

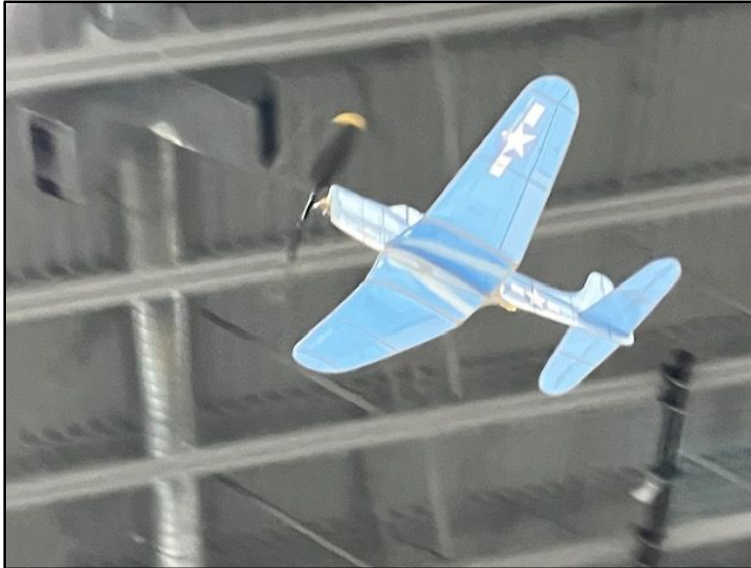


THE MAX-OUT

Newsletter of the Magnificent Mountain Men

AMA CHARTERED CLUB #177

Issue 2023-03
(April)



Slow but deadly? Tom Norell's SBD at the Ceiling Climb

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- UCCS DBF Club P-18 Build
- Projects and New Builds
- Pikes Peak Ceiling Climb
- Round Valley Dome Indoor Contest
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Current Gate Status:

- Gate is to remain closed and locked
- Our mangled lock is being replaced and will have "MMM" engraved on it
- Nick Trainor is working with the SLB on a better locking system

Upcoming Events

May Scramble—21 May, Lowry Field
June Scramble—11 June, Lowry Field
Casino Cup! 16-17 June, Wendover, UT



"Her plane landed on my plane! Can I get a ruling?"

MMM Club Officers and Contact List

President:

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Sec'y / Treasurer and Flying Site Coordinator:

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John McGrath 719-963-9227



The President's Corner

By Pete McQuade

So many things have happened since the last issue of the MaxOut. Where to begin?

First, and most profound of all, was the sudden passing of everyone's friend, Mel Gray on March 6th. Whenever Mel's name is spoken, folks instinctively mention his smile—his signature, his trademark. I guess that's because people with Mel's exuberance, cheerfulness, and good will are all too rare in this world. Anytime you talked with Mel, you came away feeling the day was going to turn out all right. Mel's always-positive influence on the MMM and Free Flight will live on, but he'll be sorely missed.

We lost another good friend in John Read, a co-founder of the Pikes Peak (RC) Soaring Society. John was also PPSS's long-time secretary and newsletter editor. He had a close relationship with the MMM and sometimes held AMA Delta Dart build-and-fly sessions jointly with us, for the benefit of youngsters. His infectious optimism will long be remembered.

On a happier note, the MMM's indoor season came to a memorable climax with a series of events leading up to the highly-successful Pikes Peak Ceiling Climb on April 2. Through the stalwart efforts of Sean McEntee, we were granted access to UCCS's Gallogly Events Center, a magnificent indoor venue. Sean's membership in UCCS's "Design / Build / Fly" (DBF) club provided the connections needed to gain access to Gallogly.

In return, the MMM held a P-18 indoor model building session at UCCS on March 17th. John McGrath provided the kits, and John Christensen, David Aronstein, John McGrath, Sean McEntee, and I coached the students. The engineering students in DBF took to indoor model building like ducks to water.

They'd been spending the past several months designing and building their high-tech R/C model for the DBF National Competition, so they know quite a lot about aeronautics. But the science and techniques of indoor modeling were new and fascinating to them. Several DBF members later came to fly in the Ceiling Climb and proved to be excellent competitors. One of them, Jackson Tuttle, took second place in P18 at the ceiling climb! Turner Denham and Caleb Krantz, also did very well in that event.

