

RC Aerobatics

The competition for the 2008 RC Precision Aerobatics doesn't start for another day, but most of us are here and very busy. Dave Guerin, the director for this event, has been here many times since volunteering for the job after last year's Nats, and he arrived early for the 2008 event.

Dave is everywhere solving untold problems. While I was at headquarters Dave got a call on the radio about Site 4 and mowing the runway. A few minutes later I was at Site three and there was Dave driving up to oversee other precompetition questions.

Dale Arnold has been here for some time as well. Dale has taken over from Don Ramsey to head up the Judging section of National Society of Radio Controlled Aerobatics (NSRCA). Dale was running a class to get the FAI judges up to speed and certified for the new P and F sequences for 2008.

He was also running a full seminar for anyone who needed to be certified for the first time as a judge. All contestants are required to judge or perform some other required duties during the competition. Dale did a great job listening to the pilots and assessing all the questions with

appropriate answers.

Steve Byrd of Fort Worth, Texas, was at the judging seminar and then quickly moved to Site 1 to get his airplanes out for some pre-competition practice. Steve had a great system for getting his airplanes from Texas to Muncie.

From the East Coast, Dave Lockhart also had a great system for getting his airplanes to Muncie along with his dad Ron, who rode in the passenger's seat with Dave.

Usually contestants don't travel alone and George Asteris is no exception. George came with some beautiful new



Competition hasn't started, but ...

Volunteers are the heart and soul of the Nats.



From the top: Jane Morgan's smiling face waiting at registration for her next "customer."

Ron Morgan busy doing all the "behind the scenes" work.

The always-smiling and wonderful Dave Guerin solving all our problems.

airplanes for the 2008 season and with an even more beautiful wife Sue. You pick, who looks better in the picture: the airplane or Sue? If you chose Sue give yourself A+; if you picked the airplane it is a D-. I just can't give anyone a failing grade for picking such a beautiful airplane.

All three sites were busy with practice sessions. Site 3—Center Stage as they say—had a great lineup of airplanes all waiting for a turn on the flightline.

Most of the pilots flying at the Nats have a story to tell. Danny Landis, like all of us, is on vacation when he comes to compete at the Nats. Danny left his job of flying aircraft—albeit a *very* different sort of

aircraft. In truth, Danny's job is flying UAVs in an "undisclosed" location in an "unnamed" country, as he says. He also says he can't tell me any more about his job or he'll have to shoot me.

Danny, and several of our other top pilots are serving our country as UAV pilots in several of those "unnamed" countries at "undisclosed" locations. Thanks Danny and all of the UAV pilots who are keeping us safe and free.

—Jim Quinn



Dale Arnold sharing his wisdom at the Judging seminar.

Left: Steve Byrd's safe way of getting from Forth Worth TX to Muncie IN.



Left: Dave Lockhart discussing some of the finer points of FAI as he unloads.



George and Sue Asteris unloading at Site 1 for practice.



Danny Landis practicing at Site 1 with his dad Richard calling for him.

CL Speed

CL Speed Day Five was Friday, July 18. The speeds in CL Speed climbed as the week progressed. Friday is often the high point in performance measured by top speeds. It was true this year in Open Fast Jet.

The first five places were over 190 mph with one person exceeding 200! Fifth place went to Event Director Dave Cotton at 190.078 mph. Dave placed this speed on his first attempt. Forth place went to Texan Patrick Hempel at 192.518 mph. Patrick spent much of his day assisting the jet fliers from New Zealand.

North American Speed Society (NASS) President and US F2A Team Member Bill Hughes did 193.470 mph on his second attempt. This is a very good time in an event Bill does not compete in often. Bill Capinjola took second with a speed of 199.92 mph—just short of the elusive 200-mph mark.

First went to Chris Montagino at 200.142 mph. This is the second time Chris has exceeded the 200 mph milestone coveted by Jet Speed pilots. This speed was exceeded often in the past but is now a rare occurrence on the fuel we use today.

