



**The THUMB PRINT**  
**Thermal Thumbers Of Metro Atlanta**

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## May-June, 2022

### HEADS UP

Welcome to the third issue of the year. You'll find a lot of news herein: a big report on our Chattahoochee Challenge with lots of photos, the July contest report, some member contributions and other local news. Half a year's flying remains, so make note of the dates posted. We're beginning to add some indoor dates at Christ Chapel, and there's movement in the status of St. Lukes. We may get to fly at the latter again this year, but there's no telling when. Our efforts to fly there again will remain steadfast, so keep your eyes and ears peeled. A number of us are making our annual trek to the USOC Muncie Nats. The gas prices may keep a few folks away, but our progress can be tracked on NatsNews. Wish us luck. The game's afoot.

Time for me to get out of the way. Ciao, y'all!

### RENEWAL NAG

Once more into the breach. Yes, my fellow Thumbs, a few of you haven't renewed yet despite our earnest harangues of admonition to the contrary. Ergo, locate the membership form that follows and rejoin our merry band. Eyes on you.

### THINGS TO DO, PLACES TO GO, PEOPLE TO SEE

We're half way through the contest season, which means we're only half done. Plenty of flying opportunities abound. Note we've resumed indoor flying at Christ Chapel this August in Macon thanks to the diligent efforts of Doug DeMasie, so show up there for action "behind closed doors". We expect more indoor dates to be forthcoming. So, stay tuned.

July 25-29: USOC. Outdoor Nats. Muncie, IN

August 6: Indoor Contest. Christ Chapel, Macon, GA

August 14: Sizzle While You Fizzle. Outdoor Contest. NG Turf. Whitesburg, GA

Sept 11: Summer Swan Song. Outdoor Contest. NG Turf, Whitesburg, GA

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 IN PRINT

Young Caleb Finn got his precious mug in the June issue of *Model Aviation*. It was in an article about the Mulvihill event, model aviation's oldest. He is shown holding his Echo P-30 which he flew to victories in Jr. Mulvihill and Jr. P-30 at last year's outdoor Nats and setting some new national records. Well done, Caleb.

## THUMBS ON THE MARCH

Several Thumbs got some serious page time in the March issue of *Free Flight*, the bimonthly National Free Flight Society rag rag. The occasion was the annual Jim Richmond Memorial meet at the world famous indoor site at West Baden, IN this past March. Hope and Josh Finn, Lee Russell and Nick Ray attended. All did well against a select group of competitors. A full and authoritative report, well stocked with photos, can be found in that issue. Interested parties can look therein, as all NFFS members have I'm sure. Non-members, well, lack that opportunity, easily remedied by joining that august assemblage. The membership form follows. Eyes on you!

The Finns also made the long march to the indoor Nats in Eagar, AZ last May, and did not a little damage at the Round Valley Dome. All of them flew and placed in a lot of events, so we'll just summarize the podium finishes. They may not be invited back, such was the mayhem. Good grief!

Those looking for more details and some fine photography can peruse the May issue of *Free Flight*, again. Don't have a copy? Well, you must not be a member, and shame on you. Please consult the preceding nag. Eyes on you!

