

# EL TORBELLINO

NEWSLETTER OF SAN DIEGO ORBITEERS FREE FLIGHT CLUB



JULY 2023

## *Chairman's Corner – Mark Chomyn*

I'd like to start this month's column with an old, adage that goes "Lightning never strikes twice." The gist of that adage is that something won't happen to someone or something in the same way twice. Though I've got no experience with seeing lightning hit an object twice, I do have proof that lightning (a positive moving force) can strike twice in the field of aeromodelling.

Remember the June chairman's column in which I mentioned a young man name Daniel Guo winning first place in the Division B, F1B Flight Event at the Science Olympiad (Sci-Oly) National Tournament in Wichita Kansas? Well not too long after that achievement, Daniel made a trip to Moscow Idaho to compete in the AMA Indoor Nationals. What happened, you might ask? Well, it seems that Daniel was an example of how the above-mentioned adage manifests itself in the realm of model aviation. Young Mr. Guo followed up his Sci-Oly win by earning a place on the F1B Junior National Team and is eligible to compete in the 2024 Indoor World Championship. I don't know if there's a betting line in Vegas for the 2024 world event, but if there is my money's on Daniel.

Of course, I would be remiss if I didn't mention several other Orbiteers that took the trip to Moscow Idaho. Kang Lee competed in the adult F1B event and walked away with a spot on the F1B Adult National Team. He, like Daniel, will be able to compete in the 2024 world event. Was Kang happy about that outcome? Just look at the picture of the Adult National Team in the AMA website at: <https://nats.modelaircraft.org/nats-news/june-23-2023-indoor-free-flight-final-report>. Two other names are mentioned in the contest results. The AMA results site noted that Tim Batiuk "showed total dominance with two flights over 92 seconds" in F1N Indoor Hand- Launch Glider and Stan Buddenbohm coming in second. Both were flying indoor versions of Stan's HAR series for outdoor hand launch glider. Good work guys.

After some field schedule juggling, we were able to hold the June outdoor monthly. Attendance was a bit lighter than usual but that was likely due to it being Father's Day. In a back-and-forth e-mail discussion regarding a June contest date Don Bartick said it best, what better way to start your Father's Day than going to the field and getting some flights in. Thanks to Mike Pykelny for getting us back on track with our outdoor schedule and thanks to those who showed up and flew. Our next outdoor contest will feature P-30, Power, and Glider (HL, CL and towline). So, lube those ten-gram motors, warm up that throwing arm and refresh the launching stick rubber.

I'm going to miss the July contest due to some summer traveling in Norway, Scotland, and England. Already checked hobby shop locations in each location and sadly as in other such searches only found shops that sold ARF R/C planes, R/C and plastic model cars and other plastic kits. I sure do miss the 1950's and 1960's when every hobby shop had free flight supplies and kits. Will just have to do the typical tourist things. But cheap, cheesy souvenirs are no substitute for a free flight model airplane.

That's all from here.

Mark

*"You may remember the old Sterling kits that had features such as; bomb drop, cargo hatch, landing gear drop, firing rockets from the wing struts and more. Some of these actually worked great."*

From FAC It Corner, Nov-Dec 2021 Flying Aces Club News

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## 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:

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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)

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## PHOTO CREDITS THIS ISSUE :

Mike Jester	Pages	3, 4, 5
Bob Hobes		6
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## 2023 AMA Indoor Nats

By Mike Jester



Last month my wife and I made the long trek from Crystal Bay, Nevada to Moscow, Idaho for the 2023 AMA Indoor Nats. Of course, there were no direct flights from Reno. We had to take two flights to get to Spokane, Washington. Then we had to drive eighty-two miles south in a rental car, through endless wheat fields in the rolling hills of the Palouse region. Dorothy asked me at the Spokane airport “Don’t we need a map?” I confidently rejected the idea, pointing out that paper maps are obsolete and that now everyone uses Google maps. Except halfway to Moscow there was no longer any cell coverage. We kept guessing at which turn to take as we passed through tiny farming towns and finally made the ninety-minute drive in two hours.

