five flyers. History repeated in that as the swarm of models circled, Gary Morton's Chambermaid smoothly cruised through the crowd and never seemed to lose altitude for a flight total of 65 seconds. So, it was another victory for Gary's proven winner!

Catapult Glider (CLG): I have previously confessed to making an error in this event when I insisted it was to be run as a standard six flight schedule with the best three summed as the score. Now I know why Ed Hardin looked at me with a puzzled expression when I made that bold statement! In the end, we were treated

to a clinic on how to fly CLG by Frank Perkins who put up three successive 90 second maxes followed by a 57 second fly-off flight. The launches of Frank's new, smaller CLG are remarkably high.

Name	Flt 1	Flt 2	Flt 3	Flyoff	Total
Perkins	90	90	90	57	237
Altenbern	53	48	51		152
Conery	35	28	27		90

AMA Power: This event was formatted to allow any electric or gas-powered model to compete. Scott Lapraik led the way with three good flights. Frank Perkins's DIY model wanted to have its own way with trim and was retired for the day after one flight!

Name	Model	Flt 1	Flt 2	Flt 3	Total
Lapraik	E-36	90	90	70	250
Hardin	E-36 (Geef)	54	63		117
Perkins	E-36 (DIY)	64			64

AMA P-30: Early in the day, the very slight drift we saw in P-30 flights was not in a favorable direction which supported our decision to fly with 90-second maxes. As the day went on, the direction and velocity became better which made later long mass launch flights possible. After having his primary P-30 model damaged by my diving SCat Jet, David Mills unboxed his reserve model and soldiered on. In spite of being a bit off trim, David's reserve model got the job done for a well-earned victory.

Name	Flt 1	Flt 2	Flt 3	Total
Mills	90	90	82	262
Hardin	75	78	90	243
Conery	90	41	90	221

Embryo Mass Launch: This was a spectacular event! Six or seven models were launched together, and it looked like every one of them caught at least a part of a thermal. (It is rumored that David Barfield launched two models, but there is no irrefutable photographic evidence to confirm this story.) The flock of models circled together and climbed steadily to great height where the sunlight shown through the colorful tissue coverings against a perfect blue sky...what a scene! Embryo models are not great gliders, so some of the high climbers began to soon come down. Two models went up through the pack and circled above the crowd and those belonged to Morton and Hube. It became clear that the longest DT would win, and Hube blinked first with a clean pop-off wing DT that brought the model down quickly leaving Morton's model alone in victory. Gary's flight time was reportedly 198 seconds after the DT descent.

FAC SCat Jet: This was a two-man event with Gary Morton flying his very consistent P-59 and Karl flying his old Hawker Hunter. Gary has worked hard to get reliable results from an otherwise frustrating event. This was a day when luck played a major role. Karl was standing by a streamer pole when the air warmed and the streamer fluttered upwards. The Hunter was launched, and it stayed at a fixed altitude and circled the streamer pole for 56 seconds with a landing a few feet away near the rubber model stooges. Here are the flight times:

Name	Model	Flt 1	Flt 2	Flt 3	Total
Hube	Hawker Hunter	56	26	26	108
Morton	Bell P-59	23	33	31	87

Blue Ridge Special Mass Launch: This was another classic event with a cloud of similar models climbing together. There was a patch of lift involved with Morton and Hube breaking out on top of the crowd where the two little models flew formation in right-hand circles. Hube's finally lost the lift and drifted back over the field with Morton repeating his Embryo feat by holding onto the lift. His model drifted away OOS and to another victory. It's time for Gary to build his annual inventory of two new Blue Ridge Specials.

Time Event: Since we had no playbook for the day, a big collection of time notes were written on small pieces of paper and put in a big plastic container. When Karl got home, Margaret drew a time of 47 seconds from the collection. No 47 second flight showed on the time sheets, but Jim Altenbern had a 48 second CLG flight, and he was declared the winner!

This was the first day of Standard Time, and the sun was getting low when we finished, but the guys lingered in the comfortable temperature discussing more possibilities for next year. It was a fine way to end the 2019 outdoor flying season. Karl Hube, impromptu CD, reporting.



November Indoor Contest Report

I filled in for Bill Gowen as CD for the November Indoor meet. We had a nice turnout of fliers and enjoyed a very good day of flying. Leo Pilachowski and his wife Katie drove down from Indiana for the contest. Leo is an extremely fine flier, and fixer of things, and his wife Katie is an Astronomer. It was a pleasure meeting them. Hangar Rat and No-Cal Scale had the most fliers and competition. Things were kept on an even keel by a tin of Debbie DeMasie's excellent cookies. Thank you, Debbie! That should do it! Respectfully submitted by Dohrm Crawford, acting CD.

