

Tom Wolf, the 2014 NW Scale Aero-Modelers Grand Champion, has been building and flying radio controlled aircraft since 1966. His first RC airplane was a Midwest Lil Esquire controlled by a single channel radio with an escapement. He became interested in scale modeling very early and in 1967 he built his first scale airplane, a Curtis Jenny, from plans that were published in a magazine. Other scale aircraft he has built over the years include a Nieuport 11, HP-18 sailplane, Supermarine Spitfire Mk IX, two Grumman TBM-3 Avengers, a Boeing 314, and two Mosquito FBVIs. Tom has designed over a dozen model aircraft (scale and sport, powered and gliders), including the Nieuport, HP-18, and Boeing 314.

After participating in numerous scale fly-in events and local club scale contests throughout the years, Tom began competing in scale on a serious basis in 2002 with his first competition being the Gunsmoke Scale Masters Qualifier in Mesa, Arizona. Tom had such a good time at that first event that he was hooked on scale competition, which has been the focus of his modeling activities since then. Tom has competed at three NW Scale Championships (2012, 2013, and 2014). In addition, he has competed at eight US Scale Masters Championships and achieved Grand Champion status at the 2013 Championships. He has also competed at Top Gun three times (2007, 2008 and 2012; 13<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> place respectively). Tom has a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from University of California at Santa Barbara and worked for a defense contractor for 33 years before retiring almost four years ago. In addition to being a NWSAM member, he is also a member of the US Scale Masters, the Santa Barbara RC Modelers and the Ventura County Comets.



Tom and his first scale airplane, a single channel 1/2A Curtis Jenny (1967)