

2013 NATS

NATIONAL AEROMODELING CHAMPIONSHIPS
ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS · CHAMPAIGN IL · MUNCIE IN

NatsNews

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Jeff Duval makes another great landing with his Xplorer.

Today's Events:
RC Soaring



Saturday, July 6

RC Soaring Day 7 Recap

F3J Soaring Day 1

With the unfortunate change in dates for the Nats the usual large group of F3J aficionados did not enter, leaving just eight diehard souls who showed up (and CD Phil Renaud) to compete in the F3J Nats early on Friday, July 5.

The weather meteorologists had said that rain was likely, but as we all rolled up to Site 4 at 7 a.m. it was dry with a fairly low but solid overcast of clouds that greeted us.

Phil Renaud brought along Jim Monaco's F3J sound equipment and that made the process of setting up much easier with a speaker for each lane, measuring tapes, stakes, and everything we needed to lay out the field quickly. Wind was forecast as variable from the southwest to the southeast at 3-4 mph but we could only set up east or west so the decision was made to set up to launch to the west.

We had four lanes with two winches in each lane and the turnarounds were set at 150 meters away from the winch line. Each winch was set with a braided ground line tied to a mono air line of 1.32mm or greater. This system was devised by Jim Monaco and the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association as the best simulation using an F3B winch instead of the F3J two-man hand tow.

The contest got underway a little after 9 a.m. with still heavy overcast skies and the first couple of groups floated around over

the trees to the west in lifty air. John Graves got the better of group one with more than 8 minutes for 1,000 points, and by the time the second group was launched the 10 minutes was being easily achieved in the great air.

Similar to the previous day in Unlimited, the overcast skies seemed to work like a blanket and the warm air was fairly prevalent particularly deep over the tree line. Even so, the air can be treacherous as Group 3 of Round 2 found as they struggled to float it out and the group was won by John Graves again with a 5:24 - 90.

Round 3 saw nearly everyone get out with simply wonderful conditions—with the overcast breaking and lots of puffy cumulus building overhead. Round 4 was such easy conditions that all of the pilots made their times with some taking much shorter launches and achieving times in the 9:55's and 9:56's.

After lunch the wind had moved around a little to occasionally being slightly downwind as small thermals popped over the field and sucked some of our air up with them. I can't remember ever being at a thermal soaring contest where the wind was basically zero and only occasionally breathed a little one way or the other.

This day was unique as we flew Round 5 and some took shorter launches to make greater scores and this mostly paid off. But

for some, however, it failed and the pilots took a short time. This is the joy of F3J. You have a choice of what altitude you launch to based on your read of the available air. You can take the risk with a low launch and reap the reward of a higher score ... or not!

Rounds 6 and 7 were flown in less friendly air where a prudent choice of direction was required from the start or you quickly would find your model out of altitude. A few pilots found themselves landing a bit early as a result of not searching far enough to reach the lift with quite a few recording 3- and 4-minute times.

We were very fortunate to have Kim Graves available to do the scoring. Although we had a compatibility problem with the scoring spreadsheet, we were able to get an accurate result for day one.

Dillon Graves flew accurately and patiently all day to lead the scores with 6,995 points. Rich Burnoski was close behind in second place with 6,989 points. Gordon Buckland was in third place with 6,975 points, Chris Lee in fourth with 6,966, and Doug Pike with 6,906 points in fifth.

