

Orlando Helicopter
BLOWOUT

PROJECT
Scratch Build

Model
ROCKETRY



Model Aviation

Model Aviation

Bringing Modelers Together



June 2012 \$5.95



E-FEST

See page 20

June 2012 • Volume 38, Number 6



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ON THE COVER: E-Fest serves as a refuge from the blustery winter weather and allows all who appreciate park-size, electric-powered aircraft to fly in a wonderful indoor venue at the University of Illinois Track and Field Armory in Champaign, Illinois.

The aircraft present are as varied and impressive as those seen at larger outdoor flying events. Sean Cassidy's $\frac{1}{10}$ -scale Vickers Vimy garnered a lot of attention thanks to its high level of detail and graceful flight. It won a much deserved first place in the E-Fest Scale contest. *Photo by Mark Fadely.*



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A few people can spoil it for the rest of us

A handful of modelers can certainly make life miserable for all of us. In March, one modeler flew higher than the full-scale airplanes on approach to a major airport. Pilots in full-scale aircraft noted this unsafe practice and contacted the local control tower. The FAA also took note of this occurrence.

At roughly the same time, a First-Person View (FPV) video popped up on YouTube showing an FPV aircraft flying north of Austin, Texas, above the clouds at more than 1,000 feet above ground level. Although it's unlikely that the flier was an AMA member, this incident resulted in a visit to Austin-area modelers by an FAA aviation safety inspector from the local Flight Standards District Offices.

Another modeler frequented the airspace near a major sports arena and then boasted of his accomplishments in numerous posts on YouTube. Fortunately, this person was arrested and jailed.

The Academy does not condone flying outside of the guidelines of the AMA Safety Code. As AMA president, I appreciate the enthusiasm of the FPV community; however, two of the issues I mentioned were utilizing FPV and undoubtedly illustrate the lack of compliance with AMA's safety guidelines.

NPRM Delayed Again

The FAA issues have been somewhat quiet this month. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) has again been delayed. No specific reasons have been stated for the delay.

From all indications, aeromodelers will not appreciate the NPRM. Please continue to monitor the AMA website

(www.modelaircraft.org/gov) for current information.

FAI Programs

Last month I mentioned the necessity to review the current FAI programs. We met with Jonathan Gaffney at the National Aeronautic Association office in Washington, D.C. As a result, all United States air sports organizations will meet in June. This gathering should result in a positive direction for FAI participation in our country.

We are also meeting with FAI Secretary General Jean-Marc Badan. I hope the various groups can realize the need for a positive international alliance.

Take Flight

The ScienceWorks Hands-On Museum in Oregon has loaned AMA's National Model Aviation Museum a great new exhibit entitled *Take Flight*. The theme of the hands-on exhibit is to teach the principles of flight, including thrust, drag, and lift, to middle school students.

This is one reason for you and your family to make an excursion to the museum. If you can't do that, check out the AMA Flight School online at www.modelaircraft.org/education/amaflightschool/index.html. Drag, lift, weight, and thrust are illustrated in an elementary fashion. Everyone will enjoy these fine efforts!

2012 Nats

The 2012 Indoor Nats will probably be taking place in Johnson City, Tennessee, when you receive this magazine and the outdoor portion of the 2012 Nats will start in Muncie, Indiana, on July 9. If you would like to see the




largest model airplane competition in the world, stop by Muncie, Indiana, sometime in July or early August. The schedule for the entire summer is posted on the AMA website at www.modelaircraft.org/events/nats/natsschedule.aspx.

There is no cost for spectators. Why not visit the Nats and the museum at the same time?

You can also follow the Nats through the daily newsletter posted on the AMA website at www.modelaircraft.org/events/nats/natsnews.aspx.

2012 Elections

This year's election includes Districts II, IV, VI, VIII, X and a special election for District III. Nominations are due at AMA Headquarters by June 23, 2012.

Any AMA Open member may submit a nomination to the Nominating Committee. Article IX of the Bylaws defines who is eligible for nomination. 

Rockets, and boats, and cars. Oh, my!

Model rocketry has been part of my life for as long as RC airplanes, cars, and boats.

When I build a model rocket—especially one I designed myself—I get that same level of satisfaction as when I complete a model aircraft.

