

# Winter 2011

# Thermal Journal

Dedicated to the never-ending battle against the law of gravity

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Submissions the Thermal Journal in the form of letters to the editor, articles or photos (please include good caption information) are always welcome. Use the editor's address provided above.

All photos in this issue from Mark C. Rzdca

**The Editor's Ramble:**

Here it is February and the Winter issue of the Thermal Journal is just getting started; I must have misplaced January somewhere in the Christmas rush. Not to worry though, since the WNYFFS planning meeting went on as intended. Seems like everyone who attended had a good time and we have come up with quite decent event lists for the Hobo Meet and the ESSFC. Both those announcements are included here. Some events have been pared from our normal regimen, and a few added to peak your interest.

On the down side, the FAI events will no longer be part of our ESSFC. This difficult decision arrived at during the annual meeting in November. Our reason for doing so was very simple; there have been no active members of the club willing or able to commit to acting as CD for these events. The sanction for the ESSFC must be filed well in advance of the meet and includes a list the events to be flown at the meet. Without a firm commitment from an individual, willing and competent, to run those events, the club could not in good faith promise to hold those events and run them in the manner the competitor's would expect.

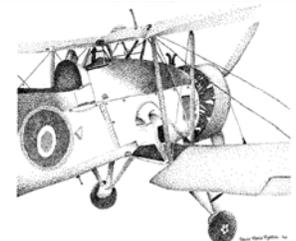
On the brighter side, a nice note from Dave Mills, editor of the newsletter of the Thermal Thumbers of Metro Atlanta, suggested that we consider the newly updated E-36 event. Dave's suggestion was warmly received and we will be flying E-36 per the NFFS rules at the ESSFC. A copy of the rules, as posted in January, is included for reference, If you are concerned with a particular detail of the rules, be sure and check out the NFFS website for the latest information.

This event has always had appeal for your editor; I built a model for the original E-36 rules based on the Micro Duster, a plan published in Model Builder. That model was, of course, based on Sal Taibi's Star Duster. Guess that makes my "E-Duster" a model of a model of a model.

*The Editor's Ramble continues on page 2*

**2011 Dates to keep in mind:**

Indoor flying @ Pieters Family Life Center February 26 March 5 & 26  
WNYFFS Hobo Meet on May 21& 22 @ HAG Museum in Geneseo  
FAC Non-Nats in Geneseo on July 13 for judging, flying on the 14 and 15th.  
WNYFFS Empire State Free Flight Championships August 12, 13 &14 in Geneseo  
SAM 86 & WNYFFS Great Grape Gathering, Sept 16, 17 & 18 in Geneseo



Don't forget to check out WNYFFS website: <http://www.amadistrictii.org/wnyffs/index.html>

The new rules now allow brushless motors and LiPo batteries. That will make for a hotter climb and even a better glide so run times have been shortened keep it interesting. Converting the E-Duster to the new rules was a simple matter. With a full platter of projects in mind for this winter, the *simplest* conversion that would improve the performance in light of the shorter motor run would have to carry the day. By simply adding two cells to the original 4 cell NiCd pack, the E-Duster is ready for trimming once the weather improves. Glide duration will suffer but it should be a little more interesting on the way up at least. A conversion to a 2 cell LiPo battery was tempting; that would have provided a significant weight saving while still increasing the voltage to produce a hotter climb. However, the Smoothie motor run timer already in place did not have the voltage monitoring capability needed to protect the LiPo from over discharge. If time permits, a change from the 190 mAh cells to 110 mAh may be beneficial if the current draw on six cells can be handled for the motor run time. Converting to a brushless motor probably would have produced the greatest improvement in performance but my familiarity with those products is meager; the time required for investigation and testing was too much.

Another event which is new to both the Hobo Meet and the ESFFC is the NFFS one design event for 2011, the Goldberg  $\frac{1}{2}$  A Viking. As mentioned in previous TJ, a kit of the Viking was available from Dave Rosenberg's estate. That kit is now nearly complete and hopefully will be in the thick of it at the Hobo meet and ESFFC. Perhaps Dave will get wind of his kit being flown in his memory and offer a little thermal boost to the ship. Support for my first competition glow-powered effort ever has come from many individuals. The advice was free flowing at the planning meeting and Brad even shared some K&B Super Poxy from his stash of this long gone hobby material. It seems like there is a good deal of excitement building for this event so pull your neglected model out of the attic or place an order for a kit or plan and start building. Don't be left out.

