

# EL TORBELLINO

NEWSLETTER OF SAN DIEGO ORBITEERS FREE FLIGHT CLUB

FEBRUARY 2020



## *Prez's Corner – Mark Chomyn*

While other flyers across the country may be shivering through the winter and stuck in their indoor building areas dreaming of spring, we in California have a rather busy calendar in February. If you are a flyer that likes to go north of Perris for events, there are several this month. Some of which are in progress or “a wrap” as I write.

Lost Hills is a busy site in February with the Isaacson-Kiwi Cup on February 8-9, the Kiwi Cup F1E on February 10, the North American Open on February 12, the California Cup on February 13 and the Bob White Max Men on February 15-18. The president's Cup will be in Eloy Arizona on February 15. And, if you're thinking of taking a trip to Sacramento, why not combine it with competing in the SGM Spring Contest in Rancho Cordova on February 29.

But, even if your plans for February don't include any extended travel don't forget the Orbiteers Monthly Outdoor in Perris on February 16. Events will be Coupe, Glider and Power. Having attended the January outdoor, I was happy to see that due to a road project on San Jacinto Avenue the entry to the field has been smoothed out a bit. The entry road remains passable even for my low-slung Kia Optima though there are a few drive arounds at some stubborn wet spots. So, unless you're driving a 1950's lead sled there should be no problem getting to the flying site as long as Mother Nature continues to cooperate.

Looking ahead, the Scale Staffel of San Diego will hold its first two-day outdoor event of 2020 on March 14 & 15. You can check out the list of events on the Scale Staffel site at <https://www.scalestaffel.org>. This is always a great event so get organized now and don't miss out on the fun. Also, in March the SCAMPS will hold their 15<sup>th</sup> annual Taibi Contest. The venue includes rubber power events as well as gas. So, take a look at the SCAMPS site at <http://scamps.homestead.com> and see if there is an event that you might enjoy flying in.

Yes. It's February. And what does that mean? That's right; it's time for Valentine's Day. So, for all of you builders and flyers that have a spouse or significant other that also puts up with, err .... I mean enjoys, the fact that you are living a second-childhood through modeling activities, please don't forget to let them know you care with a gift a warm hug or both. Especially those of you whose partners are willing to get up a dawn and travel to the field knowing they will spend the rest of the morning tending a stop watch.

The January Prez's Corner mentioned that I was in progress on a Chuck Hollinger Cruiser. Well I've completed construction and done a backyard test glide. Things look good so far. Intend to bring to the February outdoor at Perris for some power flights. See you there! - Mark

*“The Boeing 767 sucks in enough air through its engines to fill a Good Year Blimp in 7 seconds.”*  
*Fact Retriever*



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Howard Haupt .....(858) 272-5656  
[hlhaupt1033@att.net](mailto:hlhaupt1033@att.net)

## ORBITEERS MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual Membership - \$20  
Lifetime Membership - \$250  
Non-Member Newsletter Subscription - \$15  
Junior Members 16 years old or younger - Free

### Submit Dues to Club Treasurer:

Howard Haupt  
3860 Ecochee Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92117-4622

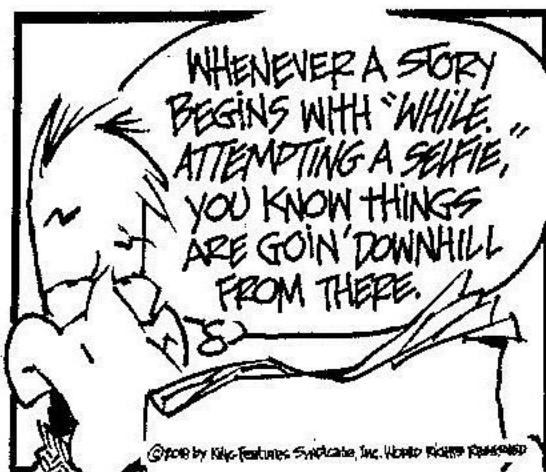
## THE FINE PRINT THE FINE PRINT

El Torbellino is the official newsletter of the San Diego Orbiteers, an Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) Charter Club (#1113) and a California not for Profit Corporation. This newsletter is sent monthly to all paid members, selected exchange and magazine editors. Non-Members may subscribe at \$15.00 per year within the U.S.A., offshore price will be adjusted to reflect the postage required. Materials from El Torbellino may be reproduced on an unlimited basis by other publications, but proper credit is requested.

