



# NatsNews

Daily Coverage of the 2011 National Aeromodeling Championships

August 8, 2011

Monday

RC Helicopter

Tuesday

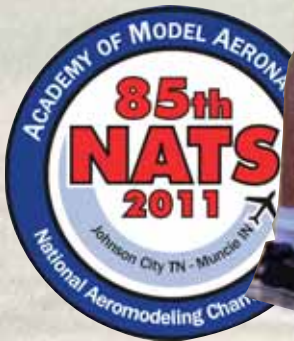
RC Helicopter

Wednesday

RC Helicopter

Thursday

RC Helicopter



**Inside:**



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# RC Helicopter

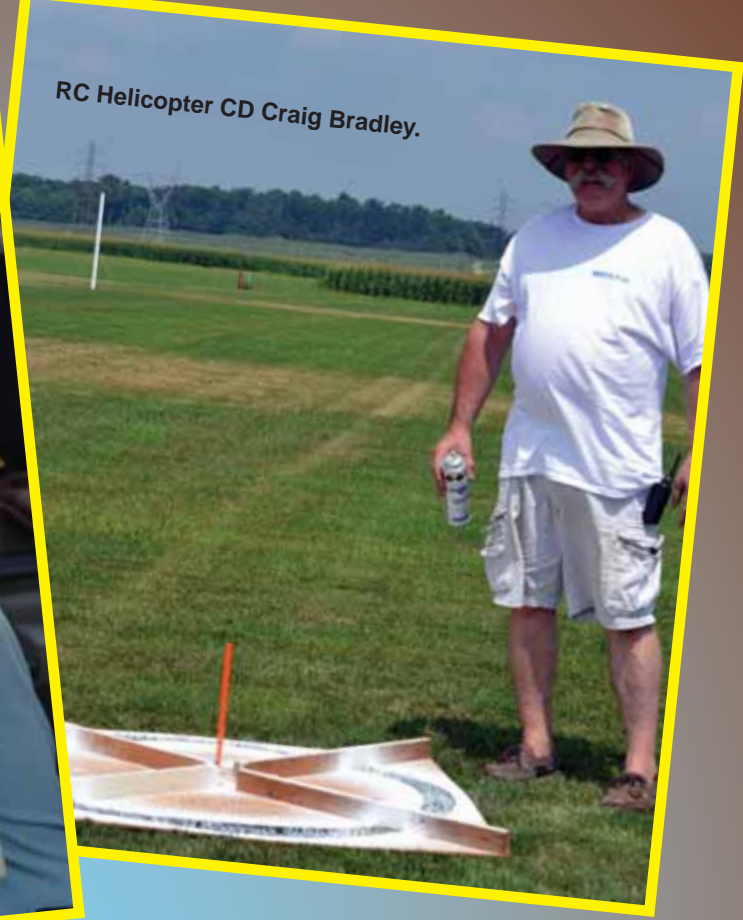
**Pilots began practicing on Sunday. Competition starts today.**

Photos by Jennifer Orebaugh.



Hideaway RV Rental is a proud sponsor of all AMA 2011 flying events.





RC Helicopter CD Craig Bradley.





Applebee's is a proud sponsor of all AMA 2011 flying events.



# RC Aerobatics Wrap-Up

Our last day together for the 2011 RC Precision Aerobatic Nats started with slightly overcast skies and moderate temperatures.

The pilots' meeting for FAI was over and all eight FAI pilots had diligently studied, but not flown, the two unknown sequences they selected the night before. As they had been for more than a week, the FAI pilots on Site 1 were greeted by the dauntlessly smiling face of Tim Jesky. Tim not only did double and triple duty for today's finals he also had already endured the heat of the previous week's World Championship. Our hats are off to Tim!



Tara Stafford had worked through the heat on Site 4 in the tabulation trailer. Gizzy was also there for moral support. One would think Tara would be exhausted after all her hard work. When seen on Site 3, watching her husband Archie fly, it was Gizzy who seemed to need some soft strokes and slumber in Tara's arms.

Long before the World Championship started, Chip Hyde contacted Mike Klein to be his caller. The caller plays an important role in bringing out the very best a pilot has to offer. With amazing stamina, Chip and Mike reversed rolls for our National Championship. Mike was the pilot and Chip was the caller. Thanks to both of you for jobs well done both internationally and nationally.