A-6: Paul 3<sup>rd</sup>

ROG Stick: Josh 1<sup>st</sup> and Hope 2<sup>nd</sup>

Easy B: Hope 4<sup>th</sup>

Electric: Paul 1<sup>st</sup> and Caleb 2<sup>nd</sup>

F1D: Josh 1<sup>st</sup>

F1L: Hope 4<sup>th</sup> and Caleb 5<sup>th</sup>

F1N: Josh 3<sup>rd</sup>

F1R: Josh 1<sup>st</sup>, Hope 2<sup>nd</sup> and Caleb 3<sup>rd</sup>

Hand Launch Glider: Josh 3<sup>rd</sup>

Hand Launch Stick: Josh 2<sup>nd</sup>

Helicopter: Josh 2<sup>nd</sup> and Hope 3<sup>rd</sup>

Intermediate Stick: Josh 1<sup>st</sup>

Limited Pennyplane: Josh 2<sup>nd</sup>

Manhattan: Josh 2<sup>nd</sup> and Hope 4<sup>th</sup>

Ministick: Josh 3<sup>rd</sup> and Hope 5<sup>th</sup>

Ornithopter: Josh 1<sup>st</sup>

Pennyplane: Josh 1<sup>st</sup>

ROG Cabin: Josh 2<sup>nd</sup> and Hope 3<sup>rd</sup>

Unlimited Catapult Glider: Josh 5<sup>th</sup>

FAC Embryo: Hope 2<sup>nd</sup>

FAC Master Phantom Flash: Hope 2<sup>nd</sup>

## STEPPING UP

The National Free Flight Society is offering the sale of the T-shirt below to help fund the USA F1D team effort at the upcoming world champs at the famous salt mines in Romania. We have a solid team, and all expect them to represent Old Glory very well later this year. So, step up and order one or two. There can't be a better cause. Eyes on you!

Click on the following link or paste into your browser to order: <https://www.bonfire.com/2022-f1d-team-usa/>



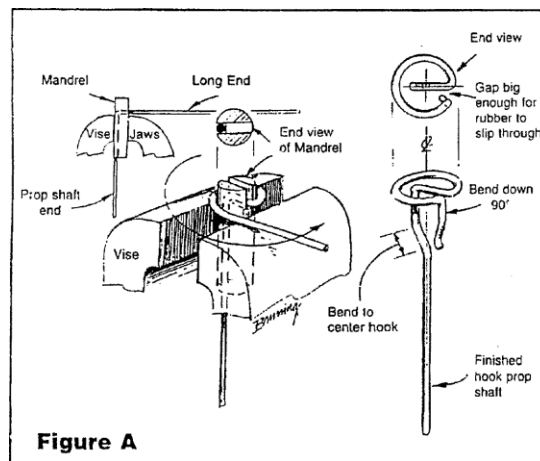
## DOWNIZING DEAN

This just in from Dean McGinnis. He's selling his chase bike and trailer. The latter is very spiffy. And the bike looks like a solid runner. Check it out:

"I'm selling my trailer and Honda CT110 bike. Not quitting, just downsizing, and my stiff knees preclude two-wheeled transport. I have an ad which if it doesn't violate TTOMA rules, I would like to run it in the newsletter. (Oopsie, never rec'd it—Ed.) The trailer: self-contained portable workshop/model/bike carrier. Seen at NATS, KOI, etc. Can include chase bike. Details and photos: [flydean@att.net](mailto:flydean@att.net). Regards, Dean."

## A GOOD REFERENCE

Our man Dohrman Crawford provides the following helpful hint for getting the right configuration of prop shaft on the front of your models, or the rear, if you're flying doing a canard and doing the Devil's work. You see, the configuration allows the hook to grip the wound motor in such a way as to prevent it from climbing up the hook, making a bungle of things and keeping your prop from spinning merrily. This and other variations of the reverse "S" motor hook have been around for decades doing good work in a mechanically simple way.



In his note to me Dohrman gave his sourcing of it, namely the massive technical file done by the late, great George White of the Pensacola Free Flight Team, or PFFT, whose vast archive is hosted on the NFFS website. Literally hundreds of handy hints are ensconced therein for your use and enjoyment. Another reason to join NFFS by the way, eyes on you.

## FLYING IN THE HOOD

A few issues back we had our last installment of where we go in our neighborhoods to try out the first stabs at trimming our models, the last effort coming from Karl Hube. Well, this just in from Dohrman Crawford:

"I just returned from test gliding my rebuilt Gollywock at this excellent city park in Dunwoody. It is at the former site of the Austin Elementary School. It is just over 0.9 of a mile north of the white farmhouse on Roberts Drive. Chamblee Dunwoody becomes Roberts Drive a short distance north of the white farmhouse. To show the scale, my Flex is visible by the dark tree on the right of the picture. It is on two levels. The upper is about 150 yards by 100 yards. Perfect for small field flying, or short trim glides. There is a very nice slope down to the lower part (offscreen left, not shown--Ed). My Gollywock glided about 70 yards with room to spare. The lower portion is roughly a third of the upper part.

