



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

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## Sept.-Oct., 2022

### HEADS UP

Welcome to the fifth issue of the year, a little late but not much. We're closing out the year and our flying season with November's Turkey Shoot at NG Turf field and this December at Christ Church in Macon, and this issue concentrates on that. This writer thinks we deserve a high five or two for our clean execution of our normal way of doing things, post pandemic. So, make plans to attend both if you can. A further sign of same, planning is underway for our renewed annual banquet, likely late this January. So far, the response to the new digs at Sandy Spring's Lost Corners Preserve is very positive. It's one of the club's favorite occasions of the year, and everybody looks forward to it. Also in the works at this early juncture is the planning for next year's Chattahoochee Challenge, and Gary Morton provides that start later in these pages. Look for further details on all in the next issue.

It's time for me to get out of the way. Ciao, y'all!

### RENEWAL NAG

As this is the first nag for the 2023 membership renewals, and it's not even 2023 yet, we'll keep it cool and breezy, rainbows and unicorns. That being said, next year's form follows, and we request all of our merry band to fill out the form provided, stroke a check payable to TTOMA, signed on the name that is dotted, and mail it to the address indicated. Many thanks in advance. .

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

We've a bit more action planned for the remainder of this year, and the schedule follows. So, make plans to attend as much of it as fate allows. Note the indoor schedule will continue through the winter into next year, and the outdoor schedule will resume in April as is our wont. Speaking of outdoor, please note the upcoming Turkey Shoot, the last outdoor contest of the year. It's always a hoot, and the flyer for same follows. Note the December indoor date is unconfirmed by the church at this pecking, so look for its likely confirmation of same via *Bulletin*. (Also, be advised the planned indoor date in November was cancelled by the church, nothing unusual there, so don't fret, not a "sign" of anything.)

Anywho, glue some sticks together and show up somewhere with a model airplane. The game's afoot!

Nov. 6: Turkey Shoot. Outdoor Contest. NG Turf. Whitesburg, GA. Flyer follows

Dec. 10: Indoor Contest, Christ Chapel, Macon, GA

Jan. 10-12: Outdoor Contest. King Orange International, Palm Bay, FL. Flyer follows

### THUMBS CONTINUING IN SERVICE

The officer slate for 2023 was just released with only one change from last year. Namely, Jim Altenbern wishes to continue as President, David Barfield as Veep and James Martin as treasurer, but

declines the double duty as secretary. Not to worry, Jim Altenbern will serve as secretary until someone volunteers to serve in his stead. You'll be asked to vote on this slate in the new future. Karl Hube will continue to serve as Webmaster, and your trusty newsletter will continue to hoist that yoke.

### **THUMBS HAVING LUNCH**

Some of the Thumbs are making the amiable effort to start having lunch together from time to time, and the first group dined recently at the Pure Taqueria in Roswell. The left photo presented below shows a smiling quintet and indicates a good time was had by all.

The two photos on its right indicate a less gentlemanly but just a joyful gathering recently at Dunwoody's Village Burger between the two pictured and Dohrman, wielding the camera. We'd just arrived from a little pleasant morning's flying at Dohrman's neighborhood trimming field in the Golden Ghetto. You might remember that delightful expanse of urban green featured a few issues back at the former Austin Elementary School location, not a bad place at all to do some practice gliding and short winds trim flights. As for the food, it's a first rate burger joint and very popular with the locals. This writer can heartily recommend the onion rings, a dish oft-attempted but rarely executed to their level. Kudos to the kitchen!

Serious worries await the future of this gift to the North Fulton model aviation community. Dohrman says some tennis courts and a soccer field are planned. Worse yet, there's rumors of those pagan pickle ball courts are in the offing, too. As to the latter, it's the Devil's work! Mark my words, nothing good will come of it.



### **THUMBS GIVING BACK**

This just in from James Martin, club secretary/treasurer: "To express our appreciation for having access to such a great outdoor flying field, the club made a donation to the Opal & Alton McWhorter Music Center at Whitesburg Elementary School in the name Aaron McWhorter, who is the president of the NG Turf and the son of Opal & Alton McWhorter.

