

# BERLINER JOYCE

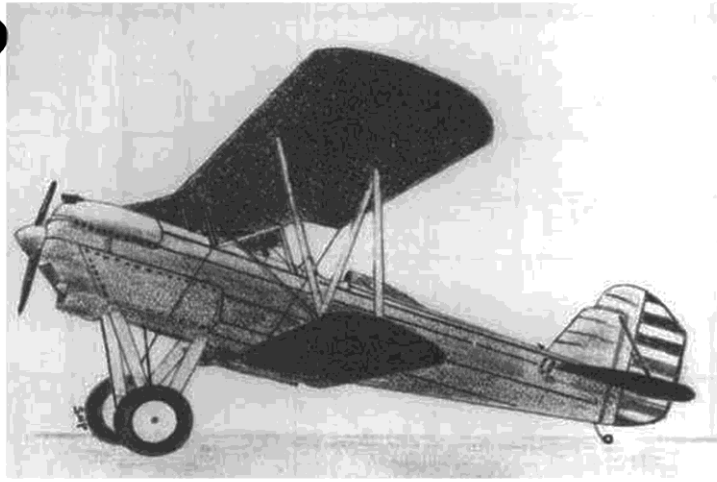


## OLD TIMER Model of the Month

Designed by: Donald Evans

Drawn by: Al Patterson

Text by: Bill Northrop



• "Tiny Gasoline Motor Powers This Flying Model Plane." This was the title of a construction article, beginning in the August 1935 issue of *Modern Mechanics and Inventions Magazine*. Donald Evans was the author/designer.

The first sentence in the article was rather startling. "This model gas plane will appeal to all model builders and the aviation enthusiasts who have been grounded by Department of Commerce regulations against light planes." (!)

This very advanced-for-the-time O.T. gas model came to our attention in a round-about way. We were discussing the interesting history of control line

with famous Half-A ukie and Mono-line specialist, Dale Kirn. Dale has been gathering historical data, particularly about the man who really invented the technique that has since become known as control line, U-Control, or what-have-you. This man, one Oba St. Claire, was developing and flying model airplanes controlled by wires from the center of a circle, as far back as 1936, at least 4 years before Jim Walker brought it to the attention of the modeling public through his fantastic demonstrations. In fact, St. Claire introduced control line to Walker!

Among Dale's collection of infor-

mation on St. Claire, was 10 Xeroxed pages from two issues of *Modern Mechanics and Inventions Magazine* containing the article for building this smart looking Berliner Joyce. It seems that St. Claire built a model of the B/J from this article in order to conduct some of his early experiments with control line flying. (Model Builder will publish this interesting history on control line when it is completed).

Incidentally, one of the photo captions discloses that Donald Evans flew the B/J from Metropolitan Airport, in

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Van Nuys, California. Can anyone tell us where he is now?

For anyone who leans toward scale, and would like to combine that interest with Old Timers, the Berliner Joyce would make an interesting project. It could also make an excellent Sport Scale R/C model, except that Sport Scale is steadily "detailing" itself into AMA Scale and losing its original intent . . . oh well . . .

Plans have been drawn as taken from the original dimensioned sketches. No attempt has been made to show modifications commensurate with modern-day construction materials and adhesives. The text does mention a balance point of 1/4 chord from the leading edge of the top center section. This seems a little far forward to us, but it certainly won't hurt to start out with that setting. Better than being tail-heavy!

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