

EL TORBELLINO

NEWSLETTER OF SAN DIEGO ORBITEERS FREE FLIGHT CLUB

FEBRUARY 2021



Prez's Corner – Mark Chomyn

It's that time of year when football fans suffer post-Super Bowl depression. For most, when your favorite sport goes off season you may feel a little down in the dumps and wish for next season. Or, spend a lot of time watching last season's highlights replayed on ESPN or other sports channels. But we free flight enthusiasts who live in southern California are lucky to have a season that allows us to pursue our sport/hobby year-round.

In a sense, our hobby is not only a sport but is also an activity that provides us a form of physical and mental therapeutic benefit. Ever notice how you seem to lose some tension when you go out to the field to fly? Doesn't that chase after a max flight seem like a pleasant stroll (especially with the plow-in of the mulch piles)? And doesn't it pick up the pulse rate a little when you come to the field with a new build and watch it fly rock steady right off-the-board? I can't imagine having to live without the ability to build and fly free flight model planes.

So, if you are looking for an excuse to go out and fly and experience the great benefits of our hobby/sport, don't pass up the Orbiteers February outdoor monthly on February 21st. Events will be coupe, glider and power. For those who like a good road trip there's also the Presidents Cup in Eloy AZ. Unfortunately, per the NFFS calendar, it's on the same day (Feb 21st) as the Orbiteers monthly so for some of us we'll need to decide which event we want to attend.

For myself, after having a mild bout with COVID-19, I can't wait to get out and fly. I got my first round of the vaccine on February 10th and will get my second round on March 3rd. After completing the vaccinations I'll be good to go and back out on the field in March. I'm going to try and get a new old time/nostalgia plane done for the March contest. The Miss Canada Sr. I usually fly is looking a little tired and I need a reason to get that increased pulse rate feeling I mentioned above. In the spirit of building something different I've got a Scientific Yellow Bird kit that I can copy the plan and parts from and avoid cutting up the original kit. See you in March.

Last month I mentioned that I was building an old Guillows profile model (Stormavik) and included a picture of the project in progress. Well, I finished the build as shown and I have to admit that: 1.) It looks a lot smaller than it did when I was 10 years old in 1959, 2.) It looks a lot better than the plane I built in 1959 and 3.) it will get flights of 10-15 seconds (about 10-15 seconds more than I got in 1959) on 300-400 hand winds of the six-inch long 3/32" Tan Super Sport rubber. Substituting a gray 4-3/4" Peck Polymers for the red Guillows prop really helps. Of course, knowing what a CG is and what it means in balancing a plane (didn't know that in 1959) also doesn't hurt. It was a lot of fun to get that nostalgic feeling with this simple build.

Oh, by the way, it is February and that means Valentine's Day. So, don't forget your significant other.



(Prez's Column from previous page) Especially if they accompany you to the field for moral support and know how to handle a stopwatch.
Stay Healthy
Mark

Flight Reservation Systems decide whether or not you exist. If your information isn't in their database, then you simply don't get to go anywhere. - **Arthur Miller**

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kamclaughlin1@cox.net

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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:

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.

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Webmaster: Kathy McLaughlin



Building with Permanent Magnets on a Metal Building Board

By Mike Jester



Building balsa wood frames for model airplanes using magnets is an old idea. I remember Jerry Sullivan of the Scale Staffel FAC club in San Diego singing its praises to me many years ago. A rectangular piece of sheet metal serves as the building board. The plan for the model airplane is laid over the top of the sheet metal. Then the plan is covered with translucent non-stick parchment paper. This paper has sufficient transparency to allow you to see the lines on the plan. The balsa sticks, ribs, formers, etc. are held in position over the plan using magnets. Glue can be applied to these pieces before they are secured to the metal sheet with magnets, or after they have been aligned on top of the plan. This method of building balsa wood aircraft frames is much quicker and easier than the traditional technique of using a foam board and inserting pins to hold the balsa wood pieces.



Coupe (F1G) Fuselage Side Under Construction on Metal Building Board Using Magnets

Pins should never be stuck through balsa parts as this will weaken them. The alternative is to lean the pins against the balsa parts as shown in the photo below. However, this can crease soft balsa and weaken the same. Some people pin balsa scraps against the framework but this is a tedious extra step. Most people use straight pins. Others use pins with specially shaped cylindrical plastic holders. I have a pin phobia. I don't relish being stuck in the finger with a pin.