"Not to slight our indoor flyers, the club also made a donation to Christ Chapel that was delivered by Doug DeMasie for allowing us to fly in their soccer facility. The club's coffers are quite solid, and making an investment that shows our appreciation should go a long way to ensuring we retain these venues that allow us to practice our craft."

### **THUMBS MAKING PLANS**

This just in from Gary Morton, co-CD of the 2023 Chattahoochee Challenge, so pay attention: "It is not too early to start thinking about next year's Chattahoochee Challenge. Look over the tentative 2023 events below and build a plane or two for events that you have never flown before. Remember you do not want to take an untrimmed plane to the contest. Much can be done at your house or nearby park to start the trimming process, but you will need to complete the process at the sod farm or a large field. This means that the plane(s) cannot be built at the last minute. Start building it now, and you should have time to get it trimmed before the contest. We have dates in April and May at the sod farm to finalize the trim.

“Most scale planes can be flown in more than one event. Each flight can only be counted once so you need to make separate flights for each event. For example, if you build a Golden Age era scale plane, it can be entered in FAC Rubber Scale, Simplified Scale and Golden Age mass launch. That’s three events with one plane. You will, however, need to make 9 flights, three for each event unless like next year when the FAC Rubber Scale event will have the best one flight of three, meaning you only need to fly one flight. You can fly two more to see if you can better your flight time.

“Most rubber scale planes can be flown in two events. One of the two events is Simplified Scale. Any scale plane with the exception of Dime Scale plane can be entered in Simplified Scale. Looking at the entries in the 2022 CC contest for scale events, I found everyone was eligible to fly in the Simplified Scale event, but we had only three entrees. Simplified Scale should be the event with the most entrees. Next year there will also be a NBM Simplified Scale event in addition the regal one. (NBM = non Blue Max)

“Start looking for the plan or two of the plane that you want to build. Get them built and make sure that you get it trimmed. You want to go to the contest with motors installed, so they are ready to go. Practice this now when you fly each month.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR 2023 CHATTAHOOCHEE CHALLENGE

### FAC Saturday Events

Rubber Scale  
Simplified Scale NBM  
Modern Military/Civilian combined  
Jimmy Allen/2 Bit plus 1 combined  
AMA P-30  
No-Cal Scale  
Embryo  
WW II mass launch  
Golden Age mass launch  
Fiction Flyers mass launch  
Blue Ridge Special NBM (can be flown either day)

### FAC Sunday Events

Peanut Scale  
Jet Catapult Scale  
Dime Scale  
Simplified Scale  
AMA Catapult Glider  
Simplified Scale  
Phantom Flash  
WW I mass launch  
Combined Racers mass launch  
Blue Ridge Special NBM (Can be flown either day for one trophy)  
Scale Flying Horde NBM (This is a mass launch for any scale plane that did not place first in another event. It is a single round with a scale plane kit and bragging rights as the prize, no kanone)

## ONE FINAL WORD

“There is a myth about all scale models having to be museum quality. If you look at the Saturday events for the next CC, only the FAC Rubber Scale event requires documentation. The rest require that you have a scale model that has a reasonable color for the period, registration numbers or military insignias and hinge lines for the moveable surfaces. Remember ours is a local contest so the requirements are more relaxed than at a larger or national meet. You can use color tissue for the color (gray tissue is OK for

silver), cut out numbers for the registration or printed insignias pasted on for military planes and chart tape for the hinge lines. This is certainly within the ability of all especially if you have built a number of duration models. You do not need all the bells and whistles unless you are competing in FAC Scale events. It helps to have as much scale detail in Jet Catapult Scale which is flown Sunday. You need documentation, but if you look at the way the points are gained, you quickly see that one long fight will overcome any deficiency in scale score. For this event you want the best flying plane, not the best looking scale plane. In fact, the best flying planes always have an advantage. Let's build, build, build and fly, fly, fly."

**PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT**

Dohrman Crawford provided the adjoining photo to the Carroll County Health Department taken at our recent October outdoor contest. Upon receipt, CCHD requested the public's help in eradicating their current rash of recent animal hygiene offenses in Carroll County.

