



The AMA History Project Presents: History of the DAYTONA BEACH MODELAIRES



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The Daytona Beach Modelaires

On October 19, 1961, the Daytona Beach Modelaires held their first meeting with just 10 interested hobbyists in attendance. During the first year of life the outfit grew to 23 members and now, due to recent activities, the club is growing again - and is prospering in many other respects.

Like most clubs, the Modelaires have a flying site problem, which they hope to solve in the near future. By consolidating younger as well as older members, they expect to improve model flying and building techniques.

First step was an invitation from the Pilot Club of Daytona Beach to participate in an annual hobby show. By teamwork, the Modelaires won first place in the Makers Class. Then they were invited to the Annual Home Show in Daytona, where their exhibits were seen by thousands of people. New members were gained and several offers for flying sites were received.

Like many clubs, the Modelaires found the public contact afforded by a show a golden opportunity to work toward better things. At shows there is a priceless opportunity to explain how model airplanes are built and flown, and to answer questions on just about everything from boats and engines to accessories. Finished flying models hung from the ceiling catch all eyes and lend ambition to many a kid. Unfinished models in various stages of construction scattered about the table tops demonstrate design and construction - and explain many mysteries.

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