



**The Academy of Model Aeronautics'**  
**National Aeromodeling Heritage Program**  
**Historic Site Nominating Form**

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This form is for use in nominating individual properties or districts. Complete each item by marking an "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets. Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

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**1. Name of Property**

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Historic name Marine Corps Air Station, Tustin

Other name North Blimp Hangar, Naval Designation - "Building #28"

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**2. Location** ( 3 miles North of John Wayne Airport, Santa Ana, Orange County, California )

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Address Armstrong Avenue & Valencia Avenue, 33° 42' 60.1" N, 117° 49' 50.02" W

City or Town Tustin

State California County Orange Zip 92780

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**3. Property**

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Ownership of Property

☐ Private

☒ Public – local

☐ Public – state

☒ Public – federal

Category of Property

☒ Building (s)

☐ District

☐ Site

Does property hold / have a historic designation with any other organization? Y/N Y

If yes, please list designation and date awarded National Register as a Historic District

April 3, 1975 .

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4. Function or Use Location for repair and storage of lighter than air, aircraft.

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Historic Function Hangar. Location for repair and storage of helicopters, and  
lighter-than-air, aircraft. Provide support services for 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing.

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Model aircraft flying site.

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Current Function Sound stage for numerous theatrical movies and television  
programs. Location for the construction of a hybrid airship, by the Worldwide Aero  
Corporation. Site for the maintenance and refitting of the Goodyear Blimp.

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#### 5. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Aeromodeling Historic Site Criteria  
(Mark an "x" in or more boxes for the criteria qualifying property for listing.)

- ☒ Property is associated with event (s) significant to aeromodeling history.
- ☒ Property is associated with significant / historic aeromodeling club (s) or individual (s)
- ☐ Property is associated with significant manufacturer / industry
- ☐ Property is associated with significant scientific advances utilizing aeromodeling
- ☐ Property is associated with early aeromodeling history 1900 – 1950
- ☒ Property has achieved significance in aeromodeling within the last 50 years
- ☒ Property has been the site of aeromodeling record (s)
- ☐ Property has been in continual use as an aeromodeling facility since founded
- ☒ Property represents a unique aeromodeling site with qualities not found elsewhere

Period of Significance 1952 - 2011  
(year (s) when major events directly contributing to significance of sites occurred)

Level of Significance (mark an "x" in categories that apply)

☒ Local                      ☒ State                      ☒ National

Significant person(s) site associated with Bill Atwood, Joe Foster, Lew Gitlow

Charles Sotich, Jack Block, Lo Salisbury, Sherwin Maslowe, Brent Hawkins...

(Please see historic site nominating form continuation sheet for specific information)

Significant event(s) site associated with (please include date of event)

Indoor free flight component of NATS from 1952 - 1967, numerous national and  
world indoor records for indoor duration... (Please see historic site nominating form  
continuation sheet for specific information)

Significant manufacturer(s) site associate with N/A

**Narrative Statement of Significance** "Please see continuation sheet for narrative statement"  
(Explain the significance of the site on one or more continuation sheets)

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## 6. Biographical References

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Please site the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets. For primary source interviews please include name of individual interviewed, individual conducting interview, and date of interview.

**Please include copies of these articles, to include interview transcripts, with the nomination form.** "Please see continuation sheet for biographical references"

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## 7. Geographic Data

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Acreage of site 85 acres, (297 feet wide x 1088 feet long x 178 feet high).

Verbal Boundary (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

Date and types of improvements made to site N/A

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GPS coordinates of site(if available) 33° 42' 60.1" N, 117° 49' 50.02" W

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#### 8. Structures Data

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Date of Construction July 1943

Alterations / changes to building and dates if known N/A

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Number of buildings on site 2. The south hangar is to be torn down.

Square feet of building (s) 296,000 square feet (each hangar)

One of the largest free standing wood structures in the world.

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#### 9. Manufacturer Data

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Date company founded N/A

Founder / owner of company Navy Bureau of Yards and Docks  
Holmes & Narver, Consulting Engineers  
Arsham Amirikian, Principle Designer  
James I. Barnes, Construction Company

Additional owners and dates of ownership US Department of the Navy

Anticipated future owner will be the City of Tustin. Located in Orange County, California.

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High and low number of employees and dates N/A

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10. Property Owner Department of the Navy BRAC Program Management West Office, West

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Name Base Closure Manager

Telephone # ( ) -

Address 1455 Frazee Road, Suite 900

City or Town San Diego

State California County San Diego County Zip 92108-4310

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11. Additional Documentation

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Maps - Please include a map of the site and mark location of structures

Photographs – Please include photographs of site, historic and current if available  
(If submitting original photographs please note if you would like them returned)

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12. Form Prepared by

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Name John Rittenhouse for Harbor Soaring Society

Telephone # ( ) -

Address

City or Town Costa Mesa

State California County Orange Zip 92626

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The Academy of Model Aeronautics'  
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Historic Site Nominating Form – Continuation Sheet

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Line Item Referenced: #5 Statement of Significance and #6 Biographical / Historical Reference

In these continuation sheets we present chronologies of historic contests, records, and meets (by person and date) that have occurred at the MCAS Tustin Hangar as further supporting evidence for the statement of significance and biographical reference. MCAS Tustin Hangar (historically known as the “Santa Ana” hangar) has been associated with many significant individuals in the aeromodeling community as well as significant events.

