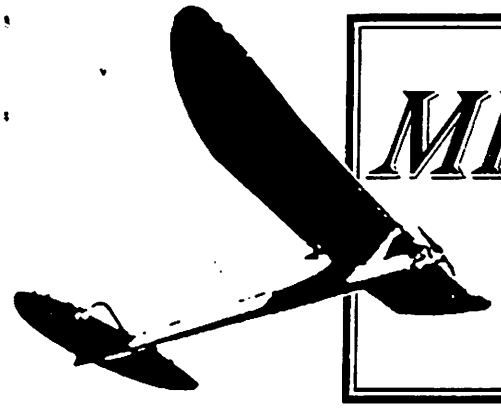
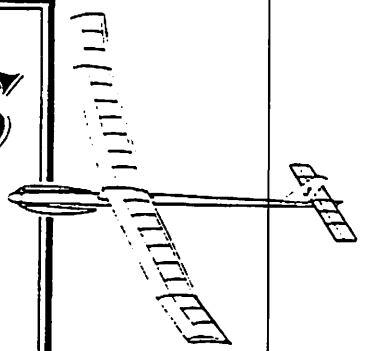


# MINNEAPOLIS MODELER



*Published six times per year by the Minneapolis Model Aero Club*
1216 N. 8th St., Wausau, Wi. 54403

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**V. President...** **John Watkins** **(612) 525-1701** **Treasurer.....** **Jeff Ringlien (507) 633-1907**
**Editor.....** **Joe Huettl** **(715) 842-9638**

**Issue No. 274** **May / June 2000**

***Coming Events:***

**May 5th, 2000**

Club Meeting @ Air National Guard Museum.....7:30 P.M.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **May 21st, 2000** | **"Early Spring Meet"** | **–AA–** | **Jim Ladwig, CD** | **612-920-1245** |
| ½ A Gas | NOS Gas (9 sec.) | | ROW (Record Attempt) | P-30 |
| A Gas | .020 Replica ~ 1/4 A NOS Gas | | Pee Wee 30 | Embryo Endurance |
| B-C-D- Gas | Mulvihill | HLG | Junior Event | Catapult Glider |

**June 2nd, 2000**

Club Meeting @ ANG museum....7:30 P.M.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **June 3rd, 2000** | **"Mini FAI"** | **–A–** | **Hank Liljequist, CD** | **612-545-8178** |
| ½ A Gas | P-30 | | A-1 Nordic | ROW (Record Attempt) |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **June 4th, 2000** | **"Late Spring Meet"** | **–AA–** | **Denny Sussman, CD** | **612-854-0292** |
| A Gas | .020 Replica ~ 1/4 A NOS Gas | | Mulvihill | Embryo Endurance |
| B Gas | 1.5X Bostonian | | Coupe d' Hiver | Junior Event |
| C-D Gas | Classic Gas | | Catapult Glider | |

***Note: During the 6/3 and 6/4 contests, fly any event either day! However, any event started on Saturday must be finished on Saturday. Rounds (5) for Mini FAI events will start at 10:00 A.M. each day.***

# OAKIE'S ORACLES

Spring is here once again. We made it through another mild Minnesota winter. I trust you have built some new models and are itching to go test flying. I'm sure the sod farm is dry enough to fly our models.

Our dear friend, fellow member of MMAC, and a great modeler, Bob Oppegard, passed away Feb 25, 2000. Bob and I became good friends over the past 20 years. The club has initiated the Oppegard trophy to be awarded to the high time in Penneyplane at the AMA indoor Nats. Jack O'Leary has composed a tribute to Bob included elsewhere in the newsletter. We'll miss you, Bob! Thermals forever good friend.

Tim and Linda Johnson hosted the annual winter Hand Launch glider "contest". Many members attended and flew. Duane McDonnell had the best flight of somewhere between 1 and 20 minutes. Food and beverage were in plentiful supply. John Watkins brought some home made champagne, Harold Wachtler shared his home made wine, and the pres. shared his home brewed beer. Not only do we build and fly models, but also some have become talented in the art of home brewing. John Watkins prepared a turkey on the grill. Tim and Linda made chili and supplied many other fine things to eat. Thanks to everyone.