Under John McGrath's leadership, the MMM once again ran the "Flight" events for the Colorado State Championships of Science Olympiad. It was held on Saturday, April 1 in the Gallogly Events Center. It was a thoroughly enjoyable and memorable day. Watching the middle school and high school students working on and competing with their models was inspiring, to say the least.

Our Pikes Peak Ceiling Climb was in the same venue the next day, April 2. It was a huge success in a fabulous venue. Congratulations to Don DeLoach and David Aronstein for organizing it, and to all the fliers and volunteers!

We just held our first outdoor event of the year, the April Scramble. You couldn't have asked for better weather (a rare occurrence for April in Colorado). And we had a fabulous turnout—seventeen cars were parked on the hill. The quality of flying was outstanding, and a great day was had by all.

So, despite the sadness of losing two wonderful people, 2023 is off to a great start. Hey, let's go flying! After all, that's what Mel Gray and John Read would want us to do.



Rob Romash, Mel Gray, Chuck Etherington, John McGrath
Manitou Springs, February, 2023
(Frank M. photo)

MMM runs the State Sci Oly Tournament



The Crew—Bernie, Pete, Chuck, Sean. Pete's snapping a shot of an unusual student model while Chuck and Sean get ready to time the next team. Bernie's pondering a ruling about a plane during tech inspection.

The weekend of the 1-2 April was big! Not only did the club run the Flight event for the Colorado State Sci Oly tournament, but the Ceiling Climb took place the very next day, in the very same venue. The venue was the Gallogly Events Center at University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. The big excitement was trying secure the HVAC blowers. After having to summon a Facilities person from off-campus, the blowers were finally shut down about two and a half hours after nominal starting time. Stressful! If that hadn't happened, we'd have had to run the tournament with blowers on, which would have been severely disappointing for many students.

As it was, things worked out well and with the cooperation of all of the teams, we were able to process, time and score all of the competing teams. Two models were permanently lost to the ceiling, despite our having attempted retrievals the next day during Ceiling Climb. Sometimes the ceiling wins! Professor Alan Nolan, the overall Tournament Director, was very happy with how we handled the situation, keeping everyone informed, being judicious in our rulings and keeping the show on the road!

Friends of the club Home School Science won the overall Sci Oly tournament, and so will be moving on to the National Sci Oly tournament in Wichita in late May. Go HSS!



A Sci Oly model (B Div) climbs out!

DBF Club Builds P-18's Pre Ceiling Climb



Jackson and Natalie approach completion of their Sea Stories.

The lash-up is this: By virtue of Sean McEntee's being a member of the UCCS "Design, Build, Fly" club, the club was able to provide "student activity" status to our annual contest, the Pikes Peak Ceiling climb. This had wonderful implications, as it permitted the MMM club to fly in arguably the best current venue in Colorado Springs, and for an excellent price! The DBF club is made up of Mechanical/Aero student engineers nearly to a person, and their main effort is participating in a national competition for a purpose-designed, task oriented R/C model which the club must design, build and fly. As a fortuitous coincidence, our own President Pete McQuade is a former associate of the club's

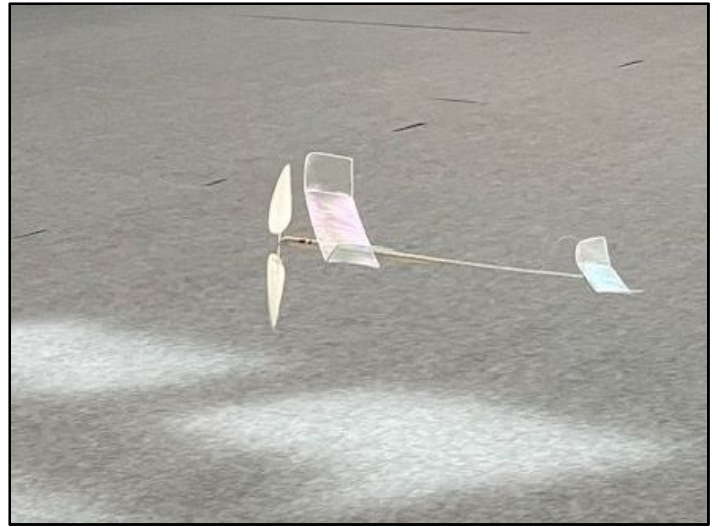
sponsoring faculty member, which made the linkage even better.

