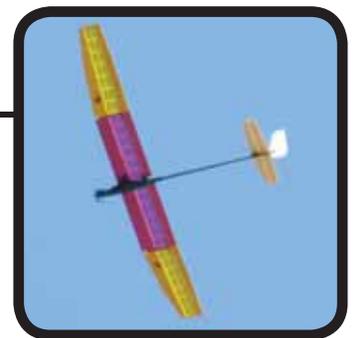


July 22, 2011

Nats events will resume Tuesday, August 2 with RC Aerobatics.



**Inside:**



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# Free Flight

Photos by David Mills

Opinions may vary, but most of the fliers on the field on Thursday will testify to Thursday being the hottest Muncie Nats on record. It certainly was to this pilgrim. I saw temperature readings of 98° and more all over the field and this put the heat index 10° hotter, considering the humidity.

Fortunately we behaved ourselves and did the right things, and nobody got hurt. It would've been much worse had we not had some overcast most of the morning. Hopefully, Friday's fun will be a tad cooler.

The winds were less of a problem on Thursday than earlier in the week, moderating a bit and remaining out of the southwest. Thermal picking remained a desperate affair, the week's trend. Small and choppy, you either missed thermals or not, and if launched into them, you were just as likely to be tossed out as not. Winning was hard on Thursday.

FIG (Coupe) drew a good crowd of 20-odd fliers and continues to be a very popular event. Many of the exquisite creations of the Slavic Ubermensch can be seen on the field. Three remained clean after the five rounds and made the fly-off. Charlie Jones (OH) won with 780 seconds, followed closely by Louis Joyner (VA) with 742, and Tony Matthews (CAN) with 703.

Roughly a half dozen met for the Dawn Unlimited event. This is a very special event, a one-shot, at the inconvenient crack-of-dawn, rubber flight for fame and glory. These specially built models are a rare breed and most are too fragile to fly during the day. Bud Romak (CA) won with a flight of over six minutes, I think.

The hand-launch glider pen was a busy and tortured venue all day. Conditions were horrendous, with the local temperature there topping the century mark. Many of the HLG glitterati failed to max out on their three of six flights.

Stan Buddenbohm (CA) won one for the ages with a score of 625 seconds, followed closely by Tim Batiuk

(CA). They'll be talking about this one for a long time. Junior Taron Malkhasyan won his division with 271 seconds and Senior Richardo Samario won his with 264 seconds.

The first Nats issue of the revised E-36 class demonstrated some superb flying, but the weather hurt participation, plus there were some magnificent crashes by a few contenders earlier in the week. The new rules were hoped to allow increased performance with outrunner motors and Lipo batteries and this fruit was borne.

Don DeLoach (CO) won with a score of 543 seconds. Don's victory shouldn't be viewed as an easy one. Midway through his flights he popped a wing spar and had to repair it on the field. Good job.

The gas guys had another very busy day. Bob Hanford won 1/2A Classic with a score of 684 seconds, chased mightily by Jim Bocckinfuso (VA) with 659 seconds and Dan Berry (AR) with 585 seconds.

This year's special 1/2A Viking event was won by Roger Erridge with 424 seconds, followed by Gene Smith (TN) at 360 seconds, and Bill Vanderbeek (CA) with 341 seconds.

Two more gas events showed how hard conditions were. Only the winner in A Gas and the top two finishers in 1/2A NosGas maxed out—rather unheard of in these popular and well-practiced events. Greg Hinrichs (WI) won A Gas with 471 seconds and Scott Lapraick won 1/2A NosGas with 549 seconds.

They had some fun with Old-Time Rubber Cabin and ABC Pylon. Ed Sneed (OH) took the former with 613 seconds. Bill Vanderbeek took the latter with 470 seconds.

The annual NFFS cookout and raffle closed the day with free food and beer, a welcomed respite from the day's flying. We were a worn, hot, and bedraggled lot, and I'm sure most slept mightily that night.

