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NATS NEWS

Daily coverage of the 2010 National Aeromodeling Championships



Long morning shadows as the flightline for both circles come alive. Ted Kraver photo.

Academy of Model Aeronautics
2010 National Aeromodeling Championships

Nats

Muncie Indiana • Johnson City Tennessee

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A special thank-you to members of **AMA's Flight Support Team**. Our community partners recognize that AMA onsite events bring thousands of visitors during the flying season who spend dollars in our community. Their generous donations help AMA continue to host the many competition events held annually, and in turn, AMA promotes and encourages our members to look for and support members of the **Flight Support Team**.

CL SCALE: PREVIEW!

You all come on over!

Control Line Scale at the Nationals is a fascinating event that is static judged and flown in conjunction with RC Scale. For the first time in many years, CL Scale is being contested in sequence with the other Control Line events—Speed, Combat, Stunt, Racing, and Navy Carrier.

Scale is on the Friday, Saturday, and Sunday prior to “Control Line Week.” This change was made because many CL fliers wanted to observe or compete in CL Scale, but two trips to Muncie was one trip too many. On Friday all the models and builder/fliers are accessible for close inspection and chats. Over the weekend enjoy incredible flying at both flightlines. The National Association of Scale Aeromodelers’ (NASA) supper and auction is at the field Saturday night.

CL modelers come together once a year to compete nationally. Airplanes that have been campaigned in local contests compete in five events and Junior, Senior, and Open age classes. The events offer a range of opportunities from novice to expert. The least demanding is Fun Scale with only 10 points from static judging where the flight is 100.

With no builder-of-the-model rule you can enter an ARF with all the modifications you desire. Profile Scale is the simplest model to build and is usually flown with three-wire system to control throttle. Sport Scale has a full body and typically has more flight options with electronic controls.

Designer Scale requires that you design the model, no kits, or published plans allowed. These models may take over a thousand hours to design, build, and test fly. F4B Scale is per the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale rules that are a bit more complex and demanding. This event requires a Designer Scale-type aircraft with a high level of detail.

A fun part of CL Scale is the opportunity to build and fly your most favorite airplane or surprise your colleagues with a unique airplane that is being modeled for the first time. Two- and four-engine models and their sweet sounding engines are common. The electric motor bypasses the starting issue, but you can miss the effect of “nitro” engine sound.

Most Scale models evolved over the years. New flight features like flaps and retracts can be added. A judge many have pointed out a flaw in color, profile, or detail that needs fixing. But mostly it is adding more and more

detail to the model such as cockpit and markings. My four-engine profile GAL 39 Fleet Shadower is into its third total makeover. I hope I can get the brakes working by Nationals time.

NASA is the AMA Special Interest Group that is responsible for both CL and RC Scale competitions (www.nasascale.org). We have a bimonthly newsletter, which is a good way to engage CL Scale and learn more about building, flying, and our community.

Hope to see you at the CL Scale Nationals. You can see the best in CL Scale building and flying to take back to your workshop and flying field. Maybe by the next Nationals you will be back with a couple of models. It worked for me.

—Ted Kraver



Alan Goff attaching lines to his F4B Scale WACO Classic. Kraver photo.



Tom Alberty works his registration with Shirley Sheeks while John Brodak looks on with his Sport Scale Shoestring Racer. Kraver photo.

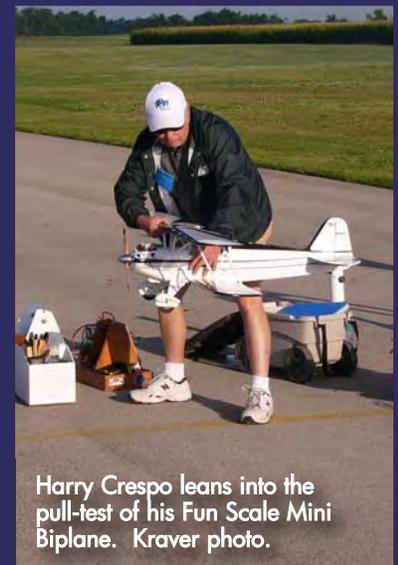
Brodak brothers John and George seem to be having too much fun with their static judging. Kraver photo.



