

2013 NATS

NATIONAL AEROMODELING CHAMPIONSHIPS
ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS · CHAMPAIGN IL · MUNCIE IN

NatsNews

Academy of Model Aeronautics
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Halftime show at Show Center for spectators, where they can talk to the modelers and get up close and personal with the models. Stan Alexander photo.

Today's Events:

RC Scale
CL Scale



Sunday, July 14

RC Scale Day 1 Recap

The flight judges look over the Saab Draken by Frank Alvarez before the second round of flight.



tube and a wood burner. Flaps, slats, swing wings, and many more features were operational on this electric-powered jet.

Another unique airplane we don't see modeled often is the Fiat CR-32 biplane fighter, campaigned by Larry Botsford from Elizabeth City, North Carolina. The scratch-built model is from his own-designed plans with a wingspan of 96 inches powered by an OS BGX engine and painted with Klass Kote epoxy paint. Markings are all hand painted and the model really flies well. We wish him all the luck in the competition this week.

The RC High Static score went to Mark Frankel with his own-designed T-34B. Mark has designed this kit as well as several others. The 99-inch-span model has a Zenoh GT-80

twin for power and is painted with PPG clearcoat paint as well as House of Kolors Day-Glo paint. Entered in Team Scale, this is one smooth flier.

At the NASA Banquet on Saturday night it was a great time—with many CL and RC scale modelers and their families attending. The Hangar 9 Tiger Moth ARF raffle was drawn and the winner is Donald Brann.

Everyone had a great time and we would like to thank Shannon Ort for orchestrating the event with several other wives. There were a few light-hearted awards handed out by Dale Arvin and Mike Barbee. Now we go on to Sunday!

Fair skies and tail winds!

—Stan Alexander
reporter, photographer

On Friday, models and competitors were processed at the AMA Headquarters as well as behind the white house, which has served as Nats Headquarters in the past. RC Event Director Jim Martin and his staff of NASA volunteers took care of registration, static judging for all, the RC Scale classes, and collected money for the banquet and the NASA raffle this year.

Static judging was held under the large, blue tent behind the white house as well. There were two models that were so large that one tent pole had to be removed to allow them inside the tent. These were the T-34s belonging to Bob Patton and Mike Barbee.

Static was held in the same place for RC and CL classes. Fun Scale was taken care of at the flying site as the competitors started flying the first round.

Friday night, AMA competition director Greg Hahn played country music under the tent as the officials and competitors enjoyed pizza from Papa John's. It was great. I mention this because the original vendors didn't show up at all for either Friday night or Saturday lunch. It seems that other events were in town that probably were more profitable to them and, well, you get the picture.

Saturday dawned and everyone was in high spirits and looking forward to the first round of competition. The wind was straight down the runway, and while it gave some of the light aircraft problems in the turns, you just needed to give it a bit more throttle at that time.

There were several models which impressed me including the return of Bob Fiorenzi flying his Yellow Aircraft F-14 Tomcat. Bob has been away from Scale competition for several years and we're all glad to see him back. The "Black Bunny" has more than 6,000 rivets on the skin, which were each applied by a hot brass

Ed Terry holds Bill Brucken's F4U Corsair before the next flight.



Bob's T-34 at speed on a high-speed flyby.



Bob Patton's 151-inch-wingspan T-34 about to rotate on a takeoff run.



Mark Lanterman's Embrearer built from an Airborne Models kit performs a dirty flyby.





Thunderbolt by Dale Arvin entered in Fun Scale.



Fiat CR 32 scratch-built by Larry Botsford, entered in Designer Scale.

Larry Folk's 1/3 scale "Top Cub." This model is very realistic in flight.



RC Scale



The General Aircraft Skyfarer entered by Evan Gaston in Fun Scale. Evan won the NASA Flight Achievement Award last year. I wonder who will win this year.



John Boyko's T-28 Trojan from an ESM kit. Powered by a Fuji 43, the model has Robart Retracts.

CL Scale Day 1 Recap

As predicted, the breeze rose and began to switch directions. The judges were professionally attentive as their friends—old and new—flew the required and optional maneuvers and procedures.

