### SAM 1 The Model Museum Flying Club January 2011

Club Meeting April 2nd, Runway Grill 12:30

Club Contest April 9th & 10th

# Spring is in the air and so will the fliers of SAM 1!

SAM 1 has been given a new "lease" on life.



The Magnificent Mountain Men (MMM), with whom we share the field lease, has agreed to divide the cost of the lease on a pro-rata share based on club membership. A pro-rata share will allow the shrinking SAM 1 membership to continue to fly on one of the nation's best flying sites until the very last one of our members hooks a ride on that heavenly thermal. MMM's help in shouldering the cost of the lease gives real meaning to the phrase "the brotherhood of free flight"- Thanks, guys!

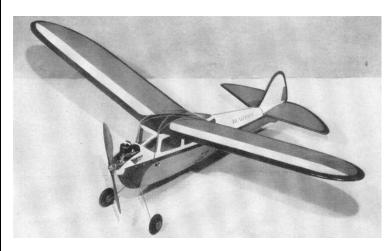






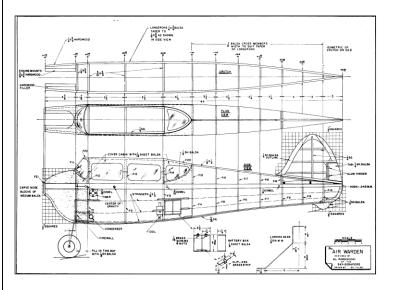
Al Yuhasz, Dick Sills and Norm Frawley at the field doing the SAM thing- relaxed flying! Kathy Sills photo

### SAM 1 The Model Museum Flying Club January 2011



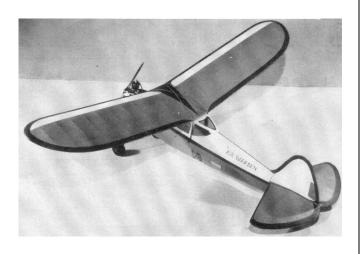
Picture courtesy of The Plan Page and Model Airplane News-July 1942

The Air Warden is built like an upside-down Pacer, with the curved portion on the top and a V shaped bottom. The rear of the cabin reminds me of a Super Buccaneer. The tail group is very unique- particularly the rounded "elevators". The nose of the plane in profile is also very unique, with a distinctive rounded upper nose and an ogee-shaped lower nose. Ain't she a beaut?

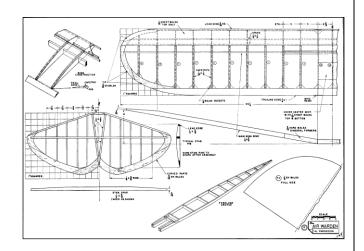


According to the MAN article, this plane did four consecutive six minute flights on a twelve-second motor run- with no thermals. We will have to see if the plane flies as well as the article says!

If you were wondering what happened to the December newsletter, look to the left. This is one of those cases where building airplanes won out over newsletter writing. Terry Edwards brought in a framed-up Air Warden to our last meeting. The Air Warden was designed by Al Pardocchi and this particular bird was built long ago by past president of SAM 1, "King" Karl Bruggeman. When he asked who wanted the plane, I grabbed it before anybody else could answer. Just look at those lines- what a classic Old Timer!



Picture and drawings courtesy of The Plan Page and Model Airplane News- July 1942



### **SAM 1** The Model Museum Flying Club January 2011

#### The Air Warden



Brushless motor and speed control- roughly a .30 glow equivalent.



This bird has the sexiest tail feathers of any Old Timer design-I challenge y'all to find nicer ones! Mike Fields photos





Cowl is held on with dowel pins and small magnets.



This view shows the classic lines. Side windows are clear Monokote. You can see the battery access hatch on the side.

### SAM 1 The Model Museum Flying Club January 2011

#### Sam 1 Business meeting Feb. 5, 2011

10 members present

#### **Old Business:**

- Duane announced that the club will still be operating in 2011
- The 2011 contest schedule was passed out.
- Reminder that Mecca Collecto will be held May 14th.
- A vote was passed eliminating the \$5.00 landing fee at future contests.
- Reminder that Feb. 26th is the "Wings Over The Rockies" event where area model clubs can display their type of model aircraft.



