

39th Annual Old Rhinebeck Jamboree

By Whitney Philbrick



Classic Early-bird action at the aerodrome!

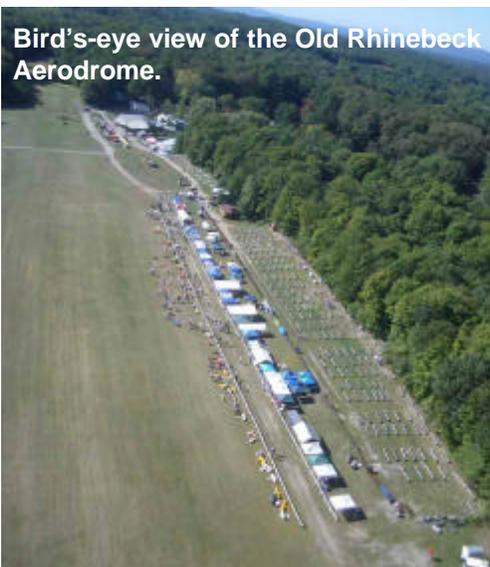
The Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome. Memories of a blue September sky, giant scale Sopwith Pups barking to life and then taking off in their own length, menacing Fokker triplanes in a rainbow of colors. Suspending belief about a hapless old farmer trapped in a Piper Cub, the audience booing the infamous Black Baron of Rhinebeck. All set the tone for the 39th annual Jamboree hosted by the Mid-Hudson RC Society.

Though the event was held on the weekend of September 10 and 11, for a while the models and the full-size vintage airshow allowed everyone to forget the bombs in Iraq, the water covering New Orleans, and the raising prices at the gas pumps.

This year the weather was beautiful, the long hot summer had finally let go. The first flights of the day were off dewy grass, wet enough for an electric Supermarine racer and record holder to “ski” off of the runway. Earlier in the day, its builder, Don Bosquet, sent up an electric-powered scale Demoiselle to take aerial shots of the flightline, the

field, and the surrounding area. And as usual, there were several electric airplanes in the mix including, a Great Planes Fokker triplane, Mike Krug's Kyosho Tiger Moth, and Jay Stevens' converted Comet Aeronca Chief, powered by a motor he got from a computer's CD ROM drive.

There were also many gorgeous gasoline



Bird's-eye view of the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome.

Special Award Winners!



(Above) Nick Zirolu with his impressive Beechcraft Staggerwing. (Right) Tom Polapink showed up with his beautifully executed Sopwith Snipe. (Below) Ferand St Andre Albatross is all smiles sitting behind his winning Albatross D.Va



~ First Place ~

Nick Zirolu Beechcraft D-17 Staggerwing

~ Spirit of Rhinebeck ~

Tom Polapink Sopwith Snipe

~ Best Of Show ~

Ferand St Andre Albatross D.Va



Dick Allen with his racer.

also an earlier-model Aeronca. Long time attendee Nick Zirolu showed up this year coming all the way from Florida to fly his new Beechcraft Staggerwing. Veteran Tom Polapink brought his impressive Sopwith Snipe while Dick Allen flew his Miles Sparrow Hawk racer. A special treat was Ferdinand St. Andre who had brought a beautiful 1/3-scale Albatross D.Va that he modeled after the full-size airplane that is part of the Aerodrome's collection. He built his model using the same construction techniques as the full-size including over 3000 tiny nails!

Some of the more unusu-



Don Peters with his gull-winged Douglas YB-7 Bomber.

and glow powered models. Both Rich Feroldi and his son Jack had beautiful planes. Rich flew a beautiful Fleet biplane and Jack manned a black Fokker Dr.1 triplane. Adam Lilly had a giant Sopwith Pup and

al models included, Tim Haggerty's auto gyro, Don Peters' twin-engine Douglas YB-7 bomber a 1915 Beechey-Eaton monoplane and a very nice Sperry Messenger.

The Mid-Hudson RC club did its

usual great job of keeping the event running smoothly. Led by Contest Director Jim Rangitsch with Dave Messina running impound, Mike Tebolt interfacing with the Aerodrome ground crew, Jack Robinson leading the judging team, and Bob Allen managing the flight line crew, everything went off without a hitch. Many sponsors from the RC industry responded generously and donated a treasure trove of prizes for the lucky pilots and were given to those judged to have particularly impressive models.

Best of Category Winners

Best WW I

Mark Pertersen Siemens Shuckert

SR Batteries

Best WW1 Biplane

Jack Feroldi Fokker Dr.I

Balsa USA

Best Civilian

Rich Feroldi Fleet Bipe

The Aeroplane Works

Best Golden Era Racer

Dick Allen Miles Sparrow Hawk

NoBS Batteries

Best Paint Job

Francis Reed P-26

F&M Enterprises

Best Covering

Daniel Amirault Sopwith Pup

Glenn Torrance



"Best of " Award Sponsors

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They say that imitation is the highest form of flattery! Impressive duo don't you think?



Tim Hagerty with his impressive Auto-Gyro.



Bob Curry flew this Balsa USA Neuport.



Smoking Spowith Pups are everywhere!



Stan Kulesa's Fokker D-VII

With 98 registered pilots and more than 200 airplanes, the 2005 jamboree was a wonderful event. The weather was perfect and the old Rhinebeck magic was everywhere. Be sure to attend next year, the 40th annual Rhinebeck Jamboree is sure to be a grand event filled with classic early-bird action.