Jim Ladwig asked Terry Taylor, Jim Jorgensen, Aaron Petersen, and myself to assist him in scoring the regional competition for the model airplane segment of the Science Olympiad held at St. Thomas Univ. on March 4. It was a real treat for us to see young people so intense on doing well for their respective schools. The youngsters were very mature. When help was needed to trim or repair the models they asked and took our advice like gentlemen. Nice kids. Some very respectable times were recorded.

The indoor season has ended. The ceiling tiles have been replaced, so we once again have a smooth ceiling at the Minnetonka Christian Academy. Though we plan to fly there next winter, keep your eyes open for a new site. A new site may give us a higher ceiling and allow us more trim sessions. Keep looking.

All our contests this summer will be eligible for the NFFS National Cup competition. It is formatted after the FAI America Cup competition. Points are awarded for placing in the events listed below. A National Cup will be awarded to the flyer with the most points in each category at year's end. The four categories are AMA power (1/2A, A, B, C, D), AMA glider (OHLG & OCG), AMA rubber, (P-30, Moffett, Mulvihill), and NFFS Nostalgia (1/4A, 1/2A, A, B, C, & Early 1/2A). The complete details are in the Feb. issue of the NFFS Digest. I'll have the rules at the contests and report the results to NFFS.

There are no special programs scheduled for the summer meetings. I'll bring the videos, The Best of the World of Aviation, from WCCO TV and the '98 Nats video to watch if we so desire. The National Guard Museum people are restoring a Curtis Jenny. Come to see its progress. Bring your new model for show and tell. Hope to see you at the meeting or the May contest.

GARY

# MAAC Minutes for the March 3rd Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 1950 hours with President Gary Oakins presiding.
Number in attendance: 21
The minutes as printed in Minneapolis Modeler March/April 2000 were approved.
The Treasurer (Jeff Ringlien) reported. The report was approved.

## CORRESPONDENCE

The club received a thank you from Herman Fessler and family for the club's expression of sympathy.
Bob Oppegard has passed away. The club has sent flowers and condolences to his family.
Jack O'leary composed and read a heartfelt and meaningful poem in memory of Bob Oppegard.

## OLD BUSINESS

A brief report regarding the outdoor hand launch/catapult glider event (Feb. 27) was given by several of the participants. Thanks to Tim Johnson for hosting.
The summer contest events have been changed slightly. See the upcoming schedule in the next newsletter.
The possible need for a new indoor contest location was discussed.

## NEW BUSINESS

The next meeting will feature an engine cleaning demonstration by several members.
Jack O'leary moved that the club follow the AMA's builder of the model rule for the club's coupe competition. This rule will be noted in the summer schedule. The motion was seconded, followed by a lengthy discussion. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 2040 hours.

The raffle was held.
No show and tell was presented.
Gary Olkins demonstrated silk covering.
Thank you Gary.

Respectfully submitted,
Duane McDonnell
Secretary

# MAAC Minutes for the April 7th, 2000 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 2000 hours with President Gary Oakins presiding.
Number in attendance: 18
The minutes for the March 3rd meeting were read and approved.
The Treasurer (Jeff Ringlien) reported. The report was approved.

## CORRESPONDENCE

A thank you note was received from the Oppegard family for the Club's expression of sympathy. Pictures of Bob were sent with the thank you note.
Denny Sussman reported that the club will be purchasing contest/raffle prizes from BMJR in addition to the Campbell Company. Also, club members can purchase kits/materials from BMJR through Denny Sussman.

## OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by John O'Lery and seconded to establish a perpetual annual award for the winner of the penny plane indoor model competition in Johnson City indoor model competition in Johnson City, Tennessee in memory of Bob Oppegard's work and devotion to indoor model flying. The motion passed.

