



# The AMA History Project Presents: Biography of EYVINN HANSEN SCHOENBERG



Born February 25, 1919      Started modeling in the 1930s  
AMA #15714

---

Submitted by EHS (09/2005); Transcribed & Edited by JS (11/2005), Reformatted by JS (01/2010)

---

*The following short biography of Eyvinn Schoenberg was compiled from written accounts and from his three books: Board Talk and Other Salty Tales (1999), Plane Talk: Cessna Export Tales (2004) and Fish Tales: Fresh and Salty (2005). The quoted material is from a portion of a letter to the AMA History Project (at the time called the AMA History Program), written September 6, 2005 by Schoenberg.*

---

Eyvinn was born and raised in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and began modeling at age eleven while visiting San Leandro, California. He attended modeling classes in Oakland, California at Capwell's department store, and fell in love with the hobby.

“On returning home to Hawaii, my room became my model shop, as I turned out all kinds of rubber-powered models, culminating in my building a successful flying Gas model ‘California Chief,’ powered with a Baby Cyclone engine, in 1939.

This led to my interest in flying and I obtained a pilot's license through the University of Hawaii's CAAPT5 flight training course in 1940.” He had learned to fly a full-sized Piper Cub.

“Post war, living in Lima Peru, I built my first Radio Controlled model, a Walt Good ‘Rudder Bug’ design, with an English single-channel radio system and an S29 engine, with rudder only control. It flew beautifully!!

And while driving to the flying area 43 kilometers south of Lima, Peru, I saw the wonderful point break waves at Punta Hermosa, surfed there with my pal Hal McNicol, and changed Peruvian surfing from beach break to point break surfing thereafter, as the Limenos loved the more exciting very large point break waves...

So I've enjoyed modeling (and flying again, in Wichita) thereafter, having joined AMA in 1954 and RC clubs in Seattle, Wichita, San Diego, Bend, OR, and Ventura, CA, building some 65 RC models from 1951 'til 1999.” Eyvinn was also a member of the Cessna Model Club and enjoyed many friendships with other members over the years.

In the late 1990s, Schoenberg began writing about modeling as a hobby for *Model Aviation*, and then took to writing his own books.

“I gave up my AMA affiliation then to take up writing of now three books: “BOARD TALK and Other Salty Tales,” PLANE TALK: Cessna Export Tales” and “FISH TALES: Fresh and Salty.”

---

**This PDF is property of the Academy of Model Aeronautics. Permission must be granted by the AMA History Project for any reprint or duplication for public use.**

**AMA History Project**  
National Model Aviation Museum  
5151 E. Memorial Dr.  
Muncie IN 47302  
(765) 287-1256, ext. 511  
historyproject@modelaircraft.org

