The Year 1956



The 1956 Open National Champion was Riley Wooten flying his famous "Quicker" design. Riley was a member of the Texas Eagles club. Bruce Brown, from Levelland, Texas, flying a Torp 35 powered Quicker, won senior combat while yet another member of the Texas Eagles, Gerald Turbeville, flying his own design, finished second in Senior Combat. Like Riley, Gerald was from Lubbock, Texas. Both used Torpedo 35s for power. Earl Amidon used a Johnson 35 powered Half Fast to finish third in Senior Combat. O.D. Buchanan from Amarillo, Texas was third in Open Combat flying two different designs (a Torp 35 powered Quicker and also a Midwest Omega).

Second place in Open Combat went to Alvin Pliler Jr. from Longview, Texas flying a Torpedo 35 powered "Sweet Sweep" one of the most unique designs in the history of our sport. Kenneth Knotts from Dallas, Texas also flying a "Sweet Sweep" earned first place in Junior Combat. Detailed results from the 1956 Nats can be found below. Notice that "Texans" took eight of the nine top three trophy spots across the three age divisions.

If you attended the 1956 Nats the entry fee was \$1.00 plus fifty cents for each event to be flown. The cost of lodging for single male flyer was \$1.50 for the week in barracks quarters. Meals, breakfast and supper, could be had for \$1.00 per day.

1st	Open	Riley Wooten	Lubbock, Texas	Quicker	K&B 35
2nd	Open	Alvin Pliler Jr.	Longview, Texas	Sweet Sweep	K&B 35
3rd	Open	O.D. Buchanan	Amarillo, Texas	Quicker & Omega	K&B 35
1st	Senior	Bruce Brown	Levelland, Texas	Quicker	K&B 35
2nd	Senior	Gerald Turbeville	Lubbock, Texas	own design	K&B 35
3rd	Senior	Earl Amidon	Elmhurst, Illinois	Half Fast	Johnson 35
1st	Junior	Kenneth Knotts	Dallas, Texas	Sweet Sweep	K&B 35
2nd	Junior	Greg Fuhrman	Lubbock, Texas	Quicker	K&B 35
3rd	Junior	Dee Rice	Arlington, Texas	own design	K&B 35

This unique airplane finished second in Open Combat at the 1956 Nats Piloted by Alvin Pliler Jr.

1956 Nats





Eddie May and Dennis Alford matched each other three times in Jr. Combat duels.



A Sweet Sweep bare bones built from Barry Baxter plans



In 1956 Consolidated was offering the "Wow" as their combat ship of choice

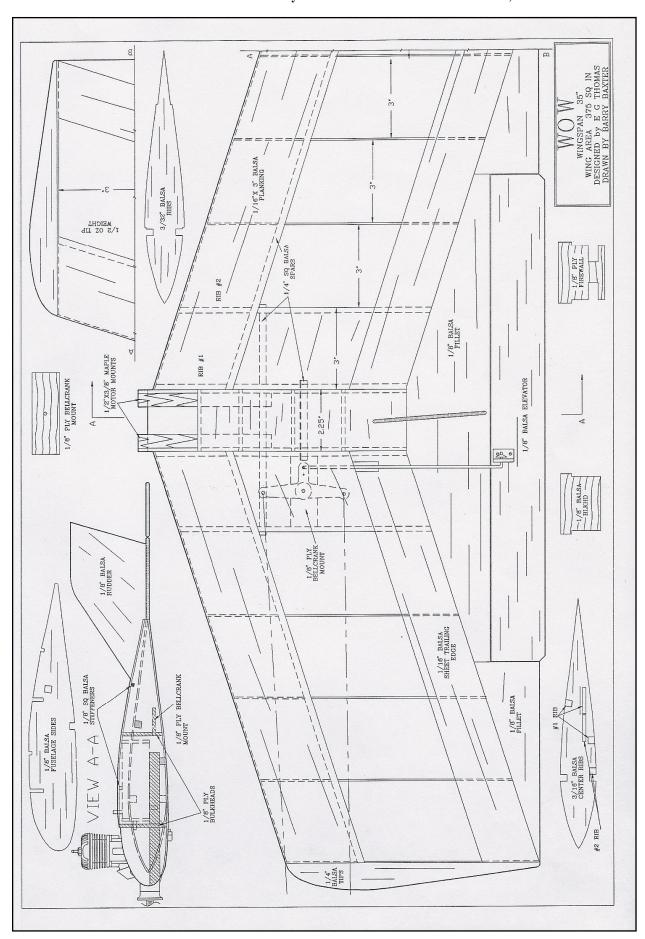
Ken Burdick built this Sweet Sweep for the 2016 Combat Graffiti nostalgia event. The engine is a Fox Rocket. Covered with Dharma silk and dyed at home using their dye powder." (Ken Burdick photos)





Consolidated "Wow" circa 1956

Full Size Plans available from: Barry Baxter 3292 Greenleaf Drive Brea, CA 92823



In 1956 the Half Fast III, a refinement of the original, was kitted by Midwest This one belongs to Barry Baxter



Wild Bill Netzeband's Midwest Half Fast. Awesome flyer, but a bit of a PITA to build. They podiumed at the Nats for many years.

Full Size Plans available from: Barry Baxter 3292 Greenleaf Drive Brea, CA 92823