Auctioneer Jim Rediski in fine form at the NASA annual supper, pitching all kinds of scale modeling and other goodies. Kraver photo.



Aaron Bauer flying with body language from dad Peter Bauer. Kraver photo.



Harry Crespo leans into the pull-test of his Fun Scale Mini Biplane. Kraver photo.

Mindy Alberty setting up the paperwork on her Sport Scale PT-21. Kraver photo.



Alan Goff performing high flight maneuver with his F4B scale WACO Classic. Kraver photo.



Master designer Frank Beatty prepping his F4B Scale Staaken Z-1 Flitzer and Sports scale Stearman 4EM. Kraver photo.

RC SCALE: PREVIEW!

Ah, well it's that time of year again where we pack the van, send the kids off to—oh wait, they've been gone for some time now. Anyway make sure the kids are with us and we head to a little piece of heaven for modelers, including Scale modelers: Muncie, Indiana, and the AMA International Flying Site.

It seems the time frame may change a little over the years but you can usually bet your clock the Scale Nationals will be held either in mid-July or early August.

There are always a great bunch of guys and gals there as well as some of the best models in the United States. There will be an all-you-can-eat banquet served on Saturday night as well as raffles and prizes handed out to the winners. There are also a few there who could have a trick or two up their sleeves for others also, all in good fun.

Serious Scale competition as well as good food, a great site, and some of the best people I've ever run into anywhere. The RC and CL Scale Nationals are run by the National Association of Scale Aeromodelers, the AMA Special

Interest group for Scale that has been around now for more than 27 years.

Contestants have a variety of classes in which to choose to compete, including F4C FAI Scale, Designer Scale, Expert, Sportsman, Fun Scale Novice, and Fun Scale Open as well as Team Scale. So there is something for everyone who likes and builds Scale models!

Father and son, Joe and Chris Hess, pilot, caller, and the judges all concentrating on just one model at a time. Stan Alexander photo.

Static judging will be held at the RC Scale flying site this year and that is a change that everyone should note. Look for the big tent and after you register (the White House?), static judging will take place. Hope there will be practice flying on Friday, too.

Saturday night at the field is a special time for everyone who attends. There are static awards given out as well as some of the best food around Muncie, right there at the field under the tent. The NASA Banquet is a great place for all Scale modelers to get to know each other better and catch up on families, trips, and in general.

By Sunday afternoon hopefully the last of the contestants will have put in the last official flights of the day and awards will be given out including the Scale National Champion for RC Scale.

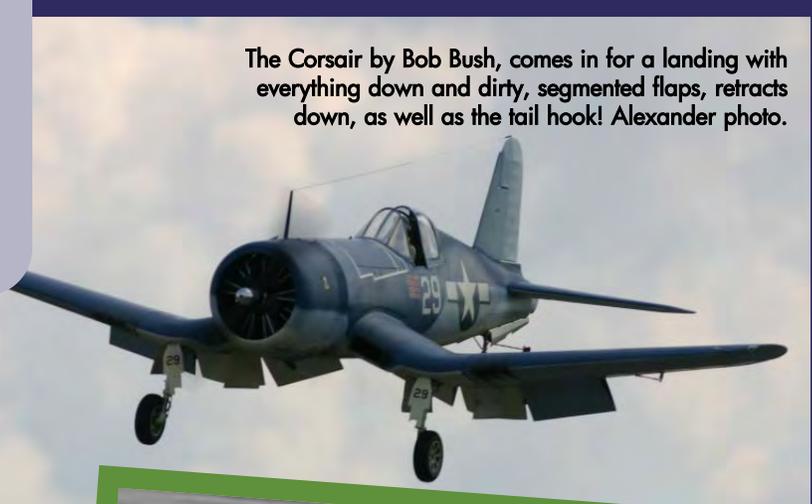
It's a great time for all, I love the smell of wet grass and caster in the morning ... What are some of your Scale Nationals memories?

