The



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New Chairman of the MAAA Old Timer Rules sub-committee, Kevin Fryer and his "Atomizer" competing at the inaugural SAM Champs Downunder 2003 held at Cootamundra, NSW. In the background is Basil Healy from SAM 1788.

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President's report:

Hi folks.

Extreme weather conditions (high wind and total fire ban) saw the cancellation of the 17th Roy Robertson Memorial Trophy and all but 1/2A at Leopold (Geelong). At our Victorian State Champs (1st and 2nd March) Saturday was abandoned due to wind and rain and on Sunday we managed to fly 1/2A Texaco and Duration, plus one round of Texaco before high wind forced us to cancel the following rounds and final event.

Congratulations to Kevin Fryer who has been elected MAAA Sub Rules Committee Chairman.

Looking forward to your company at our next Fly in at Cohuna 22nd & 23rd March. Cohuna has created an inter club shield to be flown in conjunction with Texaco.

Our Next SAM600 meeting is on Thursday 27th March. Your President, Chris Lawson

Meeting #84, Thursday 27th March, 2003, 7:30pm Saturn Hobbies, 17 Ardena Ct, Bentleigh E (Melway 68 J-12) off E Boundary Road. Meeting #85, Thursday 26th June, 2003

Meeting # 86, Thursday 28th August, 2003 Meeting # 87, Thursday 24th October, 2003

Meeting # 88, Thursday 22nd January, 2004



Editor's Report.

These have been auspicious times for the Old Timer movement and SAM 600 in particular. As of the last meeting we have had the successful vote to decline to nominate a SAM 600 member to the MAAA Old Timer Rules Sub-committee overturned (see attached minutes).

Circumstances surrounding this led to the resignation, on a matter of principle, of our Secretary, Barry Barron, before the end of his term. Barry, in the opinion of your Editor, was correct in principle although resignation was his judgment alone. Barry did a great job and penned the defining letter to the VMAA which has led to actions which have unfolded in recent weeks, for this we thank him.

Following our decision reversal we now have a SAM 600 representative on the MAAA Old Timer Rules Sub-committee. Kevin Fryer has been appointed by the VMAA in this role. At the recent MAAA executive meeting Kevin was elected Chairman of the MAAA Old Timer Rules Sub-committee, after lobbying and phone calls from Kevin to most interested parties. We wish Kevin well in his role and I'm sure offer our mutual support.

Proposals in addition to those contained in "Stop Press" on page 5 are-

STANDARD DURATION applied to either the SAM 600 or the current MAAA rules.

Engine Eligibility change. Current: Engines used in this event may only be two stroke glow engines of 0.40 cub in capacity To be changed to: "Engines used in this event may only be two stroke glow engines up to 0.40 cub in capacity" Proposed: Trevor Boundy, Peter Bennett, Graham McDonald, Jarry Barton, Fred Chigwidden, Norm Campbell, Fred Stebbing, Kevin Fryer.

TEXACO applied to the SAM 600 rules.

Fuel allocations. The increase in the following as per SAM 1788 and MAAA: Antique Engines 4cc/lb Proposed: Peter Bennett, Trevor Boundy, Graham McDonald, Barry Barton, Fred Chigwidden, Norm Campbell, Fred Stebbing, Kevin Fryer.

LANDING BONUS applied to either the SAM 600 or the current MAAA rules

"We should delese any reference to the landing circle and bonus which is not used now."

Proposed: Trevor Boundy, Peter Bennett, Graham McDonald, Barry Barton, Fred Chigwidden, Norm Campbell, Fred Stebbing, Kevin Fryer.

DURATION added to the MAAA rules as per the SAM 600 rules

Engine Runtime Allocations

"Any engine defined as an Antique spark engine (the

As per our Rules Change Procedure your Editor has only received one (1) duly authorised proposal which is detailed on page 5 as a "Stop Press" item. Your comments are required to be with me by April 30th (see below).

The scope of this proposal is such that significant questions arise as to the mechanics of its implementation. These will need to be addressed to enable the proposal to work. Put bluntly, there is a dichotomy between our current rules change procedure and that of the MAAA.

SAM 600 rules change procedure is democratic in that "one member one vote" prevails. The MAAA process means that one representative from each state Old Timer body forms the rules sub-committee and votes accordingly. No doubt Kevin will address this and work out some way to ensure that members are consulted and represented fairly.

Another anomaly is that SAM 600 has a period of 5 years between rules changes, as per our procedure. The MAAA currently has a period of three years, although I understand this may move to four years.

In effect, moving to embrace the MAAA Old Timer
Rules means we render our procedure obsolete. I would caution
members against taking any action to cancel or delete the SAM
600 Rules Change Procedure before we have seen proof that the
MAAA procedure actually does work to our satisfaction. Modify,
yes. Cancel, no. PCB

wing area rule shall not apply) 40 seconds".

Proposed: Peter Bennett, Graham McDonald, Trevor Boundy, Barry Barton, Fred Chigwidden, Norm Campbell, Fred Stebbing, Kevin Fryer.

DURATION applied to the SAM 600 rules

Engine Runtime Allocations

That another classification be added as per the MAAA and SAM 1788 current rules ie.