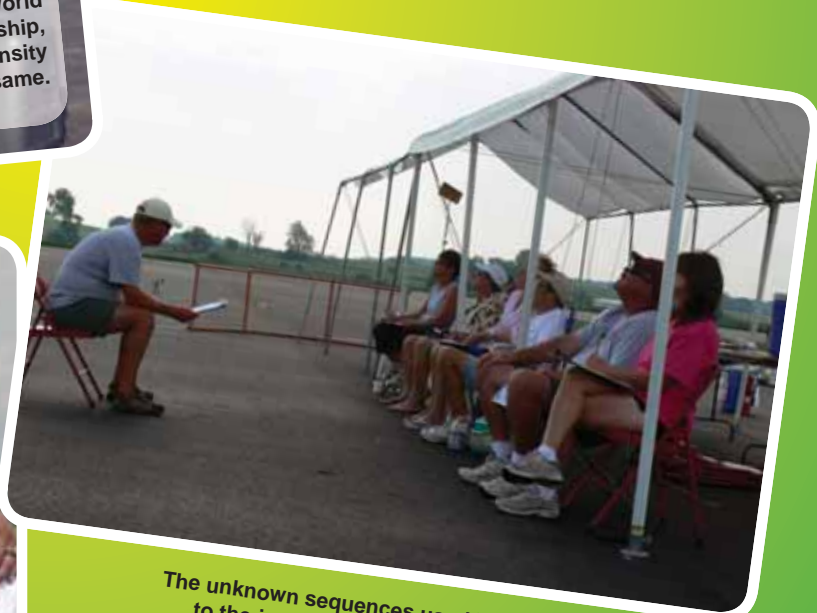


After leading Team USA to the first-place team trophy, Albert Glenn became his son's (A. C. Glenn) caller for our Nats. Albert is using a stick plane to figure out the subtleties of the first unknown sequence.

Below: Two of the pilots who flew in our World Championship were also flying in the finals of our National Championship. Thanks to Richard Christopher of the United Kingdom and Chad Northeast of Canada for flying with us in our finals. Thanks also to their callers who helped them; Richard's caller, Matt Hoyland and Chad's caller, Nedim Bec.



The number of fans for our finals was not as high as it was for the World Championship, but the intensity was the same.



The unknown sequences used in the finals were unknown to the judges as well as to the pilots. In preparation for judging these flights a demonstration flight was flown first, a discussion followed, and finally a new person appeared in the judging panel for further assistance. You will observe six people in the judging panel of three. The other three persons are "judges' assistants." So the judge does not have to take his or her eyes off the airplane, an assistant writes down the scores. The new person seated with his back to the pilot reads the Aresti description of the upcoming maneuver to the judges to add further clarity beyond that of the demonstration flight.



If you heard a comment that this year's Nats had gone to the birds, you would be quite correct. The birds, however, were actually two of our pilots, Rick and Stephen Byrd. Rick is on the left and Stephen is on the right.



Our Masters winners for 2011 are pictured from first to eighth, and from right to left: Rick Byrd, Archie Stafford, David Snow, Tony Fackowiak, Chris Odom, Glen Watson (not in picture) Joe Walker, and Stephen Byrd.

If Rick Byrd looks a little wet, it is not from the threatening rain. Some of his favorite fans gave him a cooler full of ice water for a bath as he received his award. Also sitting in front of Tony Frackowiak is Barkley, the wonder dog.



Our FAI winners for 2011 picture from first to sixth, and from left to right: Dave Lockhart, Chad Northest, Mark Leseberg, Don Szczur, A.C. Glenn, and Richard Christopher.