One of SAM 1's highly formal meetings at the field. Actually it's just another day of waiting for the wind to settle down. Kathy Sills photo.

#### **New Business:**

- Jerry Jones who is the Mecca leader in this area joined as a new member.
- Jerry announced that the "Model Engine Collectors Association" will be having the "Expo XII in Denver this year and will be focusing on the formation of the Sam organization and feature the Sam 1 Club.
- Jerry also reported on a female member of Jeffco club named Franny Brodigan, who showed a full sized Goldberg "Valkyrie" she had built.
- Dave Jansen gave a talk on the history of the Ohlsson & Rice engines with examples of the major design changes of the .56 and .60.
- The first 20 engines were made in Ohlsson's garage, and Dave showed the #19, which originally sold for \$14.50.
- The 1938 Gold Seal .56 that sold for \$21.50.
- The Ohlsson Custom , .60 that was done with Rice, had the spot welded cylinder, and sold for \$21.50.
- A gold plated reproduction by Herb Wall.
- The last of the O&R .60 which was a purple Head and sold for \$18.50

#### **Show & Tell:**

- Jim Barkdull showed a small rubber model called Mini Max ( not Sam legal)
- Mike Fields showed a "Thermic 72" glider built from the original Ziac plans, converted to R.C. with wing and stab covered with Micafilm.
- Mike also showed an "Air Warden" covered with silk and converted to electric, which he inherited from Terry Edwards who inherited it form Carl Brugleman.

#### White Elephant:

Don Uhl won a Klarich kit of the 1/2 A" Ramrod".

### SAM 1 The Model Museum Flying Club January 2011

#### From the Pilot's Seat\_

March, 2011

I just want to report that in light of our last few month's discussions and meetings I can report that SAM-1 is alive and well. The Officers have met with the MMM Club and we will now be sharing the flying field expenses on a pro-rata basis. This is good news for SAM-1, especially since our membership has been decreasing. The challenge for us is to attract new members and build participation in the Antique and Old-time model flying. I challenge all of you to help in brainstorming and coming forth with ideas for recruiting new members. We are all in this critical time together.



We have a busy calendar this year which affords all of us ample time for some great flying and camaraderie, as well as our special Memorial Contest in August. I have included a Club Calendar for your planning and consideration. Even if you do not fly, come out to the field on these dates, and lend your support, enjoy the day and watch the Old Time planes fly.

This September we have been asked to Show Case the SAM organization by participating in the International Engine Collectors EXPO that will be held here in Denver. I have asked our newsletter editor, Mike Fields to help out by presenting the Banquet Address. This will be especially important since the whole SAM movement was begun right here in Denver, with members of our club organizing the movement. Plan on attending this gathering and hearing about SAM as it is an International Organization as well. Also, plan on attending the COLLECTO as you may want to pick up a few engines that you haven't been able to previously find.

Our first flying date is April 9 and 10, which corresponds with the MMM monthly on the 10<sup>th</sup>. This will also be a time that we can join them and compete on a level field with the modern AMA type planes. It's a lot of fun and who knows, that may inspire some of their members to build some of our beautiful planes. Don't forget the next Club Meeting, on April 2, at the Jefferson County Airport, 12:30 p.m., with lunch and the meeting to follow.

We don't have a weekend designated for March flying however, let us be a little flexible and if the weather forecaster predicts a terrific weekend, let's just call up a buddy and go fly.

Also it is very important to have our Club dues paid by April, as the proration for our field lease will be calculated then.

