## **Riley Wooten**

The õLegendö, throughout the first two decades of our event no one was more identifiable with control line combat than Riley. He was born 1n 1934 and started modeling in 1941, however, he didnøt enter his first contest until 1954. He made his first trip to the Nationals in 1956. The Nats were in Dallas, Texas that year. Riley flew Stunt as well as Combat and finished fifth in stunt, quite an accomplishment for his first Nats. Combat you ask? Riley was the 1956 National Champion in control line combat. He flew his õQuickerö design which was a combat specific design and most believe the best design of that era. The model was subsequently kitted, that same year, by California Model Company following Rileyøs success at the Nats.

Riley was the National Combat Champ for the second time in 1959. That year the Nats were held in Los Alamitos, California. Riley flew his legendary õVoodooö design in the early rounds. When that airplane was damaged he finished the competition with an airplane called the õWhatizitö. The Voodoo was kitted by Carl Goldberg. It sold like hot cakes. In the early sixties it was far and away the most popular combat design. The Whatizit was kitted by Cleveland Model Company during roughly this same time frame. In 1962 Riley was National Combat Champ yet again. This time he used an airplane called the õSneekerö. The following year he opened Flite Line Products producing control line kits. One of the first kits produced was the õSneekerö. During this timeframe Riley also experimented with cutting foam wings from expanded polystyrene. His company produced a foam wing design combat ship starting in 1964. This foam winged ship was called the öVampireö. This was a first and started the foam wing revolution in combat design as well as in other facets of our hobby. By the way Rileyøs foamed wing designs were used by the National Champion in 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1968. In those final three years Riley was the man at the control handle winning his fourth, fifth and sixth national championship.

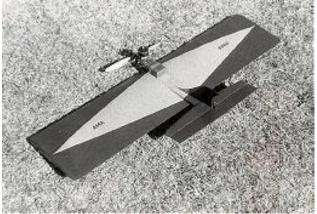
Throughout the fifties and sixties many of Rileyøs designs were published in Flying Models and Model Airplane News. The Pirate, Quicker, Guided Missile, Voodoo, Whatizit and the Demon to name just a few.

Riley retired from competition following the 1968 season.

He was elected to the Model Aviation Hall of Fame in 2002.

## sources: Ken Burdick's interview with Riley Wooten (Flying Lines website) Riley's autobiography (AMA website)





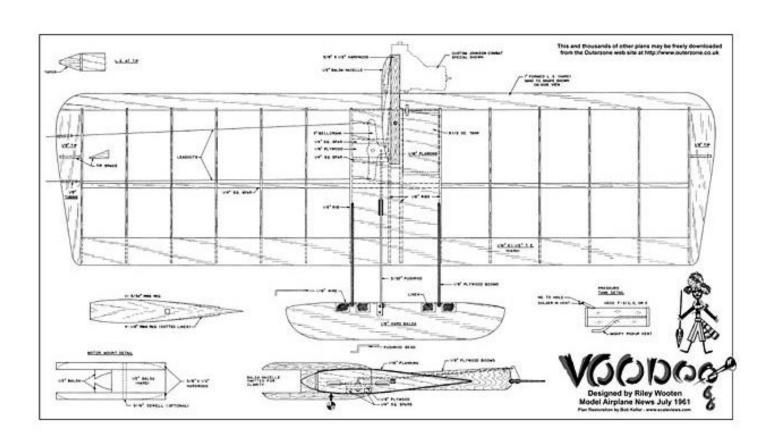
Riley with his õQuickerö



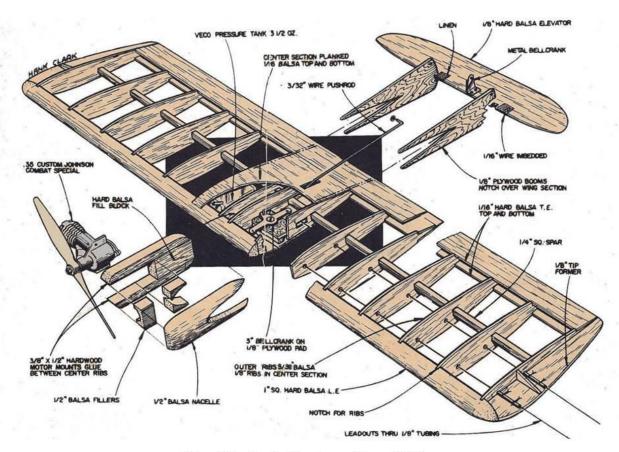
The Quicker



Riley with a õWhatizitö which evolved from his õQuickerö design



Riley® Voodoo was published in Model Airplane News -July 1961 kitted by Carl Goldberg perhaps the most recognizable combat design of this or any other era

