
Autobiography of ROBERT L. (BOB) BROWN

AMA Number: 100

Formatted by JS (6/07)

The following biography is from the January 2007 issue of Model Aviation magazine, pages 186-187.

“Bob Brown’s long service as District III Vice President of the Academy of Model Aeronautics and his chairmanship of the Academy’s Publications Committee are notable contributions that alone suffice to qualify him as an eminently suitable candidate for the Hall of Fame,” wrote Maynard Hill. “His hard work on behalf of the Academy on the Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI) Pylon Racing competitions also distinguishes him as a modeler who is a cut well above average.”

Bob Brown has been District III Vice President since 1986, servicing seven consecutive three-year terms. As Flying Site chairperson from 1985-1988, he was instrumental in helping acquire the current AMA Headquarters and National Flying Site. As chairperson of the Property Acquisition and Development Committee (PADCOM) from 1990 through 2005, he led the effort to obtain and develop property adjacent to the flying site.

Bob was appointed co-chair of the AMA Publications Committee in 1995 and assumed full chairmanship in 2000, has chaired the International Aeromodeling Center (IAC) Site Committee since 2000, and chaired the IAC Maintenance Committee since 2005.

Involved in RC Pylon Racing almost since its inception, Bob was part of the deBolt-Brown team that held several world Pylon and Speed records from 1972 through 1982. He and fellow Model Aviation Hall of Fame member Hal deBolt competed in the 1974 Aero Olympic placing eighth before the FAI officially recognized Pylon Racing as an organized world competition.

He chaired the RC Pylon (F3D) Team Selection Committee from 1979 until 1994 and developed the selection process that is still in use today. He served as Pylon pit boss at the Nats from 1982 through 1995, supervising flight line operations.

On the international level, Bob has chaired the FAI F3D Subcommittee since 1982 and was selected as the F3D World Championships Jury Chairman 10 times since 1985. Currently a member of the FAI Executive Committee, he was appointed to that position in 1992. Bob helped organize the four F3D World Championships that have been held in the United States.

Bob has been a CD for 26 years and was primarily responsible for developing the format for a non-competition rally-type event for his club, the Southern Tier Aero Radio Society (STARS), which has become a fun-fly standard. Assisting Wayne Yeager in the RC portion of the Nats, Bob has served in various capacities for roughly 15 years.

The STARS has recognized Bob as a lead person in the club’s efforts to acquire land for use as a flying site in 1972 and again in 1985. In 1989, he was instrumental in the movement to procure flying sites in public parks in Pennsylvania.

Bob is a retired technology teacher and exposed thousands of students to RC building and flying in his 40-year career. He is an acknowledge expert on model aircraft finishing techniques and lectured on the topic at a number of symposiums in the Northeast. He was among the first to design and build a 1/4-scale aircraft in the 1970s.

Bob's building articles have appeared in several publications, including *Flying Models* and *American Aircraft Modeler*. As the District III Vice President, he has been responsible for a monthly column in *MA* since 1986.

Bob's contributions to aeromodeling are many and span his adult life. He is widely considered a significant AMA representative.