

Tuesday
August 7

Magnificent Mountain Men: (L-R)
Darald Jones, Kit Bays, Rick Pangell,
and Jerry Murphy (standing).



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Free Flight Day 2

Today's Events:
RC Electric
Free Flight

WHAT A difference a year makes! The first day of Free Flight Nats week provided the contestants on the field with the best flying conditions in recent memory. We basked in low to

mid-80° temperatures and very light winds out of the northwest, making for short and easy retrievals. The clear and cloudless skies allowed for superb visibility. Conditions were simply marvelous.

The night brought temperatures dipping down into the mid-50s, bringing deep and restful sleep for the campers.

The excellent conditions made for very competitive flying, as the scores will indicate. Off-field excursions were far fewer than usual—another boon to the day's enjoyment. As mentioned in yesterday's report, attendance is down from last year, but all events produced the typical field of contestants. Those who came did so to fly.

Moffett fielded the largest number of contestants; 18. This rubber-powered event offers the unique challenge of ROG launches and robust power. Past multi-year winner, Ed Sneed, won again with a solid score of 2,203 seconds—well ahead of the second- and third-place finishers, David Mills (1,429) and Ed Hardin (1,245).

The other rubber event of the day, Small Mulvihill (20 gram), fielded about a dozen fliers with David Sechrist winning, followed by David Mills and Ed Hardin. This event has much popularity despite its newness and unofficial status.

The biggest gas-powered event of the day, C NosGas, drew 16 fliers and impressive performances. These large and powerful gas models put on quite a show.

Larry Davidson placed first with his Lucky Lindy with 1,320 seconds, and Bob Showder flew his to 1,303 seconds. Bob Hanford placed third with 809 seconds.

Their slightly smaller, but just as powerful, cousin, 1/2A Gas, drew an equal number of fliers (16) and furnished equally impressive and much closer results. Faust Parker won with 886 seconds, followed closely behind by Gil Morris (885) and Ronnie Thompson (874).

The SAM events were well-introduced by .020 Replica and produced 15 fliers. These small, but robust, performers get very high with very small displacement engines. Bob Hanford won first with 477 seconds, trailed by Alan Abriss (429) and Elvin Buchele (360).

The final gas event of the day, Payload, gathered together its usual dedicated suspects, seven—a very good Nats number. Rudy Kluber won with 607 seconds.

Of the two glider events of the day, F1A Nordic drew the largest number of contestants (13). Young Timothy Barron won with an impressive score of 1,890 seconds, besting his father, Andrew (1,493), and Todor Boyadzhiev (1,433).

OT HLG only drew one fewer flier (12), and was won by Roger Van DeVonte with 289 seconds. Second and third places were hotly contested by Jim Lewis (245) and Dick Peterson (242).

Tuesday offers a wide array of events, and we expect the wonderful conditions to continue, at least that's what the weather report promises. Tune in tomorrow for the results from Mulvihill, B Gas, FIC, F1Q, ROW Gas and Rubber, FIH, and much more. *///*



Joe Williams (PA) winding his Moffett rubber model—a multiyear Nats winner.

Carl Redlin and Bud Romak (both of CA) and the Max Wagon; on-field equipment taken to appropriate extremes.



Todor Boyadzhiev (Canada) enjoys the early morning calm before F1A competition.



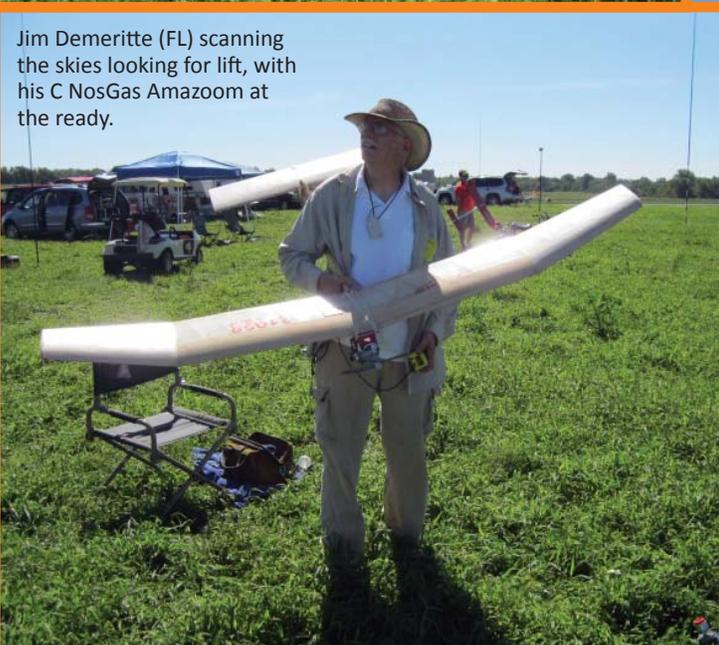
Bob Hanford (OH) looks aloft for signs of lift in C NosGas. It was good for third place.



