



Squadron 36 Dispatch

President: James Smith
Ffjim99912@gmail.com
Secretary: Jerry Litschi
wakefieldnut@gmail.com

Nov./Dec 2025



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From
Da Prez & The Silly Old Man

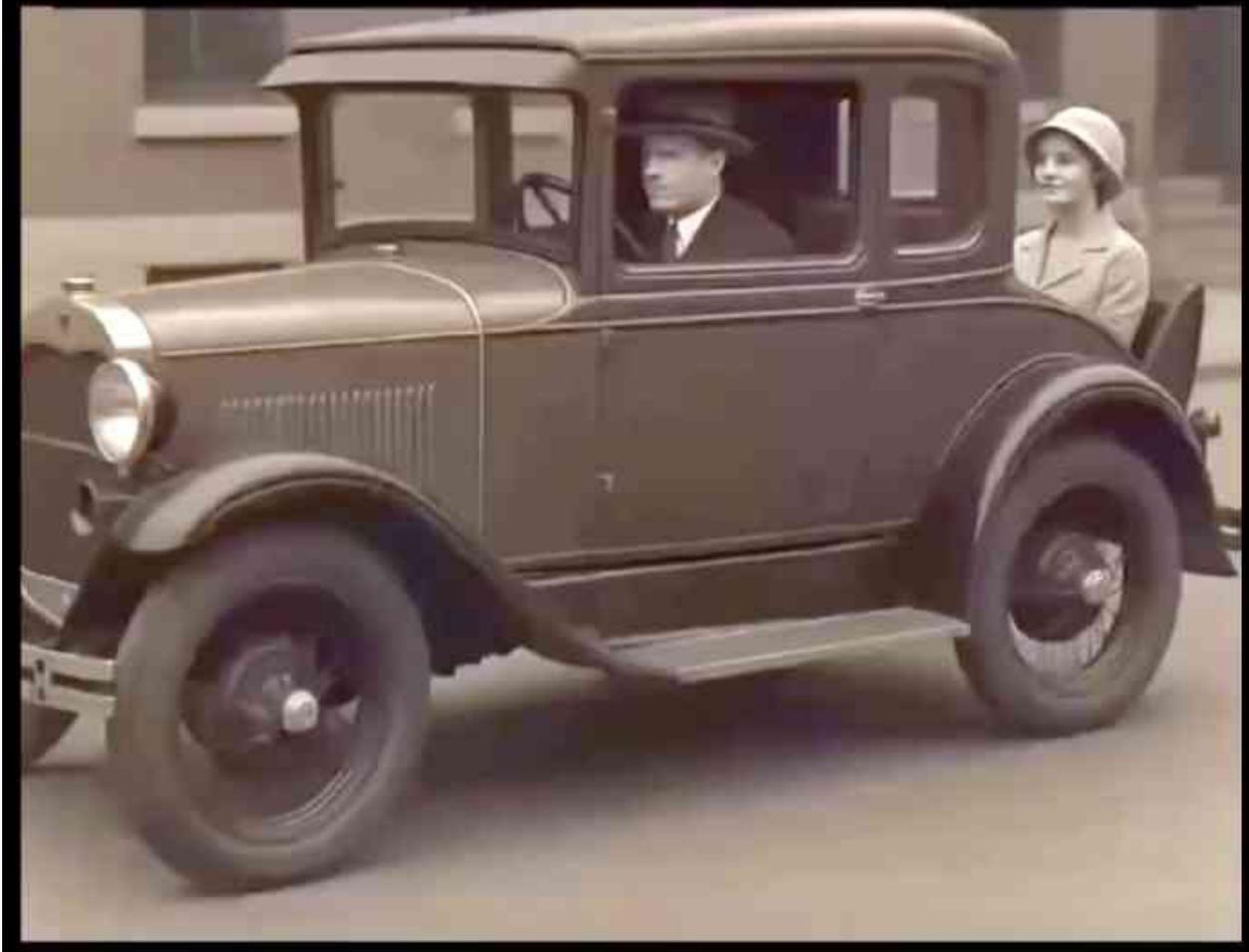


SILLY OLD MAN IS STILL MAKING CHANGES

The 2026 season is to commence. That means new access cards and the dues is coming due. At this time, I am having problems obtaining the turf farm cards and an update as to the cost. There-fore the dues letters will be later than usual. So that everybody is aware of what the silly one is up to, I have the payment ready, this enables the club to cut the delay in the spring. Another change, the checks will be “made out to Gerold Litschi. A stamped self-address envelope will still be included in the request letter. This might seem strange, but that blasted Secretary is yelling all the time about the lousy record-keeping of the VP!

The dates for the 2026 contests have been set Silly Old Man Follies will be June 27, 2026. the Don Myers Memorial is the 1st and 2nd of August 2026. These contests will not be sanctioned AMA contests. A new event has been added to both contests involving powered Sport FF models. The event will be known as, “Don’s Favorite”. Da Prez will explain more in his column. Signing out: *Jerry Litschi*

**When going for a drive
was nice and peaceful**



FROM THE NEW OVAL OFFICE

Not the usual blithering nonsense this time, I actually have real information .

