



NATS 2009 NEWS

July 21, 2009



"Bubba" Glover and his timer "JT" (Jim Thomas) find a relaxing way to pass 10 minutes of thermal soaring.

Bringing Modelers Together
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MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2009
APRIL 1 - SEPTEMBER 14

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Tuesday
RC Soaring

Wednesday
RC Soaring

Thursday
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 Soaring: Two Meter, Day 1

Monday at the Soaring Nats dawned with a beautiful, cloudless sky and an early fog as the sun rose. It looked like perfect weather ahead for a great day's Soaring with a forecast of a 5 mph breeze and a high of 80°. Forty pilots arrived at the AMA's National Flying Site to do battle in the Two Meter sailplane class.

Pilots' briefing was scheduled for 8:30 but ran a little late and CD Tom Kallevang addressed us around 8:45. The briefing is an important part of any contest as safety is the number one consideration for all events. It is important for all pilots to know the field boundaries and rules concerning the landing and launch protocols for the contest.

The first round got underway around 9 a.m. with the first group away in

very light conditions. There was lift available but not everyone could find it as the first couple of groups tried to find 10 minutes of air.

This 2 Meter contest saw a brand new molded sailplane fly for the first time in US competition. Skip Miller and Cody



A Gaggle of Two Meter sailplanes await their turn to fly.



Remington of Skip Miller Models arrived with their brand new, sleek and smooth Espaditas. This is a new model, by renowned manufacturer Jaro Muller, is

based on the lines of the very successful Espada F3J/F3B design.

Incorporating many unique design

features such as FISD (Fully Integrated Servo Drive) and a very short build time, the Espadita certainly looks like a winning model. The FISD leaves the wing totally clear of linkages and as clean a Two Meter wing as is possible.

As the rounds went by, this fine aircraft proved also that it flies as good as it looks in the hands of pilots of the caliber of Cody and Skip.

The first round saw Larry Jolly in first place with a great 94 landing for a 1094. Larry was flying the Kennedy Composites Sprite—another new and beautiful molded Two Meter plane manufactured by Vladimir in the Czech Republic.

Skip Miller was a close second with 1091 and Peter Goldsmith, the other Australian, was flying a Duck. Cody was fourth and Tom Broeski filled fifth spot also flying a Sprite. The spread after Round One from first to fifth was just 14



Lee Atchison, the youngest competitor at 14 years old, gets ready to fly Round 2 with his First Plus.

points or, in simple terms, 14 inches. It looked like we were in for a great battle.

The light air saw only 12 pilots max in Round 1 but by Round 2 the air was starting to work and half the field found good air and made good scores. Cody's consistency began to show through with another great landing in the 80s seeing him move into first place with Skip in second. Johnny Berlin moved up to third place with his Duck and Peter Goldsmith and Don Harris (also flying a Duck) in fourth and fifth matched Johnny's score at 2116.

By Round 3 it was clear that only a max every round and a good landing would ensure a place in the top 10 by the end of the day. Many pilots who made one bad decision found themselves dropping down the score chart a long way as the top pilots reeled off maxes combined with great scoring landings round after round.

The Two Meter sailplanes launch to the moon and it is great to watch these small 30- to 40-oz. aircraft ping an extra couple of hundred feet off the end of their launch. In the effort to achieve those extra feet, many pilots suffered from the inevitable pop-off and had to fly out; the result was a drastically reduced launch height.

I was one of those who suffered this fate and learned a great lesson. In this caliber of competition you have to be prepared. By the end of the contest I had a great launching airplane with some modifications to the hook and launch trim changes.

Round 4 saw Don Harris drop to eighth place when he missed a landing. He wouldn't be the only top pilot to make such an error as later rounds would find a couple of other notables miss landings also.

At the completion of four rounds, Skip Miller had hit the lead as Cody flipped his Espadita on landing and Tom Broeski moved into

fifth place to replace Don.

A short lunch break was enjoyed with a few fun fliers getting their electrics going to entertain us while we ate some great hot dogs.

The middle of the day produced great soaring weather with almost every flier in every group scoring well in Rounds 4 and 5. The top five remained unchanged but Luis Bustamante was quietly moving up the ranks into sixth with a flawless display of maxes and consistent landings with his Organic.

Round 6 saw Cody hit the front again as Skip hiccuped also with a flip-over landing. Peter Goldsmith was still in third and had not missed a beat all day with maxes and good landing scores every round. Luis Bustamante had jumped up to fourth and fifth place was filled by Johnny Berlin.

Round 7 was almost a changing of the guard as Skip Miller made a tactical error and placed himself away from the good air to miss his only max of the day leaving Cody Remington on top at the end with 7,472 points

and Peter Goldsmith a close 7,416 in second.

Johnny Berlin hung on to third and Tom Broeski fourth with Charles (Mike) Fox moving into fifth on 7,357 to reap the benefit of Skip's mistake.

With such close scoring, it is obvious that anyone can win with just one simple mistake from the top fliers. The Espadita proved herself as an extremely competitive newcomer to the Two Meter ranks on her first day of competition, but the great scores posted with the old ships such as the Duck show that the pilot can also make the difference in the long run.

A great soaring day was had at a most magnificent soaring site. The weather was better than anyone could hope for and tomorrow looks like more of the same for Day 2 of the Two Meter contest.

