



Cen-Tex Modelers

Chapter – E *Big Bird Events - 1996-2005*

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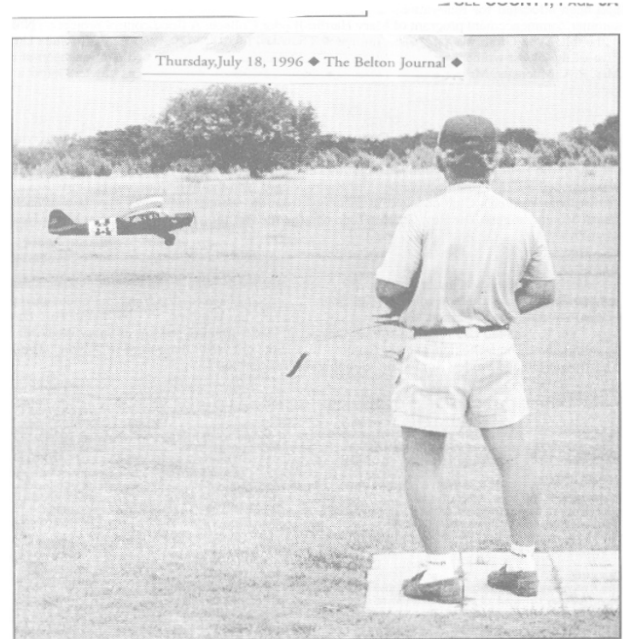
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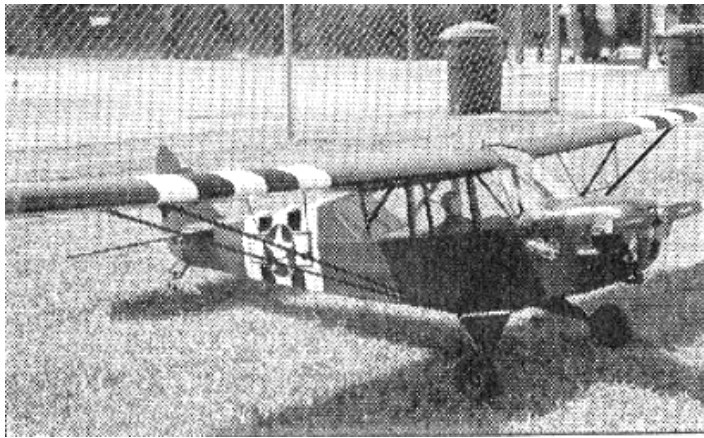
BIG BIRD 1996



A World War I French Nieuport fighter comes in for a low pass. Giant scale aircraft like this one are often powered by converted chainsaw or gasoline weed trimmer engines.



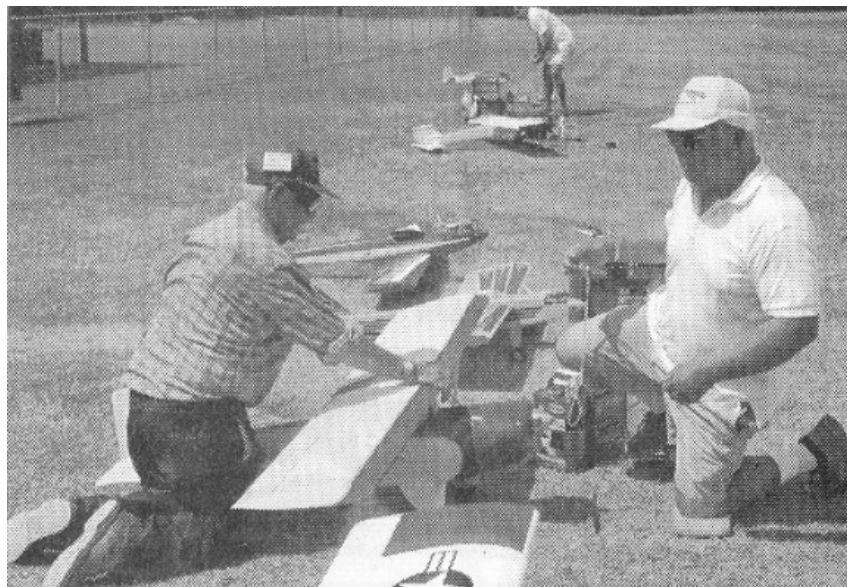
Preston Tucker, a member of the Centex Modelers, Inc., a club for model airplane enthusiasts, brings his plane in for a landing recently at Hall Field at Union Grove Park. The group meets regularly at the park to fly planes, sometimes in competition with each other and other clubs. See story and more photos, Page 1B. PHOTO BY LARRY HAWK