"No doubt, it will eventually be ruined by a ball field, fences, tennis courts, and parking lots, but for now it is a great place to check out your model's glide. I hope they will leave it alone for a long time. I am biased in favor of grassy fields! Respectfully submitted by your humble reporter, Dohrm."

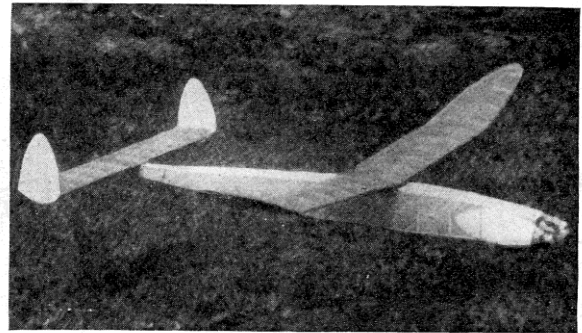




## TREASURE TROVE

Art Horak's "Wanderer" is a long time favorite of the NFFS Nostalgia Rubber community, and with the change in their rules, has also been adopted by the SAM fliers. Not only is it a simple model that flies very well and is easy to build, it's rather fetching in appearance, hence its popularity. The design is darn near flawless, save those sadly too long wing mount rails atop the fuselage and the freewheeling propeller. (If rock and roll needs more cowbells, then rubber models need more twin fins!)

Well, many years ago while dredging through my old magazine collection, I came across these two nuggets on the "Wanderer" from *Model Airplane News* from April, 1949 and September, 1947. These blurbs show examples sporting a folding prop and diagonal fuselage bracing, both enhancements in my book. I remember passing them to Don DeLoach and planning to send them to the various rules committees for their consideration. Sadly, I don't remember doing the latter. Ergo, I post them here.



No. 6 Modified Wanderer by Frank Le Donne which was built from M. A. N. plans

AMA IN 1948. A recent letter from Pres. C. O. Wright of AMA, and directed to all AMA officers, contained a summary of accomplishments for 1948, together with a number of objectives for 1949. We are sure "C. O." will not object if we detail a few of the more interesting items here.

Of top interest, of course, was the outstanding Nats held at Olathe. The Nationals is usually considered the AMA meet of the year, though of course it was actively sponsored last year by the American Legion, U. S. Navy, and the Olathe Chamber of Commerce.

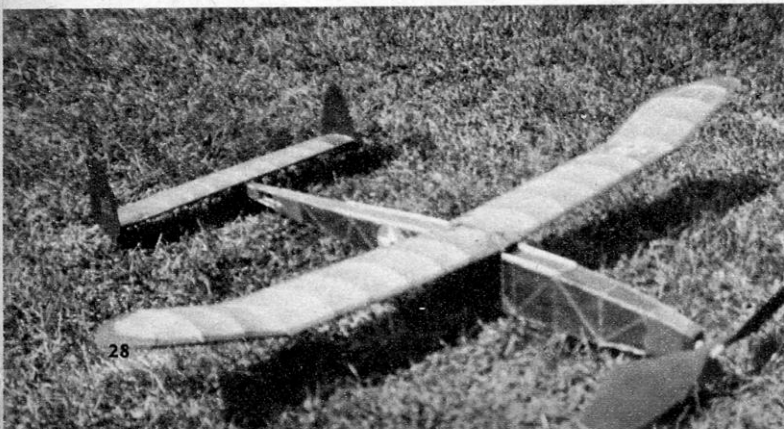
enters

In the line of meets, another success was chalked up in the re-establishment of the Wakefields, even though in this event the victorious English Team made off with the famed trophy.

Many active committees were established, and they

MODEL AIRPLANE NEWS • April, 1949

No. 4 Wanderer is a fine flier and was built from M.A.N. plans by Robert Villers



Some experiments have been made on heating the pipe from tank to motor; this can do no real harm if care is taken to keep the heat away from the tank. A worthwhile gain in results can be obtained simply by soldering a number of washers to the feed pipe, as these washers absorb heat from the air which tends to keep the feed pipe from freezing.

