



The THUMB PRINT
Thermal Thumbers Of Metro Atlanta

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HEADS UP

Welcome to the first issue of 2022, and we're happy to forecast a very good year for Free Flight locally and elsewhere. Things bode well, indeed. Our indoor season is in full swing at Christ Chapel in Macon, and more dates there will follow shortly. We're starting our outdoor season on schedule this April at the sod farm. Those outdoor dates from Dohrman Crawford follow, except for September's because he's getting with the good folks at NG Turf to avoid dove season. As is our custom, we'll be meeting monthly at both these venues, so make plans to attend.

The situation at St. Lukes remains in flux because their/our Grand Hall is still being used for temporary office space because of some delays in the construction elsewhere at the church. Fingers crossed, we anticipate being let back in later in the year. Dohrman is working with the church to set dates when groups are allowed back in.

So keep up with your busy building program and make an appearance somewhere with a model airplane! Participation to date is strong, but the more, the merrier. Time for me to get out of the way. Ciao, y'all!

RENEWAL NAG

As the year is still young, and this is only the second club membership renewal nag, we'll keep this request all unicorns and rainbows. The 2022 membership form follows aft in this issue. Ergo, fill out the form as required, stroke that check to TTOMA, sign on the line that is dotted and mail it to the address shown. Many thanks in advance. It's great to be a Thumb, so join in the fun. Eyes on you!

THINGS TO DO, PLACES TO BE, PEOPLE TO SEE

Please note the following committed dates for club activities this year, as well as other happenings of potential interest. More indoor dates will be forthcoming, too. The game's afoot.

March 12: Indoor Contest. Christ Chapel, Macon, GA

March 19: IPMS Atlanta model show/swap meet, Lockheed Union Hall, 1032 S. Marietta Pkwy

March 22-24: King Orange International, Palm Bay, FL

April 9: Indoor Contest. Christ Chapel, Macon, GA

April 24: April Fools. Outdoor Contest. NG Turf. Whitesburg, GA

May 14: Indoor Contest. Christ Chapel, Macon, GA

May 15: May Daze. Outdoor Contest. NG Turf. Whitesburg, GA

May 14-15: Kudzu Classic, Raeford, NC

June 25-26: Chattahoochee Challenge. FAC Outdoor Contest. NG Turf, Whitesburg, GA

July 1-3: Indoor Contest. Johnson City Mini Dome, ETSU

July 10: Country Fried. Outdoor Contest. NG Turf. Whitesburg, GA

August 14: Sizzle While You Fizzle. Outdoor Contest. NG Turf . Whitesburg, GA
Sept ??: date to be determined, dove season concerns
Sept. 17-18: October Hurricane Classic, Raeford, NC
Oct. 16: Last Fling Till Spring. Outdoor Contest. NG Turf. Whitesburg, GA
Nov. 6: Turkey Shoot. Outdoor Contest. NG Turf. Whitesburg, GA

THUMBS ON THE ROAD

We made our annual and now renewed trek down to Perry, GA for GAMA's Southeast Model Show. I can testify that it's back in all its glory. The arenas were fun of people, goodies and activities. The Thumbs were well represented. All the 1000+ tables were full, as were the parking lots on Friday. Commerce appeared brisk. Your trusty editor bought quite a few things he didn't really need at very good prices. Mission accomplished. See y'all next year at same.



THUMBS FIXING TO GO GET READY TO BE ON THE MARCH

Planning is ongoing for June's Chattahoochee Challenge FAC contest. Note the two following announcements from Gary Morton and David Barfield. Gary is reprising the special Mike Nassise Dime Scale that was scheduled for the 2019 Chattahoochee Challenge but was cancelled because of the then-raging Covid scourge. David is also interested in sponsoring a Fiction Flyer event and is designed a special trophy for same. All details follow.

This just in from Gary, "There are new events for the upcoming Chattahoochee Challenge. These include the Nassise Memorial Dime Scale event for his Dime Scale plans. Also added are the Modern Civilian and the Comet Nickel events.

