The THUMB PRINT

Thermal Thumbers Of Metro Atlanta

www.thermalthumbers.weebly.com

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AMA Charter # 1834

FLYING ACES club

SAM

NFFS

March-April, 2025

HEADS UP

Welcome to the second issue of the year, but we'll make this introduction a short one. You'll find herein the next of this year's contest reports and more information on the rest of the year's activities, so dig in and prosper. There're also reports on club members hitting the road for the recent Perry Southeast Model Show and Atlanta IPMS's annual AtlantaCon. Please find the flyer for our big, two-day Chattahoochee Challenge FAC contest in June and make plans to attend. You won't regret it.

Now, it's high time your editor got out of the way. Ciao, y'all.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL HARANGUE

Yes, my brothers, we're at the harangue level now. You had your earlier chances, and here we stand. Was it not ever thus? Be advised: renewal tirades will soon follow. Your editor suggests you avoid that harsh eye of rebuke and join our merry band at your earliest contrivance. You won't regret it, and you'll sleep better. So, fill out the membership form that follows with the information so requested, stroke that check to the amount indicated, signed on the line that is dotted, and mail both post haste to James "Diamond Jim" Martin at the address clearly given. You know who you are. Eyes on you!

THINGS TO DO, PLACES TO GO, PEOPLE TO SEE

We've made an honest start at the 2025 contest schedule, and there's much more in the offing. So, glue some sticks together and come fly some model airplane with us under the Cathedral of the Big Blue Sky in Whitesburg and Behind Closed Doors in Dunwoody or Cochran. The game's afoot.

May 10: Indoor contest. Cochran Rec Center, Cochran, GA
May 18: May Daze. Outdoor contest. NG Turf Field, Whitesburg, GA
May 17-18: Midwest States Indoor Champs. Kent State University, Kent, OH
May 24-26: AMA USIC Indoor Nats. East Tennessee State University. Johnson City, TN
June 21-22: Outdoor contest. Chattahoochee Challenge. NG Turf Field, Whitesburg, GA. CD-Jim Altenbern
June 30-July 1: Tagliofico Open/USIC (World Cup). Kibbie Dome, Moscow, ID
July13: Country Fried. Outdoor contest. NG Turf Field, Whitesburg, GA, CD-David Mills
July 21-25: AMA USOC outdoor Nats. Muncie Nats, IN
Aug. 17: Fizzle While You Sizzle. Outdoor contest. NG Turf Field, Whitesburg, GA. CD-Jim Conery
Sept. 14: Summer's Swan Song. Outdoor contest. NG Turf Field, Whitesburg, GA.CD-Doug DeMasie
Oct. 19: Last Fling Until Spring. Outdoor contest. NG Turf Field. Whitesburg, GA. CD-David Barfield
Nov. 2: Turkey Shoot. Outdoor contest. NG Turf Field. Whitesburg, GA.

GATHERING OF THE TRIBES

Several Thumbs attended the big Southeast Model Show down in Perry in March. Once again, it didn't disappoint. There were very few empty tables, and the crowds were on par with last year's. Surely, we still hold the throne with the largest model aviation swap meet in the USA. (Kiss my grits, Hershey, PA!) The Finns had a big display and did a lot of business. The rest of us bought a few things we might not have needed and ran into some old acquaintances. As for this writer, let's hope the AMA staff in attendance will benefit from my few opinions shared. Mission accomplished.



SAME CHURCH, DIFFERENT PEW

A select few of us attended the AtlantaCon, Atlanta's IMPS club's annual swap meet and contest. As ever, it didn't disappoint. Those that missed it, well, you snoozed and you loosed. It was several hours well spent, and you can't but wonder at the level of craftsmanship on display shown by our adjacent brethren. Also, lots of kits, tools, supplies and books were for sale at way under retail prices. Your editor thought he did pretty well, walking away with seven 1/48 scale kits, NIB, of WW II fighters for only 40 dollars, American. See below. While you're down there, check out Joe Ryan's haul. He went the raffle route and did shamefully well. He bought 24 tickets for 20 dollars, American, and ten tickets won prizes, almost unfair and shame on him.

Plan to attend next year. It's a real hoot. Who knows, you might be able to add to your precious plastic model kit collection at very reasonable prices! Kits, kits, kits, when too much is not enough!



MARCH INDOOR CONTEST REPORT

Cochran Rec Center, Cochran, GA

Saturday was bright and sunny with a steady breeze, but the air was calm in the Cochran gymnasium. Four junior fliers filled the sky with airplanes all day: Caleb and Paul Finn, Max Munoz, and newcomer Wyatt Wixon. Max and Wyatt wrung out TSA planes for the upcoming state championship, and Caleb and Paul battled it out with FAC planes and gliders. Doug DeMasie, our gracious host, flew a variety of nice FAC planes. David Fletcher flew his excellent Hangar Rats all day. Yours truly spent most of the day trying to see where the limits were with an Easy B/F1L, but mostly I glued its prop spars back together, over and over and over again. Hope's Phantom Flash behaved similarly, but eventually responded to reason and flew nice smooth circuits around the gym.

