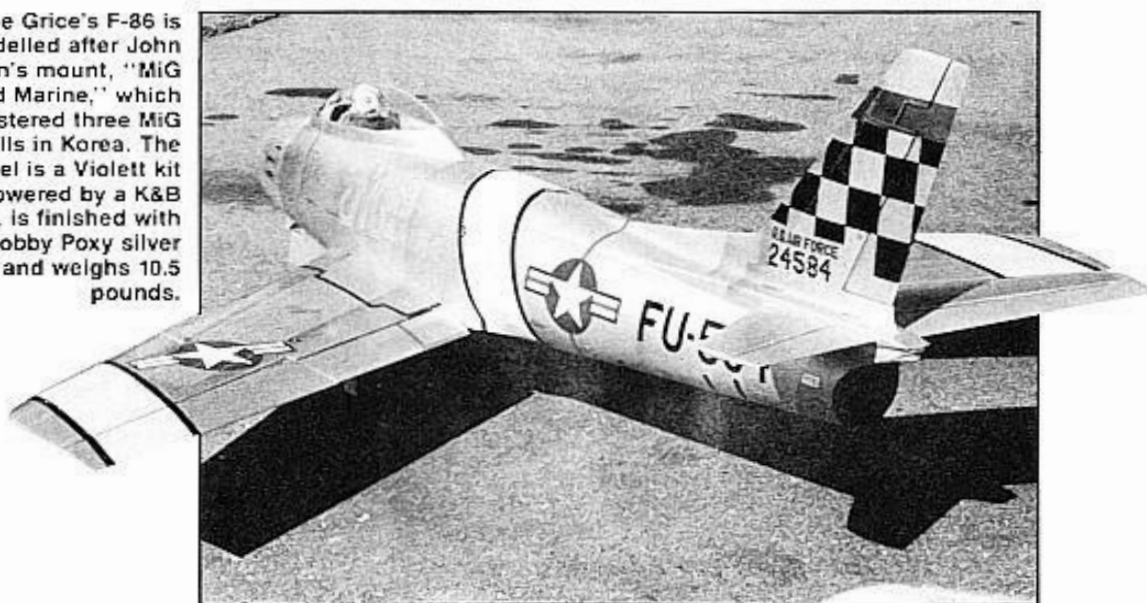


Re-printed for Scale Flyers of Minnesota

MINNESOTA MASTERS M E E T

Joe Grice's F-86 is modelled after John Glenn's mount, "MiG Mad Marine," which registered three MiG kills in Korea. The model is a Violett kit powered by a K&B .72, is finished with Hobby Pro silver and weighs 10.5 pounds.



THIS SIXTH ANNUAL
SCALE MASTERS QUALIFIER
BROUGHT SEVERAL UNUSUAL
AIRCRAFT — FROM A
TOMMY MORSE SCOUT,
TO A McDONNELL DOUGLAS
PHANTOM

BY BRUCE THARPE

◀ Spacewalkers made a good showing at this contest. In the foreground is Mike Stott's 1/4-scale version (78-inch span), and behind it is the eventual First Place winner in Giant Scale, Bruce Tharpe's 1/3-scale Sig kit (104-inch span). Bruce's 22-pound bird is hauled around by a Zenoah G-38 swinging an 18-6-10 prop.



Scale Flyers of Minnesota

When asked to name some of this country's scale modeling "hot spots," most modelers (myself included) would answer with the obvious places like Florida, Arizona, or Southern California. Well, now we can add another state to that list — Minnesota!

For the past seven years, the club known as The Scale Flyers of Minnesota, Inc. has been quietly building its membership until today, and it has reached its current roster of 70. Members come from 12 or more different flying clubs from the general area surrounding the Twin Cities, all sharing a common interest in scale model aircraft. Appropriately enough, their meetings are held every month at the National Guard Museum. Joe Grice is the current president of the Scale Flyers, and it's easy to see why — upon meeting him for the first time, he welcomed me and my family, and offered to help us out in any way possible. "After all," he reasoned, "you're in our own backyard, and we can find anything you need!" That kind of hospitality is tough to beat anywhere.

