

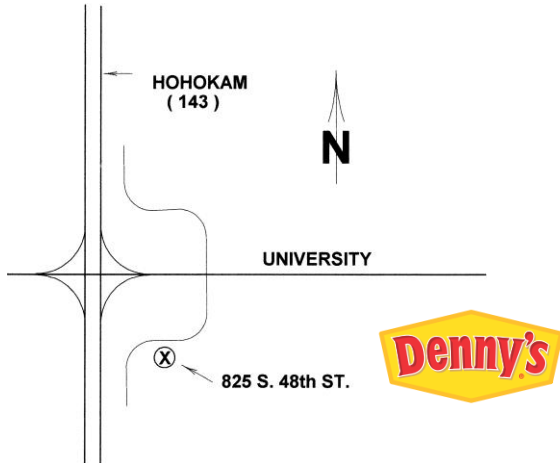
# PHOENIX MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

HAVING FUN WITH MODEL AIRPLANES SINCE 1937

VOLUME 14 NUMBER 3

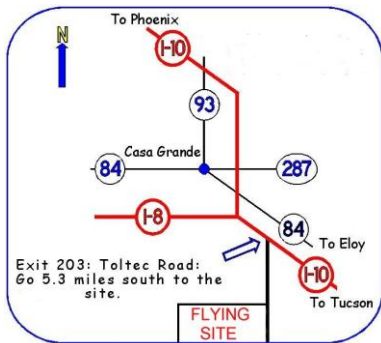
MARCH 2009

<http://www.freeflight.org/PMAC/>



**NEXT MEETING**  
WED. 11-MARCH 10:00 AM  
DENNEYS  
825 S. 48<sup>th</sup> St.

**NEXT CONTEST**  
SPRING BREAK  
SUNDAY 3/22  
WEBSTER FIELD  
ELOY



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**FLYING ACES**

## **Archie Harlan**

October 23, 1925 – February 9, 2008

Archie passed away Monday evening, February 9th following a long, difficult struggle with cancer. His son, Larry indicated Archie was not sedated, clear of mind and in no unusual pain. His passing was peaceful.

Archie began building models as a teen age lad in the late 1930s and was a member of the Copper Clad Eagles MAC. This was the forerunner of the PMAC. Prior to WWII, Archie and his brother Leslie flew their models at Sky Harbor airport. When asked about this, Les stated that privilege ended abruptly when one of Archie's models crashed into a local doctor's airplane. Following graduation from high school in 1943, Arch enlisted in the Army Air Corps. His hope of getting into get into pilot training never materialized. Following WWII, Archie did get his private pilot license. In 1955, he and Les purchased a new F Model Bonanza that they used in their plumbing and air conditioning business. In more recent years, Arch assisted Les in his construction of a Rotax powered Kit Fox airplane.

Arch was one of the "good hands" people. His models reflected an unusually high level of building skill and inventiveness. His perfection as a builder and flyer put him at the top of the class. He enjoyed all aspects of free flight and excelled in AMA Gas, Nostalgia Gas, AMA rubber, and Old Time gas and rubber models. His skill in building was matched by his ability in trimming his models. Typically, his gas models climbed steeply, made one to two climbing turns and smoothly rolled out at the top with little loss of altitude. He really knew how to teach his beautiful models how to fly. He was a keen competitor, but was always quick to help a fellow modeler. Jean Andrews put it well: "he was a great competitor and regularly beat the pants off me when we flew the same events, but somehow he made it FUN to be beaten."

He had fun coming up with the unusual. Many years ago, he built and flew a Dyna-Jet powered free flight. Arch was a bit noncommittal about the success of this creation when he displayed a picture of it. But he did say it was one heck of a model to start and launch! During a contest a few years ago, Arch brought out an aging Gollywock. After winding it to a full load of torque, the model climbed out in a typical Harlan profile. After reaching about 200 feet and still under good power, the model "blew up", disintegrating into a shower balsa and tissue paper. Always a good sport, Arch shrugged his shoulders and said well I guess it is time to build another one!

Dick Strang summed it up for many of us, "Any day at the flying field when Archie was there, was a very good day. Archie was my idol and was by far the best builder/flyer of free flight model airplanes I ever knew. I will really miss my good friend, but I know the pain and suffering is over, God speed Archie, may your thermals be large"

*Elmer Nelson*

## **PREZ SPEAKS**

We recently lost Archie Harlan who was a very special friend to many of us and a modeler extraordinary. He was particularly special to me, because he led me back into this hobby after my absence of nearly 50 years. A simple example of his patience and kindness was his encouraging response when I presented him with my first attempt to make a folding prop for a rubber model. He fondly examined it and as he slowly turned it over in his hands remarked what a fine attempt I had made. It wasn't long before I realized it was a real abortion not to be shown in public! I've kept it, mostly to remind me of Arch's patient help with someone who was excited about the hobby and who had little if any building skill. Arch will be sorely missed.