## ORBITEER WEB SITE

[www.SanDiegoOrbiteers.com](http://www.SanDiegoOrbiteers.com)

Webmaster: Kathy McLaughlin



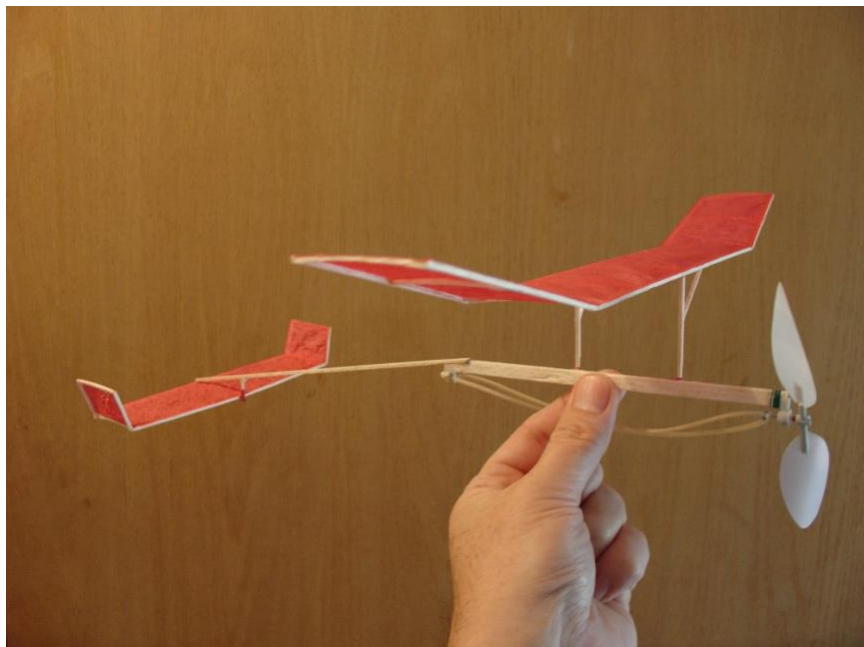
## The A-6 Event

By Mike Jester



The rules for the A-6 AMA event specify a very small indoor stick model that is easy to build and fun to fly. The A-6 event was developed by the San Diego Orbiteers club. Long-time club member Clarence Mather said in a letter to Roger Schroeder that the A-6 was developed as a small, sturdy, and easy-to-build model that could be flown in a small recreation center gym after club meetings. The A-6 model is limited to a maximum wing area of 30 square inches, a solid wood motor stick measuring 6-inches maximum from the front of the thrust bearing to the rear hook, and a maximum prop diameter of 6-inches. The "A" in A-6 stands for the old AMA class A model that had a wing area limited to 30-square inches. My guess is that the "6" in A-6 refers to the maximum motor stick length and/or the maximum prop diameter. All framing in an A-6 model must be 1/16-inch square wood minimum except that the ribs can be made of 1/32-inch x 1/6-inch minimum wood. There is no limit on the stab size so tandems are allowed. There is no overall length limit on the A-6 model. Covering can be "paper or commercially available plastic." The prop blades must be made of 1/32-inch minimum thickness flat balsa wood. Wing posts can be rounded in the area of the mounting tubes. The minimum allowed weight of an A-6 is 1.2 grams, excluding the weight of the rubber motor. Boron, carbon fiber and foam cannot be used in constructing an A-6.

I built my first A-6 in 2006 based on the Combs plan. It had a drooped tail boom and used a 6-inch Ikara prop with plastic film blades, which was not legal. It weighed 5 grams. It flew steady and sure, but only for about 45 seconds.