The Scale Flyers hold two events each year, a "Scale Sunday" in June, then the Northern Midwest Regional Scale Masters Championships. This was their sixth annual Scale Masters event, and for the third year in a row, it was held at the beautifully maintained Tri-Valley Radio Control Flyers Airport in Rosemount, just south of Minneapolis. The field features a smooth concrete runway with acres of grass all around, so each pilot could choose his favorite surface. It was truly the best of both worlds.

Mr. John Hall served well as the event's Contest Director, getting the static judges to work early Saturday morning. He kept things moving by starting the flying rounds after about two-thirds of the models had been static judged. Although two rounds had been planned for the first day, it was decided during the pilots' meeting to fly only once because of a pretty sharp crosswind. The plan was to postpone the last two rounds until the next day, when the wind was expected to be calmer; and for a change, the plan worked!

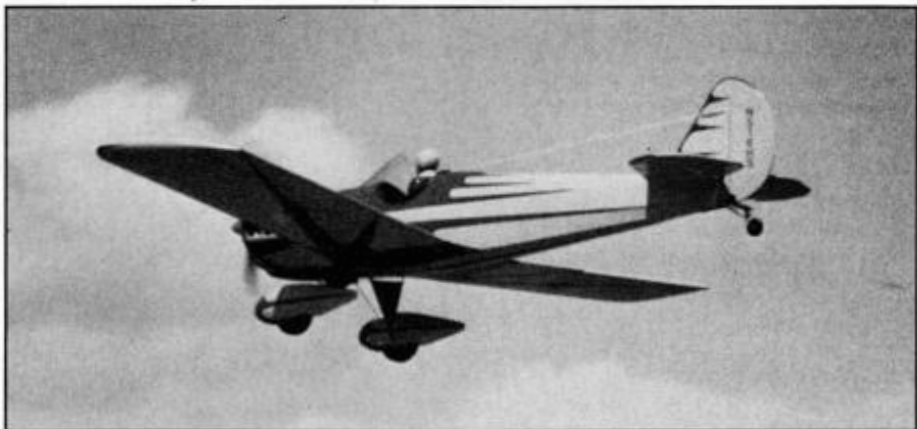
As the event C.D., John made the decision to waive the new and controversial 4.6 declaration, opting instead for the written declaration of years past. Like many modelers, he thinks the models should be judged without regard to what parts were purchased by the builder, and that the declaration should be done away with. I tend to disagree, but that's what makes



The victor in Sport Scale Sportsman category was Tim Mudek who flies with the ACRC club. His Top Flite P-39 features Goldberg retracts, weighs nine pounds and flies great.



Jeff Reinert normally flies his 1/6-scale Sig Citabria with the Grassfield R/C Club. Finished with Sig Koverall and dope, this was only the second airplane he's built. Now Jeff's eleven-year-old son wants to begin competing with a Goldberg Cub!



Mike Stott's 1/4-scale Spacewalker makes a slow fly-by. Mike likes to make modeling a family affair, so he brought his daughter Cathy and son Mick, and they all camped in a tent at the field!



Mike Stott, his daughter Cathy, and well-known scale modeler Dale Cordes are pondering solutions to the balky engine run suffered during the first flight. Whatever they did, it worked; Mike came back to steal Second Place in the Sportsman category.



This 1/2-scale Thomas Morse Scout 24C was designed, built and flown by Dave Anderson, current secretary of the Scale Flyers of Minnesota. Dave made the tail removable to fit in his Honda Civic. Power is an O.S. .90 swinging a 14-6 prop.



The Thomas Morse Scout was never used in combat — it was an advanced American trainer which became quite popular after the war. After considering several options, Dave Anderson decided to actuate his ailerons using cables and bellcranks, exactly like the full scale aircraft.



Simple spark plugs on the author's Spacewalker were made from bent pieces of nylon tubing, hex nuts and electrical wire. Looks good from 15 feet.