## NEW BUSINESS

Denny Sussman showed a sample Plexiglas trophy award for the winner of the October Flug. Denny will pursue the matter and report to the club at the next meeting.
The club will be involved in the National Cup (NC) for AMA Outdoor Free Flight and NFFS Nostalgia National and International Competition in the USA, Canada and Mexico.
Jim Ladwig presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Gary Oakins, Terry Taylor, Jim Jorgenson and Haron Peterson for their work with the State Olympiad Tournament which was held on March 4, 2000. Jim Ladwig also received a certificate for his leadership in this program.

The meeting adjourned at 2041 hours.

An engine/parts cleaning demonstration was presented by several members.
The raffle was held.

Respectfully submitted,
Duane McDonnell
Secretary

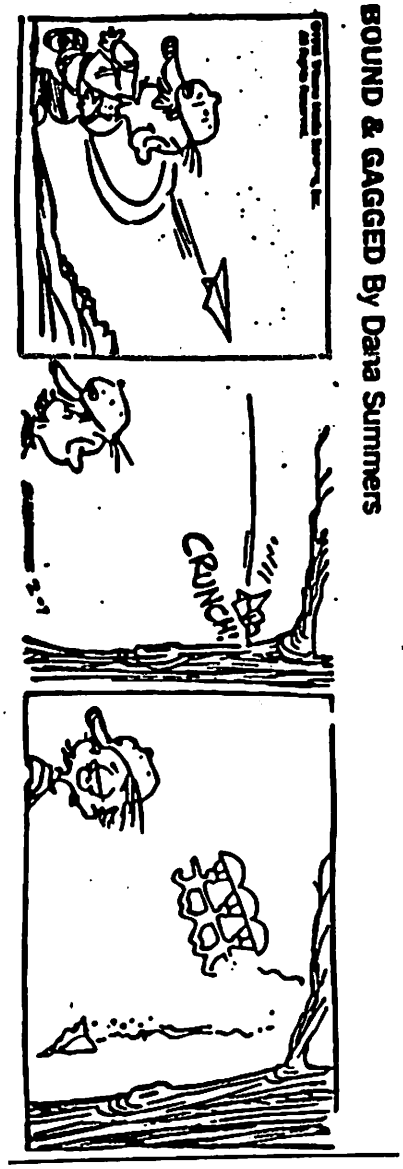
# *Indoor Meet March 19th, 2000*

**Dale Mendenhall CD**

| Placing | Contestant | Plane | Scale Points | Flight Score | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **PEANUT SCALE** | | | |
| 1st. | Hank Liljequist | Fike | 47 | 26 | 73 |
| | | **WALNUT SCALE** | | | |
| 1st. | Don Spehn | Champ | 50 | 28 | 78 |
| 2nd. | Jack O'Leary | Taylorcraft | 50 | 17 | 67 |
| 3rd. | Jeff Ringlien | T-34 | 34 | 6 | 40 |

**********

| Placing | Contestant | Score |
|---|---|---|
| | **NO-CAL SCALE** | |
| 1st. | Hank Liljequist | 109 |
| 2nd. | Jeff Ringlien | 103 |
| 3rd. | Lyman Hatz | 74 |
| 4th. | Don Berggren | 66 |
| 5th. | Alec Lakedon | 60 |
| 6th. | Jack O'Leary | 38 |
| | **BOSTONIAN** | |
| 1st. | Hank Liljequist | 85 |
| 2nd. | Bob Griffiths | 76 |
| 3rd. | Warren Ringlien | 67 |
| 4th. | Jack O'Leary | 62 |
| 5th. | Don Spehn | 38 |
| | **PENNYPLANE** | |
| 1st. | Gordon Dona | 5:46 |
| 2nd. | Larry Dona | 2:15 |
| | **EZB** | |
| 1st. | Larry Dona | 2:12 |
| | **PARLOR MITE** | |
| 1st. | Gordon Dona | 4:53 |
| 2nd. | Hank Liljequist | 3:32 |
| 3rd. | Warren Ringlien | 2:50 |
| 4th. | Lyman Hatz | 2:22 |
| | **PHANTOM FLASH** | |
| 1st. | Warren Ringlien | 111 |
| 2nd. | Jack O'Leary | 103 |
| 3rd. | Hank Liljequist | 79 |
| 4th. | Lyman Hatz | 69 |