The CCHD can't release much information regarding their ongoing investigation, but it appears there may be an organized criminal element involved. Can you identify the driver of this vehicle? CCHD seeks this offender's name and likely whereabouts in connection with their animal hygiene campaign. It's easy to assist CCHD in this regard. Just use their confidential helpline, 1-WEN-OSE-EPOO (1-936-673-3766) and get involved. CCHD thanks you in advance.



**DEALS TO BE MADE**

While organizing some of the wonderful stuff in my workshop to make room for more wonderful stuff, I discovered two kits each of Golden Age's Douglas Y10-43 (24 inch) and Flyline's Earl Stahl Curtiss SO3C-1 (23 inch). I don't need two and am looking for some sort of trade. Both of these designs have great reputations for flying ability and are mighty good looking, especially with the available pre-WW II color schemes. Both kits are complete and enjoy the quality materials and building ease earned by these two manufacturers. Anywho, if you're interested, get with me—I'm easy to find. Many thanks in advance. Never forget: build, build, build and fly, fly, fly.

**WHERE WE STAND, WHY WE KEEP SCORE**

Here's where we stand at this juncture late in the year. We've only one more contest for you to grab some high points, remembering November's Turkey Shoot doesn't have the format that generates these points. On the other hand, it does generate free groceries! The game's afoot.

Dohrman Crawford	70	Jimmy Jordan	17	Nick Ray	9
Doug Demasie	57	David Barfield	15	Gary Morton	6
David Mills	53	David Fletcher	13	Joe Ryan	3
James Martin	46	Jim Altenbern	12	Dan Crews	3
Jim Conery	32	Bill Gowen	10	Dean McGinnis	1
Frank Perkins	18	Ed Hardin	10	Lee Russell	1

**NEXT ISSUE**

Look for something around mid-December. It'll carry the annual banquet information, the last two contest reports, a robust renewal nag, maybe further indoor contest dates and anything righteous that comes over the transom. As is my wont, I beseech the multitudes for articles, photos, plans, rants or raves. Don't make me work too hard! Ciao, y'all.

## SEPTEMBER INDOOR CONTEST REPORT

A total of 8 fliers registered and flew in nice, warm conditions. Air at the top was warm and had minimal drift, enabling some of the longest flights yet in Christ Chapel. Doug kept the air filled with his various P-18 and similar models. Nick spent the day testing Ministick propellers. Dan Crew had the hard luck of getting his Limited Pennyplane propeller wrapped around some sort of string up in the girders, rendering retrieval impossible. He had fun anyway! CD Josh Finn reporting.

### P-18

Paul Finn 2:18  
Dorhm Crawford 1:46  
Doug DeMasie 0:48

### Limited Pennyplane

Caleb Finn 6:36  
Doug DeMasie 1:01

### HLG

Josh Finn 0:57

### Unlimited Catapult Glider

Josh Finn 1:01

### F1R

Josh Finn 55:48

### FAC Phantom Flash

Hope Finn 462.0

### Hangar Rat

Doug DeMasie 0:56

### FAC No Cal Scale

Doug DeMasie 1:40

## OCTOBER INDOOR CONTEST REPORT

Caleb Finn set a new junior F1R record of 8:42, and Joshua Finn increased the State AROG record to 15:11. CD Nick Ray reporting.

### Hanger Rat

David Fletcher 4:47  
Doug DeMasie 1:38

### P-18

Paul Finn 1:49  
Caleb Finn 1:30  
Doug DeMasie 1:06

### Ministick

Nick Ray 7:59  
Joshua Finn 7:26  
Hope Finn 5:27

### FAC No-Cal Profile Scale

Doug Demasie 30.0

### Sport Flyer

David Fletcher 2:39

### A-ROG

Joshua Finn 15:11

### 35 cm

Caleb Finn 8:42\*

### Easy B

Doug DeMasie 0:47

\* new junior national record pending



## LAST FLING UNTIL SPRING OUTDOOR CONTEST

Ten contestants burst on the familiar scene of the North Georgia Turf field to do the next-to-last outdoor battle scheduled for the year. The day promised fair skies and moderate winds, and it didn't disappoint. The low lying thermals were hard to come by. Yet, maxes did not exceed the confines of the hallowed ground we tread, while trusting our creations to the surrounding vaults of heaven.