Easy B
Josh Finn 9:10

F1L
Josh Finn 9:12+10:52 = 20:04

Std. Catapult Glider
Caleb Finn 18.7+18.5 = 37.2
Paul Finn 14.2+14.0 = 28.2

HLG
Caleb Finn 11.0+13.6 = 24.6
Paul Finn 4.3+8.7 = 13.0

F1N
Caleb Finn 15.7+15.6+14.1 = 45.4

P-18
Josh Finn 2:08

Phantom Flash FAC
Caleb Finn 70+63+99 = 232
Hope Finn 28+53+56 = 137
Josh Finn 41+35+45 = 121

Blue Ridge Special FAC
Doug DeMasie 77+56+58 = 191
Paul Finn 45+53+78 = 176
Caleb Finn 38+37+47 = 122

No Cal Scale FAC
Doug DeMasie Lacey M-10 161

Embryo FAC
Doug DeMasie Prairie Bird 91

APRIL FOOLS CONTEST REPORT

NG Turf Field, Whitesburg, GA

Our very first contest of the year was a howling success for the most part. We enjoyed great weather, light winds, a mostly dry field, and a big turnout with 17 fliers, including 4 juniors. We made many flights with the usual banter and jokes. We also enjoyed a wonderful tin of cookies by the Maestro, Debbie DeMasie. Thank you, Debbie!

Having got that out of the way, I need to say something about the sign in sheets and score cards. It needs to be said, first of all, when you sign in, sign in by putting in all the info. This includes your last name, and AMA number. Fill your info in completely. I'm really not interested in looking up your AMA number, address, and email address listed on the form. Help the CDs out, please.

Next item is the score card. Some of you possess extremely poor writing skills. There were several flights I had no idea what was written in the score box, even using a magnifying glass. Please take the time to write a legible score. After much effort, I decided to void those scores. Fair warning--I am the May CD, and if I cannot read your score, it will not be counted. Please take an extra few seconds, and help the CD out by writing something that does not look like you are a raccoon on crack with a rock. That's it!

One more thing, look at the FAC events, and realize we could have gotten some Kanones with a few more fliers. Respectfully submitted, the right, honorable Dohrman Crawford, CD, reporting.

P-30
Jim Altenbern Sq Eagle 265
David Mills WWT.Max 253
Stephen Greer BeBop 228
Hope Finn NJAPF 227
Max Munoz Bigfoot 203
Jim Conery Schneider Special 192
Brett. McFarland Souper P-30 165
Dohrman Crawford Sq Eagle 138

Catapult Glider
Frank Perkins DIY CLG.Z 225
Max Munoz Whiz Bang 141
Jim Altenbern Catapiglet 99
Caleb Finn Oopsie 82
Dohrman Crawford Medley 78

HLG
Max Munoz Wombat 141
Caleb Finn DooDah 75

FAC SCat Jet
Caleb Finn Miles M52 87
Josh Finn Miles M52 29
Paul Finn Miles M52 14

FAC Simplified Scale
James Martin Cougar 86
Doug DeMasie DH4 37

FAC Thompson Racer
James Martin Marcoux Bromberg 106

FAC No Cal Scale
James Martin Fairey Barracuda 80

FAC Dime Scale
David Mills Waterman Gosling 93

FAC Blue Ridge Special
Doug DeMasie 191

FAC 2 Bit
Gary Morton FA Moth 251

Mulvihill
Hope Finn 243

E-36
Caleb Finn 235

B NosGas
Josh Finn 162

C/D Classic Gas
Josh Finn 134

C NosGas.
Josh Finn 195

PeeWee 30
Brett McFarland Starduster 47*

Early 1/2A NosGas
Paul Finn Top Banana 98

1/2A NosGas
Paul Finn Top Banana 85

F1G
Brett McFarland Sparrow Hawk 197

*17 sec engine run!





Photos by Stephen Greer and David Barfield

ONCE MORE INTO THE BREACH

The club's high point ranking so far follow below. As you can see, we've been busy. You can't say we don't give your things to do on the weekends. So, give the preceding contest schedule a good look, glue a few sticks together and come fly model airplanes with us. The game's afoot.

Caleb Finn 16
Doug Demasie 11
Jim Altenbern 11
Max Munoz 10
David Mills 8
Hope Finn 7
Paul Finn 7
Steven Greer 6
Frank Perkins 5
Jim Conery 4
Josh Finn 4
James Martin 4
Brett McFarland 4
Dohrman Crawford 3
Gary Morton 1

NEXT ISSUE

Look for something soon after July's FAC Chattahoochee Challenge contest. Expect excessive reportage and photos galore on it, so make plans to attend! The recently announced pop up contest report at Cochran Rec on May 10 will be included, as will a report on the May 17 contest at NG Turf Field. Also, brace yourselves for some hard pimping of the Muncie, OH, outdoor Nats the third week of July, as well as the upcoming Johnson City, TN, indoor Nats later this month. A good contingent of Thumbs is expected to attend both.

