

MORE FEBRUARY MEETING



Bill Vanderbeek shows one of Fred Emmert's models and a modification to a McCoy 19.



Ed Solenberger



John Carlson



Nick Kelez

MARCH MEETING



Good turnout for the March meeting of SAM 27.





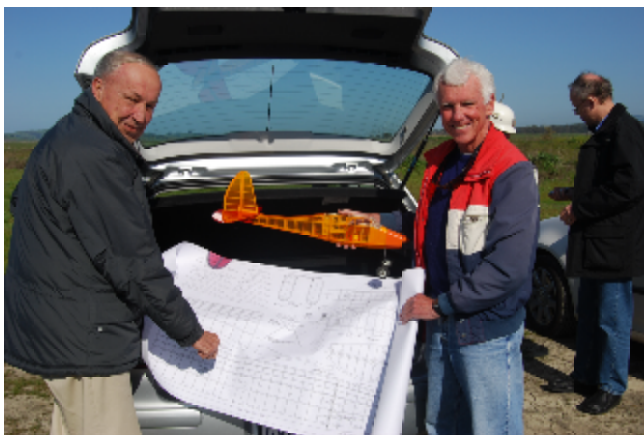
Nick Kelez's slick electric Airborn shown at the March 2008 meeting.



RUBBER RULES IN MARCH AT TOFFF



MARCH TOFF FLYING





CHRISTMAS IN JUNE!

It may be June, but these scenes from the December Christmas party deserve this belated presentation. A large crowd of SAM27ers kicked off the holiday season with this delightful gathering - plan ahead for this year.



MORE CHRISTMAS PARTY





AIRTRONICS 2.4 GHz - A REVIEW

By Ed Hamler, SAM 27

Earlier this spring my friend, **Jack Albrecht**, who is a technical adviser for Airtronics, provided me with one of their new 2.4 GHz outfits in order to test its suitability for flying SAM Old Timer models with spark ignition.

The equipment provided was the RDS 8000 2.4 GHz FHSS transmitter and a 92824 Spread Spectrum 8 channel receiver. The model selected for the test was my class B Ignition 510 sq.in. Playboy Cabin powered by a replica Torpedo 29 by Ed Shilen. The spark ignition system has a typical single transistor trigger, a Modelectric coil, and a 3 cell NiMH 500 mAh battery pack. The high tension lead has a 10K resistor at the spark plug.

This particular model was chosen for several reasons: interference from spark RF had been a problem originally due to a cabin with very little separation between radio and ignition components. Changing from FM to an Airtronics 92965 PCM receiver had solved that earlier problem and we wanted to see if the same would be true with 2.4 GHz. In addition, with typical Playboy stability, the model should survive minor glitches in flight.

For the test, one of the receiver's two antennas was inserted into a tube running longitudinally down the fuselage and the other was positioned vertically beside the ignition battery pack at the firewall and stabilized with foam rubber in order to maintain the recommended 90° orientation angle between the two antennas.

A ground range check with low transmitter power indicated excellent control response up to 150 feet with engine running at high speed. The flight test was equally successful. The climb was smooth and steady and a good thermal afterwards took the model to speck altitude and an easy max.

The system's advantages are impressive: no waiting for channel pins, only one transmitter for multiple models, small-light receivers, and no spark interference. I have now purchased extra Airtronics receivers from HobbyPeople.net and all of my models for the upcoming SAM EuroChamps will be so equipped. My one criticism applies to most new RC transmitters - digital trim controls. For SAM competition, analog trims are easier to use when you cannot afford to take your eyes away from the model in order to glance at your trim positions.

The control functions of the RDS 8000 were easy for me to program. It employs the same intuitive menu as the earlier RD 6000 model which I still use for sport flying biplanes and seaplanes. The RDS 8000 has eight channels, ten model capacity, and complete functions for aeroplanes, sailplanes, and helicopters.

