



The AMA History Project Presents: Biography of JIM PERDUE



Written by AMA Staff (08/1971); Edited & Formatted by JS (08/2010)

The following was published in the AMA News section of American Aircraft Modeler, August 1971 issue.

JIM PERDUE

AMA District V Vice-President (Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Florida)

James H. Perdue is a very enthusiastic 39-year-old "Southern Gentleman" with a big hospitable grin that would be hard to ignore. Home for Jim and his wife, Bobbie Sue (Suzy), and 10-year-old son, Bob, is in Athens, Alabama. Athens is near the Tennessee River in north central Alabama, about 90 miles above Birmingham.

Perdue is an electrical engineer employed by the Tennessee Valley Authority, Division of Construction, at the Brown's Ferry Nuclear Plant, Athens-Decatur, Alabama. Jim is group leader and principal assistant to the chief engineer for construction on this, the world's largest nuclear power plant. His main duties are in quality control and general supervision for proper electrical installation.

Thirty-one years of modeling have resulted in Jim's being an AMA Contest Director since 1961 and a Nats event director in 1969 and 1970. His personal modeling interests have been Free Flight and Control Line, but Jim has very ably represented all modeling interests as AMA's District V vice-president for 1970 and 1971.

As hobby activities secondary to model building, Jim relates by expressing himself through drawing, cartooning, and newsletter writing. A great amount of Jim's personality has filtered into his spirited editing of newsletters for the Coffee Airfoilers (Tullahoma, Tennessee) from 1965 through 1969 and MACH (Model Airplane Club of Huntsville, Alabama), 1970 to the present. He gives credit to his newsletter writing for aiding him to improve his ability to express himself on paper relative to his job.

Perdue was president of the Tennessee Model Airplane Association from 1966 to 1968, after having been the organizer of that group. He is well known through his entire district, attending all AMA contests that his time and personal finances will allow. Jim feels deeply indebted to the hobby for helping to model his own strengths of character such as morals, sportsmanship, and his

spirit of competition and fair play. When a man realizes these truths, he will certainly give back to the hobby at least as much as he draws from it. And what a wonderful exchange!

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