As always, I beseech the multitudes to forward anything in the way of articles, plans, photos, helpful hints, rants, or raves to the humble offices. Don't make me work too hard! Ciao, y'all.

2025 TTOMA MEMBERSHIP FORM

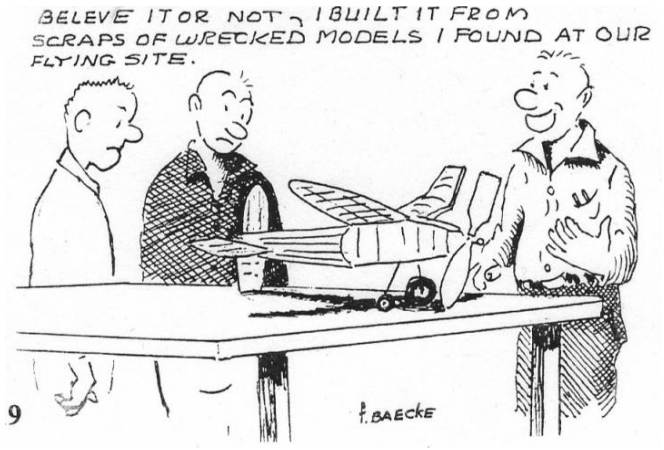
Name_____AMA #_____

Address_____City, State, Zip_____

Other Family Members and AMA #_____

Telephone_____Email_____

$20.00/year for each adult in family, no charge for all 18 years or under. Send check payable to TTOMA to James "Diamond Jim" Martin/3901 Bays Ferry Trail/Marietta, GA 30062/ jhnmartin1963 @gmail.com /404-632-7226





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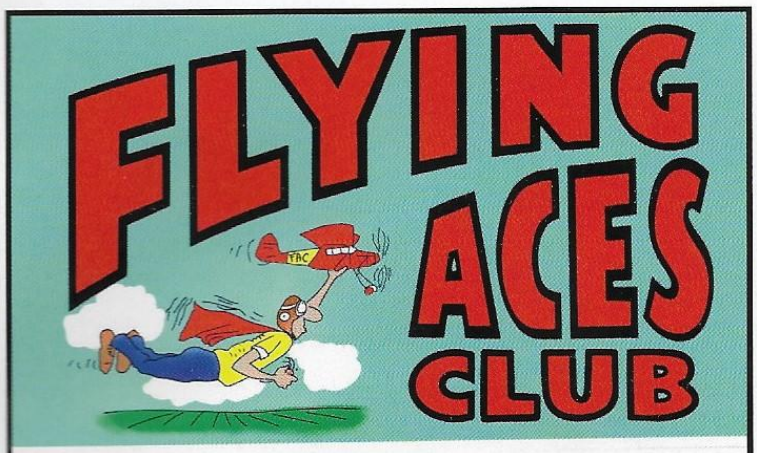
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I agree to abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society of Antique Modelers and uphold the spirit of its Preamble. _____

Members may pay using Paypal at SAM26Walt@gmail.com
** Make All Checks Payable to SAM * All Payments in US Dollars **

Send All Payments to: **Society of Antique Modelers International**
P.O. 73215, Phoenix, AZ 85050

June 21-22,2025

CHATTAHOOCHEE CHALLENGE

Saturday
8:00 - 5:00

Low Point Bonus **FAC Scale*#**
Guillows Scale
Jimmy Allen/2 Bit Plus 1 combined[1]
P - 30
No-Cal
Embryo*[1]
Blue Ridge Special NBM
WW II Mass Launch (11:00)
Golden Age Mass Launch (1:00)
Fiction Flyer Mass Launch (3:00)

Sunday
8:00 - 3:00

Low Bonus Point **Peanut Scale*#**
Jet Catapult Scale
Dime Scale*
Simplified Scale
CLG
Embryo NBM*[1]
Phantom Flash[1]
WW I Mass Launch (11:00)
Combined Racers (1:00)

* Judging will be done on Sat. morning from 9:00-12:00.
\# Planes can only have 15 bonus points or less.
[1] All planes must ROG unless told otherwise by the CD.

RULES: All events will be flown either AMA or FAC rules depending on which organization supports the event. The sod farm is a category 3 field with a max of 120 sec. The CD will determine if modified rules for maxes will be needed due to the weather. Any modification will be communicated at the beginning of each day.

A. CLG has a 90 sec. max.
B. Low Bonus Point FAC scale and Low Bonus Point Peanut Scale is the best flight out of three.
C. Monoplanes will be allowed to compete in the WW I mass launch as long as they conform to the rules - no parasol or high wing cabin types.
D. Guillows Scale Planes can be modified so that plastic parts are not used. Any modification needs to maintain the scale outline.
E. All fly offs will be a one round mass launch.

AWARDS: The award ceremony will be as soon after 3:00 as the results can be tabulated. Certificates will be given for the first three places in each event.
ENTRANCE FEE: $20:00 or $10:00 if you only fly one day.
LOCATION: North Georgia Turf Farm, 1487 Black Dirt Road, Whitesburg, GA 30185
CONTEST DIRECTOR Jim Altenbern **(jaltenbern0705@charter.net)**