

# SKY-SCRAPERS

BKLYN  
NY

# SKYLINES

David Acton, President / Bob Geyer, Vice President / Alan Abriss, Secretary

Issue 2, Spring 2006

## Presidents Corner

Greetings, the fifty second annual King Orange International has come and gone and the 2006 season is rapidly approaching. Speaking of the KOI, the club was represented by 9 members (check the web site for names and photos), once again proving the Skyscrapers to be "The most active club in the east."

The contest schedule is complete and all sanctions have been filed. Some additions have been made to the events to include F1Q (FAI electric), AMA Payload (.020 size) and old time ignition (pylon/cabin combined). F1Q will be flown with F1C only with 5 rounds and a 2 \_ min. max. Payload will be flown according to AMA rules for cat. III. 13 sec. motor run, ROG, 2 min max. (Take off boards will be provided.) The Spitball One Design event will be held at all 3 major contests with ROW a possibility.

This will be the busiest contest season ever, with 3 Skyscraper contests, the temporarily transplanted EFFC contest June 10-11, and the Wilbur and Orville contest with dates to be announced. (possibly in August) Record trials held every second Sat.of the month except June.

Good weather has been ordered and I look forward to seeing a lot of participation from young and old alike.

Dave Acton President

## Skyscrapers 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual

Mal MacLean sent me the following from a 1940 issue of Air Trails....

One of the largest gas model meets to be held recently in the Eastern part of the country was the Second Annual Skyscrapers Model Meet at Creedmoor, L.I. on September 22nd 1940.

The day was clear, but a twenty-mile-an-hour wind kept flying times down considerably, none of the contestants establishing new records. Top prize winner of the day was Frank Mesa, of the Manhattan Airscrews, who turned in the high single flight of the day--7:05 and the high average of 9:37 with his Class C original design.. His ship was powered with a Brown motor. The performance won Frank the International Balsa Trophy, for the high flight, and the Skyscraper Trophy for first in Class C, a Super-cyclone motor and a kit.

Class B flight times, were the lowest in the meet. Ernest Roff, of the Gas Monkeys, took first in the class with a nice average, of 2:36 and a high flight of 6:50. His plane, powered by a Torpedo motor, was an H & F. Bee. In Class A, Fran McElwee, of the Linden Model Aero Club, was first with an average of 2:41.7 and high single flight of 5:27. In keeping with the rest of the first six winners, Fran used a Bantam motor. Miss Wilma Clemens, of Brooklyn won the Ladies Trophy, flying a Bantam-powered Bay Ridge Mike to ninth place in Class A. Her ship averaged 1:19.4 with a high flight of 1:40.

New York Police estimated that, at the height of the meet nearly 10,000 people were in attendance. All timing, checking, policing and general supervision duties were handled very capably by the Skyscrapers.

## Skyscrapers @ KOI

This year's King Orange provided all who attended three days of picture perfect weather and flying conditions. Thursday was very breezy with temperature in the 70's. Chases were long but most models stayed on the field.

Friday's Dawn event was flown as soon as the sun came out, about 10:30 AM once the fog burned off. Wind was light and the temperature was in the mid 70's. Wind was from the West all day until about 4:30, when it did a 180 oWen us and was blowing from the East. Those of us still flying had to move the flight line to keep the models on the field.

Saturday was almost a carbon copy of Friday. You gotta love being able to wear shorts and a t-shirt on New Years Day eve.

The following are the results of the Skyscrapers that flew.

Vic Nippert, seems Vic flew every event on the contest schedule. The list below shows the event and how he placed.

FAC Rubber Scale	1 <sup>st</sup>
FAC Power Scale	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Rocket	1 <sup>st</sup>
Electric A/B	1 <sup>st</sup>
CO2	1 <sup>st</sup>
FAC Modern	3 <sup>rd</sup>
FAC Jet Catapult Scale	1 <sup>st</sup>
FAC Grave/Thompson Trophy	3 <sup>rd</sup>
FAC No Cal Scale	1 <sup>st</sup>
FAC OT Rubber Stick	2 <sup>nd</sup>

Wow, I'm tired just writing the results, and these are only the events he placed in! The remaining club members placed as follows.

