

NatsNews

Daily Coverage of the 2011 National Aeromodeling Championships

Saturday, May 29

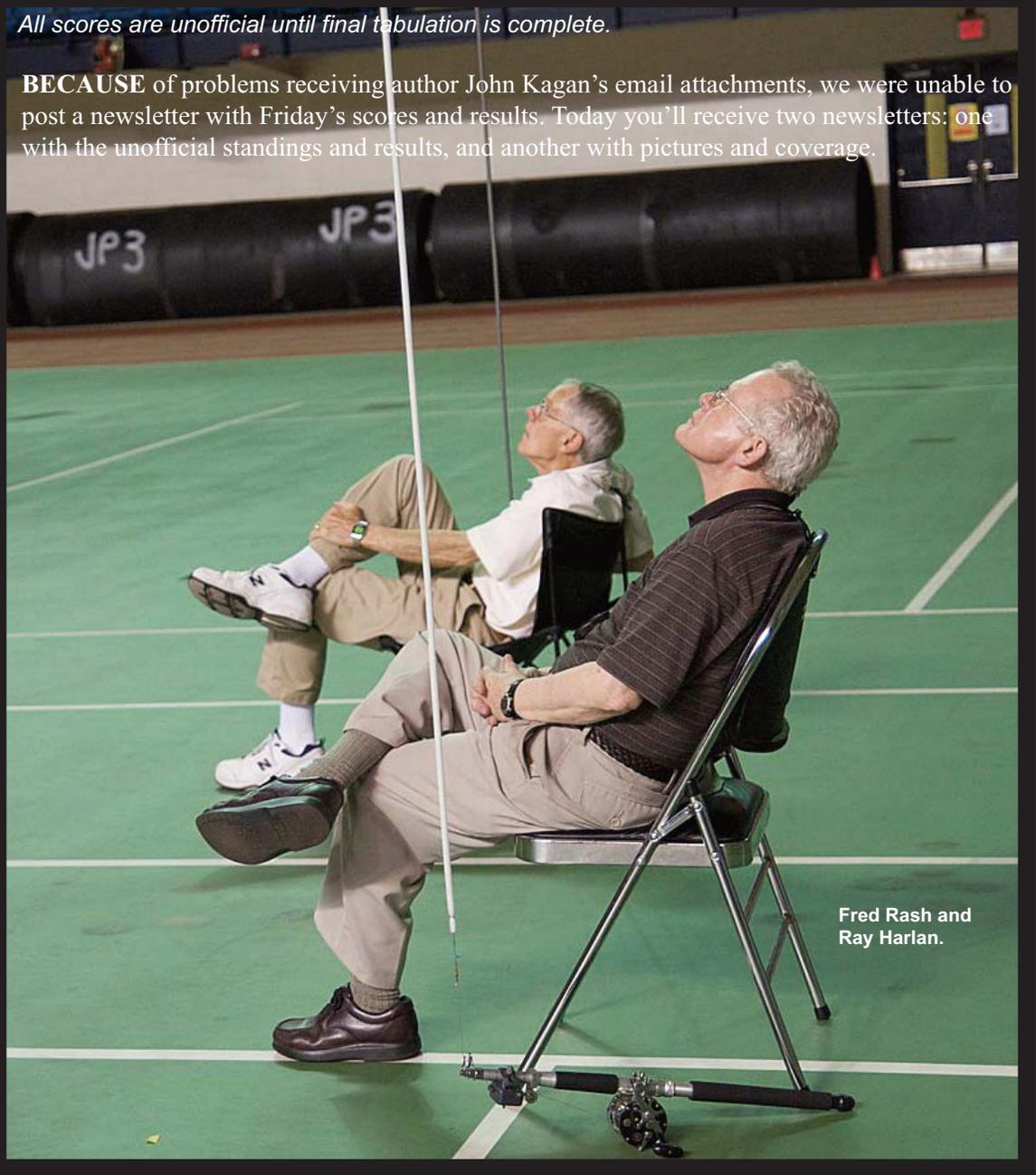
Coconut Scale
No Cal Scale
Wally Miller EZ-B
WWII Mass Launch
11:15
Coconut Mass
Launch 11:45
A-6 at 12:00
Pennyplane at 12:00
Manhattan at 12:00
Helicopter at 12:00
Ornithopter at 12:00
Rodemsky LPP
Pro/AM at 12:00
Wally Miller at 12:00

Sunday, May 29

Limited Pennyplane
F1M
Electric FF Duration
(Event 221)

All scores are unofficial until final tabulation is complete.

BECAUSE of problems receiving author John Kagan's email attachments, we were unable to post a newsletter with Friday's scores and results. Today you'll receive two newsletters: one with the unofficial standings and results, and another with pictures and coverage.



Fred Rash and Ray Harlan.



Inside:



Academy of Model Aeronautics International Aeromodeling Center, Muncie IN
website: www.modelaircraft.org; email: nats@modelaircraft.org
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Editors: Ashley Rauhen, Liz Helms, Rachelle Haughn

Day 3

I WAS SKEPTICAL when I first heard about towline gliders, but after watching how much they have advanced in a few short years, I am a believer. It is now regular practice to use sophisticated towing techniques to reach the ceiling.

