

NEW 2020 SAM 35 VOETSACK TRIBUTE RACING EVENT.

Britain's first control line model, Ron Moulton's Voetsak from 1946, is now pretty well known to all vintage aeromodellers after 15 years of SAM 35 race events at Old Warden and other venues. Well over 20 replica models have been built since the plan was drawn up by Alan Walker in 2005, and quite a few Ohlsson 60 sideport spark ignition engine have been worn out along the way, with much frustration for operators as well as great fun and spectator appeal when successful races are run. The image here shows Ron Moulton with Steve Betney and Mike Beach with Mike's 1975 1st replica Voetsak model in c.2000, the model which started our renewed interest within SAM 35. Ron's son Jonathan and daughter Dinah have supported our tribute to their father and his historic model since his death in 2010 by taking part in some of the races, and presenting commemorative rosettes to all participants.



Our Portuguese international ambassador for aeromodelling and friend Julio Isidro has long been interested in the model and the races, and has shown this by making a portable mini version of the model at 70% scale for AM 25 diesel power which he can break down into a box for flight transportation on his frequent UK visits. He and Brian Lever have christened it the "Voetsak Tribute". SAM 35 have decided to run a class of races from the 2020 season for this model, after consultation with the Moulton family.



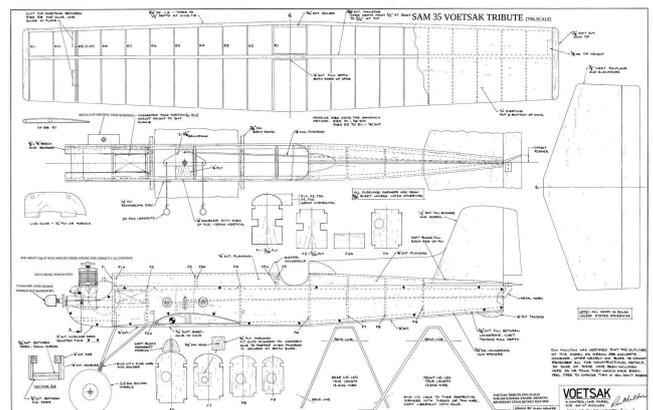
Julio brought his prototype model to the June 2019 SAM 35 Retrofest event at Buckminster, and we were able to see how nice the design looks at this scale, and how well it flies too. Julio is seen here to the left, starting the AM 25 from a sitting position due to persistent back problems, and the model can be seen here to the right.



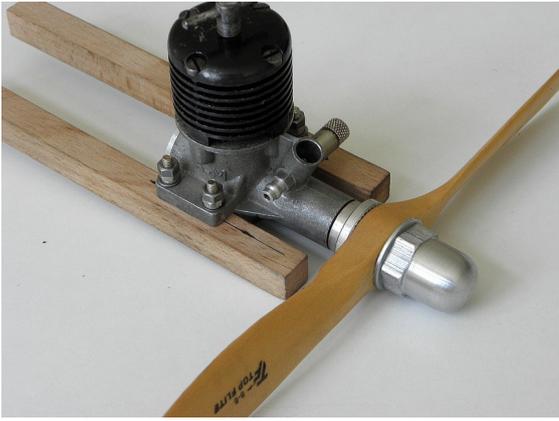
At the Retrofest event, Julio, Brian Lever and Steve Betney collaborated in the BMFA Events Building to hammer out a set of SAM 35 rules for the 2020 racing events, which are posted in the Rules section of the website at www.sam35.org.uk.

Just the sight of Julio's model and word of mouth over the Retrofest weekend attracted 8 keen types who will be building a model over the winter, and quite a few more subsequently, so we think that this will be a very popular SAM event.

In outline, the rules require models to be built to the Voetsak Tribute plan (redrawn by Steve Betney from the original full size plan) and already available from Derick Scott for £5 including postage at www.model-plans.co.uk or telephone 01524 424610, or from the Vintage Model Company's kit, but do also carefully consult the full set of rules on the SAM 35 website. Minor internal constructional details may be modified, but do stick rigidly to the outlines of the model. 2.5" diameter balloon wheels must be fitted, and a dummy replica canister tank on the front of the model for authentic appearance. Line length will be 50 feet of .012" stranded wire, which has been found to give a reasonable rate of rotation and stability in a stiff breeze. The only permitted engine is an AM 25 diesel, with a wooden or plastic propeller, and a BMFA-legal spinner nut must be fitted with a nose radius of 7.5mm minimum to replace the standard hexagon nut. These will be available from SAM 35 at events. Race heats and finals will be flown 2-up and be of 6 minutes/60 laps duration with one mandatory pit stop (or 2 minutes penalty). Any size fuel tank may be used, but around 15cc is recommended, from initial testing. At each Tribute Racing event, there will also be a Timed Laps event for the fastest time for 10 laps from a rise off ground launch, to ensure that each entry has at least 2 flights on the day. SAM 35 will continue to run the full size Voetsak races alongside the Tribute events so long as there is support and interest for these. There will be a



full kit for the Tribute model available from the Vintage Model Company soon as mentioned, so watch their website at www.vintagemodelcompany.com for news.



Dave Banks has very kindly agreed to sculpt a 70% reduced size RGM pilot figure to suit the Tribute model, so there will be a mini Ron available to guide your model. Do fit one please, as the events are run to keep his memory very much alive. SAM 35 will be donating and presenting the usual Ron Moulton mini bust for the winning pilot for each official Tribute racing event, and also continuing this award to the full size Voetsak race winning pilots too (Dave Banks also sculpted the master for these busts and pilot figures back in 2005 when Voetsak racing started.) For the Tribute model, there will be a league table of results for the season, with outline rules as below, so make sure that you get your model built over the winter building season to be ready for

the first races in April/May 2020, to enter as many of the qualifying events as possible over the season. SAM 35 will also be presenting a grand cash prize of £200 to be allocated between the top 3 pilots in the league table at the end of the season, a pretty decent incentive I think that all will agree! Provisionally, we plan to hold Tribute Races at the following six events next year (Old Warden event days are not yet finalised), but watch further announcements and the SAM website for confirmation or changes:



SAM 35 Spring Fly In at Buckminster on Saturday pm 4th April.
Mayfly at Old Warden in May (Saturday am).

SAM 35 Retrofest and AGM at Buckminster, race on Saturday am 27th June.

Scale Weekend at Old Warden in July (Saturday am).

Festival of Flight at Old Warden in September (Saturday am).

SAM 35 Octoberfest at Buckminster on Saturday pm 17th October.

Full size Voetsak races will be run only at the 3 Old Warden events as usual.

The best 4 placings out of the maximum of 6 races participated in by each Tribute pilot over the year will be used to determine the overall ranking in the league.

If you want to be added to the email distribution list for Voetsak and Voetsak Tribute news and events, just contact Steve Betney at stevebetney@aol.com.