Six students participated in a P-18 build two weeks prior to the Ceiling Climb, and to say this build event had a different flavor than the ones we do with Science Olympiad students is a considerable understatement! Right out of the chute, DBF members exhibited an ability to receive coaching, understand the small steps, and to overcome typical challenges that can slow down building. Their understanding of alignment, balance and adjustability was also extremely impressive.

The big disappointment was that they weren't able to test their planes immediately, and we had to strongly insist that they not go down the hall to try them out! ("Into the box they must go, but we'll see you on the 2nd in the Arena.")



Gotta love that focus!



Tom Norell's FIL catches the afternoon light at Gallogly

The Ceiling Climb

By Sean McEntee

This year's installment of the Pike's Peak Ceiling Climb saw the contest move to Gallogly Events Center, located at University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. After about a year of coordinating with the school's chapter of the UAS Design/Build/Fly Club (DBF), the MMM were able to secure a new home. All who attended were excited to fly at the new venue and are eager to return next year.



Back to the fuchsia! Jerry Peltz and Bella D'Ambra launch nearly identical Sci Oly models in a 1-on-1.

Huge thanks are owed to student leaders of the DBF Club—Natalie Dilts and Rebekah Shepherd—for their assistance and sponsorship; without which the contest would not have been possible. Thanks to the efforts of veteran CDs Don Deloach and David Aronstein for organizing another great contest. (Ed.

Note: Sean himself served as assistant to Don for this contest also). Also, thanks goes out to Mark Covington for coming out to help time glider flights early in the morning. Lastly, thanks to all who attended!

Twelve contestants came out and put up an impressive number of flights in a 9-hour period. Some of the highlights included:

- There were several close races this year. Rob Romash and Sean McEntee traded “Ws” in the catapult glider events; both winning by very close margins. Two seconds separated first and third in Phantom Flash. Second highest score broke the tie for second.



The All-DBF Club P-18 mini-mass launch

- Three of the DBF Club members, Jackson Tuttle, Turner Denham, and Caleb Krantz, attended and competed with P-18 models that they build during the DBF building session in weeks prior, and had a great time. Jackson flew to an impressive second place in P-18 and the mass launch. Jackson and Turner are very competent RC flyers and serve as the DBF club pilots. True modelers love modeling in any form!
- Don DeLoach put on a MasterClass on pole-steering a pennyplane. Very informative and entertaining.
- John Christensen flew an immaculate Lacey M-10 in Peanut Scale. John reports that updates to the kit version include fewer ribs; thinner stab and rudder and a more accurately shaped nose. It flew as well as it looked!
- Flyers from the previous day’s Science Olympiad event flew with us as guests.

- Don DeLoach “brought home the gold” and is the 2023 “Colorado Cup” Grand Champion.

We anticipate holding the 2024 Pike’s Peak Ceiling Climb around the same time next year: around the first week of April. Mark your calendar!

AMA HLG

Sean McEntee	32.6+31.8	64.4
Don DeLoach	25.7+21.2	46.9

Standard Catapult Glider

Rob Romash	25.5+24.9	50.4
Sean McEntee	25.5+24.8	50.3
Don DeLoach	22.1+18.7	40.8

Unlimited Catapult Glider

Sean McEntee	36.1+36.2	72.3
Rob Romash	36.0+35.8	71.8

Tiny Glider

Tom Norell (2.18”)	10.7+ 8.1	15.4
J. Christensen (3.19”)	17.5+16.6	11.6
Rob Romash (3.82”)	9.6+9.7	6.1

Jet Catapult Scale

Tom Norell	Heinkel	14.7+14.7	29.4
Don DeLoach	Heinkel	9.9+10.2	21.1
Sean McEntee	F-4	4.4+3.1	7.5