**Combs A-6 by Mike Jester with Illegal Plastic Ikara Prop**

My second A-6 was built in 2007 using a kit from Lew Gitlow. It had a high aspect ratio wing and a legal prop with flat 1/32-inch sheet balsa wood blades. I don't recall its weight but it was probably around 2-3 grams. I also don't recall its times but they were probably a little over one minute and perhaps as long as 2 minutes. It was hard to build near the 1.2-gram minimum weight until around 2015 when plastic film covering was first allowed. I kept plugging away at this event and have now built nine A-6 models.





**Gitlow A-6 by Mike Jester**

Bill Gowen holds all most of the AMA A-6 records with his droop stab tandem. The Cat IV AMA record for the A-6 class is over ten minutes. You will need some really light balsa wood to get near minimum wight if you build Gowen's design. I am not sure the weight of his very large stab is worth it since it does not provide as much lift as the wing. I don't think the design of the A-6 model is critical to winning most A-6 contests. Low model weight, optimum trim, matching rubber to prop, motor sizing, and winding are the keys to high times in the A-6 event. It is easier to build near the minimum allowed weight if an A-6 does not have a very high aspect ratio wing. The weight of relatively long wing spars probably offsets any advantage of a high aspect ratio wing.

As you get closer to the minimum model weight you can end up using a rubber motor loop that is more than double the hook-to-hook length. This invariably leads to rubber motor bunching problems including CG shifting and binding of the rubber motor against the motor stick late in a flight. I have tried using stir stick sleeves over both ends of the rubber motor and this strategy has so far had limited success.

I designed and built an A-6 with the same wing and stab proportions as my Limited Penny Planes which seem to fly pretty well. I call this design my LLP A-6. So far it has yet to break 2 minutes but I think this is due to poor trim rather than the configuration of the air frame.



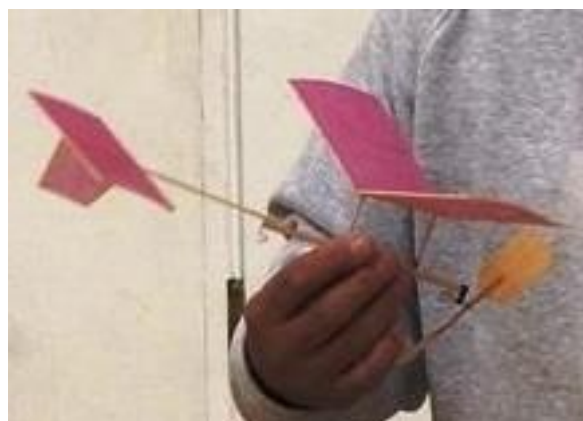
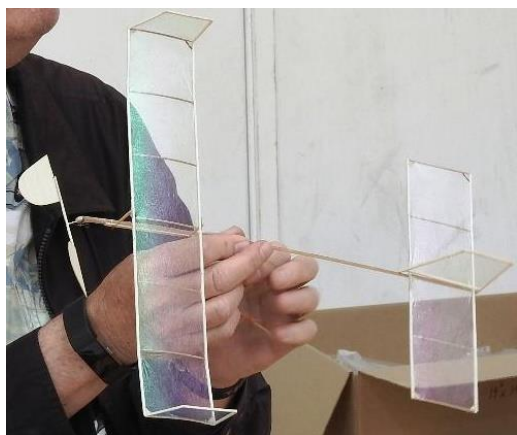
**LLP A-6 by Mike Jester**

