
Biography of DAN GARFINKEL

Transcribed and edited by JS (11/07)

The following portion of an autobiography was in the publication "Who's Who in AMA, 2003, District V"

I was born and raised in New York City. I started building models in the 1930s, and did just about everything: gliders, rubber-power, Free Flight, Control Line, Stunt, Speed, Scale, Radio Control, boats, cars and some strange combinations of these.

I flew at Van Courtland Park and Pelham Bay Park from the 1940s through the 1960s. I have lived in Mississippi, Louisiana, Arizona, and Texas. Recently I moved to Florida.

I have been a Contest Director and Leader Member for more than 30 years. When our work and personal time permitted, my wife, Joyce, and I helped the AMA in various capacities at over a dozen Nats. I preferred helping run contests to entering them. Friends who won with them copied some of my designs. Ten years ago, I got into biplane ornithopters. Some flew quite well. Two of my gas-powered ornithopters are in the AMA's National Model Aviation Museum in Muncie, Indiana.

I am not active at present, just tinkering with designing new ornithopters and maybe an airboat to run on a nearby lake. I have been involved with many clubs and am open to the idea of getting involved again.