Chuck Markos gained altitude on one side, glided across the ceiling while walking to the opposite side on the floor, then started towing up again. Fred Rash circle-towed under total control. All of them had what appeared to be a very deterministic release mechanism.

Ray Harlan bumped the girders several time during the tow, but his sturdy model handled it with no problems, winning with a time of 3:18. John Diebolt was second and Walt Collins took third.

The Smyrna FAC club participated in Dime Scale and FAC Scale. They also held their own Bostonian mass launch, NoCal, and Coconut Scale mini contests.

I don't have a lot of other detail about the morning events because I was knocked out in my room at the time, sleeping off the previous nights late hours. (not what you think – I was writing *NatsNews!*)

The afternoon was made for Ministick, EZB, FIL, and A-ROG.

FIL shaped up to be a battle royale. Relative newbie Leo Pilachowski tried to arrange a team contest between the Young Guns and the Old Geezers.

Somehow I ended up on the Old Geezers with Jim Richmond and Larry Cailliau. The Young Guns consisted of Leo, Kang Lee, and Bill Gowen. Nobody actually agreed to participate, but we didn't so "no" either.

Jim Richmond opened with a 20:14 and 20:03 to take the early lead. I posted a weak 18:48 with my 2/99 rubber and then, deciding that I couldn't handle letting the upstarts beat me, broke out the 5/99. It did the trick and I bumped my times up with a 20:20 and 20:05 to move on top.

Kang had a great flight going but messed up a couple of steers that subtracted about 30 feet of altitude, still landing with a 19:38. It looked like the only way I was going to beat him was if he kept making mistakes!

Larry Cailliau put up a 19:21 and 18:41 before declaring that this model airplane stuff was too tough and retiring for the evening to have dinner with his wife.

Previous FIL national champion Bill Gowen struggled with launch problems—his wingtip tucking under and triggering a death spiral. He managed only 18:05 with a 14:57 backup.

Leo had a 19:01 and 18:17. The Geezers won this time, but the Young Guns are just a little experience away from taking over. It looks like it is time to build a new plane.

As the closing bell approached, Kang had one last attempt to move into first place. We calculated



Katie Bosman did 16:31 with her first EZB.



Kang Lee and Tem Johnson congratulate Ray Harlan on his Towline Glider win.

EVENT MOD. CIVIL PROD.				PLACE
INSTANT NAME & ADDRESS	RECORD-DURATION	SPEED OR POINTS SCORED		
OLESON, DOUG				DNF
STEVENS, ROBERT	1:29 1:33 1:45		TOTAL	128.5
			PLACE	①
MORRIS, JOE	45 41 45 45		TOTAL	70
			PLACE	②
BOSMAN, KATIE	45 48 51			

that he needed just over 21 minutes. He got to the very top, managed a few lucky bounces on the girders, and brushed the speakers on the way down—all without getting hung up. I couldn't take the pressure and walked outside with my stopwatch, planning to return just as it clicked over to 21 minutes to see if his plane was still in the air.

At the same time, Ray Harlan was in the same boat, needing just 5 more seconds to overtake Kang's 28:11 with just one last attempt left.

I reentered the building to find that both attempts failed. F1L ended with John Kagan in first, Jim Richmond second, and Kang Lee third. EZB was Kang first, Ray Harlan second, Jim Richmond third.

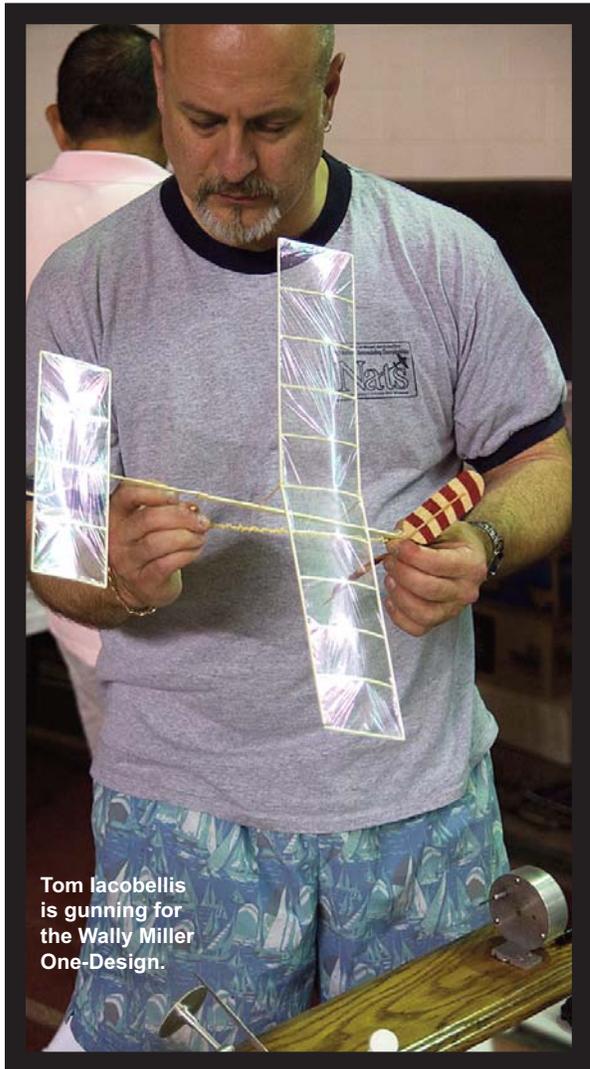
Walt Van Gorder returned to USIC to dominate Ministick with a 12:45. I'm not positive, but it looked like one of Walt's models got sucked out a rip in the ceiling—the first time I've see that happen outside of Belgrade Fair Hall 1 in Serbia. Tom Sova was second with 12:03, and Emil Schutzel's 11:51 was third.

