

F3A WorldNews

Wednesday, 27 July, 2011



Text and photos by Jim Quinn.

FIRST UP, standing on the perimeter road and looking east and west, it was Louis Peng's Neptuno I saw gracing the skies above the International Aeromodeling Center here at AMA Headquarters. Even more interesting is the fact that Neptuno is an original design by none other than Louis himself. The Neptuno is his first design, but it is very popular around the world with close to 100 of them flying. Derek Koopowitz is the USA distributor for Neptuno. You can see his advertisement in the KFactor. The Neptuno is now three years old, but still does everything Louis asks of it, so there is not a new design waiting in the wings. Louis has been flying Radio Control for 22 years, but only the last eight of those years have been in F3A.

"How was your flight this morning?" I asked. Even though Louis flies in international competitions in Asia, China, Hong Kong, and the Philippines, this was different. A unique situation for Louis is that he is staying more than an hour's drive away in Dayton, Ohio. With the late hour of the team managers' meeting the night before and the early wake up for the long drive back to Muncie, Louis said he knows he can fly better. We of the AMA wish Louis a pleasant night's sleep and pleasant flying for the duration of his stay with us.



Other teams are staying right here at the AMA's International Aeromodeling Center. Team Canada has the right idea about traveling in style.



Our World Championships now include Junior pilots. James Nugent came all the way from Australia to compete in his first World Championship. Back home, (Down Under), things are just beginning to warm up as his world transitions from winter to spring. James says it never snows back home, but temperatures are often near freezing. His dad, David, was his primary RC trainer. He soon needed the advanced skills of someone like Glenn Orchard to hone his aerobatic talents. He also takes inspiration from other RC pilots like Bill Bloodworth. James is pleased to be flying his first electric-powered Aries XP with a Hacker C-50. His dad is also happy for the change. Dad calculates the cost of a flight under glow power to be \$7 to \$8 per flight. Electric flights are a fraction of that cost. James describes the Aeromodeling Center with one word, "amazing."

James and his dad also share a passion for full-size Sailplanes. At age 13, James has two years before he can solo, but I presume his instructor dad doesn't charge his son too much for a flight.

James traveled 16 hours just to get to Los Angeles, California. It was another four hours to Chicago and four more hours to drive to Muncie. Despite the travel time, James says his first World Championship is far from his last.



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Let's meet some more of the teams flying at the 2011 World Championships.

South Korea



Ecuador



Germany



Hong Kong



Finland



Italy





Moving from site to site, interesting people are everywhere. These two mothers of pilots are checking out some pictures of their sons on their cellphones.

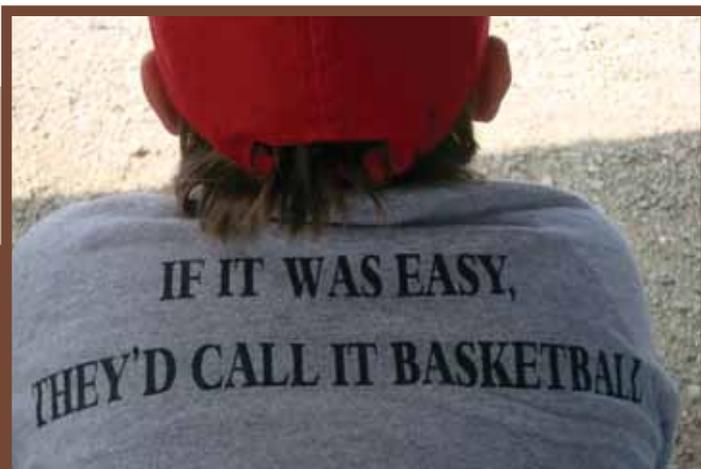


It is good to see our Jury Chairman taking a few moments out of his busy schedule to take in a flight or two.



Even our defending World Champion wants to take some pictures to help remember his time here in Muncie.

Check out this interesting shirt seen at Site 1.



Our last comment in this issue of the F3A *WorldNews* goes out to Henning Jorkjend of Norway. Our thoughts and support go out to Henning after the problem he experienced on takeoff Tuesday afternoon.

Until next time, check us out on the web at: modelaircraft.org/fainewsletter.aspx. →

—Jim Quinn

What are all these people looking at? Take a guess. Watch for tomorrow's F3A *WorldNews* for the answer.