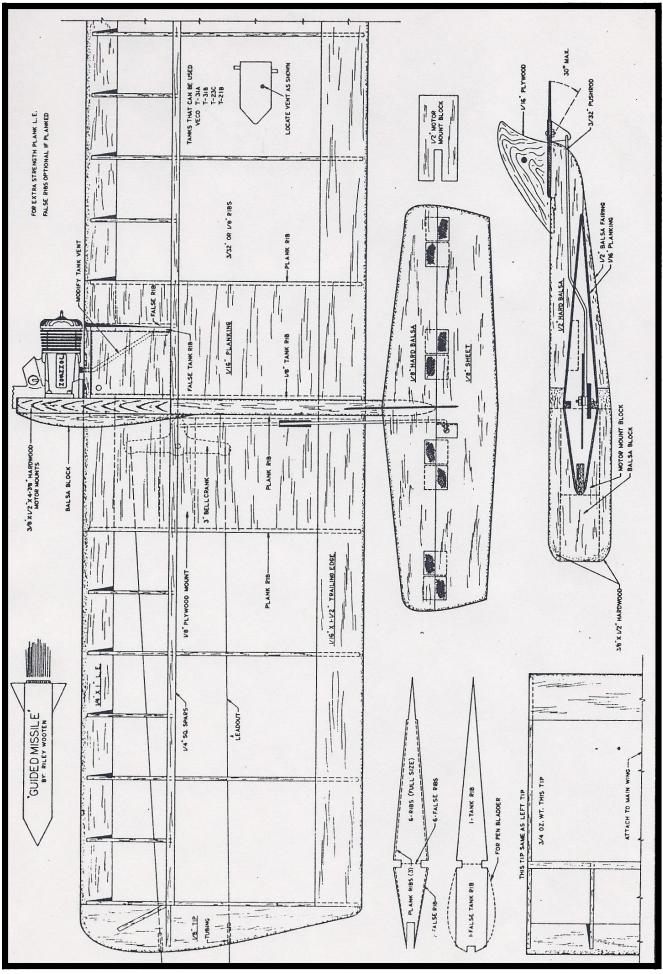


Riley Wooten's Voodoo - Circa 1960



Rileyøs Sneeker design bare bones built from Barry Baxter plans

## (P) (M) J) (L) F) F F F WAYS STAN 36.5 WAYS AREA 326 ST. DESTENSO W STAND WOODEN DRAWN W AARRY BARTOR 1/16" BALSA RIBS (11 REQ'D CUT TO SOLID LINE) (2 REQ'D CUT TO DOTTED LINE) 1/4"X I" BALSA TRAILING EDGE 290 PIANO WIRE PUSHROD 1/8" PLYWOOD TRAILING EDGE BRACE 1/8" PLYWOOD LEADING EDGE BRACE 3929 Greenleaf Drive Brea, CA 92823 1/8" BALSA SHEET BETWEEN MOUNTS Riley Wooten's "Quicker"- 1956 3/8' X 1/2' HARDWOOD 1/8" HARD BALSA ELEVATOR TANK HOLDDOWN 1/8" HARD BALSA STABILIZER 1/8" PLYWOOD Full Size plans available from: Barry Baxter 1" X 1" BALSA FORMED LEADING EDGE SAND TO SHAPE SHOWN ON SIDE VIEW 1/4" SQ. BALSA SPAR 1/8" BALSA ROOT RIBS (2 REQ'D) / U PLYWOOD TRAILING EDGE BRACE 1/6" PLYWOOD LEADING EDGE BRACE REMOVE THIS SECTION AND ATTACH TO RIGHT WING PANEL 1/6" PLYWOOD BELLCRANK MOUNT ONE OZ. TIP 1/4" BALSA TIP RIBS 9 6



Riley's Voodoo-photo taken at the 2012 Combat Graffiti Event I believe this airplane belongs to Mel Lyne



Recent addition to the Mears Combat Museum Riley's Demon design kitted by his own company - Flite Line Products



## Riley® Vampire kitted by his company-Flite Line Products The display in the bottom photo is from Bob Mears Combat Museum