Tomorrow features the popular Coconut Scale mass launch, including David Aronstein's Tupolev A.N.T. 25, A-6, Pennyplane, Manhattan, Helicopter, Ornithopter, the LPP Pro/Am, and the Wally Miller EZB One-Design.

That's a lot of flying! Stay tuned to see how they turn out.

—John Kagan

JP Kish talks to Bill Gowen about his F1Ls.



Tom Iacobellis is gunning for the Wally Miller One-Design.

EVENT BOSTONIAN		RECORD-DURATION	SPEED OR POINTS SCORED	PLACE
CONTESTANT NAME & ADDRESS				
✓ BARKER, JOHN	1:15			7
GRABSKI, PAUL				DNF
✓ HARLAN, RAY				DNF
✓ OLESON, DOUG				DNF
✓ SCHUTZEL, EMIL	4:11 4:04 5:21 5:12			1
✓ GRABSKI, PAUL	2:11 3:53 3:32 3:58 4:00			3
✓ DIEBOLT, JOHN	4:49 4:36			2
✓ ERBACH, DAVE	1:30 1:30 1:43			6
✓ IACOBELLIS, TOM	2:39 3:17			5
SHEPHERD, C.				DNF
✓ RASH, FRED	3:48 3:48			4

Kang Lee has some serious steering style.



A-6.



Hey, where did that roll of yellow tissue go?

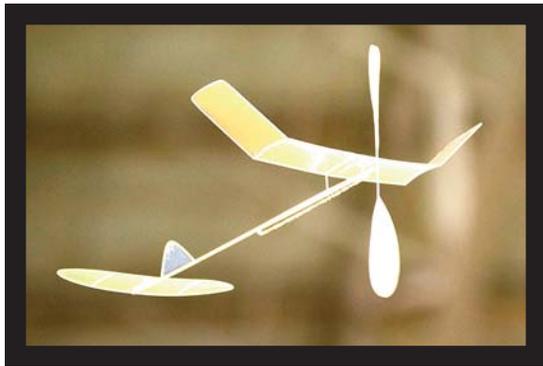
EVENT HANDLAUNCH STICK		PLACE
CONTESTANT NAME & ADDRESS	RECORD-DURATION SPEED OR POINTS SCORED	
HARLAN RAY	10:45	(4) 10:45
HOOD, JEFF		DNF
Y.K. LEE	23:48 24:49 27:45	(3) 27:45
KAGAN, JOHN	32:01	(1) 32:01
LOUCKA, LARRY		DNF
SOVA, TOM	26:48 29:46	(2) 29:46



Dime Scale.