Phantom Flash 5g

Don DeLoach	1:44
Tom Norell	1:42
Sean McEntee	1:42
Chuck Etherington	1:32
John Christensen	1:30

WWII No-Cal Mass Launch (2 rounds)

Don DeLoach	Spitfire XII	1st
Sean McEntee	F4F	2nd
Tom Norell	SBD	3rd

FAC No-Cal Scale

Tom Norell	Cessna	5:35
Don DeLoach	Spit 12	4:07
Sean McEntee	Wildcat	2:15

Limited Pennyplane

Don DeLoach	6:47
John McGrath	5:03
Bernie Olson	4:56
Ryan Peters	4:44

FAC Peanut Scale

Don DeLoach	Fike E	135.0
J. Christensen	Lacey M-10	108.5
Rob Romash		93.0

F1L
 Rob Romash 7:24
 Tom Norell 7:01

Easy B
 Rob Romash 7:19

A-6
 Tom Norell 4:36
 Rob Romash 4:26

P-18
 Don DeLoach 2:41
 Jackson Tuttle 2:11
 Chuck Etherington 1:59
 John Christensen 1:55
 John McGrath 1:54
 Turner Denhem 1:52
 Caleb Krantz 0:53
 Sean McEntee 0:22

P-18 Mass Launch
 Don DeLoach Winner
 Jackson Tuttle 2nd
 John McGrath 3rd
 Chuck Etherington
 John Christensen
 Turner Denham
 Caleb Krantz
 Sean McEntee

Ministick
 Rob Romash 3:03

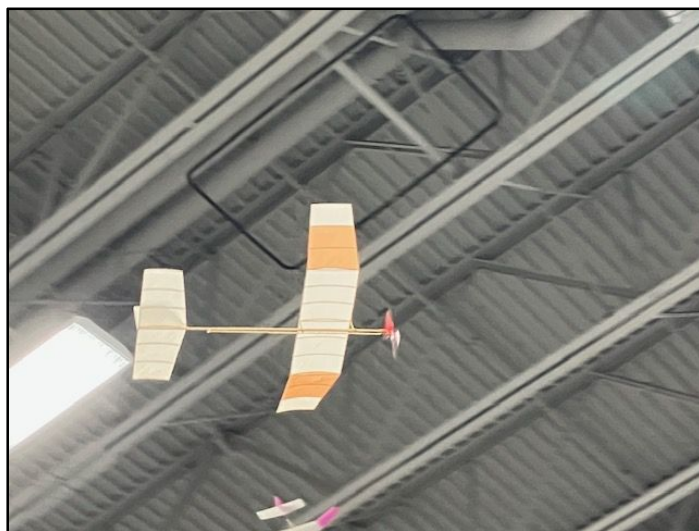
P-24 Mass Launch
 Tom Norell winner
 Chuck Etherington 2nd
 John Christensen 3rd

Phantom Flash 5g Mass Launch (2 rounds)
 John Christensen winner
 Don DeLoach 2nd
 Chuck Etherington 3rd
 Sean McEntee
 Rob Romash

Bostonian
 John Christensen :44

Dime Scale
 Tom Norell Martin MO-1 250
 Don DeLoach Martin MO-1 147
 Rob Romash Maboussin 35

Grand Champion "Colorado Cup"
 Don DeLoach 20 pts
 Tom Norell 16
 Rob Romash 14
 John Christensen 9
 Sean McEntee 7



P-24 Overcast!



Ryan Peters launches his Contender. Rob Romash helped Ryan get that starboard wing to stay flat.

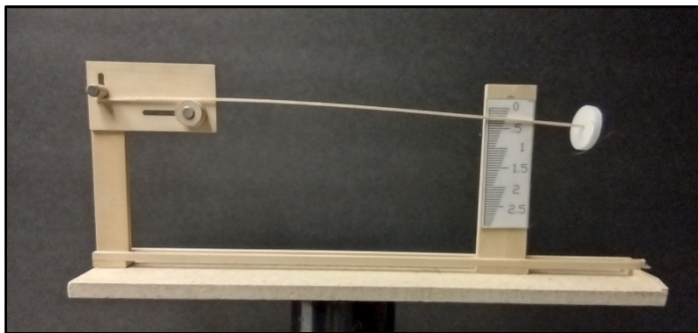


Don DeLoach—Grand Champ!



