

September 9, 2012

2013 Flying Aces Club OUTDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Hey guys-

Arrived home late afternoon on Saturday after five days in Muncie. Was so good to see Frank Rowsome and his FAC Nats winning Chambermaid, Dave Franks with his Waco and Jumbo Judy, Ted Allebone with his electrics, Jack Moses' cute British trainer, Pres Bruning's flying fish...really....incredible...Wally Farrell and ALL of his ozone flying ships, Mike Midkiff's big DH-2 electric go OOS after 8 mins...WW1 final round where all five lasted 2+ mins...a final round in WW2 that (darn-it) I broke three strands so couldn't join in...but it was a joy to watch Farrell and Midkiff rock the last round with long flights landing just seconds apart...(THIS FIELD IS AMAZING and contains flights of a lifetime that would otherwise be in the next county or deep in the woods or crops elsewhere...). Let me take a breath.

Chris Starleaf's Jumbo B-24 getting WAY up there!!...see attached. His Cessna twin in FAC Scale. Beautiful flights.

Paul Boyanowski's sweet little trainer in the Low Wing Military Trainer mass event event that just aced out John Houck who took second...

yeah...John Houck, what an incredible travel companion. 600 miles through PA, Ohio and Indiana easily went by like watching a compelling movie....never a dull moment, great conversation, salt of the earth, that guy and his family.

Charlie Sauter winning the Greve race after a dry spell of a few years in that event...he was pumped...we were pumped for him!

My DH-2 peanut electric flying up to 500' at 9AM into the foggy low ceiling, nearly losing her in the mist as the sun was trying to break thru..then spiraling home...straight, dead spiral, nose first into the turf....minimal damage!! Best and most memorable scale-like flight in her 10 year history...Thank you Hung.

Wally Farrell again...too many flights to post...most memorable the late afternoon back n forth with the Dimer Staggerwings...Jim Detar, myself & Wally. What a trip, flying in a round robin approach as we tried our best to catch the late day thermals and ace each other out. So much fun..congrats, WF!

8PM sundaes each night at the Muncie Frozen Custard...nuf said.

Arriving safely at 5:30PM on Tues. with John Houck, having the field to ourselves, 'cept for a curious dog who looked as if he wanted to chase balsa...

John putting up 5-6 of his fleet on a perfect evening. Humid, sticky air, but calm and glowing orange, blue sky.

Switching the DO-X that night to Tan 1 rubber, getting incredibly high flights...leaping cleanly skyward...oh!
Then getting bit by a broken motor a day later. Dorkus, in Muncie.

Flying from 9-12 noon on Wed....again, perfect weather. Rain storm came in and chased us to the AMA museum for 2-3 hours or hangar talk and such. Terrific. What a museum. Came outside @ 4 to dead calm, flew til 8:30 with some of the troops. So good.

Next day, the contest begins from the far south end of the field, in a blanket of fog. Let the games begin.

Most of all it was so good to fly with all of these guys above. A few were in hospital beds only months ago...yet they were running after their ships in Muncie. F/F...the natural cure.

Pass the pix and report along....more sets of pix to follow throughout the day. - TH