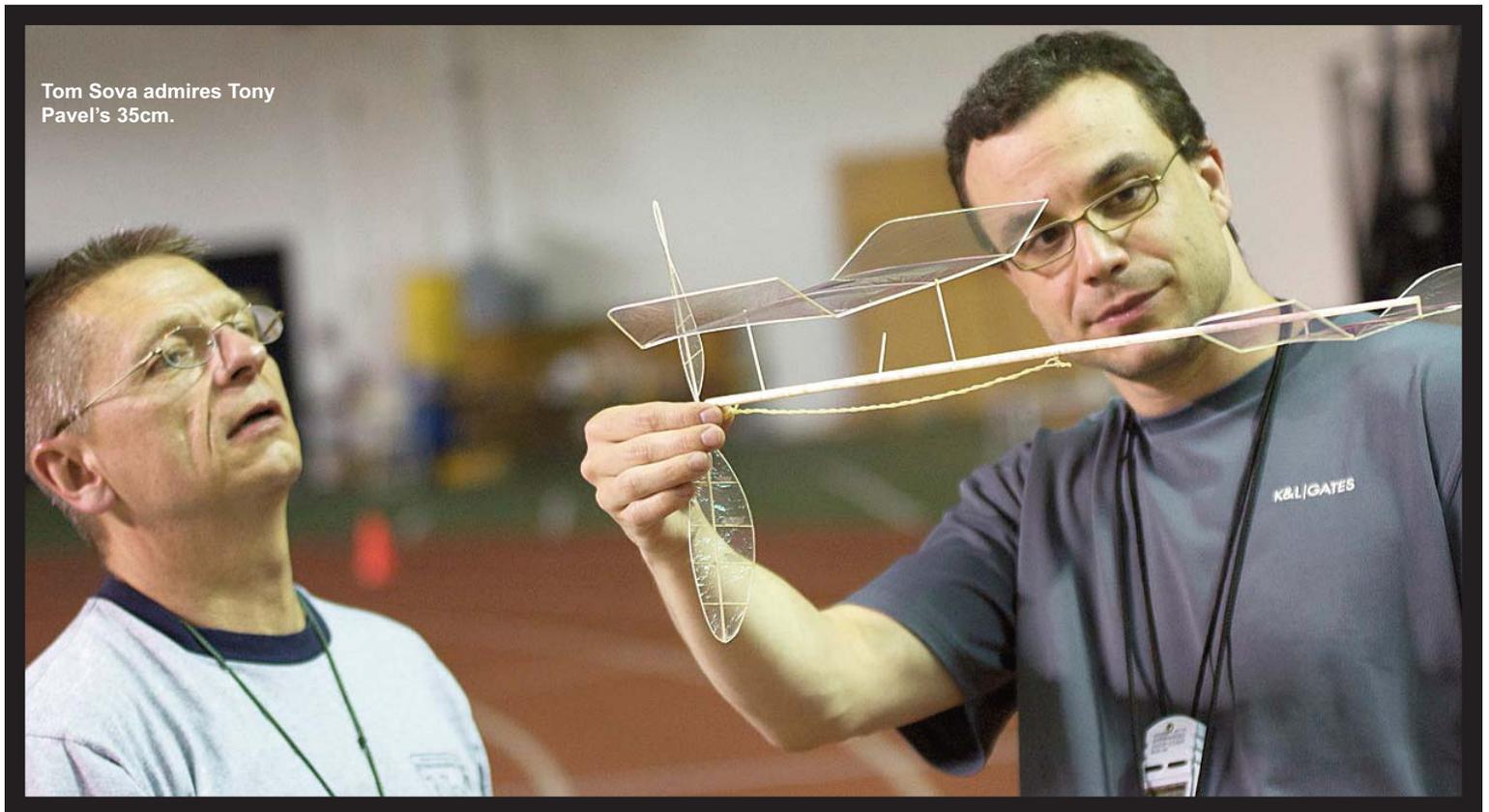


Kang Lee is EZB National Champion.



John Kagan's National Champion F1L.

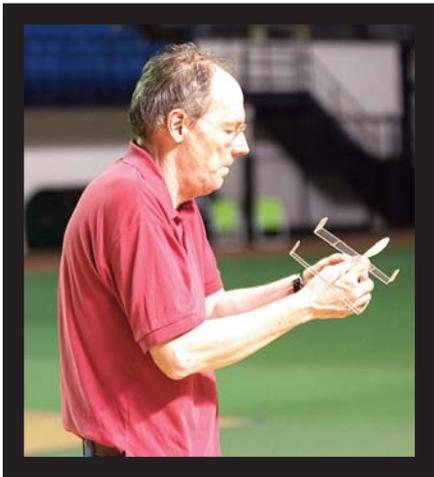
EVENT BOSTONIAN		RECORD-DURATION	SPEED OR POINTS SCORED	PLACE
CONTESTANT NAME & ADDRESS				
✓ BARKER, JOHN		1:15		⑦
✓ GRABSKI, PAUL				DNF
✓ HARLAN, RAY				
✓ OLESON, DOUG				DNF
✓ SCHUTZEL, EMIL		4:14	4:04 5:21 5:12	①
✓ GRABSKI, PAUL		2:11	3:53 3:32 3:58 4:00	③
✓ DIEBOLT, JOHN		4:44	4:36	②
✓ ERBACH, DAVE		1:30	1:30 1:43	⑥
✓ JACOBELLIS, TOM		2:39	3:17	⑤
✓ SHEPHERD, C.				DNF
✓ TRASH, FRED		3:48	3:48	④



Tom Sova admires Tony Pavel's 35cm.



Charlie and Soren Slater work on their scale model.



Leo Pilachowski's Ministick.

EVENT F1D		RECORD-DURATION	SPEED OR POINTS SCORED	PLACE
INTESTANT NAME & ADDRESS				
SANBORN, BRETT				DNF
JOSHUA, FINN		16:05 18:32 (19:46) 17:55 (19:14)		(5) 39:00
BERTON, ED				DNF
CAILLIAU, LARRY		(33:57) 5:33 (34:42)		(1) 68:19
IACOBEEELIS, TOM		(30:42) (28:01) 27:11		(4) 58:50
KAGAN, JOHN		9:58 3:44 8:43 32:01		(2) 63:44
PILACHOWSKI, LEO		13:29 5:25		(6) 28:54
RICHMOND, JIM		30:30 (31:10) (31:20)		(3) 62:30



Chet Wrzos loves EZB.

Rob Romash has a new retrieval reel.



Day 4

I ARRIVED in the dome just in time to catch the Coconut Mass launch. It was basically Tim Lavender and crew against David Aronstein. The Smyrna FAC planes were definitely impressive—a continuous improvement in construction and flight performance over the years. I didn't see the times, but my mental stopwatch said that the top two planes would have given Richard Miller's winning model from previous Nats a run for its money.

Nothing threatened David's win, though. His model was just starting its cruise when the others landed. It's truly a beautiful model to watch.

The afternoon was packed full of duration events, a highlight being the LPP Pro/Am with nine teams competing. Soren Slater returned with Brett Sanborn's excellent donation plane and paired up with Pro Max Zaluska.

Soren cranked up three 13+ flights, topping out at 13:55 for the win. Max provided guidance, but Soren is really getting a hang of Indoor. He certainly has the temperament, handling his model slowly and carefully like an expert.