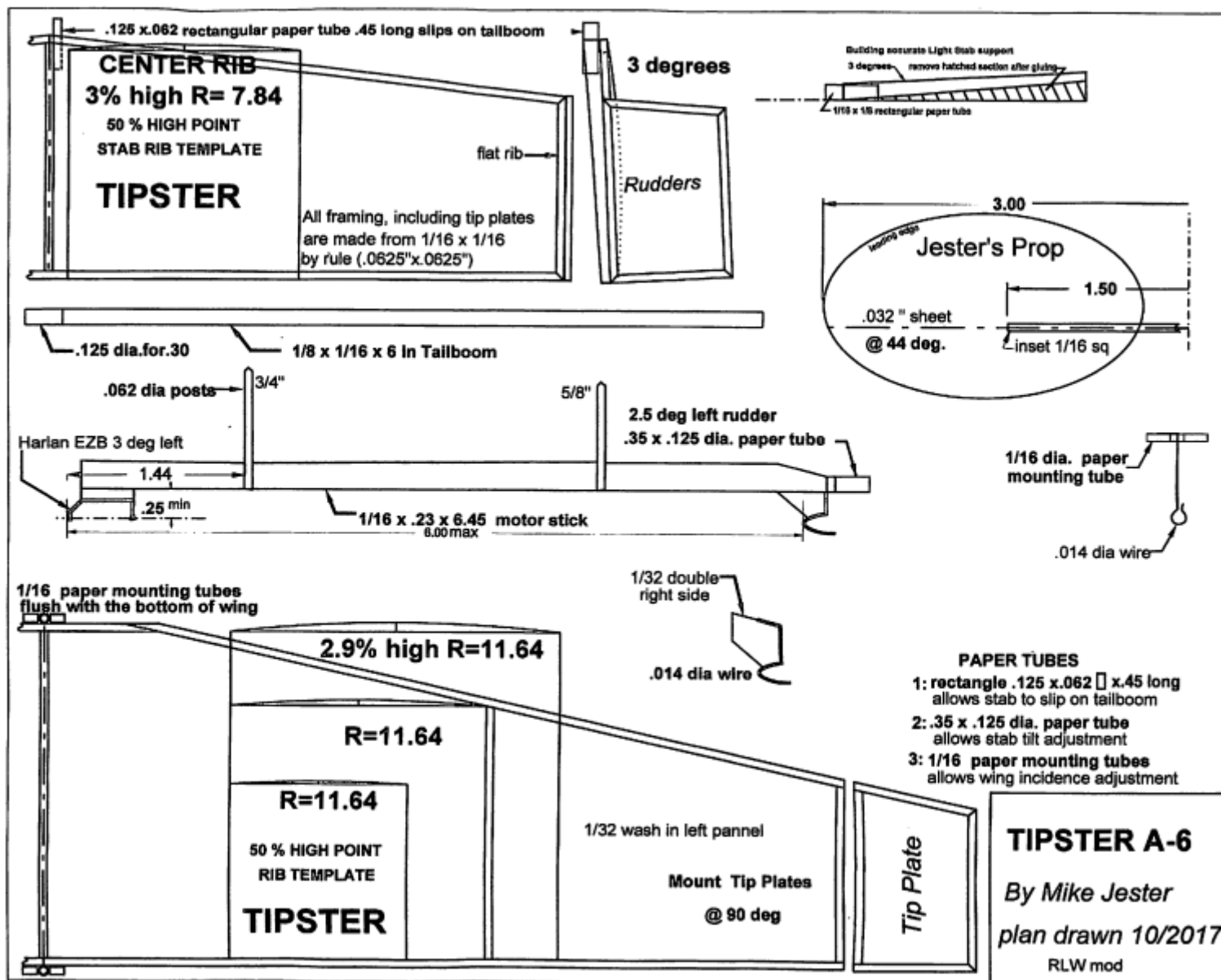
I have had good success with another of my own A-6 designs which I call the Tipster. It has done over four minutes in the club's A-6 contests held in the Grossmont gym. My Tipster has gained weight and now struggles to do three and one-half minute flights. It now weighs around 1.7 grams. The plan for my Tipster A-6 is reproduced at the end of this article. I recommend increasing the height of the twin fins (rudders) by 25% in addition to that shown on the plan in order to avoid the minor Dutch roll of my Tipster. Unfortunately, as reproduced in this newsletter the plan is not to scale and there is no scale indicated on the plan. The wingspan of the Tipster is 13 1/8-inches and the stab span is 8 3/8-inches. Maybe you can adjust your copy machine to enlarge the plan to get these dimensions. My Tipster does not have a removable tail boom, which was added by Richard Wood when he drew up the plan. Only the lower ends of the wing posts can be rounded to fit into mounting tubes. The remainder must be 1/16-inch square.