The increased randomness of the breezes took a toll on expert pilots during slow flight and landing with flaps extended on the main gear. Sometimes, through no fault of the pilots, an aircraft would bounce a little upon the wheels contacting the runway. This made the landings late in the day more difficult to attain with fluid smoothness.

These airplanes are quite spectacular to observe. The craftsmanship in both construction and decoration is at the

highest level of attainment. Many are of museum quality.

For instance, Pete Klepsic, both a competitor and a judge in different events, reproduced a photo of a World War II pilot in his aircraft and managed to transpose it in perfect scale and color into a superb profile aircraft! Wow! This and much more attention to realistic detail in the Profile Scale classes renders these aircraft just as thrilling to behold and just as realistic as in-the-round model aircraft.

Pete also pointed out that, as a judge in Profile Scale, he has some difficulty in following a camouflaged aircraft when the background scenery hits grass or trees,

because camouflage really works! He is right; it really does!

After the last event, competitors Jim Bradley and Bill Avea enjoyed drinks of cold water as they befriended your reporter and recounted some thrills in competition. Allen Goff, Control Line Scale CD, told about the day he suffered one of these unpredictable bounces during a landing and a landing gear departed the aircraft. Not to be undone at this, he actually taxied in on one wheel! We roared upon hearing this. I am fortunate to have these fine persons as new friends. This is fun.

—Steve Cuthbert
reporter/photographer

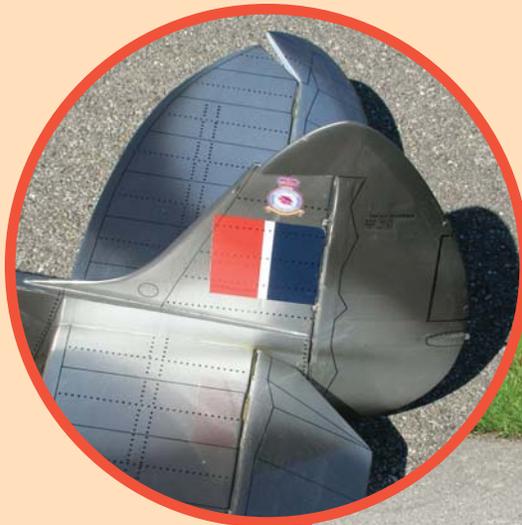




CL Scale

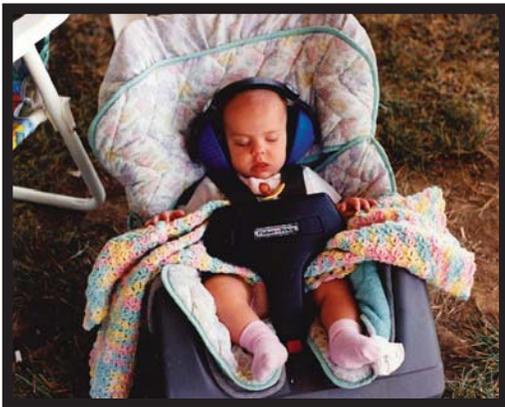


CL Scale



CL Scale

So who am I?



This is MaKala Robinson, granddaughter of Brenda and Melvin Schuette. This photo was MaKala's first time at the Control Line Circles 17 years ago.



Here is MaKala today getting some shut-eye in the sun at the Control Line Circles.



Proof that MaKala is related to the Schuettes as Grandpa Melvin is caught sleeping in the shade.

Blast From the Past

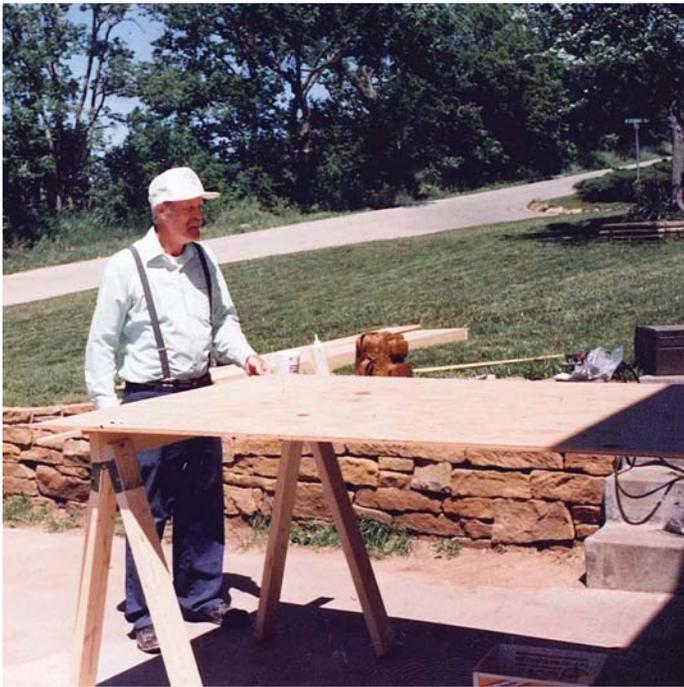
Contribution by
Brenda Schuette.