Duane Hjerleid, President

### **SAM 1** The Model Museum Flying Club January 2011

### Sam-1 Club Schedule for 2011

April 2 Club Meeting

April 9 & 10 Flying at the Field

May 14 Engine Collectors, Grange Hall

May 21 & 22 Flying at the Field

June 4 Club Meeting

June 11 & 12 Flying at the Field

July 9 & 10 Flying at the Field

August 6 Club Meeting

August 13 & 14 Flying at the Field- SAM MEMORIAL CONTEST

September 17 & 18 International Engine Collectors - MECA, Doubletree Hotel, Denver, CO.

September 24 & 25 Flying at the Field

October 1 Club Meeting

October 8 & 9 Flying at the Field

November 5 & 6 Flying at the Field

December 3 Club Meeting, Nomination of Officers and Trophy Awards

Print this out and hang it on your refrigerator!



Richard says "Come on out and fly!"

# SAM 1 The Model Museum Flying Club January 2011

This article is property of the Academy of Model Aeronautics. Permission must be granted by the AMA History Program for any reprint or duplication for public use.

**AMA History Program** 

National Model Aviation Museum

5151 E. Memorial Dr.

Muncie IN 47302

(765) 287-1256, ext. 511

historyprogram@modelaircraft.org



The AMA History Program Presents:

**Biography of CHESTER LANZO** 

Modeler for: 67 years 1914 - 1989

**AMA Number: 2670** 



Written & Submitted by JB (5/00) & TM (5/99) Transcribed by NR (6/00) Edited by SS (2002), Updated by JS (10/08), Reformatted by JS (10/09)

#### Career:

- A charter member of the Cleveland Balsa Butchers
- An early pioneer in Radio Control models
- June 1941: Set a national record in Class E Cabin Rubber
- 1937: Lanzo's won the first Radio Control championship event at the Detroit Nationals
- A researcher, an inventor, a leader in design, and an outstanding contestant
- Held records in Outdoor Stick, Cabin, and Rubber Speed
- 1942: Chester began a career at NACA-NASA, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics-National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Chet in July 1940. Photo taken by Jim Alaback.

#### **Honors:**

- 1976: Model Aviation Hall of Fame
- 1978: National Free Flight Society Hall of Fame
- 1989: Society of Antique Modelers Hall of Fame
- 2000: Kits and Plans Antiquitous Hall of Fame

### SAM 1 The Model Museum Flying Club January 2011

Mr. Lanzo passed away in 1989. Trying to document the life and modeling career 10 years later is not easy task. Fortunately, two friends of his have come forth with some biographic material to document his life. These people are Mr. James H. Bennett and Mr. Tom McCoy. The following biography was written and submitted by biographer Jim Bennett in May of 2000.

Chester Lanzo was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on June 11, 1914. He was a lifelong resident of Cleveland. Lanzo lived 75 years dying August 13, 1989. Lanzo was one of the earliest members elected to the Model Aviation Hall of Fame. He was also elected to the National Free Flight Society (NFFS) Hall of Fame and the Society of Antique Modelers (SAM) Hall of Fame. He was a charter member of the Cleveland Balsa Butchers.



**Photo courtesy of The Plan Page** 

Lanzo built indoor and outdoor rubber models and gasoline engine powered models. He was an early pioneer in Radio Control models and was the first to successfully radio control a gasoline engine powered model plane. Chet was the first to win the national meet in the Radio Control event in 1937. Lanzo was a national champion in outdoor rubber and a record holder in those events. His later years were spent in Radio Control, primarily gliders and scale.

His first big win was at the 1936 Detroit National meet. He won the Open Outdoor Cabin Rubber event and set a record of 48 minutes. His design, using 200 square inches of wing with a three-panel dihedral, had a simple box fuselage with a small windshield. The propeller was an 18-inch diameter free wheeler. Undercarriage was made of bamboo. The design was featured in Air Trails later that year. It was called the Duplex because it included a Stick fuselage that could be interchanged with the Cabin. The model was able to fly in both stick and cabin events. A multi-spar structure was used with several 1/16 square balsa strips. Dick Korda followed with the same basic design winning the 1937 Nationals Open

Fuselage event and setting the 54-minute record.

