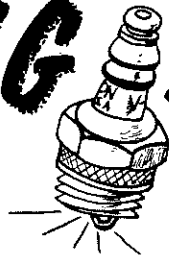






Should we tell you that John Pond was in such a hurry to finish his cabin version of the Cleveland Playboy that he forgot to drill a hole for the high tension lead? Naww, we won't tell you! It was the National F/F Championships, and Tom Laurie is holding. Ship made some nice flights.

# PLUG SPARKS



By JOHN POND

It's nice to have a word or two (with him, that's impossible) about Old Timers from the man most responsible for it all happening.

● Hi there, fellows! It's been over a year since this scribbler has put anything down on paper about old timers, but the latest developments in the old timer game are worth talking about. I'm referring to that latest modeling explosion occurring on the eastern seaboard.

Despite what any die-in-the-wool free flighter says, the biggest shot in the arm the old timer movement has received in the last two years has been the advent of the Old Timer Free Flight R/C Events. These have been just what the doctor ordered for those easterners who are

literally dying on the free flight vine for lack of good flying sites.

Originally conceived by Dick Tanis, President of the New Jersey R/C Club, and spark plugged (how appropriate!) by Woody Woodman and Joe Beshar, these events have become the rage of the eastcoast. Put yourself in the place of an easterner who has had to put up with ridiculous motor runs of five to seven seconds for two minute flights. All that just to be able to fly a free flight model from the size of a field we westerners wouldn't consider enough room for a picnic. All of a sudden, you can now build a competition model, run it to any engine run you are allowed, and get a "max" flight (probably five minutes) without sticking it in those notorious wooded glens that dot the eastern landscapes. Doesn't that turn you on?

No question about it, the New Jersey club is to be highly commended for its pioneering work in promoting Old Timer Free Flight with radio control. Starting with a local trade show, the club put on displays to show what can be done with old time free flight models. Their first contest attracted nationwide interest with numerous photos being featured in various aviation publications. The whole idea spread like wildfire.

The famous Eastern States Championships, which for years hosted the finest free flight contests, was again revived with the addition of the O.T. F/F events. Did that ever bring the old time modelers out of the woodwork! Naturally, who wins the first Eastern States Championships . . . none other than Leon Shulman with his redoubtable Super Zomby. Who says lightning doesn't strike twice in the same spot?

Actually, what makes old timer F/F

## Old Timer Model of the Month, Fienburg's 1931 Record Holder.

When you compare it with other models of the time, this design by Emanuel Feinburg of Detroit, Michigan, was quite advanced. It won the 1931 National A.M.L.A. meet in Dayton, Ohio with a flight of 29 minutes and 30 seconds, setting a then new world record.

Plans, and an article describing the construction of this model, were published in the January 1932 issue of *The American Boy - Youth's Companion*. It was called to our attention by Bob "Satellite" Hunter.

Of special interest is the "locked axle" landing gear arrangement . . . still a great idea for improved ground handling of tail dragger designs, particularly on those cantankerous WW-I scale R/C ships!