Hopefully, we'll be sufficiently refreshed for Friday's challenges. →

—David Mills reporting





Preparing for the World War II Flying Aces Club Mass Launch.



Below: By the dawn's early light: Bud Romak (CA) winds and later wins Dawn Unlimited.

Below: Jackie Sheffer (AR) and his Lucky Lindie.



Right: Denny Dock (MI) and his, you guessed it, Viking 1/2A gasser.



Stan Buddenbohm (CA), sitting, provides a tutorial to a young flier. Stan should know—he won!



Right: Patrick Murray (IN) and his lovely Stinson Reliant in Pepsi livery. (Patrick ran the "Bison Burger" concession—good burgers!)





Flying Aces Club Scale models were judged in the new McCullough Educational Facility in the museum building.



Coupe fliers holding the thermosister in high regard.



Charlie Jones waits with his Coupe on a boomer to good effect, later won in the flyoff. Good job.



Center Left: Tim Batiuk (CA) rides in style with his HLG, good enough for second.



F1B (Wakefield) was decided by a fly-off round Thursday morning. George Batiuk (CA), failing in the background, won.

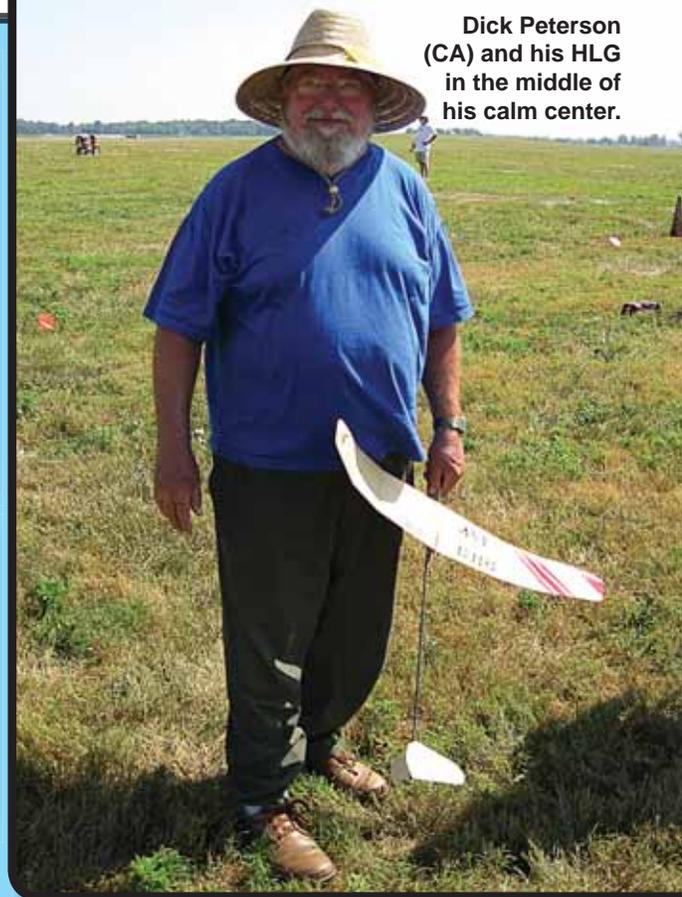
Right: Lee Hines (CA) holding his stable of hand launch gliders. Lee Campbell provides moral support.



Right: The state-of-the-art in outdoor hand-launch glider design: Stan Buddenbohm and Ralph Ray's fleet.



Dick Peterson (CA) and his HLG in the middle of his calm center.



Vic Nippert (NY) winds his Piper cub, and smokes propeller.



Right: Señor Don DeLoach (CO) holds station in E-36.



The big tent provided a welcomed reprieve from the day's suffering. The free food and beer didn't hurt either. The annual NFFS cookout and raffle.



# Unofficial Scores

Please note that all scores are unofficial until tabulated by Nats staff.