Lanzo won the Open Outdoor Stick Rubber event at the 1940 Chicago Nationals and set a national record. His three-flight total was 44-1/2 minutes. One flight was 32 minutes. The design incorporated a 300 square inch wing, a box built up fuselage and a two bladed folding 18-inch diameter, 28-inch pitch propeller. The 300 square inch rubber design was an innovation gaining aerodynamic scale effect increasing wing efficiency. Mainly, he wanted to produce a lighter wing loading closer to that required by the rules. Lanzo's stick article was in the December 1940 Air Trails. His design included a rudder tab controlled by an Austin timer allowing the tab to be actuated after a long while in the thermal. Some called this the first dethermalizer. Lanzo, in the December 1940 Air Trails said it was to allow a model to stick in a thermal. Later Burd Models Corporation produced the model as a kit. His design is an all time favorite and is one of the most popular in SAM events.

Lanzo set a national record in Class E Cabin Rubber in June 1941 with a 350 square inch model. He made flights of 63 and 30 minutes. The model featured an Austin timer operated dethermalizer, which was a large flap comprising the upper superstructure including the windshield of the cockpit over the wing root. The wing was of the Wolf (after the Wolf Hirth, Wolf G1 sailplane design) outline, similar to that used by Frank Zaic and the Thermic gliders. Other plan forms are straight tapered in the outer panel. Lanzo's design was featured in the August 1942 Air Trails Pictorial. The design was also in the 1953 Model Aeronautic Yearbook by Frank Zaic. Century Models produce a kit in 1945.

### SAM 1 The Model Museum Flying Club January 2011

Lanzo's postwar Wakefield design was in Bill Winter's Plan Book. In 1948, his Puss Moth Flying Scale Rubber was a large model of contest Cabin model size. It has a two bladed folding propeller. Lanzo placed third in Flying Scale in the 1940 Chicago Nationals. The model was featured in a 1947 Air World, an interim magazine between Flying Aces and Flying Models.

Chet produced several gas designs. The Burd Company produced a 1947-diamond cross section fuselage Class A/B design. Lanzo built designs for the original large bore Brown's. The design is flown in the SAM events.

Lanzo's 1937 Radio Control Champion won the RC championship (mdf edit) at the 1937 Detroit Nationals. Lanzo was a licensed radio amateur. He designed and built the radio system. He is credited with being the first to conceive radio control of models and had the honor of being the first to do it successfully. He simplified the design over a four-year development. He decided rudder control was a practical way to begin the quest of model flight Radio Control. Equipment was heavy and the tube was the main ingredient. The rudder control receiving set required one tube. The Good brothers won three successive years after Chet's win. Jim Walker was the next winner in 1941. Lanzo, in the 1938 Zaic's Yearbook, presented some circuits for Radio Control. He mentions a radio transmitter on board a gas model for tracking and finding.



The old master himself, Chet Lanzo, placed in RC Assist with his own "Lanzo Stick." Wire-braced center section struts distinguished it.

He flew rubber speed in the Scripps-Howard Junior Aviator Nationals. His design was a twin fuselage, twin motor with counter-rotating propellers. Frank Zaic's 1937 Model Aeronautic Yearbook includes a three-view drawing. The model flew at speeds up to 75 miles per hour.

Chet flew indoor stick in National events in prewar Nationals. He was an all around champion, outdoor, and indoor rubber, gas, and Radio Control. He built Radio Control sailplanes and gas-powered scale after leaving competition flying.

He was a researcher, an inventor, a leader in design and an outstanding contestant. He produced amazing records in outdoor rubber in the days before flight time limits. Lanzo designs go on in history as all-time favorites with SAM flyers. He became an aviation and radio enthusiast in the late 1920s. In his life, he saw major advances in full scale and model aviation and electronics.

Chet was a contributor and one of the best liked.