"Any four-stroke glow engine having a pressurized airlfuel system using other than muffler pressure or modified four-stroke glow engine 25 seconds"

Proposed: Trevor Boundy, Peter Bennett, Graham McDonald, Barry Barton, Fred Chigwidden, Norm Campbell, Fred Stebbing, Kevin Fryer.

NOSTALGIA applied to the SAM 600 rules

Engine Run times "Engine run time should be increased from 20 seconds to 25 seconds" to conform with SAM 1788 and the MAAA

Proposed: Trevor Boundy, Peter Bennett, Graham McDonald, Barry Barton, Fred Chigwidden, Norm Campbell, Fred Stebbing, Kevin Fryer

GORDON BURFORD EVENT applied to either the SAM 600 of Australia or the current MAAA rules

"That we adopt another event called the Gordon Burford Event using the same rules as SAM 1788 in the 2001 rule book but that the engine run time for Ball Bearing engines be increased from 35 to 40 seconds".

Proposed: Trevor Boundy, Peter Bennett, Graham McDonald, Barry Barton, Fred Chigwidden, Norm Campbell, Fred Stebbing, Kevin Fryer.

38 ANTIQUE applied to either the SAM 600 of Australia or the current MAAA rules

Engine Run Times "That we adopt the engine run times used in the current SAM 1788 2001 Rules Book". Proposed=Trevor Boundy, Peter Bennett, Graham McDonald, Barry Barton, Fred Chigwidden, Norm Campbell, Fred Stebbing, Kevin Fryer.

WebMaster's Report. As a result of requests for a printable copy of our SAM 600, SAM 1788 and MAAA 2002 rules, documents have been up-loaded to our web site which contains a full set of rules, and can be accessed from the SAM 600 of Australia web page. The SAM 600 and Model Recognition web pages can be seen from www.boundy39.com

The WebMaster can be contacted by email at trevor@boundy39.com.

We had 123 and 187 visitors to the SAM 600 and Model Recognition sites respectively over the last 2 months.

Congratulations must be given to Kevin Fryer, firstly for taking on the task of representing SAM 600 on the rules sub-committee and also standing for, and winning the position of "Chairman of the MAAA Old Timer Rules sub-Committee". I believe this a job will have many challenges. With the knowledge and experience gained by Peter Bennett as our recent local representative, together with his influence as Chairman this time, I wish you every success in your endeavors to proceed towards common and democratic set of rules.

Thank you to Barry Barton for almost 3 terms as Treasurer, a difficult and well done job.

TrevB <www.boundy39.com>

MINUTES OF 83rd SAM 600 ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING 23rd JAN 2003

Meeting Opened: 7:40pm by Chris Lawson

Apologies: Don Cameron, Greg Jenkinson, Barry Barton, Norm Campbell. (Norm Campbell was wished a speedy recovery by all)

Visitors: Chris Caulcutt (VMAA Secretary), Ivan Chislett (MAAA Secretary)

New Members: Graham Scott (VMAA Contest Director)

Attendance: 14 members present.

Visitors & new members were welcomed by those in attendance at the meeting

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Read: John Whittaker. Moved: Bob Harmon: Seconded: Peter Bennett

Treasurers Report: No treasurers report was submitted due to Norm Campbell's illness.

Correspondence In: Nil

Correspondence Out:

 Letter to MAAA from Barry Barton re Old Timer Rules Sub Committee Delegate.

General Business:

- John Whittaker was asked to stand in as Secretary at the Meeting following Barry Barton's sudden resignation.
- Chris Lawson contacted P&DARCS re Roy
 Robertson Trophy & club rules on total fire ban days.
 P&DARCS advised that even though they did not ban
 power flying on total fire ban days, they would prefer that
 we did not run the '38 Antique event as most models we
 powered by spark ignition engines.
- Chris Caulcutt advised that the VMAA recommendation is that no power models at all should be flown on total fire ban days.
- Because of forecast temperature in the low 40's & high 30's together with associated strong northerly winds, a vote was taken to postpone the Roy Robertson Memorial Trophy to another weekend. (11 for, none against). Chris Lawson, Peter Bennett & Trevor Boundy to notify members. Chris Lawson to contact P&DARCS to arrange a new date.
- As advised by the VMAA, the State Championships are to be run to the Current National Rules & not our own, (with the exception of Texaco fuel allotments which are to be as per the 2001 rules as flown at this years Nat's.) unless conditions or valid reasons of safety etc prevent us from doing so.
- John Whittaker moved a motion that the 2004 On Timer State Championships be held at the new VMAA State Field. The motion was seconded by Peter Bennett. Discussion followed in reference to our continuing support of Haddon by scheduling other events there to compensate. The motion was carried. (11 for, none against). The Secretary is to write to the VMAA regarding suitable dates.
- Ivan Chizlett advised that Hamilton has a fantastic field & would be well worth investigating for State Champ's & other events. It is also nearly exactly half way between Melbourne & Adelaide & would encourage South Australian competitors.
- Ivan Chislett then addressed the meeting at length regarding the ins & outs of the Rule making process & the roles that the MAAA & individual State bodies play in the procedures, in particular, how the Rules Sub Committee Chairman is appointed. He suggested that we look at the way the Australian Pattern Association is organized & the

process by which they formulate & submit their rules to their Sub Committee, as they do not have the problems we are currently having.

