



The AMA History Project Presents: Biography of C.E. CARMICHAEL



Transcribed & Edited by SS (11/2002), Reformatted by JS (06/2009)

Career:

- Organized one large model airplane club combining all of the clubs in Saint Louis, Missouri; convinced his company to sponsor the club which was called the Stix, Bear and Fuller club
 - Organized the 1935 Nationals
 - Worked to get grand prizes for winners of the meets he organized
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The following biography on C.E. Carmichael came from "The History of the Academy of Model Aeronautics: Including Part One and Part Two From the Beginning to the Year 1966" written by Willis C. Brown and Dick Black that was published first in 1966; the second part was published in 1967. This biography comes from Part One written by Willis C. Brown. It was completed by November 1965.

C.E. Carmichael

(Director, Stix, Baer and Fuller Aero Club)

Extracted with permission from the 1936 Model Aircraft Yearbook

"In early youth he developed unaccountable craze for model airplanes. He was able to partially satisfy this craze by attempting to build models. He could buy no supplies and had no plans to work from, but got around problem by trying to reproduce pictures of planes from newspapers. They did not fly but had wings and a propeller just like the real thing and so he was very proud of them. He went to Saint Louis, Missouri, after graduation and discovered quite some interest manifested in model work there.

"He visited the old Saint Louis Model Airplane Club and took note of plight of boys. Members had plenty ambitions but no treasury...Since he was associated with a large store, he began thinking of a solution for the problem. He reasoned that hundreds, perhaps thousands, of boys were potential model builders. He told his firm that a model airplane club properly organized and promoted by a large business firm would bring boys of Saint Louis right into the store in droves. He pointed out that the store could make friends of boys and consequently the families of the aforementioned would become customers. His superiors thought the idea was quite plausible and went to work. They invited all model clubs of Saint Louis to join and combine under one sponsorship. The store guaranteed to provide funds to insure a realization of their dreams. Along came the Airplane Model League of America whose plans were dovetailed with their own. The club was on!

"From this point on the story is one of rapid development and growth of the Stix, Baer, and Fuller Club which was Carmichael's brainchild. His secret joy is the fact that he has been instrumental in making it possible for boys of today to build and fly efficient models, as well as enter them in

competition. He has elevated the once unimportant boys into one of the greatest sports and educational agencies the country has ever seen. He organized and directed the 1935 national meet. He was visited by Bill Enyart who had naught but praises for the fine work. He has the most efficient and understanding assistant by the name of H.T. Sommers.

“Personal statistics: much loved by Saint Louis boys and looked up to by leaders all over the country. Is very handsome and very well groomed. Speaks quietly and never of himself. Very fine sense of humor. Spares no expense in securing prizes for his boys. Annual Mississippi Valley meet represents the greatest array of trophies ever given at any meet. Also included as prizes are numerous trips by air. We pray for more like him.”

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