**Statement of Significance:**

During World War II, two large blimp hangars were constructed as facilities for military blimps used as reconnaissance aircraft for west coast defense. The facility is situated East of the 55 Freeway and South of Edinger Avenue, immediately South of the City of Tustin, in Southern California. The North hangar has been designated as a national historic site, and is to be preserved (the South hangar presumably will be torn down in the near future). One of the largest free standing wooden structures in the world, the North hangar is about 1,000 feet long, 300 feet wide and 178 feet high. Because of the spectacular size of this hangar, it is superbly appropriate for indoor model aircraft as is shown in its historical use.

Model flying began after WWII. Within a very short time, by the late 1950's many records had been set in the building. It was common at that time for flyers to attend multiple-day meets in the North Hanger (Hangar 1) and to sleep overnight in the building. The North hangar was the site of the indoor AMA “NATS” in 1952, 1955, 1959, 1963, and 1967. Santa Ana (Tustin MCAS) was always considered to be one of the best flying sites in the world and offered the best “air” (flying conditions, stable air) of any building in the US.

In the 1960's the international F1D World Championship for rubber-powered models was created. This contest has been held every two years since 1961. The F1D Indoor US Team Selection contests were held in the North hangar several times during the 60's and 70's, beginning in 1963. The North hangar was again home to the AMA sanctioned indoor “NATS” in 1963 and 1967. Many of the biggest names in indoor flying, of that time were Santa Ana flyers: Joe Bilgri, Bill Atwood, Robert Champine (a NASA test pilot), and Clarence Mather.

The 1980 World Champion, Erv Rodemsky, moved to Irvine and lived near the hangar specifically to have the regular access to the site. The late Warren Williams (a multiple world record holder) flew regularly in the building from about 1947 to 1999. World records were set in the building and some are only recently eclipsed by other flights at this same venue: Ron Whitman's hand-launched glider record, set in 1974, of 2:58 minutes stood until 2009 when it was broken by Stan Buddenbohm's 3:28 minutes.

Lt. Col. Bob Randolph set the unlimited rubber indoor world record in 1995 with a flight of 55:24 minutes. This flight broke 8-time World Champion Jim Richmond's record that had stood for 14 years. In 1996 Steve Brown set several indoor records, the highest (and final, before the rule change to 55cm) 65cm F1D record of 53:45 minutes, he also set the unofficial absolute world record for unlimited indoor models of 63:54 minutes and the official world record of 60:01 minutes in the North Hangar, a record which still stands.

Many indoor model aircraft flyers consider the Tustin North hangar to be “hallowed ground.” MCAS Tustin is the location of six “NATS”, many... if not most indoor “free flight” world records, and considered by many... to have the have the best flying conditions of any indoor flying site in the world! The events that made this venue historic are provided in several chronologies below.



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**Chronology of NATS Events Located in MCAS Tustin Hangar (1952-1967)**

**1952**

- Bill Atwood – “In 1952, Bill once again won the indoor stick event at the Nationals at Los Alamitos.”, AMA website: “The AMA History Program Presents: Biography of William E. Atwood.”Reference: [Link 1](#)
- Joe Foster -- “In 1952 I married my wife, Ann. We honeymooned at the Los Angeles Nationals where I became the Grand National Champion.”, AMA website: “The AMA History Program Presents: Biography of Joseph W. Foster.”Reference: [Link 2](#)
- “This was the year that gas replaced rubber in FF flying scale, and the year Joe Foster did an incredible 1:13 minutes, in Indoor Hand Launch Glider, over at the blimp hangar at Santa Ana. (Foster won the Nats Champ trophy, as well.)” Reference: *Dave Thornburg, Book: “Do You Speak Model Airplane?:- The Story of Aeromodeling in America”. Page 189.*

**1955**

- Bill Atwood - “The table below list the competitor that recorded the longest official flight in each of the traditional rubber-powered events at the US Nationals.”, David W. Erbach, Western Kentucky University, “*A Century of Indoor Models: US Indoor Nationals Results 1928 -1970.*” Indoor stick duration 21.54 minutes. Reference: [Link 3](#)

**1959**

- Lewis Gitlow- “**Lewis Gitlow** of Ontario, Calif. and Charles Sotich of Chicago divided wins and 2nd places between them in "mike" stick and cabin. Lew winning stick and Charles cabin. Each won, the other 2nd place. “
- Charles Sotich- “Lewis Gitlow of Ontario, Calif. and **Charles Sotich** of Chicago divided wins and 2nd places between them in "mike" stick and cabin. Lew winning stick and Charles cabin. Each won, the other 2nd place. “



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- Jack Block- "Jack Block had high glider time with 1:09.2 followed closely by Curt Stevens with 1:07."
- Lo Salisbury- "The Thermal Thumbers led by Lo Salisbury's 16:05 really cleaned up in paper stick."
- Sherwin Maslowe- "Sherwin Maslowe of Detroit amassed a great number of his championship points in these events when he won Sr. paper stick with 13:42 and senior "mike" stick with 18:25-real good flying."
- Brent Hawkins- "In the junior events Brent Hawkins of Morton, IL really cleaned up by winning 3 firsts and a 3rd. He won paper stick, "mike" stick and cabin and was 3rd in glider - how about that?"
- Hank Cole- "The rubber events produced nothing real startling unless one counts the indoor type model flown by Curt Stevens or the elliptical dihedral models of John Gard. John was a shoo-in for the Wakefield events until Hank Cole showed up late, flew 5 max's and a fine 2:41.6 for a new record. "

