Howard Littman Model Aircraft

"Build It Yourself. See It Fly!"

Newsletter #36 July-August-2025

Good news and bad news. The bad news first, USPS is raising rates starting July 13.

Priority mail rates for standard packaging of items less than one pound (most model kits) are going up by 51%! The rate for items over one pound will go up by 28% Most of what I ship doesn't fit in a Flat Rate box but if I ship small items by Priority Mail this rates are going up by 4% to 11% depending on which box. However, some Priority Mail rates for items of two to three pounds for shorter distances will actually go down by 4%. Confused yet?

Ground Advantage rates will mostly stay the same, however, the rates for shipments of less than a pound (most model kits of course) will increase by 4% For some reason there will be increases of 14% for rural destinations.

Priority Mail Express rates are not changing. International rates are not changing.

It is not my place to comment, here, about the politics behind these rate increases. Aside from that fact that I will have to raise my shipping rates for my kits, which is annoying enough, there is the additional annoyance that I will have to figure out how to program all of this into my web site. The upshot of all this is that some orders will ship by UPS or FedEx if I can keep your shipping charges from going up too much. Of course, I expect that these commercial shipping services will increase their rates also. Stay tuned.

The good news is that I'm still here!

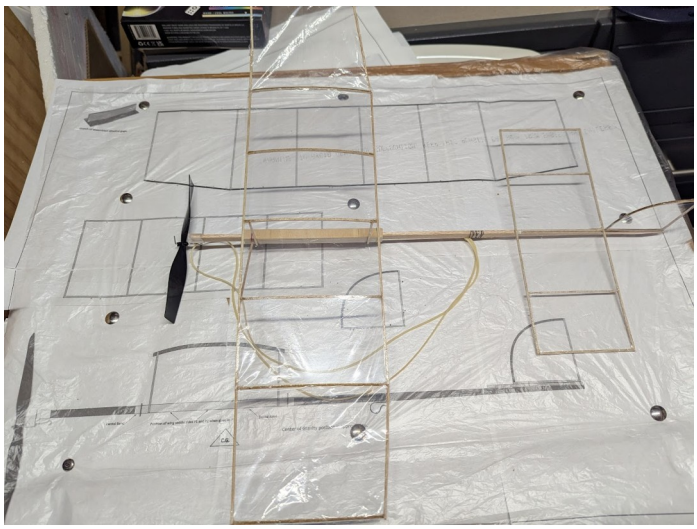
In case you haven't seen it, Bill Kuhl built one of my Ascender kits and posted a review video of it on YouTube. Here is the link https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y8CvJG9olok

A number of customers requested an addition to my Specials line of products They wanted a sheet of laser cut NoCal ribs and a sheet of P-18/Limited Penny Plane ribs, of successful profiles, similar to my Just Plane Ribs, that would save time in building their own designs. This was simple enough so I made them and included them on my web site. They are $8 a sheet. If it's something that you can use get a few sheets and enjoy! (The P-18 ribs are long enough to make Penny Planes, old picture.)

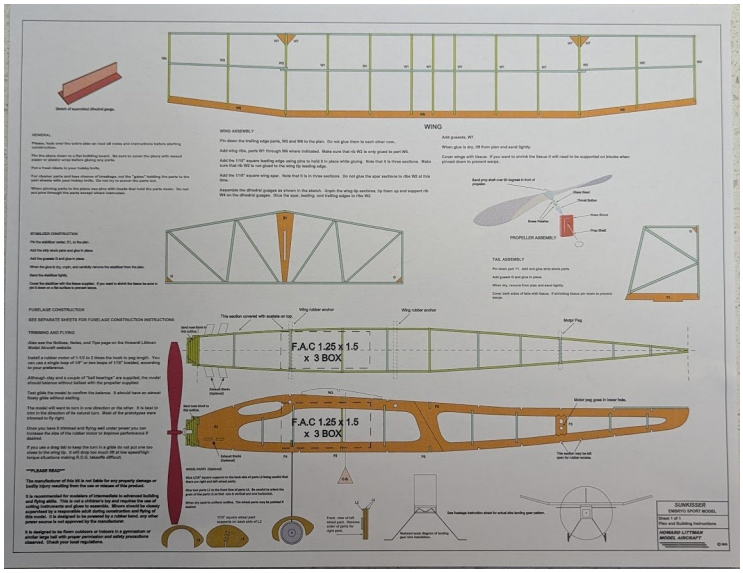




Which brings up an interesting point. You know what you are going to use the NoCal ribs for but what about those P-18/Limited Penny Plane ribs? I used the P-18 ribs in a somewhat unique P-18 that I drew up three years ago that trimmed and flew right off the board. It's called "324 a P18" although I don't really remember why I called it that. It was covered with vegetable bag material from the produce department. It could have been covered with tissue but should still be at class minimum weight. (7.5 grams) A laser cut cardboard building fixture is used to keep it straight.

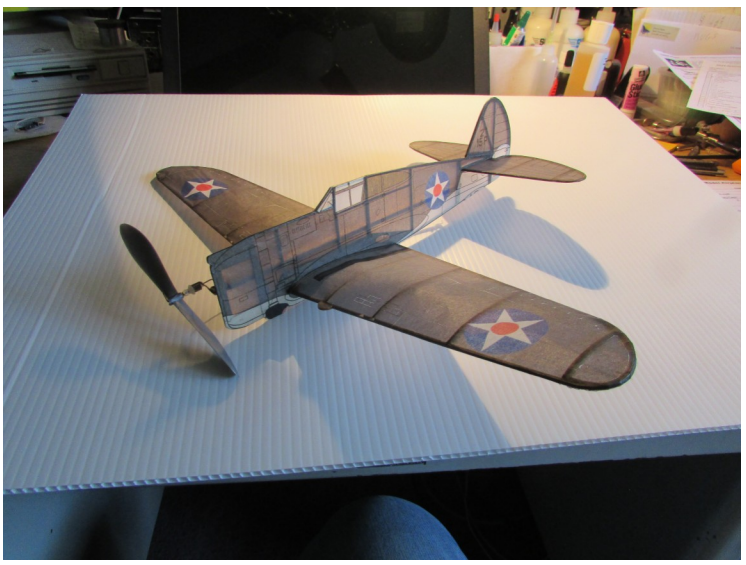


Is this anything you would be interested in a kit of? If I get enough requests I could do it.



Yes, the Sunkisser is almost in kit. What remains to be done is the fuselage assembly instructions, making sure someone can really build the model by those instructions, the bag tags, and setting up the web page.

Finally, pictures of the models you have completed from my kits is very satisfying. Here is a picture that Wayne Gaylor sent me of his P-36 NoCal.



Keep 'Em Flying!

--- Howard