PRESTON TUCKERS ENTRY



Left to Right: George Avery, Dan Smith, Unk, Virgil Griffith, Preston Tucker and Unk
FLIGHT LINE



EARL WOLVERTON AND DAN SMITH



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BIG BIRD 1998



B-17 FLIGHT PREPARATION UNDERWAY



FLIGHT LINE ENTRY



CONTESTENTS B-17 - Randy Larsen



ANOTHER FLIGHT LINE ENTRY



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BIG BIRD 1999



**REGISTRATION: HUBER DIRR,
ED COURNYER, & CHARLES CULVER**



**BOB HAAS, JIM ANDRUKATES, CHARLES CULVER,
& HUBERT DIRR**



**REGISTRATION
BOB HAAS & JIM ANDRUKATES**



**HARD WORK FOR FIELD MARSHALL
VIRGIL GRIFFITH**



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BIG BIRD 2000



JIM HILLIN & CHARLES CULVER



CHARLES FARLOW'S BOYS & DOG



JIM HILLIN & CHARLES CULVER



EVENT WAS CALLED OFF DUE TO WEATHER



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BIG BIRD 2001



CHARLES CULVER & HUBERT DIRR - CD



CONTESTANTS GETTING SET UP



SAFETY INSPECTORS
JIM HILLIN & VIRGIL GRIFFITH



EVENT BRAIN TRUST
BILL BECTOLD & HUBERT DIRR - CD



BB '01 - Merric Cummings from Laredo, Tx



BB '01 - A study of Jim Hillin's crash



BB '01 - Our Cook James Rolleston, with Earl Wolverton, and spectators

BIG BIRD 2001 cont'



**Big Bird Registration, left to right,
Hubert Dirr, Unk, Unk, and Charles Culver.**



BB01e Pavilion with Rolleston and spectators



BBSW01a One of the Swap areas



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BIG BIRD 28 JUNE 2003

Jim Hillin will probably have something in his column, but needless to say the event was a success. Twenty-two pilots registered, but unfortunately your editor did not attempt to count the spectators who visited. Ken Spears from Arlington won the Spectators Choice Trophy with his Corsair, and James Anderson from Duncanville won the Pilots Choice trophy with his beautiful PT-17 biplane. The best news was that no one crashed. Unfortunately, our borrowed PA System over heated, and blew a fuse during the afternoon heating. Your editor wishes to thank the following people who helped out with Big Bird event: Jim Andrukates, Mickey Davis, Ed Cournoyer, Frank James, Hubert Dirr, James Rolleston, Marj McNutt, and of course Jim Hillin, who went out at 6:30 A.M. on Friday, and had most of the field mowed by the time the rest of us arrived. We want to give a special thanks to those club members and participants who acted as spotters for the pilots. If I've missed anyone, you have my apology.