The event list for the Hobo meet is a bit different from recent years. That meet had been run pretty loose for a number of years. FAC flyers had typically run a number of events while the AMA flyers usually used it as more or less an opportunity for trimming session and working out the bugs at the beginning of the season. Certainly the opportunity for trimming and enjoying good company at the field will be on the menu this year. Anyone who wishes to arrange to fly their favorite event "ad hoc" is welcome to do so as well. The FAC events will be flown as in years past; no prizes, but a Kanone report will be filed for events which have the minimum number of flyers participating. Check out the official announcement on page 4. This is a great opportunity to use the HAG field for practice for the FAC Non-Nats or for the ESFFC.

As already noted, the ESFFC will include the E-36 and the Viking events. In addition, several FAC events have been added. This should make the trip to Geneseo a bit more attractive to FAC flyers in the North East with 7 events on Saturday and five on Sunday. Next year we hope to add a few more to the slate of events. A list of events for the GGG is not available but the dates are listed on the front cover.

Keep in mind there are still a few indoor flying sessions for the 2010/2011 season. These are listed on the front page. Contact Jim DeTar (jrdeTar@yahoo.com) for details. Jim put together a nice plan at the beginning of the season to help smooth out the per-session costs. The sessions have been well attended and provide a welcome flying opportunity during the winter building session. At the last session I had the privilege of meeting Marc Hunt. Marc has been in and out of modeling (both free flight and RC) over the years like many of us. Welcome back Marc.

Two more items and this issue can be put to bed. First, John Low's models designs were left to the club at the time of his passing. For a while they were advertised for sale with the proceeds going to the club treasury. As sales dwindled, the plans were set aside. At one time there was talk of donating the plans to the AMA but that does not seem to have gone through. Brad Bane was wondering if anyone knows the location of those originals. If so please contact Brad, his contact information is provided in the masthead.

And finally, some more great news: WNYFFS has a new website. Yes, the same old website is still listed on the front page. That is because the new site has not been formally ordained as the official web site. Nevertheless, Check it out at wnyffs.org Marty Wisniewski has done a terrific job once again. Kudos and thank you Marty! *Till the next time, build light, build straight and fly often. Mark C. Rzacca*

## ***Annual meeting minutes***

The annual meeting was held at the Terry Hills Country Club in Batavia on Saturday November 13, 2010. Club president Brad Bane called the meeting to order. As the first order of business, we covered the Old Business.

### ***Old Business***

#### Reports

Club secretary Mark Rzdca read the minutes from last year's meeting. The club treasurer's report was made by club treasurer, Ruth Bane. Our finances were in good order thanks to a normal turnout for the outdoor meet and various contributions made to the club. The club was able to make a donation in honor of Jim Anderson. In March of 2009, the club presented \$600 to the HAG 1941 museum; this contribution was warmly accepted. Joe Mollendorf contributed a number of battery chargers to be sold to raise money for the club. Last year's minutes and the treasurer's report were unanimously approved by the members present.

### ***New Business***

#### Election of Officers

The current slate of officers was re-elected to yet another term of service. The vote was overwhelming although not unanimous; all officers present called out very vocal nays. For the record, the continuing slate of officers is as follows:

President: Brad Bane  
Vice President: Joe Mollendorf  
Treasurer: Ruth Bane  
Secretary: Mark C. Rzdca

President Brad reminded all members that he would like to step down from his current position if someone would be will to accept the position of president. Contact Brad to find out particulars of the responsibilities of this important office.

#### Indoor Flying:

Jim DeTar provided an update describing the current arrangements for indoor flying at Pieter's Family Life Center. With the new arrangement, all participants pay up front to a contingency fund which will be used to defray the costs at any sessions were too few flyer participate to keep the per person cost "reasonable". Jim noted that regardless of the need for the fund (that is, if all sessions are well attended) the funds accumulated would be used before that season ends. Flying times are from 2 to 4 PM.

#### Hobo Meet

At this time, no one has stepped forward to CD the Hobo meet. It was generally agreed that if this remains the case, the meet would be used as a fun-fly and practice session for all interested members. The dates for the Hobo meet are May 21, 2011 with a rain date of May 22. Once again, our host will be the 1941 HAG Museum. Final details will be worked out at the Planning Meeting.