| Placing | Contestant | Score |
|---|---|---|
| | **JUNIOR RUBBER (HEAVY)** | |
| 1st. | Briana Jorgensen | 47 |
| 2nd. | Brooke Jorgensen | 44 |
| | **JUNIOR RUBBER (LIGHT)** | |
| 1st. | Brooke Jorgensen | 1:38 |
| 2nd. | Briana Jorgensen | 1:22 |

| | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **HANDLAUNCH GLIDER** | | | |
| 1st. | Gary Crawford | 29.2 | 28.6 | 57.8 |
| 2nd. | Gordon Dona | 27.1 | 25.3 | 52.4 |
| 3rd. | Tim Johnson | 17.8 | 15.8 | 33.6 |
| 4th. | Don Spehn | 12.0 | 11.6 | 23.6 |



**From:** GLDONA@aol.com <GLDONA@aol.com>
**To:** MMACEditor@g2a.net <MMACEditor@g2a.net>
**Date:** Monday, January 24, 2000 6:55 PM
**Subject:** Article

Mumblings from the Road

Over the last year I had a chance to attend a couple of indoor meets in other locations. Both sites and both contests were very different from our standard operation, and there were a couple of things I saw that are worth passing on. In April, I attended the Willamette Modelers Indoor Invitational in Albany, Oregon. This meet had several creative twists in its execution. The site is a High School gym and has similar square footage to the Minnetonka Christian Academy, but has a 40' ceiling with solid beams around 15' apart that protrude down 2'. These make ceiling scrubbing more entertaining. The invitational is an annual 2-day contest with a small symposium after the dinner break on the first night. It was highly competitive and they encouraged participation in more events by having a single general entry fee and giving prizes based exclusively on total points. It kept the cost to the club down, and they gave awards down to 10th place or so with special awards for the 3 national records that were set. Day one was open flying at your own risk with a couple of sessions reserved for Hand Launch and Catapult gliders. Day 2 was broken into times for gliders, heavies and lights, much like our operation. There was more participation in the really light stuff, so the Penny Planes were banished to the heavy time slot. 17 events were flown with both Penny Plane and EZB flown as quarter motor events. Participants in these 2 events had to use a spacer stick for ¾ of the motor space, and counterweight the stick to three times the weight of the motor. Sounds a bit complicated, but there's a simple balance you can make that lets you hang the motor on one end and the stick on the other... a couple dabs of clay on the stick and you're ready to go. The advantages were: the flights were much quicker (EZB winning time was 6:58 and Penny Plane was 4:23), it made the time depend more on the models and not as much on getting a bad bounce along the way, it reduced the wear and tear on the models (one or two ticks on the ceiling and you started back down), and it really made the most of the site. Theoretically using a ¼ motor with a 40' ceiling made it act like a 160' ceiling so the winning times should be multiplied by 4 to see how they compare to Cat IV records. I was interested to see if the times from this site would work to get ready for a large site. Bostonian was another event that looked different. 7 gm models were specified, and though they looked like the ones we fly, they flew quite a bit slower than our 14 gm versions. With less speed and weight behind them, these models seemed less prone to damage. Props, in particular, seemed less likely to break in a major crunch. I lost a fully wound motor into mine, and the lighter structure ceased to be an advantage (actually, it just kind of ceased being a structure).



CONTINUED...

