

Mike Hemmingsen

CURRENT PROFILE: Full time FAA Certified Flight Instructor (CFI, CFI-I, MEI, and AGI) for Piper Authorized Training Provider. Licensed Commercial Pilot and SUAS Pilot (Part 107). Current Flight experience exceeds 3000 hours with approximately 1000 turbine hours, 600 multi-engine with FAR Part 121, Part 119, and Part 91 Operations.

EXPERIENCE: Started in the hobby back in mid 1980's after running across a few old Comet balsa models, and some of the RC Modeler magazines. Figured I could do it easy enough, and my builds were good, but it was too expensive then. I did teach myself with a Cox EZ Bee and purchased a trainer from a local club member who later turned out to be a coworker with NASA employee Woody Blanchard. I flew it twice, an MEN Trainer, but quickly decided I need something more docile - and quiet. Couldn't commit to joining a club, but was content with a couple of Goldberg Classics - a Gentle Lady with a high start and a Sophisticated Lady with the power pod (electric) - and flying at public parks where it was permitted and large open fields, whose owners allowed some RC activities but were not organized. It was of significance to me that all of these guys followed the AMA rules and fostered a safety culture - without any directives and solely to avoid any negative interactions or influences with the community. Suffice to say it all took a back seat to life for about 30 years, until my girlfriend picked me up a drone to fly indoors. I still had models in both kit form and nearly ready to fly, neatly packed in boxes. It was not long before my head and my hands needed to scratch that itch. So after joining AMPS in 2017, and transforming that MEN Trainer into a modern electric airframe, I have found the hobby as awesome as it was when I was a kid, reading those RC Modeler magazines in the school library and studying the printed plans for some cool models, which was nearly 20 years before I 'stuck my toes' into the RC waters with those Comet kits. It is not uncommon nowadays, to find me at the field with that same MEN Trainer which now flies more than it ever did with it's nitro engine. mhmms@icloud.com Sun City, AZ. Phoenix resident since 1996

LOOKING FORWARD: For the future, maintain and promote the AMPS RC Field as a popular resource for RC modelers. Exposing the current AMA scope and traditions to our neighbors and our youths who demonstrate an interest in aviation sciences, is what we do. Expanding that role is a natural instinct to give back to the community. As a member of the board, I would welcome the opportunity to extend my knowledge, skills and abilities toward increasing our exposure to the community, fostering and delivering opportunities to expand learning experiences within modern educational branches and exercising my personal and professional skills in and around the club.

SKILLS: Licensed professional pilot and flight instructor, Journeyman Carpenter, Mechanical Engineer, Museum Exhibits Professional in Design and Graphics Production.

REFERENCES: The White House Commonwealth of Virginia Historic Attractions Nike Mariners Museum Arizona Science Center Piper Aircraft