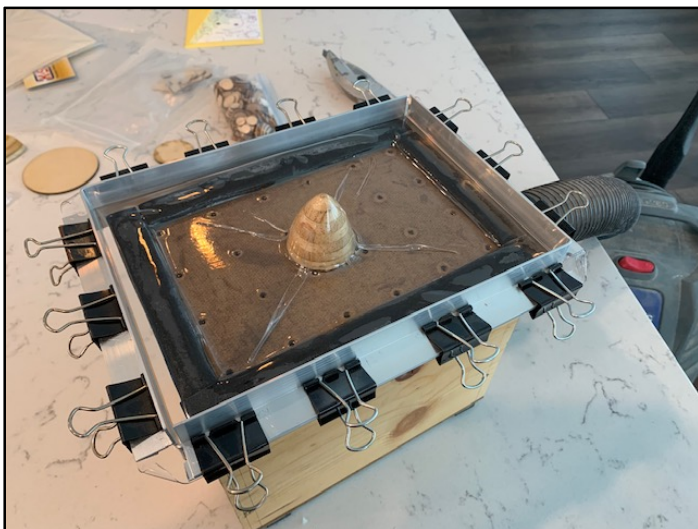
The P-18 Mass Launch lineup. Back Row: Jackson Tuttle, Chuck Etherington, John McGrath, Sean McEntee. Front row: Caleb Krantz, John Christensen, Turner Denham, Don DeLoach

New Builds and Projects



John Christensen's Stiffness Tester

Very interesting! Looks as if John's testing an indoor piece of 1/8 x 1/16?? By capturing the stick in the adjustable mount, then hanging a weight on the end, deflection is easily measured. Excellent tool, John!



Frank's F1G Blades



Frank passed his new Coupe front end around at the Scramble, and his workmanship is superb—right down to the faux carbon fiber stiffeners! Blades are molded using two layers of 1/16th wood. Can't wait to see it in the air, Frank!

Bernie's Chambermaid



From Bernie: "Here are a couple photos of my Chambermaid Greve racer. It was built from a Hummingbird kit.

I attempted vacuum forming the canopy and spinner. (See photo at left) The Canopy came out okay but after three attempts the spinner just wouldn't pull

cleanly without wrinkles. Think my shop vac wasn't a strong enough vacuum source to pull the plastic tightly around the spinner. Used one of the vacuum-formed spinners as a mold to lay up a fiberglass spinner. The first ply to go down was the plane's yellow tissue paper followed by 1 ½ oz glass. That worked nicely giving the spinner the matching color.

Boy, you builders who have tissue figured out have my respect. I got it down on this model but it's rough. Lot's more to learn!"

Sean's Motorcycle Cockpit



How cool is this! GPS tracker to the left, GPS-linked cell phone to the right, both mounted in brackets on Sean's Yamaha. Just follow the arrow until you run right over the plane ☺. Sean also says he's got a fantastic charging system for his electronics—deployment and daughter tested. Details next issue.

Round Valley Dome Contest

By Rick Pangell and Jerry Murphy

Rick's Take: "It was a Dark and Stormy Night" ... We checked into the Howard Johnson's and there was no sign of John Wayne memorabilia anywhere. New branding took away any of that, but we stayed anyway.

And actually the weather was beautiful. The temperature was a cool shirt sleeve and it was dead flat. The Dome also has that quality.

Murph and I got to the Dome on Friday to unload all of our modeling paraphernalia in anticipation of really taking the contest by storm on Saturday and Sunday, with the kid's build on Monday.