I also attended a meet at the Kibbie Dome in Moscow, Idaho in July. This site is a Cat IV site with a 140' ceiling and a huge Quonset shaped roof over a college football stadium. A wonderful site, though the speaker array that hangs down in the center collects planes like Charlie Brown's kite eating tree. This was a 3 day meet with a 4th day for the Wally Miller EZB invitational. I only hung on for the first 3 days, as I haven't an EZB. This meet was a lot less formal than the one in Albany. The only drawback for me was that some entrants declared the flights they wanted and ignored the extras, the focus of the meet being more to maximize flying in the site. This made the master timesheet seem a bit tainted. Otherwise this was a pretty straightforward contest. It did gave me a chance to see if the ¼ motor data from the Albany was useful since I could compare my own data and a few of the others that attended both meets. The ceiling was 20' shorter than a statistically perfect 160', and Moscow is at over 2000' of elevation so a 5% to 10% penalty was expected. I flew a 4:02 in Albany, and a 15:08 at Kibbie. I was temporarily on cloud 9 as the site record was 15:20 so it looked good. John Lenderman turned in a 4:23 at Albany and annihilated the old Kibbie Dome record with a 16:24. The other data I could compare also worked very well.

Both were good meets, and it was good experience. A few of the things I saw seemed to have potential for MMAC.

-Using ¼ motor on light duration events maximized the site, minimized the flight times, minimized model damage and made the event more competitive.
-Flying 7 gm Bostonian seemed better suited for indoors. I know the original intent in MMAC was to have a 14 gm model so you could fly it outdoors too. Current AMA rules are different for the events so there's more than a weight difference between the events now. Some indoor designs aren't legal outdoor, even at 14 gms. Also, the 1.5 Bostonian event replaced Bostonian in all of our outdoor events last summer. It might be a good time to rethink the weight restriction and return to the indoor weight for the indoor events.

-Having a seminar after dinner on a 2 day contest was really interesting. I've heard the idea of a 2 day contest batted around and this time to talk (and listen) was well worth having. Notable flyers from out of state were talked into giving some of the presentations and really helped add new ideas. Most of the mini-presentations had examples and even demonstrated some techniques. I always do better if I can actually see the product so I really got more out of the talks with this style. We certainly have folks that have ideas to offer both inside and outside. I'd love to see how Greg works that airbrush, hear how Dick or Okie set up and trim out a bunt system and find out where Joe gets those graphite shafts for his hand launchers, just to name a few.

A final note about longer contests. Both managed to draw plenty of out of state participants. Kibbie Dome is known internationally and commanded a $50 entry fee, but even the Albany meet drew fully half the contestants from out of state. It seemed to demonstrate that a well run contest in even a Cat II site can draw a crowd.