**America's First "National" Championship Air Model Meet, November 1959 American Modeler**

"The indoor session was held at the Santa Ana balloon docks which surprised most entrants since this facility had turned down an earlier request for its use." Reference: "America's First National Championship Air - Model Meet, November 1959 - *American Modeler*", Reference: [Link 4](#)

**'59 Nats Hailed Great Success, July 1959 Model Aviation News Bulletin**

"At the last minute, word was received that the Santa Ana hangars were to be made available after all." "59 Nats Hailed Great Success, July 1959 Model Aviation News Bulletin." Reference: [Link 5](#)

**1963**

- Dick Kowalski - "The table below (see link) list the competitor who recorded the longest official flight in each of the traditional rubber-powered events at the US Nationals." Reference: David W. Erbach, Western Kentucky University, "A Century of Indoor Models: US Indoor Nationals Results 1928 -1970." Indoor 40:11. Reference: [Link 6](#)





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Lee Hines - "In fact, I won Indoor Hand Launch Glider at the 1963 and 1967 Los Alamitos Nats, plus had the first-known flight over 80 seconds, doing 82.5 at Edward Air Force Base on April 19, 1964." Reference: "The AMA History Program Presents: Autobiography of Lee R. Hines." Reference: [Link 7](#)

**1967**

Lee Hines - "In fact, I won Indoor Hand Launch Glider at the 1963 and 1967 Los Alamitos Nats, plus had the first-known flight over 80 seconds, doing 82.5 at Edward Air Force Base on April 19, 1964." AMA website: "The AMA History Program Presents: Autobiography of Lee R. Hines." Reference: [Link 8](#)

**Chronological Yearly Listing of AMA NATS 1923-2011 (Inclusive of MCAS Tustin, NATS 1952 – 1967)**

"In 1942, the Nats were planned for Chicago with Chicago Park District and Chicago Times as sponsors, to be held July 26 to August 1, but were cancelled due to restrictions on travel and gasoline, as well as many modelers going off to war. The Nats remained on hiatus for another three years. In celebration of the war's end, the 1946 contests were deemed the "Victory Nats." "July History Moments", Reference: AMA website: [Link 9](#)

**FAI and AMA Records Established at the MCAS Tustin Hangar**

Lee Hines - "Then the rules changed January of 1965. We had record trials at the Tustin Hanger (a.k.a. "Santa Ana") on January 10, 1965, where I scored another World Record with a highest flight of 1:25.4 (plus a 1:22, for record total of 2:47.4) using the *Sweepette* 18, Mk 13." Reference: "The AMA History Program Presents: Autobiography of Lee Hines." [Link 10](#)

Ron Wittman – "I started flying at the U.S. Free Flight Championships, which continued for 27 years. My sons also competed and still hold AMA records. Also in 1972, I began flying IHLG (indoor hand launched gliders) in the Santa Ana blimp hangars". "...This began the *Supersweep* design series of gliders [with] 19", 20", 22" and 24" versions. It took approximately a year of flying at the record trials every month (working out every day)... but ultimately, with the help of Larry Calliau, I ... set a new Category IV IHLG record of 2:58.6 with the *Supersweep* 22, which included a 1:30 minute flight...



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The next month I recorded a time of 2:59.8, but because of a paperwork problem, the AMA did not approve the new record. The record of 2:58.6 still stands today as the AMA national record and recognized world record. This record was set on February 18, 1973, and at the time of this writing, (01/2006) is the oldest AMA indoor record". "The AMA History program Presents: Biography of Ron Wittman."

Reference: [Link 11](#)

Ron Wittman - "He set the high-ceiling record at the Tustin Blimp hangar in California on February 18, 1973. In so doing, he accomplished what many claimed to be an impossible feat: he threw a Category III (now Category IV, for unlimited ceiling height) flight of 90 seconds. That record, achieved with an all-balsa javelin-launch glider, was a target for all to throw at for the next 36 years." Jim Buxton, *Model Aviation*, "Wittman's Pursuit", Page 42, Reference: [Link 12](#)

"On February 18, 1973, flying in the old Marine dirigible hanger at Santa Ana, Ron Wittman made flights of 90.0 sec. and 88.7 sec. - the best two flights in the series of nine - to establish an official AMA National Record for Indoor Hand-Launched Gliders, Category III (unlimited ceiling height)." Bob Meuser, Airplanes and Rockets website, "Supersweep indoor Hand-launched Glider", September 1974, *American Aircraft Modeler*".

Reference: [Link 13](#)

Bob Randolph - "It was another beautiful California day with sunny clear skies and light calm winds. The flying site was Hangar1 of the Marines Air Station Tustin, California (formerly called Santa Ana). It is probably the best Cat. IV site in the world, due to its size and good weather." World record November 28, 1993 Cat IV Duration 53.48 (Not Claimed), World record December 5, 1993, Cat. IV, Duration 55.06. Reference: Bob Randolph. "Super Cat II". 1994, Page 43, *Model Aviation website*: [Link 14](#)

Steve Brown - "Yes we did fly on June 15, at the Tustin Hangar, but everything was rather quiet after the session June 1, 1997. On that day a historic event took place: Steve Brown of the Tustin Group set a national and world indoor microfilm record of 60:01..."