In D Speed, Butch Andrews held first place for most of the day. Butch flew early in the day and made three official flights in a row. His fastest flight was his third attempt with a good clean flight at 189.587 mph. This earned him second place. Butch attributed his increase in performance in this event to Santo Rizzotto's tips and ideas on O.S. 65 engine tuning.

First place went to

Right: Chris Montagino displays the Doc Davis Jet Award he won for turning the highest speed in Jet at this Nats. Chris is on the US F2A Team and is on his way to France for the CL World Championships.

the New Math Team of John Newton and Joey Mathison. They used all four of their attempts to place the winning speed of 192.848 mph. This flight was made with just 20 minutes left for flights to be attempted. Glen Vansant took third at 187.425 mph with his front intake O.S. 65 Nelson engine.

The NASS Banquet was held Friday night at the Cardinal Hills Country Club. Thirty-five people attended the awards presentation.

James Vansant took the Senior High Point award with four first places for a total of 400 points. Included in these four first places were new records in Senior B Speed and A Speed.

The Doc Davis Jet Award is given to the person who attains the highest speed in the Jet Speed events. This year the award went to NASS Vice President and US F2A Team member Chris Montagino for his 200.142-mph flight.

The NASS High Speed Award is given to the contestant who either sets a new speed record or comes the closest to an existing record. The award went to Jerry Rocha for his winning flight in 1/2A Proto which was 98.976% of the existing record which Jerry set.

The NASS High Point also went to Jerry Rocha for his total of 397.08 points for three first-place and one third-place wins. Chris Montagino again came close to this with a point total of 395.29 points for his one first-place and three second-place wins.

This was a week of close competition and some of the best weather I have seen for Speed flying. Please consider attending next year.

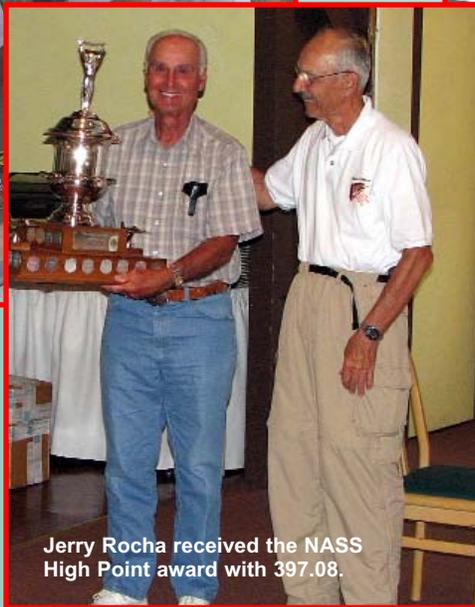
—Dave Mark



Senior Class High Point winner James Vansant is presented his award by Joann Pitken and Event Director Dave Cotton. James had a perfect score of 400 points and set two new Speed records.



Above: This picture was taken through the protective plexiglass window of the timers required for each official flight in Speed. On Friday the timers were Dave Cotton (standing), Al Jones (L), Jerry Rocha (center), and Jim Rhodes (R).



Jerry Rocha received the NASS High Point award with 397.08.

Above: Patrick Hempel (L) sits on the blacktop while starting a fast jet. Steve Perkins (R) is in the process of getting out of the way after the engine starts. Fast jet engines require massive amounts of priming fuel to start them. Steve was priming the engine from a one-quart squeeze bottle.