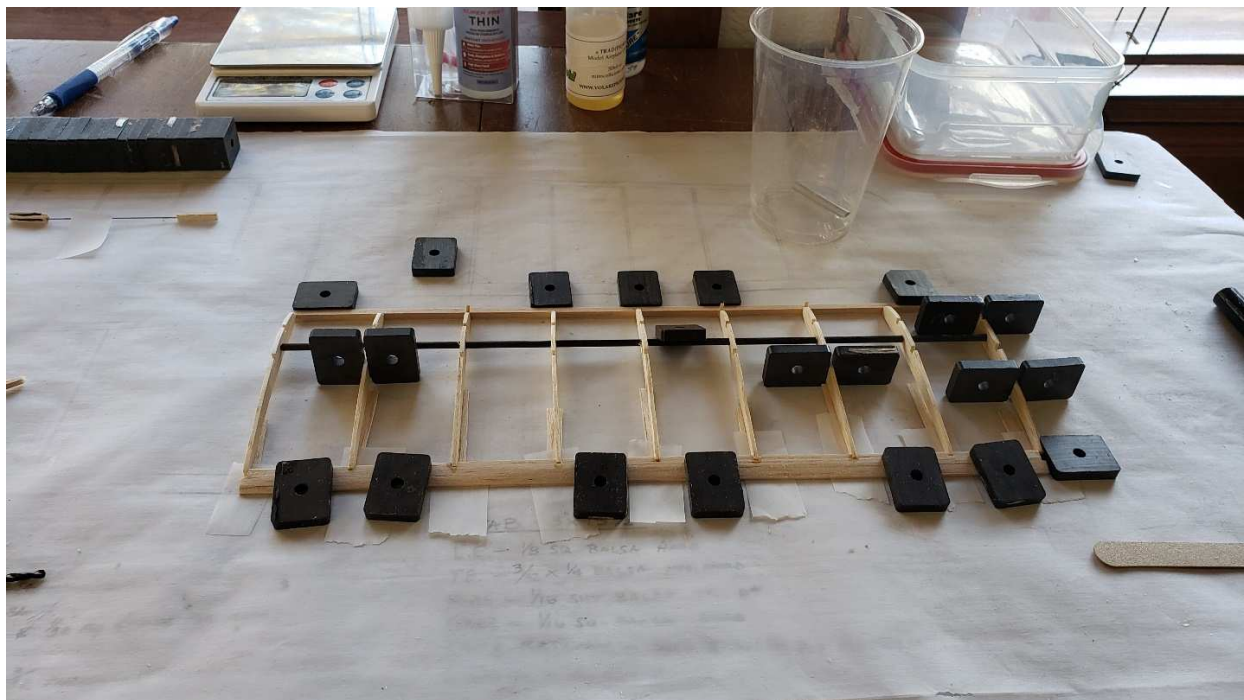


Straight Pins Leaning Against Triangular Stick-Built Balsa Wood Fuselage

Continued Next Page

You can buy a piece of sheet metal from HOME DEPOT or LOWE'S and cut it to the desired size. However, the sheet metal will end up with very sharp corners that need to be filed smooth. Cutting the sheet metal with tin snips can add curvature to the metal sheet, which then needs to be hammered out. You can also purchase suitable rectangular permanent magnets that measure 1 x $\frac{3}{4}$ x $\frac{3}{16}$ inches like those pictured below. These magnets are also relatively expensive when purchased from a hardware store.