- Ivan read Barry Barton's letter informing the MAAA of our decision not to have a delegate on the Old Timer Rules Sub Committee, to the meeting. He expressed his disappointment in our decision, & of the wording in the letter.
- John Whittaker addressed the meeting saying that it is time all the bickering & dissention over rules should stop & that he believes that the time has now come to draw a line in the sand & decide whether we:
- a) Want to remain part of the VMAA/MAAA system as the official SIG for Old Timer in Victoria & enjoy all of the benefits associated with being part of this system, or .
- b) Want to disassociate ourselves from this system & do our own thing, thereby rescinding the right to have any official input into the State & National system on behalf of all Old Timer Flyers in Victoria.
- Kevin Fryer moved a motion that we rescind the
 decision made at the meeting of 28th Nov 2002, not to
 have a Delegate on the Old Timer Rules Sub Committee.
 Seconded by Fred Roberts. The motion was carried. (11
 for, none against). The Secretary is to write a letter to the
 VMAA advising them of our decision. Members are to
 think about volunteering for this role. The issue is to be
 discussed at the next meeting.
- Fred Roberts has obtained a camera from Camera House in Geelong as a prize for Champ of Champs at the Leopold weekend contest. Many thanks to Camera House for their support.
- John Whittaker will take on the position of Acting secretary until the 2003 A.G.M., unless there are any other volunteers for the job!

Meeting Closed: 9:45pm

STOP PRESS!

A Special General Meeting was convened at the Leopold Old Timer Fly In on Saturday 8th Feb 2003, to discuss the issues of MAAA Rules Sub-Committee Delegate, the SAM 600 Club Rules & methods by which we can make the rules change process a democratic one.

Twelve financial contest flying members were present at this meeting & the following motions were moved & voted on.

1. Moved - Chris Lawson:

That Kevin Fryer be elected as our official MAAA Old Timer Rules Sub-Committee Delegate, & also that the VMAA nominate him as the next MAAA Old Timer Rules Sub-Committee Chairman. Seconded - Mark Collins.

No discussion was required & the motion was carried. (12 for. None against.)

2. Moved - Peter Hosking:

That we the members of SAM 600, adopt the 2002 MAAA Old Timer Rules (With the exception of the fuel allotments for Texaco, which are to be as per the previous MAAA rules, i.e.: 3cc/lb for 4 stroke glow engines & 2cc/lb for diesels), as the official rules to be flown by SAM 600.

Seconded - Fred Roberts.

The basis for this motion was, that except for the fuel allotments in Texaco, the current SAM 600 (MAAA 1995) Rules were so close to the current MAAA that it wasn't worth messing around having our own special set of rules & that it would also bring us more into line with South Australia, Western Australia & Queensland by having a common set of rules to fly to.

The motion was carried, (10 for None against, 2 abstentions) The following 10 members voted in favor of this motion:-

Fred Roberts, Mark Collins, Steve Gullock, Fred Stebbings, Don Cameron, Peter Hosking, Kevin Fryer, Peter Bennett, Chris Lawson & John Whittaker.

A suggestion by Mark Collins to introduce supplementary rules to encourage the use of antique spark ignition engines in Duration by allowing longer engine run times etc. & to cover other special requirements, received a positive response. This subject is to be discussed further at a future General meeting.

Westcoast Soarers Leopold Old-timer fly In Results Saturday/Sunday, February 8-9th 2003.

1/2 A Texaco				
Name	Model	Score	Place	Freq
Peter Bennett	Red Ripper	939	!st	643
Don Cameron	Lanzo Bomber	798	2nd	34
Barry Barton	Stardust Special	792	3rd	16
Mark Collins	Lanzo Bomber	746	4th	620
Steve Gullock	Lanzo Bomber	721	5th	20
Kevin Fryer	Atomiser	720	6th	631
Chris Lawson	RC1	586	7th	28
Fred Stebbing	Stardust Special	323	8th	36
Trevor Boundy	Stardust Special		DNF	
Fred Roberts	RC1		DNF	

Leopold Report, Saturdays- South East winds gusting over 7 metres per second prevented any flying.—

Sunday.:- Southeast winds gusting up to 6.8 metres per second allowed us to fly two rounds of 1/2A and a fly off between 6 competitors. Peter Bennett's Red Ripper handled the conditions best and won the day. The other events were abandoned due to low clouds and stronger wind.

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POWRMASTER Hobby Products, Inc.

FACTS ABOUT FUEL No. 2 -Which Oil is Better - Synthetic or Castor?

(The following is the second in a series of articles exploring all facets of model engine fuel. The writer is Don Nix, Past owner of Powermaster, Inc.)

Before we get started on the subject heading, I'd like to offer a couple more thoughts on last month's subject, "What's the Oil Content?" - thoughts that have been remembered since writing the original column:

Many modelers who have been involved in the hobby for a long time, including those who've been away for years and recently returned, are very stubbornly remembering when model fuel just about had to contain something in the order of 25% oil - usually all-castor - and have a hard time dealing with the idea that virtually no one runs that much any more in modern engines.