#### Donation to Historic Aviation Group Museum.:

We had an extended discussion regarding the amount we should contribute to the HAG 1941 Museum. Once again Brad relayed how our donation last year of \$600 was warmly received. Much discussion was devoted to the possibility of increasing our donation but given that our good financial state this year was due to one time donations we elected to maintain our contribution level. Bob Clemens motioned to contribute \$600 and was seconded by Jack Barker. The motion was unanimously approved.

Joe Mollendorf reminded us once again that one of the best ways to show our sincere appreciation for the HAG is to become a member of the museum. Although not a motion, the intent was unanimously approved.

#### Empire State Free Flight Championships:

Brad announced that the 2011 Empire State Free Flight Championships would be held on August 12, 13 & 14 at the HAG 1941 Museum field.

General discussion regarding means of improving the draw raised a couple of good ideas. Joe Mollendorf will contact members of his former flying club, the Clyde Balsa Bugs and see if he can raise any interest in that way. Bill Deforest suggested he could contact members of his Syracuse RC club to see if there was any latent interest in free flight among that group. In general, it seems we are already utilizing all the normal "broadcast" channels to reach those already interested in free flight; additional participants will likely have to be identified incrementally by individual contact.

A great deal of discussion also centered on the difficulties resulting from including FAI events at the ESFFC. Finding a capable CD knowledgeable in those events willing to commit in the time frame necessary for arranging necessary sanctions has been a perennial problem. Joe Mollendorf moved that we do not include FAI events in our planning but accept FAI events if a suitable responsible party steps forward to make the necessary arrangements.

Last, Lyle is interested in taking a break from his ESFFC CD duties. Consider this a personal invitation to step up and give something back to the club.

#### Planning Meeting for 2011:

Planning meeting will be held on January 8, 2011 at the Bane's. Doors open at 10 AM, Lunch around noon and the planning starts around 1:30 PM.

Bring deserts, snack or wine. Ruth will have entrée and green salad.

#### Motion to Adjourn:

Dennis Redhead made a motion to adjourn which was unanimously carried

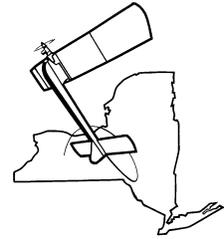
*Mark C. Rzdca*



Western New York Free Flight Society

# SPRING HOBO MEET

**May 21 & 22, 2011**  
**9:00 AM – 4:00 PM**



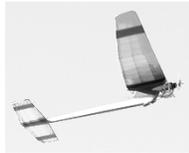
**1941 HISTORIC AVIATION GROUP MUSEUM**

**Geneseo, NY**

## EVENTS

### Saturday May 21

- ❑ ½ A Viking (NFFS One Design)
- ❑ ½ A Gas
- ❑ FAC Scale
- ❑ FAC Dime Scale
- ❑ FAC Golden Age Military
- ❑ FAC Phantom Flash
- ❑ FAC No Cal Scale



### Sunday, May 22

- ❑ FAC Embryo
- ❑ FAC Golden Age Civil & Modern Production combined
- ❑ FAC Two Bit + 1
- ❑ FAC Old Time Gas Replica
- ❑ FAC Dime Scale

Spring will soon be upon us. The outdoor contest season will be in full swing before you know it. The WNYFFS Spring Hobo meet is a chance to fly at one of the best flying sites in the North East. The event list is short on purpose to give everyone a chance to tune up whatever models require attention while still providing a chance for some friendly competition. If you don't see your favorite event on the list, contact your fellow modelers and talk up whatever it is you would like and fly on either day, then fly it. For that matter, fly your favorite event both days! There won't be prizes or plaques but the flying will be fun and the company enjoyable. If you are not interested in competition, come out and do some test flying. There will no shortage of free advice.

Contact Brad Bane ([windwhip47@aol.com](mailto:windwhip47@aol.com)) for information on the ½ A events or Jim Detar ([jrdetar@yahoo.com](mailto:jrdetar@yahoo.com)) for information on FAC events.

