



FOO-2-U-2...

OLD TIMER Model of the Month

Original design by: Dick Obarski
Replica design by: Ron Sharpton
Redrawn by: Phil Bernhardt
Text by: John Pond

• Full credit for preserving this Dick Obarski design should go to Ken Freese, a transplanted Chicagoan, now living in the Sacramento area. Ken was so struck by Dick's continuing development of the Zipper, that he made scale three-views of the design and had them pre-

FULL SIZE PLANS AVAILABLE – SEE PAGE 88

served on film. Photos which substantiate the design are dated April 1939, hence the reason for classifying it as an old timer rather than an antique.

The name "Foo" was taken from the very popular comic strip, "Smokey Stover," which featured a black cat generally in the corner of the end block saying "Foo." This became so popular that some of the large aircraft were called "Foo Fighters" and there was even a "FOO" Squadron. As close as can be determined by the writer, the word "Foo" was short for a popular derogatory phrase of the time, "Foey on you." (Remember the "Notary Sojac"

signs that showed up frequently in this strip? wcn)

This month's .020 Replica design is the brainchild of Ron Sharpton, a Florida modeler, who did very well at the Nationals old timer events, placing no less than third in a field of 35. The model had been scaled to approximately 150 sq. in., which has been found to be the optimum size for .020 Replica types.

Foo-2-U-2 designs fly exactly like Zippers (from which the model owes its ancestry), i.e., right turn under power, and glide right. The model trims out very quickly and is a consistent soarer. Try one, you'll like it!

PLUG SPARKS (continued) . . .

timer events. Despite hard luck, dad and son, each managed to win a trophy. Next year, the gang threatens to win them all! Great stuff!

Ron Sharpton, of Florida, showed up with an Obarski Foo-2-U-2 that flew excellently (plans to be featured in a coming MODEL BUILDER issue). The columnist had a hard time selling a banquet ticket to Ron, as he modestly stated he hadn't won anything. All those southerners play possum . . . Ron garnered two at the banquet!

One could go on and on describing the good flying, but needless to say, everyone had a good time. The Mexican

(new for this year) team failed to place this time but that won't last! They had some good flyers who ran into tough luck. And talking about luck, Joe Dodson was mumbling all afternoon after watching many a model "max" out from low altitudes, when his Stratostreak flown early could manage only two minute flights from fantastic heights.

Interestingly enough, these old timer events, will bring out all the old timers eventually. This year, Caldwell Johnson (Slick Stick fame) came out for the first time since 1941. Joining with Taibi, Paul Marchall, Joe Dodson, and Frank Parmenter, "Cadwell" (as he is called) had to admit he has missed a lot of years.

Only one remedy for that!

OLD TIMERS REUNION BANQUET

Seeing that we had a good meal at the Belmont Restaurant last year, the banquet was again scheduled for the same spot, and 88 showed! This time the crowd practically took the play away from M.C. Pond. When presented with an A.M.A. fellowship, one wag hollered "Now say something." It's a little tough to think of something clever especially when the Reunion featured speakers such as John Worth and AMA President John Clemens. Clemens displayed a pod and boom design he had cooked up in 1946 and with it, some

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