The operative word here, of course, is "modern." The metallurgy in today's engines bately resembles that of a generation ago. The end result, as far as model engines are concerned, is that the engines today simply don't require as much lubricant - not nearly as much. I will be quick to add that those running antique engines in Old Timer events should certainly continue to use the old-time formulas no doubt about it.

In addition to vastly improved metallurgy, we must remember than manufacturing techniques barely resemble those from years ago, in many ways. Modern CNC machinery has made it possible to routinely and cheaply make 1 or 1 million parts all exactly alike.

Those of you who have come along in later years may be shocked to know that up until the advent of this new technology, every piston was hand fitted to every liner. There was no such thing as simply machining 1,000 pistons and 1,000 sleeves, picking one from each batch and having them fit.

The belief in those days that some engines of the same size and make were markedly hotter than others was no doubt true. We've read that in those days, a .29 for example, might vary from as low as an actual .26 to a .32 some 23% more displacement! More closely controlled tolerances have resulted in the ability to use much different fuels than a generation ago.

The second thought on the subject of total oil content came from reading the operating instructions included with a new imported 4-stroke engine - the DAMO FS 218 twin. It recommends a fuel containing 94% methanol, 5% nitro and 1% Castor Oil! Clearly, this reinforces my point that "there ain't no such thing as a fixed percentage of oil content." Now....on to this month's subjecti

Before we depart the subject of oil in model fuel, let's talk about a point that's argued vehemently all over the land - Which kind of oil is better - synthetic or castor?

Each side has its very strong proponents, and each side is right....to a point. "Old-timers" tend to still favor an all-castor fuel, or at least one containing a liberal amount of castor oil. Modelers who have come to the hobby in the last 15 or 20 years have a strong affection to synthetic oils, or at least want their fuel to have mostly synthetics. Let's take a look at both types statistically:

SYNTHETIC OILS

Strong Points

Good Lubricity (It's "slick") . Little to no carbon or vanish buildup inside Leave less oily mess on models Available in a variety of viscosities Totally soluble in nitromethane

Weak Points

Most tend to cause corrosion if adequate inhibitors aren't added

Burns off surfaces at about 100 degrees temperatures than castor oil

Many types and qualities, making it hard to choose the best one Expensive - good ones cost almost twice as much as castor oil, increasing the cost of the fuel. When used as the sole lubricant, a greater quantity is required, which increases the cost of the fuel.

CASTOR OIL

Strong Points

Great Lubricity

Reduces the amount required, resulting in more power and better idle.

Will tolerate internal temperatures about 100 degrees higher than any synthetic

Almost 50% cheaper than good synthetics reduces cost of fuel.

Great natural rust and corrosion inhibitor

Weak Points

Tends to cause carbon and varnish buildup in engine if cheap grade and/or too much is used. Messier on model than synthetics Somewhat sensitive to extremely cold temperatures -mild separation in solution, residue on model becomes almost "buttery" in

consistency.

Insoluble in nitromethane. In solutions above 40% - 50% nitro, will separate unless some sort of co-solvent is used.

Generally available in only one viscosity

I'd like to insert here that there is a "Chicken Little....The Sky Is Falling" rumor making the rounds on the Internet these days that the manufacturers of castor oil have recently changed their methods of making the product, and the castor oil we are getting now is either wholly or partially incompatible with methanol.

I have talked at some length with the "Head Techie" of one of the largest castor oil importers in the U.S., and I want to go on record as saying that, according to the best information I can find, This is total B.S. The Head Techie actually laughed out loud when I told him what was going around.

He said, "You know, there isn't much we do to the stuff. We press the oil out, filter it, grade it and package it. As far as I know, nothing has changed." It apparently started with one of the fuel manufacturers. For what reason, I have no idea, unless it's to help them promote their proprietary synthetics. (Incidentally, I have read a response on the 'net from SIG, agreeing with the fact that it's nonsense.)

So....there you have it. "You pays your money and takes your choice." Actually, it's a little better than that, and the obvious answer is - use a combination of the two, in proportions that will come nearest to enjoying the benefits of each, while minimizing the adverse characteristics.

A few years back, the modeling community was in "synthetic oil frenzy," and the swing was toward all-synthetic fuels. Happily - at least in this writer's opinion, we've seen a very noticeable swing back toward the center, with the majority seeming to prefer a synthetic/castor blend. We think this makes sense, and many years experience proves it.

The most frequent comment I hear from lovers of all-synthetic fuels is, "Brand XX leaves a lot less oil on my model." My response to that is, "Doesn't that bother you? If you don't see much oil on your model after flying, that tells you one of two things – or both: Either there wasn't enough oil in there in the first place, or the oil is burning off with the methanol. Neither is good.

There's no way oil can burn off and properly lubricate at the same time." This is usually met with a puzzled look, then one of the light dawning, having just realized something they never thought of before.

Oil residue in model engines is a natural as barking is

to a dog. We have to learn to live with it.