**Tipster A-6 by Mike Jester**

A-6 is a featured event every three months at Grossmont. I wish more folks would give it a try. A-6 models are easy to build, easy to transport, and fun to fly.







## San Diego Orbiteers - Indoor Contest Results – Feb 2, 2020

Photos by Arline Bartick



### Glider

Flier	Best 2 of 9 flights		Total	Rank
Greg Hutchison	25.4	23.1	48.5	1
C. M. Kim	23.0	20.4	43.4	2
Don Bartick	21.1	21.1	42.2	3
John Huchison	18.1	15.1	33.2	4



# DUAL-CLUBS FREE FLIGHT BONANZA

*\*A National Cup & America's Cup Points Event\**

**SAN DIEGO ORBITEERS 62<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL - CLASS AA, CATEGORY 2**  
**SPONSOR OF AMA & FAI EVENTS**

\*

**FRESNO GAS MODEL CLUB 81<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL - CLASS AA, CATEGORY 2**  
**SPONSOR OF NOSTALGIA, TEXACO & OLD TIME EVENTS**

**\* MAY 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 \***  
**\* LOST HILLS, CA \***

<b>SATURDAY ONLY</b> 7 AM – NOON, 1 - 5 PM LUNCH BREAK W/ICE CREAM SOCIAL	<b>EITHER DAY</b> MUST FINISH EVENT THE SAME DAY		<b>SUNDAY ONLY</b> 7 AM – 3 PM
F1A F1B FIC 1/2A GAS(1) C/D GAS E-36 P-30 (1) VINTAGE FAI POWER CATAPULT GLIDER (1) ½ A TEXACO DAWN P-30 MASS LAUNCH NIGHT GAS (COMBINED) TWIN PUSHER MASS LAUNCH	SMALL OT RUBBER STICK SMALL OT RUBBER CABIN LARGE OT RUBBER STICK LARGE OT RUBBER CABIN ¼ A NOSTALGIA ½ A NOSTALGIA A NOSTALGIA B NOSTALGIA C NOSTALGIA EARLY ½ A NOSTALGIA	.020 REPLICA A PYLON B-C PYLON A FUSELAGE B-C FUSELAGE RUB/WAKEFIELD NOS CLASSIC TOWLINE ½ A CLASSIC POWER ½ A GOLDEN AGE	FIG F1H F1J F1S A GAS B GAS F1Q/A/B ELECTRIC (COMB) HAND LAUNCH GLIDER (1) FULL SIZE TEXACO MULVIHILL DAWN MULVIHILL GOLLYWOCK MASS LAUNCH

*(1) Junior & Senior/Open Event*

*See Special Instructions on backside*

**\*\* AN ORBITEER TRADITION LIVES ON \*\***

JOIN US FOR SATURDAY ICE CREAM SUNDAE SOCIAL ON US (NOON – 1 PM)  
*also*

SATURDAY NIGHT FOOD FEST POTLUCK ORGANIZED BY DAN HEINRICH (6:00 -7:00 PM) *(Main course provided)(Bring a side dish or dessert)(Let Dan know what you're bringing at [aeronautd@cs.com](mailto:aeronautd@cs.com))*

**AWARDS FOR FIRST 3 PLACES**  
**Ceremonies at: 3:15 PM Sunday**

**\$20 REGISTRATION Sr. & Open / \$2 Jr**  
**\$5 per Event Sr. & Open / \$1 Junior -**  
**Optional: \$40 for Registration & Unlimited Events**

For Information Contact:

CD: Don Bartick, - San Diego Orbiteers  
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Web:FGMAC.tumblr.com



# **SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

**(LOST HILLS FF MODEL AIRFIELD ASSOCIATION CARD REQUIRED (\$25 AT FIELD TO JOIN))**

## **SATURDAY NOON to 1 PM LUNCH BREAK & SUNDAE SOCIAL**

The contest will be suspended for 1 hour for lunch and the San Diego Orbiters famous ice cream social. This is a great time to relax, cool off, have lunch and enjoy the ice cream sundaes. We will provide ice cream, & sundae fixings, napkins, plates and plastic ware.