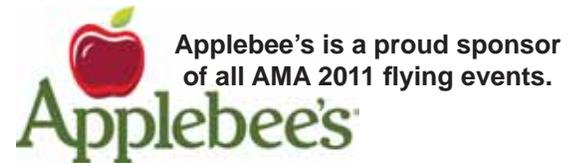
102-103C AB Classic GAS		Corrected scores from yesterday	
1	ROBERT M HANFORD	740	BROKEN ARROW OK
2	DON A DELOACH	732	COLORADO SPRINGS CO
3	HANK SPERZEL	678	BELLEVUE NE
4	GILBERT L ROBBINS	669	ANDERSON IN
5	RICHARD COVALT	591	ANDERSON IN
6	DANIEL B BERRY	581	BENTON AR
7	P JACK MARSH	545	SOUTH BEND IN
8	DENNY L DOCK	359	STEVENSVILLE MI
9	JAMES BOCKINFUSO	343	HARDY VA
10	SCOTT J LAPRAIK	324	PORTLAND TN
11	H THOMAS BELL	232	HOUSTON TX
12	GENE R SMITH	120	STILLWATER OK
13	BRADLEY BANE	120	LYNDONVILLE NY
14	JOHN C FROTHINGHAM	46	BRUNSWICK ME
15	DAVID P JONES	23	PITTSBURGH PA
16	GARY OAKINS	0	SAINT PAUL MN

Class: <b>B LMR</b> 7/21/2011		
Rank	Pilots	Final
1	Robert Burson	6255
2	Ed Franz	5706
3	Don Richmond	4591
4	Art Earl	3872
5	Stewart Moore	991

A Nos Gas UNOFFICIAL		
1	ROGER W ERRIDGE	818 SARANAC MI
2	BOB SOWDER	600 TROUTVILLE VA
3	LARRY DAVIDSON	546 MONETA VA
4	SCOTT J LAPRAIK	538 PORTLAND TN
5	GENE R SMITH	480 STILLWATER OK
6	MARK D TROUTMAN	459 GALVESTON TX
7	CHARLES R HARPER	437 BLANCHESTER OH
8	KEITH FULMER	350 MISHAWAKA IN
9	BOB WATSON	328 MORTON GROVE IL
10	HANK SPERZEL	325 BELLEVUE NE
11	DEAN C MCGINNES	297 LAKELAND FL
12	TEDSON R FIRSTER	297 RIVERSIDE CA
13	H THOMAS BELL	239 HOUSTON TX
14	DENNY L DOCK	149 STEVENSVILLE MI
15	JACKIE L SHEFFER	106 LITTLE ROCK AR

Dime Scale FAC		
1	DANIEL T KANE	223 MARION OH
2	PATRICK M MURRAY	85 INDIANAPOLIS IN

OT ABC Cabin UNOFFICIAL		
1	BUD ROMAK	360 LINCOLN CA
2	HANK SPERZEL	302 BELLEVUE NE
3	WOODY BARTELT	0 GALESBURG MI



Hideaway RV Rental is a proud sponsor of all AMA 2011 flying events.

Jimmie Allen UNOFFICIAL

1	EDWARD J HARDIN	358 KINGSTON	TN
2	EDWARD KONEFES	281 WAUCONDA	IL
3	JIM OREILLY	267 BELAIRE	KS
4	WILLIAM G CARSON	235 GAINESVILLE	TX
5	HERB KOTHE	221 BOULDER	CO
6	PAUL E SIMON	195 NEW BALTIMORE	MI
7	RODNEY H PERSONS	188 CLOVERDALE	CA
8	STEWART E CUMMINS	188 NEW CARLISLE	OH
9	PATRICK M MURRAY	156 INDIANAPOLIS	IN
10	C M MOSKOW	120 SEVERNA PARK	MD
11	ELVIN W BUCHELE	98 SYLVANIA	OH

