

# Executive Flyers Aerobatic Pilots Take Home the Medals! Bob Farquharson takes the gold!

Executive Flyers aerobatic pilots walked away with 8 medals from the International Aerobatic Club (IAC) Chapter 35 aerobatic contest held at the Springfield Vermont airport, July 9-12.



All 3 EFA Primary category participants and one Sportsman pilot won medals. Bob Farquharson walked away with the overall top Primary competitor award. Bob also won medals for individual flights. Ira Keiter and John Perkins also won medals for individual flights. We hope to see John's One Design aerobatic monoplane flying next year. Ira, Bob, and John were taught aerobatics by Executive Flyers aerobatic instructor Steve Till, who has participated in many aerobatic competitions and is a former IAC Chapter 35 President.



Mark Rogge flew his beautiful new Super Decathlon N50YY which is also one of EFA's thoroughbred aerobatic aircraft. Mark won first place on his first flight. Not bad for his first competition. Mark is also learning to fly formation in EFA's formation training program. Those competing in EFA's Extra 300L were, Jim Kurian who competed in the Sportsman event. Jim is new to the Extra having soloed her just a few weeks ago. Jim's performance was spectacular considering the few hours he has in the Extra 300L unlimited aerobatic aircraft. Byron Brumbaugh and Dave Shaver competed in Intermediate. Both pilots are also fairly new to the Extra and they performed

exceptionally well against a very strong group of veteran Intermediate competitors and having to perform the "Avalanche" maneuver in the unknown program. The Avalanche is a loop with an accelerated spin called a "snap" or "Flick" roll on the top of the loop, a very difficult maneuver to perform correctly.



Ray Moorman and Sheldon Apsell, both graduates of EFA's aerobatic training programs, also performed well at the Intermediate level. Sheldon flew his magnificent Extra 300L and Ray flew his beautiful Blue and White Pitts S2B. Ray was formation lead in his Pitts to and from the contest with Marc Nathanson flying his Orange Pitts S1T named "Thank You Terri" and Sheldon Apsell flying his Extra 300 on the wing.



The competition was considered a smashing success as every competitor flew 3 times. The weather cooperated and everyone was airborne at their allotted time. Decathlon N50YY was kept very busy with Primary and Sportsman pilots from EFA. Thanks to the good work of Jim Kurian, who performed duties as the Starter, all pilots took off on time. The Starter's job is to make sure the competitor is in the airplane ready to go. He then tells the pilot when to start and taxi.

Marc Nathanson supported the EFA Primary competitors as safety pilot and had the pleasure of watching all of them perform their maneuvers up close. He was duly impressed with everyone's performance considering all of them had little to no competition experience. Good job by all.



Pilots are required to perform the maneuvers in their aerobatic sequences within a very small area. This area is called the "Box" and measures only 3,300' X 3,300' with a minimum altitude of 1,500' above the ground to 3,500'. Remaining in the box is very difficult and the wind can have a profound effect on positioning. The judges, who sit at a position mid box, rate the maneuvers on positioning and maneuver quality. A loop, for example, must be truly round. A tail wind can make the aircraft go faster over the ground on the top part of the maneuver, so the pilots must be able to judge when to ease up on the controls on the top and when to pull and how hard to pull during the pull out-harder than it looks.

Executive Flyers will have competitors flying in the Kathy Jaffe Challenge at the Flying "W" airport in Mount Holly, New Jersey. The aircraft and competitors will head there on Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup> for the weekend

Our hearty congratulations to the entire Executive Flyers aerobatic team for a job well done! Thanks to Wes Liu, Bill Gordon, and all in Chapter 35 for making the contest happen. They keep the dream and passion of aerobatics alive for all of us.



If you are considering learning to fly aerobatics, please call us at **781-274-7227** and ask for Marc Nathanson or Tony Catanese who will be happy to outline the two aerobatic training programs. For all of the pre-solo pilots, consider



our one ride spin training to better prepare you for your solo flights. Also, ask about our formation training programs.

Aerobatic flying with EFA is not only a great way to challenge yourself as an aviator, it is also a great way to enjoy the camaraderie of flying with other highly skilled pilots. Our aerobatics team travels together to several practices and competitions every season, and pilots at every level find the experience to be a great way to make new friends and improve their airmanship skills. Every flight is unique, and every competition is an adventure!