Saturday was a bust for me. I had two new indoor CATs, one of them being a 12" P59 Aerocomet similar to my performing outdoor one. I built the P59 two days before we left from Manitou. Well... I got the "real" indoor CAT trimmed and when I put in my first official both wings ripped off. Going to my backup older model was just as successful... aarrgghh... Murph had his grooved in but just couldn't get it to peak out and his times were about 75% of the best. BUT..! My JetCat flew better than my AMA Std and Unlimited Cat. I think I was high time in JetCat with it and I used it to complete my unlimited CAT flights.

The rest of us stood back and watched George Morris take the show along with Mike Fedor and Hamish Christie. Why is it that when those guys show up all of their models are at their best? Both Murph and I brought the same models we flew last year... of course we hadn't taken them out of the boxes since then but hey, why wouldn't they still fly?



Lessee...Plenty of room...

Both Murph and I had similar flying results... neither of us could get decent flight times. Murph did rather well in Phantom Flash with one of those new 3D printed props. Those may be game changers over the black ones. I had the rubber fall off on my NoCal about halfway through the flight at about 60' and my wing popped off my towline which broke both the front and rear posts.

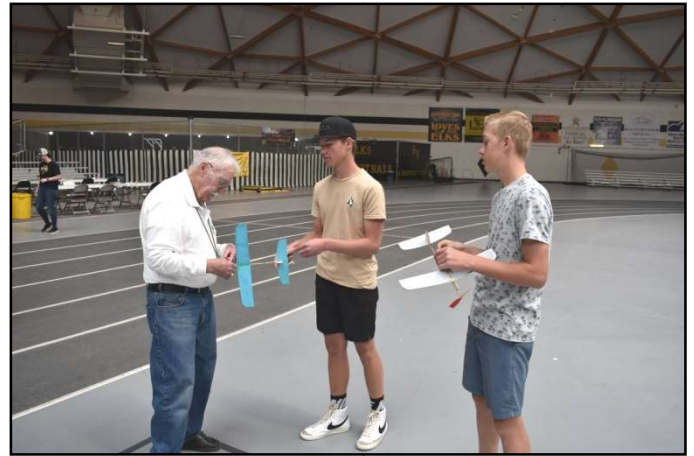


More Glue, More Glue...

The contest attendance was sadly low but it was a great time just being able to fly at such a great venue and seeing old friends.

The kid's build on Monday was again a lot of fun. The kids really get into it and Tom Gaylor, the contest CD, did an excellent job at setting it up. John McGrath's Mountain Lions are easy to build and success was the name of the game for all of the kids... along with the teacher who did quite well too.

The mass launch is fun to watch, with all of the kids cheering and clapping.



Papa Murphy



"How many cranks can you put in, Mr. Pangell?"



The little guy at the far end took 2nd ...!



3-2-1-Launch..!

I look forward to this event every year. More MMMr's should attend!

Round Valley Dome Contest—Murph’s take:

Rick and I loaded the trusty old Odyssey Van and headed south with high expectations for another wonderful time flying in this site. When we arrived, we were greeted with the big change in the Dome. New LED lights have been installed! With the new lights it may be possible to fly in the evening. No longer will portable lights be required. The new lights are great but the airplane eating speaker was still in play. It manages to capture one model this year.

As usual, Tom Gaylor had everything under control and the contest ran smoothly. On the down side, participation was disappointingly low. There were only 10 contestants. The biggest disappointment was we had nobody from the Albuquerque area. Mike Fedor won the long-distance traveler award while Rick and I were tied for second place.

The low numbers didn’t affect Tom, and he kept a positive outlook and ran the contest smoothly. We had a race to see who could make the most flights between Mike Fedor and George Morris. Every time you looked up one of the fellows was looking for a timer.

The usual trusty scorekeeper, Bruce Grawburg, was out of town for a family reunion, so Rich Adams stepped up to fill in. Well, things were going well until Murphy’s Law came in to play. Whenever Rich tried to enter my Phantom Flash score the screen went blank. As you might suspect, this was the source of lots of advice flowing to Rich.

Another story was Rick’s ability to recover from bad situations. In this case Rick was winding his Phantom Flash when his winding stooge came loose from the tale and mangled its left wing. I had a photo of the damage but the computer ate it. Back to the story. Rick set down with a roll of tape and some CA and restored the model to flying condition. He didn’t win but did manage to get official flights logged.

