

July 29, 2019

July 2019 WNYFFS Thermal Journal Update

### **Empire State Free Flight Championships**

Starting with changes to the contest's date initiated last year and a cancellation necessitated by extremely wet weather this year, our ESFFC faced a rocky road. But all's well that ends well and we ended up with a very nice contest. Roy Smith assembled a great report. Everyone should have received a copy from Roy already. I did hear from a few people that they had not seen the email from Roy; if that is the case let me know. Everyone should be included on Roy's email distribution list but we do not have an automated means of merging the WNYFFS members into Roy's distribution list. Thanks Roy.

It remains to be determined when next year's ESFFC will be held. We had a good turnout while squeezed in between the July Fourth holiday and the National Warplane Museum's Airshow. It is unlikely we will have the contest similarly situated next year; in 2020 the Fourth falls on the weekend preceding the airshow.

Your editor's experience at the ESFFC was made a bit more pleasant thanks to Simon Blake's generosity. Simon was able to send a spring starter for a TD 020. That made it much easier to enjoy flying my 020 Replica Zipper. Thanks Simon.

### **FAC Non Nats**

Weather was definitely hot and humid at the Non Nats. Temps were in the 90's and the Heat Index crept up to 100 on occasion. On the other hand, Thursday had lots of good air and so did Friday. Saturday was the hottest day of the event and the air was less predictable. For extended periods it seemed like all turbulence and down drafts but then there would be a (short) period of very good air.

Jim DeTar managed to fly at just the right moment to latch onto one of the big thermals on Saturday and almost lost his Piper PA-22 as a result. Following a 3 minute 45 second flight the model was short of the river at the end of the last crop field to the North; that despite launching practically from the road.

Your editor managed to fly both his Power Scale ships. The E-20 powered Spitfire flew in its usual erratic fashion. That model is a bit small (and heavy) so trimming is sensitive. It is worth a bit more work but a bit larger (and ideally lighter) is the fix for E-20 scale. On the other hand, the Howard finally made a max. It is certainly a testament to my limited trimming skills that it took so long to get a high winger from an Earl Stahl plan trimmed! Now it is a tame and pleasant bird to watch climb so very gently.

Using the KP01 is very simple and provides for control of motor run speed and time. Run time is programmed in two phases; climb and decay. That allows for a



gentle transition from powered to unpowered flight. Climb time is limited to 65 seconds and decay to 55. Combining the two of course yields a two minute flight assuming the model gains sufficient altitude during the climb phase. No digital programming; just three potentiometers.

Power Scale at the Non Nats did not have too many competitors this year. That is a little surprising since flying models with electric power is very pleasant. The climb is gentle and scale like. Even the sound of the electric motor is pleasing to the ear. There are several options for motor controllers. Atomic Workshop sells the Zombie which includes a low voltage cut off so that lithium cells can be used safely. At today's exchange rate the motor timer goes for a bit less than \$40 including shipping from Great Britain.

Thanks to Bob Clemens for the photos of the Howard's launch and Dave Niedzielski hard at work. Note the large WW1 Combat prototype model behind Dave. Looks like it should be a real goer but the lozenge pattern can be time consuming. Finding camouflage models in the grass can be tough too.

Our last photo shows Jim DeTar and Yours Truly getting Jim's D VII ready for the WW I Mass Launch Combat Event. Thanks to First Mate Mary Jo for the photo.



<u>Western New York Free Flight Society Dates of Interest for 2019:</u>	
AMA Nationals (in Muncie)	August 5 through 9
Pirate Challenge	August 23, 24 & 25
GGG	September 6, 7 & 8

**Pirate Challenge**



Next up for local meets is the Pirate Challenge. Prize stickers are all printed and the certificates are waiting for pick up from MJ Printing Services. Our prize box has been restocked for the juniors. We haven't heard from too many contestants in that category; let me know if you are bringing a junior so we can make sure we don't run out of awards.

Please bring your scores for scale judged models entered at previous FAC Nationals or Non-Nationals.

That is all for now. Our August update should include results from the Pirate Challenge. Mark C. Rzasda, editor Western New York Free Society Thermal Journal

Seems like a few more photos would have been in order



Enough is enough!

We can always use good photos of your modeling activities. Just be sure and include sufficient caption information and we'll be over the moon.