This Sig 1/6-scale Clipped-Wing Cub was flown by past Fox employee, Eric Malkerson, of Coon Rapids, Minnesota. Eric modified his Fox .45 by using a small carb from a Super Tigre .15 and three extra head gaskets, which gave it a unique sound. He had to "scalp" the dummy pilot to fit his aileron servo.

this the hottest issue in scale modeling today.

In all, there were 24 contestants flying in Sport Scale (Sportsman and Expert) and Giant Scale. As a contestant, I found it to be both an exciting and relaxing contest, mainly because each of us got to fly all by ourself — with nobody else in the air. That's right — one set of flight judges to one contestant! When you're used to trying to keep tabs on four flight lines, it's nice to be able to watch every airplane perform. Of course, it also gives all the other guys the chance to "judge" your

flight as well! (And try to profit from your mistakes?)

Since this was the last Scale Masters Qualifier of the year, I really expected many out-of-towners to be here, giving it one last shot to make the finals. Except for Ron Kemp of Puyallup, Washington, that really didn't happen.

Ron is the friendly general manager of Yellow Aircraft, makers of fine fiberglass scale models. Despite flying their new Spitfire to Second Place in Giant Scale, he just missed qualifying by a whisker. The airplane flew great, but it was still new

to Ron who, incidentally, put on a great demo with a nice ducted-fan aircraft from their F-4 Phantom Kit.

Ducted-fans have definitely found their way to Minnesota! Joe Grice flew his Violett F-86 nearly flawlessly, earning him Third Place in Expert and an invitation to the Scale Masters Championships. He'll be there! Joe also brought a beautifully camouflaged F-4.

Civilian planes made a strong showing in Rosemount.

Jeff Reinert of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, flew his K&B .65-powered Sig

Citabria to Third Place in Sportsman. This is still a surprisingly competitive kit for modelers getting into scale, particularly Fun Scale. Jeff painted his to match the full-scale version in which he rode many years ago at Pumpkin Patch Field in Arkansas. It's a great feeling to model an airplane with which you've had a personal involvement.

FINAL STANDINGS

Sport Scale — Sportsman Category

1st — Tim Mudek Top-Flite P-39
2nd — Mike Stott Spacewalker
3rd — Jeff Reinert Sig Citabria

Sport Scale — Expert Category

1st — Wayne Siewert Porsche Mooney
2nd — Roy Maynard Curtiss Jenny
3rd — Joe Grice Violett F-86

Giant Scale

1st — Bruce Tharpe Sig Spacewalker
2nd — Ron Kemp Yellow Aircraft Spitfire
3rd — Del Barryman Proctor Nieuport

Mike Stott of North Mankato, Minnesota, is a former Sig model designer and a veteran control-line scale modeler, having flown on the US team several times. He's now decided to tackle scale R/C, and made his R/C debut at this contest. Mike scratch-built his Spacewalker from Sig plans reduced to quarter-scale, and powered it with an O.S. .61 long stroke (with pump) turning a 12-6 prop. At 10-1/4 pounds, the model flew very much like the larger Sig Kit. After a poor engine run ruined his first flight, Mike pulled off good scores in his last two flight to jump into Second Place in Sportsman. Good work, Mikel!

First Place in Sportsman Sport Scale was captured by Tim Mudek of Cedar, Minnesota, flying a Top Flight P-39 Airacobra. Tim's plane used an O.S. .91 Surpass to turn a three-bladed Graupner 12-1/2 - 7 prop.

Wayne Siewert took First Place in Expert Sport Scale by nabbing the top static score of the event with his immaculate Porsche Mooney. Of course he flew well too, and made exceptionally nice landings. Wayne is one of the most genuinely friendly and sincere gentlemen in the sport of scale modeling.

When all was said and done, some very nice trophies and a ton of prizes (including kits and radios) were distributed among the contestants.

Next year, the Scale Flyers plan to make this an even bigger event. Considering the high level of local talent and the mild summer climate, there's no reason why this contest can't grow into one of America's top scale showcases. ●

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