There were a great variety of graceful crates scattered in the blue. While many flights graced the celestial sphere, few were recorded to posterity. Let's review them, shall we? Submitted by CD David Barfield, Old Curmudgeon-at-Large

### FAC Embryo

F. S. Gilbert Honey Bee 201  
Dohrman Crawford Camilla 5

### FAC Blue Ridge Special

F. S. Gilbert 128

### P-30

Frank Perkins DIY 337  
Dohrman Crawford Majestyk 332  
Jim Altenbern Square Eagle 316  
Jim Conery Speckled Bird 251  
David Mills Hammerhead Mk. III 164

### Catapult Glider

Jim Altenbern Vartanian 163

### FAC SCat Jet

Jim Conery Vampire 106




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## 2023 TTOMA MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

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

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

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\$20.00/year for adults and other adult family members in same household. No charge all aged 18 yrs. or younger. Send check, payable to TTOMA, to James Martin/3901 Bays Ferry Trail/Marietta, GA 30062/404-632-7226/[jhnmartin1963@gmail.com](mailto:jhnmartin1963@gmail.com)

# Eleventh Annual TTOMA Thanksgiving Turkey Shoot

10AM-3:45PM EST\*, November 6, 2022  
North Georgia Turf Farm, Whitesburg, GA

*Gate opens at 9AM EST*

*\*Note the time change to Eastern "Standard" Time!*

## Schedule of Events

- 10-3 The famous target time event\* (rec. time of every flight)
- 10 FAC Scale Mass Launch (Any FAC Scale model, top 3 F/O)
- 10-3 Cat Jet, Best 3 of 6, highest total time wins
- 11 Embryo Mass Launch, H/L, last down wins
- 10-3 Any SAM Rubber Model, 120 sec max, best 3 flight total
- 10-3 P-30, 120 sec max, best 3 flight total wins
- 1:30 Catapult/Hand launch glider mass launch, top 3 fly off
- 2:30 Blue Ridge Special, Mass Launch, Last down wins
- 3:30 or earlier Awards Ceremony (Drive home in daylight)
- **\*Target time** will be sealed in an envelope to be opened at the conclusion of flying. To be eligible, record time on every flight. Flight time closest to target takes the prize. Flyoffs if tied.

Winners will be awarded a \$25 Publix Gift Certificate to offset the cost of their Thanksgiving dinner "Old Tom."



*Events/Rules may be amended to fit weather conditions or for other considerations. These changes will be announced by the Head Gobbler in Charge (HGIC) prior to the start of any scheduled event.*

*HGIC: Gary Baughman [gibman@bellsouth.net](mailto:gibman@bellsouth.net) 770-313-4921*





**KING ORANGE  
INTERNATIONAL**  
January 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> 2023  
Palm Bay, Florida



**NEW DATE!**

16 - AMA Events      9 - FAI Events  
5 - Old Time Events    7 - NOS Events  
13 - FAC Events\*  
Gollywock Mass Launch\*  
E-36 Mass Launch\*  
P-30 Mass Launch\*

**AMA CAT III National Cup Contest**

Field Address: 2190 Sapodillo Rd. S.W., Palm Bay, FL 32908

**CD**  
Skeeter Surguine  
386-673-6875  
carverpop@aol.com

**ASST CD**  
Jim DeMeritte  
727-712-0996

**FAC**  
Duncan McBride  
239-910-3740  
n319dm@gmail.com

For additional information call the above numbers or email:  
King\_Orange\_Intl@yahoo.com

**Entry Fee:**            Open \$35.00 unlimited, Senior \$20.00  
                                 Junior (U-16) \$5.00  
**Awards:**             One award to each winning contestant through 3<sup>rd</sup> place  
                                 Plates for each additional win  
                                 Joe Clawson Trophy

\*\*\*FMA High Start Rules, 50ft rubber, 150 ft line\*\*\*

Food within easy driving distance  
Sponsored: FMA Florida Modelers Association

\*\*\*NO INDOOR\*\*\*