

## District IV—Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia



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Vice President

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**He went by O.W.**, and few knew his real name. O.W. Maness was the fun person to be around with a joke or a tale. An accomplished pilot, model builder, and one who helped bring Giant Scale into existence. He was one of the first recipients of the Joe Nall Award and received countless master modeler awards.

O.W. passed away in March 2015. Somebody once said, "I want to grow up to be like O." He was that kind of man and will be sorely missed.

**Our Facebook page** ([www.facebook.com/amadistrictIV](http://www.facebook.com/amadistrictIV)) is growing daily with information being posted. Give us a look and Like us.

**As I write this**, our authors have begun to create the new District IV website. Hopefully by the time you read this, we will have it online.

If you don't see your particular activity, then it's because we have no author for it. If you want to see your activity included on our website, ask your friends and find an author to start a page. Contact Jack Upchurch at [webmaster@ama-d4.org](mailto:webmaster@ama-d4.org) for details.

**Everyone should** be out having fun flying and going to events. If you would like to have your event highlighted in this column, send me a report with good-quality pictures.

**Bob Sowder**, AMA District IV Free Flight (FF) associate vice president, submitted the following report.

The DC Maxecuters is an engaged and active club that found its beginnings in the late 1950s. With the club's roots planted in rubber-powered FF models, the club members fly year-round at various indoor and outdoor venues.

On Sunday, March 8, 2015, the venue was the Great Hall inside the National Building Museum in downtown Washington, D.C.—a spectacular must-see building in Washington. Thanks to member Paul Spreiregen, the club was able to establish a partnership with the museum and attracted 20-30 youngsters who learned how to build, trim, and fly Delta Darts.



Paul Spreiregen teaching how airplanes fly.

Dave Mitchell headed up the building session along with club members who worked closely with the kids and parents. Following the building session, the kids went to a briefing on how airplanes fly, and then the kids and parents went down to the Great Hall inside the museum to fly their newly built models with club members.



After the Delta Darts, Maxecuter president and contest director, Glen Simpers, got the FF contest started. Competitors from Washington, D.C., and the surrounding areas gathered in this fun, low-key event to fly truly remarkable and gorgeous rubber-powered indoor models. These models are not only stunning, but amazing to watch, no matter what you fly.

Below: Billy Batkins (L) and Thomas Schill (R) get ready to compete.



**See additional** photos from the DC Maxecuters Free Flight event in the digital edition.

Maxecuter Paul Stamison simultaneously ran light electric RC flying on the other side of the Great Hall. There was excellent participation with an abundance of different and interesting models. Unlike most outdoor FF and RC flying, the National Building Museum gives the AMA and our activities great exposure to the public.

The level of enthusiasm and commitment by the DC Maxecuters is inspiring. Kudos to all. They are truly planting the youthful seeds of future flight.

Go fly and have fun safely. 🛩️

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