



The AMA History Project Presents: Biography of RONALD JAMES COTTON



Written by AMA staff (01/2001); Transcribed by JS (02/2008)

The following was published in the January 2001 issue of Model Aviation magazine. Ronald was a 2000 AMA Scholarship winner.

Ronald James Cotton of Plano, Texas received a Charles H. Grant award of \$3,500. Currently, he is enrolled at Rice University pursuing courses in biology, computer science, and electrical engineering. He has expressed a great interest in researching paralysis and nerve diseases.

During his high school career, Ronald participated in many extracurricular clubs and activities. These included Coco Best, an engineering competition; Laser Club, aimed at developing science projects; Whiz Quiz, a trivia competition, and Future Problem Solvers.

Ronald was a member of the National Honor Society and Boy Scouts. He played the flute in the marching band. As the founder and first president, he saw a chess club grow to 70 members.

Ronald serves many hours in the International Baccalaureate program and the National Honor Society. Through these activities, Ronald has served his community, volunteering his help with tutoring, the Ronald McDonald House, and the Leukemia Society. He also served on a teen jury for a pilot teen court program, and helped at a local farmstead styled after those of the 19th century.

Ronald was introduced to aeromodeling at age five, when he accompanied his father to the flying site. Ultimately, he learned to fly Radio Control using his father's old trainers. Finally, he learned construction techniques and began competing in Novice Pattern class.

Although his many school activities cut down on his flying time, he still enjoys club fun-fly events, such as egg drop and limbo. Currently, he is building a Sig *Fazer* for a specialized competition.

Ronald stated, "Overall, my time in AMA and the North Dallas Club has been very pleasurable and very rewarding."

May the future be as well, Ronald.

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