I experience the same excitement waiting to take it out to the field and see how well it performs. No matter what type of model you build, there's a certain level of fulfillment knowing that you constructed it. Seeing it perform as intended is icing on the cake!

As a kid, I would ride my bike to the middle school—which actually was a flying field until they built the high school and middle school—to fly my CL Cox PT-19 and launch rockets with my friends. I spent my allowance buying fuel for my airplanes and rocket engines.

I also raced RC cars and boats across the state of Florida and have a couple of boxes of plaques and trophies I just can't seem to part with.

To this day I still dabble in all of these hobbies, but of course my true love is model aircraft! So why am I discussing rockets, RC cars, and boats in an airplane magazine? Well, they are

all being enjoyed at the International Aeromodeling Center here in Muncie, Indiana.

Our site hosts a few model rocketry events each year and we have an off-road RC car track on-site that gets a decent amount of use in the summer.

Even the pond in front of the administration building has gotten a fair share of small, electric-powered boats wet.

Something you may not be aware of is that all of these modeling endeavors are also covered under AMA's insurance. The 2012 insurance summary can be found on the AMA website at www.modelaircraft.org/files/500-a.pdf. According to the summary, our insurance "Applies to accidents arising from the modeling activities of model aircraft, rockets, cars, and boats, in accordance with the AMA National Safety Code(s)."



No matter what type of model you build, there's a certain level of fulfillment knowing that you constructed it. Seeing it perform as intended is icing on the cake!

In this month's issue, as part of our "State of the Sport" series of articles, we feature model rocketry. Whether you have been involved in rocketry in the past or have thought about giving it a try for the first time, John Boren's article will get you up to speed on another exciting way to get your models airborne! 🚀

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AeroMail



If you have a letter to the editor, please submit it to MA Editor-in-Chief Jay Smith at 5161 E. Memorial Dr., Muncie IN 47302, or email to jays@modelaircraft.org.

Government Relations

Keep up the great work that the AMA is doing! I'm so happy we lobbied hard enough and had our members step up and have the FAA legislation changed to exclude model aviation.

Everything you all did at the AMA was very informative and you kept us members all informed and motivated us to action! There aren't too many national organizations that can do that with their members in this day and age. I guess it goes to show what kind of great organization the AMA is, and how passionate its members are about their hobby!



—Tarry Ness
via email

More Content

Just wanted to say I enjoy reading your monthly "Inside Loop." I was especially pleased and surprised when I read the February [2012] column. A few more Free Flight articles would be greatly welcomed. Heck, even the C/L would bring a smile to more faces.

As you have probably guessed, I am free flyer, have been for the last 45+ years. I fondly remember the days when the Navy hosted the Nats and I still compete in the Nats, yes. Am I any good? Well no, but I sure try.

I pretty much love all aspects of model building. Do I understand why there are so few articles on free flight? You bet I do, we are a dying breed, no doubt about it. That's why most of us are members of National Free Flight Society and I hate to say it, really don't pay the *Model Aviation* magazine any attention.

In case you are wondering if I have ever flown R/C, you bet I have. I still

have a dozen-plus kits in the shop waiting to be built. They will probably end up on eBay. I even have a new 2.4 GHz radio. I remember flying a Mombo with a rudder escapement with a trip-up elevator. I recall building a World Engines six-channel radio from a kit and getting it to work.

The majority of my R/C flying was Slope Soaring in Southern CA. It was closer than driving hours to the Free Flight field. Anyhow, I'm rambling on, so sorry about that. I love your column and a little more Free Flight coverage would be nice.

—Mike Richardson
via email

More Redesign Comments

The new magazine layout is great with the color and larger font. We old guys have enough problem seeing and that helps (me anyway).

There is one thing I would like to comment about. Care should be taken as to the color of the type against the background, i.e. black type against a blue background. It wasn't bad in this issue, but I was thinking about future issues. But, then again, that is just me.

I say it as it is. But, all in all—a big improvement.

Best regards.

—Milt Peacock
via email

Just wanted to say that the magazine's new look is clean and professional. I know that a redesign is not an easy task and your designer(s) deserve a big pat on the back. Great job.

—Tracie Hawks
via email

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JUNE 2012

Model Aviation

9

in the Air

Membership news and updates
from AMA Headquarters

AMA Thanks Its Lifetime Supporters!