Another Rick story. His Limited CAT was flying good so he went for an official flight. He pulled back for an attempt to reach the top of the dome. Upon release the wing disintegrated. Well, he couldn’t let a little thing like a totally trashed model hold him back, so he flew his Jet Cat in Limited Cat and placed third with it.

The Monday build and fly session for the Middle School students was a great success. I am happy to report that we managed to get all the models

built in under an hour and we had 100% successful flying models.

This event is a major element in PMAC being able to secure the use of the Dome. If you want to see some photos check out the PMAC newsletter. My new cell phone is giving me a hard time saving photos that I can insert in to this report. Something about AI. Again, Tom did a great job running this contest.

Thermals, yes, we did enjoy several thermal assisted flights!

April Scramble Report April 30, 2023 Contest Report By Rick Pangell, CD

To kick the day off , I emailed the IO group with “It’s a beautiful Day in the Neighborhood.’ I couldn’t have told it any better for our kick-off Scramble for the 2023 outdoor season... great thermals and very little drift. I counted 17 cars in the lineup which shows that the eagerness was there. Surprisingly, only a few official flights were put up. Most of the crowd was flying for fun or trimming just to get the bugs out.



What is this, the 14-Rounder? Look at all those cars!

A lot of excitement in the air. Getting to the field we were greeted by Nick Trainor, the rancher, with a lot of concern with the gate. Apparently some uninvited folks had gotten onto the field and busted a lock and the fence on the south entrance. Knowing security is a very important part of our lease, Nick asked us to make sure the gate was locked at all times. That rule has been sorta overlooked with the number

of lessees that use the field. We of course complied, and our damaged lock will be replaced.



Len Sanders had some great flights with his Ramrod.

We had a couple of guests on the field new to free flight, Todd Hunter and Jay Straer. MMM hospitality was in full force and they had a great time watching and feeling the thrill of model flying. We hope to see more of them in the future.

After texting and showing us many well-built models on emails, Bernie Olson came loaded to fly. Since many of the models were untested he took his time. Standing with the “Oh shucks” routine he put up a Jet Cat flight with his Canberra and it flew! We thought he was sandbagging but he wasn’t, and I think he was as surprised as we were that it flew so well! It was good to see Bill Ledden again too.

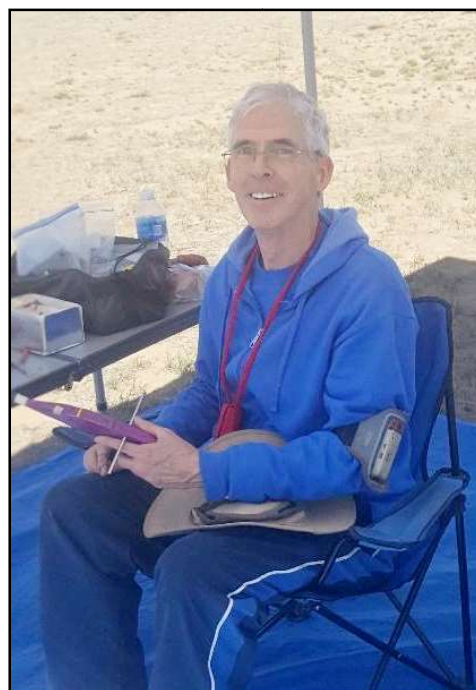
Starting the day off was the usual gaggle of gliders and then Frank hauled out his electrics to give me a scare. I then pulled out my E36 which I had put in my model box after Eloy and the system was not working, at least the motor wouldn’t turn. Perplexed, I put it back in the car and pulled out my reliable JetCat P-59 which I proceeded to re-kit in the bed of Chuck’s truck. Frank put up some great electric flights to start the flying.

Peter had his usual good looking F1A’s. Don put up a maxout in Hand Launch with Sean McEntee and Mark Covington on his heels.



Bernie’s first Scramble—Nailing it with his Canberra Jet Cat.

John McGrath flew his Stick Figure P-30 to some good flights. One I timed skied out and DT’d pretty high up. It took nearly two minutes to come down. P-30’s are pretty light and his stab pop up was probably a bit under elevated on DT. It flew rather nicely DT’d too!