As an aside, not long back a friend sent me a copy of an article published in a European model magazine. In one part, the writer stated, "The Americans are the only ones rich enough and dumb enough to use synthetic oils." Perhaps overstated just a bit, but it has some validity.

There a couple of types of engines that do require an all-castor fuel, or at least one with a considerably higher castor content than most others. One would be the Fox ringed iron piston type, and the other would be the small Cox engines, because of their rather unique ball-and-socket connecting rod-to-piston design.

Pattern flyers traditionally prefer an all-synthetic fuel, for a couple of reasons, I think. One is the fact that pattern flyers practice a lot - hour after hour after hour. That much use, plus the tuned pipe setup that is almost universal with them probably, tends to cause a greater problem with varnish and carbon buildup than in sport types.

(At the risk of bombarded, I also think it's largely a state of mind. "Joe Champion uses all-synthetic, so that's what I'm going to use.")

The other area where we have seen all-synthetic fuels gain in popularity in recent years has been with model helicopters, probably for the same reasons. Also, the trend toward 30% nitro fuel for serious competition has led to using a lower viscosity lubricant, and, as shown in the comparison charts above, this necessarily dictates using synthetics.

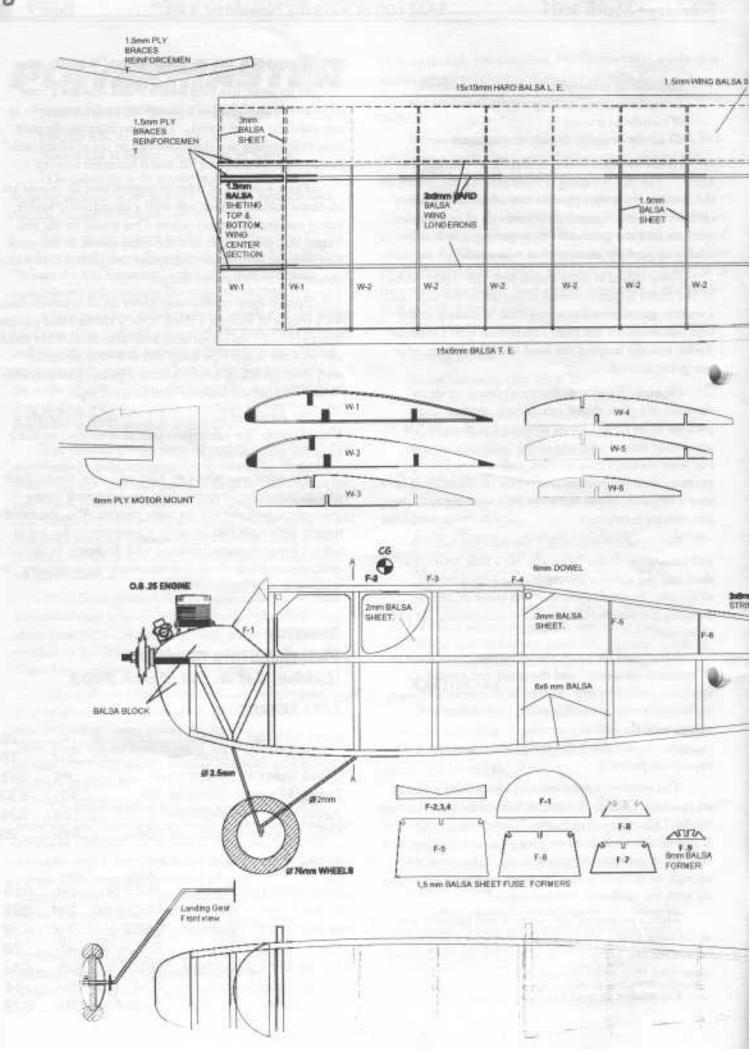
Results: Victorian State Champs Haddon, 1st & 2nd March 2003