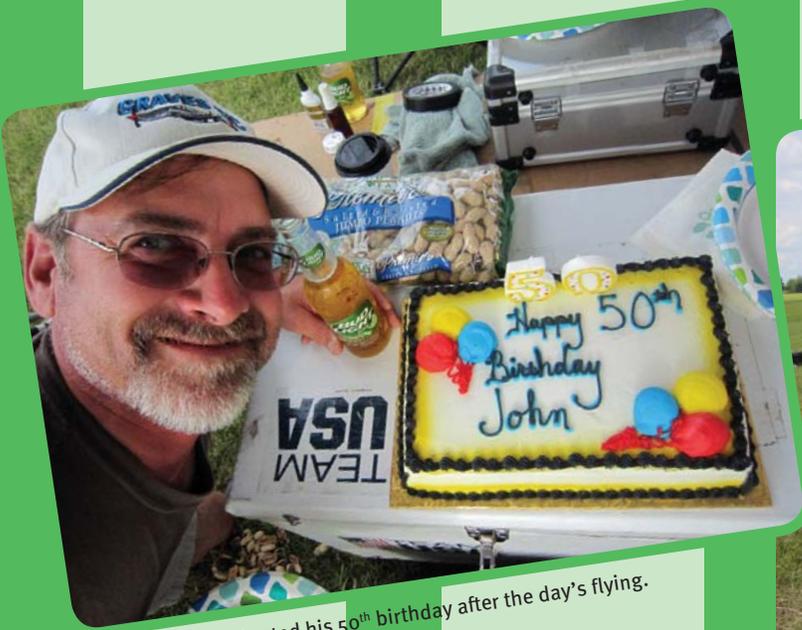
Although the number of contestants was fairly low, the flying was done in very good spirits and everyone on the field had a lot of fun. See you all Saturday for the final day.

—Gordon Buckland
reporter/photographer



The pilots show off quite a variety of different models.

Kim Graves was the official scorer and also helped CD Phil Renaud run the contest smoothly all day.



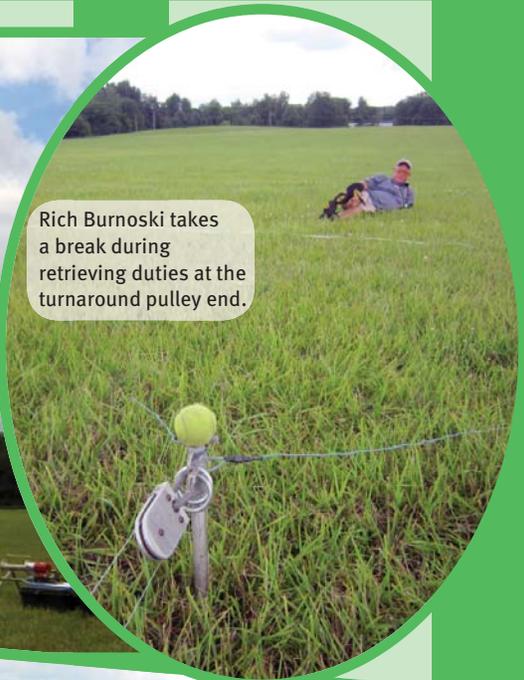
John Graves celebrated his 50th birthday after the day's flying.



The models are launched simultaneously at the start of working time.



Rich Burnoski takes a break during retrieving duties at the turnaround pulley end.



Models launching from the winch turnarounds.



Dillon Graves measures one of the many great landings he made today to finish on top.