The contest took place from June 19 to June 23 in the Kibbie Dome on the campus of the University of Idaho. It is a fantastic Cat IV flying site with a peak ceiling height of 140+ feet. The highlight for me was watching Daniel Guo place first in the Junior F1D team selection trials with the continuous expert coaching of Kang Lee, a two-time world F1D champion. Daniel is a junior member of our club and was fresh off his first-place finish in the Division B Flight event at the 2023 Science Olympiad National tournament. I had the pleasure of coaching Daniel in the Flight event with an 8-gram airplane and a 2-gram rubber motor. Daniel elevated his game dramatically in the F1D event, flying a dimensionally larger airplane (22-inch wing span) weighing merely 1.4 grams and using only a 0.4-gram rubber motor.



**Daneil Guo Receiving Expert Advice from Kang Lee - 2023 AMA Indoor Nats**

Since we lost our Grossmont indoor flying site due to COVID, I had not flown indoors for over three years. Stan Buddenbohm graciously offered to drive from Southern California and bring some of my rubber powered models and Tim Batiuk’s gliders. He drove 2,400-miles round trip! I only flew in three events at the contest - Limited Penny Plane (LPP), A-6, and P-18. While I scored personal bests in each of these events, I was not close to placing in any of them. I did beat my previous best times in these three events which I

accomplished at the 2019 AMA Indoor Nats that were held in the Round Valley Dome in Eagar, Arizona. To say the competition at the 2023 Indoor Nats was at a high level would be a gross understatement. For example, I flew over 10 minutes in the LPP event. However, Don DeLoach's winning time was around 15 minutes. Of course, Tim and Stan chalked up victories in the various HLG and CLG events. Stan did very well despite what I am convinced was a broken wrist that he suffered about a month before the 2023 Indoor AMA Nats. I think Josh Finn was the overall 2023 AMA indoor champion.



### **Mike Jester and His Repaired P-18**

I had an unfortunate incident with my best P-18 model. It was climbing out beautifully when it exploded at about 35 feet in altitude and crashed. Apparently, the 3M spray adhesive did not hold down the veggie bag covering on the leading edge of the wing during the powerful ascent. When it lifted that caused the crash. Fortunately, I was able to rebuild the wing of this model in about one hour. I used Am-Droid glue (thinned nitrocellulose glue) and Scotch tape to hold the veggie bag covering on the wing frame. After these repairs, I got my best P-18 time ever but still could not achieve the elusive four-minute P-18 flight.

I really enjoyed meeting some of the biggest names in indoor flying and seeing them show off their skills. Bruce Kimball was a wonderful CD and Dave Lindley was his excellent assistant. Many thanks to both gentlemen for running a great contest. I will try to make the 2024 AMA indoor Nats. The site has yet to be announced and that will factor into my decision on whether I will attend. If you have never gone to an AMA indoor Nats it is a great experience.





**Tim Batiuk and One of His CLGs**



**Caleb Finn and his Manhattan Cabin with Dave Lindley**



# San Diego Orbiteers

## Flying Schedule 2023

### Taibi Field Perris, Ca

Primary Date	Rain Date	Event	CD
<del>July 16</del>	<del>July 23</del>	<b>Cancelled</b>	
August 20	Aug 27	Coupe/Glider/Power	
September	15,16,17	Free Flight Champions Lost Hills	
September 10	Sep 24	OT/NOS Rubber/Glider/Power	
October 15	October 22	P-30/Glider/Power	
November	10,11,12	Dual Club, Lost Hill, Ca.	
November 19	November 26	Coupe/Glider/Power	
December 17		Make-up	
MP 3/23			

#### From the Workbench - Bob Hodes

My latest project.  
 A FW-190A8 from Mike Midkiff plans. The wingspan is 26".  
 I am awaiting decals from Callie Graphics. I also have to vac-u-form a spinner for the model.