Reference: Bud Tenny, "Free Flight Indoor". 1997, Page 118. *Model Aviation website*: [Link 15](#)



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**2009**

- Stan Buddenbohm- AMA National Record, Indoor Hand Launch Glider, Cat 4: 96.8 and 97.6 seconds. October 29, 2009.
- Ralph Ray- AMA National Record, Indoor Catapult Launch Glider, Cat 4: 104.4 and 104.5 seconds. October 30, 2009.
- Stan Buddenbohm- AMA National Record, Indoor Hand Launch Glider, Cat 4: 101.0 and 103.8 seconds. November 22, 2009.
- Stan Buddenbohm- AMA National Record, Standard Class, Catapult Launched Glider, Cat 4: 111.1 and 112.2 seconds. November 22, 2009.

"We also wanted to investigate the Tustin Blimp Hangar where Wittman set his record. That was probably the oldest indoor glider record still existing. We don't know about our contest proposal, yet, but during the process Ralph (Ray) found a way to get a small group inside the hangar on short notice. AMA is really helpful with this type of situation and we were able to secure a record trials sanction with only three days notice." Stan Buddenbohm, Peterborough Model Flying Club website. "Breaking a 36 Year Old Record". Website: [Link 16](#)

**2010**

- Jim Buxton- "Jim Buxton broke Stan B's Hand Launch Glider (HLG) record with a 1:45.9 and 1:43.5, totaling 3:29.4 minutes." April 10, 2010.
- Ralph Ray- "Ralph Ray, also breaking Stan's record in Standard (CLG) Catapult Launch Glider, with a 1:55.0 and 1:57.3, totaling 3:52.3 minutes." April 11, 2010.

"Tustin Bash –April 9,10,11: Tustin MCAS Blimp Hangar Cat. IV Contest", Tustin, California. AMA Sanction Number 10-0710, Tony Mathews, Free Flight Quarterly website, April 10, 2010. Website: [Link 17](#)

"Category IV Glider record falls after almost four decades... Stan Buddenbohm topples the 36 year-old Indoor Hand Launched Glider (IHLG) record in the Tustin, California, hangar." John Kagen, Free Flight Indoor website: April, 2010. Page 118. Website: [Link 18](#)



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## Chronology of Meets and Other Events

### 1975

“Donald L. Mohr, Washington R.D. 4, is one of many model airplane enthusiasts across the country who has entered the first annual Peanut Scale Flying Contest in Santa Ana, Calif.” “The actual plane flying will take place in a blimp hangar in Santa Ana.” “Observer-Reporter, Washington, PA.” Local Model Airplane Builder Enters Peanut Scale Contest. 1975, Page B8. *Google website*: [Link 19](#)

### 1978

“Twenty of the best indoor fliers in the country gathered in Tustin, CA over the 1978 Labor Day weekend to choose the three-man team to represent the U.S in the 1988 FAI Indoor World Championships.” Reference: Richard and Melody Doig, “Competition Newsletter”, Indoor Selection Team Finals. 1988, Page 124. *Model Aviation website*: [Link 20](#)

### 1980

“Community Project... Modelers, Marines and Santa”, Toys for Tots media event located at MCAS Tustin. Reference: Joe Klause, AMA News, 1980, Page 75. *Model Aviation website*: [Link 21](#)

### 1982

“Toys for Tots Airshow 1982 Marines H&MS-46 MCAS Tustin LTA”. Model airshow located at the Tustin MCAS, Tustin blimp base. 1982, Reference: *Vetfriends website*: [Link 22](#)

### 1987

Flying Updates: “The Santa Ana hangar venue (Tustin Indoor Model Airplane Club) has been slightly modified. The July 4 weekend meet will be FAI regional meet with full motors. In addition, the Labor Day meet will be the FAI team-selection finals.” Reference: Bud Tenny, “Free Flight Indoor”: FF Indoor/Tenny, 1987, Page 173. *Model Aviation website*: [Link 23](#)



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**1988**

“Dec 5-6 Tustin, CA. FAI Team Selection & AMA Record Trails for CAT IV. Contest to be held at Tustin Marine Base...” Reference: Bob Underwood, Competition Newsletter: “Calendar of Events”; November 1988, Page 134. *Model Aviation website*: [Link 24](#)

**1989**

“Dec. 3-4, Tustin CA, FAI Team Selection for Cat IV.” Reference: Bob Underwood, Competition News Letter “Sanctioned Events Calendar”; 1989, Page 145. *Model Aviation website*: [Link 25](#)

**1995**

“The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Scale Masters Championships was held at the Marine Air Corps Station in Tustin California September 8-11, 1994. The Tustin Model Club hosted the competition”. Reference: Wayne & Darlene Fredrick, *Model Aviation website*: “Scale Masters”; 1995, Page 16. *AMA website*: [Link 26](#)

**1997**

“One Hour? Not Yet! Ken Johnson has faithfully continued to report on activity at Tustin Hangar, Santa Ana CA...” Reference: Bud Tenny, “Free Flight Indoor”; 1997, Page 118. *Model Aviation website*: [Link 27](#)

