WHO'S HARLEY?

A self-taught modeler and scratch-builder since age 8, Harley is an active retiree involved with the R/C sailplane since the mid 1960's. He's the oldest modeler in the Northwest Soaring Society and competed until 2008 when undeniable eye changes called for less-demanding sport flying with old friends. His LSF # is 023, Level 4. Level 5 competition requirements were completed in 1975, but thereafter frustrated by lack of witnesses and other local support.

When R/C sailplane kits were a rarity, he started doing original sailplane designs and from January 1969 had 17 construction articles published in the various model magazines.

First design published was in the Jan. '69 issue of Flying Models. It had a hatch/power pod combo that interchanged with a separate hatch for slope/tow. It could fly 3 ways and was dubbed the TRI-BELLE. Wing was built up, 100" span.

It was followed in the July, 69 issue of FM by the 150" span MISKEET. See the Miscellaneous Pictures file for more about it and the music it made in flight. Harley used one to do the LSF 4 hour Level 4 slope task in very light wind.

The 3rd pic is of the 110" span ATRIX published in the Dec. '86 issue of Model Aviation. It's in MA's on-line archives. It had a balsa sheeted, 3-pc. built-up wing. It was the forerunner of the Jouster and the current Genie series of scratch-buildable ships.

Flying the Jouster (July. 1993 MA) and Jouster 2M, at age 69 Harley was the 1990 NWSS Season Champion in both Open and 2M classes, Expert category. His normalized scores exceeded 99% average in both classes, competing against some 150 flyers.

After ARF's appeared, the model magazines became disinterested in articles for scratch-building of sophisticated sailplanes. Harley later created the website about the Genie designs dedicated to the art of scratch-building.

Since 1992, Harley's primary interest has been the development of the GENIE line of scratch-buildable, state-of-the-art, thermal competition sailplanes.

Along the way, Harley developed the all-internal Rotary Driver System of actuating flaps and ailerons. See the A6 Rotary Driver System file.