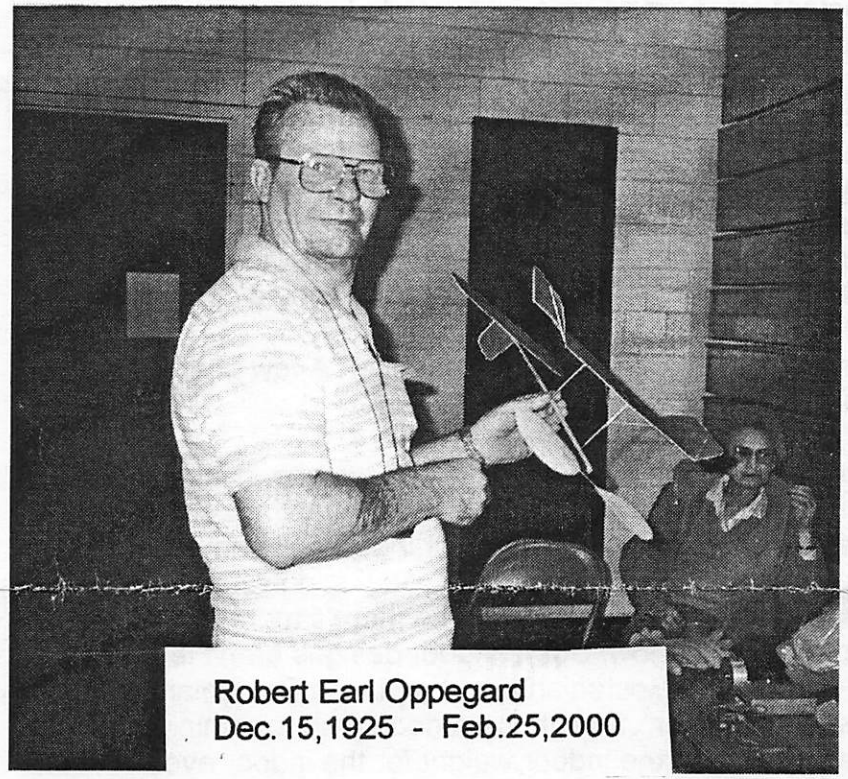
GORDON DONA

1/29/00

John O'Leary
Minneapolis Model Aero Club
March 3,2000

IN MEMORIAM

Iridescent wings pause in their stately, rneasured dance to gather a new spirit.
He can fly forever now, unconcerned about scudding clouds,
freshening winds or cluttered ceilings.
All is warm,green and gentle.
Angels nod approvingly as he becomes one with his frail gossamer craft. Sail on, Bob.



Robert Earl Oppegard
Dec.15,1925 - Feb.25,2000

The free-flight community is saddened by the loss of Bob Oppegard, designer and distributor of the "Norskiver" rubber stripper so essential to indoor modelers. This contribution was cited last year as the "1999 NFFS gadget of the year" in the 32nd Annual Symposium.

Bob passed away in Glendale, Arizona where he and wife, Ruth, had resided for two years. Prior to his residence in Arizona, Bob lived in a northern suburb of Minneapolis,where he was a decades long member of the Minneapolis Model Aero Club and a former club president. Born in Fargo, North Dakota, Bob served his country in WW II in the U.S Coast Guard.

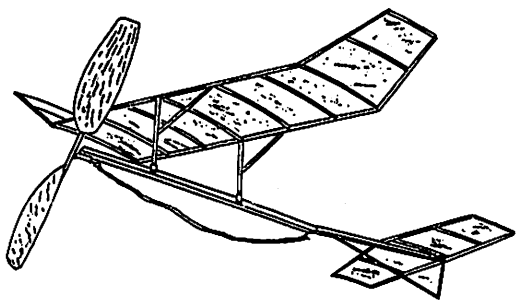
Oppy (one of Bob's nicknames) was the consummate craftsman. He loved to build things. He and his close friend, Donny Block built and operated a slot car racing complex before it became a national craze. Bob built race cars, grandfather clocks, TV sets and his most challenging accomplishment, an EAA-award-winning biplane,the Stolp "Star Duster Too", a project which was a seven year commitment.

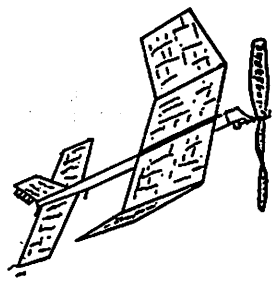
Bob's first love, however, was model aviation. He flirted with control line and

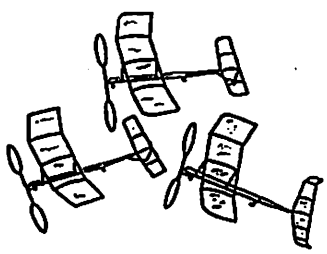
RC models but returned to the challenge of free-flight. His special Interests were the 1/2A and A power events in the outdoor arena and the EZB and Pennyplane indoor events. Consistent with his nature, Bob designed his own models and was a frequent competitor on a national level. He and wife Ruth were fixtures at the Johnson City Indoor Nats and their "fifth wheel" mobile home traveled to all the free-flight meccas: Lost HIlls, Taft, West Baden, Lawrenceville, the Kibbe Dome, Bong and Muncie.

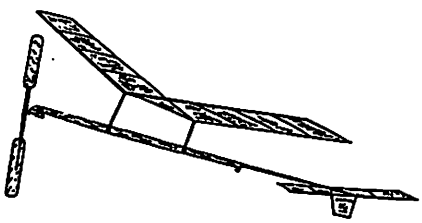
Bob was a quiet, introspective, creative man. He served the free-flight community well. In his recent years of declining health, Bob did his damndest to fill orders for his "Norskiver" rubber stripper. He had many, many friends.