Jim Jennings, Jr., (TN), hoists aloft his B electric-powered model, good for third place.



Jim Demeritte (FL) scanning the skies looking for lift, with his C NosGas Amazoom at the ready.



The photogenic .020 Replica winners: Rudy Kluiber (OH), Elvin Buchele (OH), Bill Schlarb (IN), Alan Abriss (NY), and Bob Hanford (OK), first.



The jovial winners in B Electric: Dick Ivers (MI), Jim Jennings, Jr. (TN), and Dick Covalt (OH), first.



The more reserved winners in Moffett: Ed Hardin (TN), David Mills (GA), and Ed Sneed (OH), first.

The radiant winners in F1A Nordic: Andrew Barron (CT), Todor Boydzhev (Canada), and Timothy Barron (CT), first.

Larry Davidson (VA) and Bob Showder (VA) with their big and impressive Lucky Lindy C NosGas winners. They took first and second place, respectively.



Bill Shailor (MI), 2012 Free Flight Nats Director, officiating in some capacity.



Charlie Jones (OH), renowned F1B Wakefield expert, goes outside his comfort zone with his F1A Nordic.



The bemused winners in OT HLG: David Gerspacher (OH), Chuck Morris (KS), Roger Van Devonte (IN), first; Dick Peterson (CA), and Jim Lewis (GA).

This week's events:

Wednesday RC Electric Free Flight	Thursday Free Flight	Friday Free Flight	Saturday RC Helicopter	Sunday RC Helicopter	Monday RC Helicopter
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ALES Day 1

ON THIS opening day of a two-day contest, the 21 ALES pilots were greeted by a cool (by Muncie summer standards) morning with a clear, blue, cloudless sky.

CD Rob “Bubba” Glover laid down the rules at the pilots’ meeting. Although the first round did not start until 10 a.m., the rest of the day progressed steadily, being directed by an audio file. The audio file would announce the five-minute prep time, the 10-second launch time, and the end of the 10-minute round for each of the four groups for the six rounds completed today. The audio file was created by Randy Brust, based on the success of a previous version used at the Polecat ALES Challenge in June 2012.

The opening rounds were flown in very soft conditions. Maxes were not a given; they required quite a bit of skill and smooth

flying. The combination of extremely light winds and warm temperatures made for a truly spectacular Soaring day.

It was one of the rare cloudless days at Muncie during the summer, which boosted everyone’s spirits after the rainy start to Electric Soaring on Sunday.

Even with a lack of wind, several pilots made tactical mistakes and paid for them by landing out of bounds according to the boundaries set by CD Rob Glover. At the end of the first day of flying, Bob Burson and Marc Gellart are placed first and second—separated by eight points—with the rest of the field in hot pursuit.

Tomorrow’s weather forecast calls for more of the same. The contest will be decided by the most consistent, mistake-free pilot. Signing off until tomorrow, happy skies to you! *///*



Dan Myers’ Topaz in flight.



All the 21 ALES pilots and their Sailplanes.

Bob Johnson deep in concentration.



Dan Myers brings his Topaz in for a high-point landing.



Jack lafret timing for Randy Brust.

Randy Brust launching his Super Ava.