No-Cal Scale (total of 3)

Karl Hube Chambermaid 7:21
Richard Schneider Goon 3:19
Richard Schneider Piper Cub 2:34
Doug DeMasie Chambermaid 0:12*

Hangar Rat (total of 3)

Dohrman Crawford 6:22
Karl Hube 5:13
Doug DeMasie 3:15
Jim Conery 2:57

F1D (best 2)

Leo Pilachowski 13:15+6:26=13:15

Chattahoochee Challenge (best 3)

Richard Schneider 3:10
Doug DeMasie 0:18

Phantom Flash

Doug DeMasie 0:57

Ministick

Nick Ray 10:05

*I made a serious CD error here. Perhaps explaining it will keep it from happening again. I forgot that an official flight in No-Cal is 20 seconds. If I had realized this, I could have had Doug make a few more flights to try to get an official flight. Richard's Cub flights do not count as you can only enter one plane in a competition, and no amount of mental exercise could make Richard into a third official competitor. Ergo, only two competitors, so no Kanones. It would help if people like me would actually have entered the event as well. My apologies to all!

December Indoor Contest Report

The final contest of 2019 was well attended. Cool outside temperatures kept the times down, but fun was had by all. Keep an eye out for the spring contest dates. Nick Ray, CD, reporting.

Order of the Rainbow Unicorn

Nick Ray
Hope Finn
Dohrm Crawford
Joshua Finn

No-Cal Scale (total 3)

Hope Finn Chambermaid 5:41
Josh Finn Cassutt Racer 4:37
Richard Schneider XP-9 3:55

Hanger Rat (total 3)

Dohrm Crawford 3:39
Hope Finn 2:58
Doug DeMasie 2:21
Jim Conery 2:17

OPP

Josh Finn 5:37
Hope Finn 4:32

Phantom Flash (total 3)

Dohrm Crawford 4:37
Hope Finn 4:31
Josh Finn 2:43

Ministick

Nick Ray 9:45
Hope Finn 4:56

Chattahoochee Challenge

Richard Schneider 1:52
Josh Finn 1:18

Dime Scale

R. Schneider Stratoplane 1:14

A-ROG

Josh Finn 5:22

Hope Finn 3:05

Limited Pennyplane

Hope Finn 5:35

Summary of TTOMA November 16, 2019 Officer's Meeting

Attendees: Jim Altenbern, David Barfield, Dohrman Crawford, and Karl Hube

Old Business

Two old items that were resolved were related to reporting FAC Kanone worthy scores. It was decided that the club Contest Director for each flying session will report Kanone scores. This can be done through online forms supplied by FAC.

The question put before the group was if FAC scores posted during the annual November Turkey Shoot are eligible for Kanone consideration. The conclusion was that they can be eligible although we have to make all mass launch events have more than one competition heat.

New Business

1. Finances

After examining the club financial data, the following expenses were approved: Christmas baskets for the sod farm owner and staff @ \$125.00; Donation to the STEAM program at Whitesburg Elementary @ \$150.00; and payment to Lee Russell for sod farm keys @ \$50.00. Note the Whitesburg donation will be made when school resumes after the Christmas break.

2. Banquet Prizes

The plan for the January, 2020 banquet is to feature a book swap for the ladies and a drawing for several prizes as a general event. The prizes will include a useful tool, an E-20 power-train pack, a package of Xacto #11 blades and some additional prizes to be decided.

3. Special Events

It was decided to use the same 2019 Special Events in 2020. It is believed that additional promotion and communication about the Events is needed to increase participation. The Special Events are listed on the club website under the Flying Schedule tab.

One of the Special Events is FAC Simplified Scale which we believe is not well understood by the club membership. Dohrman Crawford has asked for and received permission to publish an FAC article that explains how easy it is to build a Simplified Scale model and that they fly very well. This information has been passed on to our newsletter editor, David Mills.

4. September Club Contest

The September contest has become an active competition driven by the annual Blue Ridge Old Goat Smackdown. In 2019 we added a mass launch for the popular Gollywock rubber-powered model. In 2020, we will designate the September contest as the TTOMA Annual Club Championship with two additional events, Embryo and Dime Scale, to fill the day's schedule. In addition, any other events can be flown for club award points as is our usual practice.

5. Indoor Activity

Two events were chosen to give some focus to indoor flying. We have some new members who might find entry into the activity through some simple models. The two events are:

April, 2020--“Rat Rally”, featuring the Hanger Rat. This event was run in 2018 and drew good participation. It is expected that the event will feature a standard endurance event, as well as a mass launch event.
October, 2020--This event will be for high-wing Peanut class FAC models. This is expected to be run as a standard endurance event and a mass launch event.

6. June FAC Outdoor Contest

Jim Altenbern reported that Gary Morton has indicated that both Modern Civil and Military events will be added to the two-day June FAC contest. To keep the event selection under control, two events are expected to be eliminated from the past selection, and those will be selected soon.

7. Miscellaneous

The idea of holding a postal challenge match against another club was briefly discussed. A Blue Ridge Special match against the Kudzu group in North Carolina is a possibility. Further, contacts in the Peterborough club in England are interested in a Cloud Tramp challenge in the future. Currently, Peterborough has an annual Cloud Tramp match with a club in New Zealand which has become popular with the participants.

Submitted by: Karl Hube, Secretary and Treasurer,
Thermal Thumbers of Metro Atlanta