On the positive side, we have two new members. Please welcome back Mike Roseberry and his Dad, Bill. Mike has recently become a dominant factor in electric F1Q. Also welcome Robert McLinden of Chandler. Robert is a transplant from the east coast and found us thru the AMA website. Welcome aboard to all.

I'm also pleased to announce that Dick Nelson has volunteered to take over the news letter from Steve Riley. As most of you know, Steve has done a masterful job with the news letter for many years. You probably recall that Steve moved to Albuquerque some two years ago. Even though geographically separated, he willingly carried on as editor. We just can't thank Steve enough for the terrific job he has done for so long. Being editor is a lot of work. Let's help Dick but giving him some ideas for the new letter. For example, you probably have a clever way of making something or have found a better way to trimming a model. Simple ideas can really make good material for the news letter.

Our next contest is delayed one day. I've moved it from March 21st to March 22nd. Arch Harlan memorial service will be held on the 21st. See the notice elsewhere in this news letter. At our next contest, I will schedule a mass launch in Arch's honor. Plan on flying the model of your choice. Around noon we will all line up along the flight line. When everyone is ready, we will crank engines and launch in a ripple sequence from one end of the line to the other. Gas models will launch first followed by rubber jobs and gliders. Let's flood the sky and have a grand show for Arch.

*Elmer Nelson*

**PMAC / TFFC  
2009**

SPRING BREAK  
SATURDAY 3/21

I-10 CHALLENGE  
SUNDAY 4/19

HOT STUFF  
SATURDAY 5/16

DAWN PATROL  
Dates to be determined

FALL KICK OFF  
SUNDAY 9/20

GHOST RIDERS  
SATURDAY 10/24

TURKEY SHOOT  
SUNDAY 11/15

ARIZ. FF CHAMPIONSHIP  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
12/5 & 12/6

**PMAC MEETING SCHEDULE**

Wed. March 11th 10:A.M.  
Denny's, Tempe

Tue 14-Apr 07:00 PM  
Room 09  
Granite Reef Senior Center

Wed. May 13th 10:00 A.M.  
Denny's Tempe

Tue 09-Jun 07:00 PM  
Room 09  
Granite Reef Senior Center

**Contest Report  
President's Cup**

February 22, 2009  
Eloy, AZ

CD: Vic Lichtenberg; Elmer Nelson reporting. As folks began showing up at 8:00 AM, the temperature was a bit chilly with a very slight breeze. Sky condition was mostly overcast. By 8:30, the clouds moved out, cold windy conditions developed and flying shut down. Around 9:30, the wind began to subside and a few flights were flown. From that point, the weather continued to improve and developed into a great contest day. Attendance was good with 14 contestants signing up to fly a wide range of models. Tim Batiuk from California led the way with his Tip Launched, catapult, and classic gliders. It's always fun to have Tim fly with us, because of his cutting edge designs and superior performance. Dick Nelson was very active in gas power, as usual. Another area of interest has been the rising interest in electric powered free flight. Mike Roseberry and Ralph Hotz dazzled us with their high performance F1Q flights. The rules allow for 25 second motor runs which puts these very fast models into the lower regions of the stratosphere! Another treat was watching Ben Nead run his postal contest in the Jetex/Rapier powered rocket powered contest. Many of these excellent models making made notable flights. Models for this contest were mailed from as far away as Great Britain. Results follow.

**AMA/Classic Gas****President's Cup****Points**

(All engine classes)

**2-22-2009**

Contestant Name	Event	Flt 1	Flt 2	Flt3	FO 1	Total Time	Time	Maxes	Flights	Total
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**Nostalgia Gas/OT Gas Combo****Points**

(All engine classes)

Contestant Name	Event	Flt 1	Flt 2	Flt3	FO 1	Total Time	Time	Maxes	Flights	Total
Dick Nelson*	C Nos	180	180	180	524	1064	8	25	10	43
Dan Sobala	A Nos	180	180	180		540	6	15	10	31
Elmer Nelson	A Nos	144	106	180		430	4	5	10	19
Dick Nelson	A Nos	85	158	180		423	2	5	10	17