The Academy recently welcomed Life Members Russell Gohl, Minot ND; Francis J. Kennedy, Poquoson VA, and Ronald Mock, Melbourne FL.

For information about becoming a Life Member, contact AMA Headquarters at (800) 435-9262.

—AMA Membership Department

AMPS Awards Academic Scholarship

On Saturday, March 17, 2012, the Aero Modelers of Perrine (Miami) Academic (AMPS) Scholarship Committee selected Dianelys Espinosa as the first recipient of the club's \$1,000 AMPS Scholarship. Dianelys will be attending Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida. She will begin her studies in Aeronautical Engineering this coming fall, while also playing college softball.

Dianelys is expected to graduate from G. Holmes Braddock Senior High School with a 5.0 GPA, many honors, and advanced-placement courses, in addition to an impressive number of community service hours. She has been involved with several organizations such as Youth Against Domestic Violence, Special Olympics, and Interact. Her record as a softball player is as extensive as her academic credentials and has taken her as far as Colorado and North Carolina.

Three finalists were selected from all the applications received. The selection committee met with the graduating seniors and each student made a brief presentation followed by a question-and-answer session. Vicar Hernandez, AMPS president, commented that the committee's job was not easy because each applicant had an excellent academic record and engaging personality.

The Aero Modelers of Perrine was founded in 1959 and is dedicated to the promotion and education of model aviation. In an effort to continue its community service tradition, the AMPS



Top: AMPS president, Vicar Hernandez, congratulates Dianelys Espinosa on becoming the first recipient of the \$1,000 Aero Modelers of Perrine Academic Scholarship.

Bottom: The three finalists were (L-R) Michael Castaño, Dianelys Espinosa, and Elvis Payano.

has established an annual academic scholarship that is intended to help a Miami-Dade County graduating senior pursue a college degree in math or science, with special consideration given to students in the aviation/aeronautics field.

To learn more about the Aero Modelers of Perrine, visit the club's website at www.amps-rc.com.

—Vicar Hernandez

Recycling Batteries

Have your batteries lost the ability to charge, flown their last flight, or failed midair? If so, don't toss them in the trash. Help preserve our planet for future modelers and recycle your batteries for free!

Call2Recycle, a rechargeable battery and cellular phone collection program, accepts NiMH, Li-Ion, LiPo, and Ni-Cd batteries weighing up to 11 pounds at more than 30,000 collection centers across the US and Canada.

Simply visit the program's website, www.call2recycle.org, and enter a ZIP code to find a collection center near you. If you don't have Internet access, call (877) 273-2925. Drop-off centers are located at corporate offices, healthcare facilities, manufacturers, military bases, and at major retailers such as The Home Depot, Lowe's, Staples, RadioShack, and Best Buy.

All batteries intended to be recycled must be individually bagged to ensure that the terminals cannot touch. Puffed battery packs can be recycled, as long as the structural integrity has been maintained, the terminals are protected, and the packs are bagged, said Kellen Jahn, marketing specialist for Call2Recycle.

Other batteries not used by model airplanes, such as Nickel Zinc (Ni-Zn) and Small Sealed Lead (SSLA/Pb), also can be dropped off at the collection centers. Recyclable Ni-Zn batteries are commonly found in cordless power tools, lawn and garden tools, flashlights, and cordless telephones. Mobility scooters, fire emergency devices, and emergency exit signs use SSLA/Pb batteries.

The recycled batteries are used to create materials, such as new batteries and stainless steel products.

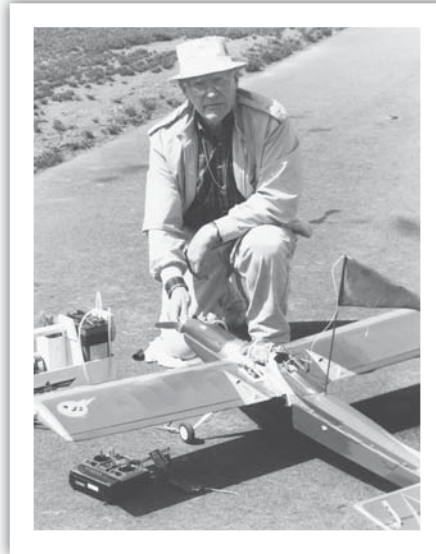
The program is operated by the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC), and funded

in the Air

a welcomed contributor to the relatively new RC hobby.