CL D Speed

1 JOHN W NEWTON	O	192.848	ROWLAND HEIGHTS	CA
1 JOEY MATHISON	O	192.848	LAS VEGAS	NV
2 GARRY N ANDREWS	O	189.597	MELBOURNE	FL
3 GLEN J VANSANT	O	187.425	LANGHORNE	PA
4 WILLIAM HUGHES	O	185.111	BARTLETT	IL
6 BARRY L TIPPETT	O	166.046	ALLOUEZ	MI
8 SANTO S RIZZOTTO	O	177.794	WESTERLY	RI
999 GLENN M LEE	O	ATTEMPT	BATAVIA	IL
999 DAVID R MARK	O	DNF	FENTON	MI
999 FRED A MARGARIDO	O	ATTEMPT	PALM BAY	FL
999 ASHLEY M WILK	S	DNF	CRYSTAL	MN
999 PATRICK E HEMPEL	O	DNF	ROCKWALL	TX

1/2A Mouse JS

1 ASHLEY M WILK	S	07:18.8	CRYSTAL	MN
2 JAMES D VANSANT	S	10:58.8	LANGHORNE	PA

1/2A Mouse

1 WILLIAM R LEE	05:02.3	CHANDLER	TX
2 LES AKRE	05:18.7	EDMONTON	Canada
3 JOHN R GREEN	05:39.9	MOBILE	AL
4 DAVID A HULL	07:22.9	MANHATTAN BEACH	CA

CL Jet Speed

1 CHRISTOPHER A MONTAGINO	O	200.142	PARMA HEIGHTS	OH
2 WILLIAM M CAPINJOLA	O	199.92	MORELAND HILLS	OH
3 WILLIAM HUGHES	O	193.47	BARTLETT	IL
4 PATRICK E HEMPEL	O	192.518	ROCKWALL	TX
5 DAVID L COTTON	O	190.078	LITTLE RIVER	SC
6 STEVE PERKINS	O	187.757	HOUSTON	TX
7 FRED A MARGARIDO	O	187.62	PALM BAY	FL
8 ANDREW ROBINSON	O	176.642	WAITARA	OH
9 ROBERT H GRAY	O	171.034	WEST CHESTER	OH
10 GLENN M LEE	O	170.225	BATAVIA	IL
11 ROBERT BOLTON	FO	169.535	TARANIKI	IL
999 GARRY N ANDREWS	O	DNF	MELBOURNE	FL
999 DAVID R MARK	O	DNF	FENTON	MI
999 JOEY MATHISON	O	ATTEMPT	LAS VEGAS	NV
999 MATTHEW WALLICK	O	DNF	OCKLAWAHA	FL
999 JOHN W NEWTON	O	ATTEMPT	ROWLAND HEIGHTS	CA

Q-40 Pylon (top 20)

1 FRED H BURGENDORF	O	01:03.2	KNIGHTS LANDING	CA
2 RANDY R BRIDGE	O	01:02.6	APOPKA	FL
3 TRAVIS S FLYNN	O	01:02.8	BURBANK	CA
4 AARON J SEAHOLM	O	01:03.3	LEE'S SUMMIT	MO
5 DUB JETT	O	01:03.5	HOUSTON	TX
6 GINO DEL PONTE	O	01:03.4	VANCOUVER	WA
7 RAMI TAHHAN	O	01:04.1	CLEMMONS	NC
8 SCOTT CAUSEY	O	01:04.8	SPRINGFIELD	MO
9 THOMAS S SCOTT	O	01:04.0	CINCINNATI	OH
10 MATIAS SALAR	O	01:04.3	NORTHBRIDGE	CA
11 MARK G PARKER	O	01:03.5	GRAPEVINE	TX
12 M L HELSEL	O	01:04.3	KATY	TX
12 ANTHONY J HEMKEN	O	01:04.0	CHAMPLIN	MN
14 GARY E FREEMAN JR	O	01:04.5	CASSELBERRY	FL
15 RUSSELL J VAN BAREN	O	01:03.3	HANFORD	CA
16 DANIEL T KANE	O	01:02.7	ARLINGTON HEIGHTS	IL
17 MARCUS W BLANCHARD	O	01:05.0	NORTH CHARLESTON	SC
18 MATTHEW C FEHLING	O	01:04.3	JUPITER	FL
19 GARY E FREEMAN	O	01:06.2	WINTER SPRINGS	FL
20 SCOTT A MCAFFEE	O	01:03.7	CORONA DEL MAR	CA