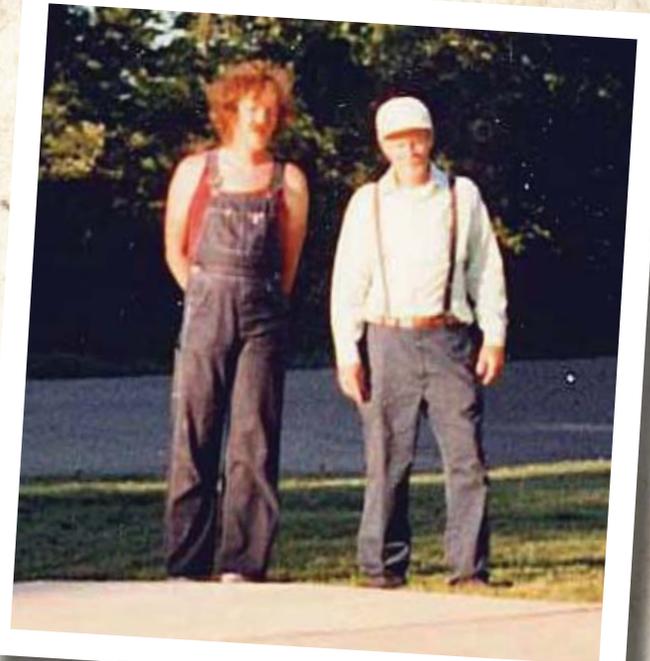
Bev and Bill Wisniewski



Melvin Schuette and Bev
Wisniewski, 1986



John Holliday



Melvin Schuette and John Holliday

This week's events:

Monday
Control Line
Pylon

Tuesday
Control Line
Pylon
RC Combat

Wednesday
Control Line
Pylon
RC Combat

Thursday
Control Line
Pylon
RC Combat

Friday
Control Line
Pylon
RC Combat

Saturday
Control Line
Pylon

THE CLOUD 9 MUSEUM STORE HAS
EXTENDED HOURS
M-F: 7a.m.-6p.m. | Sat & Sun: 11a.m.-6p.m.

2013 NATS APPAREL NOW AVAILABLE!



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\$500 GOLD-ENGRAVED BRICK IN THE WALK OF FAME

\$1,000 GOLD-ENGRAVED 8 X 8-INCH BLACK GRANITE BRICK IN THE WALK OF FAME

*please check with your tax preparer about this potential deduction as allowed by law.

When it comes to aeromodeling in America, there is one place above all others: the International Aeromodeling Center at AMA's Headquarters in Muncie, Indiana. The IAC has a beautifully designed Walk of Fame that is a wonderful way for you to honor AMA, a loved one, your club, or your organization with a commemorative brick. At the IAC, bricks are on permanent display for all visitors to see.

A commemorative brick would make a timeless and well-received gift during the holidays or any time of the year for that special person who has everything and needs nothing, as a permanent sign of his or her dedication to aeromodeling.

With your \$100 donation to the Academy, a brick in the Walk of Fame will be engraved in black with the AMA wings and two lines reserved for your name, a friend, loved one, club, or organization. A \$500 donation will secure a "gold wings" brick with logo and wording handsomely engraved in gold. At the \$1,000 level, you will receive an 8 x 8-inch black granite brick engraved in gold. Your donation is considered a gift in support of the AMA.



The 2013 National Aeromodeling Championships are sponsored by:



Thank you for joining us this year!

Steve Cuthbert photo.