In 1984, Bill joined the AMA Frequency Committee that

was focusing on the transition of RC frequencies from wideband to narrowband. Bill devised the procedure to evaluate the performance of RC transmitters; his work became the foundation of AMA's Gold Sticker Program.



Bill Hershberger, a member of the Model Aviation Hall of Fame, died March 2, 2012. He was instrumental in the FCC's approval of a 10 kHz separation between frequencies. This photo was taken in 2010.

through the rechargeable battery and portable electronic product industry, which pays a licensing fee to use Call2Recycle's battery recycling seals.

—Rachelle Haughn
Copy Editor



Bill Hershberger

William "Bill" O. Hershberger passed away in March 2012, at the age of 95. Inspired by Charles Lindbergh's 1927 flight across the Atlantic Ocean, Bill became an avid modeler. In 1944, he designed a single-tube receiver and a transmitter used to convert a FF model to RC.

Following World War II, Bill became a technical officer with the Voice of America, serving in Africa, the Middle East, and Europe. Returning from Europe in 1955, he was stationed near Washington D.C. and became

In 1992, an FCC proposal threatened the use of the 72 MHz frequencies for RC models. AMA expressed opposition and was invited by the FCC to conduct testing to provide empirical data to support the AMA's position.

A report, Experimental Evaluation of 72 MHz and Mobile Operation on RC Model Aircraft, by William O. Hershberger, George Steiner, and Warren Plohr, confirmed that a 10 kHz separation between frequencies was necessary to avoid harm to the RC hobby. The FCC retained the 10 kHz separation requested by AMA.

In recognition of his contributions, Bill was awarded an AMA Fellowship, and in 2009 was inducted into the Model Aviation Hall of Fame.

To see his full biography, visit www.modelaircraft.org.

—Chris Brooks
Public Relations and Development
Director

Unknown Helicopter

This helicopter, shown below, has been in the National Model Aviation Museum since before 1998. That is all we know about it. If you have more information, please contact Maria VanVreede at mariav@modelaircraft.org or call (765) 287-1256, extension 508.

Thank you!

—National Model Aviation
Museum Staff



“Model airplanes have been around for well over a hundred years and actually predate manned flight. Models have been used for decades to test aircraft design theories and to validate full-scale performance. Some models are small-scale replicas of real airplanes; others are original designs intended for sport or competitive activities. In many cases, they are built to stunningly precise levels of detail. Most, though not all, model airplanes today are flown by radio remote control.

“Model aircraft are flown by thousands of enthusiasts with a common interest in aviation and a love for watching their

aircraft fly and perform. For this reason, models are largely flown within visual line of sight and in the presence of an operator who watches and maintains control of the airplane during flight. That alone is enough to place model airplanes cleanly outside the boundaries of ‘drone.’”

The telling difference between model aircraft and what are otherwise referred to as “drones,” is the intent and purpose of their flights. In simple terms, model aircraft are flown for the elation of causing the aircraft to take flight and the pure joy of watching it fly. This is what sustains the hobby and what has mesmerized modelers for decades.

Four Years and Counting: Defending Your Flying Privileges



Since 2008, the Academy's government relations team, headed by Rich Hanson, has doggedly worked with the Federal Aviation Administration to represent and defend aeromodeling from what we perceive to be a misguided attempt to place overreaching and onerous restrictions on aeromodeling. Not included in the timeline below are countless meetings, phone calls, and emails. If you have a question for the team, write to amagov@modelaircraft.org. Visit the government-relations section of our website regularly for updates at www.modelaircraft.org/gov.

Please keep in mind, the sUAS Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) remains on the horizon and is still a significant issue for the modeling community. Make sure everyone you know is aware of the impending regulation, and ensure that everyone who shares our love for this hobby is well informed and participates in the response to the proposed sUAS rule when the NPRM is published.

Timely updates regarding the sUAS rulemaking can also be found on Facebook by liking 'AMAGov,' and on Twitter at, <[Twitter.com/AMAGov](https://twitter.com/AMAGov)>.

—Rich Hanson
Government and Regulatory Affairs
amagov@modelaircraft.org