OT Rubber FAC

1	JIM JENNINGS	360 HENDERSONVILLE	TN
2	STEWART E CUMMINS	347 NEW CARLISLE	OH
3	EDWARD T ALLEBONE	308 SHELBY TOWNSHIP	MI
4	JAMES M COFFIN	298 ANNANDALE	VA
5	PATRICK M MURRAY	283 INDIANAPOLIS	IN
7	MARK D TROUTMAN	194 GALVESTON	TX

F1B Wakefield

1	GEORGE BATIUK	1697 SAN LUIS OBISPO	CA
2	ARAM C SCHLOSBERG	1652 OAKLAND GARDENS	NY
3	PIM A RUYTER	1652 HOEVELAKEN	
4	TONY MATHEWS	1626 BRAMPTON	
5	CHARLES R JONES	1624 AVON LAKE	OH
6	SARAH L RADZIUNAS	1615 NORTHFORD	CT
7	WILLIAM D SHAILOR	1303 ROYAL OAK	MI
8	BRIAN M PACELLI	1298 WALLINGFORD	CT
9	ROGER M MORRELL	1287 REDONDO BEACH	CA
10	PAUL CROWLEY	1284 WARREN	MI
11	WES MURRELL	1283 CENTREVILLE	VA
12	CARROL M ALLEN	1277 COPAKE	NY
13	ROBERT SIFLEET	1277 GLEN ROCK	PA
14	EVAN SIMON	1268 COMMERCE TWP	MI
15	GREG J SIMON	1263 COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	MI
16	SEVAK MALKHASYAN	1261 LOS ANGELES	CA
17	EDDIE O VANLANDINGHAM	1260 MANSFIELD	TX
18	JOHN A SHAILOR	1258 ROYAL OAK	MI
19	LADISLAV HORAK	1250 CARLETON PLACE	
20	RYAN R JONES	1226 AVON LAKE	OH
21	THOMAS G IOERGER	1215 BOULDER CITY	NV
22	MARK W HOFFMAN	1215 MCKINNEY	TX
23	GAETANO T VACCARO	1211 PLANTSVILLE	CT
24	PEYTON TETRICK	1205 BISHOP	CA
25	CHRIS M MATSUNO	1137 SAINT LOUIS	MO
26	PAUL C SHAILOR	1087 ROYAL OAK	MI
27	ROSS JAHNKE	957 BATON ROUGE	LA
28	R.G. MCGLASHAN	890 NIAGARA ON THE LAKE	
29	JOHN R SEYMOUR	560 RADNER	OH
30	M D RICHARDSON	397 GROSSE ILE	MI

# RC Electric Wrap-Up

Photos by Kim Franz.

**D**ay Four, the final day of Electric Nats, we flew Class B LMR (Limited Motor Run). This is the unlimited class of electric sailplanes. The only limitation is a maximum battery voltage of 42 volts. These are the “hot rods” of the electric sailplane world. In today’s event, we again had a ten-minute max, but the motor run was subtracted from the flight time. Most pilots today were using 10- to 25-second motor runs. Most of the planes that fly in this class have a three meter or bigger wingspan.

We were greeted at the field this morning by a clear blue sky, a freshening breeze, and the ever-present heat. CD Mike McGowan called for six rounds to

be flown. The first pilots up this morning had no problem making their times. As the day progressed and the wind speed increased, lift became harder to find. To get your times, it meant flying far downwind following the lift. The winner today, Bob Burson, flew extremely well, collecting all tens across the board, as well as hitting all his landings.

As the flying week comes to a close, I am both relieved and at the same time sad. It has been a great week with great friends enjoying our hobby together at Muncie. This year I wore a lot of hats, Event Director, and *NatsNews* reporter and photographer. It was a busy week, but a most enjoyable one. (Except for the heat.)

I could not have done it without help from many people. My wife Kim, who was the scorekeeper for the week (and kept me sane). Al and Yolanda from the AMA who were always there when I needed anything, I can’t thank you enough! Thanks to Ashley and her crew for making my words and pictures look GREAT! The maintenance guys that always made sure we had plenty of cold water, thanks guys!