—Gordon Buckland



Cody Remington shows how it's done with a 98-point precision landing in Round 7. That's about as close as you can get to the Hunski.



Scores and Standings

Please note: Scores are unofficial until tabulation is confirmed.

2009 AMA / LSF SOARING NATIONALS July 19 - July 28 2 Meter

Tom Kallevang - Contest Director

Tom Kallevang - Soaring Event Director

RESULTS

Place	Contestant								
		Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Round 7	Round 8	Total
1	Remington Cody	1,083	1,087	1,000	1,048	1,071	1,095		7,472
2	Goldsmith Peter	1,026	1,071	1,069	1,030	1,038	1,092		7,416
3	Berlin Johnny	1,055	1,067	1,059	1,038	1,029	1,078		7,387
4	Broeski Tom	998	1,043	1,072	1,078	1,034	1,075		7,380
5	Fox Charles	1,093	1,036	1,067	1,066	1,078	1,092		7,357
6	Bustamante Luis	1,028	1,079	1,037	1,065	1,088	1,035		7,354
7	Diniz John	998	1,071	1,042	1,057	1,059	1,083		7,343
8	Jolly Larry	969	1,059	1,068	1,037	1,048	1,064		7,339
9	Scully Tom	1,096	1,088	1,074	1,000	1,047	1,089		7,265
10	Giesecking Philip	990	1,048	1,047	1,059	1,059	1,074		7,165
11	Harris Don	1,082	1,050	995	1,011	1,000	975		7,147
12	Thomas Jim	1,054	1,066	1,075	1,043	1,019	992		7,075
13	Miller Skip	1,041	1,083	1,043	1,073	1,000	737		7,068
14	Lindsay John	1,070	995	1,034	993	990	1,067		6,723
15	Pike Doug	1,000	993	1,036	1,064	997	1,058		6,718
16	Mackenzie Ivan	978	1,063	1,026	600	994	997		6,675
17	Wallner Jack	998	1,000	1,005	1,062	998	802		6,572
18	Glover Robert	998	1,038	1,044	1,071	1,057	818		6,428
19	McGowan Michael	1,052	545	1,065	1,000	1,076	1,059		6,418
20	Beach David	988	1,051	1,039	595	998	1,018		6,388
21	Stump Mike	1,045	1,000	1,016	369	1,037	1,048		6,255
22	Schlitzkus Peter	1,000	993	997	1,010	998	784		6,219
23	Ruble Larry	940	1,035	654	995	985	579		6,176
24	Vincek Larry	967	982	998	167	1,065	992		6,153
25	Bothell Rick	0	1,044	1,000	1,025	1,000	982		6,113
26	Schwerin Alan	733	1,043	988	985	995	1,064		6,062
27	Jeffery Larry	610	1,004	988	995	1,044	1,025		6,011
28	Kennedy Barry	1,043	868	0	1,029	1,078	997		5,945
29	Richmond Don	1,099	993	1,022	1,073	126	747		5,889
30	Burson Robert	998	0	1,061	998	992	1,096		5,882
31	Lucke Steve	1,059	549	1,044	1,088	159	1,072		5,768
32	Nelson John	987	693	1,037	333	995	881		5,478
33	Buckland Gordon	152	1,023	1,049	1,046	1,000	364		5,356
34	Herider Bruce	0	985	1,011	993	257	699		4,643
35	Lueke John	580	992	1,024	550	1,032	318		4,496
36	Hayes Joseph	987	0	0	993	0	488		3,186



37	Berg-Sonne Anker	0	0	0	896	1,053	1,078		3,027
38	Atchison Lee	610	998	980	0	0			2,962
39	Scratch - Searl Sanford	998							1,839
40	Hill Jr. A. George	0	0		0				0
41	Moya Luis	0	0	0	0	0			0
42	Scratch - Edmonds Terry								0
43	Scratch - Green Sevem								0
44	Scratch - Harter Scott								0
45	Scratch - Lawicki Adam								0
46	Scratch - Lawicki Troy								0
47	Scratch - Robertson Jerr								0



Classified Ads

We're trying something new this year in *NatsNews*: classified ads. You can purchase a 1-inch, 2-inch, or 3-inch ad to wish someone good luck, say congratulations, or just say sorry about your luck.

The cost is \$5 per inch, and the maximum size is 3 inches. Sizes are shown below. Commercial advertising is not permitted.

If you are interested in purchasing a classified ad or have any questions, contact Liz Helms at AMA Headquarters, (765) 287-1256, ext. 213 or lhelms@modelaircraft.org.

Insertion requests must be received by 9 a.m. the day you wish the ad to appear.

Good luck Dad! If you
win, can we get a
dog?
Samantha and Johnnie

Congratulations Eric!
That's the best flight
you've ever made!
We're proud of you
and good luck today!

—The Red
Mountain Flyers

Sorry about your luck,
Jack Hartman.

That's just what you did
last year! And almost the
same place ... look, you
can still see the marks on
the pavement ...
Maybe you can build
another to crash next year.

—Gene, Bob, and the
Liars Club



Cody Remington demonstrates the finer points of the new Espadita to Peter Goldsmith and Jamie Buckland.



Luis Bustamante shows off his Organic along with his color coordinated timer.

Ed Wilson and Contest Director Tom Kallevang relax on the buggy between rounds.