Contestants Setting Up



Fred & Paul Reese and Charles Culver



Willis in Fore Ground



George Avery, Jim Andrukates and Hubert Dirr



George Avery and Jim Hillin



Jim Hillin's Bi



Frank James and Charles Culver



Willis's Plane



Ken Spears Plane





Ken Spears Plane



Dan Smith's 'Pup'



Fred Reese and Contestant



Barney AMA Number 0



Ken Spears Plane



Pilots Meeting



Jim Andrukates, Clay Culver & Fred Reeses Wife



Pilots Gathering & Charles Culver







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BIG BIRD OCTOBER 2004

We finally had a nice day for our Big Bird event. On our earlier try in June, we were completely washed out. So we gave it another try. The morning started very nice, but gave us a little scare about mid morning. It then turned out to be just a perfect day. We had a good attendance of pilots as far away as Forth Worth, Arlington and San Antonio. We had pilots from the Golden Triangle Radio Club (GTRCC) out of Fort Worth, the Greater Southwest Aeromodelers from Fort Worth, and the Canyon Lake Aero Modelers Society from San Antonio and quit a few pilots from our neighbor club, the Georgetown Aero Modelers Asso. (GAMARC) from Georgetown. On behalf of the Cen-Tex Modelers and myself, a big "Thank You" to all pilots for participating on this event.

Having a large variety of different model aircraft's present, made this event just perfect by seeing all those models in the sky. Around noon, a display of all models present in the pit area, gave our spectators a good view, what those models look like at close up, also gave them a chance to talk to some of the pilots. At the same time, the spectators, as well the pilots had a chance on voting for their favorite model. Dan Smith from Georgetown with his "Bravo" model won in the Pilots Choice competition. John Hall from San Antonio with his "Taube" model and Max Ficken from Fort Worth with his "Bearcat" won in a tie in the Spectators Choice competition. Congratulation. For a successful Big Bird event, it involves a lot of pre-preparation, as well work on the day of the event. All this could not be accomplished without the help from the club members. A big "Thank you" goes to all those, that helped me in making this event a great and successful day.



CD Hubert Dirr Going Over Event Schedule



Robert Hass and Charles Culver – Frequency Control



Club Members





Noon Line Up for Spectators



Tim Lovetts's - "Pittspeical"



John Hall's World War I Tube Tired for Spectator Choice



Max Fricen's Bearcat tired for Spectator Choice



John Hall's World War I SE-5



Donald French's – "Taylorcraft"



Carolyn Smith's – "Lacy Ace" Racer



Greg Wagner's – "Shoestring"



John Hall * Jeremy Gorman with "Soapwith"



Ken Kleins's – "Buckner"



Dennis Roden's – "Taylorcraft"



Dean Smith from Fort Worth Thunderbirds



Jim Hillin and Richard Guy



Tracy Hill's – "Extra 260"



Steve Hill's – "Extra 330L"



CD Hubert Dirr Presentation of Certificates



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BIG BIRD 18-19 JUNE 2005

CEN-TEX MODLERS INC. held its annual Big Bird on 18-19 June 2005 and was CD'ed by Jim Hillin. The weather was great, not to hot and not too windy. There were 16 registered contestants and many by standers to observe a great weekend of flying. The Concession Stand was run by Jeremy Gorman's wife, Carman, Ken Maddux's wife Gail and John Pratts wife Mary. These ladies did a great job feeding and cooking. Also, Richard Guys wife, Tracey assisted if maintaining the frequency control and impound of transmitters.





FRED REESE



GERRY SCHADER



LINE UP



JOHN HALL'S TAUBE



JOHN HALL, CHARLES CULVER & HUBER DIRR





JIM HILLIN'S PITTS SPECIAL



JOHN HALL & CHARLES CULVER



GROUP FROM GERGETOWN



T34 MENTOR



SAFETY COORDINATOR - HUBERT DIRR



CLIPPED WIND CUB, BUT CLIPPED WIND P51??



CHARLES CULVER



PUSH OR PULL??



GERRY SCHADER - GERE SPORT



EARL WOOLVERTON, FRED REESE & JIM HILLIN



THE GERE SPORT PREPARATION FOR FLIGHT



THE GERE SPORT MAKES A FLY BY





RICHARD GUY'S IN MID FLIGHT



JIM HILLIN AND MAYFIELD



DAN SMITH



JIM HILLIN LANDING



DAN SMITH



GERRY SCHADER'S GEE BEE