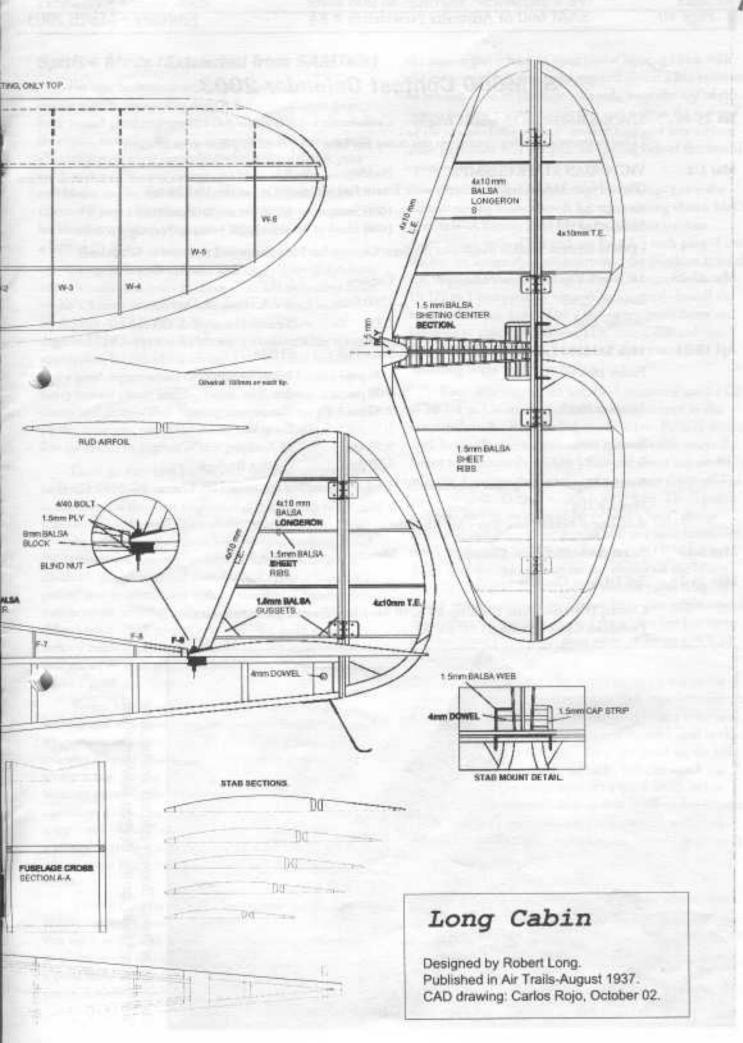
1/2A TEXACO

Chris Lawson	RC1	1st28
Ron Adamson	Atomiser	2nd16
Steve Gullock	Anderson P	3rd 641
Danny Missen	Stardust Spc	4th 633
Kevin Fryer	Atomiser	5th 631
Greg Jenkinson	Stardust Spc	6th 20

DURATION

Ron Adamson	Bomber	YS52 fs1st 615
Kevin Fryer	Cumulus.	McCoy 60 2nd 631
G Jenkinson	Bomber	OS52 fs3rd 639
Chris Lawson	Vespa	Salto65fs4th 28
Danny Missen	Dallaire	OS.25fx5th 633
Steve Gullock	Dallaire	0S456th 14
Chris Folley	Hornet	Saito 65fs .7th 623





Jan 25-26

17th Roy Robertson Memorial Trophy Cardinia

SAM600 Contest Calendar 2003.

A limited to have be			TO CONTROL OF THE ACTOR	
	(Due to extreme weather conditions thi	s comp has been j	postponed to a date to be advised)	
Mar 1-2	VICTORIAN STATE CHAMPS (Please Note: MAAA rules will apply win	Haddon th Texaco fuel allo	BA etments as per the 56th Nats.)	
	Saturday 1st Sunday 2nd	1000 Start 1000	1/2 A Texaco & Duration Texaco, 38 Antique /Nostalgia combo	
	(Due to extreme weather conditions the	State Champs ha	as been postponed to a date to be advised)	
Mar 22-23	1st North Vic. Old Timer Champs	Cohuna	CMFC	
	Saturday 22nd	1000 Start	1/2 A Texaco & Duration	
1	Sunday 23rd	1000	Texaco, Nostalgia & GB combo	
Apl 18-21	11th SAM600 EASTER FLY-IN	Swan Hill	SHMAC	
	Friday 18th	1;00 pm	1/2 A Texaco	-
	Saturday 19th	4:00 pm	2cc	
	Saturday 17th	9:30 am 1:30 pm	Texaco Duration	
	Sunday 20th	9:30 am	38 Antique	
		1:30 pm	Gordon Burford	
	Sunday Night Get-together (Commerc	ial Hotel, 91 Can	apbell St., Swan Hill. Phone (03) 5032 1214	(1)

9:30 am

Nostalgia

May 3-4 South Australian State Champs Monato South Australia

May 24-25 3rd Tri State Gas Champs Jerilderie SAM600

(Catering at field all four days - MAAA Rules as used at the 56th Nats)

Monday 21st

Contest Director: Peter Hosking, 03 5248 5461, email: <peterh@webaxs.net> President: Chris Lawson 03 5275 8482



WebMaster Trevor Boundy and his immaculate "Eliminator" built for the Gorgon Burford event.

Spitfire Mods (Extracted from SAMTalk)

I'm very hesitant to tell people about the way I do engine modifications--I've done it before and some guys have ruined good engines and they blamed me—I also don't do engine mods for the guys anymore for the same reason--There's always some damn fool who will try to run your work with a 65% nitro charge and blow the cylinder off and blame me for that too—I've become disgusted with idiots—I'll pass a few things to you as you are an engine builder but you're on your own—What we want to build is a lapped 65 Spit—

I start with a .60 cylinder and liner—They didn't have any sub-induction holes in them—The sub-induction holes in the .65 cases are too low and don't close until near 60 degrees ATDC—I drill the new holes to close at 40 degrees ATDC—For the RPMs we're working with, it's more appropriate for cylinder packing—Use your dial indicator also good degree wheel to locate the holes—I make up a heavy bronze piston lapping block with a slot and hose clamp to tighten—With lapping compound and a T handle on the wrist-pin, rotate the piston and get it round—Damn few are round in engines of this period—