**1998**

Flying Opportunities: “California: Tustin (Santa Ana Hangar). First weekend each month...” Reference: Bud Tenny, “Free Flight Indoor”; 1998, Page 60. *Model Aviation website*: [Link 28](#)

**2003**

“I have periodically asked Steve Brown about the hangars at Santa Ana MCIF...” This article contains a listing of current (as of 2003) indoor flying sites. Reference: Bud Tenny, “Free Flight Indoor”; 2003, Page 118. *Model Aviation website*: [Link 29](#)



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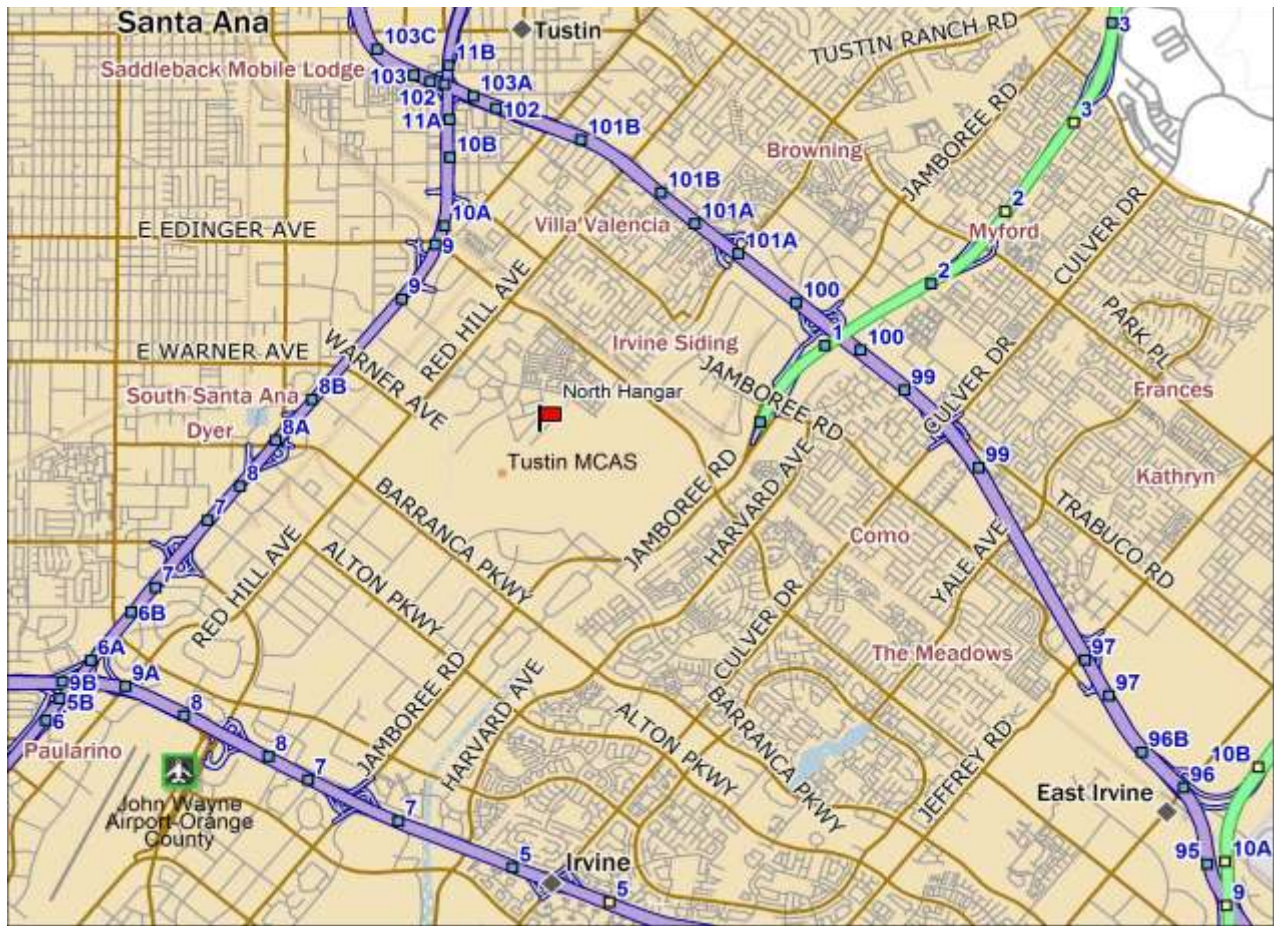
**Nomination Form – AMA Hall of Fame Awardees - Associated with MCAS Tustin North Hangar**

Bill Atwood -	AMA Hall of Fame, (September, 2001). Reference: <i>Model Aircraft website</i> : <a href="#">Link 30</a>
Joe Bilgri -	AMA Hall of Fame, (March 1990). Reference: <i>Model Aircraft website</i> : <a href="#">Link 31</a>
Robert Champine -	AMA Hall of Fame, (August 1993). Reference: <i>Model Aircraft website</i> : <a href="#">Link 32</a>
Hank Cole -	AMA Hall of Fame, (December 2008). Reference: <i>Model Aircraft website</i> : <a href="#">Link 33</a>
Joe Foster -	AMA Hall of Fame, (February 2003). Reference: <i>Model Aircraft website</i> : <a href="#">Link 34</a>
Clarence Mather -	AMA Hall of Fame, (January 2004). Reference: <i>Model Aircraft website</i> : <a href="#">Link 35</a>
Jim Richmond -	AMA Hall of Fame, (September 2003). Reference: <i>Model Aircraft website</i> : <a href="#">Link 36</a>
Bud Romak -	AMA Hall of Fame, (December 1999). Reference: <i>Model Aircraft website</i> : <a href="#">Link 37</a>
Ron Whitman -	AMA Hall of Fame, (January 2006). Reference: <i>Model Aircraft website</i> : <a href="#">Link 38</a>
Warren William -	AMA Hall of Fame, (January 2007). Reference: <i>Model Aircraft website</i> : <a href="#">Link 39</a>