A local flier gives us this tip to pass along; don't fail to follow the maker's instructions on oiling the motor after every few cartridges are run out. Aside from the necessity of lubricating the moving parts, the oil serves to protect the metal surfaces from rust. Every time the motor is run it gets very cold and, of course, moisture from the air quickly gathers on a cold surface. This moisture on the unoiled surfaces of your engine soon gets in its dirty work. 'Nuff said!

(Turn to page 64)

MODEL AIRPLANE NEWS • September, 1947

## KEEPING SCORE, WHERE WE STAND

Here's where we stand at mid-year with plenty of opportunities to catch up and get left behind, your choice. The game's afoot.

Dohrman Crawford	54	David Barfield	14	Gary Morton	5
David Mills	42	Bill Gowen	10	Nick Ray	3
James Martin	41	Ed Hardin	10	Lee Russell	1
Doug DeMasie	38	David Fletcher	10	Dean McGinnis	1
Jim Coney	26	Frank Perkins	9		
Jimmy Jordan	17	Jim Alenbern	5		

## NEXT ISSUE

Look for something after the Nats and the August indoor contest, say mid-August. Expect full reportage on the Thumbs experience at the Nats and some new indoor dates. In the interim, don't make me work too hard! I beseech the multitudes for articles, photos, rants and raves. Keep them coming, y'all.

## 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/jhmartin1963@gmail.com

NFFS MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL APPLICATION							
Mail to: NFFS Membership Office 51 Julia Circle Middle Island, NY 11953	Make checks payable to National Free Flight Society						
Dues include a mandatory \$0.50 per year for NFFS membership.							
U.S. memberships (Age 19 & over)	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 years \$58.00 (\$18.00 Youth) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year \$30.00 (\$10.00 Youth)						
Youth: Age 18 & under as of July 1 of the current year							
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you desire <i>Digest</i> delivery via email. This saves valuable funds on printing/mailling, and you receive your <i>Digest</i> about 3 weeks sooner. As a bonus, the <i>eDigest</i> contains exclusive additional content in each issue.							
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Non-US/Non-Canadian Residents (all ages)	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 years \$58.00 ( <i>eDigest</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year \$30.00 ( <i>eDigest</i> )						
Life Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500.00						
To help reduce expenses maintaining NFFS records, PLEASE renew for at least two years. Thank you!							
<b>Check appropriate boxes below:</b>							
New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change <input type="checkbox"/> Donation <input type="checkbox"/>							
Amount: \$ _____ Current expiration date: Mo./Yr.: _____							
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Please go to <a href="http://www.freeflight.org">www.freeflight.org</a> for credit card renewals.							
							



## FIZZLE WHILE YOU SIZZLE CONTEST REPORT

Well, the weather didn't beat us up too much, despite the dire, wet weather forecast. Temps stayed in the high 80s, frankly a break from the usual July. Morning skies were overcast but cleared in a few hours. The winds were mild for the most part, highly variable in direction throughout, and the thermals abundant. Owing probably to widespread but erroneous forecasts of rain, turnout was low with only six fliers, but those few did fly up a storm. The results follow. The special event was Embryo, and Dohrman Crawford walked away with the ten dollar prize. David Mills, CD, reporting.

### Embryo

Dohrman Crawford    Gonzo    169

Jim Conery    Maxout    159

David Mills    Megalon Mk IV    99

David Barfield    Gonzo    87

### Catapult Glider

Dohrman Crawford    113

David Barfield    97

Doug DeMasie    92

### No Cal Scale

Doug DeMasie    Cessna 195    163

### SCat Jet

Dohrman Crawford    Heinkel 178    41

Doug DeMasie    Canberra    39

### P-30

David Mills    Hammerhead    141

### Blue Ridge Special

Doug DeMasie    223



truly excellent photo by Dohrman Crawford

## CHATTAHOOCHEE CHALLENGE CONTEST REPORT

Our annual FAC contest this June 25-26 was a rousing success with eleven (11) flyers making official flights, and a few doing some just for the fun of it. We had a flurry of flying both days. A whopping sixteen (16!) kanones were earned over the weekend and only eight by FAC *experten* Wally Farrell, and happily, the remaining eight by four locals. The weather cooperated for the most part, having only the usual June 90-plus temps to endure. Winds were OK both days, mild for the most part. But, the wind was blustery at times Saturday and never made up its mind which direction it liked. We lost maybe four models to its fickleness, unfortunately, casualties to the cause.