Don't go nuts here but be sure that you are getting high spots showing most of the way around—The top edge at the crown is the most important—That's going to be the seal—To check the roundness of the cylinder/sleeve, I cast a sulphur plug in it the whole length—After pushing it out the bottom, you can now mike it for it's entire length to check for straightness and roundness—I make a "lapping piston" out of bronze and with an attached T handle, Being sure to rotate it 360 degrees while pushing it in and out—Here's where "feel" comes into play—We don't want to remove much if any at all from the top 3/8 inch of the bore and yet we want to give relief below that point—.0003 is out a good starting point—

Recast a sulphur plug and again push it out the bottom and very carefully mike it's entire length fot straightness and roundness.—The fit of the piston to the cylinder is hyper critical—In the end, we're looking for a piston seal at the top 3/8 inch of the stroke and a free running piston in the rest of the stroke.—The final lapping operation is charging the piston itself with ferric oxide (red rouge) and "feeling" the fit through the stroke.—We want a good seal at the top of the stroke for the last 3/8 inch of the stroke and a free running piston for the rest of the stroke.—

Don't go too far with the "freeing up" or you're going to lose too much crankcase pressure—Look at the piston as you use it to lap with touge—We only want the top 1/32 or so of the piston making the seal—You should be developing a good shine all around the top edge of the piston—If the piston is making contact with the liner all the way down the piston, put it back in your piston lapping block with the crown sticking out of the top and give it a few rotations to remove some of the skirt.—We only want the top of the piston making a compression seal and only at the top end of the stroke—Lot's of "feel" needed here and here's where most guys blow it—I sharpen the closing side of the venturi opening on the crank—

Don't enlarge it and change the timing—Leave the exhaust timing alone also—It has more timing than a McCoy does as is—A button head has to be made to increase compression ratio—Drill and tap for a 1/4 inch plug—I cut the button longer than necessary in order to adjust it for the CR that I want by trimming as I go—We want an exact 10 1/4 to 1 compression ratio—That's critical—Install the head and torque down—Use a laboratory grade buret and kerosene to check chamber at TDC (use a dial indicator)—My buret has a 1/16 inch bore and is very accurate—Anything larger will cause errors—

Keep returning to the lathe and trimming until a CR of 10 1/4 to 1 is attained-Remove the restrictor in the venturi--Install a K&B racing needle valve--Re-drill orifice .002 larger-Runs on suction just fine with this setup-I forgot to mention that when I have the sleeve out of the cylinder, I enlarge the top of the bypass over the port-Go easy here as there's not too much meat here-Don't polish it-Leave it satin finish in order to hold a "wet" charge-High polished ports don't flow as well as a satin finish--The crank we're using is a .65 crank of course (11/16 stroke)--Look over the cam--Many are too abrupt on the lifting side-Rounding it slightly greatly reduces point drag-Set points with an ohm-meter, plug at .015--You might consider chamfering the inside bottom of the piston but I've never seen any great gains-That does wonders for an O&R SP though-

That's roughly it —The feel of the fits is key to the operation of any engine—I've put engines together, that after running for a few minutes, felt that they were a little too right—I've taken a pinch of rouge and mixed it well in the fuel tank and run it that way—Keep one hand on the kill switch and the other holds the tach—You can watch the RPMs go up as the rouge laps—It's a quick break in but you must know when it's time to shut it off—A few seconds too long and it's junk—Be sure to disassemble and wash thoroughly with thinner and soap and water—I hope some of this helps—

A large book could be written in detail about the subject.-I've only tried to touch some of the issues here.

One more point, push a piece of neoprene fuel tubing down over your spark-plug.- At this compression ratio, the spark wants to jump from the high tension lead to the head.-I discovered this after dark on night.-The neoprene fuel tubing acts as a insulator.

Hank Baer

A WEIGHT COMPARISON OF SOME LIGHTWEIGHT COVERINGS

by Roy Bourke, MAAC 2041, (from SAMTalk).

Building a light airframe is as much a concern to the SAM (Society of Antique Modelers) flyer as it is to the electric flyer. SAM competition rules stipulate a minimum wing loading of 10 oz/sq.ft. for most classes (8 oz/sq.ft. for 1/2A Texaco) and many competition flyers, myself included, try to build to minimum weights. Among other strategies, this means using light covering materials.

The "ideal" covering for SAM power models would be a light material, smooth for easy cleaning (power models are messy!), resistant to puncturing and tearing (models often land in stubble), with enough stiffness and skin strength to withstand the stresses imposed by a big overpowered Class C ship screaming skyward, offered in colours that are visible at great heights, and easy to repair.

In the distant past I have covered models with silkspan, silk, jap tissue, nylon, and some of these coverings do exhibit the desired characteristics More recently I have succumbed to the convenience of the modern heat-shrinkable coverings in the form of Micafilm, Litespan, Polyspan, Airspan, and most recently, Ultracote Lite.

For my last sixteen airplanes, I have developed a habit of keeping copious notes during construction, with detailed records of weights of materials used. These include weights of my wing and other frameworks prior to and after covering. Several of my colleagues have asked me which covering I found the lightest, so I decided to do a quick analysis of the weights of the coverings for which I have some recorded data. But first, my comments on the four coverings that I compared.