\*Flew 5 x 180 + 164

**2 Minute Combo****Points**

(F1G/H/J, .020 Replica, P-30, P-20, Rocket, Embryo)

Contestant Name	Event	Flt 1	Flt 2	Flt3	FO 1	Total Time	Time	Maxes	Flights	Total
Jean Andrews	P-30	88	59	60		207	4	0	10	14
Tom Gaylor	P-30	79	64	21		164	2	0	10	12
Bill Sewell	E-36	0	0	0		0				0

**3 MinRubber/Glider Combo****Points**

(Mulvihill, Moffett, OT Rubber, Nos Wake/Rubber, Classic Tow)

Contestant Name	Event	Flt 1	Flt 2	Flt3	FO 1	Total Time	Time	Maxes	Flights	Total
Elmer Nelson	Classic Glider	135	180	240		555	14	10	10	34
Jean Andrews	Nos Rub Combo	87	120	240		447	12	5	10	27
Jean Andrews	OT Rub	123	141	176		440	10	0	10	20
Enes Pecenkovic	Classic Glider	114	170	92		376	8	0	10	18
Roland Lovejoy	OT Rub Stick	164	85	103		352	6	0	10	16
Tim Batiuk	Classic Glider	120	96	81		297	4	5	10	19
Kent Prescott	OT Rub Cabin	90	106	82		278	2	0	10	12

**3 Minute FAI Combo****Points**

(F1A/B/C/P/Q)

Contestant Name	Event	Flt 1	Flt 2	Flt3	FO 1	Total Time	Time	Maxes	Flights	Total
Mike Roseberry	F1Q	180	180	180		540	10	15	10	35
Enes Pecenkovic	F1A	123	180	180		483	8	10	10	28
Peter Brocks	F1A	106	180	96		382	6	5	10	21
Peter Brocks	F1Q	95	109	52		256	4	0	10	14
Ralph Hotz	F1Q	180	0	0		180	2	0	3	5

**Catapult /HL Glider Combo****Points**

Contestant Name	Event	Flt 1	Flt 2	Flt3	Flt 4	Total Time	Time	Maxes	Flights	Total
Tim Batiuk	Cat	120	120	120	120	480	16	20	10	46
Tim Batiuk	HLG	120	120	100		340	14	10	10	34
Peter Brocks	Cat	109	91	52		252	12	0	10	22
Enes Pecenkovic	Cat	64	61	120		245	10	5	10	25
Elmer Nelson	Cat	56	66	55		177	8	0	10	18
Enes Pecenkovic	HLG	44	44	47		135	6	0	10	16
Elmer Nelson	HLG	33	37	39		109	4	0	10	14
Peter Brocks	HLG	27	37	5		69	2	0	10	12

**Junior Totals****Points**

Contestant Name	Event	Flt 1	Flt 2	Flt3	Flt 4	Total Time	Time	Maxes	Flights	Total
Briana Keller (Jr)						0				0
Joey Farmer						0				0

## Archie Harlan Memorial Service

Date: March 21st

Time: 9:30 AM

A.L. Moore-Grimshaw Bethany Chapel  
710 W. Bethany Home Road  
(NW corner of 7th Ave and Bethany Home rd.)

### NOTICE

The March contest has been moved from Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup>. To Sunday March 22<sup>nd</sup> to accommodate those who wish to attend Archie Harlan's memorial service.

### NEWSLETTER

I started editing / publishing this newsletter with the Feb. issue in 2003.

It's been an interesting 6 years and I have learned to appreciate the effort that others like Elmer Nelson, Al Lidberg, Peter Brocks, and others put into keeping the club going. They are a great bunch of guys to work with. It's not always convenient for them to crank out contest results, contest reports and other contributions to the newsletter but they always came thru. Thanks guys.

Now Dick Nelson has been doing more and more behind the scenes to help the club lately. And now he has volunteered to take on the newsletter. Thermals,  
Steve

2009  
PMAC-TFFC  
Contest Category Ladder

	2/22/2009	Total
<b>AMA/CL Gas</b>		
No entrees		<b>0</b>

<b>Nos/OT Gas</b>		
Dick Nelson	60	<b>60</b>
Dan Sobala	31	<b>31</b>
Elmer Nelson	19	<b>19</b>

<b>3 Minute Rub/Glider Combo</b>		
Jean Andrews	47	<b>47</b>
Elmer Nelson	34	<b>34</b>
Enes Pecenkovic	18	<b>18</b>
Roland Lovejoy	16	<b>16</b>
Kent Prescott	12	<b>12</b>