Jim Richmond Pro-ed for Dan Moses. Chris Stoddard brought Jim's donation plane back for him to use another year, which got

Jim back into the Pro/Am action. He then graciously allowed his Am to compete with his personal model, and together they posted a 13:41. Unfortunately, it was their sixth official flight in an event that only has five flights. A 12:37 ended up as their best official.

Jim also worked with John Moses, submitting a confusing 13:63 (note, there are only 60 seconds in a minute). It turned out to be a typo, the real time being 13:03, good enough for second.

Glider enthusiast John Yost definitely has a competitive edge. He partnered with Pro Rob Romash and pushed his model to a 12:25. I won't be surprised to see John return next year with a competitive model of his own.

Morgan Slater worked with Pro David Aronstein. David's plane was a group effort with Joshua Finn, who provided the prop. Morgan logged a top flight of 9:27, and vowed to return next year with a fleet of indoor ships.

Madga Moses was guided by our newest Pro, Kang Lee. She learned a lot, and flew a great 12:14. The entire Moses family was very positive about their experience and also planned to return.

Zevi Aronstein had the good fortune to pick Pro Tom Iacobellis, current Category IV LPP national record holder. I made sure Zev

didn't end up getting his dad as a pro—I figured they had plenty of experience flying together! Zev flew 11:49.

Lee Sumner and Pro Bill Gowen did 11:02.

Katie Bosman lucked out and got John Kagan as her Pro. Katie was a pleasure to work with, and has been quickly advancing her Indoor FF skills. She flew 12:11 before switching to A-6, her current favorite beginner event. With some prodding from Romash, she bumped up her A-6 time from an initial 3-minute flight to an impressive 7:01, edging ahead of Tony Pavel (who then received non-stop grief from Romash).

Tom Sova won A-6 with another flight knocking on the 10 minute door—9:33. Tem Johnson was close in second with 9:21, and Bill Gowen did 9:11 for third.

Abram Van Dover offered up a significant amount of money as an incentive for the Wally Miller original EZB One-Design, but disappointingly only three people took the challenge. John Diebolt collected bucks for third place with 6:49. Last year Am, Ken Achee, cashed in for second place with 10:01. He tried another flight to advance, but planted the model in the ceiling. John Kagan scavenged some old 5/99 leftovers, using a double loop of .024 inches to post the winning flight of 13:45 (it also took a bunch of lucky bounces).

John Diebolt won helicopter with 6:39, with Walt Collins and David Erbach taking second and third.

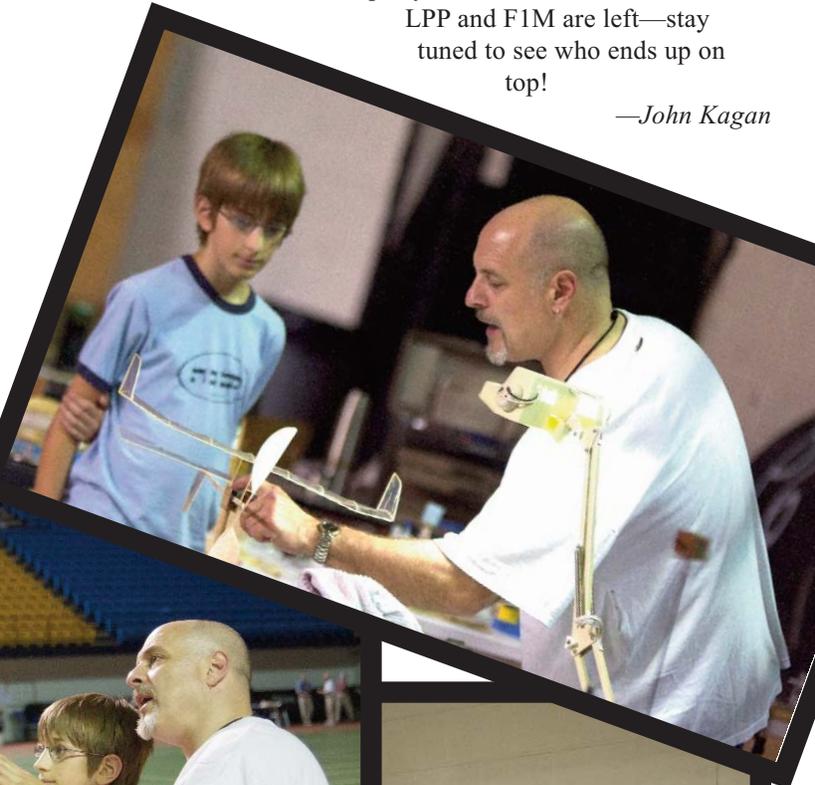
Ray Harlan finished first again in Ornithopter with his usual stunning model, logging a 16:15. John Diebolt was second with 9:33, and Zevi Aronstein flew a cool looking hand-decorated ship that derived all its lift from the flapping wing to third place.

Emil Schutzel won Manhattan with 9:56. David Aronstein flew a partially paper covered model to 8:05 for second, and David Erbach was third.