## **PRIZE DRAWING**

The Fresno GMC once again has collected an enormous amount of model stuff for their drawing. For up to 3 events entered that are sponsored by them, the contestant will receive a drawing ticket. Drawing to be held right after Sunday's award ceremony.

## **BILL BOOTH, SR. MEMORIAL**

High time in Old Time Gas. Includes 020 Replica, but not Texaco. Winner will receive a special award from the Fresno GMC.

## **HAND LAUNCH GLIDER & CATAPULT GLIDER**

Hand Launch Glider & Catapult Glider will to be launched from an established glider pen on the field. Max's are 120 seconds and all flights count.

## **NIGHT GAS FLYING**

All engine classes combined. Event window between 6:30 pm – 9pm. Engine runs in accordance with aircraft classification; i.e., AMA or Nostalgia.

## **FAI EVENTS**

F1A, F1B, F1C: 8am start time. Seven (7) one hour rounds. 240 second first round, 180 seconds, rounds 2-7. Round 5 starts at 1pm do to lunch break/ice cream social. Fly-offs starts at 4:30pm.

F1G, F1H, F1J, F1S: 8am Tiebreaker, no max. 15 min window. Not a regular round flight. 8:30 am start of regular rounds. Five (5) 1 hour rounds, 2 minute max. Fly-offs start at 1:30pm. Two (2) fly-offs, 3min & 4 min. If no winner, revert to morning tiebreaker flight.

## **VINTAGE FAI POWER**

For rules, please go to this website: <https://freeflight.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/NFFS-Competition-Rules-2019-2020-Release-1.pdf> A copy of the rules will be available at the CD's table. First five (5) flights must be flown from the established line between 7:00 – 12:00 AM.

## **DAWN P-30**

Saturday morning 7:30 AM sharp. Mass launch from glider pen; 1 flight, no max.

## **DAWN MULYHILL (Timer can ride with contestant)**

Sunday morning 7:30 – 7:50 AM launch window, 1 flight, no max.

## **TWIN PUSHER MASS LAUNCH**

Saturday morning 8:30 sharp. Mass launch from glider pen; 1 flight, no max.

## **GOLLYWOCK MASS LAUNCH**

Sunday morning at 8:00 sharp. Mass launch from glider pen; 1 flight, no max.

## **TEXACO (Timer can ride with contestant)**

1/2A Texaco: Saturday 7:00-10:00 AM launch window, 8cc fuel; Full Size Texaco: Sunday 7:00-10:00 AM launch window, ¼ oz per pound – max 1.75 oz fuel.

## **1/2A GOLDEN AGE**

Open to any free flight design that had plans published or dated from 01/01/1957 thru 12/31/1969. Engines are restricted to Holland Hornet

.049/.051 and Cox T.D. .049/.051. Although an electric version is included in the provisional rules, electric is excluded from this event. No V.I.T., auto surfaces or auto rudders allowed even if on the original plan. Engine runs are: Cat II) Hand launch 12 sec/VTO 15 sec for first 3 official flights; fly-off flights are 8 seconds. Flight maximum is 180 sec.

# 2020 Contest Schedule

	<b>Indoor</b> (Grossmont College Gym)	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Orbiteers</b>	<b>Scale Staffel</b>
<b>Jan 5</b>	<b>A6</b>	<b>Phantom Flash</b>
<b>Feb 2</b>	<b>Catapult Launched Glider</b>	<b>No-Cal</b>
<b>Mar 1</b>	<b>P-18</b>	<b>Embryo</b>
<b>Apr 5</b>	<b>Limited Penny Plane</b>	<b>Phantom Flash</b>
<b>May 3</b>	<b>A6</b>	<b>No-Cal</b>
<b>Jun 7</b>	<b>Catapult Launched Glider</b>	<b>Embryo</b>
<b>Jul 5</b>	<b>P-18</b>	<b>Phantom Flash</b>
<b>Aug 2</b>	<b>Limited Penny Plane</b>	<b>No-Cal</b>
<b>Sep 6</b>	<b>A6</b>	<b>Embryo</b>
<b>Oct 4</b>	<b>Catapult Launched Glider</b>	<b>Phantom Flash</b>
<b>Nov 1</b>	<b>P-18</b>	<b>No-Cal, Canard One-Design (Wrisley Zephyr)</b>
<b>Dec 6</b>	<b>Limited Penny Plane</b>	<b>Embryo</b>

