

Contest report for the San Valeers 77th spring Annual & 43rd 7th rounder held April 23-26, 2026

Similar to last year our contest started on a Thursday and ended on a Sunday but we also had some F1E flyers that flew from the Hill on the Monday after our contest had ended and their F1E events were run by Mike McKeever.

At our Spring Annual we got to fly 3 of the 4 days with decent conditions on every day but Saturday. On Saturday it was blowing pretty hard but other than that we but we got to fly every other day so the flyers had enough time to finish multiple events as desired. Like last year we set up our events so you could fly any day on the Nostalgia and AMA events and you didn't have to finish up on the same day you started the event if you stayed clean and hadn't dropped a flight. This helped the flyers get all their events in no matter what the weather was doing. We elected to fly Cat 3 and we had some good competition in many of the events.

On the AMA & nostalgia events our most popular events were A Nostalgia and surprisingly night gas. We had 7 flyers in each of these 2 events. Bruce Hannah won A nostalgia with 6 maxes while Rocco Ferrario and Justin Martin both dropped their 4th flight.

In Night gas 5 flyers were clean for the first 3 flights so they elected to go unlimited or time to the ground on the 4th flight and Todd Reynolds won it with 295 seconds on his 4th flight with Guy Mennano close behind at 268 and Justin Martin 3rd at 182 secs.

C Nostalgia with 5 flyers had a couple of really good string of maxes with Bruce Hannah and Justin Martin going flight per flight. Bruce won it with a string of 11 maxes and Justin dropped at 9.

Bruce Hannah had a very productive weekend winning A nostalgia, tying for first in B nostalgia with Glen Schenider and winning C nostalgia.

If you look over the times there were a lot of events like Vintage FAI that had ties in them. Vintage FAI had the most entries at 8 and Rocco Ferrario and Guy Mennano tied for first with Justin martin just 1 sec behind for 3rd.

In the Bob Hunter early morning dawn memorial we had one flyer since it was a bit breezy but Rocco Ferrario put up one heck of a flight. He was up for 7 minutes that the timer could see and went past the oil derricks and almost to the Aqua duct. Without his tracker he never would have found it.

We had some very dedicated rubber flyers like Bill Swift and Glenn Grell from Oregon that flew a lot of our rubber events and did well.

We had a special event honoring Jim Hurst who had passed a while ago. He liked to fly Ramrods so we used the top times from each of the Ramrod models that flew in the various events and the one with the highest time won both \$200 and an engine of his choice. Todd Reynolds won and the 2nd and 3rd place winners Justin Martin and Robert Donnelly also won motors. This event was sponsored by Ted Hidingger who was a good friend of Jim.

Like most contests we had some very good flyers that flew a lot of events and it showed in all the events they flew.

E-36 was also a popular event with 6 entries and Lynn Edmonson won it with 644 seconds.

The FAI events had a good turnout also with 7 entries in F1B that Mike Davis won with a max out and the highest altimeter at 2 minutes. There were 5 flyers that maxed out in that event and Jerry Fitch was second with Daryl Perkins 3rd.

I want to thank Guy Mennano who co CD the contest and ran it for the first 2 days. I also want to thank Mike McKeever who ran the FAI events.

Thanks also to Mike Thompson that has run the Bob Hunter memorial for a number of years.

We gave away some great prizes with Engines, balsa wood , fuel and kits and hobby related stuff so no one went home empty handed.

I want to thank everyone that showed up to support our 77th annual.. We had an excellent turnout with 42 contestants that registered at our event.

I hope that everyone returns next year for a fun contest that will be in it's 78th year for the San Valeers.

Terry Thorkildsen