<b>3 Minute FAI Combo</b>		
Peter Brocks	35	<b>35</b>
Mike Roseberry	35	<b>35</b>
Enes Pecenkovic	28	<b>28</b>
Ralph Hotz	5	<b>5</b>

<b>2 Minute Combo</b>		
Jean Andrews	14	<b>14</b>
Tom Gaylor	12	<b>12</b>
Ben Nead, SR		<b>0</b>

<b>Cat/HL Glider Combo</b>		
Enes Pecenkovic	41	<b>41</b>
Peter Brocks	34	<b>34</b>
Elmer Nelson	32	<b>32</b>

## WOOD CARVING

In a recent email discussion with Al Lidberg on razor planes and the old carbon blades, we got the following response from Ben Nead. There is some very good info here.

*I know that Peck Polymers has a supply of vintage double edge Candidius carbon steel razor blades, suitable for snapping to a knife point like the old Gillette blue blades. I think that they're 49 cent each. Various brands of vintage carbon steel safety razor blades show up on eBay often but, like anything else these days, there are folks that collect certain brands and prices can go all over the map. For the kids building the Delta Darts, I always use single edge razor blades (on the little balsa sticks, not on the kids!) Instead of the stainless steel blades that I usually find at the hardware store, I'm going try out a 100 pack of carbon steel ones that are now stocked by Micro Mark.*

*When buying #11 blades for my X-acto knife handle, I now get 100 packs of X-acto's "X-Life" carbon steel blades. Look for the blue vacu-formed box. I used to have to order these by mail but one of the better local art supply stores (a couple blocks from my house, no less) now seem to have these in stock*

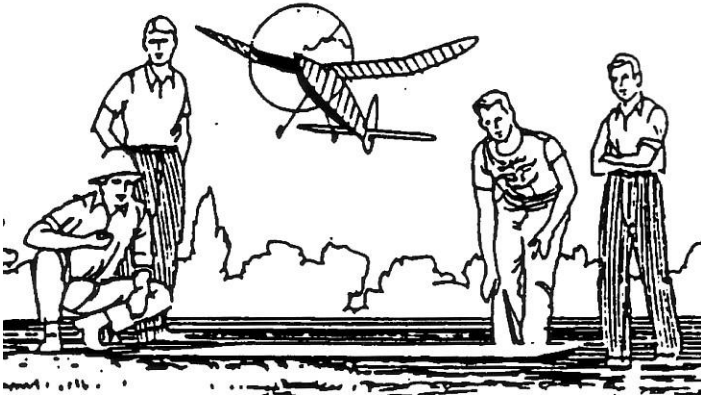
*As far as the plane, I have a couple of different razor blade ones. But I always use a German made Kunz cast iron copy of the little Stanley 101 pocket plane. It's painted bright green with red accents. It looks like a little toy, but it's actually a serious tool. These can be found at Woodcraft stores for about \$16. I "hot rodded" mine with a blade typically sold with Woodcraft's own upscale solid brass body Stanley copy. I think that replacement blade was another \$15 or so.*

*When going this route you really need to invest in a sharpening stone (I like the Japanese water stones) and a jig to hold the blade at a proper angle when sharpening. (the Veritas one is pricey, but worth it.) And . . . you might as well get a granite slab if you want to restore soles on old planes at some point. All of this infrastructure cost far more than the above plane and blade, but it's worth it if you also have a good sized collection of bench planes and chisels. I do, so it is to me. If you don't, then a razor blade plane is probably a better deal.*

*Since I only use the little Kunz for balsa wing carving, it never goes dull. After the careful setup I gave it about three years ago with the water stone and jig, I've never had to do anything else to it to keep it sharp. I always get a nice long curl of wood on straight grained balsa. I also have a number of the old cast iron body Stanley 101s and a new Lie Nielsen Model Marker's plane, which is a very pricey copy of the Stanley 100 (with the "squirrel tail" body.) But the Kunz is the lightest and smallest of the lot, feels best in my hand and it's always the first one I grab.*  
*Ben Nead in Tucson*

And check out Ben's excellent web site <http://jetex.org/index.htm>

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WED. 11-MARCH 10:00 AM  
DENNEYS  
825 S. 48th St.



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SPRING BREAK  
SUNDAY 3/22  
WEBSTER FIELD  
ELOY

**Phoenix**  
MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB  
Steve Riley  
605 La Casa De Prasa Dr. S.E.  
Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124