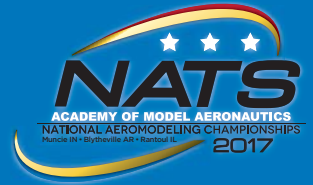


NATSNEWS



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June 28



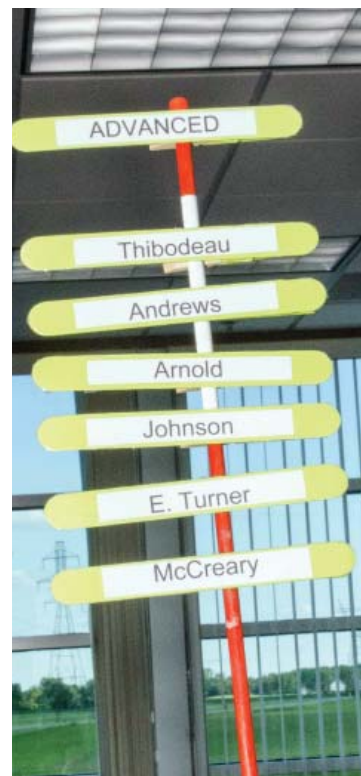
Welcome to the IMAC portion of the 91st annual National Aeromodeling Championships. Your event director is Doug Pilcher, regional director of the South Central Region.

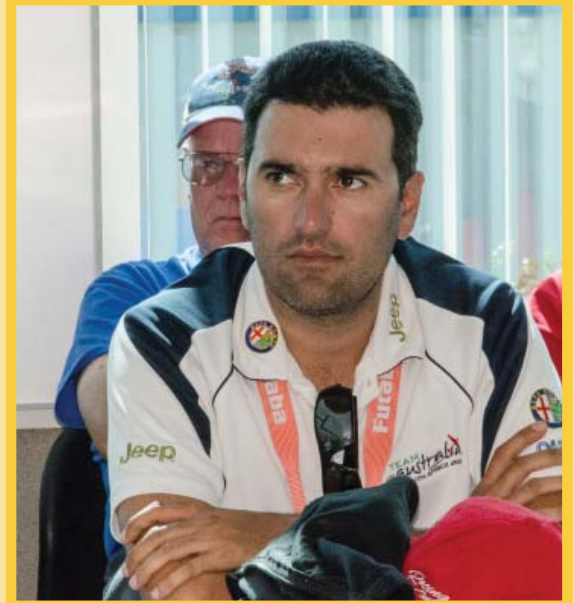
We have first-time competitors and a growing youth contingent. On practice day, we had several people flying, some unfortunate mishaps, and some repairs being done to make sure that everyone is ready for Wednesday's opening rounds.

The pilots' meeting was a great review of the judging criteria and some lively discussion on some fine points. Then the pilot roll call was done, the flying order was drawn, and the first set of unknowns was distributed.

Afterward, many people stayed, discussed rules, and talked to old friends before making it back to their vehicles.

Everyone is ready. The weather is beautiful and we are ready to begin the IMAC Nats. 🛩️







On Exhibit!

National Model Aviation Museum Hours:
7 days a week 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

In the early 1970s, some modelers felt that there was a declining interest in RC Pattern competition. Comments included that it was boring to watch, all of the airplanes looked alike, they flew too fast, and there was no spectator interest.

Jerry Nelson and Olie Olson, founding members of the International Miniature Aerobatic Club (IMAC), proposed a new event. Pilots would be judged on how well they could fly specific maneuvers using models that looked like full-scale aerobatic aircraft. Unlike Pattern, a pilot's entire flight, instead of just individual maneuvers, would be judged.

Olie tested the idea when he put on the first National Multi-Wing Championships, in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1973. Although Scale aircraft were not required, models had to be biplanes because that was the type of aircraft being flown in full-scale aerobatic competitions.

Also for the championships, pilots had to include five extra stunts, or freestyle maneuvers, between the required maneuvers. Bill Heger, flying this aircraft, won that first event and the first IMAC Nationals hosted by Sig Manufacturing Co., Montezuma, Iowa.

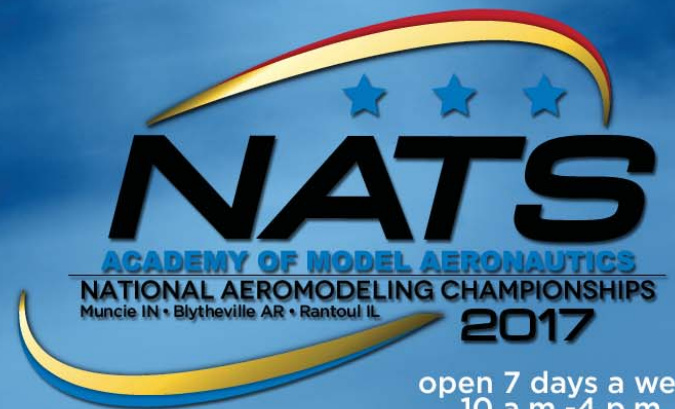


The museum had been looking for the Knight Twister—or at least plans for the model so a reproduction could be built—for years without luck. Then out of the blue, Jack Popenhager, a longtime friend of Bill's, called asking if we might be interested in this airplane that his friend had competed with.

The Knight Twister is currently on display in the National Model Aviation Museum. Be sure you stop in and check it out!

GET YOUR NATS GEAR!

Visit the Cloud 9 Museum Store for shirts, hats, aeromodeling souvenirs, and more!



open 7 days a week
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

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