Held at the home of Mike and Dorothy Jester, with a total of 10 in attendance. Many thanks to our gracious hosts for a wonderful barbeque luncheon.

**Meeting** called to order at 1:53 p.m.

**Minutes** of the previous meeting were approved as published.

**Treasurer's Report** was approved as provided to the board.

**Membership Report** update: we get occasional requests for information on our website, and those are passed along to the board. No further updates.

**Old Business:**

Alternative outdoor field locations: Don found some decent acreage near the north side of Ramona, he will inquire about its usability. Mark is looking into a spot near Otay.

Potential indoor flying sites: Mike Jester mentioned looking into the Bishop's School, but we won't know until at least September. John Hutchison is looking into a local church gym as well.

Status of club brochures at various venues: it was decided to discontinue the stocking of our brochures due to the lack of return on the investment. Over the many months of providing them, there has been little or no outreach from them.

SDSU needs: Mike Pykelny reported that there is a need of club members at SDSU on September 20<sup>th</sup> for an AE 123 flying/Trimming Demo, and Kang Lee will lead the group. There is also a need for club members to help out with timing duties for an event at SDSU on Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business:**

It was decided to postpone the contest scheduled for July 16<sup>th</sup> to July 23rd, due to heat predictions. Stay tuned to your email as to whether it gets postponed once again.

The start times of summer contests may be adjusted, depending on field conditions and weather.

Some discussion of what will happen to the porta-potty currently at the RC field once that club vacates the field. No definite outcome was made.

**Contest Corner:**

2023 Indoor Free Flight Nationals in Moscow Idaho: Mike Jester reported that it's a huge dome, and the contest was very well run. A huge congratulations to the following:

Kang Lee made the US Adult F1D National Team

Daniel Guo made the US Junior F1D National Team

Tim Batiuk and Stan Buddenbohm took 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place respectively in F1N-150.

Josh Finn from J&H Aerospace was the overall winner.

**Contest Report:**

The next Scale Staffel contest will be held on the weekend of September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. John Hutchison will be running the contest for the last time, as he is retiring from the duties of president of the club. If anyone is interested in taking over, please reach out to him, otherwise the club may be disbanded by year end. He assures us it isn't a tough or a time-consuming job.

**Good of the Order:** the next board meeting will be at the Merrill's house on September 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting Adjourned** at 3:24 p.m.

**Show and Tell:** Mike Jester has a kit of a Smith 1941 Mulvihill winner from Campbell's Custom Kits. Also, discussion of a product called MolyKote 33 Light to be used as a rubber lube.

# DUAL-CLUBS

## FREE FLIGHT BONANZA

*\*A National Cup Points Event\**

**AMA SANCTION 14992-CLASS AA, CATEGORY 2**

**SAN DIEGO ORBITEERS 64<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL - SPONSOR OF AMA & FAC EVENTS**

\*

**FRESNO GAS MODEL CLUB 83<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL - SPONSOR OF NOSTALGIA,  
TEXACO & OLD TIME EVENTS**

**\* November 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023\***

**\* LOST HILLS, CA \***

**FRIDAY ONLY**  
7 AM – NOON, 1 - 5 PM  
1 HOUR LUNCH BREAK WITH  
ICE CREAM SOCIAL

**NO OFFICIAL FLIGHTS DURING THE BREAK**

**SATURDAY**  
7AM-4PM  
5PM FOOD FEST

**SUNDAY**  
7 AM – 3 PM  
3:15 AWARDS CEREMONY

**FLY ANY REGULAR EVENT, ANY DAY, **BUT** MUST FINISH EVENT THE SAME DAY**

1/2A GAS (1)  
A GAS  
B GAS  
C/D GAS COMBINED  
1/2A NOS  
A/B NOS COMBINED  
C NOS  
EARLY 1/2A NO

1/2A CLASSIC POWER  
1/2A GOLDEN AGE  
RUBBER/WAKEFIELD NOS  
VINTAGE FAI POWER  
VINTAGE WAKEFIELD  
HAND LAUNCH GLIDER (1)  
CATAPULT LAUNCH GLIDER (1)  
P-30 (1)