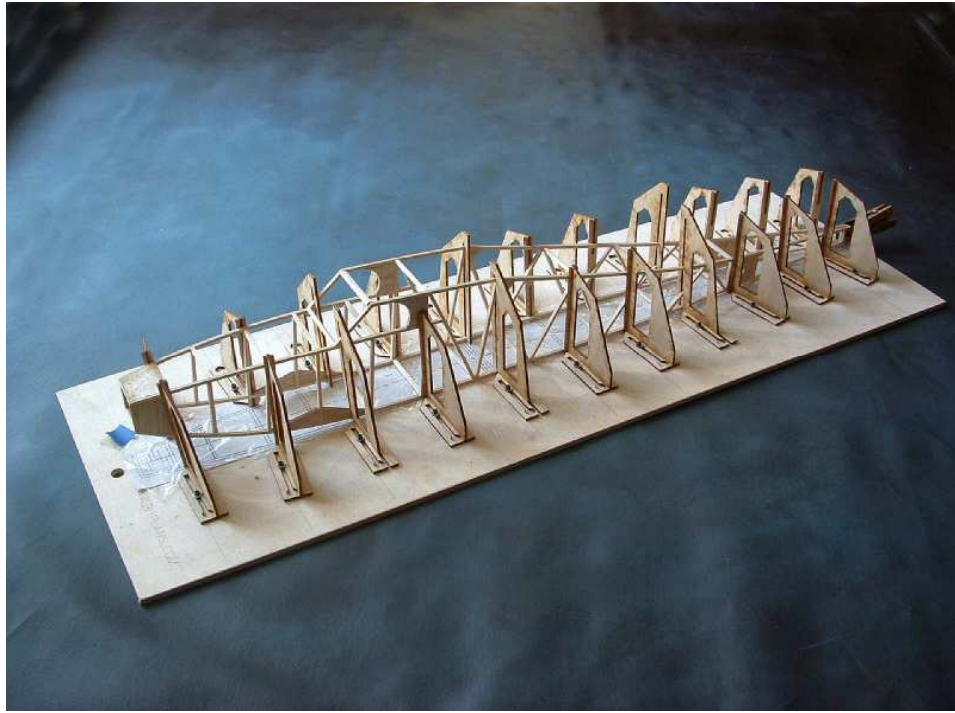
You can save time and money by purchasing the Magna- Board™ system from Easy Built Models. I recommend the larger size sheet metal board that measures 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches x 32 inches. The sheet metal board is very flat and comes with nice beveled corners and smooth edges. Since the rectangular piece of sheet metal is flexible, you need to support it on a rigid flat surface. A thick piece of particle board will typically be very flat and can be used if your work bench or building table has a sagging curved surface. An added benefit of building with rectangular magnets is that you can stand them on their edges and they will hold fuselage sides, ribs, etc. perfectly vertical as shown in the picture below.



Rectangular Magnets Holding Wing Ribs Vertical

Don't cover the plan with clear plastic wrap as cyanoacrylate (CA) glue will strongly adhere to the same. Parchment paper has a Teflon coating or similar material that greatly lessens the ability of CA, Duco cement, Ambroid cement, white glue, etc. to stick to the same.

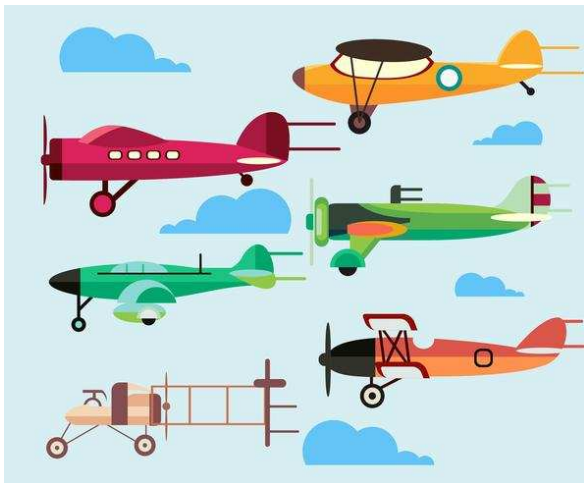
If you want to avoid the dreaded "banana boat" when building a mid-size or large box fuselage you may want to use some laser-cut plywood jigs. The picture below shows jigs of this type sold by Bob Holman being used to build a fuselage that is straight and square. While the jigs in this picture are bolted to a thick non-metallic building board, similar jigs are available from Retro RC Models that are configured to receive permanent magnets that hold the jigs on a metal building board.



Plywood Jigs Being Used to Build a Straight and Square Box Fuselage

Building a fuselage with a round or oval cross-section, such as the fuselage of a scale WWII fighter, is a more complicated process. There are various methods for doing this, such as the keel method. Techniques for building non-square fuselages are beyond the scope of this article.

If you try building your balsa wood model airplanes with magnets on a piece of sheet metal, you will surely give up building your models using pins and a foam building board.

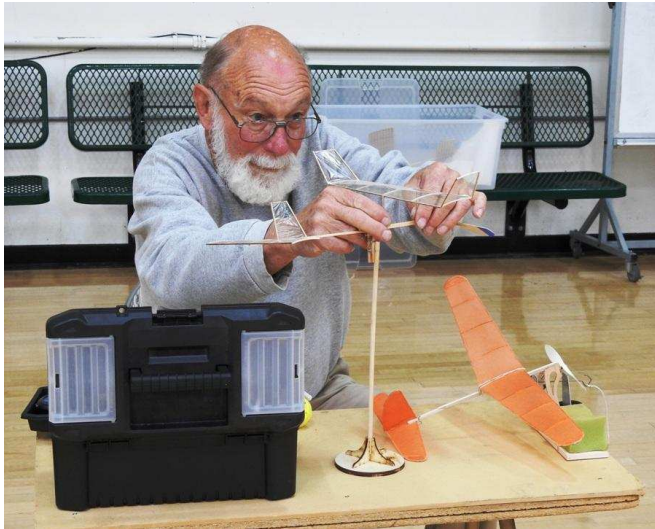


- In Memorial -

Don Brent

1941 - 2021

Born, October 15, 1941; attended Helix High School and San Diego State University.