RC Soaring

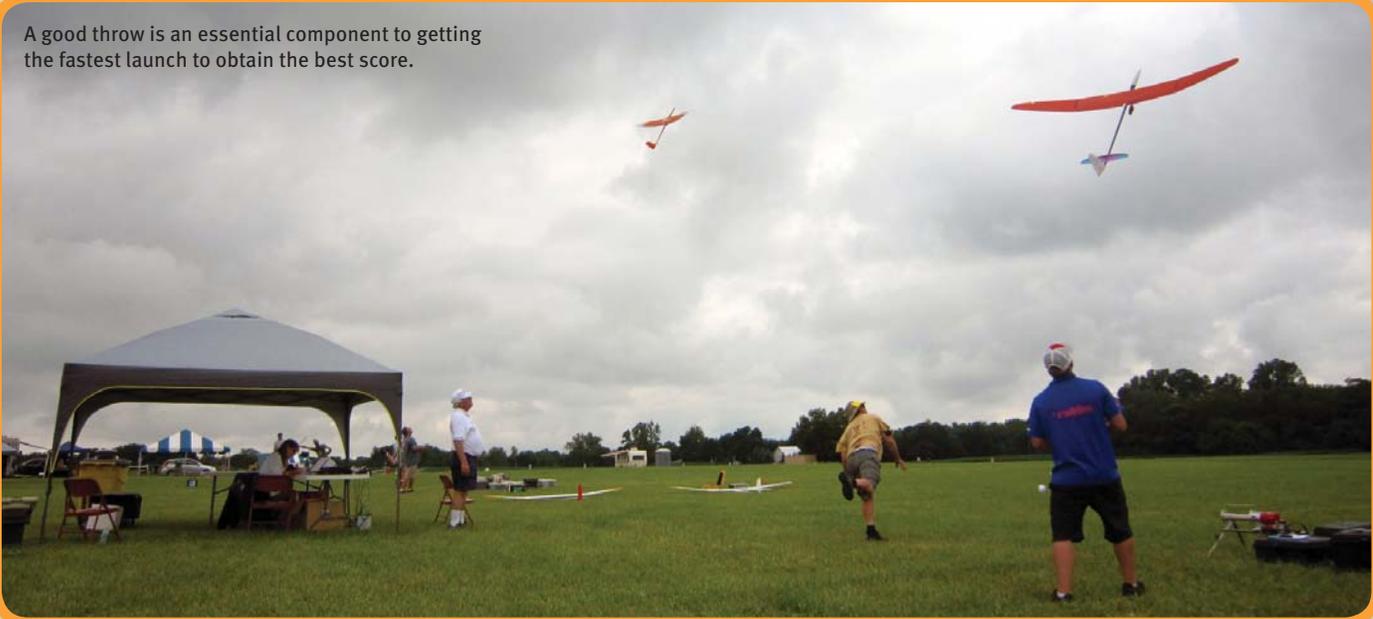


The pilots measure the distance of the nose of the model from the 100-point circle to record their scores.



An Xplorer descends on final approach.

A good throw is an essential component to getting the fastest launch to obtain the best score.



Pilots can land in any direction in F3j, as seen here with the pilots landing past the scoring tent.



Rich Burnoski executes another perfect landing to finish Day 1, just 6 points off the lead.

RC Soaring

Altitude Limited Electric Soaring

The inaugural ALES at the Nats kicked off Friday. Weather conditions started with a very low cloud cover, limiting our ability to begin until the ceiling lifted to beyond the 200-meter-launch height.

Fortunately, after beginning the contest at 9:30 a.m., we were blessed with increasingly beautiful weather for the flying. By midmorning the sun had come out and thermal conditions were very strong, making for what turned out to be primarily a landing contest.

Eight rounds were flown and it was only in rounds 7 and 8 that we saw some competitors began to struggle to find their times.

Peter Goldsmith, in particular, distinguished himself by flying to third place with a brand-new Mystique RES against some very serious competition. Pete got his times with flights in big lift and it was only in the landing box where he had some struggles. In later rounds, Pete tended to be the rabbit that other competitors followed on launch.

We had 29 pilots compete this year. Planes ranging from Radians to high-dollar moldies were flown. One of the nice things about ALES is a gentle launch, which results in a wide variety of airplanes. None were damaged in the contest, allowing all competitors to fly all rounds.

—Skye Malcolm, CD

All of today's ALES photos are by Jenni Orebaugh.





RC Soaring



RC Soaring

F3J Scores up to Round 7. (Apologies for the handwriting but we didn't have a printer.)

	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 4	RD 7
RICH BURNASKI	999.51	1000.00	997.77	1000.00	6989.79 (6)
NEVILLE NEWMAN	588.74	493.78	632.95	967.42 957.15	4780.90 (10)
JEFF DUVAL	1000.00	738.42	997.30	1000.00 1000.00	6341.98 (6)
CHRIS LEE	1000.00	994.47	976.78	980.68 980.68	6966.91 (4)
DOMINICK LEWIS	685.55	253.46	371.98	980.68	4652.57 (11)
GORDAN BUCKLAND	997.11	986.18	1000.00	995.78	6975.96 (3)
RAY MUNRO	—	740.83	419.38	814.57	4379.71 (12)
DILLON GRAVES	999.29	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	6996.54 (1)
DOUGLAS PIKE	997.63	998.16	998.16	997.66	6906.30 (5)
TOM GRAVES	1000.00	1000.00	744.62	980.81	5991.08 (8)
ADAM QUENNOZ	667.33	988.73	1000.00 952.24	999.09	6136.40 (7)
JACK STROTHER	573.89	835.96	656.10	935.56	5819.00 (9)

Rainy Day ALES Score. Skye Malcolm photo.