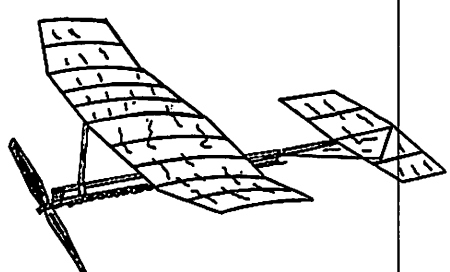
In Bob's honor, the Minneapolis Model Aero Club has initiated the Oppegard Trophy, to be awarded annually for the single best official time, irrespective of age, in the Pennyplane event at the A.M.A. Indoor Nationals. It is proposed that the trophy remain on display at the A.M.A. Museum in Muncie, where each winner's name will be added annually while the individual award plaque will carry the designation, The Oppegard Trophy. This trophy will be presented for the first time at the upcoming Year 2000 Indoor Nats at Johnson City.











MEMORIES OF ROBERT E. "BOB" OPPEGARD March, 2000

Bud [Tenny] ,
Bob passed away February 25th and services were held on the 28th. Indoor lost one of it's greatest assets and I thought you should know. Jack B. Yarger

Dear Bud,
Am most sad to hear of Bob Oppegard's passing. I remember him as a true gentleman, an all around good and decent person. He will be missed by our community. I hope there is a way that some expression of sympathy can be passed on to his family from the Indoor Community. Sincerely, Tom Vallee

I don't have any message of appreciation, but years ago I sent away some money to a man with the strange name of Oppegard. A few weeks later, I received a jewel-like machine of aluminium, brass, and steel, which fit in the palm of my hand.

The average person whom I would show it to often would remark "You paid HOW much for this!?". But when I allowed the cognoscente of true model aeronautics, namely other indoor flyers, to view the work of art, the remark was always "Boy, did you ever get a DEAL !".

I have a deep respect for a man like Mr. Oppegard, who would put a little bit of his soul into each work of art he made.
-Karl Brown

When I first got deep into indoor at the tender age of 30-40 years old, I found that I was a relative youngster. While it was thrilling to show up at contests and learn from the heroes of the sport, I found a few of them to be locked into a sort of elite clique. Most were friendly and helpful. And then there was Bob, or "Oppy" as his wife called him.

He was as common as dirt, as friendly as a new puppy, and, then when ya got to know him, as smart as they come. His rubber strippers are a work of art.

One of the miseries of this hobby is the rate at which we are losing our heros. And, while "Oppy" didn't win a whole lot of events, he's another lost hero in my book. To know that I will never see his grin, or have a relaxed, fun, intelligent conversation with him again leaves me with a broken heart.

G'by, Oppy, I'll miss ya. Del Ogren

As you know I had an Oppegard stripper donated to me by Richard Doig from a flier that had passed away. I took it apart, cleaned it, and had it anodized here at work. (we build automated assembly equipment, and have a substantial machine shop in house). Anyway, when I showed it to the shop manager who does all the machine cost estimating, and told him the selling price, his remark was: "At that price he's gotta be making these with company materials on company time, and he's still not making any money"