Editor's Note: Similar tests by SAM 26 members using the Futaba 2.4 GHz FAST system have proven successful - models which had significant ignition interference problems were switched to 2.4GHz receivers and proved to be interference free.

SCREEN THAT SUN!

OT modelers spend a lot of time in the sun - even though most of us wear some sort of headgear while flying, the exposure to the summer sun can be dangerous.

Unfortunately, the best of the sun screens is not easily available to Americans. The French company La Roche-Posay (L'Oreal) has a patent on the best sun screen in the world and one that is the preferred sun screen in just about every country but here. The chemical, terephthalylidene dicampher sulfonic acid, is known by its brand name, Mexoryl SX. I have been using a creme called **Anthelios L** which has a SPF rating of 60 - it goes on easily, is invisible and long lasting - and it **works**. It has 3.3% Mexoryl which is about the maximum allowed. Anthelios L is so much better than anything else that I couldn't imagine using any other sunscreen. I don't know the present status of product approval in the USA; I've been buying it from Canada for the past ten years. Somewhat more expensive than the common American brands, Anthelios L 60 SPF costs about \$21 for a 100 ml tube but it lasts much longer because it is thin.

Go to Google and check it out. You can order the product from West Coast Skin, 1-800-501-6432.



MYSTERY ENGINE



Check out those twin intakes and two needle valves. I got this pic off of eBay - is it for real? I think it may be a Pierce with a two-speed timer. Isn't that a nifty engine mount? It's a mystery to me - how about you? Sampson?



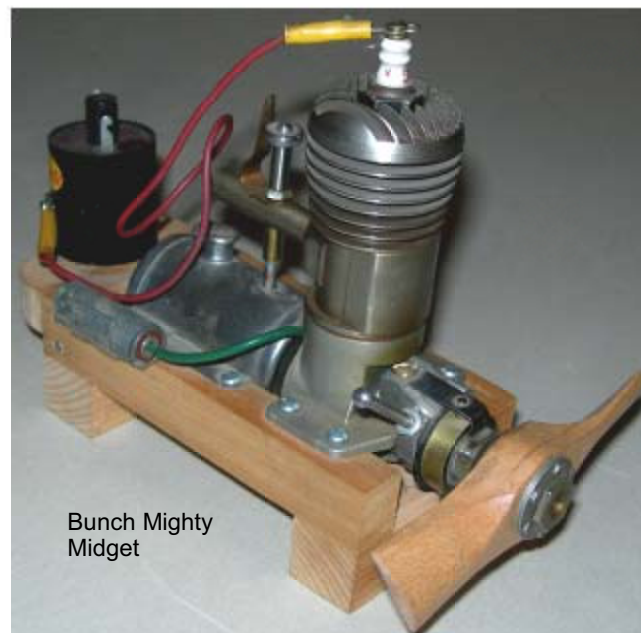
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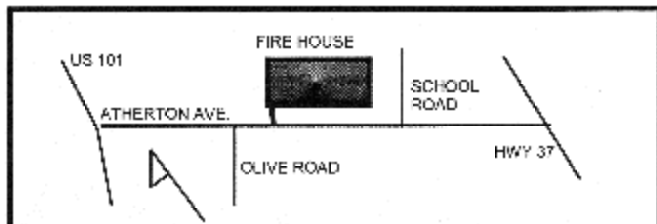
MORE CHRISTMAS PARTY



A WORK OF ART



Bunch Mighty Midget



**MEETINGS: THE THIRD WEDNESDAY
EACH MONTH, 7:30 P.M. AT THE NOVATO
FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINING ROOM**

MEMBERSHIP

Membership dues for **2008** are based on the class of membership, the **Full** membership includes flying privileges at Lakeville and voting rights for only **\$25**. **Associate** membership includes the newsletter and meetings for only **\$15**. **DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE**. Full membership requires proof of current AMA membership - send copy with dues payment. Associate members cannot fly at Lakeville. Send dues to the **Treasurer** above.