

# NATS 2009 NEWS

July 18, 2009



The judges relax a little while scoring the sequences.

*Bringing Modelers Together  
Begins With You!*  
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2009  
APRIL 1 - SEPTEMBER 14

Academy of Model Aeronautics International Aeromodeling Center, Muncie IN; Web site: [www.modelaircraft.org](http://www.modelaircraft.org); e-mail: [nats@modelaircraft.org](mailto:nats@modelaircraft.org);  
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Edited by: Liz Helms

**Sunday**  
RC Soaring Begins

**Monday**  
RC Soaring

**Tuesday**  
RC Soaring

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**.

## RC Aerobatics

A Kind of a Hush: The final day of RC Aerobatics has a totally different atmosphere from the previous three days. All the awards have been announced for Intermediate and Advanced, the semifinals are over for Masters and FAI, and a whole new contest starts on Day 4 for the remaining eight Masters and FAI pilots.

Masters pilots will continue to fly four more rounds of their established sequence, but these four rounds will be flown before a panel of five judges, not the normal three judges as earlier in the week.

FAI, on the other hand, will have two more rounds of the F-09 sequence, not the P-09 they normally have been flying. Added to that are the two unknown sequences they designed the evening before.

Another new twist to the FAI finals is a warm-up pilot. Usually, the first two pilots who did not make the cut, but are in the top 10 in FAI, do a flight of each unknown before the



Above: AC Glenn was number 9 and so he is “stick flying” through the sequence with his caller/Dad, Albert Glenn.

Left: The very young Ron VanPutte measures Verne Koester’s Integral with a tool designed especially for this purpose. Verne’s caller Steve Miller looks on.

Below: Stephen Byrd is just getting his airplane off the specially designed scale carefully calibrated just for this purpose.



judges to let them know what is coming.

Each of these eight airplanes need to be measured. They can not exceed the maximum length and wing span of 2 meters.

Each plane also needs to pass a weight test. All airplanes must max out at 11 pounds.

And third, each airplane will be checked for a maximum sound limit of 94db in FAI or 96db for AMA/Masters. There is an exact height and distance the microphone must be placed as the nose of the





Melissa Hester's husband looks on as Arch Stafford gets his beautiful Black Magic checked.

## The Ladies in the Crowd

Linda Tullius is well known to us, but not by that name. Linda and her sister grew up in Taylor, Michigan. She graduated from John F. Kennedy High School and soon, like the day after graduation, found a position at a local bank.

Linda liked the position so much she has continued to work at this same bank for the last 35 years. One evening Linda was out with some of her girl friends from the bank when two guys in gorilla suits came in.

To smoke, they had to put the cigarette into the nose of the gorilla, which was about where the person inside had his mouth. It was a sight to see a gorilla smoking through his nose.

The "gorilla boys" liked to walk into local grocery stores and order bananas, etc. During the course of the evening the gorillas asked two of the girls out on a date, one of whom was Linda Tullius herself. Linda even had a dance with one of the gorillas to the tune of the Red Rose Tea Shuffle.

It wasn't until their second date that Linda actually saw her date's face for the first time! She was proposed to twice: once informally and the second time with all the propriety that a gentleman has. Permission was asked of her father and with her father's blessings she was properly proposed to with a diamond and all.

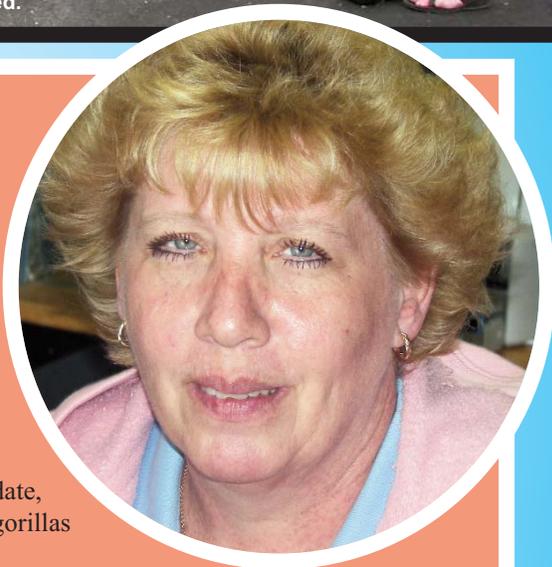
Some time after Linda had their first child, Joseph, and six years after their second child, Andrew, was born. At about the age of 12 Joseph asked for an airplane and his little brother Andrew would chase after the airplanes. Some years later Joseph started to fly aerobatics and young Andrew was soon to follow with Joseph's older airplanes.

