



The AMA History Project Presents: Autobiography of MIKE RIGGS



Written by PB (2013); Reformatted by JS (09/2013)

The following was published on the Model Aviation magazine website, describing columnists for the magazine, and added to the AMA History Project (at the time called the AMA History Program) files in September 2013.

Mike Riggs

Like many, my dad introduced me to modeling. More accurately, “I am the son of a modeler.” All I remember about models in my childhood is that they were always around in some form or another.

Somewhere around age 8 or 9 I started flying 1/2A CL in the backyard, then bigger CL models in a neighborhood field. By age 10 I was flying RC Sport airplanes. By 16, I lived and breathed modeling, working at Al’s Hobby Shop in Elmhurst, Illinois. After taking a hiatus from modeling during my 20s, I reentered the hobby and flew Pylon locally in Idaho. After Pylon interest in the area died, I flew Sport models until I became interested in Pattern flying.

Between family and career, I manage to write the “RC Aerobatics” column for Model Aviation and get in a few practice flights, travelling to Pattern contests around the Northwest.

My dad was an airline pilot and always owned at least partial interest in a full-scale airplane. At 16 I soloed in a Cessna 150, but I have always thought of full-scale flying as kind of boring. However, figuring out time and distance problems has intrigued me to this day. The mathematics of aviation led me to a career working with computers. I currently calculate Tuples; otherwise known as analytical reporting.

My family and I live in Boise, Idaho.



Mike's "RC Aerobatics" bi-monthly Model Aviation column appears in January, March, May, July, September, and November. His email address is: rcaerobatics@gmail.com.

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