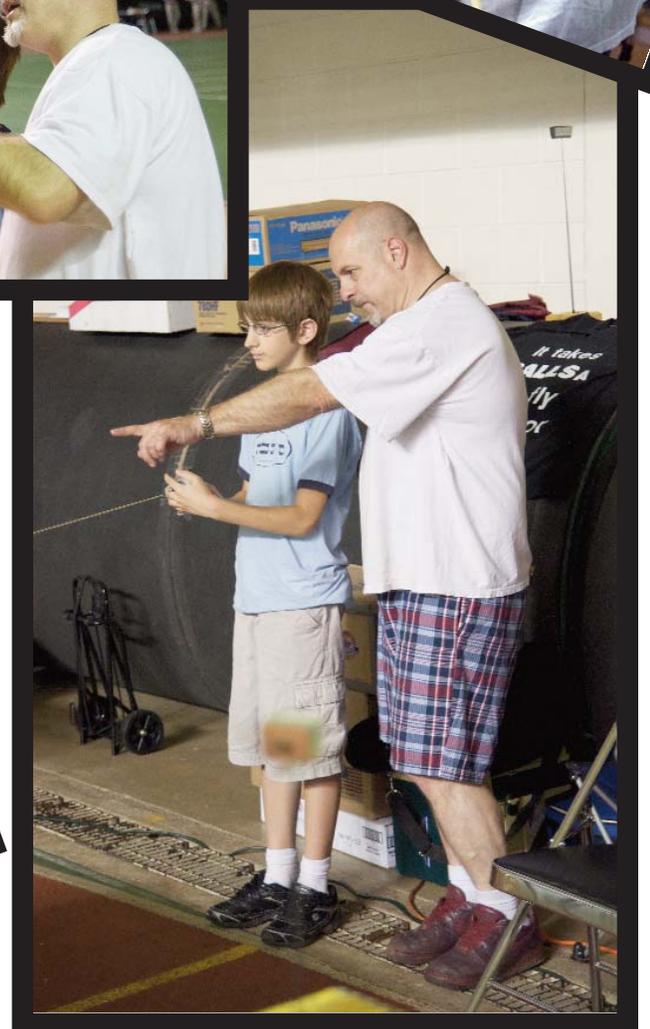
Tony Pavel won the raffle grand prize, so be sure to hit him up if you need to borrow a winder.

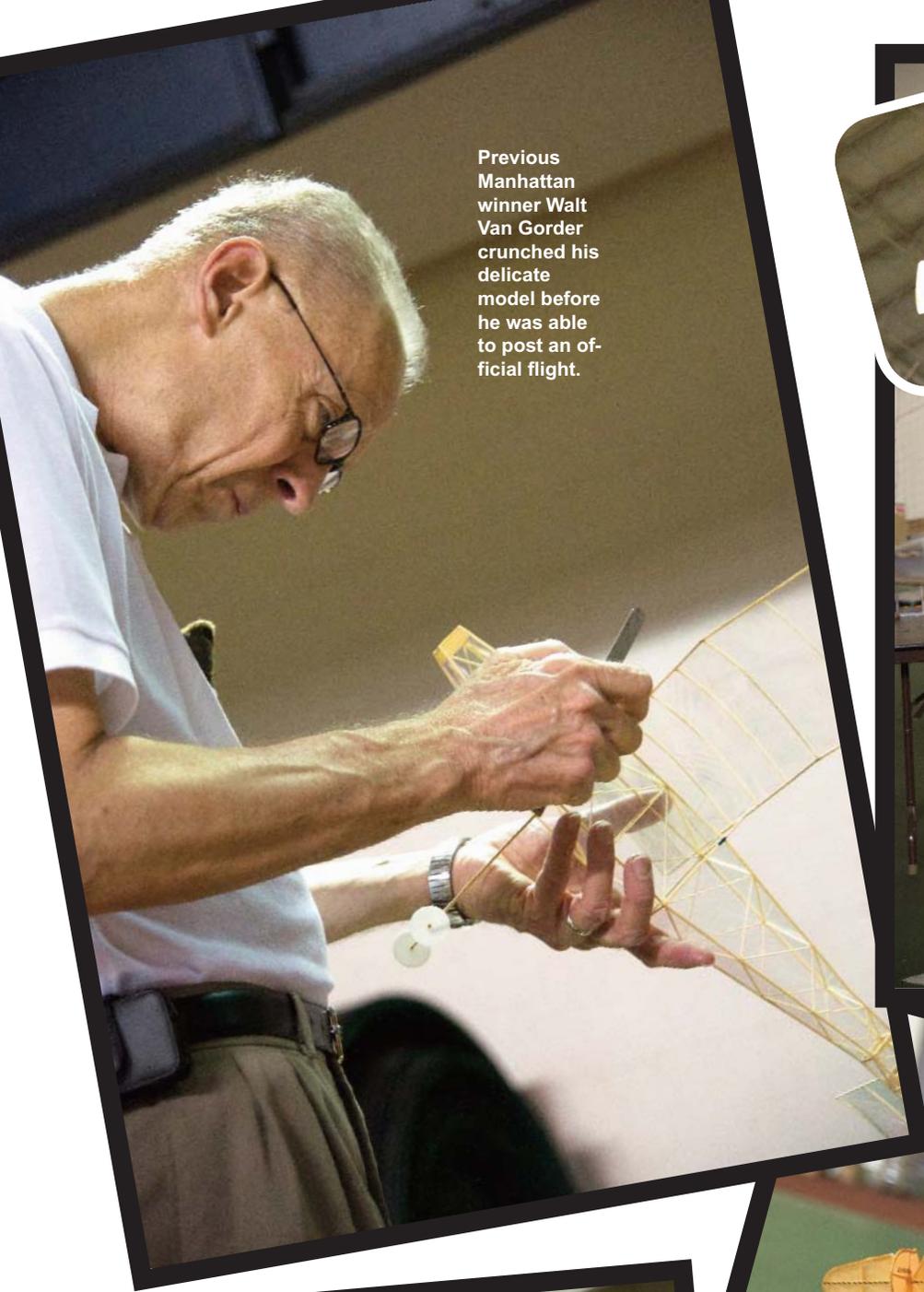
LPP and FIM are left—stay tuned to see who ends up on top!

