

## Florida Winter-Fly SAM R/C Contest

Report and photos by Charlie Reich

Fred and Barbara Mulholland sponsored a 3-day R/C SAM event in Dade City Florida on January 17,18,19, 2009. The events offered the full menu of choices to fly with gas ignition, glow and electric, to the delight of all.

### **Saturday**

1/2A Texaco  
O&R Sideport  
O&R 23  
Foxacoy  
Electric LMR  
Electric Texaco

### **Sunday**

C Ignition LER  
A/B Glow LER Combined  
Brown Jr. LER  
Electric Wakefield  
Electric Unlimited  
Electric Speed 400

### **Monday**

C Glow LER  
Nostalgia  
A/B Ign LER Combined  
Texaco Combined  
Antique Combined

There were twenty registered contestants and about forty-five in total attendance. The event was held in the beautiful Pasco County Park, which also offered a campsite for those overnights in motor homes. Several snowbirds, those that winter in Florida, also joined the group and enjoyed three fun filled days of flying and SAM camaraderie. The weather was cold for Florida 50° to 60°, sun filled skies and slightly breezy-actually great flying weather.

The activities provided a Certificate, in lieu of trophies to all in attendance and Award Certificates to the top three places, in addition to cash awards to the first three places in each event. Most of the contestants were retirees in their 60's and 70's and a few kids in their 30's and forty's getting their feet wet in SAM

Unusual for any SAM event was the lack of Lanzo Bombers. The mix included Playboys, Comet Clippers, Quakers, RC-1s, Scram, Simplex, Spook, Stardust Special, Sailplanes, Thunderbird, Lanzo Racers, Boynton (Nostalgia) and electrified rubber designs such as Comet Gulls, Cleveland Gull, Baby Playboys and Gypsies.

The electric events were very popular with many entries in each event. It's obvious that electric flying is growing in favor with SAM old-timers.

Florida SAM members sponsor three large SAM events in different areas during January through March. Fred and Barbara keep track of the schedules so get in contact with them if you have an interest in attending the Florida SAM Fly-In's next year.