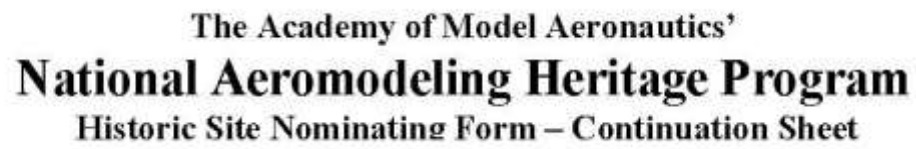


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MCAS Tustin aerial, circa 1960





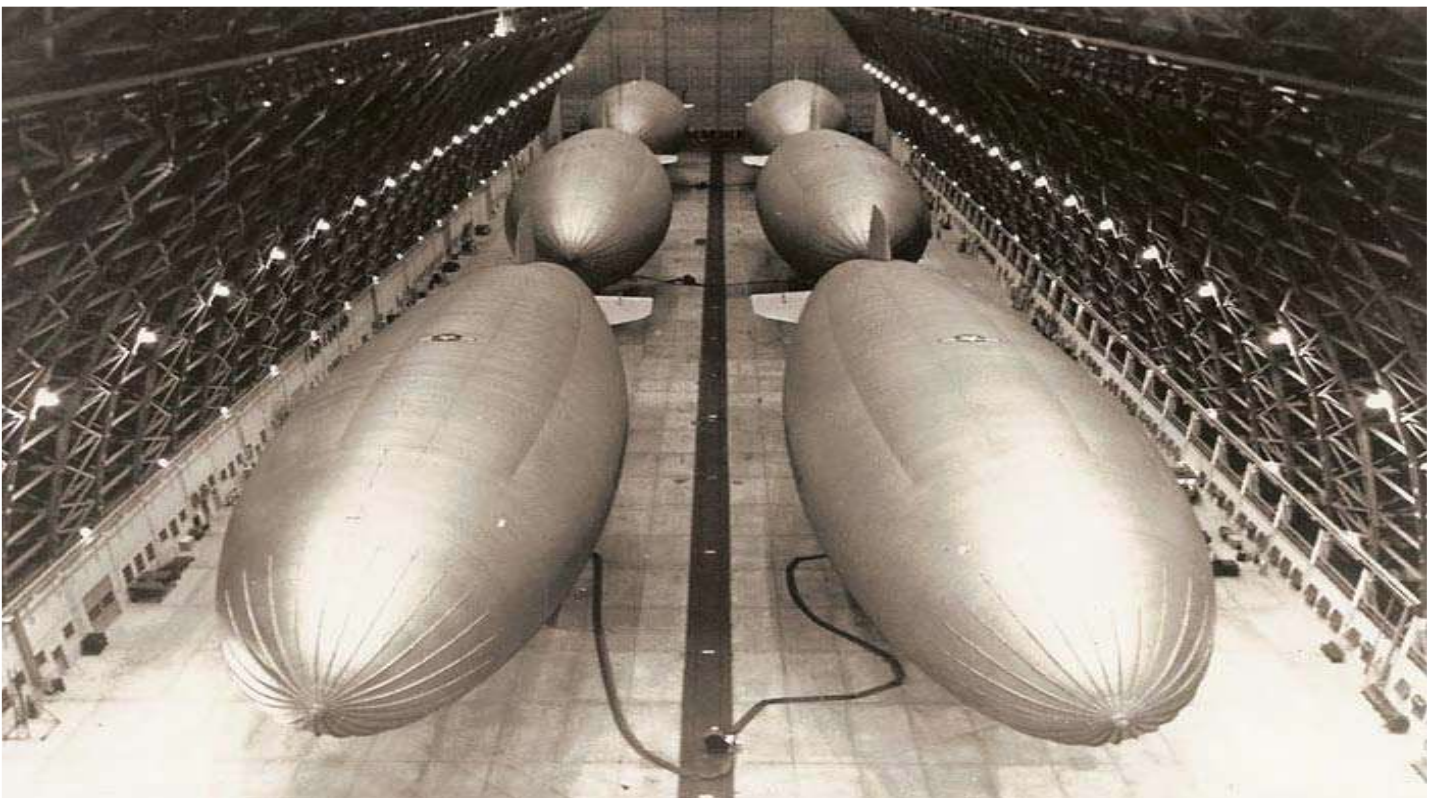




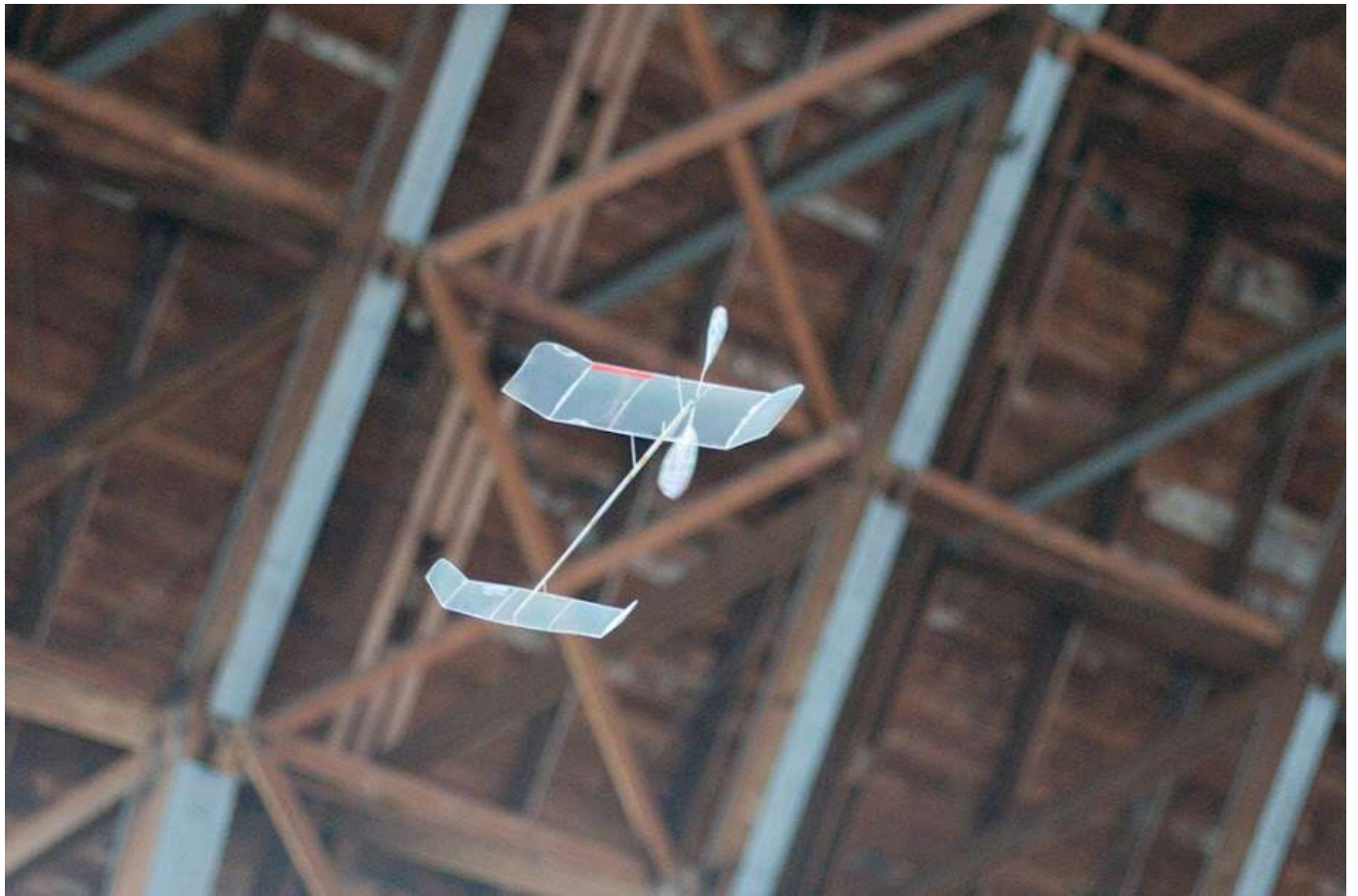
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*"Images of America: Marine Corps Air Station El Toro" [Arcadia Press, circa 1999]*



*Hangar interior with 6 USN K-Class blimps, circa 1943*



Hangar Flight, April 2010. Photo courtesy of Brian Furutani.



April 2010. Photo courtesy of Brian Furutani.

