

## Contest report for the San Valeers spring annual held April 13-16, 2023

This year we decided to have more events and run the contest for 4 straight days. Running the contest for more than a weekend would give everyone a chance to fly whatever they wanted to. We have really had a lot of rain in California this year. This did impact the contest just prior to ours by affecting the access roads but we had no problems at our event since they had dried out.

We also had easy chase conditions and they have now cut down and removed the pistachio trees at the south end of the field which really helps if you happened to get a fly away. The grass was really high as a result of the rain this year. One of our contestants even dragged a tire behind his vehicle to tamp it down for the launching area.

The 4 days for the contest had great weather. On the first day Thursday we had a bit of wind but still flyable but a lot of the contestants used that day to test fly and check their trim. The other days were great for flying. It got quite cold at night with low 40's but the day time temps were pleasant in the low to mid 70's.

We had some great flying with 51 flyers and most of the popular events required decent times to place in the money.

In A nostalgia Don McNamee had 10 maxes to win the event followed by Bruce Hannah dropping his 7<sup>th</sup> max by 6 secs and Jim Kelly respectively with 6 maxes .

In C Nostalgia Randy Secor had a good string also and won it flying a Hoosier Hot Shot with 10 maxes followed by Don McNamee with 5+ maxes using a Cresendo again.

Jim Kelly Won 1/2A Nostalgia with 5 maxes flying a Fubar just ahead of Bob DeShields flying a cute Monks Model with Hornet power. Of course everything Bob Deshields builds is beautiful!

Our most popular event was Vintage FAI with 10 contestants. Glen Schneider was the only one that stayed clean for 5 rounds but was closely followed by Bruce Hannah and Guy Menanno. The air was a bit tricky at times and in the last round 3 of the top flyers all dropped on the same choice of air when launching within seconds of each other.

We had 6 flyers in Vintage Wakefield and our friend from Oregon Bill Swift was the only one that was clean for the 5 rounds. Looking at the times the others weren't that far behind.

Our second most popular event was A gas with 8 flyers and Justin Martin won it and was the only one clean closely followed by his Father David Martin and then Pete Pfarr .

Neal Menanno won B Gas flying a DP-11. He had 5 maxes and is guy's brother and they both fly hi Tech auto stuff in the modern gas catagories that go like mad.

D gas was won by Bob DeShields flying a beautiful 1300 Saturn Super D model with Nelson .65 power. It is a handful for sure and his son Robert DeShields was 2<sup>nd</sup> with a 814 Satellite followed by Guy Menanno with his Super Rock Star with Nelson .67 power.

E-36 had 3 flyers and they all used Joule box MK3's for the event and BenTarcher won it with a max out followed by Clint Brooks the designer of the Joule Box and Don Bartick.

The Bob Hunter Memorial was flown Sunday morning at dawn for best flight to the ground using 9 seconds hand launch or 11 seconds VTO. Terry Kerger won it with 7:05 minutes using an auto super D Satellite 1300 and a Nelson .65. Ed Decker was next with his FAI Falcon followed by Guy Menanno with a Satellite 788 to start but had an overrun so he then switched to his modlelite 1000 with a Dubjet 67 for his recorded flight.

In our other rubber events P-30 was the most popular with 6 flyers and Rocco Ferrario our school teacher who has done so much to encourage kids in the hobby won it with 4 + maxes closely followed by Clint Brooks with 3 maxes and Glenn Grell and Don Bartick within 1 second of each other.

Glenn Grell enjoys flying rubber and flew most of the rubber events with maxouts in both small and large rubber stick.

We only had 2 flyers in Texaco combined but Jim Kruse won it with a ½ A powerhouse at 10:27 beating out Brad Levine's larger Clipper by a little over a minute. Surprising since some 1/2A Texaco flyers didn't show up since they thought they would be at a disadvantage but Jim Kruse flew early in good air.

Surprisingly we had only 1 flyer in Catapult that Rocco Ferrario also won with a max out. We had no flyers in HLG.

The FAI events were run by Mike Thompson and seemed to have pretty decent participation. We had the large events on Saturday followed by the minis on Sunday. F1C was the only FAI event that had no participation.

I want to thank all the 51 flyers that came out and made this a great contest. I especially want to thank Guy Menanno for all his help in setting up the contest and helping as needed, along with Mike Thompson for running the FAI stuff and help at the table.

We gave away some great prizes at the end with a K&B 6.5 for the raffle along with engines, kits, wood and fuel for the winners. Hope to see every one come back next year to enjoy good completion and have fun.