-Prepared by Jim Bennett, Saint Louis 1999

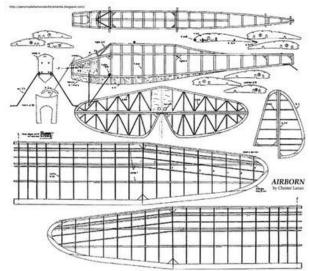
### SAM 1 The Model Museum Flying Club January 2011

The following biographical material was compiled and supplied by Mr. Tom McCoy

Chester D. Lanzo was a great model airplane pioneer, who started building model airplanes in 1922 at the age of eight. His modeling career extended over a period of 65 years, until the time of his death on August 13, 1989. Chester was well known world-wide for his expertise in model airplanes.

He was a member of the 1936 Wakefield Team. The following year, 1937, Chester won first place in the first National Radio Control Contest ever held.

Chester started designing and building his own Radio Control system about 1933. His first Radio Control model, built and flown in 1934, was a 7-foot span cabin model. Chester called it Radio Control No. 1. It is now commonly known as the RC-1. This model proved too fast to be controlled with his primitive radio control system. His second Radio Control model had a 12-foot span, which flew very slowly. Chester named it the Racer. Unfortunately, he crashed it prior to the 1936 Nationals in which he planned to enter the model. The 1937 Radio Control Champion model, known as the Radio Control Stick was his third Radio Control model. In 1938, Chester designed a 9-foot span Radio Control glider, which he flew in the 1939 Nationals. It was the first Radio Control glider to compete in a National Radio Control Contest. He named it Airborn.



An outstanding band model airplane designer, Chester was winner of the outdoor stick event in 1940. He has held records in outdoor stick, cabin, and rubber speed. Chester's designs are in Air World, Flying Models, Air Trails, Model Airplane News, and the Model Aeronautics Yearbooks by Frank Zaic. Burd Models kitted several of Chester's Free Flight designs.

Chester was born in Cleveland, Ohio and, after graduating from high school, became a draftsman for a local printing press manufacturer during the late 1930s. In the early 1940s, he became the chief tool designer at Cleveland Pneumatic Tool Co., where he designed a landing gear for a bomber used in World War II. During this period, he took night courses at various colleges around Cleveland and became a certified engineer. In 1942 Chester began a career at NACA- NASA, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics-National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Lewis Research Center until he retired in 1974. Chester worked in various fields of engineering such as electrical, instrumentation, heat transfer, nuclear and lasers. He authored numerous reports for the Lewis Research Center.

However, according to Chester's wife, Peggy, his hobby and joy was model airplanes. In the early 1930s, Chester had a 30-inch wingspan cabin rubber model fly away. A young boy returned it. The young boy asked Chester to help him get started building model airplanes. That young boy was Richard Korda!

Chester was inducted into the following Halls of Fames:

• Model Aviation Hall of Fame

### SAM 1 The Model Museum Flying Club January 2011

- National Free Flight Society Hall of Fame
- Society of Antique Modelers Hall of Fame

Chester was a founding member of the famous Balsa Butchers Club of Cleveland, Ohio, which also had Richard Korda and George Reich as members. In recent years, he was a member of the Valley City Radio Control Club and the Society of Antique Modelers, Chapter 39.

Chester had numerous model airplane designs published and unpublished. His most famous designs include:

- 1937 Radio Control Champion (RC-Stick) Record Breaker Gas Model
- Lanzo Stick Rubber Powered Duplex Rubber Powered
- Puss Moth Rubber Powered Lanzo Bomber Gas Powered
- The Bomber has been the dominant winner in recent years in the Society of Antique Modelers contests. The Bomber won many contests, mainly in the Radio Control Assist contests.

Chester D. Lanzo was a gentle man with a pleasant personality and a mild manner. Above all, he was a great competitor!

The following appeared in the July/August issue of SAM Speaks.

Chet Lanzo 1914-1989

By Tom McCoy

It is with a heavy heart my sad duty to report to the Society, the death of Chester Lanzo. Chet died on Sunday, August 13 of heart failure. He was 75-years-old.



**Photo courtesy of The Plan Page** 

To properly list all of Chet's accomplishments would take this entire journal. He was an electrical, instrumental, nuclear and laser engineer. He worked at NASA's Lewis Research Center as a nuclear engineer until he retired in 1974.