# 2020 Contest Schedule

		<b>Outdoor</b> (all contests at Perris, CA unless otherwise noted)	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Rain Date</b>	<b>Orbiteers</b>	<b>Scale Staffel</b>
<b>Jan 12</b>	<b>Jan 26</b>	<b>P-30 / Glider / Power</b>	
<b>Feb 16</b>	<b>Feb 23</b>	<b>Coupe / Glider / Power</b>	
<b>Mar 22</b>	<b>Mar 29</b>	<b>OT/NOS Rubber / Glider / Power</b>	
<b>Apr 19</b>	<b>Apr 26</b>	<b>P-30* / Glider / Power</b> (*Extra award for 1 <sup>st</sup> place with a Hot Box)	
<b>May 16-17</b>		<b>Dual Club - Lost Hills, CA</b>	
<b>May 24</b>	<b>May 31</b>	<b>Coupe / Glider / Power</b>	
<b>Jun 14</b>	<b>Jun 28</b>	<b>OT/NOS Rubber / Glider / Power</b>	
<b>July/August</b>		<b>Summer Heat Break</b>	
<b>Sep 20</b>	<b>Sep 27</b>	<b>P-30 / Glider / Power</b>	
<b>Oct 18</b>	<b>Oct 25</b>	<b>Coupe / Glider / Power</b>	
<b>Nov 15</b>	<b>Nov 29</b>	<b>OT/NOS Rubber / Glider / Power</b>	
<b>Dec 13</b>	<b>Dec 20</b>	<b>Make Up Date</b>	



**FLYING  
ACES**

**Squadron 41**

**San Diego**



# Scale Staffel

## March 2020 - Outdoor Flying Contest

Saturday and Sunday, March 14 - 15, 2020

7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Taibi Flying Field, Perris, CA

(Location: 33.7803656, - 117.1972964)

**Prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd**

### Fees

- \$8 entry fee includes one event
- \$3 for each additional event
- \$20 maximum: includes entry fee and 5 or more events.

### Contest Director

John Hutchison  
johnhutchison1@cox.net  
619-504-5731

### Awards Presentation

Immediately following the final event on Sunday

### Hotel Accommodations

Red Lion  
480 S Redlands Ave,  
Perris, CA 92570  
951-943-5577

### GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP:

The flier who earns the most 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> place points accumulated from all three contests (Mar 14-15, Jun 6-7, and Oct 3-4, 2020) will become the 2020 Grand Champion. The trophy will be presented after the last event in 2020

**Pilot's Meeting @ 8 a.m. each day**

### FAC Single Model Events

Fly any event on either day or on both days.

1. Golden Age Combined
2. Old Time Rubber Stick & Fuselage (hand launch)
3. FAC 2-bit + 1 (ROG)
4. Jimmie Allen (ROG)
5. Dime Scale
6. Embryo Endurance (ROG)
7. FAC Rubber Scale / 2x Peanut Walt Mooney Combined (*Special award for 2x Peanut Walt Mooney entries*)

### Mass Launch Events

#### Saturday

8. FAC World War I Combat  
Wind at 8:20 a.m., Launch at 8:30 a.m.
9. FAC World War II Combat / Spanish Civil War Combined  
Wind at 9:20 a.m., Launch at 9:30 a.m.

