

After last year's rain—out of our scheduled January meet at this event we hoped there was no way it would happen again. Right on! We had a perfect day for this great vintage airplane and car show. Instead of rain we enjoyed warm sun and temperatures in the mid-70°s.

We started the new year with Hoady Hoist riding in Gary Weber's "Yeller" '58 Edsel convert, leading Warren Westerholm with old time member Dick Sonney in the pretty '41 Chevy coupe and two of their friends driving a nice Datsun 240-Z.

We arrived at Cable Field in Upland just a bit past 9 AM and enjoyed the free admission to join the display among the over eighty other nice old cars. There were a lot of Model A & B Fords, both rods and stockers. MGs were out in force, all the way back to the TC model. Lots of other interesting cars, down to a tiny yellow BMW Isetta 300.

Parked right at the entry to the airfield was a very large and old fashioned looking single engined biplane available for a peek inside. This was a Russian Antonov AN-2 "Colt", built in 1984. It has a 60 foot wingspan, weighs 7500 pounds empty, and is powered by a 1000 HP radial engine. As old fashioned as it looks, these biplanes are still in service in Russia. It makes a good old DC-3 look absolutely modern.

Arriving a bit late but with undoubtedly the fastest club "vehicle" was Ron Millman who flew to the meet in his vintage and rare Grumman "Tiger" monoplane

Promptly at 10 AM we were greeted by a group parachuting from far above, with the last chutist trailing Old Glory as the Star Spangled Banner was played on the speakers. Then the air show began with some rather lazy aerobatics performed by Frank Connelly in a 1946 Taylorcraft. While the maneuvers were not as violent as some to come, we realized this was a little old high wing monoplane never designed to do anything but fly (slowly) from point A to point B, not loops and rolls.

This show was followed by a number of pretty violent stunts by model planes flown by members of the Corona Radio Control Demonstration Team. At one time there were three planes looping and rolling all over the sky. Then there was one little plane that really zipped around at very high speed. In our parking lot control-line models were stunting.

All conversation seemed to stop with the sound of a jet engine screaming by. We had to watch as a perfect scale model of an Air Force F-15 "Eagle" was put thru its high-speed paces. It was followed by another beautiful jet powered model of a Blue Angels F-14 "Tomcat". They were absolute "wows" as they carried out their high-speed maneuvers.



VVV's Warren Westerholm's '41 Chevy in front of a Russian AN-2 'Colt'



Russian Antonov AN-2 "Colt"



Radio Controlled performers—jet engined Blue Angles Tomcat on taxi-way. A real screamer.

Next it was back to the aerobatic highlight of the meet as Rob Harrison of Tumbling Bear Air Shows amazed us in his little “Yellow Bird” Czechoslovakian Zlin 50 monoplane. Rob did some things that an airplane should not be able to do. Knife-edge spins, apparently out of control tumbles, stalling on a vertical climb and then backing down through the smoke trail. The stunts were incredible.

At noon the old cars lined up for a parade in front of the gathered spectators and each car was announced as it passed by. The people’s choice favorite car was a ‘61 Jag XK-150C. As we drove toward the announcer we passed a wonderful collection of parked vintage aircraft - old Stearmans, Ercoupes, Navions, and many others.

During the lunch break a number of the old planes did fly-bys. The big single engined Russian AN-2 Colt biplane was impressive as it lumbered by. There was a formation flight of 5 Ryan Navions. An old DeHavilland Tiger Moth biplane was just like one flown by Charles Lindberg. There was one of the “homebuilt” canards that looks like it is flying backwards with its elevators on the nose and the wings and propellor at the rear.

One pass was made by two P-51 Mustangs and a P-40 Warhawk flying in close formation. A beautiful shiny Ryan PT-22 WW II primary trainer had a unique sound with its five cylinder radial motor.

A flock of 16 or 17 skydivers made a mass jump from 15,000 feet and free-fell for over ½ mile before deploying their colorfull canopies and floating gracefully down to the tarmac, some trailing smoke to mark their path through the sky.

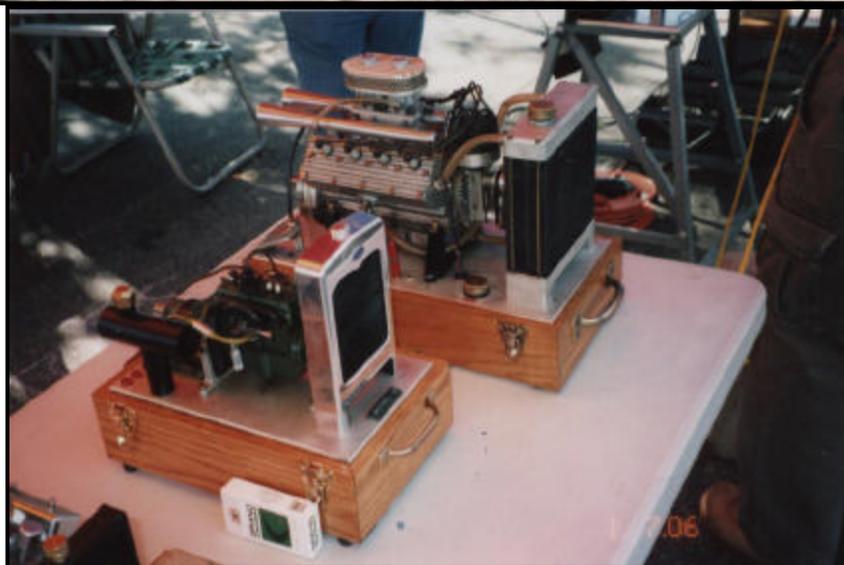
There were many vendor displays and plenty of good food available all day. A most interesting display was a collection of model car engines machined in about 1” : 1’ scale by Robert Haagenson, and the little beauties *all ran!* There was also a 9-cylinder scale radial airplane engine that Robert ran for us. These motors are truly works of art. Great day!



People’s Choice ‘61 Jaguar XK-150C



Beautiful Ryan PT-22 primary Trainer with distinctive sounding 5 cylinder radial engine



Scale model engines by Robert Haagenson. Model A, ‘39-40 Cadillac La Salle—They run! Note the cigarette pack for scale.