Micafilm (by Coverite): A very strong covering, impregnated with omnidirectional mica fibers, smooth on one side and fibrous on the other, applied with Balsarite adhesive. I used only clear Micafilm (hard to find in stores): the transparent colours are heavier, and solid colours heavier again, and the addition of the colour layer kills the shrinkability of the film. This leaves the problem of how to colour the clear film. Dope will stick only to the fibrous side, leaving an outside surface that is impossible to clean. (A colleague of mine colours and trims the covering backwards

before applying it to the aircraft. Then he applies the covering coloured side in, smooth side out!) Micafilm also has a nasty habit of wrinkling in strong sunlight. Sometimes it de-laminates under stress.

Litespan (by Solarfilm): A good-looking covering (looks like silk), good choice of colours, easy to trim by covering dark colours over light. It has a definite grain, and is applied with Balsaloc or Balsarite cement (I have also used Weldbond, and Uhu glue stick).

Light colours have good shrinkability, darker colours lousy! Not a very stiff covering, so doesn't contribute much to torsional stiffness of the structure. Also tends to wrinkle in strong sunlight, but this can be reduced somewhat by adding a couple of coats of butyrate dope to the final covering. Puncture resistance is poor, but it is easy to make near-invisible repairs

Polyspan (Starline International): Looks and feels very much like silkspan, except it is a heat-shrinkable, waterproof polyester fiber. Very strong along the grain, weak across the grain until you get the dope on. Applied with Balsarite, Balsaloc, or conventional clear dope. Comes in white only so you have to dope it, and I find it needs at least 8 thin coats to fill the grain, but it is tight and really strong after doping, adding a lot of torsional rigidity to the structure. I use about 5 coats of clear nitrate, 1 coat of colour, and 2 coats of clear butyrate, but you can also add colour with aniline dye in the dope. I use dark Litespan for trim over the Polyspan.

Ultracote Lite (Goldberg): Thermal shrink film, complete with adhesive, approx. 60% of the weight of Ultracote. Comes in transparent colours only (I use only transparent white and violet). Applied in the same way as Ultracote. Covering is tight and stiff, adding considerable torsional strength to the structure. Smooth, easy to clean, relatively puncture resistant, but once a tear starts it keeps going. Does not wrinkle in the sun.

For weight comparisons, since three of the coverings involve adding adhesive and dope, I decided to look only at the weight of the total covering job after all trimming and finishing, on 16 wings in my records. I subtracted the ready-to-cover framework weight from the final wing weight in each case (in grams), doubled the wing area (wings are covered top and bottom) and calculated the final covering weight in grams/100 sq.in. for each wing. The results are as follows:

Aircraft	Covering	Total Wing Area (sq.in.)	Covering Weight (gm)	Covering (gm/ 100sq.in)
Baby Playboy	Ultracote	288	14.1	2.45
Thermal Magnet	Ultracote	636	33.1	2.60
Spirit	Polyspan	677	37.9*	2.80
Lanzo Bomber	Polyspan	260	114.2	4.53
Kerswap	Litespan	288	19.1	3.32
Puddle Master	Litespan	396	33.6	4.24
Hornet	Litespan	564	47.4	4.20
Buccaneer Std.	Litespan	635	42.8	3.37
Brooklyn Dodger	Litespan	375	24.6	3.28
Westerner	Litespan	245	22.3	4.55
Jr. Playboy	Litespan	430	34.9	4.06
Cabin Playboy	Litespan	475	33.6	3.54
Miss Canada	Litespan	329	26.8	4.07
Speedy Bee	Litespan	475	37.4	3.94
Jr. Playboy	Micafilm	430	27.4	3.19
Flyabout	Micafilm	310	17.1	2.76

("note: this weight includes only the first 4 coats of dope,no trim.)

Average weights from the data above are:

Ultracote Lite	2.53 gm/100sq.in.
Polyspan	3.67 gm/100sq.in.
Litespan	3.86 gm/100sq.in.
Micafilm	2.98 gm/100sq.in.

The variability in the data comes largely from the differing amounts of material other than covering. A heavily planked structure, for example, requires more wering adhesive. Some of the wings are covered on the bottom with black Litespan (heavier). The wings covered in Litespan or Polyspan may have as much as 20% of the area double-covered with a dark trim colour.

However the data seem to show that the Ultracote Lite comes out as the lightest of these covering jobs, so that is what I am continuing to use for my competitive endurance ships. It has the added advantage of a smooth surface for clean up, the transparent white colour aids visibility against a blue sky (it glows as the sun penetrates it), and the covering stays quite taught in the sun.

R.Bourke



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Texaco	9:30 am
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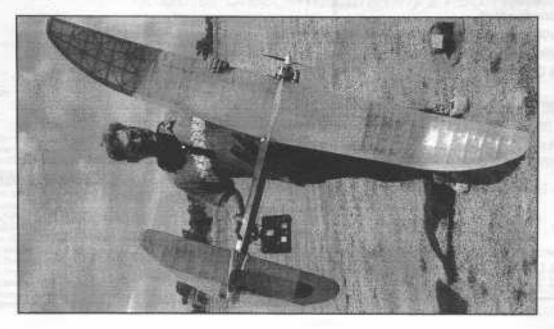
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