Brian Pacelli,	HL Glider Jr.- 1 <sup>st</sup> F1P- 1 <sup>st</sup>
Marian Whitney	HL Glider Jr.- 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1/2A Nos Gas Jr.- 1 <sup>st</sup> 1/2A Gas Jr.- 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1/2A Classic Jr.- 2 <sup>nd</sup> Early 1/2A Nos. Gas- 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Jean Paillet	F1H- 2 <sup>nd</sup> F1J- 3 <sup>rd</sup> Open Glider- 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1/2A Gas S/O- 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Alan Abriss	OT .020 Replica- 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1/2A Nos. Gas- 2 <sup>nd</sup>

Dave Acton

1/4A Nos. Gas- 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Payload- 2<sup>nd</sup>

Jim Bocckinfuso

Classic C-D Gas 3<sup>rd</sup>  
1/2A Classic S/O- 1<sup>st</sup>  
OT A Gas Pylon- 1<sup>st</sup>

Larry Davidson

B Nos. Gas- 2<sup>nd</sup>  
C Nos. Gas- 2<sup>nd</sup>

Vic Nippert should be looking out for Marian Whitney in his rear view mirror for the amount of events flown.

The results above were stolen from the Florida Modelers Association's newsletter.

## The Skyscrapers at 70

In 1936, the Brooklyn Sky-Scrapers was founded.

In 1961, to celebrate its 25th anniversary, a group of at least eight Skyscrapers gathered in Bill Dunwoody's shop to build a full-size replica of Sal Taibi's Powerhouse. Strip wood was ripped out of a 2 by 4, by the way, and the basic job was done over a single weekend. The model was suitably decorated with aluminum foil cutouts (it was the silver anniversary, after all) and appropriate tissue lettering was applied, a shown on page 1 of the club's website ([brooklynscrapers.org](http://brooklynscrapers.org)). Club members autographed the stabilizer and a piece of yellow silkspan was mailed to Sal for his autograph, which was doped to the stab.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary, the Skyscrapers invented the F1J small power event, pushed the USA delegation to the annual CIAM meeting (the FAI's aeromodeling branch) to sponsor it — it wasn't a very hard push, by the way. The FFTC (Free Flight Technical Committee) saw fit to slightly modify the proposed rules and the CIAM voted to accept the new class and it is now a world-wide event. Also, of course, it spurred the development of new 1/2A and .061 engines world-wide.

Which brings us to this celebration of our 70th anniversary. First event of the celebratory year was the Skyscrapers Reunion on April 1 — a gala gathering in White Plains, NY, attended by 98 Skyscrapers and their friends, ranging in age from toddlers (Barron offspring) to several octogenarians (three of whom were charter members of the club). Attendees came from as far as Florida, Texas and California.

A number of models were on display throughout the affair, including a miniature Shulman Skyscraper

powered by a Cox .020 (the club was named after the original in 1936) and four SpitBalls (the Early Nostalgia 1/2 A for which one-design events will be held at three major Skyscraper meets in 2006). Also running throughout the gathering was a movie of Skyscraper footage put together by Al Abriss from ancient 8-mm film and subsequent films and videotapes.

Door prizes galore were handed out to everyone: Stopwatches for the flyers, wristwatches for the ladies, and two NFFS memberships (donated by Walt Rozelle, editor of the *NFFS Digest*). The memberships were awarded to Dennis Phelan and junior flyer Marian Whitney.

Following an excellent repast, it was time for speeches and awards with skyscraper president Dave Acton acting as master of ceremonies. He was also recipient of the first award given: The AMA President's Award, which was presented to the Skyscrapers by District II vice president Dave Mathewson standing in for Dave Brown, who could not attend.

Acton took back the microphone and presented the club's highest award, the Modeler of the Year trophy, jointly to Sal Taibi and Leon Shulman along with life memberships in the Skyscrapers. The Youth Achievement Award went to 11-year-old Brian Pacelli. Brian will be flying F1P on the US Team going to Europe this summer for the Junior World Championships.

