

SCIFS-SCAMPS FALL ANNUAL 2016

Never have so few chased so much. Thanks to a generous contribution from an anonymous donor, and an even heftier slug from the SCIF treasury, we had \$500 in purchased merchandise prizes—fuel, rubber, Esaki tissue, Sig fuse, rubber lube, glue and such on the table for those who showed up and competed and won.

Eight contestants entered, and paid for a total of 21 event entries. I took in a total of \$125 in entry fees. There were 17 classes of competition. Scores were turned in for just 12 of the 21 “entries”.

While we didn’t have many entries in the contest, we weren’t lonesome on the field. The San Valeers were running their Nostalgia annual at Lost Hills on the same weekend and they had 18 or 20 flyers who signed in.

I’m only a part time SCAMP. My longtime club allegiance is to the SCIFS, but we are a dying breed. There are only three of us left who were among the long time “active” SCIF contest flyers. The financial “hit” won’t bother the SCIF treasury all that much—we don’t hold regular contests any more and there is still a bit in the legacy “kitty”. Right now, the SCAMPS and SCIFS hold two contests a year at Lost Hills, and the clubs alternate in responsibility. I suppose the SCIF treasury can survive for a few more such hits—but I am wondering as to whether there is enough real interest to keep these Lost Hills contests going and to justify the effort.

Aside from that, we had excellent field conditions and weather at Lost Hills on Saturday. The temperature was in the high 70s or low 80s for the bulk of the day. The wind drift was minimal, and thermals were around. It looked like the Holloway Company had graded the field smooth—there was a nice large flat area with nary a weed or a clump of brush in it. We had flies though—lots of them. As contest director, I couldn’t fly in any of the FF events, but since I wasn’t doing land office volumes of business at the contest table, I took the opportunity to fly the heck out of my SAM RC electric Speed 400 model—and can attest there was a lot of thermal activity. Things were different on Sunday, we got rained out and blown out early.

Some things are changing at Lost Hills. I’ve been going up there to fly in contests for nearly 30 years now. The hamlet of Lost Hills is basically a home for farm workers in the area, and the housing was pretty run down in the late 1980s. New homes have been built over the years; there’s now a nice park, and there are

actually a couple of newly built (or building) commercial structures. One of them is not yet finished, but looks like it will be a modern store. The other one which is new to me (I haven't been to Lost Hills since the spring of 2015) is called "Gabby's Grill". It's a nice-looking restaurant building. I had dinner there on Friday night. The food, and the kitchen staff, is Mexican. It was good—the place was clean, the beer was cheap, and there was a big flat screen TV on the wall tuned to a college football game. After years of suffering through Chez Denee (or giving up and going to Jack in the Box, Wendy's or Mickey D's) I was eager to eat there again on Saturday night.

But despite what the sign says about the restaurant hours (supposedly open from 6 am to 8 pm 7 days a week) the restaurant was closed for the rest of the weekend. Go figure. I'll try it again if I pass through Lost Hills, and you should too. It's good.

Okay—who entered and flew what?

Half A Texaco

John Riese—Guff 900 seconds OOS (recovered via Walston in oil fields across Holloway Road)---took the fuse as prize

Jeff Carman—entered but DNF

Texaco

Jeff Carman Powerhouse with Super Cyke—DNF due to bad weather on Sunday

ABC Ignition Pylon

Eric Strengell Alert, OS .25 conversion 143, 150 150 443 total took fuel as prize

Jeff Carman Playboy Super Cyke DNF or at least didn't turn in times

ABC Ignition Cabin

Jeff Carman Rambler OS 29 conversion 88 93 total 181 --owe him quart of fuel

Small Rubber Cabin

Mike Mayea Lidgard DNF or did not turn times in

Large Rubber Cabin

Mike Mayea Miss World's Fair 166, 113, 53 total 332 seconds—1/2 pound of rubber

Glenn Grell Super Snooper 180, 65 total 245 will mail him 1/2 pound of rubber

Large Rubber Stick

Glenn Grell Lamb Climber DNF

A/B Nostalgia

Ron Thomas Zeek OS .29 135, 180, 180 495 total 1st owe him quart of fuel

John Riese Spacer OS .15 180 2d place took quart of fuel

Electric Nostalgia

Phil Roney Champion 180, 84, 102 366 total

John Riese Top Banana 130, 128, 108 366 total

A tie for first place—will have to get merchandise prize of some sort to John and Phil

Gollywock Mass Launch

Mike Mayea 131 seconds first place took quart of fuel