Come on out and have a good time,

**Mark C. Rzacca**

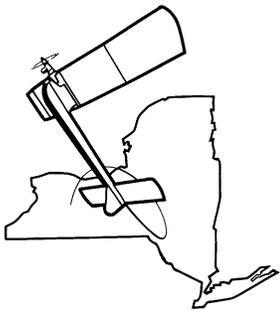
### Rules for Western New York Free Flight Hobo Meet

- Field use fee: \$5
- FAC Dime Scale will be flown to 2012 rules – see Nov/Dec 2010 FAC newsletter
- Permission for combined FAC events from CINC Ross Mayo
- FAC events will be reported for Kanones, if sufficient flyers participate
- CD for FAC events: Jim DeTar
- CD for ½ A events: Brad Bane
- Event schedule is tentative and subject to change based on the weather or other field conditions during the meet.
- Event schedule is subject to expansion based on flyer interest
- Max times are subject to CD's discretion based on field conditions
- Check in at CD's table for latest in field rules

# FLYING ACES



**Valid AMA or MAAC Proof of membership required for all flyers**



# The Western New York

## Free Flight Society

Presents the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual

Empire State Free Flight

# Championships



### Schedule of Flying Events

#### Friday 8AM to 5PM

- A-B Classic Gas
- B-C Nostalgia Gas
- .020 Replica
- Moffett
- Old Time Rubber
- Classic Towline (J)(S/O)
- ½ A Viking (NFFS One Design)
- Diesel Qualify

#### Saturday 8AM to 5PM

- ¼ A Nostalgia Gas
- ½ A Classic Gas (J)(S/O)
- ½ A – D Gas (S/O)
- A Nostalgia Gas
- ½ A AMA Power (J)
- Mulvihill
- Nostalgia Rubber/Wakefield
- FAC Rubber Scale
- FAC Golden Age Civ. & Modern Production combined
- FAC 2 Bit + 1 Rubber
- FAC Embryo Endurance
- FAC Golden Age Military
- FAC Race planes, Bendix, Thompson & Greve combined, Mass Launch
- Diesel Qualify

#### Sunday 8AM to 4PM

- ½ A Nostalgia Gas
- C-D Classic Gas
- Old Time Gas
- P-30 (J)(S/O)
- Catapult Glider (J)(S/O)
- FAC Dime Scale
- FAC No Cal Scale
- FAC WW II Mass Launch
- FAC Old Time Gas Replica
- FAC Peanut
- E- 36 (NFFS event)
- Diesel Fly Off

**Date:** August 12, 13 & 14, 2011

**Location:** Geneseo, NY at the 1941 Historic Aviation Group Museum

**Entry Fees:** \$25 for all events and field use fee. Juniors, \$5 covers all events. Casual flyers *must* register with CD.

**Contest Director:** Lyle Whitford

For questions regarding the meet, contact Lyle at 716-795-3831 or at whitford@localnet.com

Event Director for FAC events is Jim DeTar

**Dinner:** At the Yard of Ale on Saturday, August 13. Check out the details at the CD's table.

### Rules for Empire State Free Flight Championships, a category III meet except:

- Old Time Gas  
16-second engine run for ignition (no glo)  
12-second engine run for old time diesel
- .020 Replica, 12 second engine run
- Moffett, Mulvihill & Old Time Rubber:  
First three flights, 2 minute max,  
Each additional flight, max increments by 1 minute
- ½ A Viking (NFFS One Design)  
Follow NFFS One Design event rules
- National Cup  
Qualifying events for this contest: ½ A, AB, +CD Classic, Moffett, Mulvihill, 1/4 A, 1/2 A & A Nostalgia, Nostalgia/Wakefield, Catapult Glider, P-30, Classic Towing.
- Junior National Cup events  
Classic Towline, ½ A AMA Power, P-30, Catapult Glider.
- Diesel Unofficial Fun Fly  
Three flights Friday and /or Saturday, 12 second run, 120 second max. Total of 250 seconds or more qualifies for Sunday 8 – 10 AM fly off, 12 second run.
- Classic Towline: Straight Tow - no bunt NFFS Rules as of 2005.
- FAC Rubber Scale & Peanut scale judging 8 –12 noon on Saturday
- FAC Dime Scale will be flown to 2012 rules – see Nov/Dec 2010 FAC newsletter
- Permission for combined events from CINC Ross Mayo
- Max times are subject to CD's discretion based on field conditions
- Check in at CD's table for latest in field rules and flight times.