Rank	Pilot	Final	Rnd1F	Rnd2F	Rnd3F	Rnd4F	Rnd5F	Rnd6F	Rnd7F	Rnd8F
1	Ken Bates	8333	1042	1042	1040	1038	1038	1045	1040	1048
2	Gavin Trussell	8328	1050	1035	1035	1043	1033	1043	1040	1048
3	Peter Goldsmith	8272	1017	1047	1045	1047	1033	1023	1010	1050
4	Robert Burson	8252	1045	1025	1033	1035	1043	1025	1015	1030
5	David Beach	8048	1040	1040	1032	1025	1042	1037	788	1045
6	Randy Brust	7930	1035	1022	1043	1050	1043	705	1030	1002
7	Kerry Cochrell	7768	1025	1045	1035	992	1027	1038	566	1040
8	Preston Heller	7764	1032	1028	1023	958	990	687	1030	1015
9	Stewart Swanson	7657	1010	1020	1040	1030	997	571	998	992
10	Gilbert Gauger	7632	1000	1000	1015	1023	1018	1010	1040	526
11	Marc Gellart	7616	411	1043	1007	997	1035	1047	1047	1030
12	Jack lafret	7610	1035	902	990	1010	1042	1005	790	836
13	Peter Schlitzkus	7590	1037	878	1030	1020	1045	907	1022	651
14	David Register	7531	1037	1048	1000	1027	1033	743	709	933
15	Don Harban	7167	1000	1010	1033	1022	1023	1035	1043	0
16	Michael Cramer	7032	1005	1035	1025	1038	442	480	1012	995
17	David Corven	7004	637	655	694	1017	1030	992	963	1017
18	Richard Hixon	6980	995	1000	1027	453	1017	703	1042	743
19	Bill Jenkins	6904	615	1017	1022	1048	1027	1020	557	599
20	Paul Perret	6883	827	970	1023	1050	1042	0	995	976
21	David Reisinger	6855	1002	755	1003	1023	1040	388	643	1000
22	Charles Pinnell	6817	737	972	1038	1030	1005	1025	1010	0
23	Gordon Stahl	6678	1025	1035	1000	1022	1038	0	907	651
24	Ed Franz	5945	0	700	990	997	993	674	563	1028
25	Walter Adascik	5895	583	0	1007	973	990	575	997	770
26	Mark Groves	5385	893	1010	1030	1005	536	670	144	97
27	Roger Vanelslander	5259	545	997	588	585	953	426	706	459
28	Tom Broeski	5155	864	30	0	1013	1015	403	800	1030
29	Arthur Earl	4892	402	657	0	767	480	1047	1035	504
30	Arthur Hill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	ALES Pilot	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	John Schroder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	David Wrinkle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

This week's events:

Sunday
No events

Monday
Free Flight

Tuesday
Free Flight

Wednesday
Free Flight

Thursday
Free Flight

Friday
Free Flight

THE CLOUD 9 MUSEUM STORE HAS
EXTENDED HOURS

M-F: 7a.m.-6p.m. | Sat & Sun: 11a.m.-6p.m.

2013 NATS APPAREL NOW AVAILABLE!



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*please check with your tax preparer about this potential deduction as allowed by law.

When it comes to aeromodeling in America, there is one place above all others: the International Aeromodeling Center at AMA's Headquarters in Muncie, Indiana. The IAC has a beautifully designed Walk of Fame that is a wonderful way for you to honor AMA, a loved one, your club, or your organization with a commemorative brick. At the IAC, bricks are on permanent display for all visitors to see.

A commemorative brick would make a timeless and well-received gift during the holidays or any time of the year for that special person who has everything and needs nothing, as a permanent sign of his or her dedication to aeromodeling.

With your \$100 donation to the Academy, a brick in the Walk of Fame will be engraved in black with the AMA wings and two lines reserved for your name, a friend, loved one, club, or organization. A \$500 donation will secure a "gold wings" brick with logo and wording handsomely engraved in gold. At the \$1,000 level, you will receive an 8 x 8-inch black granite brick engraved in gold. Your donation is considered a gift in support of the AMA.



The 2013 National Aeromodeling Championships are sponsored by:



Thank you for joining us this year!

Ed Franz and Jack lafret.
Jenni Orebaugh photo.