—John Kagan

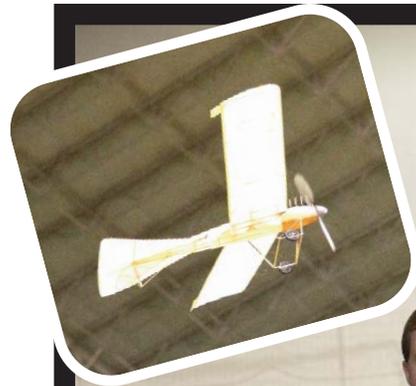


LPP Pro/Am team Zevi Aronstein and Tom Iacobellis.

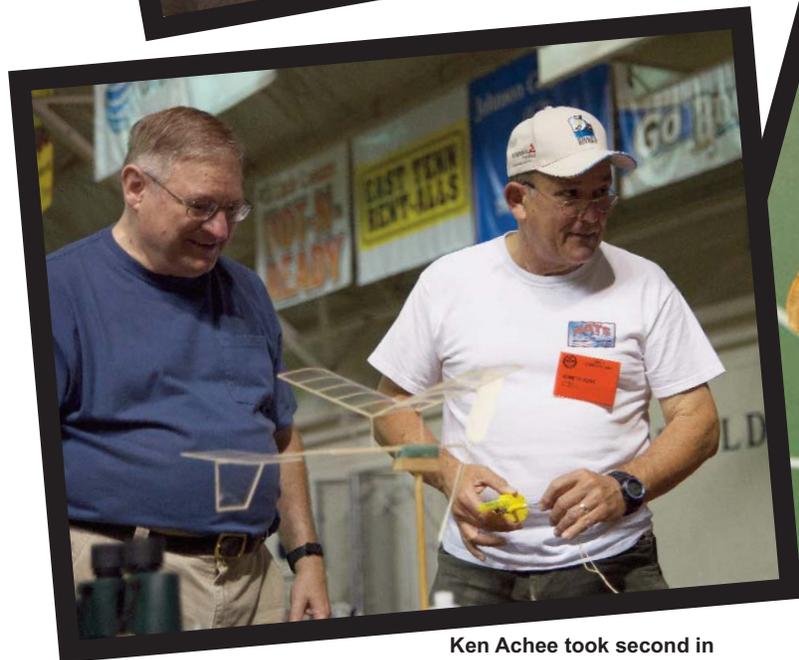




Previous Manhattan winner Walt Van Gorder crunched his delicate model before he was able to post an official flight.



Robert Stevens' second-place Coconut Mass Launch model.



Ken Achee took second in the Wally Miller One-Design.



Katie Bosman pitches in with her FAC club.



WW II Mass Launch ship.



Bob Warmann's NoCal.