As modelers, we all will remember him for his outstanding model designs and contributions to aeromodeling. Chet's memory will live on in the hearts of all modelers. His gift to us is the pleasure we derive from modeling and flying one of his designs.

Chet was a modest, soft-spoken, gentle man. The closest I ever heard Chet come to bragging was his little saying when he saw one of his designs being flown by another modeler – "a beautifully engineered model," he would say and just beam.

Chet had literally hundreds of friends and acquaintances who were model enthusiasts. He was easy to meet and made everyone feel at ease.

I was privileged to attend the 50th Anniversary Wakefield at Taft, California with Chet and he literally spent half his time meeting new people and posing for pictures with different modelers – a great memory for him and all of us.



### SAM 1 The Model Museum Flying Club January 2011

Chet had built a new 4-ounce Duplex and was test flying it with just a few turns. An unidentified modeler, who did not know him, was giving him advice on trimming the model. Chet was very courteous and said, "Well, I may try your idea. Thanks for your help." I thought at the time, "What a gentleman."

(From Tom McCoy's cover letter – "As you know, Chet and I were flying buddies and this has been a tough job for me. I guess we all lost a good friend.")

The following is an article that appeared in the January 1951 issue of the Cleveland Press, by Aviation Editor Tom Blackiston.

Years of experience in model aviation activities are represented in the contest officials of the fifth annual National Model Plane exhibit to be held in Higbee's auditorium Feb. 23.

Two officials, veteran modelers and long prominent leaders in model aviation circles, are Chester Lanzo and George Reich. Both are employees of the Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory at Cleveland Hopkins Airport. Lanzo is an engineer in the instrument division. He works with specialized instruments, which are used to measure temperatures in experimental Jet engine research.

Reich is a toolmaker at Lewis Laboratory. He too does specialized instrumentation work. In last year's Higbee contest, Reich was a member of the technical committee and has been appointed chair of the judge's committee for the fifth annual event.

Lanzo holds the record of being one of the oldest model plane builders in Greater Cleveland, in point of service. He began his activities in the hobby more than 20 years ago.

Lanzo is a pioneer in radio control for model airplanes. In 1935, his work was given national recognition in several magazine publications. He also is credited with building one of the first dethermalizers for model planes.

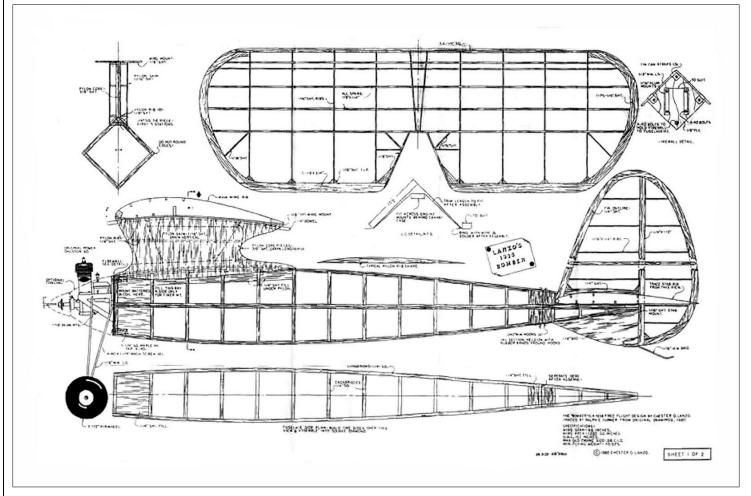
He was one of the nation's strongest contenders before World War II in many national model plane contests. He always came out on top, or very near to it, in the competitions.

Last year Lanzo was a member of the technical committee for the National Model Plane Exhibit. He will serve as chair of the technical committee in this year's meet.

As chair of the judge's committee, Reich will assign his 50 to 75 committee members to the event categories, which they are best qualified to judge. He will work closely with his colleague Lanzo, who will have charge of placing all model planes entered in the contest in their proper events.