"Now is your chance to plan ahead and build a plane for one or more of these events. If you do not have a plane to fly in one or more of these events, pick a plan and start building. The new FAC rule book is out. It is a good idea to check with the rule book before you start a build you favorite plane to make sure it fits the event. The Nassise Memorial Dime Scale event is to honor the late Mike Nassise. Mike is known for being the long time editor of the *Tailspin* newsletter and for the many plans that he published there and elsewhere. The planes from his plans build easily and fly well. Although he published plans for many different FAC events, we want to honor him for his contribution to Dime Scale. The event will be for any of his Dime Scale plans and will follow the FAC rules. Many of these plans are on the internet. If you see one

you would like to build and cannot find it, put a shout out to our members, and I am sure somebody will have the plan which can be copied. A tentative list of Mike's Dime Scale plans is given below. I know there are more, but at this time I do not have knowledge of them. A tentative list follows:

Avia B-135b Fighter	Chilton D.W.1	Douglas M-2 Biplane
Hawker Tempest Mk. 1	Messerschmitt Me-109 F	Piper YO-59 Liaison
Avia BH-IIb Sport	Comper Swift	Fairchild PT-19
Hawker Typhoon Mk IA	Miles M-18 Trainer	Porterfield Zephyr
Bellanca Junior 14-9	Curtiss P-40 E	Fairey Firefly Mk 1
Heinkel He 113	Northrop Gamma	Yak-7
Bellanca Skyrocket	Curtiss SB2C Helldiver	Fairey Fulmar Mk 1
Howard DGA 8	Chance-Vought OS2N-1	Ryan M-1 Mail Plane
Caudron C. 714	Kingfisher	Fiat G.50bis Fighter
Howard GH-2	Curtiss SOC-3 Seagull	Junker Ju 86 Stuka
Ambulance Plane	P-38 Lighting	Farman 400
Cessna Airmaster	Curtiss XSO3C-1 Seamew	Wright WP-1 Pursuit
Luscombe Phantom	North American P-51A	Glenny & Henderson Gadfly
Cessna AW	DeHavilland Leopard Moth	Nieuport 17 Scout
Martin MO-1	North American P-51 D	Hawker Sea Hurricane Mk IIC

“For those interested in the Comet Nickel event a good discussion along with plans can be found in the most recent FAC Newsletter. Volare has short kits for the Cessna and Miller Racer. The FAC website has all of the eligible plans, and while not all of the parts are shown, you can still build from these plans.”

This just in from David on Fiction Flyers: “Here is a list of the available plans/kits as I have them. There are still loads of designs not modeled yet, and many fiction series that are "undiscovered". Several Jimmie Allen models could arguably be included in this list because they were part of the radio program but may be rejected due to their not being in a printed story. But then again, they were in the printed transcript. If they were accepted, these designs would include Monsoon 800, Monsoon Clipper, Bluebird Racer and Spartan Bomber. There are others in the works but not available for use as yet and plenty more from which to choose, if you want to design one yourself. Now the list of known available designs:

1. Smilin' Jack's Flivver at this website: <http://home.att.net/~dannysoar/home.htm> This one may need some fleshing out as it has a flat open fuselage. (Danny Dodge may not anything to do with this site anymore, but it still takes you where you want to go. Don't Google Danny Soar unless you are ready for a little shock).
2. Fat Stuff's Folly, *FAC News* (any with this designation were for the most part a loose plan as sent out with the newsletter before they started making them part of the magazine so no indication as to which issue or year. If I listed them, I have a copy)
3. Downwind Jackson's Miss Lil' DeIcer, *FAC News*
4. Ol' # VI, *FAC News*
5. Volunteer (Jenny Dare's super plane my design in Jan/Feb 2014 *FAC News*)
6. Joy's Racer, *FAC News* and John Pond plan service
7. X-13, *FAC News*
8. Wings Over the Jungle, *FAC News*
9. Mystery Tailless, *FAC News* and kit from Easy Built
10. Silver Lancer, *FAC News* and kit from Easy Built
11. Miss Mystery, 2021-3, *MaxFax*
12. Toad Plane, Jul/Aug, 2015 *FAC News*
13. Stratonef H.22, 2021-3, *MaxFax*
14. Ace McCoy's Trainer, *FAC News*
15. Booth Ranger, *FAC News*

16. Chinese Trainer, *FAC News*

17. Mordecai Murphy's Dart, Jan., 1984, *Model Builder*

ONE MAN'S OPINION: FICTION OR FACT?

Most of us are long aware of Comet's Nickel Scale kits from the 1930s. Likely, my and probably your established view of these ten-inch models was neat, cute and probably not good fliers. Well, they've been made a special FAC event, at least for now. The most recent issue of *FAC News* has a good write up of the class which will surely promote their building and flying. The report includes reports of successful flying.

With that in mind, I've stared at my stack of those plans for a while and will share my view of same, as in which ones to give a go, IMHO. First, use your lightest wood and pretend you're building an indoor model, as lightness forgives a lot of sins, and that includes a minimum of detailing. Also, pray for no wind because the laws of physics are against you. The rules allow a number of measures for easier construction, lighter weight and greater strength, so use them.