SAN VALEERS 72st ANNUAL & 38th ANNUAL 7 ROUNDER
April 10th & 11th, 2021 - LOST HILLS, CA.

A NFFS 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 - FIB 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 - F1J 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)

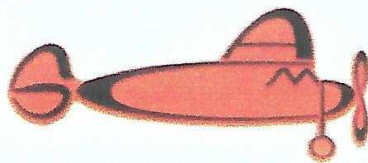
*****Hornet .051*** donated by T. Thorkildsen (1 ticket for each event entered, or \$3 ea, or \$5 for 2, or \$10 for 5)*****

AMA/NOST CD: Terry Kerger (626)260-6292 email: Terry@civiltec.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"



SCAMPS & SCIFS Texaco

April 10th & 11th 2021 – Lost Hills, CA - A.M.A. Sanctioned Contest
—Run in Conjunction with the San Valeers Club Annual—

Saturday: 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Sunday: 7:30 AM to 3:00 PM.

**** Any event can be flown on either day, do not have to finish same day! ****

1/2 A Texaco

(8cc fuel, best one of three official flights, 7:30 AM to 10:30 AM any glow IC engine .051 or smaller)

Gas Scale

O.T. Small Rubber Fuselage

(3-minute max)

O.T. Large Rubber Stick

(5-minute max)

.020 Replica

(Engine run is 12 sec. HL, 15 sec. ROG, 3 minute max)

Pee Wee Antique

(2.2cc fuel, best of three official flights, any .024 or

smaller IC engine)

**** 1/4 A Nostalgia**

Dawn Patrol Texaco

(7:30 AM to 10:30 AM, best of 2 official flights 1/4 ounce of fuel per pound of model)

30 Second Antique

O.T. Small Rubber Stick

(3-minute max)

O.T. Large Rubber Fuselage

(5-minute max)

*** A/B/C Fuselage**

*** A/B/C Pylon**

***** Old Time HL/CL Glider**

Twin Pusher Mass Launch (Sunday 8:30)

**** Electric Nostalgia**

***OT HL/CL Glider can be launched overhand, discuss or catapult. No modifications can be made the plan form other than a hook added for catapult launch. Modifications for DT okay as long as plan form is adhered to. No Scaling. For Catapult launch, a 9" loop of 1/4" rubber may be used on a 6" stick (two 9" loops of 1/8" rubber may be used). Up to 9 launches for 3 two minute maxes. If you have 3 maxes, fly till you drop a flight.

**All Nostalgia Events, (10 Second Hand Launch, 13 Second VTO or ROG, then 7&9 seconds), 3 minute Max

*SAM Power events to be flown using SAM Rules. 20 Second engine run hand-launch, 25 seconds R.O.G. 5 Minute maxes (weather permitting). Rubber ties will be broken by increasing Max times (weather permitting)

\$5 entry per event. Cash prizes 1st through 3rd, \$5 for each person you beat in the event.

CD - SCAMPS, Dan Heinrich (909) 593-5789 AeronutD@CS.com

From: Roy Smith <aeronut@kos.net>
Date: Feb 17, 2021 5:02 AM
Subject: A Postal P30 Contest
To:
Cc:



Hi everyone,

A friend of many of us, Jim Moseley, is suggesting that - if there is enough interest - he will run a postal contest for P30s in 2021/2022. here is what he has suggested so far:-

P30 Postal, anyone ?

With the widespread popularity of P30s I am wondering if there is interest and likely support for a Postal event for such and I ask your thoughts and opinions.

Balsa airframes, commercially available f/w props, no auto surfaces, 10g motor, etc. 2:00 Maximum, if three such achieved then ongoing 2:30 flyoff flights until that time not achieved. Models to be flown any time within a given period, not necessarily all on same day. Entries can be made with as many models as you have. Some national rules specify 50g minimum weight, do those flying P30s to this loading find much performance difference to the 40g's? Any need for a "K Factor" to even things up?

Flying period ... example, May 1st. to April 30th allows flyers in both hemispheres to fly in summer conditions – but is a year too much to maintain interest? Suggestions ? Any flyers south of the Equator? Scores, photos, anecdotes emailed to organiser (me!). Prizes ... just the accolade of fellow enthusiasts, unless a sponsor appeared upon the scene.

