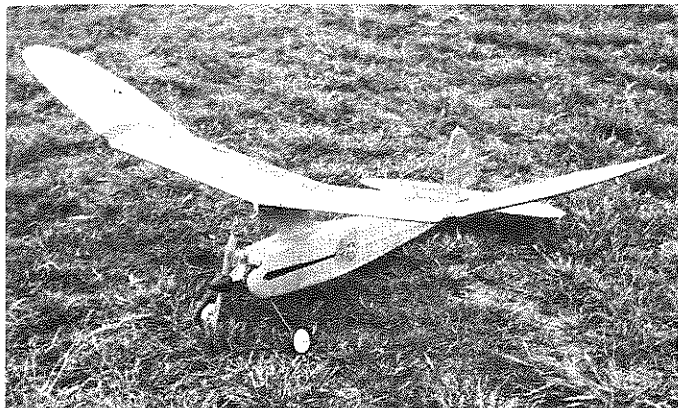


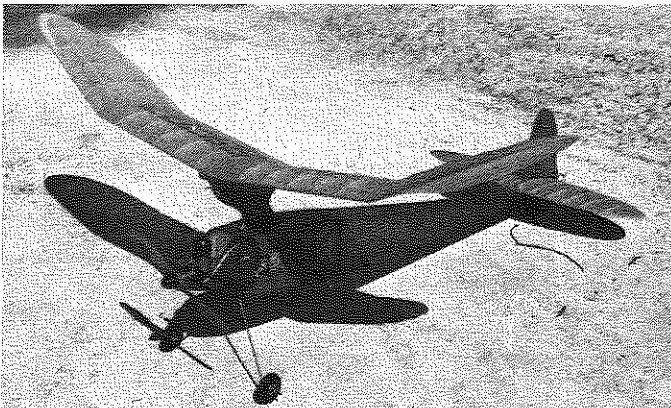
Master craftsman and superb mechanic, Noel Barker, of England, readies his Forster 99 powered Vulcan.



Spiro Nicholaw flew his PB-2 for a long time as a free flight before adding radio control. Funny thing is he still loses it on occasion!



Randy Wilson's Playboy Sr. at the South Glastonbury, Conn. field. One of the big O.T. meets in the east.



At the other end of the size range, this D.C. Dart powered Baby Playboy by Bill Kirby, Gainesville, Fla., at Glastonbury contest.

## THERMAL THUMBER

OLD TIMER Model of the Month

Designed by: Maurice Bryceland  
Redrawn by: Phil Bernhardt  
Text by: Bill Northrop

● The May 1941 issue of M.A.N. featured a construction article on this Class A gas model, the "Thermal Thumber," designed by Maurice Bryceland. Prior to publication, numerous copies had been built and flown by modelers in the metropolitan area of northern New Jersey, New York City, and Long Island.

On November 17, 1940, Thermal Thumbers took 1st, 2nd, and 3rd at the annual "Frost Bite" Gas Model Contest, sponsored by the Vineland (N.J.) Aero-nauts, at Bucks Flying Field, Woodruff, New Jersey. The second place, in Class B, was taken by one Walt Schroder, a member of the Strato-Bums, of Bloomfield, New Jersey. . . Hmmm. . .

The plans, as published in M.A.N., gave no indication of the "V" cross-section of the aft fuselage, but the accompanying photos included a framework shot which gave the proper shape. Our plans, as drawn by Phil Bernhardt, correctly show this.

Thermal Thumber is excellent for

modern Old Timer pylon class competition. It has lines very similar to the popular Cleveland Playboy, and the construction surely qualifies to be described by that popular time-worn expression . . . "straightforward." ●

### Plug Sparks . . . (continued)

California boys couldn't make it! Understand that Otto Bernhardt and his entourage were stranded when the Volkswagen bus blew a crankcase seal.

F. L. Swaney was seen to be gloating over the "old Pro," Sal Taibi. Seems he beat the master at his own game and was rubbing it in but good! Just goes to show, ya can't win 'em all! In all fairness, it must be pointed out that the Alert only beat Sal's Dodger by three seconds in Class B!

Larry Boyer got time off from his fireman duties and barely reached the contest in time to win Class A. That was a fast trip from San Diego! Chris Christenson was second, with John Drob-skoff still flying his 20 year old Challenger to third! Some birds never die!

One innovation which seemed to go over pretty well was the use of an 8-foot takeoff board on card tables for the .020 Replica models. Dave Knight seemed to like the idea as he won the event, closely followed by Keith Morgan and Hank

Cohan. Cohan also placed second in rubber behind Jack Quinn, while erstwhile FAI team man, Bill Langenberg, brought up third place.

The big birds (Class C) are always the most interesting to watch, and this meet was no exception. Al Rasmussen and his Zipper topped the field, with Cliff Silva (wheelchair and all) placing second with a Playboy. Surprisingly, Larry Clark beat out the sailplanes for third with his Marsdon 1937 Pacific Coast Champ.

For a two-in-one contest, additional interest was built up by allowing two entries (of different models) per contestant in the same event. This appeared to work out well, as some fellows placed higher with their backup planes.

### LAS VEGAS BASH

Jim Adams reports via "Hot Leads" that the Las Vegas O/T meet was the biggest and best yet. This is the meet you take your best girl to (better be your wife!) as Las Vegas offers all sorts of fun for the women. You can really make points around the house!

The two day meet turned out to be practically a one day contest, as the wind came up so strong on Saturday that the more practical fellows called it off after 10 a.m. (This was following a 9:30 a.m. start!)

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