



The AMA History Project Presents: Autobiography of DUANE A. RENKEN

October 31, 1932 – April 12, 2022

Started modeling in 1940

AMA #L1000



Written & Submitted by DAR (08/2000); Transcribed & Edited by SS (08/2002), Reformatted by JS (01/2010); Updated by JS (05/2022)

Career:

- Flew regularly in local and regional contests
 - Attended Nationals and Internationals
 - Published work in Flying Models magazine, National Free Flight Society (NFFS) magazine and Power Book
 - NFFS treasurer for a number of years
 - Served as a member of the AMA financial review committee
 - Involved in real estate ventures
 - Listed in *Who's Who in the Midwest*
 - Involved and community and political activities
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The Facts

Born: October 31, 1932

Began Modeling: 1940; began when sick with rheumatic fever and confined to home

Attended: First Nationals (Nats) in 1949 and first Internationals in 1950

Flew: Regularly in local and regional contests

Won Nats: CO2 a number of times, cargo, scale, electric

Published: Flying Models, National Free Flight Society (NFFS) magazine and Power Book

NFFS: Treasurer for many years

AMA: Financial review committee during part of the John Worth term

Biography

Duane A. Renken, 61 (2000), has been engaged in the finance, management, real estate and investment business for 30 years. During this period, he has acquired and managed commercial and multi-family residential real estate in Michigan, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Illinois, Georgia, New York, and Wisconsin. He has substantial experience as a general partner in investment ventures. Mr. Renken also operates various real estate-oriented companies, which provide

property management, real estate securities, marketing, mortgage broker, and financial advisory services.

In addition to his real estate and investment activities, Mr. Renken has been chairman for seven years of the Michigan State Building Authority, member of the State Hospital Facilities Commission, twice president of the Ann Arbor Board of Education, five times chairman of his church, vice chairman of the Michigan Church Extension Fund Board, vice president and board director of Huron Valley Girl Scout Council, Ann Arbor Public School Committee on Excellence, listed in *Who's Who in Midwest*, Ann Arbor Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club and member of Michigan Church Extension Funds Grants Committee. He is active in republican politics and was named Mr. Republican in 1960s. He is a member of the U.S. Senate Inter-Circle.

Mr. Renken received a Bachelor of Science degree in aeronautical engineering from Iowa State University in 1956. He has studied on the post-graduate level at Purdue University and the University of Michigan in business and public administration. He served in the United States Air Force as captain. In 1958, he joined the Aerospace Systems Division of the Bendix Corporation. At Bendix, Mr. Renken served in various capacities, including director of space systems marketing, until 1968 when he left to devote full attention to his investment business.

*(signed) Duane A. Renken
August 9, 2000*

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