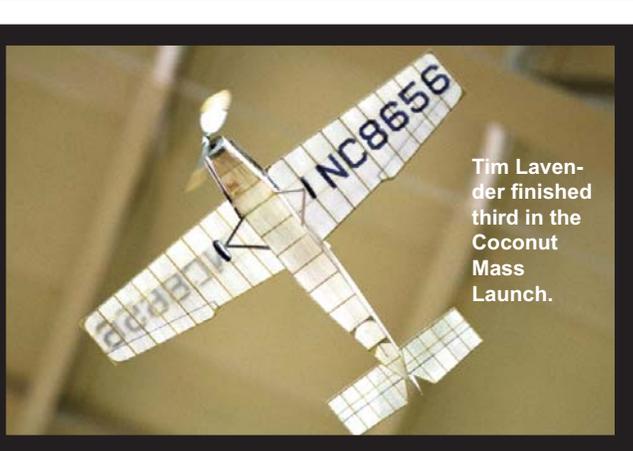
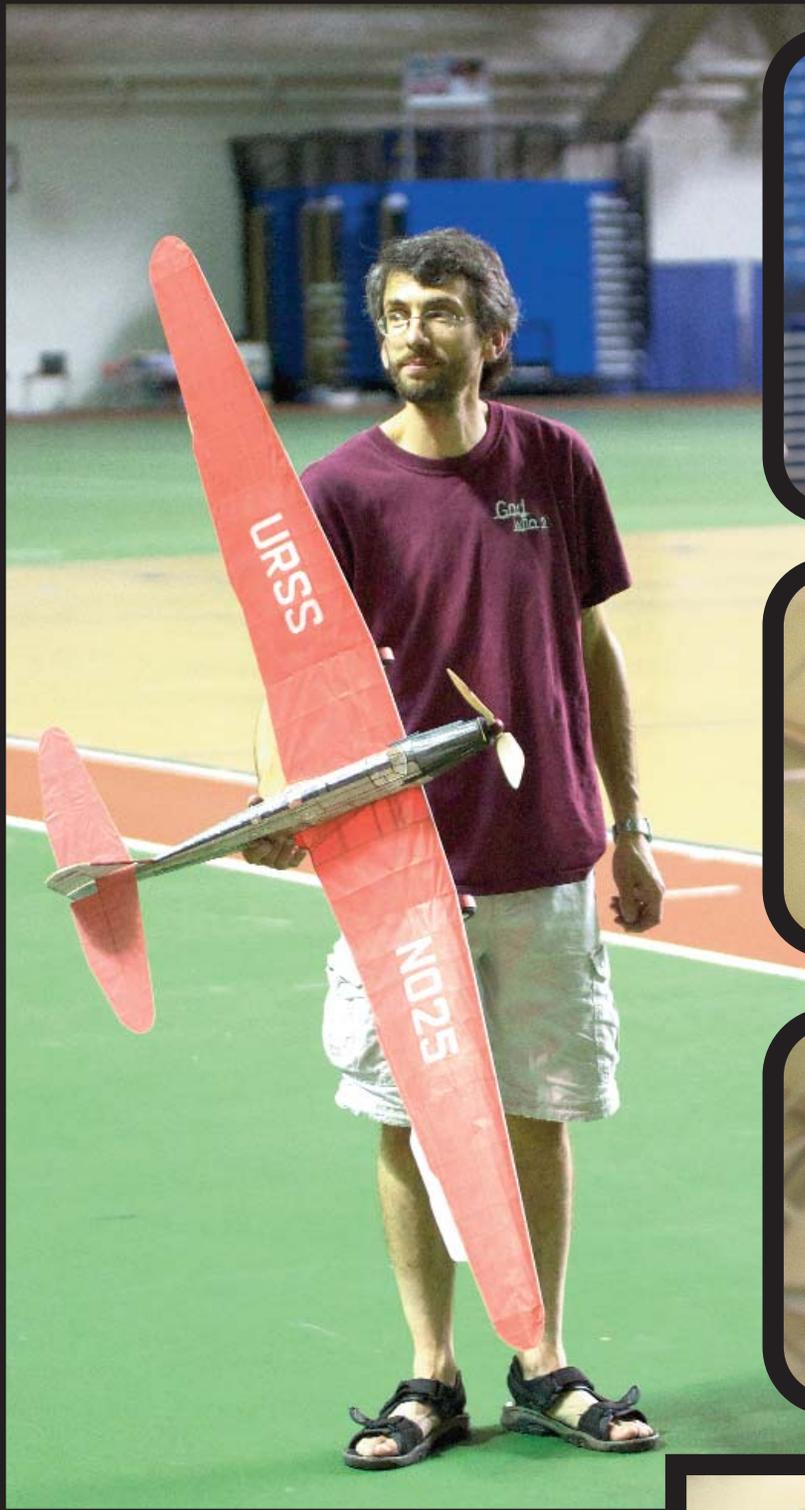


Above: Kang Lee and his LPP.



Left: Tim Warren winds his NoCal Wildcat drone.

David Aronstein's Coconut model.



Tim Laver-
der finished
third in the
Coconut
Mass
Launch.



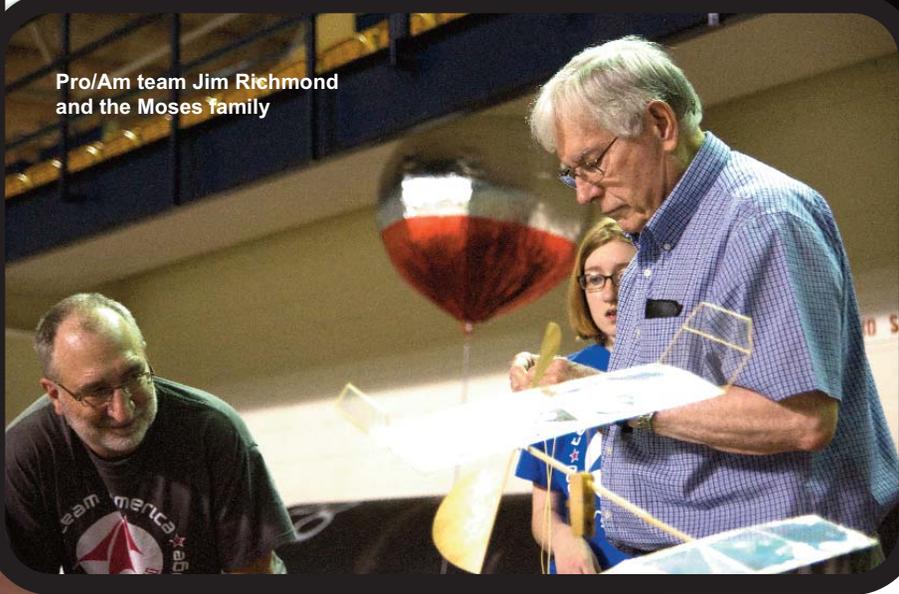
Soren Slater's
scale model.



Zevi Aronstein launching his LPP.



Steve Fujikawa attended his first Indoor FF Nats.



Pro/Am team Jim Richmond and the Moses family



Romash, Kagan, and Bosman.