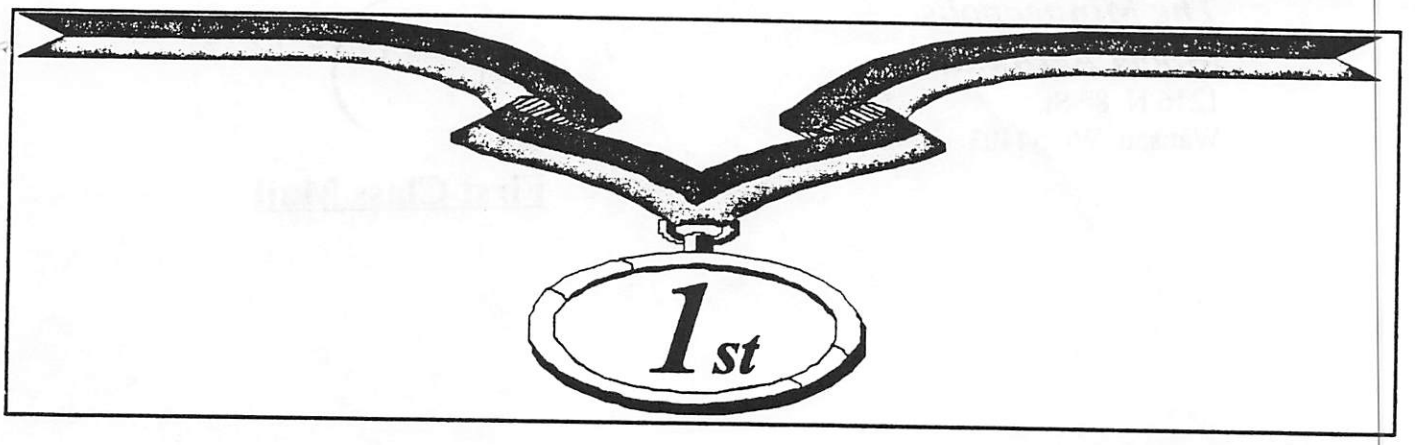
A testament of the service Mr. Oppegard was doing us all by producing these wonderful little machines. Everyone who was able to get one will be rewarded with a wonderful tool for a lifetime. Jim Buxton

Bob was a national treasure. His work will live on with many happy indoor modelers. Roger Schroeder

I met Mr Oppegard about 15 years ago while indoor flying. His rubber stripper was already receiving high praise and I placed my order despite already having a similar rotary rubber stripper.

When mine arrived I was even more impressed with his care in design and construction. It remains the only rubber stripper I have used since then. I can not think of any tool in the shop that meets that criteria.

We all will miss him. James M. Thornbery




# *1999 /2000*
# *Indoor Champion*

# *Hank Liljequist*

***Superior Craftsmanship***
***Superior Skills***
***Superior Effort***
***All Around Nice Guy***

# *Congratulations*

*The Minneapolis*
*Model Aero Club*
1216 N. 8th St.
Wausau, Wi. 54403

Look at your mailing label... ***Red*** lettering at the very top
means your ***dues are not paid*** or ***your subscription has expired.***

55117/1736

## 1999 / 2000 Indoor Standings

| | NAME | DEC | JAN | FEB | MAR | TOTALS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Hank Liljequist | 15 | 19 | 14 | 22 | 70 |
| 2 | Jorge Triana | 24 | 20 | | | 44 |
| 3 | Gordon Dona | | 12 | 9 | 12 | 33 |
| 4 | Warren Ringlien | 4 | 6 | 4 | 11 | 25 |
| 5 | Gary Crawford | | 5 | 11 | 6 | 22 |
| 6 | Jack O'Leary | 7 | | 5 | 8 | 20 |
| 7 | Bob Griffiths | 2 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 15 |
| 8 | Jeff Ringlien | | | 6 | 6 | 12 |
| 9 | Lyman Hatz | | | 1 | 6 | 7 |
| 10 | Tim Johnson | | | 5 | 2 | 7 |
| 11 | Bill Kuhl | 7 | | | | 7 |
| 12 | Alec Lakedon | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 7 |
| 13 | Don Spehn | | | | 7 | 7 |
| 14 | Greg Thomas | 3 | 3 | | | 6 |
| 15 | John Watkins | | 3 | 2 | | 5 |
| 16 | Don Berggren | 1 | | | 3 | 4 |
| 17 | Jim Jorgensen | 4 | | | | 4 |
| 18 | Duane McDonnell | | 4 | | | 4 |
| 19 | Larry Dona | | | | 3 | 3 |
| 20 | Colleen Watkins | | 2 | 1 | | 3 |
| 21 | Jerry Jagerson | | 1 | | | 1 |