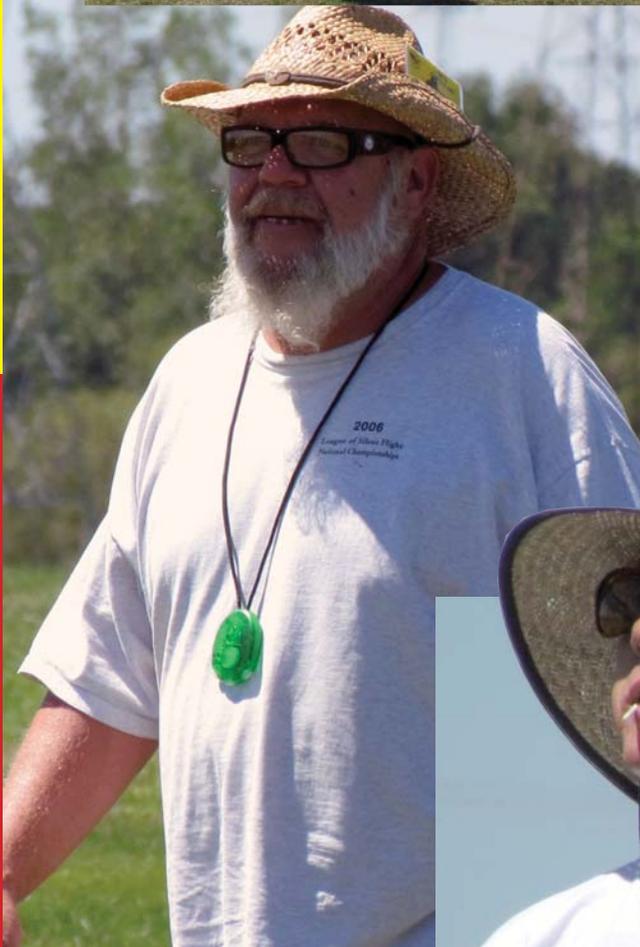
While enjoying a Tootsie Pop, Mike Bethel times for Dave Resinger.

Kerry Cochrell flying while Don Richmond times for him.

ALES Day 1 pilots' meeting.



Art Earl trying very hard to land inbounds.



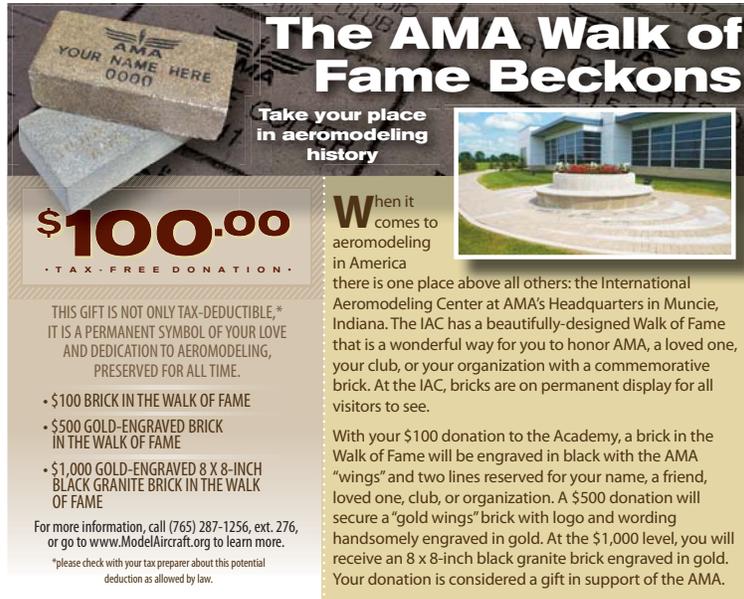
Above: The old polecat himself, Denny Maize, walking back from the flightline.



Right: Arthur Mackiewicz and timer Johnny Berlin.

RC Electric 1/2A

1	6360 ED J FRANZ	BURLINGTON	KY
2	6205 DANIEL J MAXWELL	MAHOMET	IL
3	5683 JOHN E IAFRET	GRAND BLANC	MI
4	4646 ARTHUR J EARL	MAHOMET	IL
5	4355 ROBERT L JOHNSON	FOND DU LAC	WI
6	2912 MARK W GROVES	COLUMBUS	OH
998 DNF	THOMAS E KALLEVANG	WHEELING	IL



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Some of the glamorous work behind the scenes; Rachelle Haugh and Phil Sullivan proofing score sheets.

Bob Burson launching his Super Ava.

