

IN THE HANGAR WITH...

...Art Miller

One of the real joys I find in editing "The Hangar" is getting to know our members. I had a pleasant visit with Art and Alice and their two Japanese Chins: Jasmine & Yoshi. Oh...and ask Art about his powder blue '66 Mustang kept under wraps in the carport. ~Bill

When did you become interested in RCModeling (RCM)?

When I was 15-16 years old. I got sidetracked by girls, cars, work and family in my late teens and early 20s. I still have my original AMA# 3890 from 1957 when I was a Jr. member.



Were you self-taught or mentored?

Mentored by a group of guys at a local grass strip airport at Show Walter Field in Winter Park, FL.

Do you remember your first model?

Yes, a Babcock Breezy Jr. I had to build the airplane and radio equipment (single channel rudder only with escapements). The Tx worked on citizen's band.



What disciplines of modeling do you participate in?

Power, building, repairing and having fun.

What line of work were you in?

Worked for BellSouth as a cable splicer for 38 years.

Has RCM influenced your life in anyway?

Oh, yes! Patience, attention to details, helping others.

Anyone else in your family interested in RCM?

Two of our sons have tried it, but only Pat keeps up with it. We used to go head-to-head in sailplane contests. He's probably a better flyer than me! but I'd never tell him that. And, Alice has always been very supportive of me.

Alice: I find it very relaxing to watch him fly and fascinating to see how he puts them all together. (Of course, Alice couldn't resist bringing out the family photo of 4 children, 16 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren. ~Bill)

Would you have done anything differently over the years?

I would have stayed in it longer in my earlier years.

Do you build your own models?

Almost all: airplanes and boats, sport, scale, gliders, boats ó Breezy Jr, Acro 7, Goldberg Eagle 2, Sky Tiger, Playmate, Robinhood 99, Stearman, and assorted gliders.

What advice would you give someone interested in RCM?

Get help. It's fun and good fellowship í good people. You learn a lot. Everyone needs a hobby.

How important is membership in an RCM club to you?

Very, very. It gives me an outlet from everyday things. It's fun with great fellowship.

Did you ever fly full-scale?

No. I always wanted to, but I . Wanted to get my soaring license but you had to be a licensed private pilot. That's been changed now to a recreational license for soaring.



You're a HAM radio guy. (WD4RJI)

Yes, so is Alice. I've talked with people all over the world and even a couple times with the astronauts in the Space Shuttle, once even with a 10 watt mobile from my car. Several of my planes and gliders use the frequencies dedicated to HAMs.

Alice: (KB4SQK) I was a dispatcher for the Dunnellon PD back when they were still using CB frequencies. Art is more active than me. In Orlando we used to help the Red Cross with communications during hurricanes and local emergencies.

You were one of the founding members. Has the club changed over the years?

Not much! We didn't want a mega-club. There have been improvements over the years, but we just wanted to have a friendly and fun club without the headaches of a large club.

Miller Time... (Miller-isms)

"The more space you have - the more junk you're going to collect."

"If it doesn't make noise it ain't an airplane."

"I fly airplanes so I can come home and fix 'em."

On Morse code: *"At one time I was up to 20-22 words a minute - now I'm somewhere between slow and stop...if I can even remember what the letters are."*



Orlando: *"If you want to get run over, that's the place to go. We moved nine months before DisneyWorld opened; now it's just murder and mayhem."*

"I've talked to people from NY or Ohio or Chicago and they say, 'This is nothing but a backwoods town. I'm going to move back to the big city.' And I say, 'Bye...you ain't left yet?'"

"I worked in Dunnellon. I live in Dunnellon. I spend my money in Dunnellon."