President Pete tunes his F1A

Rob Romash appeared with plenty of advice and he lost a fly along paper glider with an OOS flight... it was kind of one of those no-fail days. Another good visitor was Herb Kothe. We hadn't seen Herb on the field for a few contests, and it was good having him back even if for simply visiting.

Tallying up the scores Don and I were tied with 109 each in JetCat so we had a last to the ground flyoff. Don managed to hit some lift to win. Getting to the Scramble results, Don's max-out in Hand Launch won the Scramble but the next places were separated by only a few points in the factored score.



Chuck monitoring flight ops.



Frank working his great-looking P-30.



John M. about to launch his Coupe—right into a crash!



**Don wins the April 2023 Scramble
(and has the sticker to prove it!)**

MMM MONTHLY SCRAMBLE									
							Best Factored Score =		3.75
	DATE	EVENT	ENTRANT	CLASS	# MAXES	MAX TIME	SCRAMBLE TIME	FACTORED SCORE	SCRAMBLE POINTS
1	4/30/23	2 Min	John McGrath	P-30	1	120	301	2.51	67
2	4/30/23	2 Min	Frank Menanno	A-Elect	2	120	323	2.69	72
3	4/30/23	SG	Don DeLoach	HLG	3	120	450	3.75	100
4	4/30/23	SG	Frank Menanno	CLG	3	90	315	3.50	93
5	4/30/23	2 Min	Frank Menanno	E-36	2	120	302	2.52	67
6	4/30/23	3 Min	Pete McQuade	F1A	2	180	484	2.69	72
7	4/30/23	3 Min	Jon McGrath	Mulvihill	1	180	210	1.17	31
22	4/30/23	2 Min	John McGrath	Coupe	1	120	120	1.00	27
23	4/30/23	2 Min	Frank Menanno	P-30	0	120	173	1.44	38
35	4/30/23	SG	Sean McEntee	HLG	0	120	64	0.53	17
36	4/30/23	SG	Don DeLoach	CLG	0	90	73	0.81	22

April's Scoring (above)
Graphic by Rick

For those new to our Scramble, the simple version of scoring goes like this: Each class of airplane is flown to its standard, AMA or FAI base Max time. P-30 is a two-minute event, for instance, while F1A is a three-minute event. "Factored Score" is the total number of seconds flown, divided by that airplane's max time.

The above graphic doesn't quite tell the whole story. Using Frank Menanno's E-36 series as an example, Frank flew a 120 (a Max!), 120 (another one), and a 62, for a total of 302 seconds. 302 divided by the E-36 Max time of 120 seconds gets a "Factored Score" of 2.52. In other words, Frank flew 2.52 maxes.

Often a win is three maxes, unless more than one person "maxes out," in which case additional flights are flown. On poor-lift days, fewer than three maxes can win the event. Winner Don, for instance, flew three maxes in Hand Launch Glider, but so did Frank with his Cat Launch Glider. Therefore they both flew an additional flight, lest there be a tie. Don's Factored Score was 3.75, while Frank's was 3.50.

For the purpose of overall season results, the winner is awarded 100 points, and others are awarded proportionally fewer.

The big prize for winning a Scramble? A sticker!
 --Ed.



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Use this form and send it in regardless of how you pay

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- *Simply Log in to paypal.com (or create your own 'PAYPAL' account if you want)*
- *Click on "Send Money" in the upper menu bar*
- *In the "To" block, type in mmmffclub@gmail.com, the amount, and click the button "Services"*
- *In the next form where you confirm payment, in the Lower "Subject" and "Message" boxes state what the money is for... annual dues, entry fees and such.*
- *When pre-entering a contest that needs event selection or similar, you still need to send in the pre-registration form to the Contest Directors*

Note, Paypal does charge a fee for this service so if you do use paypal maybe add an extra buck to help us out

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TOGETHER MTG!
Every Second Thursday at 7:00 PM,
Dinner at the Castle Cafe in Castle
Rock. Check with the Groups.io
webgroup for info.