

Experimental Aircraft Assoc.

Chapter 302 ~ Conroe, TX



Mike Melvill pilots EXPERIMENTAL to space!

SpaceShipOne Makes History: First Private Manned Mission to Space!

The world witnessed the dawn of a new space age today, as investor and philanthropist Paul G. Allen and Scaled Composites launched the first private manned vehicle beyond the Earth's atmosphere. The successful launch demonstrated that the final frontier is now open to private enterprise.

Under the command of test pilot Mike Melvill, SpaceShipOne reached a record breaking altitude of 328,491 feet (approximately 62 miles or 100 km), making Melvill the first civilian to fly a spaceship out of the atmosphere and the first private pilot to earn astronaut wings.

This flight begins an exciting new era in space travel," said Paul G. Allen, sole sponsor in the SpaceShipOne program. "Burt Rutan and his team at Scaled Composites are part of a new generation of explorers who are sparking the imagination of a huge number of people worldwide and ushering in the birth of a new industry of privately funded manned space flight."

The historic flight also marks the first time an aerospace program has successfully completed a manned mission without government sponsorship. "Today's flight marks a critical turning point in the history of aerospace," said Scaled Composites founder and CEO Burt Rutan. "We have redefined space travel as we know it."

"Our success proves without question that manned space flight does not require mammoth government expenditures," Rutan declared. "It can be done by a small company operating with limited resources and a few dozen dedicated employees." A large crowd watched the momentous flight live from the grounds of the Mojave Airport, joining millions of others around the world who tuned in by television, radio, and the internet. Dignitaries attending the event included U.S. Representative Dana Rohrabacher, the Commanding Officer of Edwards Air Force Base, General Pearson and the China Lake Naval Air Warfare Center, Admiral Venlet; former astronaut Buzz Aldrin, and Konrad Dannenberg, one of Werner Von Braun's lead scientists on this country's original space development effort. Hundreds of media representatives were also on hand to record history in the making.



July 10th **Meeting:**

Program:

**Joe Ruiz,
Sheet metal
repairs and tools**

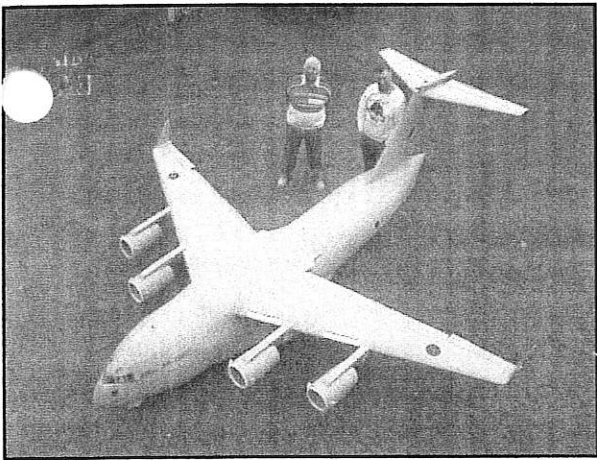
Spot Landing

Contest Award:

**Winner, Sam Ward,
adds his popsicle
stick to the
perpetual trophy.**

Young Eagles ~ Share The Dream

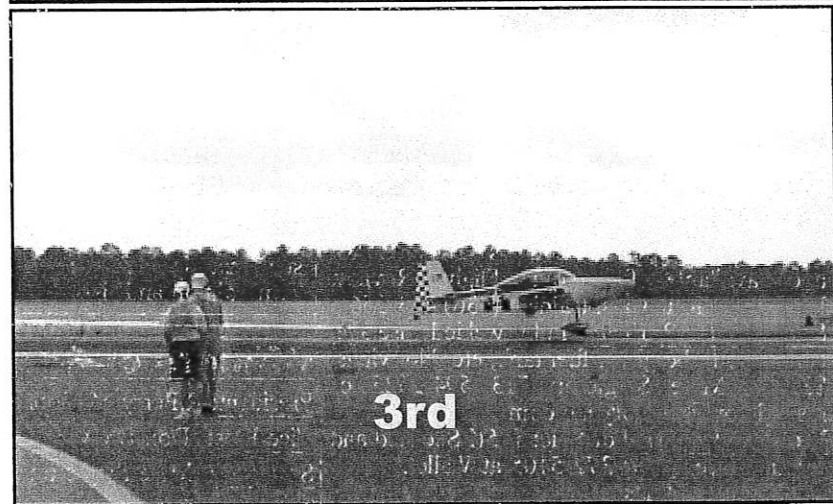
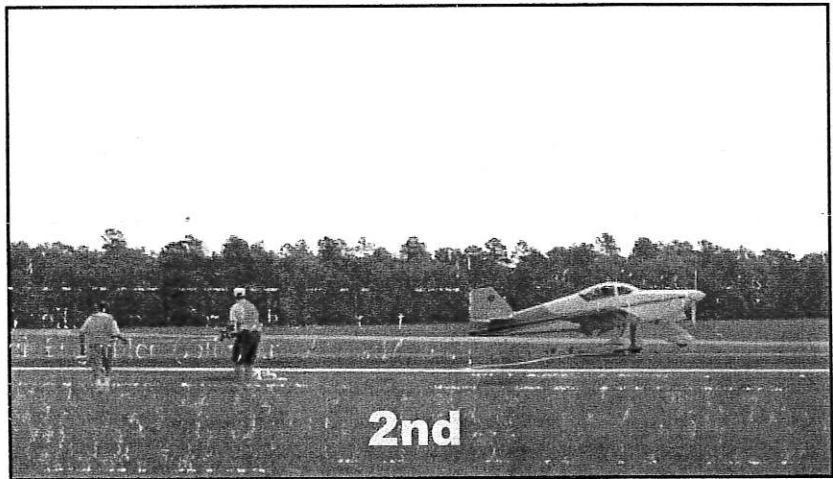
1:10 scale homebuilt C-17 Globemaster



An Englishman built this radio-controlled C-17. It is 17'L x 5'H, 200 Lbs., took 600 hours to design and 5 months to build. See more at <http://homepage.eircom.net/~skycam/c17construction-1.htm> where they have many illustrations and photos.



Sam Ward wins Spot Landing Contest



The adrenaline was pumping and the competition fierce, as Sam Ward won the 1st place prize, a popsicle. Now, his name will be added to the perpetual trophy (on the popsicle stick) next to last year's winner, Butch Carr. Actually, Sam was flying Butch Carr's new RV-8 to win the prize! Sam's combined score for the two landings was 44 feet from the mark. Wow! Darrell Frazier came in second with a combined score of 92 feet. Don Yarbough was third with a combined score of 139 feet. Shirley Park was 1st in the amateur category. This is impressive landing. Way to go! Also, *THANK YOU* to the many helpers that made this fun event possible.