Both of the young "old timers" also will assist the women contest officials who register entrants for the meet. Registration will be held on Higbee's 10th floor on Thursday, Feb. 21 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., and Friday, Feb.22 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

### SAM 1 The Model Museum Flying Club January 2011



Chet Lanzo's Bomber- arguably one of the most popular SAM designs for competition!

#### The following obituary ran in the Cleveland Plain Dealer Newspaper on Oct. 14, 1989.

Chester Lanzo, Engineer, model airplane inventor Model airplane enthusiasts know Chester D. Lanzo as the man who invented the radio controlled model airplane when Free Flight planes operated by rubber band motors were popular.

Mr. Lanzo, 75, died yesterday at Medina Community Hospital, apparently of heart failure.

Born in Cleveland, Lanzo attended East Tech High School. He was a draftsman for Chandler and Price, a local printing press manufacturer, during the late 1930s.

As the chief tool designer at Cleveland Pneumatic Tool Co. in the early 1940s, he designed the landing gear for a bomber used in World War II.

Mr. Lanzo took night courses at Fenn College, Case Institute of Technology and Baldwin-Wallace College in the late 1930s and early 1940s to become a certified engineer.

### SAM 1 The Model Museum Flying Club January 2011

In 1942, he began a career at NASA's Lewis Research Center that ended when he retired in 1974. At NASA, Mr. Lanzo did electrical, instrumental, nuclear and laser engineering.

But his hobby and joy was model airplaning, according to his wife, Peggy. She said he won an award from the Wakefield Model Airplane Competition, one of the most prestigious in the field, in the late 1930s. "But he never got go accept it, because there was a Depression and he had a wife and a baby to take care of," she said.

Albert Seidowski, a local model airplane enthusiast, said Mr. Lanzo was known nationally for the Radio Control airplane, invented in 1937, and a model bomber he invented that still is used in competitions.

Mr. Lanzo was a member of the Cleveland Balsa-Butchers Club, the Valley City Radio Control Club, the Wakefield Competition, and the Academy of Model Aeronautics.

Besides his wife, Mr. Lanzo is survived by a daughter, Sylvia Jane Bell. Services are private.

The following information comes from the invitation to a banquet to honor Chester Lanzo after his death.

In the spirit of "Cloud Nine," you are invited to attend a banquet honoring The Memory Of CHESTER LANZO Guest Speakers

Dr. Walter Good, Mr. Hal deBolt, Dr. Bill McCallie, Mr. Fred Mulholland

Mr. Don Lowe and Carl Schmaedig as Master of Ceremonies

Saturday, December 16, 1989

Daedalian Room
Officers' Open Mess
MacDill AFB, Florida
Cocktails 6:30 p.m.
Dinner 7:30 p.m.
"Cloud Nine" 8:30 p.m.
Please Respond by December 10
With full cost of \$14.00 per person
Tom Gealta (CD)
6232 S. Kelly Road
Tampa, FL 33611
(813) 839-1491

The AMA History Program was developed to preserve the history of model aviation. We share the stories of people like you who contribute to the history and future of model aviation. You do not need to be a famous modeler to participate. We want the stories of all modelers in order to document the real history of aeromodeling. You can help us do this by sending in your biography and encouraging other modelers to do the same. See the AMA History Program website at <a href="http://www.modelaircraft.org/museum/history.aspx">http://www.modelaircraft.org/museum/history.aspx</a> for writing guides, biographies of other modelers, and more. –AMA History Program

## SAM 1 The Model Museum Flying Club January 2011

#### SAM 1 Officers for 2010

President: Duane Hjerleid

303-973-1435

dewey80127@gmail.co

Vice-president: Norm Frawley

303-530-2528

normphyll@msn.com

Secretary-Treasurer: Richard Sills

303-651-0349 resills@msn.com

Editor-at-large: Mike Fields

303-420-5693

clarkenfields1@comcast.net



SAM 1 at the 2011 Wings over the Rockies Model Expo