Fair Skies & Tail Winds.

—Stan Alexander



The assembly area in the parking lot for static judging. Having extra room with large models is a great help. Alexander photo.



The Corsair by Bob Bush, comes in for a landing with everything down and dirty, segmented flaps, retracts down, as well as the tail hook! Alexander photo.



The Albatross D.Va built by Dave Johnson awaiting static judging at the site. Alexander photo.



Above: The Cessna Aerobat entered in Fun Scale is, as the name says, aerobatic! The little two-place Cessna is stressed for aerobatic training and these fly all across the country. This model is entered by Ron Hemphill. Alexander photo.



One of the largest models seen here being static judged, the Russian TU-95 was designed, built, and finished by George Mairana and piloted by Dave Pinegar in Team Scale. The model's wingspan is 108.6 inches, electric power, and counter-rotating propellers with a weight of only 32.3 lbs. Alexander photo.



The Saturday night NASA Banquet is a great time for all. Alexander photo.

RC SCALE AEROBATICS: AN IMAC SUCCESS!

The calendar says it is over. How can that be? Yep, the 2010 Scale Aerobatic (IMAC) Nats are in the books.

What a great week it has been. Great weather, great fun, and great competition. There will be more coverage in a future issue of *Model Aviation*, but without further adieu, here is how the week turned out.

Here are the top five finishers in each class:

Sportsman

Mike Gabbard
Blake Ziemba
Corey Ford
Frank Puccio
Chuck Davis

Intermediate

Ben Batts
Joey Hayes
Riley Kissenberth
Mario Barrios, Jr.
Andrew Taylor

Advanced

Ryan Clark
Alex Porter
Kyle Goodwine
Troy Wallace
Lou Matustik

Unlimited

Kurt Koelling
David Moser
Jason Noll
Will Berninger
Ty Lyman

Freestyle

Jason Noll
Ryan Clark
Chris Hass

For more detailed results, check out the AMA Web site at www.modelaircraft.org or the IMAC site at www.mini-iac.com.

The competition was tight in all classes and the top two finishers in Unlimited actually tied their flights for the finals, with the winner decided by the flights that were carried in from the previous days.

The week ended with the Freestyle event that is always a fun spectator event and the awards ceremony.

Hope everyone had a great week and look forward to seeing everyone next year.

Hats of to Contest Director Kent Porter and his entire team!

—Curtis Cozier



Above: Sportsman fliers at the awards ceremony.



Left: Intermediate pilots who competed in the finals.



Far left: Ben Batts took first in Intermediate.



Near left: Ryan Clark placed first in Advanced.

Curt Cozier photos.



Above:
Advanced
pilots take
home the
wood.



Left:
Unlimited
fliers in a
sea of
orange at
the finals.



CD Kent Porter with Jason Noll (L), Freestyle winner, Sportsman winner Mike Gabbard (center), and Kurt Koelling (R), Unlimited winner. Cozier photos.



Kurt Koelling (L), winner of the Bennett Cup, stands with Dennis Gergits. The Bennett Cup represents the highest raw score throughout the entire competition. The Hangar 9 Extra 260 below belongs to Kyle Goodwine. Michael Ramsey phoos.





Upper right: Christopher Gini's Thunder Tiger Extra 260. Center is Jason Noll's Aeroworks Edge 540 T. Lower left is Chris Hass's Aeroworks Extra 300. Each aircraft is approximately 35% scale with 100 cc engines. Michael Ramsey photos.

To the right is Will Bernniger's Edge 540. Center is Chris Hass's aircraft in Freestyle. Below is Alex Porter's aircraft, a Radiowave Extra 330.