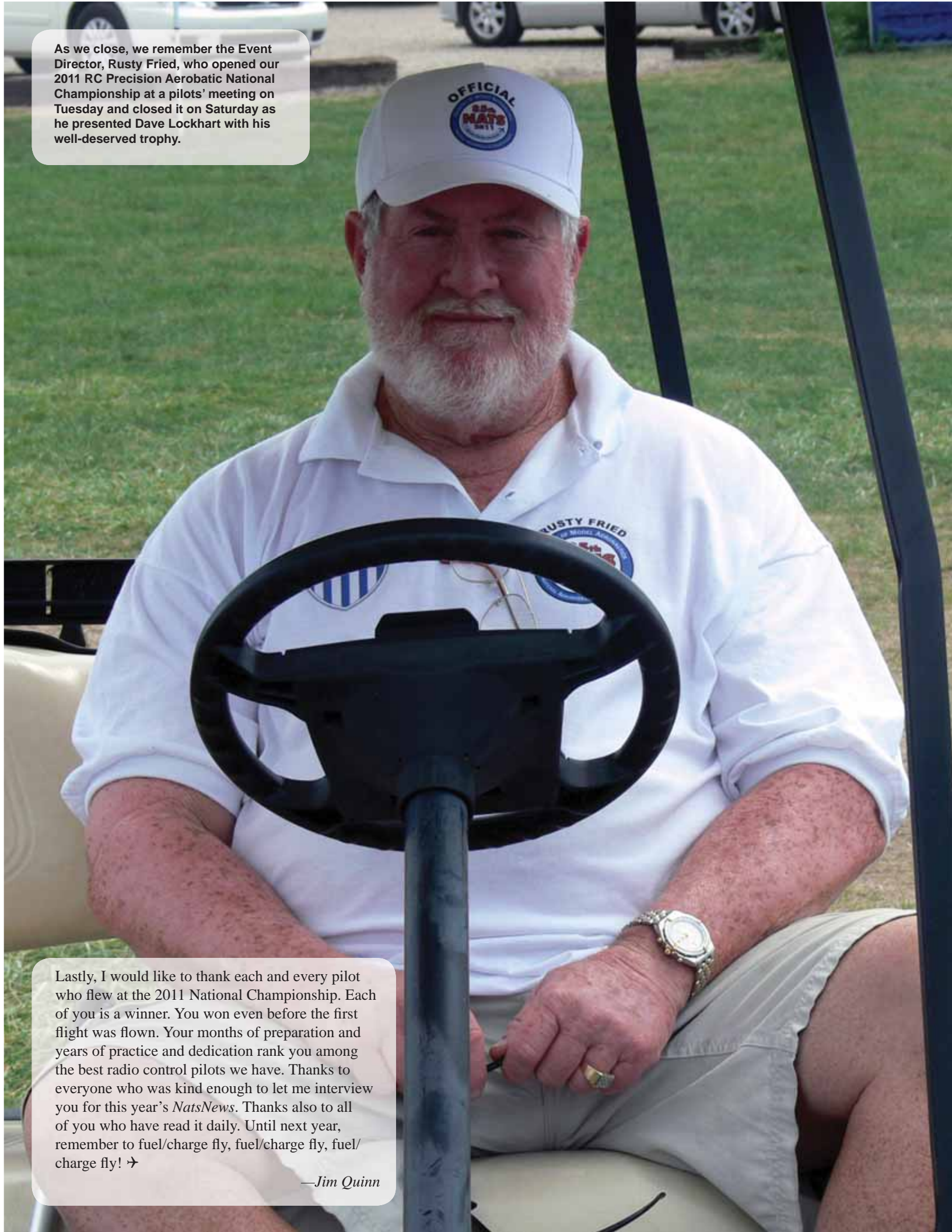
Two of Dave Lockhart's friends are his two Bravos, which led him to be our National FAI Grand Champion for 2011.



Two of Dave's favorite people are his mom, Karen, and his dad, Ron. This is Karen's first trip to our Nats. We might presume Dave will invite her again next year.

To Brian Strahan, Intermediate, Joseph Szczur, Advanced, Rick Byrd, Masters, and Dave Lockhart, FAI, we offer our thanks for demonstrating superior piloting skills and dazzling us from one maneuver to the next.



A photograph of Rusty Fried, an older man with a white beard, sitting in a golf cart. He is wearing a white polo shirt with a logo that says "RUSTY FRIED" and "2011 National Aerobatic Champion", and a white baseball cap with a logo that says "OFFICIAL" and "2011 NATS". He is holding the steering wheel of the golf cart. The background shows a grassy field and some parked cars.

As we close, we remember the Event Director, Rusty Fried, who opened our 2011 RC Precision Aerobatic National Championship at a pilots' meeting on Tuesday and closed it on Saturday as he presented Dave Lockhart with his well-deserved trophy.

Lastly, I would like to thank each and every pilot who flew at the 2011 National Championship. Each of you is a winner. You won even before the first flight was flown. Your months of preparation and years of practice and dedication rank you among the best radio control pilots we have. Thanks to everyone who was kind enough to let me interview you for this year's *NatsNews*. Thanks also to all of you who have read it daily. Until next year, remember to fuel/charge fly, fuel/charge fly, fuel/charge fly! →

—Jim Quinn