#### Sunday

10. FAC Greve / Thompson Race  
Wind at 8:20 a.m., Launch at 8:30a.m.

***Future Contests June 6-7 and Oct 3-4, 2020***

**SAN VALEERS 71st ANNUAL & 38th ANNUAL 7 ROUNDER  
APRIL 18th & 19th, 2020 - LOST HILLS, CA.**

**AMA sanction # 9408**

**A NFES NATIONAL CUP, AMERICAS CUP & AMA AA SANCTIONED CONTEST**  
(SCAMPS/SCIFS contest same weekend with SCAMP CD Dan Heinrich aeronutd@cs.com)

**AMA CAT II & NOSTALGIA CAT II\*\* (WEATHER PERMITTING)**

**SATURDAY 8 TO 5**

**1/2A GAS**

**B GAS**

**C GAS**

**1/2A Nostalgia\*\***

**E-36**

**SUNDAY 8 TO 3**

**A GAS**

**D GAS**

**ABC Nostalgia\*\***

**BOTH DAYS**

**P-30, HL & Catapult Glider**

**1/2A Golden Age**

**Nostalgia Rubber**

**(all flights same day for each entry)**

**F1A NORDIC - F1B WAKEFIELD - F1C/F1P POWER- F1Q SATURDAY 8 AM TO 3 PM (7 rounds)**

**1st Round at 8am, F1A, B, C, P, Q 240 secs. All other rounds 180 secs. Flyoff begins at 4:00pm**

**F1G – F1H – F1S SUNDAY 8 AM TO 11:45 Tie breaker flyoff to the ground 7:30 to 8:00 am. Standard (5 rounds 45 minutes long starting at 8:00 am, 120 sec maxes) 2 FO flights starting at 1:00 pm. If tied after 5 flights and 2 FO flights than tie breaker flight determines winner.**

**VINTAGE FAI**

**SATURDAY 8:00 am-1:00pm (5 1hr rounds) All flights 180 secs flyoff at 2:00pm**

**HUNTER MEMORIAL SUNDAY MORNING(weather permitting)-Sponsored by Mike Thompson**

**RULES: Any gas free flight airplane. 15 second VTO, 12 second H.L. Highest single flight time (no max) Starts Sunday at sunrise with 1 hr window (start time announced). Entry fee (\$1.00 per flight)**

**\*\*NOSTALGIA per latest rulebook except motor runs which shall be 10 sec HL, 13 sec VTO for 1st 3 flights, 7 & 9 secs on all flyoff flights. Classes scored separately for National cup but awards given for 1/2A Nostalgia and ABC Nostalgia combined.**

**1/2A GOLDEN AGE 1/2 A Models from 1957 to 1969 Engines:TD OR HH .049/.051, motor runs same as Nostalgia**

**MERCHANDISE AWARDS (engines, kits, fuel, wood, \$\$\$, etc)**

**\*\*\*K & B 4.9 Schnuerle" donated by Lee Hunt (1 ticket for each event entered, or \$3 ea, or \$5 for 2, or \$10 for 5)\*\*\***

**AMA/NOST CD: Norm Furutani norginf@gmail.com FAI CD: Mike Thompson (805) 404-6173**

**AMA & Nostalgia: 1st event: \$10.00, Additional events: \$5.00 per event or \$35 unlimited entry, JRS FREE, FAI events: 1st event \$20 and additional events \$10.**

**"JUST BRING YOUR MODELS AND SLEEPING BAG AND HAVE FUN"**



## WHAT'S HAPPENING - March 2020

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- Feb. 16, 2020 - **Orbiter Outdoor Monthly**  
SCAMPS Field, Perris CA, 8:00 am.  
Feature Event: **Coupe**  
Other Events: **E36, Power & HLG/Catapult Launch Glider**
- Mar. 1, 2020 - **Indoor Flying**  
Grossmont College (Upper Gym), 7:30 am to 11:30 pm.  
Feature Events: **P-18 & Embryo**
- Mar. 14/15, 2020 - **Scale Staffel (Flying Aces Squadron 41) Outdoor Flying Contest**  
Taibi Flying Field, Perris CA, 7:30 am to 12:00 pm  
See enclosed flyer for feature events.
- Mar. 22, 2020 - **Orbiter Outdoor Monthly**  
SCAMPS Field, Perris CA, 8:00 am.  
Feature Event: **Old Time Nostalgia**  
Other Events: **E36, Power & HLG/Catapult Launch Glider**