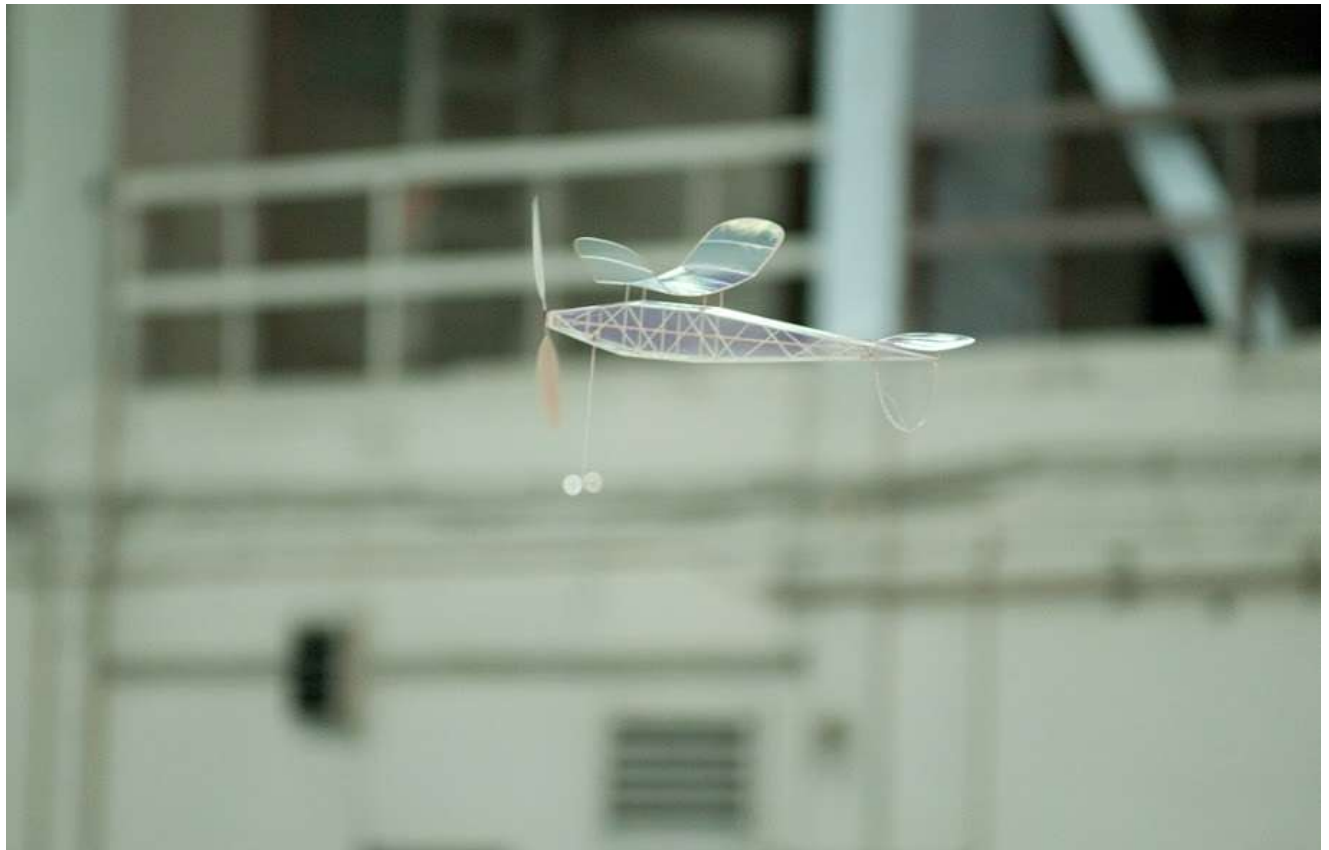




Kang Lee, April 2010. Photo courtesy of Brian Furutani.



Hangar Flight, April 2010. Photo courtesy of Brian Furutani.



Hangar Flight, April 2010. Photo courtesy of Brian Furutani.



Hangar Flight, April 2010. Photo courtesy of Brian Furutani.





April, 2010. Photo courtesy of Brian Furutani.



Hangar Flight, April 2010. Photo courtesy of Brian Furutani.



Stan Buddenbohm, October 2010  
Photo courtesy of Brian Furutani.



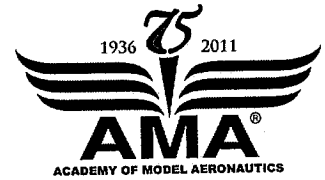
April 2010  
Photo courtesy of Brian Furutani.



Stan Buddenbohm, October 2010. Photo courtesy of Brian Furutani.

# Academy of Model Aeronautics

5161 East Memorial Drive  
Muncie, Indiana 47302  
(765) 287-1256 – Business  
(765) 289-4248 – Fax  
(800) 435-9262 – Membership Services  
<http://www.modelaircraft.org>



October 24, 2013

Dear Mr. Rittenhouse,

Congratulations to you and your associates. On October 19th, 2013 the AMA's Executive Council voted unanimously to approve the *North Blimp Hangar* at Marine Corps Air Station, Tustin, CA as an AMA National Aeromodeling Heritage Program - Historic Site.

The National Aeromodeling Heritage Program was established by the AMA in 2003, and the program's aim is to identify and memorialize organizations, businesses, and sites significant in the history of aeromodeling. The *North Blimp Hangar* becomes only the fourth site to be selected under the "Historic Site" portion of the Program.

Now that it has been selected, I would like to work with you on the text that will appear on the web site [http://www.modelaircraft.org/museum/activities/heritage\\_program.aspx](http://www.modelaircraft.org/museum/activities/heritage_program.aspx) as well as the announcement that will appear in *Model Aviation* magazine, and the official plaque. If you might be able to give this some thought and possibly even write a first draft, we can then work to develop final copy.

The plaque will actually be two plaques (see attached images). There is a top plaque, universal to all sites designating the site as a historic aeromodeling site. Below that plaque is another plaque that is site specific, providing a very brief outline of the sites significance. The attached images provide some examples of the text.

From our telephone conversation it is my understanding that the United States Navy still owns the property, although it may be turned over to the City of Tustin. The plaque that would be made for the site is a large metal plaque (see attached images) suitable for outside display. Since the site was recognized on the National Register as a Historic District in 1975, (#19750403) there might very well already be a plaque designating it as such. If so, this plaque could be placed next to it however this will be something that will need to be addressed with the Navy.

Again, congratulations and I look forward to working with you on this award.

Sincerely,

Michael Smith  
Director

National Model Aviation Museum  
5151 E. Memorial Dr. Muncie IN 47302  
<http://www.modelaircraft.org/museum/museum.aspx>  
(765) 287-1256 ext. 500  
[michaels@modelaircraft.org](mailto:michaels@modelaircraft.org)