All of us behaved ourselves with the heat and were none the worst for wear at the end, well done, all. CDs Gary Morton and Jim Altenbern ran things smoothly and nothing untoward raised its ugly head. The delightful collages that follow are courtesy of David Barfield and Frank Perkins. Thank you, sirs. See y'all next year!

<u>Rubber Scale</u>	Ave. Factored Flight Score	Scale Score	Bonus Points	Total Score
Wally Farrell	69.8	60	15	145.8
Dohrman Crawford	17.7	60	10	87.7
David Mills	27.1	58	0	85.1
James Martin	26.25	43	0	69.25

<u>Embryo</u>	Flight time	Bonus Points	Total Score
Jimmy Jordan	229	9	238
Gary Morton	206	9	215
James Martin	139	9	148

<u>Peanut Scale</u>	Aver. Factored Flight Score	Scale Points	Bonus Points	Total Score
David Mills	48.5	60	0	108.5
Wally Farrell	40	60	5	105
James Martin	31.6	49	0	60.6

<u>Comet Nickel Series</u>	Flight Times	Bonus Points	Total Score
Doug DeMasie	12	0	12
Gary Morton	9	0	9

<u>Jet Catapult Scale</u>	Flight Time	Scale Points	Bonus Points	Total Score
Wally Farrell	123	14	2	139
Gary Morton	64	15	2	81
Doug DeMasie	41	11	0	52

<u>Simplified Scale</u>	Flight Time	Bonus Points	Total Score
Wally Farrell	225	10	235
Ed Hardin	38	0	38
Dohrman Crawford	32	0	32
David Barfield	19	0	19

<u>Nassise Memorial Dime Scale</u>	Flight Time	Bonus Points	Total Score
Wally Farrell	294	0	294
James Martin	156	12	168
David Mills	165	0	118

Dough DeMasie	118	0	118
Dohrman Crawford	108	0	108
Jin Conery	34	10	44

<u>Simplified Scale</u>	Flight Time	Bonus Points	Total Score
Wally Farrell	225	10	235
Ed Hardin	38	0	38
Dohrman Crawford	32	0	32
David Barfield	19	0	19

Combined Racers Mass Launch

David Mills  
Wally Farrell  
Dohrman Crawford  
James Martin

Phantom Flash

David Mills 148  
Jimmy Jordan 143  
Wally Farrell 31

WW I Mass Launch

Wally Farrell  
Dohrman Crawford  
Jim Conery

Catapult Glider

Frank Perkins 168  
Doug DeMasie 127  
Dean McGinnes 66

P-30

Frank Perkins 120  
Ed Hardin 91

Blue Ridge Special

Jimmy Jordan 279  
Julie Farrell 190  
Doug DeMasie 182  
Jim Conery 105

No-Cal Scale

Wally Farrell 318  
James Martin 64  
Dohrman Crawford 44  
David Mills 38  
Doug DeMasie 22

WW II Mass Launch

Wally Farrell  
James Martin  
Jim Conery  
Dohrman Crawford  
Ed Hardin  
David Barfield

Jimmy Allen/ 2 Bit + 1

James Martin 303  
David Mills 238  
David Barfield 219  
Ed Hardin 135

Blue Ridge Special Mass Launch

Jimmy Jordan  
Jim Conery  
David Barfield  
James Martin  
Doug DeMasie  
Wally Farrell  
Julie Farrell  
Dohrman Crawford

Golden Age Mass Launch

James Martin  
Wally Farrell  
Jim Conery

Modern Civilian

Wally Farrell 275  
James Martin 239  
David Mills 42

Fiction Flyer

David Barfield Volunteer 35  
Wally Farrell Stratonef H.22 25  
Doug DeMasie Wings Over Jungle 15















