

III. Catch them Old



Education for Senior Citizens?

Latest figures in the US show a growing number of senior citizens joining the aeromodelling organisation AMA for the first time.

- Partly retired seniors are looking for a social activity.
- Partly grandfathers want to support their grandchild.
- Parents without partners are attracted by model flying clubs, when fathers with sons in custody don't know how to spend the weekend.

Model flying organisations should reflect typical trends of modern societies. CIAM might think it over if the concentration in sports only covers the interests of the member organisations in reality.

Demand for Introduction Programs

- Industry offers a wide range of “Almost Ready to Fly” (ARF)-models, prefabricated, covered and decorated.
- To go flying with them is just a question of money, instead of knowledge and skills.
- Handicrafts are superb training for heads! The hands are directly connected with important parts of our brain. To keep our hands skilled means to keep our minds moving.
- How to educate seniors to build and to fly model aircrafts?

Magazines, the life blood of the hobby

- Mags like “Flying Models”, “Model Aviation” or “Aviation Modeller International” keep skills alive and help newcomers to adapt.
- Several books written in English introduce into the whole universe of model building.
- In Germany even the leading “Flugmodell + Technik” (FMT) is focussed on the supply of the model industry only. Little guidance, no instructions “how to do”.
- After several meetings and more than 10 hours discussion with the editors we succeeded with a new concept. Beginning with July I’m going to publish a series about techniques to design and to build classic model aircrafts.