E-36  
A/B ELECTRIC COMBINED  
NIGHT GAS COMBINED  
MULVIHILL  
CLASSIC TOWLINE  
SMALL OT RUBBER STICK/  
CABIN COMBINED  
LARGE OT RUBBER STICK/  
CABIN COMBINED

.020 REPLICA  
A/B PYLON/FUSELAGE  
COMBINED  
C PYLON/FUSELAGE  
COMBINED  
1/2A TEXACO  
FULL SIZE TEXACO  
1 MINUTE TARGET

*(1) Junior & Senior/Open Event*

*See Special Instructions on backside*

### SCHEDULED EVENTS

**FRIDAY**

9:00AM – FAC WORLD WAR I COMBAT  
11:00AM FAC WORLD WAR II COMBAT

**SATURDAY**

8:30AM P-30 MASS LAUNCH  
9:30AM -GOLLYWOCK MASS LAUNCH  
11:00AM TWIN PUSHER MASS LAUNCH

**SUNDAY**

8:00-8:15AM DAWN MULVIHILL  
9:00AM FAC GREVE/THOMPSON RACE

**CASH AWARD FOR 1<sup>st</sup> PLACE with 3 or more entries.**  
Certificates awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place

**\$20 REGISTRATION Sr. & Open / \$2 Jr, includes 1<sup>st</sup> event**

**\$5 per Event Sr. & Open / \$1 Junior –**

**OPTIONAL: \$40 For Registration and Unlimited events**

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# **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 90 seconds Hand Launch and 120 seconds Catapult 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.

### **VINTAGE FAI POWER**

For rules, please go to this website: [https:// freeflight.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/NFFS-Competition-Rules-2021-2022-Release-3.pdf](https://freeflight.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/NFFS-Competition-Rules-2021-2022-Release-3.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 7:00AM – 11:30 PM.*

### **VINTAGE WAKEFIELD**

*For rules, please go to this website: https:// freeflight.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/NFFS-Competition-Rules-2021-2022-Release-3.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 7:00AM – 11:30 PM.*

### **P-30 MASS LAUNCH**

Saturday morning 8:30 AM sharp. Mass launch in front of Headquarters; 1 flight, no max.

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

Sunday morning 8:00 – 8:15 AM launch window, 1 flight, no max.

### **TWIN PUSHER MASS LAUNCH**

Saturday morning 11:00AM sharp. Mass launch in front of Headquarters; 1 flight, no max.

### **GOLLYWOCK MASS LAUNCH**

Sunday morning at 9:30AM sharp. Mass launch in front of Headquarters; 1 flight, no max.

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

### **1 MINUTE TARGET**

Any Sport Plane, such as: Dakota, Sniffer, Tom Boy, Sioux. Even Peewee 30.

6 official flights. All count. Flight duration must be equal to or over 1 minute. Score will be the number of seconds over 1 minute for each of the 6 official flights. Flights under 1 minute will be an attempt. No limit on attempts. Lowest total of 6 official flights wins.

**JUNE MONTHLY PHOTOS - Arline Bartick**



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Clint Brooks



Don Bartick



Mark Chomyn



Mike Pykelny



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THE FLIGHT LINE – 2021 – Lost Hills CA

(Photo by Arline Bartick)

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING - July 2023**

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**JULY MONTHLY CANCELLED, Look for announcement of a reschedule date.**

~~July 23 - San Diego Orbiteer Outdoor Monthly~~

~~Taibi Flying Field, Perris CA, 7:30 am~~

~~Events: P-30 / Glider / Power~~