As to the best choices, I'd go with the (Culver?) Dart, arguably the cutest and competently penned by my man Ed Lidgard. Though a low-winger, it has the best wing planform, most area, ample dihedral and largest tail feathers. I'd give Walter Froman's Cessna (Airmaster) a good look. Models based on the Cessna's of the era fly well. This one is blessed with a high, largish wing with ample dihedral, and for the class, good tail feathers. Areas and moments oblige. And just for grins and tickles, I might give Ed Lidgard's Bellanca a shot. You know he probably got it right. My money's on Ed.

BIRDS OF A FEATHER

Don't forget about the big IPMA Atlanta contest and swap meet in Marietta this March 19, their traditional date. It's worth a visit and always a hoot. A few Thumbs are attending. It offers plenty of eye candy, good conversation and lots of books, tools and plastic kits at low prices. A quick google gives the details and directions. The craftsmanship on display is astounding, and frankly, a bit humbling.

MAKING A LIST

The 2022 indoor season is well underway at Christ Chapel in Macon, and the high points to date follow. Those that haven't driven down are missing a quality flying site and some fine competition and fellowship.

Dohrman Crawford	10	Josh Finn	5	Logan Finn	2
Bill Gowen	9	Hope Finn	5	Nick Ray	2
David Mills	8	Caleb Finn	5	Doug DeMasie	2
Jim Conery	7	David Fletcher	5	Paul Finn	1

NEXT ISSUE

Look for something in early May. The main feature will be the fancy flyer for June's FAC Chattahoochee Challenge, so start making plans now! We'll also carry the March and April indoor contest results, April's outdoor season opener results and any other pertinent happenings that come over the transom in the interim. Maybe some happy news from St Lukes.

As always, I beseech the multitudes for any contributions in the way of articles, photos, plans, rants and raves. Don't make me work too work! Ciao, y'all!

JANUARY INDOOR CONTEST REPORT

Christ Chapel, Macon, GA

Eleven fliers registered for the January contest and recorded 43 official flights. Flying was in the chapel area of the building. Very cold temperatures took a toll on the flight times. The complete scores follow. CD Bill Gowen, reporting.

Limited Pennyplane

Bill Gowen 8:13
Josh Finn 7:21
Hope Finn 6:26
Caleb Finn 6:01
Logan Finn 5:04
Dohrman Crawford 3:18