Linda really likes airplane people and coming to contests. By now you know Linda's married name is Jesky.

She asked to tell one story on her son, Andrew. Often while eating dinner with the family Andrew will start flying an unknown sequence he made up with his dinner fork.

The best part of this interview was when I asked Linda about meeting her husband, Tim. Her face just glowed when she began to talk about Tim. The Jeskys are a National Championships family who have the FAI National Championships son, Andrew.

Congratulations to you all and all the best next month in Portugal.





Don Sczcurek looks on as Joseph Sczcurek, Houston Schweitzer, and Brian Strachan make some “corporate” decision about Don’s airplane.

airplane is pointed into the wind.

It is not surprising to anyone that Melissa Hester is working the sound checks at Site 3 now that the flying is done on Site 4. Melissa is one of the hardest-working people we have in the aerobatic world.

So if you are Riley Kissenberth, the reigning Intermediate National Champion, your flying is over, but you have to wait all day until 5 p.m. Friday afternoon for your award? What to do?

Riley spent most of his day at the FAI site. Was he there to pick up some pointers since he has been mostly an indoor contest pilot, or was he there to check out his competition contest pilot, or was he there to check out his competition for 2010?

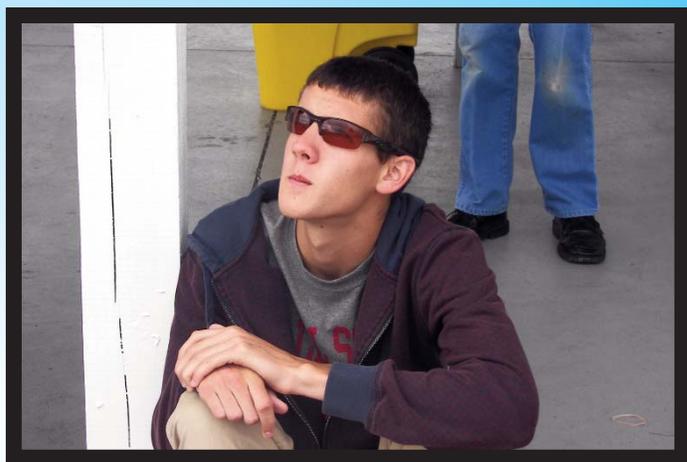
No matter the reason Riley is a name to be dealt with in the years to come.

There were several younger members of the NSRCA flying with us this year. Don Sczcurek seems to have caught their fancy with some additional graphics for his Black Magic.

Don was letting this awesome trio find appropriate places for a few additional graphics. Don looks on as Joseph Sczcurek, Houston Schweitzer, and Brian Strachan make some “corporate” decision about Don’s airplane. Thanks for being so great with our younger pilots Don.

So who are the winners of this year’s National Championships? Before I get to naming names, I would like to say that each pilot who flew at this year’s Nats is a champion in my book, no matter where his name appears on the list of finalists. Just being here makes you a champion.

—Jim Quinn



Riley Kissenberth spent most of his day at the FAI site checking out future competition.



Intermediate winners are from left to right: Riley Kissenberth, Dave Lampron, Edwin Maston, Larry Kauffman, and Dean Funk. The best Junior pilot was Dean Lampron.



Advanced winners are from left to right: Gary Courtney, Chris Odom, Keven O'Connor, John Tarpinian, and Brian Clemmons.



Masters winners are: Tony Frackowiak, Arch Stafford, George Asteris, Dave Snow, Brandon Landry, Stephen Byrd, Gerry Budd, and Verne Koester.



**Cammack Station Restaurant**  
 9200 W Jackson St  
 Open 7 Days a Week  
 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.





Above: FAI winners are: Andrew Jesky, our new reigning National Champion, Chip Hyde, Brett Wickizer, Mark Leseberg, Dave Lockhart, Don Szczur, Todd Blose, and Mike Kline.

Right: As we bid the Nats 2009 farewell, let's be sure to thank Dave Guerin for a sixth fabulous year and hope to see him again in 2010. Thanks, Dave!

Below: Once again our reigning National Champion, Andrew Jesky.

