



# The AMA History Project Presents: Biography of HARDY GUSTAV BRODERSEN



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## **Hardy Brodersen Bloomfield Hills, Michigan**

Hardy Brodersen is an icon in the Free Flight (FF) community. An AMA member since 1936, his contributions have helped shape the FF hobby and develop the organizational format for the National Free Flight Society (NFFS).

Hardy has been an active FF competitor, a CD since 1972, and helped run the 1972 World FF Championships, several Indoor World Championships, several Indoor World Championships, and several national events. He was an AMA vice president for two terms (1980-1984) and served partial terms between 1973 and 1975, receiving the AMA Meritorious Service award for his efforts.

Simultaneously, he was an NFFS executive in the positions of treasurer, executive director, and vice president and was instrumental in forming the concept of an AMA national flying site, helping create the National Flying Site Task Force.

Promoting and perpetuating FF has always been Hardy's primary goal. He helped position the NFFS to help develop AMA's Muncie, Indiana site and provided FF input through the Property Acquisition and Development (PADCOM) committee.

Hardy has been president of the Eastside Model Club, and more recently, his hometown club, the Detroit Balsa Bugs.

F1C-powered FF models are Hardy's main interest. He has successfully competed in this powered event since the late 1960s, using unique models of his own design and construction. He has won a number of contests in the United States, placing well in the Nats, and won the Pacific Championships in 1985.

Also an Indoor FF competitor, Hardy flies everything from microfilm to Manhattan Cabin. As an industrial designer, his designs have been innovative. He created the spring-style engine brake in

1974 that is still used by many international competitors.

Hardy has been published innumerable times in *NFFS Digest*, and his Unlimited Rubber model *Continental* was selected for *Free Flight News*. He has done much to promote Free Flight and aeromodeling in his long career. He was inducted into the Model Aviation Hall of Fame in 2006.

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