



The AMA History Project Presents: Biography of JOHN R. ("JACK") JOSAITIS



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Jack Josaitis

AMA District VII Vice-President
(Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota)

John R. Josaitis, like most top AMA officials, has been involved with model airplanes a great part of his life. He has been active in this hobby for 37 of his 44 years. Modeling serves as Jack's means of livelihood, he is co-owner of two hobby stores – in Dearborn and East Detroit, Michigan. The Josaitis home, peopled by Jack, his wife Marilyn, 2 daughters, age 17 and 14, and a son, 13, is in Dearborn.

Jack serves modeling far beyond his primary obligation of simply being a good hobby dealer. Since 1967, he has been AMA District VII vice-president, actively participating in the AMA Executive Council. He also is a local area AMA Contest Director, has served five times as a Radio Control judge at the Nats, as an FAI Radio Control judge in 1966, and at the Radio Control Masters Team Selection Tournament in Memphis in 1970. He is a good "joiner," having belonged to the Detroit Balsa Bugs, Midwest Radio Control Society, Indian City Radio Control Club, and the Greater Detroit Hiking and Soaring Society (Radio Control sailplanes.)

In spite of his 60 to 70 hours per week spent working as a hobby dealer, he takes the traditional "businessman's holiday" by entering enthusiastically into building and flying model airplanes. He is an accomplished Jack-(no pun intended!)-of-all-trades, but his main modeling interests for the past 16 years have been in Radio Control. His present "love affair" is with Radio Control sailplanes. He feels that they combine the best of the challenges of both Free Flight and Radio Control. Even his secondary hobby, photography, leads him right back to model planes, as he enjoys making model airplane-type movies.

Josaitis feels he is a blessed person, as he tremendously enjoys his job (store), and it keeps him in daily contact with the modelers, which in turn makes him highly qualified to serve the membership of the Academy of Model Aeronautics as one of its outstanding leaders.

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