Ministick

Nick Ray 7:54

A-6

Bill Gowen 5:15
Caleb Finn 4:42
Hope Finn 1:24

Hangar Rat

Dohrman Crawford 4:21
Jim Conery 4:03
David Fletcher 2:59
David Mills 2:03

P-18

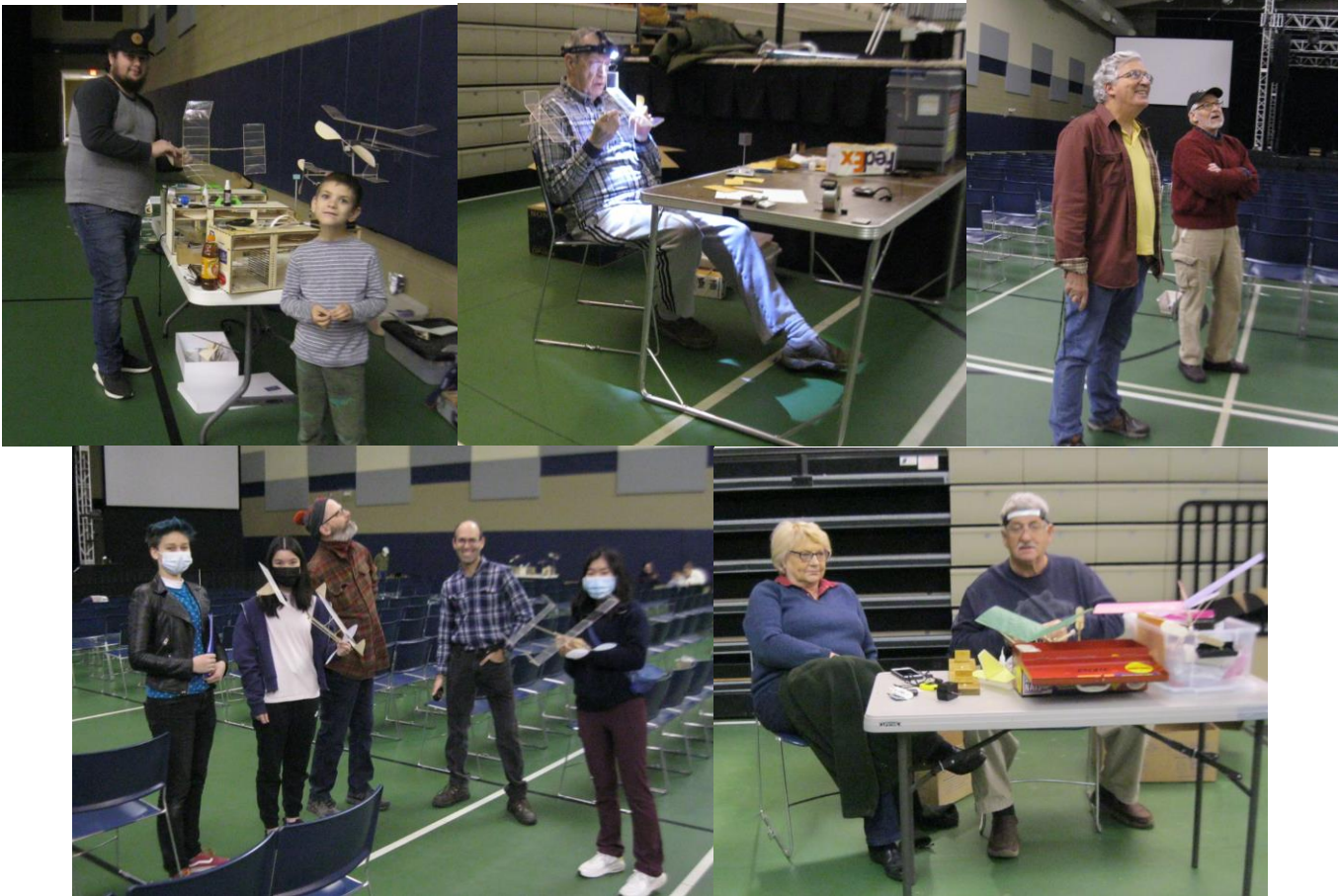
Paul Finn 0:46

Phantom Flash

David Mills 3:23

Intermediate Stick

David Mills 0:24



FEBRUARY INDOOR CONTEST REPORT

Christ Chapel, Macon, GA

Some of our regulars were notably away supporting Science Olympiad regional events. WE flew in the chapel area. Hangar Rat was the most hotly contested event. Nick Ray set a new state Cat II Ministick Record of 8:28. CD Nick Ray, reporting.

No-Cal Scale

David Mills Lacey M-10 1:44
Dohrman Crawford Turbo Cessna 1:25

Hanger Rat

Dohrman Crawford 5:17
David Fletcher 3:55
Jim Conery 2:39
David Mills 1:48

Phantom Flash

Jim Conery 1:83
David Mills 0:36

Mini Stick

Nick Ray 8:28*

Limited Pennyplane

Doug DeMasie 0:40

Intermediate Stick

David Mills 0:12

Easy B

Doug DeMasie 0:41

*new state record



2022 TTOMA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____ AMA# _____

Address _____ State and Zip Code _____

Other Family Members and AMA # _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

\$20.00/year for adults and other adult family members in same household. No charge all aged 18 yrs. or younger. Send check, payable to TTOMA, to James Martin/3901 Bays Ferry Trail/Marietta, GA 30062/404-632-7226/jhnmartin1963@gmail.com



KING ORANGE INTERNATIONAL

March 22nd, 23rd, and 24th 2022
Palm Bay, Florida

NEW DATE!



16 - AMA Events 9 - FAI Events
5 - Old Time Events 7 - NOS Events
13 - FAC Events*
Gollywock Mass Launch*
E-36 Mass Launch*
P-30 Mass Launch*

AMA CAT III National Cup Contest

Field Address: 2190 Sapodillo Rd. S.W., Palm Bay FL 32908

CD	ASST CD	FAC
Skeeter Surguine	Jim DeMeritte	Duncan McBride
386-673-6875	727-712-0996	239-910-3740
carverpop@aol.com		n319dm@gmail.com

For additional information call the above numbers or email:
King Orange Intl@yahoo.om

Entry Fee: Open \$35.00 unlimited, Senior \$20.00
Junior (U-16) \$5.00
Awards: One award to each winning contestant through 3rd place
Plates for each additional win
High Point Trophy

FMA High Start Rules, 50ft rubber, 150 ft line

Food within easy driving distance
Sponsored: FMA Florida Modelers Association

NO INDOOR