As you probably know, this is the 100th birthday of Guillows Models. The FAC wants to have a Guillows contest at the Nats in Geneseo, I believe. I've built quite a few Guillows kits beginning back in 1963 with an 18" Bristol Bullet, the first stick and tissue model I ever finished!

The main problem with the kits is WEIGHT. As far as scale accuracy goes, they're pretty good, but they need a diet. Here's some things I've learned that you can do easily.

The bulkheads on most designs can be lightened. First, cut off 1/16 of the perimeter leaving no notches for stringers. Mark the positions and lay the stringers on top of the formers. The other benefit is you'll get a smoother covering job with no bulkhead bumps.

Most come with fairly wide trailing edges. Cut them WAY down to 1/8 or if your daring 3/32. If you do that you can add an additional 1:16 sq. spar to the wing but only if it needs it. On the other hand, if strong enough, leave out a spar.

If building a die-cut kit, replace the heavy wood for lighter or thinner wood, using templates on the plans.

Stab and rudder outlines can be way lightened by cutting the pieces to 1/2 the width or do laminated outlines (something I've never tried).

If possible, use smaller diameter wire in the landing gear. I've found using coffee stirrer sticks to replace the balsa gear struts can often eliminate the need for wire. Same goes for wing struts, they really add strength.

Use the vacuum formed bits if you want, I don't think balsa would be much lighter. Lastly, you can always leave out stringers as there always seem to be too many!!

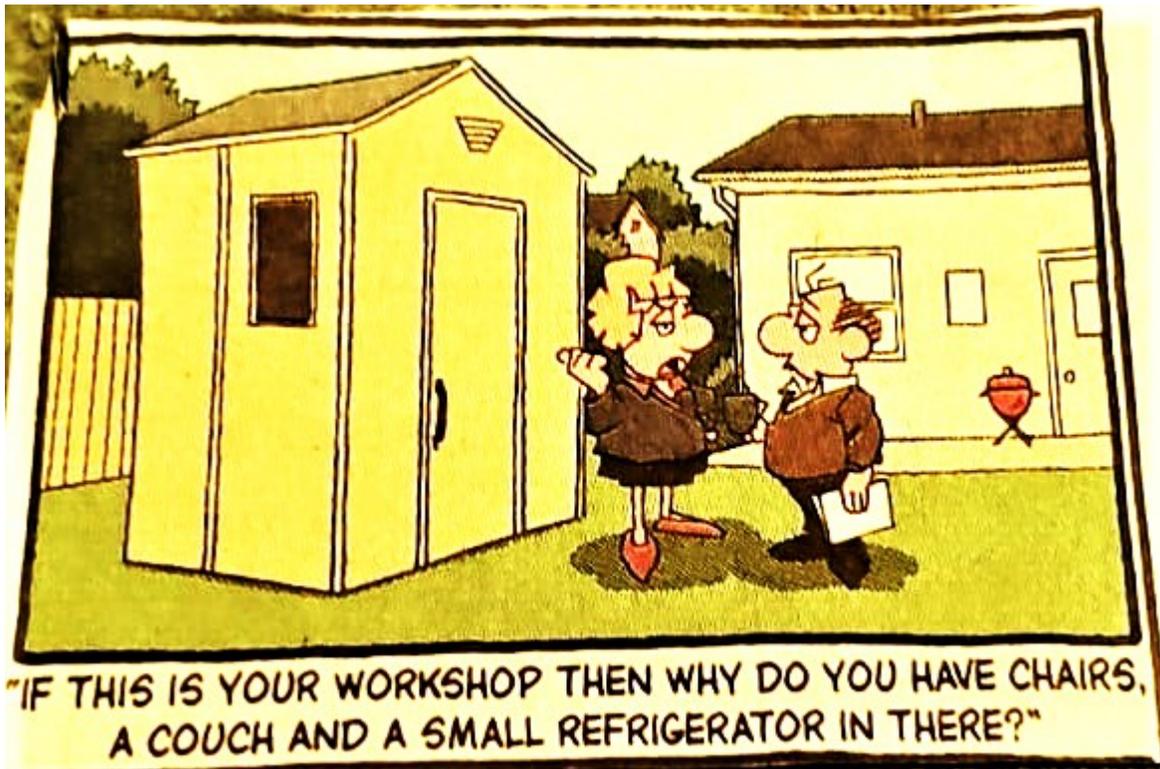
The other item is the Don Myers Memorial. We've never had an event that Don flew. Although he tried, he was not a gum band twister. He was known as "diesel Don". So I've proposed an event that Don would have flown (and did). It is for sport models that must look at least somewhat like a full scale airplane and have a cabin with windshield or an open cockpit. Any number of wings are OK, in fact, the more the merrier! Also must have a two wheeled landing gear mounted in the normal position. Power can be anything, glow, diesel, Jetex, CO2, or ignition. NO rubber or electric.

So build a Dakota, a Souix, or a Tom Boy, or whatever you want. Check out OuterZone for Vic Smeed designs, (he designed the TomBoy), he did loads of sport models.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Hope Santa brings you all those hobby things you've been lusting for.

Da Prez



My wife was going through my phone and asked who was saved as "Jumper Cables." So, I said, "That's YOU since you always like starting stuff." That's how the fight started.