Bob Hatschek then took the floor to tell the tale of the creation of the Skyscrapers Royal Order of the Purple Shaft. He concluded by giving a miniature of this trophy to Bill Dunwoody, for whom it was created in 1957. Dunwoody then presented the award to Jim Bocckinfuso for disasters overcoming him in 2005.

The Skyscrapers will continue to celebrate throughout their 70th year with three major competitions at Bryton Barron Memorial Field in Wawayanda, NY: the Skyscrapers International Challenge (May 27-28); the Skyscrapers 70th Fall

Contest (Oct. 21-22). These meets will all feature a special one-design event for Skyscraper Bob Hatschek's 1951 SpitBall 1/2A (see Frank Zaic's *1951-52 Model Aeronautic Yearbook*, page 119 and *NFFS Digest*, Mar. 2006, page 9). The events will be run

according to NFFS Nostalgia rules and it is hoped that at least one of them will be ROW.

Other meets scheduled for Barron Field in 2006 will be the Eastern US FF Championships (June 10-11) relocated because of unavailability of its usual Maryland site and the Wilbur & Orville Contest (August date TBA).

## Work Detail Report

April 29 was the rescheduled work day at Barron Field. Nine members were present and ready to work. New, wider bridges were built for some of the deeper canals. Other bridges were replaced as required. A new "bullet proof" lock is installed on the shed to eliminate vandalism problems. (I hope) Those "frequent flyers" who want keys should call me 914-393-7491.

The club golf cart is back in service and ready for another season. If you plan on using the cart, please bring gas, even a gallon helps (87 octane).

Most of the sod fields have been re-seeded and should be ready for the end of the month contest. We have a busy contest season, and are hoping for good weather and good turn-out.

If you have any questions, please call or email me at [davidptacton@hotmail.com](mailto:davidptacton@hotmail.com)

## Classified Ads

We are going to try something new here. Classified ads. If you have stuff your not using, sell it here. This will be a free service for all club members. There will be some guidelines. All ad copy must be sent via email to me at this address [a.abriss@verizon.net](mailto:a.abriss@verizon.net). The reason for this submission method is to minimize my typing, all I'll have to do is cut and paste. All negotiations will be between the buyer and the seller, this newsletter and it's staff takes no responsibility for any of the listings posted here.

Bob Langelius's repro McCoy .049 diesel has been approved by NFFS as a nostalgia legal engine.

Bob reports that the new version handles well and has a fitted contra piston rather than that annoying "O" ring which was prone to blowing out. This engine would be an excellent choice for Nostalgia payload (.049 size) which will be flown at the NATS this year. Both the

McCoy .049 diesel and the K&B Infant (.020) are ready to ship.

Prices are \$80.00 ea. with \$5.00 shipping and handling.  
Contact Bob Langelius 32 Clinton Street, White Plains,  
NY 10603



**Sal Taibi at Barron Field**

## The Mother of all Swap Meets

**Our Third Annual Event  
Sponsored by TTOMA and NFFS  
at the NATS Event HQ  
July 31st, 2006 5PM UNTIL DARK  
VENDORS WELCOME**

### Please join us and our friends

We will gather under the big tents behind the farmhouse for an evening of socializing and trading. One man's junk is another man's treasure and the free flight community has plenty of both. We expect space to fill quickly, so SIGN UP EARLY and get your table reserved under the big tents. Send your check to Don Brown at the address below. We encourage everyone to bring folding chairs, tables and canopies if tailgating.

Coordinated by the Thermal Thumpers of Metro Atlanta.  
David Mills, event coordinator.  
For info <[davidmillsatl@comcast.net](mailto:davidmillsatl@comcast.net)>

\$5 for a full table or tailgating

All proceeds go to the NFFS Scholarship Fund, so add a "0" to your fee and do something extra for the kids.

Make checks payable to NFFS; send to Don Brown  
<[donkay@mindspring.com](mailto:donkay@mindspring.com)> 477 Safari Circle,  
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

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### First Class Mail