Am seeking opinions and suggestions pertaining to above details; please email me by month end at jjmoseley@look.ca

I have suggested that the period could be August 1st 2021 to February 1st 2022. That way those in the Northern climes would have late Summer and Fall - into Winter, and those in Southern climes would have late Winter and Spring - into Summer. Both would get about 2 months of flying weather, maybe more if they were lucky. Those close to the equator probably don't care what time of year it is. What about multiple entries with the same model? How about similar events for other models?

Even if you personally don't have an interest, would you pass this on to as many as you can, in as many far flung parts of the world as you can. Let's see what interest there is - Jim's email address is in the quoted section above. Even if this misses Jim's deadline I'm sure he would appreciate all the input he gets.

Thermals Roy



From the Workbench - John Merrill

I'm still a bit amazed what can be done when you are under Stay At Home Orders. I still maintain I'm a very slow builder, but I've finished up another plane. This one is an older Gallows' kit, the DHC-1 Chipmunk, which took a couple of weeks to complete. Most builders would have had it done in a couple of evenings. I'm not positive, but I think I may have picked it up at one of our Annual Banquet raffles a few years ago or so.

Unfortunately, I built it to match the picture on the box, and with the all gray tissue I don't think it's all that attractive. I had a lot of problems with the included decals, but overall it went together pretty easily with just a few modifications. I had to look up the registration that the decals depict, turns out VT is the registration of India.

I've been informed this week that I return to work in a few weeks, or at least pick up a few more hours, so my building may get even slower. In the meantime, I'll work on figuring out my next project.

So, what's on your workbench?



From the Workbench - Roger Willis

Howdy Squadron... I just finished my MISS WORLDS FAIR. It came out a bit heavy at 39g and will be powered by 4s X 1/8 X 30". The graphics are in RAMOS font that Callie designed for Fernando. CG flights to come at my small park soon.... Many Maxes r



DUAL-CLUBS FREE FLIGHT BONANZA

A National Cup & America's Cup Points Event

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

*

**FRESNO GAS MODEL CLUB 81st ANNUAL – CLASS AA, CATEGORY 2
SPONSOR OF NOSTALGIA, TEXACO & OLD TIME EVENTS**

*** MAY 15th & 16th, 2021 ***
*** LOST HILLS, CA ***

SATURDAY ONLY 7 AM – NOON, 1 - 5 PM LUNCH BREAK W/ ICE CREAM SOCIAL	EITHER DAY MUST FINISH EVENT THE SAME DAY		SUNDAY ONLY 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 aronutd@cs.com)*

**CASH AWARD FOR 1st PLACE with 3 or more
entries. PLACARDS awarded to 1st, 2nd & 3rd place**

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
(858)774-2941
dbartick@4-warddesign.com

FAI: Bill Booth, San Diego Orbiteers
(760) 889 -3201
ffltarch@gmail.com

Nos,OT,: Doss Porter, Fresno GMC
559-251-0787
Steve93612@comcast.net

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 due to lunch break/ice cream social. Fly-offs starts no earlier than 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/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 7:00 – 12:00 AM.*

DAWN P-30

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

DAWN MULVIHILL (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)

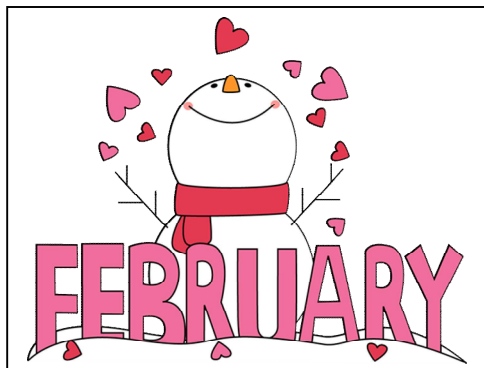
1/2A Texaco: Saturday 7:00-10:00 AM launch window, 8cc fuel; Full Size Texaco: Sunday 7:00-10:00 AM launch window, ¼ oz per pound – max 1.75 oz fuel.

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.

SAN DIEGO ORBITEERS
Howard L. Haupt / Editor
3860 Ecochee Avenue
San Diego, California 92117-4266



WHAT'S HAPPENING - FEBRUARY 2021

Local Events:

SDO will be flying **Sunday February 21ST** Perris CA, 8:00 am to Noon.

Coupe
Glider (Hand Launch, Catapult, Towline)
Power



2 minute max, Glider 90 seconds

See you at Perris CA - - - - - → **February 21ST, 2021.**