Thanks to Rob Glover, Dave Register, Bob Burson and Mike McGowan for being excellent CDs for me this year. And thanks to all the pilots who came out and made it a great event. See you all next year! ➔

—Ed Franz

Art Earl intently watching his plane.

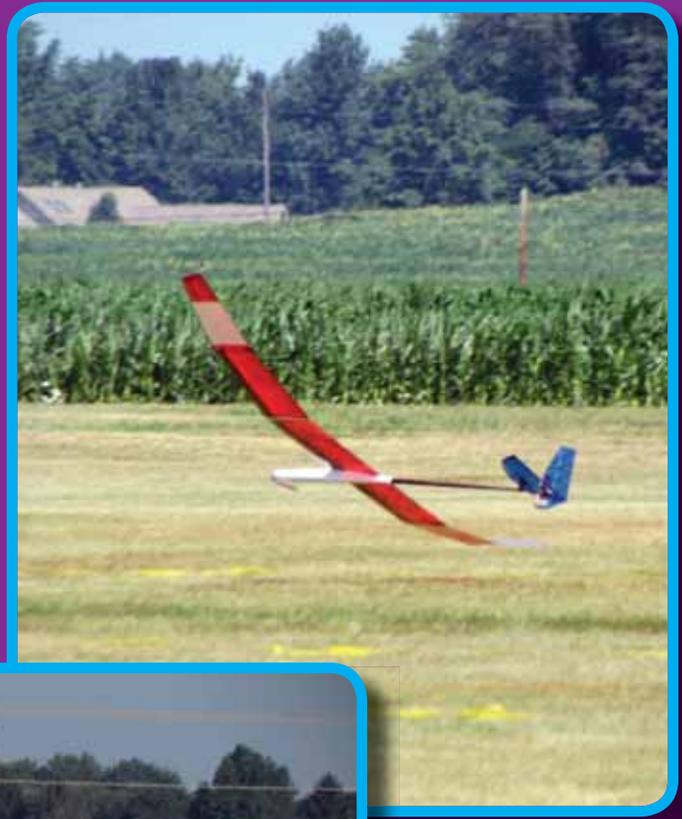
Don Richmond (right) describing his flight to Art Earl after his landing.





Winner (L-R) Ed Franz , second; Bob Burson, first.

Don Richmond's Ava about to land on the tape.



A meeting of the minds in the launch area.

Ed Franz launching his Wind Dancer.





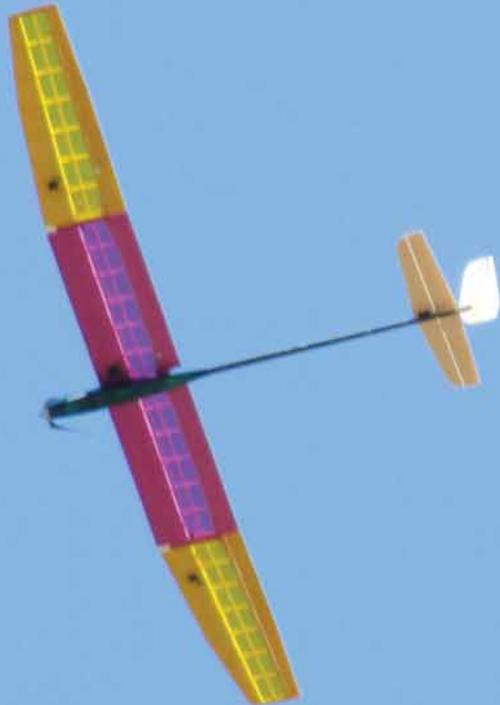
Ed Franz looking for signs of lift before launching.



Bob Burson (L) and Ed Franz concentrate on Ed's plane as he thermals far downwind.

Art Earl launching his Spectra.





Ed Franz's Wind Dancer in the sky.