**Valid AMA or MAAC Proof of membership required for all contestants and casual flyers.**



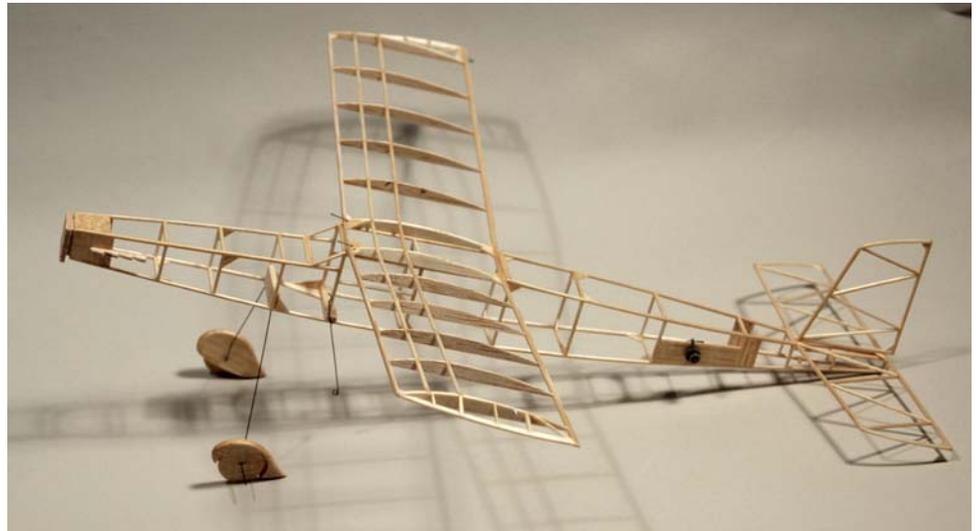
### Garry Hunter flies the Victory

As the 2010 GGG wound down, Garry Hunter, Margo Hunter, Jim DeTar and I were flying in about the middle of the Geneseo field as a result of the wind direction which had been incredibly fickle most of the day. Some time in the early afternoon, the wind died away all together, allowing us to fly an incredible number of flights with hardly any walk required for retrieval. Garry flew his Victory in the Sam Commercial Rubber event and was rewarded with some terrific flights.



### Pop Off Wing DT

At the 2010 FAC Outdoor Championships in Muncie my latest embryo was lost in a thermal. Many people have asked how that model's DT worked. Here is a bare bones shot of my new embryo that has been included to show how the pop off wing DT has been implemented. Towards the rear of the fuselage is the viscous timer. Previous versions of this model have ended up nose heavy so moving the timer rearward has worked well.



At the bottom of the fuselage (below the leading edge of the wing) is a pivoting arm which provides a force multiplier effect for the wing hold down. One end of the arm is a closed ring which connects to the elastic thread which runs the DT timer. The other end of the arm is an open hook. When the elastic thread is run back to the viscous timer the open hook faces down so that a restraining loop can be run over the two pins in the leading edge of wing. That loop carries over to the other side of the fuselage where it is attached (permanently) to the fuselage. The part of the loop attached to the fuselage is elastic so there is some compliance in the wing hold down function. A small tab on the bottom of the trailing edge of the wing holds the back down and in position while small keys on the bottom of the front edge of the wing establish the necessary alignment with very little friction. Once the DT releases, the elastic on the wing hold down loop pulls the loop free of the pivot arm. With the front of the wing no longer restrained, the wing tilts back and pops off. Just visible in the photo is an attachment point on the left end trailing edge of the wing; that is where a retaining thread attaches the wing to the fuselage so the two stay together after DT. Be sure and tie the thread securely on both ends and then glue it. No need to go into circumstances that lead to that unpleasant lesson. This mode has always worked (as long as the DT is set!) to bring the model down and the model has never suffered any damage as a result of the fall. This technique also works on larger models such as an FA Moth.

**One on One**

If you want to talk to a free flighter directly, the names listed here are people in the area who can offer advice on getting started or have a suggestion for a first kit or tips about what to ask for at the hobby store.

**Auburn**

Brooks Goodnow  
22 Lakehurst Drive  
Auburn, NY 13201  
315-252-9170  
tiqer33@thumpernet.com

**Canandaigua**

Jack Barker  
2067 Route 65  
Bloomfield, NY 14469  
585-624-2844

**Buffalo**

Brad Bane  
60 Lake Ave.  
Lyndonville, NY 14098  
585-765-9363  
windwhip47@aol.com

**Rochester**

Bob Clemens  
95 Shoreway Drive  
Rochester, NY 14612  
585-392-3346  
rclemens2@rochester.rr.com

**Brockport**

Vet Thomas  
970 Clarkson-Parma Road  
Hilton, NY 13021  
585-392-5164  
vthomas1@rochester.rr.com

To Join the WNYFFS complete this form (or a facsimile) and send it along with a check for \$10 (annual dues) payable to:



Ruth Bane, Treasurer, WNYFFS  
60 Lake Avenue  
Lyndonville, NY 14098

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
AMA/ MAAC # \_\_\_\_\_

Please consider membership in AMA/MAAC. While not required for membership in WNYFFS, AMA/MAAC provides supplemental liability insurance covering model flying activities and is required at most WNYFFS flying activities.

**Contest CD's**

Brooks Goodnow  
22 Lakehurst Drive.  
Auburn, NY 13021  
315-252-9170

Vet Thomas  
970 Clarkson-Parma Road  
Hilton, NY 13021  
585-392-5164  
vthomas1@rochester.rr.com

John Carls  
43 Murphy Road  
Bradford, PA 16701  
814-362-7789

Lyle Whitford  
9003 Lake Rd, PO Box 72  
Barker, NY 14012  
716-795-3831

**Application for Membership**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
(For Family membership, please list all names.)  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ e-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Hobbies \_\_\_\_\_

Membership entitles you to free admission to our air show and to the museum, a 10% discount in the HAG store, *Hangar Tales* for a year, a window sticker for your car, and membership card (which must be presented to obtain the perks). See Founders' Forum for club details.

- Membership Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Life (up to 59) \$600  
\_\_\_\_\_ Life (60 & up) \$500  
\_\_\_\_\_ C-47 Club \$250  
\_\_\_\_\_ Family (parents & children under 18) \$75  
\_\_\_\_\_ Regular (18-59) \$35  
\_\_\_\_\_ Senior Citizen (60 & up) \$30  
\_\_\_\_\_ Junior (17 and under) \$15

**NEW:  
LIFE  
MEMBERSHIP**

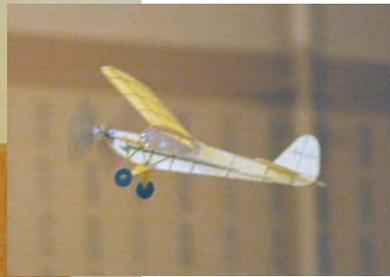


All payments must be in US funds.

Mail this application (or a photocopy) with your check to:  
1941 Historical Aircraft Group Museum, PO Box 185, Geneseo, NY 14454-0185

**Background on the WNYFFS**

The Western NY Free Flight Society began in the late 1960's with a few modelers. Today the Society now numbers nearly 100 members in 9 states and Canada. For over 30 years the club has hosted the Empire State Free Flight Championships in late summer, as well as a "fun fly", each spring, both are held in Geneseo, NY. Powered by rubber, gas, diesel, electric, CO<sub>2</sub>, compressed air or that old standby- muscle, these events exact the best from the planes and presents the fascinating challenge of outdoor free flight to the folks attending. There is no "off season" in free flight. Once outdoor season ends, the WNYFFS sponsors several indoor flying opportunities in the Rochester area.



### **Indoor Flying**

continues at Pieter's Family Life center for a few more sessions. Contact Jim DeTar at [jrdetar@yahoo.com](mailto:jrdetar@yahoo.com) for details

At a recent session, four flyers had a mass launch of No-Cal Cubs. In the photo are (from left to right) Don Steeb, Art Kriesen and Jim DeTar. You can see all four planes but I could not get all the flyers in the photo. The missing flyer is Walt Kornrich.

## **15 E-36**

### **15.1 Model Requirements**

1. 36 in. maximum projected wingspan allowed.
2. 120 gm. minimum weight, ready-to-fly, required.
3. No autosurfaces allowed .

### **15.2 Power Requirements**

1. Any type electric motor allowed.
2. Nickel or lithium batteries allowed, 2-cell lithium limit or 6-cell nickel limit.
3. Gearing and folding props allowed.

### **15.3 Flight Requirements**

1. Two minute maxes required for all flights
2. First three official flights to be made with a 15 sec. motor run each. If all maxes, a fourth flight to be made with 10 sec. motor run, and if maxed, then all later flights to be made with 5 sec. motor runs until a max is dropped.

3. Six attempts for the first three official flights is allowed, immediate declaration required and 20 sec. maximum for attempts, overruns being automatic attempts for the first three official flights and overruns after the third official flight to be automatically awarded a "0" score

Be advised: the motor runs and two-minute maxes prescribed are seen as appropriate for large field competition. CD's are encouraged to modify the motor runs and maxes to suit local conditions. This is a NFFS event and records won't be kept, so fly smart and keep your models on the field.

### **NFFS E-36 Rules**

*provided for reference only*



Mark C. Rzacca  
17 High Point Trail  
Fairport, NY 14450